



# 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 2017**

## LENT WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

### Lenten Midweek Supper & Worship during the Wednesdays of Lent — through April 6

Started on Wednesday, March 1 with Ash Wednesday, we will continue to have supper and worship each Wednesday evening during Lent 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.

# March Birthdays

- 2 -



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

Mar. 20 — Mike Hovey  
Mar. 21 — Corey Worden  
Mar. 24 — Jeffrey Cox  
Mar. 24 — Katie Lyn Sieberer  
Mar. 26 — Ruth Campion  
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, JoAnn Loutsch, the Pippert family, and Gloria Gurtin
- **Liturgists:** Bruce Opp, John Kemp, Ann Beardshear, and Isabelle Pippert
- **Serving refreshments:** Bonnie & Fred Dick, and other volunteers this month
- **Communion Stewards:** Judy Turk & JoAnn Loutsch
- **Thank You** to JoAnn Loutsch, Judy Turk, Pat Williams, and Gil & Dawn Kinnunen for helping to assemble the February newsletter.
- **“Thank you** for your recent donation of \$37.80 to Simpson Housing Services. Your contribution helps Simpson house, support, and advocate for people experiencing homelessness in our community. Together we are ending homelessness, one person at a time. Last year, with community support like yours, we moved 1,038 people into housing, welcomed 2,619 men and women into our shelter, and supported 254 families with 508 children through our Family Housing Program. ... Thank you for being a part of our community and helping to end homelessness in Minnesota.” — Elisabeth Loeffler, Dir. Of Development and Communications, Simpson Housing Services
- **March is Mobile Meals Month.** “Dear Faith United Methodist Church, **Thank you** for your support of our Mobile Meals program. You have provided office space, volunteer drivers, and financial support for many years. Thank you for your continuing support!



MY MOUTH  
WILL DECLARE  
YOUR PRAISE.

Psalms 51:15

### **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** (located in the church lobby) welcomes your donations to help support the offering of the month. Money Pot donations in March support Minnesota FoodShare through Neighbors Inc. **Read more on page 5 about our goal and our challenge!**



**Neighbors, Inc. is pleased to announce** that Charles D. Thompson will be the organization's next executive director. Charlie will join Neighbors in March, working with current executive director John Kemp until his retirement on April 15.



"We are thrilled that Charlie will be joining Neighbors as its new executive director," says Brian Counihan, chair of the Neighbors Board of Directors. "With his passion for serving those in need and his proven experience directing non-profit organizations, we are confident that he is the right person to lead the organization in its next chapter."

With 10 years of non-profit experience, Charlie understands the work Neighbors does and has demonstrated his ability to lead. He began his work with St. Vincent de Paul in South Bend, Ind., where, as executive director, he guided the organization through the acquisition of a new building, increased fundraising, added programs and services, and opened a new thrift store. In 2013, he became executive director of St. Vincent de Paul in Tacoma, Wash., leading the organization through a financial crisis, as well as the adoption and implementation of a strategic plan that increased financial and in-kind donations and improved community awareness.

"I'm excited about the opportunity to serve Neighbors and look forward to helping the staff and volunteers reduce poverty, promote self-sufficiency and build community," says Charlie. "I want to thank our retiring executive director, John Kemp, for his fourteen years of dedicated service, during which he has built a solid foundation of excellence. With the help of the board of directors, staff, volunteers and all those who support Neighbors, we will continue to create a community that values compassion, respect, fairness and empowerment."



**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:*

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

**March 1** – Ash Wednesday – Lent begins

**March 26** – Afternoon at the Movies

**April 8** – Auction

**April 13** – Maundy Thursday

**April 14** – Good Friday

**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 March 15. Church office – 651-457-5686 or [faithumc@usfamily.net](mailto:faithumc@usfamily.net)

## Afternoon at the Movies

Sunday, March 26 we will conclude Afternoon at the Movies series with the movie: **“The Secret Life of Walter Mitty”**. We begin watching at 4:00 p.m. and then spend some time discussing the movie afterwards. The movie is about a daydreamer who escapes his life by disappearing into a fantasy world filled with heroism, romance and adventure. What happens when the real world collides with his fantasy world and he needs to take action that sends him on an adventure that is more extraordinary than he could have imagined. Come and join us.

## Facebook Page

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

## 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 Wednesday, March 15.** White Lily plants with 5-8 blooms will be \$9.00 each. Please indicate if you have a dedication for your flower.

## 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.

**Men's Breakfast Group** will meet on the Saturdays of **3/11, 3/25, 4/8 and 4/22** 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](mailto: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](http://www.alivenow.org), [facebook.com/Alive.now.magazine](https://facebook.com/Alive.now.magazine) and [twitter.com/AliveNowMag](https://twitter.com/AliveNowMag).

## 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 8 million dollars and 4.7 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

**THIS YEAR** Centro Cristiano Nueva Esperanza has challenged Faith to a contest as to which congregation can raise the most food! **We have set a congregational goal of raising 2,000 pounds** during the month (\$1 equals one pound of food). If we reach our goal, there will be a special treat available one Sunday in April for everyone!

**Minnesota  
FoodShare**  
*March Campaign*

## MAKE A DIFFERENCE

difference /'diferəns / [dif-er-uhns]

### Discipleship Resources International



Your offering empowers ministry within our congregation and in response to the needs of our community. It also helped support the work of ministries beyond the local church that reach people who are in desperate need to feel the touch of love and reconciliation. Through our connectional giving, we provide for the development of resources that help strengthen and grow the church in the Central Conferences (outside the U.S.) through **Discipleship Resources International, a unit of Discipleship Ministries.**

The goal is get print and electronic resources into the hands of church leaders in areas of Africa, Asia, Europe, and the Philippines. The resources are not only repurposed content from churches in the U.S., but new resources written and published by teams of local scholars in these contexts. 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 of Discipleship Resources International at www.umcdiscipleship.org/drint](http://www.umcdiscipleship.org/drint)



## **March 5 — 1st Sunday of Lent** — *Sacrament of Holy Communion*

*Scripture Readings:* Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7; Psalm 32; Romans 5:12-19; Matthew 4:1-11

Sermon title: "When the Devil Comes"

Greeter: Taffy Storck

Lay Reader: George Brown

Fellowship Time host:

Communion Steward: Karen Cohoes

## **March 12 — 2nd Sunday of Lent**

*Scripture Readings:* Genesis 12:1-4a; Psalm 121; Romans 4:1-5, 13-17; John 3:1-17

Sermon Title: "Coming at Night"

Greeters: Randy Roberts & Carmen Lutgen

Lay Reader: Angela High-Pippert

Fellowship Time host:

## **March 19 — 3rd Sunday of Lent**

*Scripture Readings:* Exodus 17:1-7; Psalm 95; Romans 5:1-11; John 4:5-42

Sermon title: "Talking when you are to be Silent"

Greeter: Laurel Venhuizen

Lay Reader: Carol Schuldt

Fellowship Time host:

## **March 26 — 4th Sunday of Lent**

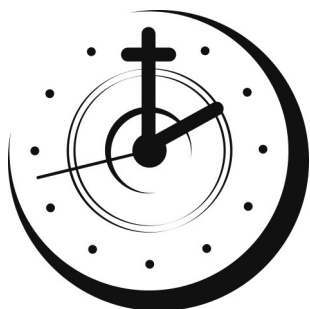
*Scripture Readings:* I Samuel 16:1-13; Psalm 23; Ephesians 5:8-14; John 9:1-41

Sermon Title: "How Do We See?"

Greeter: Collette Peterson

Lay Reader: Charles Beardshear

Fellowship Time host:



### **Our life is like the dial of a clock.**

The hands are God's hands, passing over and over again — the short hand of discipline and the long hand of mercy. Slowly and surely, the hand of discipline must pass, and God speaks at each strike. But over and over passes the hand of mercy, showering down sixtyfold of blessing for each stroke of discipline or trial. And both hands are fastened to one secure point: the great, unchanging heart of a God of love.

—Virginia Brandt Berg

# March 2017 Calendar

- 7 -

Wed., 3/1	5:15 p.m.	Supper	10:50 a.m.	Adult Sunday School	
	6:15 p.m.	Ash Wednesday Worship	4:00 p.m.	Afternoon at the Movies	
		Board of Trustees	Mon., 3/27	10:00 a.m.	Craft Group
	7:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal	Wed., 3/29	5:15 p.m.	Supper
	7:00 p.m.	Confirmation		6:15 p.m.	Lenten Worship
Thurs., 3/2	6:00 p.m.	Finance Committee		7:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal
	7:00 p.m.	Church Council		7:00 p.m.	Confirmation
Sun., 3/5	9:30 a.m.	Worship	Sun., 4/2	9:30 a.m.	Worship
	9:45 a.m.	Children's & Youth		9:45 a.m.	Children's & Youth
		Sunday School			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., 3/6	10:00 a.m.	Craft Group	Mon., 4/3	10:00 a.m.	Craft Group
Wed., 3/8	5:15 p.m.	Supper	Wed., 4/5	5:15 p.m.	Supper
	6:15 p.m.	Lenten Worship		6:15 p.m.	Lenten Worship
	7:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal		7:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal
	7:00 p.m.	Confirmation	Thurs., 4/8	8:00 a.m.	Men's Breakfast
Sat., 3/11	8:00 a.m.	Men's Breakfast		4:30 p.m.	Auction
Sun., 3/12	9:30 a.m.	Worship	Sun., 4/9	9:30 a.m.	Worship
	9:45 a.m.	Children's & Youth		9:45 a.m.	Children's & Youth
		Sunday School			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., 3/13	10:00 a.m.	Craft Group	Mon., 4/10	10:00 a.m.	Craft Group
Wed., 3/15	5:15 p.m.	Supper	Wed., 4/12	7:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal
	6:15 p.m.	Lenten Worship		7:00 p.m.	Confirmation
	7:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal	Thurs., 4/13	7:00 p.m.	Maundy Thursday Worship
	7:00 p.m.	Confirmation	Fri., 4/14	11:00 a.m.	Good Friday Prayer Vigil
Sun., 3/19	9:30 a.m.	Worship			
	9:45 a.m.	Children's & Youth			
		Sunday School			
	10:30 a.m.	Fellowship Time			
	10:50 a.m.	Adult Sunday School			
Mon., 3/20	10:00 a.m.	Craft Group			
Wed., 3/22	5:15 p.m.	Supper			
	6:15 p.m.	Lenten Worship			
	7:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal			
	7:00 p.m.	Confirmation			
Thurs. 3/23	11:20 a.m.	Mobile Meals			
Sat., 3/25	8:00 a.m.	Men's Breakfast			
Sun., 3/26	9:30 a.m.	Worship			
	9:45 a.m.	Children's & Youth			
		Sunday School			
	10:30 a.m.	Fellowship Time			

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!



## 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.





## 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 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.

## Daylight Savings Time

Reminder that Daylight Savings Time begins Sunday, March 12

## ✠ Holy Week ✠

### Maundy Thursday, April 13

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 14

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.

### Easter Sunday, April 16

We will have Easter breakfast from 8-9:15 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Worship will begin in the sanctuary at 9:30 a.m. with the hearing of the Easter story; we will talk about what it means to hear Jesus say "I am the resurrection and the life." We will end worship with the singing of Handel's "Hallelujah Chorus" from the Messiah. After worship there will be a time of fellowship to greet one another in the light of the resurrection.

## ♥♥♥ 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!

Pray during  
*Lent*



# KIDS IN SEARCH



## The psalmist's prayer

The Psalms are full of wonderful verses about God's care and protection.

*Directions: Find each missing letter in the alphabets below.  
Use the resulting words to complete Psalm 86:7, NIV.*

A B C E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z	_____
A B C D E F G H J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z	_____
A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R T U V W X Y Z	_____
A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S U V W X Y Z	_____
A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q S T U V W X Y Z	_____
A B C D F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z	_____
A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R T U V W X Y Z	_____
A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R T U V W X Y Z	_____
A B D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z	_____
B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z	_____
A B C D E F G H I J K M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z	_____
A B C D E F G H I J K M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z	_____
B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z	_____
A B C D E F G H I J K L M O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z	_____
A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R T U V W X Y Z	_____
A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V X Y Z	_____
A B C D F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z	_____
A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q S T U V W X Y Z	_____

When I am in \_\_\_\_\_, I \_\_\_\_\_ to you,  
because you \_\_\_\_\_ me. Psalm 86:7, NIV

Answer: When I am in distress, I call to you, because you answer me.  
Psalm 86:7, NIV

## PRAYER HANDS

Make these hands as a helpful prayer guide.



### What you need:

- 7 pieces of construction paper (different colors)
- Pencil
- Scissors
- Stapler
- Colored pens
- Stickers

### What you do:

1. Trace your hand (the same one) on each piece of paper.
2. Cut out and stack the hands. Staple together atop the pinky.
3. On the top hand (the front cover), write "Prayer Hands." Decorate with stickers.
4. On the second hand, write "Praise God." On the third, write "Ask for forgiveness." On the fourth, write "Thank God." On the fifth, write "Pray for others." On the sixth, write "Pray for me."
5. Use your book to remember what to pray for every day.



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

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
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

## *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!*

**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](mailto: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](http://www.faihumcmn.com)