



# JANUARY 2012 MAPLE LEAF PARISH NEWS

## Cherry Grove UMC

18183 160th Street  
Spring Valley, MN 55975

Worship: 10:00 am Sunday  
Cowboy: 5:00 pm First Sunday

Pastors: Beth Perez & Mark Rader

Email: cgumc@frontiernet.net  
Phone: 1-507-937-3177

## Faith UMC

617 Maple Lane  
Spring Valley, MN 55975

Worship: 9:00 am Sunday  
Worship: 5:00 pm Saturday

Pastors: Mark Rader & Beth Perez

Email: faithunited@centurytel.net  
Phone: 1-507-346-2830  
Web: faithsv.net

## Fountain UMC

Cedar Street & County Road 8  
Fountain, MN 55935

Worship: 8:30 am Sunday

Pastors: Beth Perez & Mark Rader

Email: cgumc@frontiernet.net  
Phone: 1-507-268-4456  
Web: www.fountainumc.com

## FROM THE PASTOR

It's interesting, sometimes, to listen to someone who's been around for awhile talk about all they've seen and experienced. As they recount a particular time, or a decision they once made, they might even preface an observation with the words, "If I could do it all over again..." followed by a regret of some sort.

Of course we can't go back and "do it all over again." While that might make for an intriguing premise for a movie (remember Michael J. Fox in Back to the Future), for the most part we have to live with the choices we've made.

But while we can't go back, we *can* change course mid-stream. And so when we're not pleased with the place our choices have brought us to we can look for a new job, return to school to learn a new skill, move across country, or simply re-orient our priorities. Maybe that's one of the reasons why New Year celebrations carry so much meaning for some.

There is something appealing in the idea of leaving the past behind and pursuing a new, if somewhat unknown course.

The pursuit of that kind of change is also a central premise for those of us in the church. We see it in the gospels, when Jesus praises the change of heart and life – we call it repentance - that Zaccheus manifests in Luke 19. And Paul urges his readers to "lay aside the old self" and "put on the new self, which in the likeness of God has been created for righteousness and holiness" in Ephesians 4:24. We are a people who believe that regardless of what we've done, God is always willing to forgive and help us begin anew.

As we step into a new year then, with all of its possibilities, I hope you'll let God continue the work of re-creation within, that together we might become all that God has dreamed we might be.

In Christ,

*Pastor Mark*

## CHELSEY RAMAKER MISSION PRESENTATION

Chelsey Ramaker recently returned home following a three month school sponsored trip that culminated with a stay in South Africa. On Sunday, January 8<sup>th</sup>, she'll be sharing a little bit about her experiences during our 9 a.m. worship service. Be sure to join us that morning so that you can hear about her trip.

Inside this issue:	
Mark's Message	1
Cowboy Church	2
FUMC UMW	3
Christian Education	4
Youth News	5
Letter from Pastor Beth	
FUMC Council Minutes	6-7
Fountain UMC News	7-8
Cherry Grove Service Groups	9
Pre-Confirmation	10
Happy New Year!	

**Faith United Methodist Church**  
617 Maple Lane  
Spring Valley, MN 55975  
Web Page: [faithsv.net](http://faithsv.net)

Saturday evening worship 5:00 p.m.  
Sunday morning worship 9:00 a.m.  
Sunday School— all ages 10:00 a.m.  
Coffee & fellowship at 10:00 a.m.

**Office Hours:**

8:00 - 4:00 Tuesday through Friday

**Office Phone:**

507-346-2830; Fax: 507-346-2877

**Office E-mail:**

[faithunited@centurytel.net](mailto:faithunited@centurytel.net)

**Pastor Mark Rader:**

Phone: 346-2878

Email: [faithpas@centurytel.net](mailto:faithpas@centurytel.net)

**Pastor Beth Perez**

Phone: 259-4553

Email: [bethperez@myclearwave.net](mailto:bethperez@myclearwave.net)

**Youth Director Laura Perez**

Phone: 507-352-9522

Email: [lauraperez3@gmail.com](mailto:lauraperez3@gmail.com)

**Secretary:**

Louise Winfield

**Custodian:**

Paul Eberle

**Organist:**

Suzanne Eberle

**Bell Choir Dir.**

Kathy Casady

**Choir Pianist:**

Kristie Shorter

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## NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The newsletter deadline for February 2012 will be Friday, January 20th at 4:00 pm.

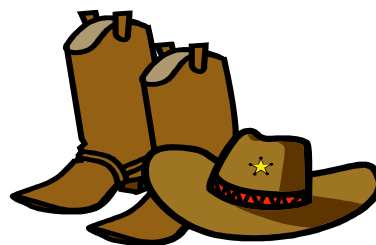
If you would like to email your announcements or articles the address is [faithunited@centurytel.net](mailto:faithunited@centurytel.net). Thank you.

## FUMC - SERVICE GROUP

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.

## JANUARY 2012

*Twyla Hellickson	421-9179
*Rusty & Kelly Hellickson	346-2873
Pauline Carson	346-7569
Bryan & Jody Hagan	346-7253
Jimmie & Roberta Heckerson	346-2242
Rev. Burton & Sonja Hoag	378-2371
Evan & Sandy Hulbert	346-2355
Darly Lecy	346-2747
Gail Rollie	272-6882
Cyndy Sheldon	346-2860
Iola Tompson	346-7518



## COWBOY CHURCH

Beginning in January we'll be moving the starting time for Cowboy Church up one hour, so our next service will be Sunday January 1<sup>st</sup>, News Years Day, at 5:00 p.m.

Pastor Charles Schaal from Minnesota Cowboy Ministries, who has played with our band the past two months, will be our guest preacher for this service. Pastor Schaal hails originally from East Texas, though he pastored in Minnesota for a time and also sang tenor for the group "Sounds of Praise" in SE Minnesota. On weekends his ministry takes him to Rodeos and competitions around Minnesota, where he serves as a chaplain of sorts to folks who might not otherwise find themselves in a worship service on Sunday mornings.

## FUMC UMW

December 7, 2011, 11:30 a.m.

UMW members and spouses met at 11:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall for a potluck Christmas dinner. Following the dinner, 12 members met in the Fireside Room for the meeting. Darlene Vrieze, chairperson, called the meeting to order.

**Secretary's Report** - The Secretary's Report of October 12, 2011, was read. Vivian Drinkall moved the report be approved, Jean Barnhart seconded, motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report** - The Treasurer's Report of October and November 2011 was read, Betty Bernard moved to approve it, Dianne TerMaat seconded, motion carried. Darlene Vrieze reported that Louise Winfield and Marie Tart received the Recognition pins. Also down this year were the disbursements. The Bakeless Bake Sale netted \$750.00 and the money was placed in apportionments.

Dianne TerMaat reported Gene Ramaker is getting prices on carpets.

Changes in our upcoming Program booklet were to be reported to Darlene Vrieze. Sarah Circle will meet on Mondays in 2012. Sarah Circle delivered Meals-on-Wheels the week of December 5th.

Next UMW Meeting - February 8, 2012 at 9 a.m. - workday.

Dianne TerMaat moved the meeting adjourn, Marilyn Matson seconded, meeting adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

Shirley Hyland, Secretary

## THANK YOU

A great big "Thank You" for all the prayers, cards, food, rides, and phone calls I received from all of you. I finished my first round of treatment on December 5th and am finally gaining back some strength. I am feeling much better.

God Bless,  
Kathy Lucas

As we celebrate Christmas and the birth of Christ Jesus, we are reminded even more of the blessings God continues to shower upon us. A blessing to us is everyone's continued support to ALS with your monetary donations/baked goods and coming to purchase items from our Bake Sale. To our loyal team of Judy Sanford, Sheryl Strain, Pam Eickhoff, Tina and Rachel Thompson, who supply baked goods and come early to work the day of the sale, we are so appreciative of what you each do. Our sons, Mike and Dan were here to provide extra help with the event. All of everyone's combined effort make the Bake Sale a great success! Thank you so much!

We had a nice variety of goodies to sell again and along with the sled and ranger raffle tickets we had a total of \$2,815, that is not the final total as we still have raffle tickets to sell until the end of the year.

Our wish is for everyone to have a very Blessed Christmas and a prosperous New Year!

Sam & Gloria Blakeslee

## CLOTHING/DISHES

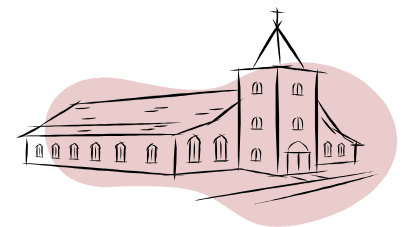
Please check at the church for dishes or coats that may be yours as we will be donating them to Salvation Army soon.

## SNOW REMOVAL

Dean Benter would like to do some snow removal jobs in Spring Valley. His phone number is 507-226-3334, you can email him at [bnttree@yahoo.com](mailto:bnttree@yahoo.com), or see him after church on Sunday.

## CONTRIBUTIONS

New offering envelopes for 2012 will be available soon. Please throw away the old envelopes as the numbers change each year. Thank you.



## ROOF LOAN PAID IN FULL!

Thanks to your generous gifts, we were able to retire the roof loan on November 15<sup>th</sup>, a few months ahead of schedule. We're hopeful that it will continue to serve us well for the next several years! With this mortgage behind us we'll need to begin to have some conversations about some other much needed upgrades to our facility.

# FUMC CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

# *Thank you!*

We want to extend..... our thanks to everyone who made the 2011 Christmas program at Faith so successful; especially to the parents and the support you give to your young children; to Gene and Jeff who used their carpentry skills (much like the carpenters in Nazareth) to extend the “stage”; to Dave S. and Jeff for the sound/DVD systems; to Judy Thomas and Judy Tart for utilizing their expertise in the kitchen; again to the Sunday School teachers who worked with their students on their parts and who helped with the organization of the event and Melissa and Suz who belong in the Music Hall of Fame, not only for their talents and abilities (along with many of our congregation’s musicians), but for their patience. We so appreciate the support demonstrated with everyone’s attendance at the program as well, particularly when your own children/grandchildren aren’t in the program. You just gotta love those “angels”, everyone!

## **What’s Your New Year’s Resolution.....**

For many, the beginning of a new year is a time of reflection, assessment and setting of goals. January first is like getting a clean sheet of paper with which to write on. We have a sense of renewal and a new energy that speaks to our gut saying, “Do it better this year!”

Many *New Year’s Resolutions* are the same for most people. They have to do with weight loss, exercise, financial gain, quitting bad habits and starting good ones. Do you have any spiritual resolutions for this year? God’s word is full of people just like you and me who determined some things about themselves spiritually and worked at them. Let’s look at some of those resolutions from men and women of faith and see how we can benefit from their example.

\* Lois and Eunice determined to teach their children and grandchildren about God (2 Tim. 1:5).

\* Daniel made a habit of praying 3 times a day (Dan. 6:10).

\* Jonah did like most of us who set out on goals. He went backwards before he went forwards (Jonah 1:1-3; 3:1-3)

\* Paul had accomplished much, but pressed on to his goal (Phil. 3:12-14). Some of you are those rare individuals who set goals and accomplish them with flying colors. You are the ones who see opportunities, not obstacles. We all can take a lesson from Paul in not dwelling on the past, but looking forward to things to come. It is easy to sit back and see all the good things you have accomplished and feel satisfaction. Don’t let that slow you down from growing more, helping others, and finishing your race! ---  
Michael Cawthon

**Attend the adult Sunday School class!** Take your cup of coffee and treat into the classroom and discuss the writings of Mark! It may have been written over two thousand years ago...but it still relates to our lives today!

## YOUTH NEWS

We are starting a New Year and we are very excited to keep our program growing. Youth group is open to all youth 6th grade- 12th grade. Meetings consist of some fun and fellowship time, sharing a meal together, a short lesson (currently based on a study series in which we are learning to grow in our Spiritual Development and re-evaluate where we stand in our relationship with Christ), and of course crazy games. If you would like more information about our program please contact our Youth Director: Laura Perez at [lauraeperez3@gmail.com](mailto:lauraeperez3@gmail.com) (don't forget the E between Laura and Perez ;- ) or call me at 919-971-9255 cell or home 507-352-9255.

### Youth Group Needs:

- 1) Looking for new members..... please just drop in or contact Laura for more information.
- 2) Looking for adult volunteers. We need some adults who are willing to have fun and want to help foster positive relationships with the future of the church. There is no commitment necessary, just volunteer to participate once in a while and let your life be changed as well as theirs.
- 3) The youth room is in need of a Mini refrigerator. We would like to set up a little fridge in the youth room to keep our stuff separate and not infringe on space in the kitchen area. Please talk to Laura if you have one you are willing to donate .
- 4) Looking for volunteers to provide a meal. Cook a simple meal for 6-8 people on a Sunday evening for a youth meeting. You do not need to participate in the meeting unless you choose too.

January Youth Meetings:  
January 15th 5:00- 7:00pm  
January 29th 5:00- 7:00pm

Laura E. Perez

Dear Friends,

Around Christmas time, I always feel like a little kid; the anticipation of all that takes place at Christmas just stirs my soul. I see joy in the faces of people. As I drive the kids around, their eyes sparkle with delight at the beautiful Christmas lights and guess what? I react just like they do. The joy of Christmas can, many times, penetrate through the sorrows that we may be dealing with. I'm not unaware that within our church families, many are dealing with pain and hurts and illnesses that may appear hopeless. So how can I say that Christmas can penetrate through the suffering? Because God offers us the gift of the season, Jesus. And in Jesus, God offers hope.

This is what I look forward to as we celebrate our Christmas Eve services in the parish: For me (and I hope for you as well), it is wonderful to hear the music of peace and hope and love; the music feeds my soul. It is wonderful to see the faces of people whom I haven't seen in a while. I am delighted to welcome them to church, to welcome them into our time of worship and it is most important, that we welcome them into our hearts. They are gifts to our faith family that come to us at Christmas. And I am delighted to hear the story of Christmas once again. Hearing it again and again assures me that God is unchanging and that we can continue to anticipate His coming.

My prayer is that as we welcome the year of our Lord, 2012, we will keep that joy in our hearts.....and remember Christmas throughout the year!

With joy, love and hope,

*Pastor Beth*



A message from Linda Kappers, Cherry Grove Church

I will be enlisting volunteers to serve as ushers and greeters for the months of January, February and March. If you prefer to serve during either any of these months, please contact me at 507-937-3704 or in person.

# FUMC

## Council Minutes

### December 20, 2011

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

A motion was made to approve the November minutes. m/s/c

**Finance:** Jam reported that the 11/30/11 checkbook balance was \$3,281.08. The roof loan is paid in full with an excess of funds in the amount of \$1,193.68 still remaining in the "roof fund". A decision will need to be made as to how to best use these funds. The apportionment balance is \$12,318.76. A total of \$14,485.23 has been sent to the Conference.

**Membership:** Mary reported for November that Dean Benter joined 11-12-11 by letter of transfer from Wesley UMC located in Vinton IA. Brenda, Kayla and Camille O'Connell have moved and withdrawn their memberships. Total full membership for November was 323. On 10-22-11 Jackson Ray Fisher, child of Jenna (Larson) and Caleb Fisher was baptized.

Mary reported for December's meeting that Blanche Root passed away 11-15-11. On 12-07-11 Doug, Shari and Jarid Wessels withdrew their memberships. Total membership as of December 2011 is 320.

**2012 Budget:** Pastor Mark presented the budget for 2012; however,

he explained that there are a couple of corrections that need to be made to the Pastors' salaries. The Ad Council chose to approve all salaries for staff, as shown in the budget, with the exception of the Pastors' salaries which were already approved at Charge Conference. A motion was made to that effect. m/s/c The rest of the budget will be reviewed and approved at the January '12 meeting.

**Congregational Vitality:** Pastor Mark reported that beginning 01-01-12 FUMC will be expected to make weekly reports on five metrics of "congregational vitality" that will track our actual numbers against goals that FUMC will set.

**These metrics shall include:**

1. Average weekend worship attendance
2. Professions of Faith (this is an annual number rather than weekly)
3. The number of small groups, Sunday School classes, and Bible studies
4. The number of members who are engaged in local, national and international mission/outreach activities.

The total amount given by a local church to other organizations for support of benevolent and charitable ministries (this amount includes apportionments paid and support for all United Methodist and non-United Methodist organizations active in work such as advocacy, education, health, justice, mercy, outreach and welfare anywhere in the world.

Pastor Mark reported that the Conference is requesting FUMC is to set projections/goals for a four year period in regard to these metrics. The Ad Council decided form a sub-committee to work on these goals

and present them to the next Ad Council meeting.

Pastor Mark reported that FUMC has been asked by the conference to pledge to the "Imagine No Malaria" campaign for 3-5 years. After discussion, a motion was made to pledge \$1/member/year for three years based on this year's membership number. The amount will be paid out of the budget. Any donations made by individuals will be above and beyond FUMC's annual pledge amount. m/s/c

**Education:** Barb reported that the Sunday School Christmas Program went very well, and plans are underway to set up new activities for 2012.

**Worship:** Carol reported that the paraments made by Lois Beving and Gloria Blakeslee were consecrated at the 12-18-11 worship service. Christmas services will be held at 4:00 pm and 7:30 pm on Christmas Eve. There will be a regular 9:00 am worship service on Sunday, 12-25-11. There will not be a coffee hour as the kitchen will be in use getting ready for the annual Christmas Dinner.

**SPRC:** Deanna reported that all staff evaluations have been completed. She also said that Stu Gross will be SPRC chair in 2012.

**Pastor's Report:** Pastor Mark reported that "Christmas Is Not Your Birthday" has been the theme of our Advent and Christmas sermon series this year in all three congregations. Pastors Mark and Beth have been using this series to promote the UMC's *Imagine No Malaria* campaign.

**FUMC  
Council Minutes  
(continued)**

A handful of gifts and pledges have begun to come in. The Conference is asking each congregation to pledge to the campaign. This can be based upon pledges from members.

Pastors Mark and Beth will be starting FUMC's pre-confirmation classes in January 2012. They will offer the material in two sections. The first part will be on the United Methodist Church, and this will be offered at 7:00 pm on Wednesday evenings at the church beginning 01-04-12. Pastor Mark and Pastor Beth will teach this segment. The second section, on the history and beliefs of the Church Universal, will be taught on Sunday mornings at 8:00 am (before worship) during Lent by Barb Paul with help from others in order to avoid conflicting with our Wednesday evening Lenten services.

FUMC has been experiencing some scheduling conflicts with the Scouts. Three times this year Laura and the Youth have come for YF only to find the Scouts using the building even though they were not on FUMC's calendar, forcing FUMC's youth to confine themselves to the Youth room. An email was sent out to their leaders reminding them that ALL of their meetings and activities must be scheduled in advance in order to avoid conflicts.

Pastor Beth has a wedding to perform on 12-28-11.

A few final pledges are still trickling in from the Fall Stewardship

Campaign (begun on 10-30-11). As of the beginning of December, twenty six of the pledges reflected increases from 2011 giving.

Chelsea Ramaker has returned from her mission trip overseas. Pastor Mark reported that he has asked her to share her experiences with the congregation on 01-08-12 before she returns back to college on 01-09-12.

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:** Jeff reported that FUMC still has four rolls of new carpet available for use which is currently stored in the back room. He proposed using some of this carpet to be used in Louise's office and Pastor Mark's office as the carpeting in both offices is in very poor shape. After discussion, a motion was made to do this, and to pay for the cost of laying the existing carpet from the excess roof funds. m/s/c

Pastor Mark reported that FUMC has received a \$5,000 gift this past week.

It was discussed that there are a couple of projects that are on the top of the priority list for FUMC: (1) repairing the cracks in the exterior cement blocks, and (2) new flooring in the fellowship hall.

Jeff reported that he checked into obtaining four mic stands and found that we can purchase four for approximately \$200. After discussion a motion was made to purchase four mic stands for approximately \$200 from Schmidt Music. m/s/c.

Devotions for the January meeting will be given by Arlynn Ness or Jill Douglas.

A motion was made to adjourn at approximately 8:00 pm. m/s/c

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**VACATIONS**

Louise will be out of the office January 17-20th for vacation.

Pastor Beth will be out of the office January 20-29th for vacation.

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**NEWS FROM  
FOUNTAIN UMC**

On Saturday, December 10<sup>th</sup>, the Fountain UMW held our annual bake sale and white elephant gifts and special craft items for sale. The table was full, but items disappeared quickly as customers chose what they wanted and paid our treasurer. We also had a very tasty lunch for people to buy. It included: barbeques, hot dogs, pie and bars, coffee and milk. And the Fish Pond was a great success too! A special thank you goes out to Dane Gillespie (Joann's grandson) and their exchange student, Jeremiah for helping with the Fish Pond. It was greatly appreciated! Jerry (as he wants to be called) is from Kenya, Africa. He has had a challenge to adjust to the weather! Luckily for him we have had a mild winter so far. Dane is hoping for snow so he can take Jerry sledding.

What a joyful time it was when Santa came to Fountain! There was a very festive air around the Fountain Community Center that day. It seemed to be enjoyed by all attending. What more could you ask for – Food, Santa – Drawings for turkeys.....and children drawing! If you missed it, we hope to see you next year.

Joann Gillespie

## FOUNTAIN NEWS

Merry Christmas everyone, from Fountain UMC and Fountain UM Ladies. I don't have a degree in journalism, nor have I ever taken any creative writing classes (unless you count high school). But I thought I would try to write the Fountain UMC and Fountain UM Ladies news in paragraph form. I might do this every month, or not, depending on what news there is to report, and if I have any creative thoughts that month. Live like a lion, not like a lamb. Soooooo-----

Merry Christmas everyone! December can be a busy month, with shopping, parties, school programs, decorating and baking. Fountain UMC had their Sunday school program on 12/11/2011. There were five children in the program, Aiden Arnold, Kiley Wingert, Hunter and Tyler Wingert, and Audrey Arnold who entertained us all. Thanks to Shirley Traft, and Steve and Sheila Arnold, who planned and helped the children present the program. Afterwards bars and hot chocolate were served in the fellowship room with lots of good conversation. Thanks to Steve Arnold for getting and setting up the tree and the Sunday school children for decorating the sanctuary.

On Dec. 14<sup>th</sup> Fountain UW Ladies met at Leona Cambern's with her daughter -in- law Sarah Cambern co-hosting for our Christmas party, potluck, and Secret Santa exchange. I was unable to attend (I haven't missed a Christmas party since I started going to ladies aid, I won't say how long as that would give away my long kept secret). But I was told the food was filling, the conversation was lively, (can you

guess which members that would be?) and the gift exchange brought lots of joy.

Continue to think of and say a little prayer for the special people in our church, Alice Winslow, Darliene Ask, Marjie Earley, F.J. and Beverly Wingert, Willie Cambern, Phillip and Char Goldsmith, Phillip's mother passed away, Jan and Jim Earley, Jan's mother passed away, and Marjie Earley's son-in-law.

A big prayer for the farmers wives (bookkeepers) who are probably getting ready to do tax estimates. I am sure there are a few of you who can relate.

And for people who travel during the holiday season.

We wish Shirley and Elmer Traft the best with starting a new chapter in their life. Thank you, for all you have done for our church, Sunday school and ladies aids. Be sure to keep in touch. You will truly be missed!

Fountain UM Ladies gave money to me (if you want to give me money I will take it no questions asked) but they did tell me it was so I could shop for some children in Fillmore county. The program is called "Christmas in Fillmore Country" and what we do is have someone in ladies aid buy Christmas gifts for the children who otherwise might not have a Christmas. So I bought gifts with the help of my daughter Loni, and took them to Preston so they could be delivered to the children. I think we got some nice things; we were able to buy what was on their list.

The Fountain UM Ladies had their craft, bake sale, and luncheon on Dec. 10. Thank you to Kayla for making the flyers to distribute around to the different towns and to the ladies who hung them around the towns. We had a nice turn out for the craft, bake sale and luncheon. Good assortment of bake goods to choose from.

Some special people are celebrating birthdays in January, so wish them a happy birthday if you see them around town. They are Darliene Ask Jan. 9<sup>th</sup>, Shirley Wingert Jan. 18<sup>th</sup>, Oliver Amundson Jan. 18<sup>th</sup>, and Jerry Wingert Jan. 22<sup>nd</sup>.

January is a slower month for some. The hustle and bustle is pretty much done. The snow has settled in, we are getting used to having to wear extra layers or maybe not.

Fountain UM Ladies do not meet in January. But we do meet in February for **PIE**, (and if you want a sandwich) at the Village Square. So watch for the date and time.

Reminder: If you have news you would like in the newsletter, about church, family events, Prayer concerns or Prayer joys, or if you would like your birthday or anniversary in the newsletter. Please let me know by email [bluval0404@yahoo.com](mailto:bluval0404@yahoo.com) or leave a message on my home phone 507-765-4771.

Have a safe and Happy New Year!  
Peace be with you,

Tracy

Dear Members and Friends of Cherry Grove Church,

We are trying something new in 2012 in an effort to support the ministries of Cherry Grove church. We've put together work groups (teams) to allow for coverage of all events and services that might take place throughout the year, such as funerals or fund-raising events.

Below you will find the assigned work groups. Please keep in mind that this is something new to our church family and would very much appreciate your understanding in this trial run. If it is your desire not to participate in your work group, please contact your chairperson. If the time assigned does not work for you, we would ask that you make arrangements to trade with someone else and report the change to your chairperson. If the Administrative Council votes to have the 4th of July Fundraiser and the October Pork Dinner in 2012, they will be an "all church event" and not apply to the work groups. We've included some non-members, who are considered "friends or constituents" who might like to help out from time to time. Men are included because they are a vital part of the life of the church. If we inadvertently did not include someone and you would like to be included, please let us know by calling Beth Mulhern at (507) 346-7511 or Janice Mensink at (507) 937-3438.

Work group responsibilities are as follows: last Sunday of each month fellowship time after worship, Cowboy Church fellowship, funerals, Lenten Services held in Cherry Grove, graduation and confirmation teas and anything that may come up in the church's life. Each event in your time frame will call for a varied number of helpers; therefore you will not have to be available to cover each event. Prayerfully consider saying "yes" when called upon to help or furnish goodies.

### **WORK GROUPS – 2012 CHERRY GROVE CHURCH**

#### **January – March**

**Chairpersons: Gene & Beth Mulhern  
(507) 346-7511**

**Steve & Andrea Atwood**

**Natalie Atwood**

**Darin & Tracy Bicknese**

**Mo & Linda Feshami**

**Chuck & Joann Forland**

**David & Luann Garrison**

**Bob & Deb Leutink**

**Marlo & Janice Mensink**

**Corey & Holly Sanford**

**Johanna Vreeman**

**Mat & Carrie Vreeman**

#### **April - June**

**Chairpersons: Richard & Cheryl Serfling  
(507) 765-2420**

**Richard & Joan Bessingpas**

**Bryan & Jenny Boland**

**Sandy Cole**

**Reid Forland**

**Ryan & Angela Forland**

**Gene & Linda Kappers**

**John Kappers**

**Larry & Irene Mathison**

**Paul Mathison**

**Russell & Leona Nagel**

**Bernis Root**

**Bryan & Michelle Root**

**Nathan & Jolene Serfling**

**Vicki Serfling**

#### **July – September**

**Chairpersons: Denny & Peggy Brusse  
(507) 765-4489**

**Ronnie & Linda Boland**

**Charles Fravel**

**Phil & Lynette Grabau**

**Joe & Corrine Hamre**

**Tom & Mary Lou Howard**

**Joe & Ermilee Ihns**

**Roger & Luann Jones**

**Janette Kappers**

**Duane & Arlys Michener**

**Tom & Marcia Nagel**

**Donny & Marlys Ruesink**

**Dave & Kim Runde**

**Art & Lori Scheevel**

**Steve & Karyl Tammel**

**Roy & Marcella Tibbals**

#### **October – December**

**Chairpersons: John & Bernie Finke  
(507) 937-3242**

**Harry & Elaine Boland**

**Terry Brusse**

**Carol Carlson & Steve Holm**

**Curt & Joan Dotzenrod**

**David Hebrink**

**Phil & Jane Hebrink**

**Deb Kappers**

**Todd Kappers**

**Harlan & Harriet Mensink**

**Gary Michener & Roxie Niemeyer**

**Lois & Chanda Nagel**

**Bob & Kelly Peshel**

**Roger Sanford**

**Sheldon & Carol Stockdale**

**Lynn & Roxie Tienter**



## Maple Leaf Parish

- **Cherry Grove UMC**
  - **Fountain UMC**
  - **Faith UMC**
- 617 Maple Lane  
Spring Valley, MN 55975

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## PRE-CONFIRMATION CLASSES

This January we'll be starting our pre-confirmation classes at Faith Church. We generally prefer to wait until students are in the eighth grade to start pre-confirmation, though we will allow a youngster who is in seventh grade into the program if there are no other students in their class at the church.

The program will be offered in two sections this year. The first part, on the United Methodist Church, will be offered at 7 PM on Wednesday evenings at the church beginning January 4th. Pastor Mark and Pastor Beth will teach this segment. The second section, on the history and beliefs of the Church Universal, will be taught on Sunday mornings at 8:00 AM (before worship) during Lent by Barb Paul with help from others in order to avoid conflicting with our Wednesday evening Lenten services. Please put these classes on your calendars.