



# Faith in Action

Faith United Methodist Church  
1530 Oakdale Avenue  
West St. Paul MN 55118  
(651) 457-5686  
[Faihumc@usfamily.net](mailto:Faihumc@usfamily.net)

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

**March 2015**

## LENT WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

### Lenten Midweek Supper & Worship during the Wednesdays of Lent through Mar. 25

Each week our worship series will use one of the "I am" statements of Jesus to help us understand who Jesus is and the difference he makes in our lives. The theme on

Wednesday evening will be further explored on the following Sunday. There will be music, prayer, Scripture and a skit for all ages with the theme "The I AMs of Jesus".

### Sunday Lenten Class 10:50 a.m. through Mar. 29

During Sunday class we will continue to examine who God is through the "I Am" statements of Jesus. We will be using "The God We Can Know: Exploring the 'I Am' Sayings of Jesus" by Rob Fuquay.



## HOLY



## WEEK

### MAUNDY THURSDAY

**April 2 • 7:00 p.m.**

We remember the last supper of Jesus and the disciples as we celebrate holy communion in a Tenebrae style of worship with light and darkness.



### GOOD FRIDAY

**April 3 • 11 a.m. – 3 p.m.**

We will have a 4 hour prayer vigil. You are invited to join in prayer for 30 minute intervals at church or where you are. The church sanctuary will have music and resources available for people to use.



## EASTER SUNDAY

**APRIL 5**

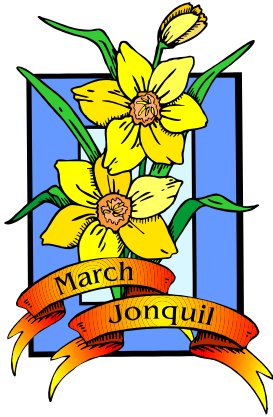
**Breakfast • 8:00 a.m.**

**Worship • 9:30 a.m.**

Easter breakfast will be served in the Fellowship Hall starting at 8:00 a.m. Then we will celebrate the resurrection in the sanctuary with the choir singing, and our worship concluding with the singing of the "Hallelujah Chorus" from Handel's Messiah.

# March Birthdays

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Mar. 1 — Barbara Schroeder  
Mar. 3 — Kaitlyn Cox  
Mar. 4 — Gil Kinnunen  
Mar. 8 — Victoria Stehr  
Mar. 11 — Ryan Mohr  
Mar. 13 — Bernice Killian  
Mar. 17 — Patricia Fjerstad  
Mar. 18 — Laura Kropp  
Milan Ysaguirre

Mar. 20 — Mike Hovey  
Mar. 21 — Ruth Phipps  
Mar. 21 — Corey Worden  
Mar. 21 — Kenneth Hovey  
Mar. 24 — Jeffrey Cox  
Mar. 24 — Katie Lyn Sieberer  
Mar. 26 — Ruth Champion  
Mar. 27 — Isabelle Pippert  
Mar. 31 — Michael Pate

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

## *Thank you to and for during February...*

- **Greeters:** Taffy Storck, Paul & Pat Williams, Gil & Dawn Kinnunen, and the Pippert family
- **Liturgists:** Tim Pippert, Carol Schuldt, Sharon Yekaldo, and Lucy Schwendinger
- **Serving refreshments:** Judy Turk, Pat Williams, Dawn & Gil Kinnunen, and Bonnie Dick
- **Communion Steward:** Karen Cohoes
- **Thank you** to Pat Williams for changing the banners in the sanctuary
- **Thank you** to Bonnie Dick and Judy Turk for helping assemble the February newsletter
- **March is Mobile Meals Month. A BIG Thank you** goes out to our Faith Church drivers: Vesta Lach, Greg & Roxanne Napier, Gil Kinnunen, Fred Mens, and Ward Mens — they help our program tremendously delivering meals each month. We really appreciate their help and dedication. We are always looking for more volunteers. Most drivers drive one hour a month. If you would like to volunteer, please call Dianne Mens at 651-455-5221.



**Botanists say** that trees need the powerful March winds to flex their trunks and main branches, so that the sap is drawn up to nourish the budding leaves. Perhaps we need the gales of life in the same way, though we dislike enduring them. A blustery period in our fortunes is often the prelude to a new spring of life and health, success and happiness, when we keep steadfast in faith and look to the good in spite of appearances.

—Jane Truax

### **Congregational Care Concerns:**

- ♦ **Bev Nielsen** is in hospice care.
- ♦ **Ruth Campion** is receiving treatment for cancer.
- ♦ **Dianne Mens** is receiving treatment for cancer.
- ♦ **Laurel Venhuizen** is recuperating from a fall.
- ♦ **Gil Kinnunen** is recovering from heart issues.
- ♦ **Nathaniel DeNardo** had kidney transplant surgery. He is home and doing well.
- ♦ **Paul DeNardo** has been deployed overseas.

### **Care Centers:**

- ♦ **Bev Nielsen** – *Augustana Emerald Crest of Victoria*
- ♦ **Eloise Barnes** – *Arbor Lakes Sr. Living, Maple Grove*
- ♦ **Marliss Knudson** – *Norris Square in Cottage Grove*

**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.

### **Concerns beyond our doors:**

- ♦ Those being persecuted for their faith
- ♦ 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



**The Money Pot** welcomes your change to help support the offering of the month. This month's money helps Minnesota Food Share through Neighbors Inc. We have set a congregational goal of gathering 2,500 pounds of food or money during the month of March.

### **Prayer Group**

We are looking for people who would be willing to pray each day for members of our congregation. Every four months the person praying will receive a list with dates and a group of 7-9 people to pray for each day. People will then pray for the individuals on the list on the assigned day. Over the course of a month, everyone in the congregation will have had someone pray for them. Our hope is to begin this month. There are no meetings except your personal prayer time with God. If you are interested or have questions, please contact Pastor Gail.

### **Prayer Shawl Ministry**

A prayer shawl ministry creates prayer shawls for those who are sick, in need of comfort or those who minister to others through prayer. Members of the prayer shawl ministry knit, crochet or sew the shawls as they pray for those who receive the shawls. The craftsperson bathes the shawl in prayer as they make each stitch or step in the pattern. We here at Faith are beginning such a ministry. Sharon Yekaldo has begun for us by making 3 shawls. If you would like to participate or if you have questions please talk to Sharon Yekaldo at 651-455-4770 or see 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 personal devotion time:*

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





# Steps on the Journey

We are in the middle of Lent as I write this. Lent is that strange season that many of us would like to skip. It is hard to look at ourselves and recognize that we mess up on a regular basis, that we may need to work on something, that we are not perfect. It is much more exciting to go from the enjoyment of Christmas and the coming of the Christ child to the promise of the resurrection that we celebrate at Easter.

Most of us do not like going to the places in our lives that make us reflect and think about our lives. Sometimes when we reflect on those darker places we feel pain and sorrow. If we have to go there we want to do it as quickly as we can so we can get on to the more important parts of our lives. Forty days is a long time to do anything let alone think about how human we are.

What we sometimes fail to realize is that going through those darker places, those times of self-reflection, those times of doubt and questioning can bring us to a deeper relationship with God. It can help us see God in new ways, as one who walks beside us, as one who leads us, as one who shines light in our darkness, as one who feeds us even when we did not realize we were hungry.

This Lent I hope you take these forty days and reflect, confess and move closer to God. Knowing that it is one more step on the journey and Easter is coming sooner than we think.

*Peace in Christ,  
Gail*



## Church Office Hours

Susan will be in the office Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays from 11:30 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. **Pastor Gail** is in the office Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays most weeks. Tuesdays and Fridays are Pastor Gail's regular days off. Please call her at home (612-722-3001) if it is an emergency and you need to reach her.

## New Directory

Over the next few weeks we will be creating a new church directory for Faith. Please submit any address changes, name changes, e-mail address, cell phone numbers, etc. to the church office immediately.

**Men's Breakfast Group** will meet on the Saturdays of **3/14, 3/28 & 4/11** at the Fireside Lounge, 1288 South Robert Street starting at 8:00am. All men are welcome to join us! For more info., please contact Bill Short at [bill.short@ci.white-bear-township.mn.us](mailto:bill.short@ci.white-bear-township.mn.us) or 651-552-0736.

## Annual Book of Reports

Copies of the Book of Reports for 2014 are available on the table between the church office and the pastor's office. Please feel free to pick one up.

*Easter  
Lilies*



If you would like to purchase a lily to help beautify our sanctuary on Easter morning and then take home with you, the **Easter lilies need to be ordered through the church office by Sunday, March 8.** White Lily plants with 5-8 blooms will be \$8.50 each. Please indicate if you have a dedication for your flower.

## **Sunday Movie — “Babette’s Feast”**

Sunday, March 22 at 4:00 p.m. everyone is invited to come and see “Babette’s Feast”. This movie is about what happens when a stranger comes to a community that understands faith as earning salvation through self-denial. The stranger brings a different view of life and faith. What happens when the two meet?

## **Youth Movie — “God’s Not Dead”**

Sunday, March 8 the youth gather to watch the movie “God’s Not Dead” and then have supper together. We will meet at the church at 4:00 p.m. The movie is about what happens when you are asked to defend your faith.

## **Blog for website**

Do you like to write? Are you a poet or a writer of prose? We are hoping to start a blog on the church website this spring. We are looking for people who would be willing to write 2-3 times a year for the website. There would be a schedule and questions for you to respond to. If you are interested, please contact Pastor Gail.

## **✠ Holy Week ✠**

**Palm/Passion Sunday, March 29** we will be hearing the story of the week of the passion during worship. We are looking for 8-10 people who will help with reading. If you are interested please contact Pastor Gail.

**Maundy Thursday, April 2** we will gather for worship at 7:00 p.m. and celebrate Holy Communion as we remember Jesus’ last supper with the disciples, then we will move into a tenebrae time as we remember all of the events of the night and the next day that led to Jesus’ crucifixion.

## **Prayer Vigil on Good Friday, April 3**

This will be a chance for you to pause from your day to remember Jesus’ crucifixion. We will hold the vigil from 11:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. We invite people to sign up for a ½ hour (30 Minute) slot. You can do it at church or anyplace else, just indicate on the sign-up sheet. If you come to the church there will be video and materials available for your time.

## **MAKE A DIFFERENCE**

difference /'diferəns / [dif-er-uhns]

### **Minnesota FoodShare**

During the month of March, our congregation is joining people of good will from across the state to help alleviate hunger. Minnesota FoodShare’s March Campaign is the largest food drive in the state, and congregations like ours are the heart of the campaign.

Last year the campaign raised more than 12 million pounds and dollars for Minnesota’s food shelves.

This year our congregation will be collecting both food and cash contributions throughout the month of March for Neighbors Inc local food shelf. Minnesota FoodShare is a program of the Greater Minneapolis Council of Churches and co-sponsored by:

- Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis
- Jewish Community Relations Council of Minnesota and the Dakotas
- Minnesota Catholic Conference
- Minnesota Council of Churches
- Minnesota Rabbinical Council
- St. Paul Area Council of Churches

**We at Faith have set a congregational goal** of raising 2,500 pounds in food and money (\$1.<sup>00</sup> equals one pound of food). If we reach our goal on Sunday, April 12 there will be ice cream sundaes available for everyone.



## Mission Fundraiser

The Riverbend and Be the Tool Mission Team will be returning to Slidell, Alabama in April to continue God's work in helping people affected by Hurricane Katrina and other disasters to repair their homes. The fundraiser will be at the Outback Steakhouse on Upper 55th St., 5723 Bishop Ave. on **Saturday, March 14 at noon**. Tickets are \$18 per person or \$35 for two; Children can split a meal. You have a choice of steak or chicken, including potato, salad, and dessert. Come and join us for great food for a great cause. Tickets are available from Barbara Schroeder.



## Camping

It's time to begin thinking about summer camp. Brochures for the many camps sponsored by the Minnesota United Methodist

Church are available on the table in the Narthex. **New for 2015:** For each camper new to the UMC camp system who comes to camp with you, your event fee will be reduced by \$25. So - 1 new camper = \$25. off, 3 new campers = \$75. off, etc. New campers get to have a great time at camp and spending time with you, you save some money, and everyone's a winner!

## COMING VERY SOON!

Our **11th** annual Live/Silent Auction  
Saturday, April 25, 2015

### **AUCTION DONATIONS NEEDED!**

Do you have an item or items you would like to donate to the April 25 auction? If so, please give them to Lynn Bonkowske or Judy Turk as early as possible. This event is always tons of fun with our own "lively auctioneer" Gil Kinnunen. Preview is at 4:30pm, dinner at 5:00, live auction at 6:00. Thank you in advance and, of course, we want this to be our best auction ever! Lynn & Judy.



## Empty Bowls features American Indian youth — Saturday, March 21

Empty Bowls will be held from **11 a.m.—2 p.m.** on Saturday, March 21 at White Bear Lake United Methodist Church (1851 Birch Street,). As this event benefits the Department of Indian Work Food Shelf, we are excited to offer a contemporary powwow complete with a celebration of cultural sharing and learning. Come enjoy the drums of the student group, Ta Oyate Ota (Lakota for "many nations of people"), as well as a performance by dancers from American Indian Magnet School. This is a family-friendly event; a freewill offering will be taken during the performance. Bring your friends, neighbors, and co-workers and let's make this a memorable and fun-filled day.

**Schedule:** 11 - 1 p.m. Soup Served; 12:15 p.m. Bread Oven Demonstration; 1 - 2 p.m. Program and Entertainment. For more information and to buy tickets online, visit <http://www.spacc.org/> Tickets can also be purchased with cash or check at the door.

**Ticket prices:** \$20 Adult,  
\$5 Children 12 and under;  
\$15 Student and  
Low-income)



## Join in a United Day in Prayer

If you practice centering prayer or would like to learn more about this form of Christian meditation, join us on Saturday, March 21, from 9:30 to 1:30 at **Salem Lutheran Church** in West St. Paul. We are part of an ecumenical, world-wide network of Christian meditators who seek to live ordinary lives with extraordinary love. The morning will feature a tape of Fr. Thomas Keating talking about The Mystery of God and include discussions, meditation, hospitality and lunch. Free will offering. No RSVP necessary. For more info., contact Louise at 651-280-9678 or [lenesdahl@comcast.net](mailto:lenesdahl@comcast.net)

# March 2015 Worship Schedule

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## **March 1 — 2nd Sunday in Lent** — Sacrament of Holy Communion

*Scripture Readings: Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16; Psalm 22; Romans 4:13-25; John 8:12-20*

Sermon title: "Light in the Darkness"

Greeter: Taffy Storck

Lay Reader: Bruce Opp

Fellowship Time host: Dawn Kinnunen

Communion Steward: Barbara Schroeder

## **March 8 — 3rd Sunday in Lent**

*Scripture Readings: Exodus 20:1-7; Psalm 19; I Corinthians 1:18-25; John 10:29-39*

Sermon title: "Being Sheep"

Greeters:

Lay Reader: Caroline Pippert

Fellowship Time host:

## **March 15 — 4th Sunday in Lent**

*Scripture Readings: Numbers 21:4-9; Psalm 107; Ephesians 2:1-10; John 15:1-8*

Sermon title: "Being Connected"

Greeters:

Lay Reader: Charles Beardshear

Fellowship Time host:

## **March 22 — 5th Sunday in Lent**

*Scripture Readings: Jeremiah 31:31-34; Psalm 51; Hebrews 5:5-10; John 14:1-12*

Sermon Title: "What Direction Do We Go?"

Greeters:

Lay Reader: Sharon Yekaldo

Fellowship Time host:

## **March 29 — Palm/Passion Sunday**

*Scripture Readings: Psalm 31; Isaiah 50:4-9; Philippians 2:5-11; Mark 14:1-15:47*

The Story of the Passion Week

Greeter:

Lay Reader: Bill Bonkowske

Fellowship Time host:



# March 2015 Calendar

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Sun., 3/1	9:30 a.m.	Worship	Mon., 3/23	10:00 a.m.	Craft Group
	9:45 a.m.	Youth & Children's	Wed., 3/25	5:15 p.m.	Supper
		Sunday School		6:15 p.m.	Lenten Worship
	10:30 a.m.	Fellowship Time		7:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal
	10:50 a.m.	Adult Sunday School	Sat., 3/28	8:00 a.m.	Men's Breakfast
Mon., 3/2	10:00 a.m.	Craft Group	Sun., 3/29	9:30 a.m.	Worship
Wed., 3/4	5:15 p.m.	Supper		9:45 a.m.	Youth & Children's
	6:15 p.m.	Lenten Worship			Sunday School
	7:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal		10:30 a.m.	Fellowship Time
Thurs., 3/5	6:00 p.m.	Finance Committee		10:50 a.m.	Adult Sunday School
	7:00 p.m.	Church Council	Mon., 3/30	10:00 a.m.	Craft Group
Sun., 3/8	9:30 a.m.	Worship	Wed., 4/1	7:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal
	9:45 a.m.	Youth & Children's	Thurs., 4/2	7:00 p.m.	Maundy Thursday
		Sunday School	Fri., 4/3	11:00 a.m.	Prayer Vigil
	10:30 a.m.	Fellowship Time	Sun., 4/5	8:00 a.m.	Easter Breakfast
	10:50 a.m.	Adult Sunday School		9:30 a.m.	Easter Worship
	4:00 p.m.	Youth Movie		10:30 a.m.	Fellowship Time
Mon., 3/9	10:00 a.m.	Craft Group	Mon., 4/6	10:00 a.m.	Craft Group
Wed., 3/11	4:30 p.m.	United Methodist Women	Wed., 4/8	7:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal
	5:15 p.m.	Supper	Sat. 4/11	8:00 a.m.	Men's Breakfast
	6:15 p.m.	Lenten Worship	Sun., 4/12	9:30 a.m.	Worship
	7:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal		9:45 a.m.	Youth & Children's
Sat. 3/14	8:00 a.m.	Men's Breakfast			Sunday School
Sun., 3/15	9:30 a.m.	Worship		10:30 a.m.	Fellowship Time
	9:45 a.m.	Youth & Children's		10:50 a.m.	Adult Sunday School
		Sunday School			
	10:30 a.m.	Fellowship Time			
	10:50 a.m.	Adult Sunday School			
	10:50 a.m.	Outreach Committee			
Mon., 3/15	10:00 a.m.	Craft Group			
Wed., 3/18	4:00 p.m.	Bible Reading			
	5:15 p.m.	Supper			
	6:15 p.m.	Lenten Worship			
	7:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal			
Sun., 3/22	9:30 a.m.	Worship			
	9:45 a.m.	Youth & Children's			
		Sunday School			
	10:30 a.m.	Fellowship Time			
	10:50 a.m.	Adult Sunday School			
	4:00 p.m.	Adult Movie			



## Daylight Savings Time Reminder

Daylight Savings Time begins Sunday, March 8

## Help Needed for Easter Breakfast

Volunteers are requested/needed to help with the breakfast on Easter Sunday, March 5. If you are able to help in any way, please contact Marsha Spatafore at 651-451-8713 or Mike Schwendinger at 651-224-3821.



# KIDS IN SEARCH



## POWER OF PRAYER

When life gets crazy, worry creeps in. But God tells us exactly what to do — any time and anywhere.

**Directions:** Circle the word in each group that doesn't belong. Then write those words on the numbered lines below.

- |   |                                     |                                      |  |   |
|---|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|---|
| <b>1</b><br>apple<br>anxious<br>artichoke | <b>2</b><br>every<br>eagle<br>emu   | <b>3</b><br>purple<br>pink<br>prayer | <b>4</b><br>Paul<br>petition<br>Peter                    | <b>5</b><br>taste<br>touch<br>thanksgiving      |
| <b>6</b><br>rest<br>requests<br>relax     | <b>7</b><br>God<br>George<br>Greg   | <b>8</b><br>puddle<br>peace<br>pond  | <b>9</b><br>transcends<br>train<br>truck                 | <b>10</b><br>unusual<br>unique<br>understanding |
| <b>11</b><br>guard<br>giraffe<br>gorilla  | <b>12</b><br>hearts<br>hold<br>held | <b>13</b><br>many<br>minds<br>more   | <b>14</b><br>Philadelphia<br>Pennsylvania<br>Philippians |   |

“Do not be \_\_\_\_\_<sup>1</sup> about anything, but in  
 \_\_\_\_\_<sup>2</sup> situation, by \_\_\_\_\_<sup>3</sup> and  
 \_\_\_\_\_<sup>4</sup>, with \_\_\_\_\_<sup>5</sup>,  
 present your \_\_\_\_\_<sup>6</sup> to \_\_\_\_\_<sup>7</sup>. And  
 the \_\_\_\_\_<sup>8</sup> of God, which \_\_\_\_\_<sup>9</sup>  
 all \_\_\_\_\_<sup>10</sup>, will \_\_\_\_\_<sup>11</sup>  
 your \_\_\_\_\_<sup>12</sup> and your \_\_\_\_\_<sup>13</sup>  
 in Christ Jesus.” \_\_\_\_\_<sup>14</sup> 4:6-7, NIV

Answers: 1. anxious, 2. every, 3. prayer, 4. petition, 5. thanksgiving, 6. requests, 7. God, 8. peace, 9. transcends, 10. understanding, 11. guard, 12. hearts, 13. minds, 14. Philippians

## PRAYER REMINDER



Use this fun family activity to remember to pray for other people.

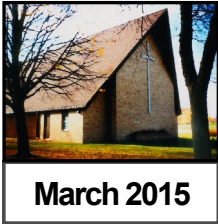
### What you need:

- White index cards (at least six)
- Markers or colored pencils (red, orange, yellow, green, blue and brown)
- M&M's candies



### What you do:

1. On each card, write a group of people to pray for (family members, friends, teachers, sick people, etc.). Use a different color of writing utensil for each card.
2. While sitting at a table, divide the M&M's among family members.
3. Spread out the cards and explain that each color represents a group of people to pray for. Have each family member choose one candy and consider who they'll pray for.
4. Designate one person to start praying aloud. Go around the circle, and have the last person close.
5. At the end of that round, eat those M&M's.
6. Continue until you've prayed for all the cards. (Make more, if you'd like!)



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## Worship Schedule

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

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



# Lent

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



### Neighbors Burger Challenge

**Do you enjoy dining out in our community?** Do you also like supporting Neighbors, Inc? **Then this is for you!** Purchase a 2015 Great Neighbors' Food Fight card for \$25 (proceeds benefit Neighbors, Inc.) and then redeem it for a burger\* at each of the five participating restaurants between February 15th and April 4th, 2015:

[Jersey's Bar and Grill](#) • [Cherokee Tavern](#) • [BLVD Bar and Grille](#)  
[5-8 Grill & Tap West St Paul](#) • [B-52's Burgers and Brew](#)

Try them all, then vote for your favorite! One vote per card. The winning restaurant will be announced in mid-April. On line voting tool coming soon! Purchase your cards at Neighbors, Inc. or online. Proceeds from the Great Neighbors' Food Fight cards will go to benefit Neighbors, Inc.



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