



# Faith in Action

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

Oct./Nov. 2022

## *Greetings,*

As I write this, I am sitting at my computer while the kitchen is buzzing with activity. Our September Loaves and Fishes volunteers are diligently working to cut onions and celery, shuck fresh corn and make fresh cornbread to later turn into stuffing. Twenty-five chickens have already been picked apart and chopped and there's about 8 gallons of homemade chicken stock in the fridge. September is our sixth free community meal through Loaves and Fishes. What began as an idea of a way to reach out to feed our neighbors, body and soul, last October has become a thriving ministry to the community. I look forward to it every month

Each month's meal is an adventure. While we have an idea of what we might make for the next month's meal, we really cannot know the final menu more than two days before we serve when our team does the final pick up at the Loaves and Fishes warehouse. We get the bulk of our food through the corporate Loaves and Fishes warehouse, which is stocked

through food rescue, which means they get deliveries of food that cannot otherwise be sold. There is no way for us to know what the warehouse will house on any given week. For example, while we could depend on a virtually unlimited supply of frozen whole chickens this spring and summer, there has been no meat at all for the past several weeks. Dana, who finalizes the menu plans, is amazing at taking our limited food options and coming up with a great meal, but too many months without meat might be a stretch even for her.

The last six months have been a wild ride. Our first meal started with slow turnout. We were SO EXCITED when cars came into the parking lot. Now, we have cars lining up more than 30 minutes before service to make sure that they get a meal. In August we lost all of our frozen foods, most of which were leftovers that had been processed into sauce, or chicken stock, when the freezer door was pushed open overnight. The September menu is going forward as planned anyway, with a little extra work and the donation of a lot of chicken.

Through it all, I have seen God walking through the process with us. We have always had guests come and eat our meals. We have always had volunteers from outside the congregation join alongside us in this process. I see the hand of God in those two facts, and many more details as we have walked from an idea thrown out at a leadership meeting last October to serving our sixth meal with no plans of stopping any time soon.

If you have not yet had the opportunity to experience our Loaves and Fishes meals, I invite you to come check it out. Sign up to help in one of our 20 volunteer slots. Pick up a meal for yourself or friends and family. Talk to one of the dedicated members of the Loaves and Fishes team to find out how they see God moving through Loaves and Fishes. However you may connect with Loaves and Fishes, know that it is one of the ways that God is using our congregation to reach the community. Praise be to God!

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!* •

## COVID Update

The COVID pandemic has been a long haul, and we're still seeing the effects of what this illness brings. However, given that we have reached the point in time that all individuals who are interested in being vaccinated, regardless of age, can be vaccinated, we have lifted all of our COVID protocols. We are encouraging all individuals to worship however they are most comfortable (on Zoom, in the sanctuary, masked or not). Should the Council decide that this needs change due to a drastic increase in COVID hospitalizations, that information will be sent out in the Weekly Update. If you have any questions, see Pastor Marianne.

## 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 11:30am to 5pm.

## The Stewardship Committee Needs Your Help!

This year as a part of our Consecration Sunday program we would like to have a video of YOU sharing why Faith UMC is important to you. If you are interested in creating a short video, see Pastor Marianne or Bob Scopatz.

## Consecration Sunday is November 13

Join us after worship for Consecration Sunday where we will take time following worship to celebrate the ways God is moving through our congregation, hear about what Faith UMC means to us, and bless our 2023 Commitment Cards. For those who come to the building, there will also be a lunch like the meals we serve for Loaves and Fishes served. For more information, see Pastor Marianne or Bob Scopatz.

## Online Giving Available!

Want to give financially to the church online? Our link is now active and ready to receive donations!

To give online, you can go to <https://tithe.ly/give?c=5354400> and fill out the form. There are options to give once or set up regular gifts, to cover the processing fees for your donations, and which fund you would like to donate to (options include general operating expenses, mission well, Loaves and Fishes and apportionments).

We are excited about this opportunity that will help make giving to the church easier for those who do not carry cash and/or checks often, or are regularly worshipping online. If you have any questions about online giving, see Pastor Marianne.



### Concerns beyond our doors:

- ◆ Our local, state, national & international leaders
- ◆ Those struggling with or caring for someone with COVID
- ◆ Healthcare professionals treating and caring for those struggling with health complications
- ◆ Racial inequality in our community and around the world
- ◆ Those struggling to find work, reliable shelter and/or healthy food
- ◆ All those affected by the results of Hurricane Ian's path of destruction

### New Church Email Address Reminder

If you want to reach the church office, you can do so by emailing [FaithUMCWSP@gmail.com](mailto:FaithUMCWSP@gmail.com). Both Pastor Marianne and Susan will check this account. This is also the account that will be sending church emails such as the Weekly Update and Newsletter.

To email Susan directly, use

[FaithUMCMN@gmail.com](mailto:FaithUMCMN@gmail.com).

To email Pastor Marianne directly, use

[Pastor.Marianne.Ozanne@gmail.com](mailto:Pastor.Marianne.Ozanne@gmail.com).

Please update your contact lists. If you have any questions, see Pastor Marianne or Susan.

► **Note:** If you or someone are NOT getting the weekly updates from Faith's new Gmail address, please let the office know.

### Mission Well Offering

The Mission Well welcomes your donations to help support the offering of the month.



**For October,** we will be collecting socks for SOCKTOBER,



and funds for Avenues for Youth, which partners with youth experiencing homelessness in Hennepin county to achieve their dreams. (<https://avenuesforyouth.org/>)



As in years past, Faith's **November** donations will support the Walk to End Hunger campaign.

This year, the Walk to End Hunger is excited to welcome you back to the Mall of America on Thanksgiving morning! Doors open at 7am and the Walk to End Hunger will happen

from 8am to 10am. Park on floors 1 and 2 in the East Parking Ramp, and enter the Mall of America by Sea Life. **Your donation helps Neighbors, Inc.** Learn more at

<https://event.walktoendhunger.org/event/walktoendhunger2022/page/953197/>



You may contribute by mail, online, 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. ► **We are updating our Prayer Chain. If you would like to be on the prayer**

**chain, or if your phone number has changed, please let Sharon Yekaldo 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.



## Loaves and Fishes Update

Our Loaves and Fishes meals continue to grow in energy. In September, we served 171 total meals: 144 guests and 27 volunteers (with family). We continue to expand as we serve more community members and grow our volunteer base that help prepare and serve each meal.

We continue to learn from each meal experience, fine tuning our meal options, how we greet guests and how we recruit volunteers. If you would like to help with Loaves and Fishes, here are a few options:

- The easiest way to help is tell others about the meal. Spread the word by making sure your friends and family know that we serve a FREE homemade meal to everyone the third Wednesday of every month from 5:30-6:30. You can even stop by and get some food for your family and neighbors. If you follow the church's Facebook page, an easy way to help spread the word is to share our Loaves and Fishes posts so that others will see them.
- If you want to volunteer to help prepare and serve our meal, the sign up link is always active. Go to <https://www.signupgenius.com/index.cfm?go=s.signup&urlid=10c0d44a5ab2fa1fa7-faith2> to sign up to work a shift. Before you sign up, make sure you're looking at the right month. Since the link is always active, the meal at the top may have already passed.
- We are also working to make our Loaves and Fishes meal financially self-sufficient so that the meal does not burden our general operating expenses. We are doing this through seeking out grants, offering Loaves and Fishes specific fundraisers and direct asks. Funds donated to Loaves and Fishes cover our costs for prep supplies and food through the Loaves and Fishes warehouse at a drastically reduced rate. Check out information about our next Loaves and Fishes fundraiser in the following article.

If you have any questions about our Loaves and Fishes meal, see Pastor Marianne or Dana Scopatz.

## Thanksgiving Loaves and Fishes Take and Bake

Do you get overwhelmed by the number of dishes to prepare for Thanksgiving? Are you cooking for 2 or 200? Let us help! Our November Loaves and Fishes Take and Bake can help you get the classic Thanksgiving side dishes ready with minimal time in the kitchen. We will have homemade mashed potatoes, stuffing, gravy, green bean casserole and pumpkin pie available to pre-order. Orders are due Sunday, November 20 and can be picked up at church on Wednesday, November 23rd starting at 5 p.m. Prices coming soon! All proceeds will go towards continuing our Loaves and Fishes meals. For more information, see Dana Scopatz.

## Save the Date!

Breakfast with Santa is back! This has always been a fun event at Faith, and we look forward to seeing Santa once again on Saturday morning, **December 3** from 9 a.m.-11:30 a.m. More details to follow.



## Lawn Mowing

If you can help mow the church yard yet this season, please contact Mike Schwendinger at 612-308-1399 or [vikesfan01@gmail.com](mailto:vikesfan01@gmail.com).



## 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 to celebrate the love of God in our midst.

Throughout October and November, we will be looking at our “why statement” and digging deep into who we are and who we are called to be as a congregation.

**October 2** begins our *Faith UMC is...* series, where we will look at what it means that *Faith UMC is a spiritual community* using Acts 2:42-47. We will also celebrate communion, so remember your bread and juice if you are joining us through Zoom.

**October 9** we will look at how *Faith UMC is seeking to live the love of God* by studying John 15:9-17.

**October 16** continues the *Faith UMC is...* series. We will look at Luke 10:1-12, 17-24 through the lens of *Faith UMC is exploring* to see what it means to explore faith.

**October 23** Rev. Dana Scopatz will be sharing her reflections of what *Faith UMC is...*

**October 30** we will look at how *Faith UMC is teaching* and the value of being life-long learners using Deuteronomy 11:1-6, 18-21.

**November 6** is the day we remember all of the saints who have gone before us. During worship, we will honor our saints, celebrate communion and look at how *Faith UMC is supporting one another* as seen in Mark 2:1-12..

**November 13** concludes our *Faith UMC is...* series with *Faith UMC is serving our neighbors*. We will look at James 2:14-26. Plan to stay after worship for our Consecration Sunday program and meal.

**November 20** is Reign of Christ Sunday. We will remember how it is that Christ reigns in our life through Colossians 1:11-20.

**November 27** starts the season of Advent as we prepare for the coming birth of Christ. Join us as we kick off a new series looking towards Christmas.

## CALENDAR

### ▪ Regular weekly activities:

- **SUNDAYS:** 9:30am Worship (and Zoom)  
10am Children’s Sunday School  
10:30am Fellowship Time  
11am Adult Sunday School  
*(sign-in begins at 9:15 for Sunday Worship Zoom meetings)*
- **MONDAYS:** 11am Craft group (Fellowship Hall)

Sat. 10/1	8 am	Men’s Breakfast
	Noon	Live & Silent Auction
Tue. 10/4	6:30 pm	Women of the Bible quilting study
Thurs. 10/6	7 pm	Staff Parish Relations Meeting
Fri. 10/7	6 pm	UFO Crafting
Sat. 10/8	9 am	Leadership Retreat
Wed. 10/12	6:30 pm	Confirmation
Sat. 10/15	8 am	Men’s Breakfast
Wed. 10/19		Loaves & Fishes Meal
Sat. 10/22	9 am	Craft Bazaar & Bake Sale
Wed. 10/26	6:30 pm	Confirmation
Sat. 10/29	8 am	Men’s Breakfast
Tue. 11/1	6:30 pm	Women of the Bible quilting study
Wed. 11/2	6 pm	Trustee meeting
Fri. 11/4	6 pm	UFO Crafting
Sun., 11/6		<i>Daylight Saving Time ends</i>
Wed. 11/9	6:30 pm	Confirmation
Thurs. 11/10	6 pm	Finance meeting
	7 pm	Church Council
Sat. 11/12	8 am	Men’s Breakfast
Sun. 11/13		Consecration Sunday & meal
Tue. 11/15	6:30 pm	Women of the Bible quilting study
Wed. 11/23	5 pm→	Loaves & Fishes Thanksgiving take-and-bake (preorder pickup)
	6:30 pm	Confirmation
Sat. 11/26	8 am	Men’s Breakfast
Tue. 11/29	6:30 pm	Women of the Bible quilting study



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

October / November 2022

## Sunday Worship Schedule

**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

We are holding worship services in the sanctuary. If you are not comfortable worshipping as a gathered community, please worship with us via Zoom link and/or the materials you receive by mail or email, or by visiting our website at [www.faihumcmn.com](http://www.faihumcmn.com)

## Facebook Page

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



**BAZAAR  
& Bake Sale**

**Saturday, Oct. 22, 2022  
9:00 – 2:00**

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
- Books
- Granny's Attic
- Bake Sale

**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!

**Men's Breakfast Group** will meet on Saturdays: **10/1, 10/15, 10/29, 11/12 & 11/26**. All men are invited to join us! For more information contact Bill Short at [bill.short26@gmail.com](mailto:bill.short26@gmail.com) or 651-552-0736.