



Faith in Action

“Grounded in Christ, open to make a difference – together”

Oct./Nov. 2021

Greetings,

This autumn I did something that I haven't done in a while: went back to school. During the 2021-2022 appointment year, I am participating in a certificate program through Dakota Wesleyan University and sponsored by the Minnesota Annual Conference to help train clergy in how to lead non-profit organizations (aka churches). My classes include financial stewardship, stewarding human resources, stewarding vision and stewarding community, and are designed to help me be a better leader. As I write this, I am about 3/4 of the way through Financial Stewardship, which has been challenging, but good.

In addition to the coursework, the program also has an applied project component: each semester, with the help of a clergy coach, I am to complete a project incorporating the lessons learned in class into the life of the church to solve an identified problem or increase our capacity for ministry. This semester, with the help of my coach and the work of a dedicated team of church leaders,

I am undertaking the task of looking at our vision, mission and goals for ministry in the church, with particular attention to the financial health and sustainability of the church. That's a lot of fancy words and technical jargon to say that I want for all of us together to name our reason for gathering as a community of faith, look at how we live out God's love in the world and do our best to manage our money in such a way that allows us to do those things.

The work for this project has already begun, but it cannot be completed by just me, or even me and a small group of dedicated leaders. In order to continue on our next steps, I am inviting anyone interested to join in the conversation on October 2 from 9am—3pm at the church. During that time, we will look at who we are, what makes Faith UMC in West St Paul unique and how we might move into the future together. Some of you may remember one, two, or even more times when the congregation has undertaken the work of creating mission and/or vision statements. This project

does not erase that work, but continues it into the next generation. One of the things that leadership experts remind us is that the mission and vision of organizations must periodically be looked at, otherwise we lose focus. Our goal in meeting is not to find the perfect wording for a vision statement, but to lay out a plan for ministry in the next period of time and discuss how that plan intersects with our financial systems in the church.

If you are interested in participating in the church planning meeting, please let me know by September 29th so that I can plan materials (including lunch) accordingly. I will plan to update the whole congregation with our progress throughout the project, and beyond as we continue to live out our mission of making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world and vision of being grounded in Christ; open to making a difference—together.

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Marianne

October/November Birthdays

- | | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 10/1 – Rebecca Seaquist | 10/17 – Lynn Mens | 11/6 – Madelynn Solheid |
| 10/6 – Joan Fitch | 10/17 – Carol Schuldt | 11/6 – Austin Suchecki |
| 10/8 – Jenifer Stehr | 10/18 – Lori DeNardo | 11/14 – Lynnette Bonkowske |
| 10/8 – Matthew Spatafore | 10/23 – Debra Schneider | 11/14 – Dana Scopatz |
| 10/11 – Kim Van Siclen | 10/24 – Nicole Brummund | 11/16 – Alexi DeNardo |
| 10/12 – Judy Turk | 10/29 – Rick Henk | 11/16 – Roland Hunter |
| 10/13 – Elliana DeNardo | 10/30 – Clayton Van Siclen | 11/23 – Susan Filter |
| 10/14 – Richard DeNardo | 11/3 – Louis Eberly | 11/26 – Jannessa DeNardo |
| 10/15 – Linda Cox | 11/3 – Vesta Lach | 11/29 – Heidi Vanderhoff |
| 10/16 – Ward Mens | 11/6 – Bruce Opp | |

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

✠ ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY ✠

The first Sunday of November we honor those individuals who have died in the past year. In addition to the members of Faith who have died, we would like to honor any family of members who have died as well. If you would like to add an individual to our list of saints for the year, send their name and a picture to Susan by October 22. (email faithumcmn@gmail.com)

Thanks

Dear friends, thank you so much for your donations to our food shelf in August. We received 284 pounds of garden produce and 37 pounds of groceries. Thank you for thinking of those we serve.
— *The team at Neighbors, Inc.*

Men's Breakfast Group

will meet on Saturdays: **10/2, 10/16, 10/30, 11/13 & 11/27**. All men are invited to join us! For more information contact Bill Short at 651-552-0736. or bill.short26@gmail.com.

★ **Do you 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!

Great Neighbors' Duck Races

The Ducks are back! Join us again this year for the annual Great Neighbors' Duck Races on Saturday, October 2, during South St. Paul's *On The Road Again* festival. How it works: rubber ducks will compete in a series of races to win prizes. Races will happen approximately every 15 minutes. Winners from each race will receive a prize and advance to compete in the final race for the grand prize. This year's grand prize is a Weber SmokeFire Grill! Ducks are \$5 each. If you did not already buy your ducks in advance, you can purchase your rubber racing ducks at the event. Participants do not need to be present to win. Proceeds support the essential needs programs and services at Neighbors. Thank you!



Care Centers:

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

Ongoing Concerns:

- ◆ Ben Brummund, son of Ron Brummund, Jr., continues to struggle with health problems.

Concerns Beyond our Doors:

- ◆ Our local, state, national and international leaders
- ◆ Those struggling with or caring for someone with COVID
- ◆ Healthcare professionals treating and caring for those struggling with COVID
- ◆ Racial inequality in our community and around the world
- ◆ Those struggling to find work, reliable shelter and/or healthy food



Want an e-Newsletter?

Did you know that our newsletters are available in print, email, and on the church website? Electronic newsletters arrive quickly, save us time, money, and use less paper! If you are interested in changing the way you get your newsletter, let the office know.

Mission Well Offering



The Mission Well welcomes your donations to help support the offering of the month. **October's** Mission Well offering will support **SOCKTOBER**, a way to help individuals experiencing homelessness as fall turns to winter.



As in years past, Faith's **November** Mission Well offering will support the **Walk to End Hunger**. This year the Walk to End Hunger is back for the 14th annual walk celebrating the whole month of **No Hunger November**. The walk raises funds for 8 Twin Cities-based hunger relief organizations. **Your donation helps Neighbors, Inc.** The Walk to End Hunger is a family-friendly walk located within the Mall of America. Registered guests can pick up their 'Hunger Fighter Participant Packs' and visit the **Walk to End Hunger Walk**



Route any time between November 1st, 2021 – November 30th, 2021 to help eliminate hunger in the Twin Cities Metro.

You may contribute by mail or by placing donations directly in the Mission Well located in the church lobby.



The Prayer Chain is active. If you have a prayer concern, please contact the church office. If unable to reach Susan or Pastor Marianne in the church office, please contact Sharon Yekaldo at **612-450-3277**. 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 let Pastor Marianne know.

Hospital Calls: If you learn someone is hospitalized, please contact the church office or Pastor Marianne. Because of HIPPA 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.

COVID Update

It may not come as a surprise to you to know that I am completely over this whole pandemic thing. We can go on to living in a post-pandemic world any minute as far as I'm concerned. Unfortunately, we're not quite there yet. So, I want to start this update by saying I greatly appreciate the dedication, flexibility and grace you all are demonstrating in the midst of ever-changing less-than-ideal situations.

When the Reopening Taskforce last met to discuss our continued efforts to adapt in the midst of the pandemic, it was determined that for the time we should follow the recommendations put forth by the Annual Conference. If you want to see them yourself, those recommendations can be found here: <https://www.minnesotaucm.org/regatheringplan>. In brief, due to the current surge of the Delta variant, which has brought an increase in pretty much every metric, we are encouraging everyone to wear a mask at all times in the building, practice social distancing during worship and in meetings, and we are not singing during worship, nor are we eating in the building as a part of fellowship time. Hopefully, this phase will not last too long, and we can go back to singing together in worship again soon.

As the course of the pandemic continues to evolve and recommendations change, we will communicate how those changes affect our community at Faith UMC through the Weekly Update. If you are not currently receiving a Weekly Update, please let the office know. If you have any questions, please let me know — Pastor Marianne.

How Does Our Garden Grow?

Our 11th annual Neighbors, Inc. Food Shelf Garden completed its 14th week of harvest at the end of the last full week of September—about 75% of the way through the harvest season. In straw bales and raised soil beds, carts, and pots (plus “satellite” gardens of members and friends), we've picked



and/or delivered beans, cucumbers, peppers, squash, green onions, tomatoes, and lots of herbs— 525 pounds and \$2,075 in market value, based on average cost of vegetables from neighborhood grocery stores (last year—455 pounds with a market value of \$1,760).

Our garden is completely funded through memorial gifts and designated contributions.

Thanks to volunteers who have helped plan, plant, weed, water, and harvest this year's garden: Dianna Gallegos, Johnny Gallegos, Sr., Johnny Gallegos, Jr., Dawn Kinnunen, Gil Kinnunen, Anna Laman-Rossi, Dan Miller, Kristen Olsrud, Leona and Bruce Opp, Bryce Ozanne, Zoe Ozanne, Pam Pearson, Hannah Pendleton, Taffy Storck, Judy Turk, Pat Williams, and Paul Williams.

And thanks to those who have contributed herbs, peppers, squash, tomatoes, and watermelons from their home gardens: Susan and Kim Filter, Dawn and Gil Kinnunen, Roxanne and Greg Napier, Marianne and Jeff Ozanne, Marsha and Scott Spatafore, Judy Turk, and Pat and Paul Williams.

Anniversary Offering

Did you know that Faith was initially chartered as a church in the Evangelical Association in 1883? In our 138 year history, we have shown countless numbers of individuals the love of God through our ministry together. This year, the Church Council and Finance Committees are encouraging you to celebrate that history by giving to the anniversary offering on October 17. All gifts designated to the anniversary offering will go to the United Methodist Committee on Relief's Disaster Fund and/or the purchase of our new lawn mower.

Church Office Hours

Pastor Marianne is in the office Mondays and Thursdays in the morning. Fridays are Pastor Marianne's regular days off. Please call her on her cell (320-219-3341) if it is an emergency and you need to reach her.

Susan will be in the office Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays from 11:30 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.

October–November Worship Update / Calendar - 5 -

Worship Update

Worship is one of the most recognizable ways that we demonstrate our life of faith. Each week we learn something new as we gather as a community of faith in person and online to celebrate the love of God in our midst. Join us every Sunday either in person or on Zoom at 9:30am.

Here are some notable things about the worship services in October and November:

October 3 is World Communion Sunday. We will celebrate communion, as well as continue our Belief in Books study looking at *Old Turtle* and Genesis 1.

October 10 is the conclusion of our Belief in Books series. The book is *The Dandelion Seed*, which is paired with Matthew 28:16-20. We will also be collecting our anniversary offering as we look at how our gifts are seeds for the future.

October 17 begins our Spooky Church sermon series where we will look at scriptures with Halloween themes. We start by looking at Skeletons, as found in Ezekiel 37.

October 24 our worship will look at witches and ghosts, as found in 1 Samuel 28, as we continue Spooky Church.

October 31 concludes Spooky Church as we go Trick-or-Treating with Jacob and Esau in Genesis 27.

November 7 in addition to celebrating communion and honoring our saints, we will start looking at John Wesley's three simple rules for money. The first rule, earn all you can, looks at finances through the lens of Jesus' teachings.

November 14 we will look at John Wesley's second rule for money: save all you can.

November 21 concludes our look at John Wesley's rules for money with give all you can.

November 28 kicks off our celebration of Advent as we begin to make preparations for the coming of the Christ-child.

October–November Calendar

(sign-in begins at 9:15 for Sunday Worship Zoom meetings)

Sat., 10/2	8 am	Men's Breakfast
	9 am-3 pm	Church Planning Meeting
Sun., 10/3	9:30 am	Worship (and Zoom)
	10 am	Children's Sunday School
	11 am	Adult Sunday School
Tue., 10/5	6:30 pm	Women of the Bible Study
Thur., 10/7	6:30 pm	Budget Meeting
Sun., 10/10	9:30 am	Worship (and Zoom)
	10 am	Children's Sunday School
	11 am	Adult Sunday School
Sat., 10/16	8 am	Men's Breakfast
	9 am-3 pm	Church Craft Bazaar
Sun., 10/17	9:30 am	Worship (and Zoom)
	10 am	Children's Sunday School
	11 am	Adult Sunday School
Sun., 10/24	9:30 am	Worship (and Zoom)
	10 am	Children's Sunday School
	11 am	Adult Sunday School
Tue., 10/26	6:30 pm	Women of the Bible Study
Sat., 10/30	8 am	Men's Breakfast
Sun., 10/31	9:30 am	Worship (and Zoom)
	10 am	Children's Sunday School
	11 am	Adult Sunday School
Tue., 11/2	6:30 pm	Women of the Bible Study
Wed., 11/3	6 pm	Trustee meeting
Thur., 11/4	6 pm	Finance meeting
	7 pm	Church Council
Sun., 11/7	9:30 am	Worship (and Zoom)
	10 am	Children's Sunday School
	11 am	Adult Sunday School
Sat., 11/13	8 am	Men's Breakfast
Sun., 11/14	9:30 am	Worship (and Zoom)
	10 am	Children's Sunday School
	11 am	Adult Sunday School
Tue., 11/16	6:30 pm	Women of the Bible Study
Sun., 11/21	9:30 am	Worship (and Zoom)
	10 am	Children's Sunday School
	11 am	Adult Sunday School
Sat., 11/27	8 am	Men's Breakfast
Sun., 11/28	9:30 am	Worship (and Zoom)
	10 am	Children's Sunday School
	11 am	Adult Sunday School
Tue., 11/30	6:30 pm	Women of the Bible Study



Faith United Methodist Church
1530 Oakdale Ave.
West St. Paul MN 55118

October/November 2021

Sunday Worship Schedule

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

This summer we began holding worship services in the sanctuary. For those not yet comfortable worshipping as a gathered community, please join us in worship via Zoom link and/or the materials you receive by mail or email, or by visiting our website at www.faihumcmn.com

Facebook Page

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

Connecting to Zoom Meetings

IF YOU ARE NEW TO ZOOM and unfamiliar with the technology, we can help! To connect to Zoom through a computer, tablet or smart phone app, click the link provided to you. For Sunday morning worship services, that link is <https://zoom.us/j/96745619949>.

This will allow you to connect through video and voice or voice only. The first time you join a Zoom meeting, you will need to download the Zoom app to any mobile device, but you will not need to create an account if you do not want to. Every meeting after that, the link will open your app automatically.

To connect by voice only over any phone line, call 312-626-6799 (long distance) and enter the Meeting ID #: 967 4561 9949.



You are **INVITED** to come & shop for that unique craft item to give to that someone special in your life ... or keep for yourself to enjoy!

- Many Handcrafted items
- Granny's Attic • Raffle
- Sign up for **FREE** Door Prize