

# Voice of Faith

Fall 2021 Edition

**Our Mission:** *Faith Church exists to serve and care for the community as we work to make disciples of Jesus Christ and grow together in relationship with God and with our neighbors.*



*Day by Day with Pastor K*

## **"Did You Know?"**

Have you ever been sold something? Like when someone's whole job or intent is to get you to buy what they're selling? We sell root beer floats out of the Faith root beer stand, and people know what they're expecting to get: a root beer float. A pretty easy thing to sell. Recently, I attended a timeshare presentation, and the entire point of that kind of presentation is for someone to sell me something; they didn't tell me exactly what, exactly how much I'll need to pay, or exactly what I need to do until I agree to show up, stay and listen, and take a chance on what they're selling. I knew that going in, and part of why I went, was because I would get a little something out of it, even if I didn't buy what they were trying to sell.

As Christians, we're called to discipleship: to help people learn what the benefits of being a "Christ follower" include. This is not a "sales pitch," yet often people believe that it is and that can make it a difficult sell. Discipleship—being a disciple actively following Jesus' ways, and making disciples—sharing Jesus and inviting others to follow Jesus, too.

I am a tough customer, meaning that I am not super willing to believe, trust, or have confidence in what someone is trying to sell. The most likely way for someone to get me to listen and eventually buy into what they are selling, is if they tell me a personal story—a real, and true personal story. "Did you know that when I spent time away on vacation, I got closer to my family, and we made great memories?" "Did you know that this has made a real difference in my life?" "Did you know that you're going to get out of this far more than you put into it?" "Did you know that you are a part of this family, and when you accept that, it's an amazing feeling to know that you're part of a forever family?!" If someone gets even more specific than this, I am likely to be "in" and ready to consider believing in what it is that you're trying to share with me, or yes, even trying to sell.

Jesus wasn't trying to sell anything at all. He was giving his whole self to both show and tell about God's true character, and God's amazing love. How do I get this amazing love? Accept it. No bargains, no deals, take it now, or take it when you're ready. God's love is yours, along with grace and forgiveness and all of this is unconditional, forever. If you've experienced God's love, then you are prepared to share it with others. Consider what you might have to share with others about the difference a relationship with God has made in your life. Consider adding a "did you know..." when you're about to share that difference. If you've ever had someone tell you what a difference something has made in their life, then you know what it means. "Did you know that because I have experienced God's love in my life, I am able to...?" "Did you know...(and it's your story you need to share)?" Your story is the one that might make the difference for someone who would otherwise not know about the importance of, purpose of, or the experience they could have as part of a relationship with God by following the ways of Jesus—discipleship.

Pay attention to the "did you know" statements and questions that your church leaders share in this Voice of Faith newsletter. Find out how Faith Church is living into its mission of servanthood, relationship building, and discipleship, and consider how you can share *your* story of Faith/faith with someone else! Did you know...? Jesus loves you. Pass it on!



~Pastor K

## **Come to Faith**

*Mark Your Calendar for Worship and Other Upcoming Special Events!  
Who are you inviting to come to Faith?*

### **Worship with Faith**

*All are welcome, to any and all services!*

**Sundays at 9:30a.m.** (in-person and live-streamed online)

**Wednesdays at 6:45p.m.** (online and outdoors)

*September 5 Worship and Communion; Rev. Rod Stemme, Preaching*

*September 12 Pastor Josh Hampsher (Connect Church), Preaching*

*September 19 Kids' Sunday at Faith—kids help lead worship!*

*September 26 Grandparents' Sunday! Bring your grandchild(ren) or a neighbor's kids to worship!!*

*October 3 World Communion Sunday—who will help prepare & serve?*

*October 10 Stewardship Sunday—giving it all to God.*

*October 17 Laity Sunday--members of Faith lead worship!*

*October 24 Disability Awareness Sunday*

*October 31 Reformation Sunday*

*November 7 All Saints--remember those who've affected our faith lives*

*November 14 Organ and Tissue Donor and Recipient Sunday*

*November 21 Christ the King/Thanksgiving Sunday*

*November 28--First Sunday of Advent*

**Faith Harvest Dinner** Saturday, October 9th (we're deciding whether ham or another main dish)  
**Trunk or Treat** Saturday, October 30th Decorate a trunk, volunteer with traffic control, donate supplies!  
**River Valley District All-Church Conference** Saturday, November 20th (online with details to come).  
**Advent Workshop and Church Building Decorating after worship on Sunday, November 21st!**

**Prayer:** *Can you imagine or have you experienced the power of prayer? We lift prayers up for individuals or groups of people daily and invite people to pray for those needing special prayers each week. Watch for these weekly prayers to be posted by email and on social media, and join us in prayer each day.* **Share your prayers with the Faith Church Prayer team by sending to:** [prayerteam.faithumc@gmail.com](mailto:prayerteam.faithumc@gmail.com) or submitting online at [www.faithinyourheart.org/prayer](http://www.faithinyourheart.org/prayer)  
**Daily Prayers** are sent weekly in the Faith This Week email and posted on the church's FB page.

**Prayer Partners:** 🎵 ...What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer... 🎵 It is indeed a privilege of the Prayer Team to be here for Faith Church family and friends. Your prayer requests are lifted up to our Father God Almighty by faithful, caring ones that God has called to be part of the Prayer Team. The answers to our prayers may be right away or in God's timing, the answers we wanted or maybe not. God hears our prayers. Prayer is talking to...and listening to God.

*\* Heartfelt and overwhelming gratitude for prayers comes from Frank Phillips & family. Frank received a liver transplant March 30, 2020. Thank You God! Frank continues on the road of recovery!*  
Are you interested in being part of this vital ministry of Faith Church? Contact the church office or Ruth Phillips (651-387-7186). God bless you

**Daily Prayers for September 13th-19th** Watch for a list weekly in the "Faith This Week" email or, request one in print by calling (651) 460-6110.

September 13...School bus drivers and bus aides.

September 14...Employers

September 15...Self-employed

September 16...Hearts turned towards God

September 17...Planning and prep for Faith Church Fall Dinner Oct.9th

September 18...Family of Steve Pietsch Celebration of Life service

September 19...to be Good stewards of our time, mind, body and resources

**October "Gifted" Small Group Sessions** God has blessed each person with particular gifts of the Spirit—are you aware of your Spiritual gifts? Find out more about who God has created *you* to be and has prepared you to serve and live out your faith right now, no matter your age or stage in life. Meet and get to know others who attend Faith Church, during this short-term group. "Gifted" Faith groups meet for 3 sessions, one hour each. **Next sessions: October 10, 17, 24** (Sundays at 11am)

**"Yes!" Sundays for Baptisms and New Members:** Next scheduled dates for baptism and new members joining during worship are **Sunday, October 10th** and **Sunday, November 14th**. If you would like to schedule a baptism or are ready to say, "Yes!" to God, or growing as a member with Faith Church! [churchoffice.faithumc@gmail.com](mailto:churchoffice.faithumc@gmail.com) (651) 460-6110 Want to learn more about what it means to be part of Faith Church and get connected with others? Check out a "Gifted" session (3-week small group) or a "People New to Faith" lunch! (*info below*)

**People New to Faith** Are you new to Faith? We're planning to offer this quarterly, and this is the first one in 2021. Come for lunch (provided) and learn more about Faith. It is a great way to connect with the pastor and some leaders of the church as well as hear about Faith Church's mission and vision. We're looking forward to getting to know you, too! **Next Lunch: Sunday, October 3rd at 11am**

### **Respectful Conversations** ~shared by Scott Evenson

**Did you know...** "Respectful Conversations" is a method developed by the Minnesota Council of Churches to help in the facilitation of complex and sometimes controversial topics. It is not a means of solving these issues, but rather forms a framework for open minded dialogue between two or more individuals. It works to eliminate some of the pitfalls that are common in conversations around difficult topics that often lead to further polarization. Everyone should leave the conversation, not necessarily with a change in position, but at least a better understanding of the many positions that surround the topic and none of the hostility that often shuts down further conversation.

The Respectful Conversations method will be offered this Fall with the hope of giving people tools with which to engage one another on fruitful and respectful dialogue of topics involving Faith Farmington UMC, The United Methodist Church, our community and the world. Look for further details soon!

### **Musical Notes**



### **The Faith Choir Summer Picnic and Hymn Sing was Awesome!!**



**Be part of the Faith Choir!** Josiah Beretta, Choir Director is inviting people to join in singing (he has a great plan for following health guidelines while having choir as we move forward in 2021). Contact Josiah at (320) 333-5708 or [josberetta@gmail.com](mailto:josberetta@gmail.com) for rehearsal and other information. Choir rehearsals are on Sunday mornings at 8:30 AM. *On Sunday, September 18th, the Faith choir will be rehearsing at 8:30 for our next performance on September 26th.* We will perform John Rutter's "Look at the World." Music copies can be found on the table outside the church office! Hope to see you there!

~Josiah Beretta

## Grow with Faith

**2021 Women of Faith** Women have a strong and long history of learning, growing, and serving together with Faith Church. Women of Faith want to connect with God, with you and with others! Women of Faith want to serve the community, including filling backpacks with healthy snacks for kids who attend area schools and we want to take part in other missions!

Currently, a Women of Faith group meets the third Tuesday of each month at 1pm. We meet in-person in the "reception room" at church or outdoors when the weather is nice. We know some women are interested in getting together at other times (evenings or weekends) so please let us know if you would like to start a Women of Faith group at a time that works for you and others or if you have an idea for a service project or learning opportunity. Contact Dee Parker by email at [deeparker6@aol.com](mailto:deeparker6@aol.com) or call the church office (651) 460-6110, if you'd like to get involved with Women of Faith this year!



### 2021 Men of Faith

***"Men of Faith" meets on 3rd Saturdays at 8:30am***

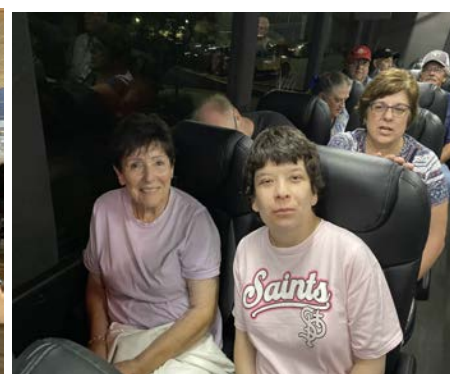
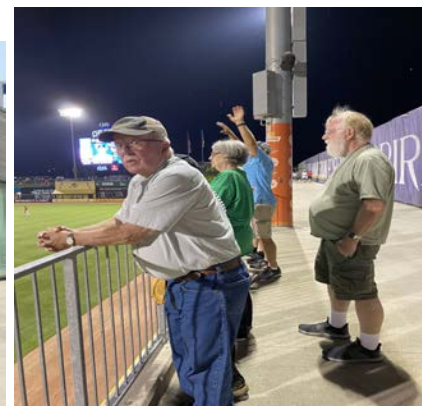
This is an open invite for all men to come gather at the Faith Church building for coffee and conversation. Let's talk about how we can work and have fun together as a group moving forward to serve and care for the community as disciples of Jesus Christ and grow together in relationship with God and with our neighbors. If you have questions or aren't able to join us but still want to be a part of the group, let us know! Contact Tom Hemish (651) 246-3550 or Scott Evenson (763) 377-5619.

**Silent Auction and Harvest (Ham or Chicken--still deciding) Dinner** on 10/9/2021 (mark your calendar for both)! Ash Ames and Ginger Stemme have volunteered to help coordinate the Silent Auction-help and donations are invited! The Kitchen Team will need help with food prep and we'll need other volunteers to help, too! Watch for the signup and other opportunities to come out mid-September!!

**Silent Auction Items Needed** Calling all collectors, crafters and people who are ready to part with items in excellent condition. I know I have too much art and even rotating things on the walls is not doing the items justice. As a quilter, I sometimes make things because of the challenge and have more than I can use. I am not the only one. What about that coffee table book you never look at which is still about a relevant subject or artist? Or create a theme basket! We are going to gather the items, photograph them, and put the pictures on the website towards the end of the month. Bidding will be early October both online and at church. Please contribute by bringing item to Donette at church or contact Ginger Stemme to pick them up or discuss the details (Cell #651-485-7453) or Ash Ames (651-444-9907)

## The Saint Paul Saints Game on Tuesday, July 13th was GREAT! Saints won 19-1!!

Did you know...We had pickup stops in Farmington and Rosemount and rode the bus driven by Natasha from Marshall Lines and assisted by Sue Baxter--*Sue is a regular help with Loaves and Fishes, and after meeting our group at the Saints game, Natasha has now become a L/F community meal volunteer, too!!* The weather turned out beautifully (though the clouds gave us some concern for awhile) and the game turned out beautifully, too! What a score! Go, Saint Paul Saints!!



## **60+ people attended the Faith Church Picnic on August 22nd!**

There was plenty of food for all who came, thanks to the planning of Scott Evenson and his grilling crew--and yummy treats brought by Ann Muzzy, too. Hot dogs, hamburgers, chips and more were served and fun conversations were had around the tables including games and trivia about Faith Church history and memories, Pastor Karen, worship songs, hymns, and more! Josiah led a musical prayer, and it was great to be together with so many who call Faith Church "home!" Many people who worship in different ways (in person, online, etc) met each other during the picnic, and are looking forward to getting to know each other better in the months and years to come! Welcome all!





### **QUILTING GROUP: Creativity and Diversity Abound**

Although we don't have an official name yet, a Quilt Group is well underway at Faith Church. We know it won't be Quilting Ladies because we are not limited to ladies. We are grateful for Roy's help with precision cutting upon request as we each designed our small quilts at individual tables. Wouldn't you like to design a quilt, or use your math skills for cutting? Join us! We meet on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month from 10:00 to about 1:00 in the reception room.



The Faith Quilting Group is all about diversity! We have multiple boxes of diverse fabric that will serve a diverse group of people. Some of the fabric was here, and a large amount which was given to us by the Farmington Lutheran Church, whom we sincerely thank. Recently we gave thanks for a 30-gallon tote of fabric from Joan Pinske (a friend of Ginger) from Arlington, MN. We are blessed and need to turn this fabric into blessings for others.

Of course selecting fabric, designing quilts and cutting all lead to sewing. If you can sew, we need you. (Dee, I know from experience sewing is good therapy after an injury, and we are excited to have you with us). In addition to quilts, we will have neck warmers to share. Emily is making them from some of the smaller pieces of fleece we found lying around. Lois, Ruth, Darlene & Ginger are producing lap quilts.

Sometime in October we will have a show and tell in conjunction with worship so that you can see and bless the items we have created. Perhaps by then we can announce a name for the group?

**Did you know that in Proverbs 17:22 it says laughter is good medicine?!**

*from a Devotional Book called: "Meeting God in the Silent Places" written by Rev. William Moore, a pastor friend of mine from Missouri.*

Have you ever doubted that God was going to provide for what you needed? In verse 11 of Matthew 6 Jesus taught us to pray with confidence. Two men were walking in a field when they spotted an angry bull charging toward them. They climbed a small tree nearby, and as soon as they were about 8 feet off the ground, the bull arrived and began to butt the tree. It swayed back and forth, and the men knew their moments to hang on were limited. In panic, the one called out to the other; "Pray for us!" "I don't know any prayers," came the reply. "Well say something!" Remembering hearing his father pray when he was a child, he cried: "Lord for what we are about to receive--make us truly grateful!"  
~shared by Barb Truitt-Petersen

## **"Helping our Community Event" Block Party**

### **Fundraiser for the Veterans and Community Outreach**

**Hosted by Lay Leader Kim Lomas on the west side of Faith Church on 7th Street**

**Saturday September 25, 2021 4-7 PM**

**Free Music by musician Mike Poot**

Bring a lawn chair and an ice chest for snacks if you'd like

Comfort Smash Foods & Faith 1919 Root Beer Stand will be on site, too!!

## **Faith For Kids and Youth**



**Did you know...** Faith Church partners with Connect Church, Trinity Lutheran Church, and CC Homeschool for **Trunk or Treat**? Did you know that there is a small competition between these groups on who wins best overall trunk and gets to keep the trophy for a year? Well, it's our turn to try to win that trophy! CC Homeschool won last year, and we're up to that challenge!!

Now is the opportunity for anyone who would like to join the planning committee to create another memorable event for all children near and far. Some people even drove over an hour to participate! Last year it was a drive-through, limited contact event. We were also part of the "teal pumpkin project" which allows those with food allergies to participate.

**Trunk or Treat will be on Saturday October 30th from 1-4 PM** Please consider joining us by being on the planning committee, volunteering for the event, contributing dollars or supplies, or decorating a trunk. Contact [cathy.hemish@vizientinc.com](mailto:cathy.hemish@vizientinc.com) or [karen.faithumc@gmail.com](mailto:karen.faithumc@gmail.com) if you are able to help out. We'd love to have you join us! ~ Cathy Hemish, Coordinator

### **Youth Ministry Coordinator Position Search** (Please share widely and pray!)

We received an "Investing in Congregations" grant for 2021 to help support our investment in kids, youth, and families at Faith Church! Help us find whoever it is that God is preparing to lead youth ministries by sharing this job posting and praying for that "right" person to come to Faith. We strive to develop a ministry dedicated to reaching kids, youth and their families through education, service, and fellowship activities that invite them to come to Faith Church in a variety of ways.

**Application Info:** To apply, please submit a resume and cover letter or CV to [karen.faithumc@gmail.com](mailto:karen.faithumc@gmail.com) or apply through the Faith Church Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/FaithFarmingtonUMC>

**Deadline:** Applications accepted now until hire.

**Position Type:** Part-Time (10hr/wk), Hourly; potential for position to grow

**Contact:** Pastor Karen Evenson **Email:** [karen.faithumc@gmail.com](mailto:karen.faithumc@gmail.com)

**Address:** 710 8th St. Farmington MN 55024 Phone: (651) 460-6110

**Did you know...**that we had applied and received an Investing in Congregations grant for \$15,000 for 2021. Did you know we received full support for the year from the Conference in July? This means we can continue to live into our vision for Kids and Youth events and ministries this year. Even though we have not yet hired a youth ministry coordinator, we are moving forward with events and ministries for community youth. The committee is happy to share this good news!

**Did you know...**that The Grove UMC in Woodbury is also hiring a Youth director? If you know of anyone looking for a position working with kids and youth, let them know about these opportunities!

### **Faith Groups and Bible Studies: Learning and Growing with Faith**

As we each take steps to grow with Faith (and to grow in faith), we invite you to join one or more of our Faith groups, Bible studies, and other opportunities for discussion, support, and learning.



## DID YOU KNOW...

**“Taco Tuesdays” group Tuesdays 5:30-7:00pm!** Come for conversations on faith and other topics - life, faith, whatever’s on your mind, 5:30-7pm every Tuesday. We often get together outside on the front lawn at church, and as people become more comfortable and able, we’ll head back into a local restaurant like El Charro to eat and talk together! *“How is it with your soul?”* is the question we ask one another, along with other great conversations about lots of things. Bring your own supper and chair when we’re together on the lawn, or join us on Zoom if you can’t meet in person. (The link is the same every week when we Zoom) and you don’t need to make a reservation--just join us anytime (no tacos required)! Call Norm Muzzy (651) 304-0729 with questions or to be added to the Faith Taco Tuesday Facebook group.

## **“The Faith Root Beer Stand”**





Thank you to everyone that helped out with this year's efforts at our Fair Root Beer Stand. Did you know...that in spite of a few challenges such as having both kegerators failing, electrical failures, running out of Root Beer we managed to have a record breaking profit of \$8,889.62!! At the August meeting, the Faith Ad Council approved to donate \$7,000 to different charity organizations in the community.

*Thanks again, Tom & Cathy Hemish & the Root Beer Stand team*

**Did you know....** The Root Beer Stand raised over \$1,100 this summer at a local car show held in the parking lot of Celt's on Wednesday nights. This turned into a great event for FUMC to gain exposure in the community and at the same time help raise money for the Senior Center through the "Kiss the Pig" contest at Mountain Dew Day. Thanks Norm Muzzy, Tina Stawikoski-Brown, and Tom & Cathy Hemish!

**Did you know....** Pastor Karen was asked by the Farmington Dew Days team to take part in the "Kiss the Pig" contest as part of the September 18th Dew Days celebrations?! This is a chance to make Pastor Karen kiss a pig AND to help her raise money for the Farmington Senior Center at the same time! Donations are being collected in cans around town (including at Faith Church) and need to be in by Saturday, September 17th. The contest ends that day with the "pig kissing" happening between 5-5:30pm at 325 Oak Street in Farmington! Drop your change or dollars in or write a check if you'd like to contribute!



Drop donations into these cans until September 17th, 2021!

# Labor Day Weekend at Northern Pines Church Camp

September 3-4-5-6, 2021





20 adults and kids had lots of fun at camp and in the surrounding community of Park Rapids spend time and enjoyed being “away” and growing with Faith! There were devotion times offered in the mornings and evenings and some of us attended worship on Sunday morning at Riverside UMC in Park Rapids. We played games, visited the headwaters of the Mississippi River at Itasca State Park, helped prepare a LOT of food, had ice cream, visited the candy and book stores, walked along the lakeshore, had a campfire, went fishing, used the paddle boats, layed in hammocks, made fun crafts with nature materials and art supplies, talked and visited and met new people, and listened for God’s voice...

**Did you know...** When our kids were young we took them to Northern Pines for a week several times. We had a great time every year we went. We became friends with a lot of people who attended the camp every year. There were so many different activities for all ages that no one ever became bored. Several evenings were set aside for special activities : fish fry, games, shows put on by teens and younger kids. Fishing and boating, volleyball and softball were daily activities. We are really happy to be going back even though it is for a shorter time. ~ shared by Bill Turner

**We are all SENT by Jesus to GO out with Faith!**

**Loaves and Fishes Community Meal** **Did you know...** Every Wednesday, volunteers from Faith Church and the larger community work to prepare a meal and groceries that weekly serves more than 200 people. Sometimes, we serve as many as 250+ meals and as the “Loaves and Fishes” (Matthew 14:20) story goes, there is always enough for all when we simply “feed the people.” ***Did you know that since January 2020, Loaves and Fishes in Farmington has served more than 17,000 meals to people who have come to Faith?!*** There is no requirement or judgement about who comes, or how often and we find this to be an excellent way to build community and live into our mission as a church. **You** are invited to come for a meal, and you are invited to volunteer in some way. Contact Scott Evenson and he’ll connect you with a way to help or sign up through the SignUp Genius on the web (763) 377-5619 or [sevenson@unitedseminary.edu](mailto:sevenson@unitedseminary.edu) **Did you know** Faith Church leaders are talking and praying about whether Faith Church might become a “Loaves & Fishes” site in the future, which would include a paid (by the Loaves and Fishes organization) site coordinator that would help expand meal service to those in the broader community? This is a sign of both continued need and the quality of the outreach provided by everyone serving out of the Faith Church building! Asking for God’s direction!

**Faith “Thank You” Project:** The “Thank You Project” is an opportunity to express thanks on behalf of Faith Church of Farmington UMC, to people in the community who care for and serve others on a daily basis. Join together (all are welcome to participate) and enjoy the fellowship of sharing our appreciation to others as part of our Faith Church mission to care for the community. A total of **1,444** cards written so far in 2021! Emily Svendsen is the contact person for this project and she can be reached with questions or to sign up to help write cards (612) 751-5925 or [oakwynd12@gmail.com](mailto:oakwynd12@gmail.com)

**Thank you to Faith Church from the Brooklyn United Methodist Church** *“Thank YOU for your kind donation to support the Brooklyn communities and our food shelf. The generosity everyone has shown during this time of unrest has been overwhelming. God bless!!” ~Pastor Rich Zeck*

## **Connect Church Collaboration**

In 2020, Faith Church began a collaboration with a Wesleyan congregation in Farmington. The Connect Church (formerly worshiped at the Senior Center) is filled with kids and families and needs a place to grow *and* Faith Church is getting ready to grow with kids and families, so we are a *great* fit to work together in a number of ways! Their Pastor Josh Hampsher and our Pastor Karen are both part of the Farmington Ministerial group. We worshiped together on Christmas Eve, one of the Connect church members is serving on Faith Church trustees (allowed by UMC Discipline, and encouraged when sharing building use), and our Faith for Kids and Youth team includes members of both churches as well. Connect Church worship services will take place following Faith Church services on Sunday mornings. Take the opportunity in the months ahead to reach out and “connect” with Connect Church members! Now, we are joining with Connect to offer classes at 6:45pm on Wednesday evenings to middle and high school youth and their parents.



DID YOU KNOW...that 25+ people attended the Back to School book giveaway and movie?!  
 DID YOU KNOW...that there were 3 families NEW to FAITH that attended the Back to School night?  
 DID YOU KNOW...you are invited to help with kids and youth groups and activities?! That's right!  
 DID YOU KNOW we need to let kids and youth know they are invited and welcome at Faith Church?  
 DID YOU KNOW that it's YOU that can make the difference in following up with and welcoming those who are new to Faith Church? It's building relationships with our neighbors, guests, and families that will help them know they are not only welcome, but that we would love for them to be part of Faith.



*God provides...do we notice?*



## Giving at Faith:

**Did you know...your weekly, monthly, quarterly and other types of "regular" giving help Faith Church to not just exist, but to thrive and to live into who we believe God is calling us to be?**

There are lots of ways to make a financial gift to help people come to know the love, grace, joy, and peace of Jesus through the ministries of Faith Church! Whether you want to make a special or one-time offering, or support the ongoing ministries at Faith, you can give online at: [www.faithinyourheart.org](http://www.faithinyourheart.org) or [www.paypal.me/faithchurchumc](http://www.paypal.me/faithchurchumc)

You can give by check or cash in the church office throughout the week or send gifts to: Faith Church  
710 8th Street Farmington, MN 55024

Set up regular weekly or monthly giving through our website/Paypal or via EFT (bank withdrawal) or contact [finance.faithumc@gmail.com](mailto:finance.faithumc@gmail.com) .

**Did you know** you can make a **legacy** gift, by including Faith Church in your will or estate plans? Make an impact and help Faith to reach people with the love of Jesus even when you can't be here yourself.

If you would like more information or help with setting up a stock gift, or gift of insurance, please contact your financial advisor or contact [finance.faithumc@gmail.com](mailto:finance.faithumc@gmail.com) for more information. Faith Church is also qualified to receive Thrivent Choice Dollars if you are a Thrivent member.

## **Saving Grace Or Financial Peace – Your Choice! Being good financial stewards**

*Tell your money where to go instead of wondering where it went!* Planning for the future is hard when you are still paying for the past! Learn how to beat debt and make a plan for the future together! Learn how to create (and stick to) a spending plan, save for emergencies, and make a plan for the future. Doesn't that sound peaceful? Take control of your money. Two options available this Fall:

**Financial Peace University** is a nine-lesson class that uses biblical wisdom and common sense to help you tackle budgeting, pay off debt, and make your money work for you! Plan on 2 hours for each session. A new series began Thursday, September 9, and continues through November 4. We will meet from 5:30 pm through 7:30 pm for each session. Because the church has a site license for a few more months, you can take advantage of the resources on the Ramsey site at *no cost to you*. This site license allows full access to all the resources at the website which includes the financial peace materials and *so much more*. Use this link to begin your experience (also on the church website): <https://www.financialpeace.com/hosts/FaithUMC?pc=77373000>. **It's not too late to start NOW!**

**The second option is a new resource** from The United Methodist Church entitled ***Saving Grace: A Guide to Financial Well-Being***. This resource is based upon the Wesleyan advice to "Gain all you can, save all you can, give all you can" in the sermon "The Use of Money". In preparation for this study, you are asked to complete six worksheets found at [www.abingdonpress.com/savinggrace](http://www.abingdonpress.com/savinggrace) with instructions on how to complete them. The next series will begin September 13 and run through October 18. There will be a follow-up check in on November 15. Plan on 90 minutes for each session. Contact Rev. Rod Stemme for more information, with questions, to register or to find a time that works for you: [stemme@usfamily.net](mailto:stemme@usfamily.net) or (651) 485-7452 **CONTACT REV ROD WITH ANY QUESTIONS!!** It's worth your time and will save you money to be in touch with one or more of these opportunities!

**Welcome Back, Classical Conversations Homeschool Cooperative!** The Ad Council voted unanimously last February to welcome the CC Homeschool cooperative back to the Faith Church building for the 2021-22 school year. They are an asset to Faith Church's ministries and mission and help us take great care of the building. Their new Director is Bridget Wheeler, parent of children enrolled in the homeschool cooperative. The former director, Jeanell Walsh will remain on the Faith for Kids and Youth team until the classroom renovations are complete in the Fall. Parents and kids helped get the building and classrooms renovated and cleaned up this summer! Classes began August 26th.



### HVAC UPDATES:

Updates on the HVAC project as of the week of September 10th:

**THE NEW UNITS HAVE ARRIVED and ARE BEING INSTALLED in SEPTEMBER!!**

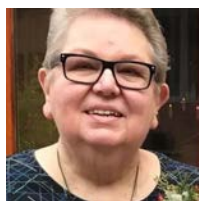
- 4 condenser units are set in place on the exterior of the building.
- Interior unit brackets air ventilation/AC units are installed in the sanctuary.
- HVAC is “Heating Ventilation Air Conditioning” and helps us to provide clean and safer air and ventilation for the building, brings us up to date with both current CDC and Health Department recommendations, and allows us to provide hospitality and a comfortable building for worship and ministries at Faith.
- We raised \$60,000 to install the remaining units in the gathering areas (reception room, fellowship area, kitchen, library)!
- Thank you to all for every donation!
- A full picture of the project was sent in the mail (and by email) last February. Please let us know if you did not receive this and we’ll be glad to send it to you.
- Please direct questions to a member of Trustees (listed in this newsletter). Chair, Norm Muzzy (651) 304-0729



**Did you know...**that The Heating Dude (Jake Jeppeson) gave \$700 to ReNew Appliances for a vintage refrigerator, and those proceeds were then donated to Faith Church to help with the Loaves and Fishes program and with the planned renovations for the Faith Church kitchen? Jake is a generous community partner and we’re grateful for him and for all who commit to work with Faith to serve our neighbors.

***Did you know the Faith Covid-19 Preparedness Team*** was appointed by your Faith Administrative Council in 2020 and that they talk and meet regularly over the last year in order to keep up with the most current information and details that would affect Faith Church? Thank you, Team! We continue to follow updated Covid-19 health and safety guidelines and ask everyone planning to attend worship sign in when you arrive in the building on Sunday mornings. We're doing this so we're able to contact all those in attendance if needed in case of a Covid outbreak. Thank you so much for your prayers and cooperation as we look forward to worshipping in-person together once again at Faith Church! Please direct questions & concerns to a member of the Covid-19 Preparedness Team. ~ shared by Donette Firnstahl, Office Administrator, Pastor Karen Evenson, Mary Fiscus, RN (retired)/Care Team Lead, and Bob Heinle, Trustee/Head Usher

## Your Faith Church 2021 Lay Leaders



**Emily Svendsen** (co-Lay Leader)



**Kim Lomas** (co-Lay Leader)

## Faith Administrative Council and Staff

Rev. Karen Evenson, Pastor

Donette Firnstahl, Ad Council Secretary and Office Administrator

Tom Hemish, Administrative Council Chair

Kathy Gunderson, Music Coordinator/Accompanist

**Kim Lomas**, Co-Lay Leader

Beckie Duff, Financial Secretary

Lois Voigt, Stewardship

Dee Parker, Women of Faith Chair; Missions Leader

Mary Fiscus, Care Team Leader

Cathy Hemish, Faith for Kids and Youth Team Leader

### Faith Church Trustees

Norm Muzzy, Trustees Chair

Steve Duff, Trustee

Cory Gressman, Trustee; Technology Team leader

Ginger Stemme, SPRC Chair

Josiah Beretta, Choir Director

**Emily Svendsen**, Co-Lay Leader

Sandi Gressman, Church Treasurer

Scott Evenson, Kitchen Team Leader

Bill Turner, Council Member-at-Large

Ruth Phillips, Prayer Team Leader

Barb Truitt-Petersen, Council Member-at-Large

Ashley Folven, Trustees Vice Chair

Bob Heinle, Trustee; Head Usher

Did you know...any member of Faith Church UMC is welcome to attend Administrative Council meetings? Meetings are currently being held via Zoom on the 4th Thursday of each month. Did you know that as a member of Faith Church, you are welcome to request minutes of meetings (with the exception of confidential SPRC) or financial statements of the church at any time? Did you know that as a United Methodist Church, we are guided by the UMC Book of Discipline and follow these guidelines as we form administrative committees and ministry teams? Did you know, that whether you are a "member" of Faith Church or not there is a place for you to serve on a team or committee?!

For more information about the United Methodist Church in Minnesota go to [www.minnesotaumc.org](http://www.minnesotaumc.org)

## **Volunteer Opportunities at Faith Church**

**Did you know** that “Faith” church is alive and growing and that means there are opportunities to serve and help meet a need! Be blessed by being a blessing with these “in-person,” at home, and online opportunities!

Serve every week or month, or just once in a while and make a difference.

1. Dusting cobwebs, ledges, and corners of the church
2. Prepare “blessing tissues” for guests and other giveaways
3. Prepare Communion elements monthly or help serve Communion
4. Help with worship tech/soundboard (training provided)
5. Clean and disinfect pens/pencils
6. Help organize books and other materials in the library
7. Read Scripture or participate other ways in worship
8. Be part of a “fix-it” or “gardening” team that supports the work of the Trustees in caring for the church building and grounds.
9. Serve on a team or committee, using the skills or gifts God has given you in a way that will help Faith Church to thrive and grow.

*Contact Donette in the church office for more information, needed supplies or opportunities, or to be put in touch with the appropriate contact person. (651) 460-6110 Thank you so much for your help!*

**Faith Website** <https://www.faithinyourheart.org>

**Faith Facebook page:** <https://www.facebook.com/FaithFarmingtonUMC/>

**Faith YouTube Channel:**

<https://www.youtube.com/c/FaithChurchUnitedMethodistFarmingtonMN>

### **September Birthdays**

1st Roy Elliot  
1st Janet Oistad  
3rd Peggy Schmidtke  
3rd Darryld Oistad  
13th Beckie Duff  
14th Kay Hoeppner  
22nd Mary Fiscus  
22nd Kim Lomas  
25th Mae Curry  
25th Michael Schultze

### **October Birthdays**

1st Darby Burton  
3rd Glenn Helgeson  
10th Bill Turner  
17th Emily Svendsen  
20th Joyce Mitchell  
24th Doreen Larsen  
26th Dee Parker  
27th Mackenzie Ehlers

### **November Birthdays**

3rd Janet Peterson  
3rd Lyle Schmidtke  
6th Gary Smith  
18th Jim Mertz  
18th Jim Mertz  
25th Norm Muzzy  
27th Christine Bromley  
29th Phyllis Betzold  
30th Darlene Elliot