


APRIL 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 10:00 am Food for Kidz At Stewartville Civic Cr
3 7:45 am Vocal Choir 9 am Worship 10 am Sunday School , Bible Study Coffee/ Fellowship 6 pm Cowboy Church- Cherry Grove 6:30 pm Pack Meeting	4 7 pm Hand Bell Rehearsal	5 7:00 pm Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting	6 6:30 pm Soup/ Sandwiches 7:00 Lenten Service at FUMC	7	8	9 10 am Confirmation Class 5 pm Worship 6:30 pm Mother Daughter Banquet
10 7:45 am Vocal Choir 9 am Worship 10 am Sunday School , Bible Study Coffee/ Fellowship 5-7 pm Youth Meeting 6:30 pm Den Meeting - 3 Classrooms	11	12 6:30 pm Finance 7 pm Church Council 7:00 pm Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting	13 9:00 am UMW Call to Prayer & Self Denial 6:30 pm Soup/ Sandwiches 7:00 pm Lenten Service at Fountain UMC	14	15	16 5pm Worship
17 7:45 am Vocal Choir 9 am Worship 10 am Sunday School , Bible Study Coffee/Fellowship 12:30 pm SV Historical Society Dinner/Meeting 6:30 pm Movie Night "The Passion of Christ" 6:30 pm Committee Meeting - Classroom	18	19 7:00 pm Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting	20 9:30 am Rachel Circle at Hillside 1:30 pm Sarah Circle at church	21 1:30 pm Ruth Circle at Marilyn Matson's home 7:00 pm Maundy Thursday Service at Cherry Grove UMC	22 No School 7:00 pm Good Friday Service at FUJC	23 10 am Confirmation Class (NO Worship)
24 7:00 am Sunrise Service Youth assisting with Sunrise Service 8:00 am Easter Breakfast 9:00 am Worship	25 No School	26 7:00 pm Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting				30 5:00 pm Worship

Faith United Methodist Church
617 Maple Lane
Spring Valley, MN 55975

Web Page: faithsv.net

Saturday evening worship: 5:00 p.m.

Sunday morning worship: 9:00 a.m.

Sunday School: 10:00 a.m.

Coffee & fellowship: 10:00 a.m.

Office Hours:

8:00 - 4:00 Tuesday through Friday

Pastor Mark Rader:

Phone: 507-346-2878

E-mail: faithpas@centurytel.net

Pastor Beth Perez

Phone: 507-259-4553

E-mail: bethperez@myclearwave.net

Youth Director Laura Perez

Phone: 919-971-9255

E-mail: lauraeperez3@gmail.com

Secretary Louise Winfield

Phone: 507-346-2830

Fax: 507-346-2877

E-mail: faithunited@centurytel.net

Custodian Paul Eberle

Organist Suzanne Eberle

Bell Choir Director Kathy Casady

Choir Pianist Kristie Shorter



**NEWSLETTER
DEADLINE**

The newsletter deadline for May will be Thursday, April 21st at 3:00 pm.

The Service Group handles the Sunday Coffee Hour the first three Sundays of the month. The 4th Sunday will be served by the Sunday School and Youth. The 5th Sunday will be served by Cursillo participants.

APRIL

*Denis & Nancy Cornell	346-2044
Virgil & Marie Dempewolf	346-2282
Paul & Rosalie Hagan	346-2061
Dennis & Gwen Howard	346-9935
Denise Kalenda	754-4407
Linda Lecy	346-2747
Wayne & Brenda O'Connell	754-5364
Rev. Bill & Claire Rowen	346-1701
Dave & Tammy Schoppers	273-1527
Joanne Shorter	346-2607
Pam Soma-Mori	346-7463



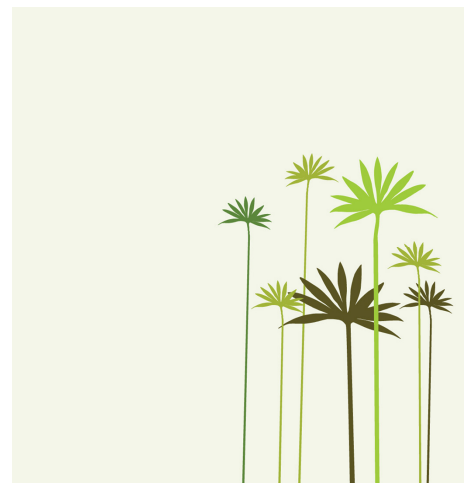
**MOTHER DAUGHTER BANQUET
APRIL 9, 2011 - 6:30 PM**

MENU:

Salad
Chicken Cordon Bleu
Baked Potato
Glazed Carrots
Cheesecake

COST:

Pre-event Ticket Sales
\$10.50 Adults
\$5.50 Under 12



PROGRAM:

Professional Speakers Vicki Snyder and the Norski Belles
"You Have to Say I'm Pretty, You're My Mother"

Faith United Methodist Church
Christian Education Fundraiser

FROM THE PASTOR

Spend much time reading reports about the Church in the United States today and it will quickly become clear that much has changed in the last half century. Jeffrey Jones, in a recent e-article from the Alban Institute, writes that it was sometime in 1993 that he finally verbalized a thought that had been gradually forming in his mind for a number of years. It was in the middle of a church board meeting, and troubled that seemingly well run ministries within the congregation didn't seem to be working any longer, his frustration revealed itself in the words "Where are we?" What he meant by his question was simply this: that virtually all the old answers about what it means to be and do church weren't working anymore.

And just maybe you've felt that way too. A quick look around our congregation reveals some excellent ministries! We have a strong worship service, led by some outstanding musicians. We should all be proud (in a good way) of Suz and Kristie and of all of our choirs, as well as the myriad others who bless us with their gifts in either the Saturday evening or Sunday morning services. Barb Paul and the Education Committee, along with the teachers and others, help plan some very well done programs for and with our children. The Youth Fellowship program is thriving under Laura's leadership, with an assist from Gene and a few other parents. And we have a congregation that

cares for one another and that enjoys fellowshiping together. The Mission Committee helps to keep us engaged outside of our walls. By all rights one would think that we would be attracting new people and showing signs of growth – and fifty years ago we would have been.

But the world around us has changed dramatically. Rural areas and small communities have been losing population, particularly younger people who have gone off to college and taken jobs in the cities. Even more problematic is the change that has swept across our culture. Where once the prevailing mores offered strong support for practices that encouraged church attendance that is no longer the case today. The decline of Christendom means that the church can no longer rely on outside forces to reach out to and engage people.

Carol Howard Merritt captures something of the change the church has experienced in yet another article from the Alban Institute. She writes:

"I cannot remember a time when the church was the hub of society and life. I was born in the 1970s, part of Generation X. I never lived in a church-centered world. When older members of my congregation tell me about it, I can imagine what it might have been like, just as I can envision a time when people went to church three times a week. But I have never lived in that reality. I've always been in a culture where church was a place my friends visited on Christmas Eve—and now even that tradition is beginning to fade."

We have no control over any of these changes, of course, *except* in how we choose to respond! It would be terribly easy to throw up our hands in despair, to just give up or give in. But we are entering into a season of the church year that ought to remind us that discouragement is NOT a faith-filled response. Easter is on the horizon, an event that, for those first disciples, represented yet another of God's incredible reversals! On Friday, as they watched their Lord being crucified upon a Roman cross everything had seemed lost. But on Sunday they learned that God wasn't finished yet, that God had something new in store for them.

So it is, I believe, for the Church. The challenges we face are not merely obstacles but also opportunities to listen and look to see how and where God is at work in the world today!

And just as our Lord's resurrection body differed from the one that had been entombed, so too will the Church likely look, and be, somewhat different in the decades ahead. Whatever shape it might take, Easter reminds us that God isn't finished yet!

In Christ,

Pastor Mark



**CHURCH COUNCIL
MINUTES
FAITH UNITED METHODIST
March 15, 2011**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Chairperson Jill Douglas. Jan Hammon opened with a devotional. Members present were: Carol Langdon, Mary Vickmark, Mary Grems, Pastor Mark Rader, Kathy Lucas, Jan Hammon, Jeff Kappers, Jill Douglas, Deanna Capelle, Barb Paul, and Arlynn Ness.

The minutes of the February 2011 meeting were read and approved. m/s/c

Financial Report: The financial report for the month of February was available for the Council to review. The 02/28/11 check book balance was \$7,602.28.

Correspondence: None reported.

Trustees: Jeff said that the trustees haven't met yet in March. He noted that some sidewalk repair will be necessary this spring.

Missions: The Youth will be helping with the Easter Breakfast this year. The Missions Committee will still need help with set up and clean up, so please sign up on the sheet on the bulletin board! Set up will be Saturday, April 24th from 2:00 pm until done. Judy Tart will do the cooking again this year; she will also order the food needs through the school. The money from the Easter breakfast will be split three ways: Mission Committee, Youth Group, and Pastors' Discretionary Fund.

Food for Kidz is being held Saturday, 04-02-11, at 10:00 am. The Mission Committee will donate \$100. There will be a sign up sheet on the bulleting board for teams to sign up to help. If you have questions, call Nancy Cornell at 346-2044.

Minnesota FoodShare: from the looks of the food at FUMC and other churches, it appears we are doing well with the donations. The Sunday School classes are also collecting.

Pacific Emergency: The Mission committee will be taking up a special collection each Saturday & Sunday during worship service during the month of March for UMCOR. Checks/Money can be dropped off in the offering plates, church office or in the mail.

Lenten Offering letter is written and will go out with the next newsletter. The offering will go to the World Service Fund to help meet our apportionment obligation.

Worship Committee: Carol reported the last meeting was held on 02-27-11. Lenten services were discussed as well as Holy Week services. Ash Wednesday service will be held in Cherry Grove, next four at FUMC, final one in Cherry Grove. Soup/buns will be served before each service.

The summer concerts will begin at 5:00 pm this year instead of 7:00 pm. The summer concert will replace the regular Saturday night 5:00 pm service on those nights. The earlier time was decided upon because of lighting issues in August especially.

Staff/Parish: Deanna reported the next SPRC meeting will be the 1st Tuesday in May.

Membership: Mary reported that total membership as of 03-15-11 is 329. There was one death in the past month: Hope Briggs.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Mark reported that Lent began on Ash Wednesday at Cherry Grove. Next four services will be at FUMC. The last service will be held at Cherry Grove again, as the Fountain UMC has decided that they would have difficulty hosting a service. The services will focus on Dimensions of Prayer as FUMC's NCD score on spiritual vitality was low.

Additional copies of Maxie Dunnam's Workbook on *Living Prayer* have been ordered, and upon their arrival, a date will be set for that prayer study.

Fountain UMC has said that they would like to be a part of a "Parish Newsletter". Leaders in Cherry Grove also appear supportive, but that church's council hasn't met yet to officially approve it.

The Saturday service continues to be up and down. The hope is that the attendance will rise as the weather improves.

The local chapter of Alcoholics Anonymous is looking for a new place to hold their weekly meetings. Representatives of the group met with Pastors Beth & Mark this past week. A proposal was made available to the Council.

CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES (continued)

Bishop Sally Dyck & our MAC Director of Congregational Development/Director of Council Ministries have been holding a series of meetings entitled the New Realities Conversation Road Tour. Pastors Mark & Beth attended an initial meeting late last Fall, and Pastor Mark attended a follow up meeting at Evangel UMC on Monday. Trends/changes in the church are being looked at and there are discussion on what it means to be the church in this new reality and how to be more effective.

Pastor Mark had a funeral at FUMC on 02-21-11. Pastor Beth had a funeral at FUMC on 03-12-11.

Pastor Mark met with the Wykoff UMC pastor this past week. They may be interested in doing some collaborative ministry with Faith & Cherry Grove, particularly with youth. (YF & maybe VBS)

The Cherry Grove Christian Education Team wants to set a date for VBS as soon as possible.

Education: There was roller skating in Harmony 03-18-11. There will be a Mother/Daughter Banquet on 04-09-11. Vacation Bible School will be held 06-11-11 and 06-12-11. Celebration Sunday will be 05-22-11. Preparations for Palm Sunday and Easter are in progress.

Youth: Laura had submitted a

written report. The youth have been meeting regularly every other week. There has been a great response from volunteers to provide meals for the youth. Each week there is fellowship time as well as a lesson. Gene Ramaker has been meeting with the group and has been a great asset. More volunteers are being sought. The "Safe Sanctuary" standards dictate that two adults must be present at all times.

April 2nd, the youth will be participating at the Food for Kids event in Stewartville, followed by a time of fellowship.

The Youth will be helping with Easter Morning breakfast.

Laura would like to determine how the finances for the youth fund work, how she is to access them, and how they are designated to be used.

Old Business: Jan said the Daycare plan was voted in, 5 to 3, by the Daycare Committee. A motion was made to offer space to Anna Krahn for her daycare operation. m/s/c More discussion was held on potential expenses that will, or may be, incurred by FUMC. A motion was made to authorize the Daycare Committee to negotiate with Anna Krahn on lease parameters. After discussion, the motion carried.

New Business: The request from the Alcoholics Anonymous group was discussed. (proposal available upon request) After discussion, a motion was made that FUMC would offer to host the AA group meetings, provided that

cigarette smoking materials will be disposed of by the AA group itself, with a smoking area on the island away from the church entrance. m/s/c

Mary Vickmark volunteered to share the devotional for the April Ad Council meeting, which is set for 04-12-11 at 7:00 pm.

Motion was made to adjourn at 8:32 pm. m/s/c

Respectfully submitted,
Arlynn Ness,
Co-Ad Council Secretary



all eternity.
By Joanna Fuchs

EASTER BREAKFAST

Committee members:

Mary Vickmark Chairperson, Nancy Cornell, , Jan Hammon, Arlene Johnson, Marilyn Matson & Marie Tart.

Second Chance

God always wants the best for us,
But in Eden we sinned; we really
blew it.

We disobeyed God's direct decree;
We separated from Him, and we
knew it.

You'd think we'd learn to behave
ourselves,

But through all time, we just kept
doing it;

Piling wrong on top of wrong,
Our punishment—we kept
accruing it.

Jesus came and changed all that;
He paid the price for all our sins;
When we repent and believe in
Him,

We change, and a better life
begins.

Easter stands for a second chance
For us to choose to put things
right;

If we repent, and really believe,
Our record is polished clean and
bright.

When Jesus rose from the dead
back then,

He guaranteed our
eternal life,

Reunited with God in heaven,
Free from tears and fears
and strife.

Easter ensures
paradise

For all of us, for
you and me;

We're reconciled to our Lord and
King For now and

This year the Easter Breakfast will be a Fund Raiser for the Missions Committee, The Youth Group & the Pastor's discretionary fund. We have changed the menu just a little. We will be serving:

- Scrambled eggs
- Sausage
- French Toast Sticks
- Fresh Fruit Bowl
- Coffee, Juice & Milk

This is the only fund raiser that Mission Committee does during the year. And see how hard Laura has been working to get the Youth Group going strong we wanted to share our bounty with the youth. They will be helping serve right after their wonderful Sunrise Service. Breakfast will start about 8 am. Please support our Mission Committee and Youth of Faith by Free Will Offering.

We have posted the Volunteer sign up sheets and the monetary donation sheet for items we need for the Easter Breakfast. Please Sign up soon so we will know what is needed both in the way of money for the food we order and help with the Breakfast. **Judy Tart** will be our Chef again this year and her willingness to help is greatly appreciated; remember to give her a big **Thank You** at the Easter Breakfast.

Be There. Be Hope.

UMCOR's mission is to alleviate human suffering—whether caused by war, conflict, or natural disaster—with open minds and hearts to all people.



UP- _____ DATE _____
ON MINNESOTA FOODSHARE:

The Sunday School Students are still collecting their pounds of Food for the food shelf. I will let you know The Winning Classroom. I will also let you know the approximate number of items the congregation collected during the month of March.

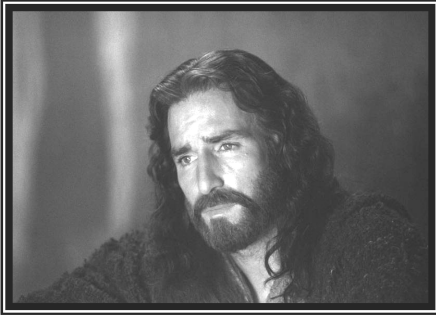
Thank you to everyone who has supported the Minnesota Food Share for 2011 and please remember we always have people in need of Food, shelter and clothing so please in these hard times remember our Spring Valley the Food Shelf.

PACIFIC EMERGENCY

In response to the earthquake that hit the Japan area on March 10th the United Methodist Committee on Relief or UMCOR will be working with local congregations to rebuild. Your donations to UMCOR will help. Please give generously.

A'CAPPELLA CHOIR

The Rust College A'Cappella Choir will be in concert at the Stewartville UMC on April 27th at 7:00 pm. Rust College provides quality education to primarily Blacks from the Deep South and poverty areas of the North. These deeply committed young Christians love to raise their voices to the love and their music will thrill and move you.



Join us
at the movies!
April 17, 2011
6:30 p.m.

“The Passion of the Christ”

Another movie will be shown during this time for small children as the movie listed above is not meant for small children viewing.

Join us for a great movie, popcorn and beverages.

Invite Friends or Come With Your family!

The Passion of the Christ is a 2004 film directed by Mel Gibson and starring Jim Caviezel as Jesus which depicts the Passion of Jesus largely according to the New Testament Gospels: Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John.

This film largely covers the final twelve hours of Jesus' life beginning with the Agony in the Garden and ending with a brief depiction of his Resurrection. Flashbacks of Jesus as a Child, when Jesus worked as a carpenter; and through His ministry are also included.



Palm Sunday Processional

The Sunday School students will be participating in the Palm Sunday Processional directly before the worship service on April 17th begins. They will also be singing during the service as well. Please be here by 8:45 a.m. if possible.



Adult Class Well Attended

Individuals who are attending the adult class as they study “Dying Well” with Rev. Burton have indicated that they have received so much good information and support that the class may continue beyond its originally scheduled six weeks. Class participation has been very good and well received by all. Rev. Burton not only encourages class participation; but accompanies it with scripture and hymn singing. Please feel free to join us on any given Sundays.

Vacation Bible School

Students from pre-school through sixth grade are encouraged to join us at Good Earth Village on Saturday, June 11th and Sunday morning, June 12th. This year’s theme is Circle of Friends Ranch as we get to know Jesus as our Friend. More information will be forthcoming after Easter. We are seeking older student and/or adult volunteers to assist us with the program.

Journey to the Cross



**Sunrise Worship Service
Easter Sunday
7:00 a.m.**

“The Ragman”
a drama given by the
Youth Sunday School class
and the
“Symbols of the Cross”
Narration and Music

A breakfast will be served
by the
Missions Committee
immediately after the service



RUTH CIRCLE

Ruth Circle met at the church on Thursday, March 17, 2011. Hostess was Lois Beving who served lunch with two soups, crackers, and dinner rolls. Jean Barnhart furnished dessert. Nine members and four guests were present.

The meeting was opened by Jean with devotion from the Daily Guideposts. The minutes for January were read and approved. Laurel gave the report for the Sunshine Fund. Today's collection will again be given to the Food Shelf and Laurel will make purchases. Jean thanked Pam, Marilyn Matson, Sonja, and Marie for helping with Meals on Wheels in February/March.

New Business—Ruth circle will be serving for next month's UMW meeting (April 13, 9:00 AM). We made plans as what to serve and who would furnish. Marilyn Matson will be hostess for next month's circle meeting on April 21.

The meeting was adjourned.

Each member gave their reading. Of interest was an e-mail message from Pam's stepson who lives in Tokyo, Japan, and his comments on what living in Tokyo is like at this time of crisis. We closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Submitted by,
Marie Tart



YOUTH EVENTS

April 2nd Youth will participate in a Food for Kidz Event 2:00pm-4:00pm then we will head to Rochester for dinner and Bowling @ Thunder Alley

April 10th Youth Group 5:00pm-7:00pm

April 24th Youth Group will be assisting with the Sunrise Service at 7:00 am

If you have any questions feel free to contact me at 919-971-9255 or lauraperez3@gmail.com.

Laura E. Perez

SATURDAY WORSHIP MUSIC FOR APRIL

- April 2 – Country at Heart
- April 9 – Cindy Seabright & Co.
- April 16 – Barb Mosher & Co.
- April 23 – No Saturday Service
Easter Weekend
- April 30 – Carla Ness & Co.

GOOD NEWS TO SHARE

Samantha Affeldt, daughter of Jody (Sanford) Kubista has made the dean's list for the fall semester with a GPA of 3.5. Samantha is majoring in the nursing program at Bemidji State University.

FUNDRAISER BRUNCH

A Fundraiser Brunch will be held at 11:00 am the Cherry Grove UMC on Sunday, April 17th following worship to raise money for VBS.

EASTER LILY

If you would like to contribute to our Easter Lily Garden this Easter season, please notify the church office of the person who the lily is in remembrance of. Thank you.

UMW MEETING

Call to Prayer and Self-Denial
April 13 at 9:00 a.m.
Program: Sarah Circle
Hostess: Ruth Circle

FOOD FOR KIDZ

The annual Food for Kidz (formerly Kids Against Hunger) food packaging event will take place in Stewartville on Saturday, April 2, from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. No experience necessary. No donation required. Sign up by the coffee window. Questions: Contact Nancy or Denny Cornell.



Faith United Methodist Church
 617 Maple Lane
 Spring Valley, MN 55975

Spring Valley, MN
 U.S. Postage Paid
 Permit #62
 Non-Profit
 Bulk Rate

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WE INVITE YOU TO WORSHIP WITH US DURING APRIL

April 2	5:00 pm	Saturday	Worship
April 3	9:00 am	Sunday	Worship
April 3	6:00 pm	Sunday	Cowboy Church in Cherry Grove
April 6	7:00 pm	Wednesday	Lenten Service at FUMC
April 9	5:00 pm	Saturday	Worship
April 10	9:00 am	Sunday	Worship
April 13	7:00 pm	Wednesday	Lenten Service at Cherry Grove UMC
April 16	5:00 pm	Saturday	Worship
April 17	9:00 am	Sunday	Worship—Palm Sunday
April 21	7:00 pm	Thursday	Maundy Thursday Service at Cherry Grove UMC
April 22	7:00 pm	Friday	Good Friday Service at FUMC
April 24	7:00 am	Sunday	Sunrise Service
April 24	9:00 am	Sunday	Easter Worship Service
April 30	5:00 pm	Saturday	Worship

