



Faith in Action

"Grounded in Christ, open to make a difference – together"

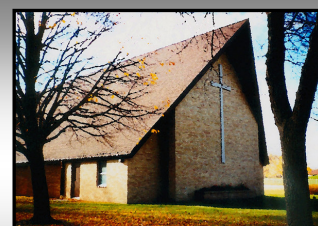
Faith United Methodist Church
1530 Oakdale Avenue
West St. Paul MN 55118
(651) 457-5686
Faithumc@usfamily.net

May 2013

DAY OF SERVICE

Sunday, May 19 we will celebrate Pentecost by being the church in terms of service — an opportunity we have to be in service to people around us and around the world. After worship we will gather in the Fellowship Hall to make/assemble items to help people. There will be opportunities to make cards for people who receive Mobile Meals, do some things for *Imagine No Malaria*, make kits to help with clean-up, and other kinds of kits to help people in need, and much more. After our work we will enjoy a potluck lunch together. Come for worship, and stay for a time of service and fellowship. All ages are welcome!

SUNDAY, MAY 19



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Feed My Starving Children

Saturday, May 11 we will be going to Feed My Starving Children in Eagan (990 Lone Oak Rd., Suite 160, Eagan) from 4:30 p.m. until 6:30 p.m. We have 15 spots reserved for us. Either register online under "Faith Youth" at www.fmssc.org or contact Pastor Gail. **Sign-up deadline is May 6.**

*Blessed are those who are generous,
because they feed the poor.
– Proverbs 22:9*

Pie Sale Sunday, May 5

The annual Pie Sale will take place on Sunday, May 5 after worship. There will be slices of pie for eating on site; there will also be pieces and whole pies available for take-out! Pie slices \$3 each; Whole pies \$10.



May Birthdays

- 2 -

5/2 — John Kemp	5/14 — Sonja Beguhl
5/2 — Nicole Mohr	5/15 — Jody Sielski
5/3 — Norma Nitti	5/18 — Frederick Mens
5/4 — Sheri Lukas	5/20 — Amber Palmer
5/5 — Donna Willocks	5/21 — Jenny Kranz
5/6 — Katie Alfveby	5/24 — Lisa Ann Boelter
5/6 — Christina Yekaldo	5/26 — Chad Emery
5/8 — Judy Pfenning	5/28 — Timothy Pippert
5/11 — Louise Gross	5/29 — Ruth Martin
5/11 — Gloria Gurtin	5/20 — Matthew Palmer



- *If your birthday is missing or listed incorrectly, contact the church office for additions/changes. Happy Birthday, everyone!* •

Thank you to and for during April...

- **Greeters:** Taffy Storck, the Schwendinger family, Carol Schuldt, and Judy Pfenning
- **Liturgists:** Sharon Yekaldo, Bruce Opp, Carol Schuldt, and Gil Kinnunen
- **Serving refreshments:** Gil and Dawn Kinnunen, Lynn Bonkowske, Barbara Schroeder, and Bonnie Dick
- **Communion Steward:** Lynn Mens
- **Thank you so much** for the surprise birthday gala you all gave me during Fellowship Time on April 28! I am so proud to be part of the Faith Family. You are all very special to me!
— **Joan Ryan**
- **Thank you** to everyone who helped make our April 6th **Silent/Live Auction** fundraiser a big success! Thanks to all who donated items, prepared and served our wonderful meal, and helped with set-up — *Dan Bonkowske, Fred & Bonnie Dick, Bruce Opp, Barb Schroeder, Bill & Lynn Bonkowske, Phil & Ruth Phipps, Judy Turk, Laurel Venhuizen, Liz Chun, Bill Short, Steve & Rose Larsen, Carol Schuldt, Jeff & Linda Cox, Gil & Dawn Kinnunen, Sharon Yekaldo, Taffy Stork, and Paul & Pat Williams.* Thanks to Gil for being our “lively auctioneer”, and of course we appreciate all those attendees/bidders who made the night such fun!
- **Thank you** to those who provided special music during worship: Liz Chun & Sharon Yekaldo, and Bob, John & Charles Scopatz.

Did you know... that Sharon Yekaldo changes the paraments and keeps the candles filled with oil? Be sure to thank her when you see her.



MAKE A DIFFERENCE

2013 Love Offering

difference /ˈdɪfərəns / [dɪf-er-uhns]

Each year, Minnesota Annual Conference churches take a Love Offering for missions. The offering benefits international, national, and local mission projects, and helps fund Volunteer in Mission scholarships. Explore the 2013 conference theme, "Unleashing Bold Spirit-Leaders," by giving to these ministries that support emerging leaders in Minnesota and around the world.

International

Women & Community Association — 25 Percent

The Women and Community Association is an ecumenical ministry that serves approximately 12,000 people in a large, impoverished, rural county in Nicaragua. United Methodist missionaries Nan McCurdy and Miguel Mairena serve at this mission site.

- Love Offering funds will be used to support **youth scholarships** for college, high school, and primary school students from impoverished families in remote villages. The high school students tutor grade school children in their villages in order to give back to the community. Workshops are also held for parents.
- **Youth Network Against Violence.** Some 350 youth receive training each year to become leaders in their villages on issues such as prevention of violence and sexual abuse, promotion of gender equity, reproductive health, the environment, and citizen participation.
- **Women's Economic Development** includes training for small businesses or cattle-raising and loans of \$100 to \$500.

National

Red Bird Missionary Conference — 20 Percent

Financial assistance is desperately needed to help pay the conference's pastors in impoverished areas in Appalachia. Previously, missionaries served these churches, and were supported through the General Board of Global Ministries. Now with indigenous area pastors, these small churches in the mountains struggle to meet basic needs. There are 24 United Methodist churches with 13 pastors sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ and providing people with hope and guidance.

Emma Norton Services — 20 percent

Emma Norton Services is the only United Methodist National Mission Institution in Minnesota. With our support, women, children, & families are given hope for a brighter future. In 2012, over 100 women and more than 20 families with some 90 children had a safe place to call home. At Emma Norton Services, women receive help to maintain sobriety, manage their mental health, finish their education, enroll in job training programs or college, get jobs, and build a healthy social support network. The children at Emma's Place are able to attend school regularly and have a chance for a healthy, productive life. ENS's "Getting Ahead" program helps women become self-sufficient, develop their potential as leaders in their communities, and become better parents.

Minnesota

Native American Ministries in Minnesota — 25 percent

- All Feathers Ministry Inc. is a non-profit ministry located on the site of the former Cass Lake United Methodist Church. A ministry overseen by the Minnesota Conference Native American Ministry Action Team, the In-dah-so Gwaa-nib Spiritual and Community Ctr. provides worship, youth and children's ministry, and is also used for other programs and community gatherings. This project is directed by James Allen, a spiritual leader in the Leech Lake tribe. Other NAMAT ministries include the annual Native American spiritual retreat for adults and families and the weekly Deer River United Methodist Church Teen Night program for local Indian youth.
- **NAMAT** has entered into an ecumenical arrangement with Episcopal, Lutheran, and Presbyterian judicatories to develop a ministry to Native people living in St. Paul. An Episcopal Native American minister has been hired to explore and develop an ongoing ministry presence in the east metro area.

Volunteers in Mission Scholarships — 10 Percent

Lives are changed forever when volunteers become involved in service to others. United Methodist Volunteers in Mission promotes, encourages, and enables Christians to exemplify Christian love in action through short-term mission service at home and abroad. The Love Offering provides scholarships for those participating in a VIM project and support for training for team leaders.

Relief Kits

Bishop Bruce R. Ough is challenging Minnesota United Methodists to prepare **5,000 cleaning buckets** to replenish those used by United Methodist Committee on Relief for those recovering from hurricanes Isaac and Sandy. He will soon be sending information on collection plans. Visit www.umcor.org/UMCOR/Relief-Supplies for instructions on how to assemble a cleaning bucket.

How to support

Please join United Methodists across the state by supporting the Love Offering generously. Give through your church, and mark "Love Offering" on your check memo and/or giving envelope.

Congregational Care Concerns:

- ♦ **Chuck Martin** had surgery on his feet. He is recuperating at home.
- ♦ **Pastor Gail** had surgery on her shoulder. She is at home recuperating.

Ongoing Concerns: *(these will be listed for 3 months and then removed. If you wish for them to remain on the list longer, please contact the church office.)*

- ♦ **Benjamin Brummund**, son of Ron Brummund, Jr., continues to struggle with health problems.
- ♦ **Vi Rabe**, Marianne Young's mother, in hospice.

Concerns beyond our doors:

- ♦ Those separated from family
- ♦ Those living with degenerative conditions
- ♦ Those who are hungry
- ♦ Those who have lost jobs or their homes
- ♦ Those who struggle due to natural disasters
- ♦ Those who grieve
- ♦ Those who are uncertain about the future

Those serving in the military:

- ♦ **Ron Brummund, Jr.**, at Fort Lee in Virginia
- ♦ **Paul DeNardo** is in South Korea

We Extend our Sympathy:

- ♦ We offer our sympathy to **Keith Marsh** on the sudden death of his longtime friend, Kathy.



The Money Pot:

The Money Pot welcomes your change at any time to help benefit the offering of the month. Money Pot **donations for May** will support the **2013 Bishop's Love Offering**. Our donations will go to the Neighbor's Inc. food shelf. Minnesota FoodShare matches donations for the food shelf.



Minnesota Annual Conference
of the United Methodist Church



Mizpah River Ministries

Beginning Saturday, April 20, Mizpah River Ministries and Rev. Rita Williams will be meeting in the Fireside Room on Saturdays from 10:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. The ministry, a small house church group that has outgrown the apartment in which they were meeting, will now be using the Fireside Room for their worship. If you have questions, or need to use the Fireside Room on a Saturday during this time, please contact Pastor Gail.



The Prayer Chain is active. If you have a prayer concern, contact Esther Craine at 651-457-6959. Please also contact the pastor so she knows what is going out over the prayer chain. If you wish to be involved in this ministry please speak with Pastor Gail.

Hospital Calls: If you learn someone is hospitalized, please contact the church office or Pastor Gail. With new privacy laws, hospitals no longer call when a member is admitted. We would rather have several calls telling us of someone's hospitalization than not to know. Thank you.

For your times of devotion this May:

Remember to pick up the **NEWEST issues** of the devotional publications: The Upper Room (regular or large print), Alive Now, & Pockets. These booklets are found on the table by the parking lot door.

Movies at Covington

One of the goals identified by the visioning team for our church is community outreach. We are excited about exploring a movie night and refreshments at the Covington Court Apartments once a month during the summer. We would like these to be intergenerational events.

We are asking you to participate for this summer by helping plan or attending one of the evenings. We have talked to the West St. Paul police and they encouraged us and will try to have a presence at the events. We are inviting you to an information and organization meeting on **Thursday, May 9 at 7:00 p.m. at the church.** Please respond by May 6 to Barbara Schroeder, 651-554-9365 to let her know if you can attend or of your interest. Thank you for your consideration.

The Balcony Team —

Marsha Spatafore, Barbara Schroeder, Mike Schwendinger, Gil Kinnunen, Bill Bonkowske, Bill Short and Pastor Gail Alexander

Recognition of Graduating Seniors:



We will recognize graduating high school seniors during worship on **Sunday, June 2.** Please contact the church office, 651-457-5686 or faithumc@usfamily.net with the name of the graduating senior, as well as the college, high school or technical school they are completing. We will list all the graduates in the June/July newsletter.

Summer Camp Opportunities

If you would like to attend Summer Camp, pick up a Camp Minnesota newsletter/flyer by the parking lot door. A wide variety of special interest and adventure camping opportunities are offered for campers of all ages. Visit www.campminnesota.org for all the camping options. Camperships are available for all the Camp Minnesota camps. Call 612-230-CAMP for more information.



The butterfly symbolizes resurrection, Easter and the new life we have in Christ Jesus. As a caterpillar disappears into a chrysalis, so Jesus' dead body was hidden in a tomb. The emergence of the butterfly, rising into the sky in its beautiful new body, reminds us of Christ's resurrection — and ours.



Are you able to help maintain the church lawn?



We are looking for people who are willing to mow the church lawn this summer. We have **two riding lawn mowers** so you and a friend or spouse can mow together if you wish. To volunteer, contact Lynn Bonkowske at 651-455-6542 or bonkowske1@msn.com.



Spiritual Practice

Listening

Listening is an art,
a spiritual practice...

Thomas Porter

Why is listening so important? Listening speaks to one of our deepest needs: to be understood or to feel understood. Yes, we might like people to agree with us, take our side, but it is a great gift when we feel that the person understands us, even if the person does not agree with us. It shows the person cares. It develops trust. It connects us.

Listening acknowledges and honors the other's uniqueness with his or her own stories and truths. We each need to tell our story, and many ways the greatest gift of listening is that it enables us to go deeper into our own stories. Often I don't know what I think until I hear what I say.

... Listening, which includes asking questions, can lead the other person to greater understanding and clarity about themselves.

Listening is important to the person speaking, but it is also important to the listener.

... Listening creates the possibility of learning and being changed, enriching our lives. If we do not listen, our creativity, flexibility, and ability to grow and learn is diminished, our universe is diminished. Through listening, we can understand how we have harmed another, and also how we can make things

right. Hearing has consequences, and these consequences can be redemptive.

Believing that we experience God in the flesh, incarnate in life, we can acknowledge that God speaks to us through the other. We, therefore, need to listen for God's voice in the other, who is created in the image of God.

~ LISTENING PRACTICES ~

1. Create the space for listening. We first need to create the space for being attentive, mentally and physically, to what the other has to say. The mental space is the most important—a space within ourselves, a space that is open and receptive and caring. This involves prayerful preparation if the conversation is a difficult one. When time does not allow for this preparation, we can suggest a time when we are able to be mentally and physically present. The most important part of the physical space is what we create with our own presence and body language, including an open posture and a welcoming tone of voice.

2. Ask good questions. A good question is open-ended and builds on what has been said; it takes the person deeper into their story. In the early stages of a conversation, these questions might be primarily clarifying questions, questions for understanding. As a conversation progresses, good questions open up more aspects of a person's story, the deeper levels of the story.

3. Summarize and paraphrase. Simply summarizing or paraphrasing what you have heard is a good way to make sure you are hearing correctly and to show others they have been heard. Paraphrasing puts what the other person said into your own words. You say what you have heard and ask if you have stated the concern, emotion, or content correctly. Recognize the emotions as well as the words.

Adapted from *The Spirit and Art of Conflict Transformation* by Thomas Porter. Copyright © 2010 by the author. Used with permission of Upper Room Books.

May 2013 Worship Schedule

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May 5 — 6th Sunday of Easter — Sacrament of Holy Communion

Scripture Readings: Acts 16:9-15; Psalm 67; Revelation 21:10, 22-22:5; John 14:23-29

Sermon by Rev. Doug Nicholas

Greeter: Taffy Storck

Lay Reader: Sharon Yekaldo

Fellowship Time host: Bill Bonkowske

Communion Steward: Maryanne Maurer

May 12 — 7th Sunday of Easter

Scripture Readings: Acts 16:16-34; Psalm 97; Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21; John 17:20-26

Sermon Title: "Mothers of Our Faith"

Greeter:

Lay Reader: Charles Beardshear

Fellowship Time host:

May 19 — Pentecost Sunday — Wear RED today

Scripture Readings: Acts 2:1-21; Psalm 104; Romans 8:14-17; John 14:8-27

Sermon Title: "Coming together"

Baptism of Rebecca Marie Roesler

Greeter: Ruth Campion

Lay Reader: George Brown

Fellowship Time host:

May 26 — 1st Sunday after Pentecost

Scripture Readings: Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31; Psalm 8; Romans 5:1-5; John 16:12-15

Sermon Title: "Where Does Hope Come From?"

Greeter:

Lay Reader: Bill Bonkowske

Fellowship Time host:

Church Office Hours

Pastor Gail will be in the church office Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays most weeks. **Susan** will be working 20 hours a week for the church; she will be in the office Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays from 11:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m.

Men's Breakfast

The Men's Breakfast Group will meet on the Saturdays of **May 11 & 25, & June** at the Fireside Lounge, 1288 South Robert Street starting at 8:00am. All men welcome! For more info, please contact Bill Short at 651-552-0736 or bill.short@ci.white-bear-township.mn.us

Computer Center

Do you need to set up and learn how to use email? Do you want to learn how to use your computer for specific projects? Contact Susan in the office to set up an appointment for Wednesday afternoons from noon to 5:00, or to talk about another time if Wednesdays don't work for you.

May 2013 Calendar

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Wed. 5/1	6:00 p.m.	Board of Trustees
Thurs. 5/2	6:00 p.m.	Finance Committee
	7:00 p.m.	Church Council
Sun. 5/5	9:30 a.m.	Worship
	9:45 a.m.	Children's Sunday School
	10:30 a.m.	Fellowship Time
	10:30 a.m.	UMW Pie Sale
	10:50 a.m.	Adult Sunday School
	10:50 a.m.	Outreach Committee
Mon. 5/6	10:00 a.m.	Craft Group
Wed. 5/8	6:00 p.m.	Worship Committee
	7:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal
Thurs., 5/9	7:00 p.m.	'Movies at Covington' Meeting
Sat., 5/11	8:00 a.m.	Men's Breakfast
	4:00 p.m.	Feed My Starving Children
Sun. 5/12	9:30 a.m.	Worship
	9:45 a.m.	Children's Sunday School
	10:30 a.m.	Fellowship Time
	10:50 a.m.	Adult Sunday School
Mon. 5/13	10:00 a.m.	Craft Group
Wed. 5/15	6:00p.m.	Adult Education Team
	7:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal
Sun. 5/19	9:30 a.m.	Worship
	9:45 a.m.	Children's Sunday School
	10:30 a.m.	Fellowship Time
	10:50 a.m.	Day of Service
Mon. 5/20	10:00 a.m.	Craft Group
Wed. 5/22	7:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal
Thurs. 5/23	11:20 a.m.	Mobile Meals
Sat. 5/25	8:00 a.m.	Men's Breakfast
Sun. 5/26	9:30 a.m.	Worship
	10:30 a.m.	Fellowship Time
Wed. 5/29-31	Minnesota Annual Conference	
Wed. 5/29	7:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal
Sun. 6/2	9:30 a.m.	Worship
	10:30 a.m.	Fellowship Time
	10:50 a.m.	Adult Sunday School
Mon. 6/3	10:00 a.m.	Craft Group's Breakfast
Sat. 6/8	8:00 a.m.	Men
Sun. 6/9	9:30 a.m.	Worship
	10:30 a.m.	Fellowship Time
	10:50 a.m.	Adult Sunday School
Mon. 6/10	10:00 a.m.	Craft Group

Notables

Special Thanks

In the April newsletter we reported that Faith Church had met and exceeded our goal of raising 800 lbs. of food for MN FoodShare's March Campaign via the Neighbors, Inc. food shelf. As the Neighbors reps, we say a huge "thank you" to our congregation in beating our goal. Our final totals were 700 pounds of food and \$520, for the [equivalent] **total of 1,220 pounds!** Marti and I are very proud of everybody who helped out. We think it's great to see the kids also take part in helping families that don't have a lot of food. Maybe next March we can again beat our goal!

► **Between now and Christmas** we can always use your help in collecting food, clothing, and personal items — whatever you can bring; Marti and I will be glad to take your donations to Neighbors for you. Thank you all!

—Karen Cohoes & Marti Kemp

Website

Please check out the updated Faith website at www.faithumcmn.com — it has been re-done and has new information. If you have items you would like to have on the website please contact the church office. Special thanks to Pat Williams for all her hard work.

New Members

New members will be joining Faith later this spring. If you are interested in becoming a member of Faith please let Pastor Gail know.

KIDS IN SEARCH



LOOKING INTO THE SKY

As Jesus ascended into heaven, two angels had a message for his disciples.

Directions: Underline the word in each group that doesn't belong. Then write it on the line below to complete the angels' message in Acts 1:11, NIV.

1. strange same odd	2. Lazarus Jesus Martha	3. who then there	4. pear been apple	5. taken cat dog
6. sky from earth	7. you work toil	8. desk chair into	9. house hallway heaven	10. can't will won't
11. breakfast come lunch	12. nose back mouth	13. see the hear	14. oval round same	15. way girl boy
16. his her you	17. white have black	18. one seen two	19. go low high	20. sea heaven ocean

" This _____ 1 _____ 2 _____ , _____ 3 _____ has _____ 4 _____

_____ 5 _____ 6 _____ 7 _____ 8 _____ 9 _____ ,

_____ 10 _____ 11 _____ 12 _____ in _____ 13 _____

_____ 14 _____ 15 _____ 16 _____ 17 _____

_____ 18 _____ him _____ 19 _____ into _____ 20 _____ ."

Acts 1:11, NIV

ASCENSION CRAFT

Use this craft to remember where Jesus is now and the promise of his return.



What you need:

- An adult to help
- 4 cotton balls
- Blue plastic cup
- Glue
- Scissors
- White paper
- Markers or crayons
- Fishing line (about 14")
- Paper clip

What you do:

1. Set the cup upside down. Pull apart the cotton balls, forming cloud shapes, and glue them around the cup.
2. With an adult's help, poke a hole in the bottom of the cup.
3. On the paper, draw and cut out a Jesus figure. Color both sides.
4. Poke a hole atop Jesus, string fishing line through the hole and tie a knot.
5. String the other end through the hole in the cup. Tie the end to a paper clip.
6. Pull up the paper clip to take Jesus into the clouds.

"This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven." Acts 1:11, NIV



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West St. Paul MN 55118

May 2013

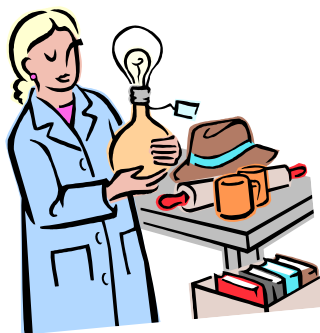
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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

We invite you to join us this Sunday for
worship, study and fellowship:

- Worship — 9:30 a.m.
- Children's Sunday School — 9:45 a.m.
- Fellowship time — 10:30 a.m.
- Adult Sunday School — 10:50 a.m.



GARAGE
SALE

August 16-17



DONATIONS BEING ACCEPTED

We will be having our great garage sale on August 16-17, and it will be here before we know it! Donations are now being accepted, and can be brought to the last room on the education wing (youth). Donated items can be left from now until the sale. If you have any questions, please feel free to call Linda Cox at 651-778-8090.

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