



Faith in Action

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

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

March 2020

LENT WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

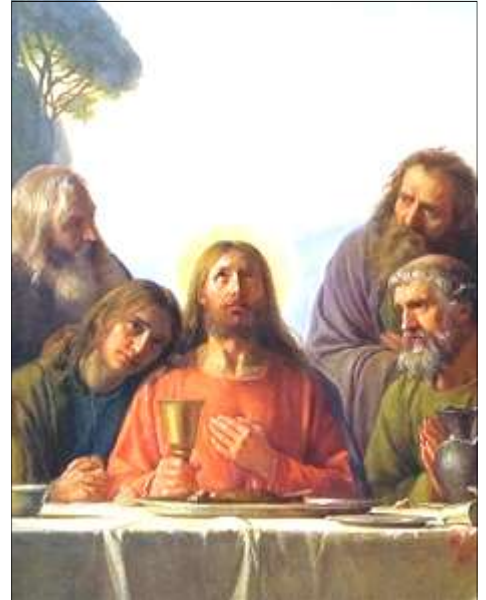
Lenten Midweek Supper & Worship during the Wednesdays of Lent — through April 1

Each Wednesday evening during Lent we will have supper and worship here at Faith, with supper starting at 5:15 p.m. followed by worship at 6:15 p.m. Our midweek worship theme is "Entering the Passion of Jesus". How might picturing ourselves in the ancient story open us to deeper conviction for our role in its ongoing message? Please join us.

Sunday Lenten Class 10:50 a.m. Mar. 1 — Apr. 5

Entering the Passion of Jesus: A Beginner's Guide to Holy Week

In *Entering the Passion of Jesus*, author, professor, and biblical scholar Amy-Jill Levine delves into history and literature surrounding the last days of Jesus' life. From Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem to his prayerful agony in Gethsemane, Levine provides a rich and challenging learning experience through many aspects and details.



HOLY



WEEK

MAUNDY THURSDAY

April 9 • 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 10 • 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 12

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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3/1 — Barbara Schroeder
3/ 3 — Kaitlyn Cox
3/ 4 — Gil Kinnunen
3/ 8 — Victoria Stehr
3/ 11 — Ryan Mohr
3/ 13 — Bernice Killian
3/ 17 — Patricia Fjerstad

3/ 20 — Mike Hovey
3/ 21 — Corey Worden
3/ 24 — Jeffrey Cox
3/ 24 — Katie Lyn Sieberer
3/ 26 — Ruth Campion
3/ 27 — Isabelle Pippert
3/ 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, Rose Larsen, Bill Short, and Marsha Spatafore
- **Liturgists:** John Kemp, Ann Beardshear, Judy Pfenning, and Bill Bonkowske
- **Serving refreshments:** Dan Miller and Fred & Bonnie Dick
- **Communion Steward:** Karen Cohoes
- **Thank you** to Dawn Kinnunen, Gil Kinnunen, Judy Turk and Carol Schuldt for helping assemble the February newsletter
- **March is Mobile Meals Month.** The Meals on Wheels programs deliver hot, nutritious noon meals to homebound elderly or disabled people. Volunteer drivers recruited from local churches, civic organization and businesses deliver the meals Monday through Friday. This daily contact with the homebound person also provides an opportunity for the volunteer to identify those who are in distress or need assistance. **A big thank you to our Faith Church volunteers** Greg & Roxanne Napier. Faith Church delivers meals one Thursday per month. If you would like to contribute time to this program, please contact Dianne Mens at 651-455-5221, as we are always in need of drivers.



HELP WANTED:

People who stay awake during church and are willing to push buttons are needed to run the presentation we see on the screen each Sunday. There's a sign-up sheet in the office, and if you're new to running PowerPoint, brief training sessions will be offered. You may sign up in the office or contact Pat Williams if you are interested and need more information/training. Thank you!

Census Jobs

2020Census Operation is recruiting for census jobs, the bulk of which is for Census takers.

The pay rate is: Washington County & Ramsey County is \$22 an hour, Hennepin County is \$27.50 an hour. Mileage is \$.58 a mile. If you are interested or have questions, contact Greg Huppert at 651-470-7609, 855-562-2020 or Gregory.I.huppert@2020census.gov. Apply online at 2020census.gov/jobs

Congregational Care Concerns:

- ♦ **Collette Peterson** continues to recover
- ♦ **Katie Peterson** was hospitalized
- ♦ **Marianne Young** continues rehab at Southview Care Center

Care Centers:

- ♦ **Colleen Spadaccini** – *White Pine, Mendota Heights*

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

We express our sympathy:

- ♦ Our sympathy to **Greg and Roxanne Napier** and family on the death of Greg's mother Dorothy on February 24.
- ♦ Our sympathy to **Taffy Storck** on the recent death of her brother.

Mission Well Offering

The Mission Well welcomes your change! If you have loose change, take it off your hands on Sunday or any time during the week and help support the offering of the month.



Mission Well donations during March support Minnesota FoodShare through Neighbors.

The annual MN FoodShare March Campaign

is Neighbor's biggest food and fund drive of the year. It not only helps Neighbors stock the shelves for the busy summer months ahead, but helps secure funding distributed later in the year – meaning a donation during the campaign goes even further! The Mission Well is located in the church lobby.



For more information on how you can help, please visit: www.neighborsmn.org/mnfoodshare



The Prayer Chain is active. If you have a prayer concern, please contact the church office.

If unable to reach Susan or Pastor Gail in the church office, please contact Sharon Yekaldo at 651-455-4770; if she is not available contact Carol Schuldt, 651-306-0542. Please make sure the pastor knows so she can respond to pastoral care needs, and knows what is going out over the telephone prayer chain so it can be sent to the e-mail prayer chain as well. If you wish to be

involved in this ministry by being either on 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 issue** of the devotional *The Upper Room* (daily readings in regular or large print). This booklet is found on the table by the parking lot door.



GENERAL CONFERENCE 2020

May 5-15, 2020 — Minneapolis Convention Center

Are you interested in volunteering for the "Host Team" at General Conference 2020 in Minneapolis? There are **opportunities** for people of **ALL ages, interests, and abilities!** Volunteering provides an opportunity to see the United Methodist connection up close and extend hospitality to siblings in Christ from around the world! To indicate your initial interest in volunteering go to the General Conference 2020 website and click on volunteering. For now it will ask for basic information about yourself and the areas in which you'd like to volunteer. The MN Annual Conference will be in regular communication to provide updates and let you know when it's time to sign up for specific shifts. Sign up now by going to <https://gc2020welcome.org/> to express your interest in volunteering. Thank you!



**Great Neighbors'
Food Fight**

The Great Neighbors' Food Fight is Underway!

The 2020 food competition & Neighbors, Inc. fundraiser features burgers from eight local restaurants. The competition runs from February through March. Local restaurants have chosen one designated burger to compete in this year's event! Buy a Great Neighbors' Food Fight Card for \$30 and redeem it for the selected burger at each location during the months of February and March. Decide your favorite and then vote online. Proceeds from the sales of the Great Neighbors' Food Fight cards benefit Neighbors, Inc. *Contact John Kemp or Dawn Kinnunen about food fight cards.*

The burgers include:
B-52 Burgers & Brew: Wisconsin Cheese Curd Burger - Burger topped with real Wisconsin cheese curds, bacon and our signature bacon aioli.
BLVD Bar + Grille: Oaxacan Burger - Housemade beef chorizo patty stuffed with Oaxaca cheese and topped with lettuce, tomato, red onion, Raja's and fresh avocado served on a toasted brioche bun.
Cherokee Tavern: American Bad A\$\$ Burger - Peanut butter, sriracha, smoked Gouda, bacon and lingonberry jam on a milk bun.
Hamburguesas El Gordo: Del Gordo Burger - Half pound housemade beef burger with grilled ham, mozzarella cheese, American cheese on a toasted bun and topped with mayo, lettuce, tomatoes, onions, pickled peppers, avocado, bacon, mustard and ketchup.
Inver Grove Brewing: Bacon Spinach Dip Burger - Half pound burger topped with our house made creamy bacon spinach dip and served with mixed greens, tomato, red onion and house made pickles.
Jersey's Bar & Grill: Jalapeno Popper Juicy Lucy - Stuffed with jalapenos and pepper jack cheese, then breaded and deep fried, topped with jalapeno cream cheese and served on a toasted sourdough bun with sriracha on the side.
Kaposia Club: Chorizo Burger - Chorizo burger topped with jalapenos, pepper jack cheese and deep fried onions with a side of ranchero sauce.
Mississippi Pub: The Pork & Pineapple Burger - Char-grilled burger layered with Swiss cheese, grilled pineapple, pulled pork and soy garlic port sauce.

Handy Person Needed for One Time Project

Ahmed is one of three children in his family, and they arrived in Minnesota as refugees earlier this winter. Ahmed has cerebral palsy and uses a wheelchair, but his family has had a difficult winter getting around because they have no ramp for the few steps up to their first floor apartment. It has been especially difficult for his mother, who has to carry him and his chair each morning to the school bus. An individual has generously donated an aluminum ramp, but our many attempts to coordinate someone to set it up have not yet succeeded. If you are willing to tackle this project, or know someone who gets things done, please be in touch! You can reach us at rsvolunteers@mnchurches.org or 612-230-3219. Thank you!

HELP with Auction Donations!

We are looking for donations for our Live/Silent **Auction on Saturday April 18**. If you have items you can contribute, please bring them to church as soon as possible with either Lynn Bonkowske or Judy Turk's name on them.

Items should be new or nearly new. Also, we are looking for help to make follow-up calls and pick up donations from businesses in the West St. Paul area. Please let Lynn Bonkowske (651-455-6542) or Judy Turk (651-343-8027) if you are able to help. Thank you!

Community Boards

Help us expand our advertising for church events! Keep your eyes open for community boards, and tell Judy Turk. She is looking for places where we can hang posters for church events.

Pre-Conference Meeting

Monday, Mar. 9, 6:30 p.m., here at Faith UMC, Dan Johnson, Twin Cities district superintendent, will be hosting three gatherings open to clergy and lay members of local churches in preparation of General Conference in May. Anticipated topics will include General Conference plans and decision points, strategies for handling the media, resources for further dialogue in local churches, and sharing dreams, hopes, and desires for our desired future.

Join us in a United in Prayer Day:

If you practice centering prayer or would like to learn more about this ancient form of Christian meditation, join us on Saturday, March 21, from 9:15 to 1:00 at Salem Lutheran Church in West St. Paul, 11 W Bernard, 55118. We are part of an ecumenical, world-wide network of Christian meditators who seek to live ordinary lives with extraordinary love. The morning includes a tape called "Healing Divisions: That We May be One" featuring Fr. Thomas Keating, a Trappist priest who helped introduce centering prayer to the world. It also includes discussions, meditation, hospitality and lunch. Free will offering. For more information, contact Kathleen Lindstrom, Salem Centering Prayer Group, at 952-829-1386, or klindstrom@usfamily.net.

MAKE A DIFFERENCE

dif-fer-ence /'diferəns / [dif-er-uhns]

Minnesota FoodShare

The March Wishing Well donations support MN FoodShare through Neighbors, Inc.



Minnesota FoodShare began its work in 1982 with a campaign advanced by congregations to restock food shelves in the 7-county Twin Cities Metropolitan Area. The effort was so successful and the need was so evident, the March Campaign became a statewide program just one year later.

The largest grassroots food and fund drive in the state, the Minnesota FoodShare March Campaign brings together various community organizations, businesses, and faith communities to help stock nearly 300 food shelves statewide.

During the 2019 March Campaign, more than \$8 million dollars and over 5.1 million pounds of food shelf items were raised by Minnesota food shelves and Minnesota FoodShare.

Minnesota FoodShare envisions a future where all Minnesotans have access to healthy food and no one struggles with food insecurity. The March Campaign addresses these issues directly and we invite you to join our efforts and advocate for long-term solutions to food insecurity and poverty in our communities.

► **We have set a 2020 congregational goal of raising 2,020 pounds during the month — (\$1 equals one pound of food).** Our money and food items will go to the Neighbor's Food Shelf located in South St. Paul.



Lent

This will be an opportunity for the Women of faith to come together in a time of Prayer, reflection and action. Join us this Lenten Season for a Women's Lenten Retreat – Saturday, April 4 from 9:00-11:30 a.m. here at Faith UMC in the Lounge. All women are invited. (Note: new date)

We Rise: Meeting God's Call to Transform Communities:

A Call to Prayer and Self-Denial

A Call to Prayer and Self-Denial is an opportunity for women to reflect on the gospel of Christ and make an offering that helps sustain ministry around the country and the world. Every year, United Methodist Women members participate in A Call to Prayer and Self-Denial observance. In response to God's love and grace, offerings collected through the observance support worthy initiatives that relate to each year's mission focus.

The mission focus for 2020 is "We Rise: Meeting God's Call to Transform Communities," supporting the work of United Methodist Women-supported national mission institutions, international partners and regional missionaries. Women, children and youth across the world have felt the love of God through A Call to Prayer and Self-Denial funds that have been given to countless women gathered in circles of care. As United Methodist Women members, we bow to meet God in prayer and then rise to give of ourselves that God's vision of an abundant and beloved community for all can be realized.

The kingdom comes as we live into the light of

God's vision for humanity, of mutuality and of seeing oneself in the eyes of another.



COMING EVENTS

- April 4** – Women's Retreat
- April 9** – Maundy Thursday
- April 10** – Good Friday Prayer Vigil
- April 12** – Easter
- April 18** – Live & Silent Auction
- April 26** – Day of Service & Potluck
- May 5-15** – General Conference of the United Methodist Church

★ 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!

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 612-703-1296 if it is an emergency and you need to reach her.

Book of Reports

Sunday, January 21 after worship we held our annual church conference. The Book of Reports for 2018 is available on the table between the offices. Please feel free to take a copy.

Facebook Page

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

March 2020 Calendar

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Sun., 3/1	9:30 a.m.	Worship	10:30 a.m.	Fellowship Time
	9:45 a.m.	Children's & Youth	10:50 a.m.	Adult Sunday School
		Sunday School	Mon., 3/23	9:00 a.m.
	10:30 a.m.	Fellowship Time	Wed., 3/25	5:15 p.m.
	10:50 a.m.	Adult Sunday School		6:15 p.m.
Mon., 3/2	9:00 a.m.	Craft Group		7:00 p.m.
	12 noon	Faith Study	Sun., 3/29	9:30 a.m.
	6:30 p.m.	Staff Parish Relations		9:45 a.m.
		Committee		
Wed., 3/4	5:15 p.m.	Supper		10:30 a.m.
	6:00 p.m.	Board of Trustees		10:50 a.m.
	6:15 p.m.	Lenten Worship	Mon., 3/30	9:00 a.m.
	7:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal	Wed., 4/1	5:15 p.m.
Thurs., 3/5	6:00 p.m.	Finance Committee		6:15 p.m.
	7:00 p.m.	Church Council		7:00 p.m.
Sat., 3/7	8:00 a.m.	Men's Breakfast	Sat., 4/4	8:00 a.m.
Sun., 3/8	9:30 a.m.	Worship		9:00 p.m.
	9:45 a.m.	Children's & Youth	Sun., 4/5	9:30 a.m.
		Sunday School		9:45 a.m.
	10:30 a.m.	Fellowship Time		
	10:50 a.m.	Adult Sunday School		10:30 a.m.
Mon., 3/9	9:00 a.m.	Craft Group		10:50 a.m.
	6:30 p.m.	Pre-conference Gathering	Mon., 4/6	9:00 a.m.
Wed., 3/11	5:15 p.m.	Supper		12noon
	6:15 p.m.	Lenten Worship	Wed., 4/8	7:00 p.m.
	7:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal	Thurs., 4/9	7:00 p.m.
Sun., 3/15	9:30 a.m.	Worship		
	9:45 a.m.	Children's & Youth	Fri., 4/10	11:00 a.m.
		Sunday School	Sun., 4/12	8:30 a.m.
	10:30 a.m.	Fellowship Time		9:30 a.m.
	10:50 a.m.	Adult Sunday School		10:30 a.m.
Mon., 3/16	9:00 a.m.	Craft Group	Mon., 4/13	9:00 a.m.
	12 noon	Faith Study	Wed., 4/15	7:00 p.m.
Wed., 3/18	5:15 p.m.	Supper		
	6:15 p.m.	Lenten Worship		
	7:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal		
Thurs. 3/19	11:20 a.m.	Mobile Meals		
Sat., 3/21	8:00 a.m.	Men's Breakfast		
Sun., 3/22	9:30 a.m.	Worship		
	9:45 a.m.	Children's & Youth		
		Sunday School		

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Daylight Savings Time

Reminder that Daylight
Savings Time begins

Sunday, March 8.



March 2020 Worship Schedule

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March 1 — 1st Sunday in Lent — Sacrament of Holy Communion

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

Sermon title: "Wandering in the Wilderness"

Greeter: Taffy Storck

Lay Reader: Dana Scopatz

Fellowship Time host: Dan Miller

Communion Steward: Rose Larsen

March 8 — 2nd Sunday in Lent

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

Sermon title: "Hearing God's Spirit"

Greeter: Bonnie Dick

Lay Reader: Charles Beardshear

Fellowship Time Hosts: Gil & Dawn Kinnunen

March 15 — 3rd Sunday in Lent

Scripture Readings: Exodus 17:1-7; Psalm 95; Romans 5:1-11; Luke 13:31-35

Sermon title: "Being Thirsty"

Greeter: Judy Pfenning

Lay Reader: Sharon Yekaldo

Fellowship Time host:

March 22 — 4th Sunday in Lent

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

Sermon title: "Looking for Someone to Blame"

Greeters: Dawn & Gil Kinnunen

Lay Reader: Carol Schuldt

Fellowship Time host:

March 29 — 5th Sunday in Lent

Scripture Readings: Ezekiel 37:1-14; Psalm 130; Romans 8:6-11; John 11:1-1-45

Sermon title: "Moments of Rebirth"

Greeter: Rose Bonnie Dick

Lay Reader: Ann Beardshear

Fellowship Time host:

KIDS IN SEARCH

Joyful noise



Use your voice and this hand-crafted percussion instrument to make joyful noises to the Lord.

What you need:

- Dry beans (about one Tbsp)
- Plastic Easter egg
- 2 plastic spoons
- Masking tape
- Markers and stickers

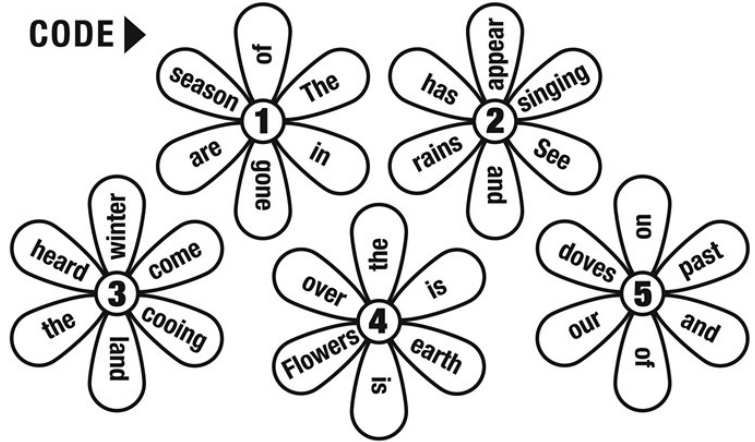
What you do:

1. Place the beans inside the egg and snap it closed.
2. Set the egg in a spoon and cover it with the second spoon so the spoons are holding the egg.
3. Tape the spoons to the egg. Also wrap tape around the spoons from top to bottom to make a shaker handle.
4. Decorate your shaker and use it as you sing praises to God.
5. Experiment with sounds by filling other eggs with coins, rice, and so on.

Puzzle!

Using the flower code, fill in the blanks to complete the springtime words from Song of Solomon 2:11-12, NIV.

CODE ►



_____ ! _____ ;

_____ .

_____ ;

_____ , _____

_____ .

SONG OF SOLOMON 2:11-12, NIV

Answer: See! The winter is past; the rains are over and gone. Flowers appear on the earth; the season of singing has come, the cooing of doves is heard in our land. Song of Solomon 2:11-12, NIV



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1530 Oakdale Ave.
West St. Paul MN 55118

March 2020



Sunday 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

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
\$9.50 each.

Please indicate
if you wish to
include a
dedication
for your flower.



Time of Service – Spring Needs

On April 26 we will be making kits at our time
of service. The following items are what we
are needing for the kits (updated list):

- bath hand towels / hand towels
- receiving blankets (not fleece or thermal)
- surgical or thin rubber gloves
- 2" or larger pencil erasers
- boxes or 24 crayons
- boxes of 12 colored pencils
- 3-4 oz. shampoo
- 2.5 oz. or larger toothpaste

*This fall we will again be making Christmas boxes for
Spirit Lake, so keep your eyes open for items that
might go in the boxes (handheld games, drawing
items, books, jewelry, small toys). You can bring
them to church and we will store them.*