



Faith in Action

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

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

February 2017

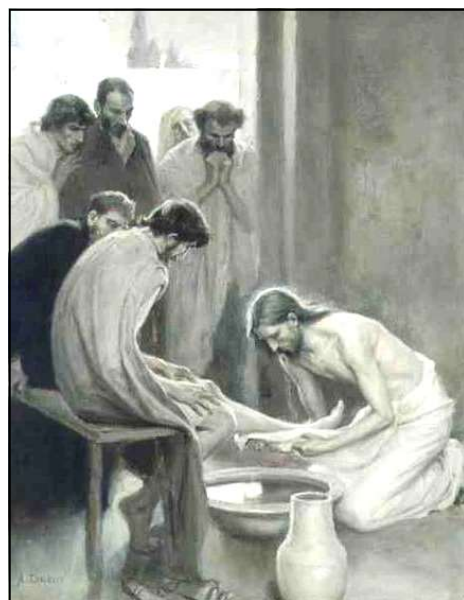
LENT BEGINS MARCH 1

Lenten Midweek Supper & Worship during the Wednesdays of Lent March 1 — April 6

Lent begins Wednesday, March 1 with Ash Wednesday. We will have supper and worship each Wednesday evening during Lent here at Faith. Supper will begin at 5:15 p.m. and worship will begin at 6:15 p.m. The theme of the Wednesday evening worship will be "Hymns of Faith related to Lent, Holy Week and Easter". Come and join us.

Sunday Lenten Class 10:50 a.m. Mar. 5 — Apr. 9

The Lenten Class will be led by Pastor Gail and will be using the book *Half Truths* by Adam Hamilton



HOLY



WEEK

MAUNDY THURSDAY April 13 • 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 14 • 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 16

**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.

February Birthdays

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2/2 — Colleen Spadaccini
— Marie Geist
— Stephen Larsen
2/4 — Brian Sielski
— Rebecca Hovey
2/7 — Roxanne Napier
2/8 — Alana Sielski
2/9 — Paul DeNardo
2/10 — Jill Vanderhoff

2/11 — Jeffrey Boelter
2/14 — Sheryl Watchorn
— Fred Knutson, Jr.
2/19 — Ray Bell
2/23 — William Bonkowske
2/24 — Mackenna Emery
2/28 — Carie Otto
— Macenzie Worden

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

Thank you to and for during January...

- **Greeters:** Taffy Storck, Dawn & Gil Kinnunen, Karen Cohoes, Vesta Lach, and Bernice Killian
- **Liturgists:** John Kemp, Bill Bonkowske, Randy Davis, Sharon Yekaldo, and Gil Kinnunen
- **Serving refreshments:** Sharon Yekaldo, Bonnie & Fred Dick, Paul & Pat Williams, and Judy Turk
- **Communion Stewards:** Sharon Yekaldo
- **Thank You!** It only took 1-1/2 hours to take down the Christmas decorations. Thank you to the amazing "take-down" team: Bill Short, Bill Bonkowske, John Kemp, Steve Larsen, Dan Miller, Bruce Opp, Carol Schuldt, Pat Williams & Sharon Yekaldo
- **Thank You** to Bonnie Dick, JoAnn Loutsch, Carol Schuldt, and Judy Turk for helping assemble the January newsletter.
- **Thank you to the following people who have finished their terms of office:**

Mike Hovey — Church Council
Board of Trustees
Ruth Campion — Church Council
Staff Parish Relations Cmte.
Dianna Gallegos — Board of Trustees
Matt Spatafore — Staff Parish Relations Cmte.
Sheri Lukas — Lay Leadership Cmte.
Randy Roberts — Worship Cmte.



- **A BIG thank you** to the team that worked in the kitchen to help get rid of the ant issue: Fred Dick, Pat Williams, Carol Schuldt, George Brown, Bruce Opp, Steve & Rose Larsen, and Judy Turk. Cross your fingers that we were successful. — Judy Turk

Congregational Care Concerns:

- ♦ **Pat Giorgini** is recovering from a fall
- ♦ **Kathy Johnson** is dealing with chemotherapy

Care Centers:

- ♦ **Elsie Brown** – *Norris Square, Cottage Grove*
- ♦ **Beulah Hanvelt** – *Inver Glen Senior Living*
- ♦ **Colleen Spadaccini** – *White Pine, Mendota Hgts.*

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

The Money Pot welcomes your change to help support the offering of the month. During February the money pot donations help support



Legal Assistance of Dakota County, Ltd. For



over 40 years, Legal Assistance has provided free civil legal services to low-income residents of Dakota County, mostly in the area of family law. In

2015 Legal Assistance staff and volunteers assisted over 1200 families in crisis. For more information go to their website, www.dakotalegal.org.

The money pot is located in the church lobby.

♥♥♥ **Need a day brightener or thought provoker?** ♥♥♥

Dial up *Ideas for Positive Living!* Every Thursday Gil Kinnunen provides an uplifting phone message. So call 651-602-2176 each Thursday for a weekly picker-upper!



The Prayer Chain is active. If you have a prayer concern, contact Carol Schuldt at 651-306-0542. Please make sure the pastor also knows of the prayer request, so that she can respond to pastoral care needs. Pastor needs to know about telephone prayer chain requests in order to share the concern on the e-mail prayer chain as well. If you wish to be involved in this ministry by being a part of either the telephone chain or the e-mail chain, please speak to 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 Winter:

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.

Coming Events

February 18 – River Bend Chili Cook-off

February 26 – Afternoon at the Movies

March 1 – Ash Wednesday – Lent begins

April 8 – Auction

April 9 – Palm/Passion Sunday

April 16 – Easter

April 30 – Day of Service & Potluck

Sound System

We have installed the new p.a. system in the building. It works differently from the old one. If you are willing to be a substitute operator of the system, please contact Steve Larsen and he will set a time to train you.

New Directory

We will be working on a new directory for the church this spring. If you have a new e-mail address or a new phone number (include cell phones) please send them to the church office by February 1. Church office – 651-457-5686 or faithumc@usfamily.net

TOTES

Do you have extra tote bags in your home? United Methodist Women and friends have been working with hundreds of refugee and immigrants in south Texas and noticed they are in need of tote bags to carry personal items on their journey.

So they are asking UMW and Friends to mail gently used totes to them, so they can take the bags to helping centers here in South Texas. Let's recycle or reuse! Bring your totes to Faith and we will get them to Texas.

Facebook Page

Remember to like the Faith Facebook page at:
<http://tinyurl.com/FaithUMCmn>

Annual Book of Reports

Sunday, January 29 after worship we held our annual church conference. The Book of Reports for 2016 is available on the table between the offices. Please feel free to take a copy.

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.

Memory Tree

A new leaf been added to the Memory Tree in the church lobby:

Bev Nielsen

In Loving Memory from her family

Men's Breakfast Group will meet on the Saturdays of **2/11, 2/25, 3/11 and 3/25** at the Fireside Lounge, 1288 S. Robert Street starting at 8:00am. All men are welcome to join us! For more info., please contact Bill Short at bill.short@whitebeartownship.org or 651-552-0736.

Alive Now Magazine

The print and digital magazine formats of Alive Now will end with the March/April 2017 issue. The Upper Room staff will share plans for the transformation at www.alivenow.org, facebook.com/Alive.now.magazine and twitter.com/AliveNowMag.



*Have a Happy
Valentine's Day!*

Welcome Bags & Cards

The Welcome Team has information cards and welcome bags available in the narthex/lobby. Please feel free to take either or both if you have a new neighbor or a friend as a welcome from the church.

New people for mailing list

We are looking for additional people to place on our mailing list. Maybe you have a neighbor, friend or family member you would like to receive the Faith newsletter. Leave the name and address in the church office. This will help us continue to be able to send the newsletter out at a bulk rate (we need 200 addresses for this rate).

Extra Help Rolling Into, Rolling Out of Food Shelf

Do you have a large rolling suitcase sitting around picking up dust? Why not donate it to help a family in need. With each family receiving a week's supply of food, it can sometimes be difficult to transport all the food if a client is walking or taking the bus. Help out today by donating your old large rolling suitcase to the Neighbors, Inc. food shelf.



Gifts of IRA Assets

Good news for taxpayers over the age of 70½. Congress has voted to make permanent the exclusion from income of up to \$100,000 per person, per year, for Individual Retirement Account (IRA) distributions which are given directly to charities. This money can be given to the church and you will receive a donation credit on your giving. For more information contact your financial planner or Pastor Gail.

MAKE A DIFFERENCE

difference /'diferəns / [dif-er-uhns]

Africa University



Your offerings reach beyond our local community to empower ministry beyond the local church that reach people who are in desperate need to feel the touch of Christ's love and reconciliation. Through our connectional giving, we have built a transforming gift for people on the continent of Africa: **Africa University**. The university will celebrate its twenty-fifth anniversary in March 2017. With more than 6,100 graduates from 32 countries across Africa, this amazing institution continues to grow and thrive, even in the midst of economic turmoil in Zimbabwe. It is a great testament to what United Methodists can do when we work together! This ministry happens thanks to the generous support of United Methodists like you. I invite you once again to give generously as we worship God through sharing our gifts, tithes, and offerings.

*Learn more about the work and impact of
Africa University at:*

<http://www.support-africauniversity.org>



February 5 — 5th Sunday after the Epiphany— *Sacrament of Holy Communion*

Scripture Readings: Isaiah 58:1-12; Psalm 112; I Corinthians 2:1-16; Matthew 5:13-20

Sermon title: "Salt and Light"

Greeter: Taffy Storck

Lay Reader: Bruce Opp

Fellowship Time hosts: Bonnie & Fred Dick

Communion Stewards: Judy Turk & JoAnn Loutsch

February 12 — 6th Sunday after the Epiphany

Scripture Readings: Deuteronomy 30:15-20; Psalm 119; I Corinthians 3:1-9; Matthew 5:21-37

Sermon Title: "Making Choices"

Renewal of our Baptismal Vows

Greeter: JoAnn Loutsch

Lay Reader: John Kemp

Fellowship Time hosts: Fred & Bonnie Dick

February 19 — 7th Sunday after the Epiphany

Scripture Readings: Leviticus 19:1-2, 9-18; Psalm 119; I Corinthians 3:10-11, 16-23; Matthew 5:38-48

Sermon title: "Who Do You Pray For?"

Greeters: Pippert family

Lay Reader: Ann Beardshear

Fellowship Time host:

February 26 — Transfiguration Sunday

Scripture Readings: Exodus 24:12-18; Psalm 99; II Peter 1:16-21; Matthew 17:1-9

Sermon Title: "Looking Up"

Greeter: Gloria Gurtin

Lay Reader: Isabelle Pippert

Fellowship Time host: Judy P.

Extravagant love



The love St. Paul describes in 1 Corinthians 13 is "no mild, tepid thing," writes Mark Buchanan in *Your Church Is Too Safe* (Zondervan). "It is no flight of fancy, no frisson of giddiness, no mere ruffle of sensation. This love is neither nice nor prissy nor fragile nor coy. This love is fierce and wild and dangerous and unbreakable. It is sublime and subversive. It is indefatigable and undefeatable. It is nothing less than the love God has for you, to bind you and to loose you, to take you captive and then set you free. This love is extravagant."

February 2017 Calendar

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Wed. 2/1	7:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal	Thurs., 3/2	6:00 p.m.	Finance Committee
	7:00 p.m.	Confirmation		7:00 p.m.	Church Council
Sun. 2/5	9:30 a.m.	Worship	Sun., 3/5	9:30 a.m.	Worship
	9:45 a.m.	Youth & Children's Sunday School		9:45 a.m.	Youth & Children's Sunday School
	10:30 a.m.	Fellowship Time		10:30 a.m.	Fellowship Time
	10:50 a.m.	Adult Sunday School		10:50 a.m.	Adult Sunday School
Mon., 2/6	10:00 a.m.	Craft Group	Mon., 3/6	10:00 a.m.	Craft Group
	7:00 p.m.	Staff Parish Relations Cmte.	Wed. 3/8	5:15 p.m.	Supper
Wed. 2/8	7:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal		6:15 p.m.	Lenten Worship
	7:00 p.m.	Confirmation		7:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal
Sat., 2/11	8:00 a.m.	Men's Breakfast		7:00 p.m.	Confirmation
Sun., 2/12	9:30 a.m.	Worship	Sat., 3/11	8:00 a.m.	Men's Breakfast
	9:45 a.m.	Youth & Children's Sunday School	Sun., 3/12	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		10:30 a.m.	Fellowship Time
Mon., 2/13	10:00 a.m.	Craft Group		10:50 a.m.	Adult Sunday School
	6:30 p.m.	Welcome Team	Mon., 3/13	10:00 a.m.	Craft Group
Wed., 2/15	7:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal	Wed. 3/15	5:15 p.m.	Supper
	7:00 p.m.	Confirmation		6:15 p.m.	Lenten Worship
Sat., 2/18	5:30 p.m.	River Bend Chili Cook-Off		7:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal
Sun., 2/19	9:30 a.m.	Worship		7:00 p.m.	Confirmation
	9:45 a.m.	Youth & Children's Sunday School			
	10:30 a.m.	Fellowship Time			
	10:50 a.m.	Adult Sunday School			
Mon., 2/20	10:00 a.m.	Craft Group			
Wed. 2/22	7:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal			
	7:00 p.m.	Confirmation			
Sat., 2/25	8:00 a.m.	Men's Breakfast			
Sun., 2/28	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.	Afternoon at the Movies			
Mon., 2/27	10:00 a.m.	Craft Group			
Wed. 3/1	5:15 p.m.	Supper			
	6:15 p.m.	Ash Wednesday Worship			
	6:45 p.m.	Board of Trustees			
	7:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal			
	7:00 p.m.	Confirmation			



COMING VERY SOON! Our **13th** annual Live/Silent Auction Saturday, April 8, 2017

AUCTION DONATIONS NEEDED!

Do you have an item or items you would like to donate to the Apr. 8 auction? If so, please give them to Lynn Bonkowske or Judy Turk as soon as you can. This event is always tons of fun with our own "lively auctioneer" Gil Kinnunen. Preview is at 4:30 pm, 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.



Afternoon at the Movies — February 26

We are going to continue Afternoon at the Movies with the movie "Pray the Devil Back to Hell" at **4:00 p.m. on Sunday, February 26**. *Pray the Devil Back to Hell* chronicles the remarkable story of the Liberian women who came together to end a bloody civil war and bring peace to their shattered country.

Thousands of women - ordinary mothers, grandmothers, aunts and daughters, both Christian and Muslim - came together to pray for peace and then staged a silent protest outside of the Presidential Palace. Armed only with white T-shirts and the courage of their convictions, they demanded a resolution to the country's civil war. Their actions were a critical element in bringing about a agreement during the stalled peace talks.

A story of sacrifice, unity and transcendence, *Pray the Devil Back to Hell* honors the strength and perseverance of the women of Liberia. Inspiring, uplifting, and most of all motivating, it is a compelling testimony of how grassroots activism can alter the history of nations. Come and join us.



Our 13th annual Live & Silent Auction Saturday, April 8, 2017

- 4:30 p.m. — Preview auction items
- 5:00 p.m. — Dinner
(pulled pork sandwich)
- 6:00 p.m. — Live Auction
- 6:30 p.m. — Silent Auction closes

Dinner Tickets: 12-adult \$8.00 • Ages 4-11
\$4.00

Make plans NOW to attend — and visit with Judy Turk or Lynn Bonkowske if you are able to help with donating items for the auction.



*Shhhh!
Includes a
SILENT
Auction,
too!*

PLEASE JOIN US FOR THE 5TH ANNUAL

GOLDEN CHILI CUP AND SILENT AUCTION

River Bend Mission Team, in partnership with Be the Tool, is raising money to help fund out next mission trip. We will be heading back to the New Orleans area to help rebuild homes damaged by Hurricane Katrina & Hurricane Isaac.

Saturday, February 18, 2017

Doors will open at 5:30pm.

The silent auction will end at 7:30pm.

Cost: \$15.00 gets you in the door and 5 votes for the chili competition

Auction items will go to the highest bidder

Location: Faith United Methodist Church

1530 Oakdale Ave

St Paul, MN 55118

*Featuring special guest judge
Sunday Burquest from*



*Want to make a chili for
the competition?*

*Want to donate to the
silent auction?*

Contact Krissy Keckhafer

@ 612-568-2416 or

GoldenChiliCup@gmail.com

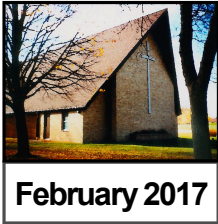


YOUR ENTERTAINMENT FOR THE EVENING WILL
BE MINNEAPOLIS' OWN

FIREWORKS ON FERRIS WHEELS

Would you like to join us on this or a future trip? Would you like help planning a trip? Can't make it to the fundraiser but would still like to help out? Do you have other Be the Tool questions?

Contact Rod Scofield @ 651-248-8495 or rod@bethetool.org



FAITH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
1530 Oakdale Ave.
West St. Paul MN 55118

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TWIN CITIES MN
PERMIT NO. 774



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.

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



LENT BEGINS
ASH WEDNESDAY,
MARCH 1



Great Neighbors' Food Fight Contest 2017

Local restaurants compete for the "best chicken wings" and YOU can help decide the winner. **How it works:** Purchase a Great Neighbors' Food Fight card and redeem it for one order of highlighted chicken wings at each of the six participating restaurants.

Highlighted wings include:

- B-52 Burgers & Brew: buffalo or sweet Thai chili
- BLVD Bar + Grille: BLVD or buffalo
- Cherokee Tavern: buffalo or jerk
- Jersey's Bar & Grill: buffalaki or hot buffalo
- Mississippi Pub: Cajun or buffalo
- The Coop: sweet chili or spicy

Sponsored By



Try them all, then vote online for your favorite.

Tickets are available online at or at the Neighbors office. One vote per card; the winner will be announced in April. Proceeds from the sales of the Great Neighbors' Food Fight cards benefit Neighbors, Inc. (www.picatic.com/foodfight)

FAITH IN ACTION is published monthly by Faith United Methodist Church, 1530 Oakdale Ave., West St. Paul MN 55118 (651) 457-5686 office; Email: faithumc@usfamily.net DEADLINE: the 15th of each month, unless otherwise noted. Editor reserves the right to edit for content and space. Visit us at www.faihumcmn.com