

Faith in Action



From the Administrative Council

Dear Friends in Christ,

A wonderful opportunity presents itself to our congregation at Faith United Methodist. An opportunity to dream and put into action God's plan for our church. The event sparking this opportunity is the generous estate gift from Betty and Warren Miller. To provide a brief recap, Faith UMC is the beneficiary of \$400,000 from their estate. Mr. and Mrs. Miller stipulated that \$10,000 go to Faith's Boy Scout Troop, Troop 158, with an additional \$50,000 set aside for scholarships administered by Faith UMC members.

The church will also realize additional funds from the sale of their home. The Administrative Council has been undertaking a careful and thoughtful process to determine how to determine what to do with this wonderful gift. Advice was sought from the Nebraska United Methodist Foundation and our District Superintendent, Alan Davis. We asked them about other congregations which had similar blessings of large gifts and how each went about the process of deciding the disposition of the large gift they received.

We received valuable advice from all parties, and all parties advised the congregation and the Administrative Council not to be in a rush to make a decision. Many forms of decision making were considered by the Administrative Council: from taking a general vote amongst the membership, to electing representatives from the membership to make the decision, to flipping a coin - - all valid forms of decision making. At the May meeting the Council voted to utilize Consensus Building as the church's process to shape what our church will be in the future and how we can use these resources to get there. A brief description of the consensus process accompanies this letter (on page 4) to assist in describing consensus and the consensus process. A consensus building facilitator has been engaged to assist the membership in the consensus process. Larry Jess, originally from eastern Nebraska, is a retired public school educator and a life-long member of the United Methodist Church. He will lead the consensus building session or sessions at no cost to Faith. There are a few items remaining for the Administrative Council to consider, such as selecting a date or dates for the session(s). Dates and details will be announced and well advertised to the entire congregation via Newsletter, Sunday Bulletin, and announcements during church services. Not many churches get to experience this type of situation. We are travelling through uncharted waters and, collectively, we will work toward decisions to further the mission of the United Methodist Church, "To make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world." Please feel free to speak with any Administrative Council member if you have any questions or call me at 233-5539.

On behalf of the Administrative Council,
Karen McBride, Chairman

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Receive your newsletter in **COLOR** via email!

Send your email address to faithumc@kdsi.net.

Ad Council Members

- Penny Buettner
- Suzann Christensen
- Marie Danburg
- Sue Divan
- Carolyn Forney
- Roene Fox
- Annette Froid
- Kathy Garrelts
- Kyle Garrelts
- Pat Garrelts
- Doug Jesch
- Kathy Larson
- Otto Lohrenz
- Lee McQueen
- Jon Obermiller
- Michelle Reed
- Dayla Rhodus
- Chuck Sadler
- Mary Helen Samp
- Roger Townsend
- Sandy Townsend
- Thelma Wise

Many Thanks for all the prayers, visits and delicious food brought to our house after my surgery. It was so greatly appreciated. Special thanks to Pastor Michelle and Michael for the many visits and calls. Our God overwhelms us with His incredible goodness. ~ Betty Hagan

Dear Members of FUMC,
Thank you all for this wonderful prayer quilt. God Bless everyone of you and thank you for keeping me in your thoughts. Take care!
~Devlin Isaac



Faith UMC, Thank you for allowing us to use your van for our mission trip to Kansas City. We had a lot of fun helping those in need. We could not have done it without your generous donation. With your help, we were able to package macaroni, help at a free garage sale, paint walls, sort donations & tear down ceiling and walls. Thanks again!
~ Gateway District Youth

Thank you to all who made and prayed over such a cheerfully colored 'therapy' blanket. I will feel the power of your prayers rising up around me every time I snuggle in it. Your hearts and hands reach out to many and I am so thankful to be one of them. God bless you and may your hearts be as full as mine!
~ Vicki Bove (Vicki got her stem cell transplant at the end of June)



4 Archie & Judy Holoubeck	5 Dean & Marcia Dahlke		10 Michael & Denise Streeter	
12 Rich & Annette Froid	13 Robb & Lee Carter	16 Dan & Rachel Brown	17 Rick & Jodi Pettit	17 Greg & Michelle Reed
18 Levi & Samantha Ramer	19 Bryan & Julie Royle	21 Ed & Sherry Foley	26 Lee & Patty McQueen	31 Henry & Kathy Brisbin

- 1- Lorraine Mason
Ross Finley
Dan Schriener
- 2- Thelma Wise
Kayla Rains
- 3- Gladys Henderson
- 4- Happy Macwan
- 6- Terry Holoubeck
Ronald Cox
Nolan Johnson
Avery Webster
- 7- Chris Vasquez
- 8- Pat Bailey
Kerri Miller
- 10- Leah Isaac

12- Ruth Chism
13- Carol Reicheneker
Mattie Curtiss

17- Katelyn Slack
14- Roene Fox
Abigail Henderson

- 16- Joel Gargan
- 18- Virginia Christian
- 20- Michell Fox
Melissa Fox
- 24- Jo Jones
- 25- Megan Herman
Taryn Miller
- 27- Ron Loebig
- 28- Dan Odens
Lora Chandler
- 29- Greg Reed
Devlin Isaac
- 30- Alex Johnson
Alex Vasquez



Nurse's Notes



Healthy Living ~ Tips for Aging Well

Get Involved

Join a book club, your community center or volunteer. Find something that interest you and pursue it. The more you are able to get out in the community and stay involved, the healthier and better you will feel.

Exercise your mind

If you don't use your mind, it will atrophy just like the muscles in your body. To keep your mind sharp, do crossword or jigsaw puzzles. Read books and newspapers. Play scrabble. Plant a garden.

Exercise your body

Whatever your range of motion, there are plenty of exercises that you can do. Try to walk every day. If you get tired, sit in a chair and try shadowboxing or lifting some light weights.

Pay attention to your posture

When you slouch, you put pressure on your spine, neck, shoulders, even your hips and legs! Standing up straight will help you to move and breathe easier.

Stay hydrated

Older adults are particularly vulnerable to dehydration, so be sure to drink plenty of fluids even if you do not feel particularly thirsty. Eight 8oz glasses of water a day will help you to stay energetic and alert.

1 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. 2 Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters...



*10 God called the dry ground "land", and the gathered waters he called "seas". And God saw that it was good.
~ Genesis*

Consensus Building

What Exactly is Consensus?

Consensus is a decision making process which equalizes power over a group of people. Instead of simply voting for an item, and having the majority of the group get their way, the groups has to sit down and get a solution to a problem that EVERYONE is ok with. People take different ideas and we see how we feel about them. The solution that the group thinks is the most positive gets chosen, unless a member of the group finds the solution totally unacceptable. Consensus is base on compromise, and the ability to find common ground.

Why Would We Want to Use Consensus?

Consensus is a system that promotes participation because each person has the power to make changes in the system, and to prevent changes that they find unacceptable. People are often inactive because they feel that they have no power in the system and their voice won't be listened to. (Isn't that why so few people vote in most industrial democracies?). Imagine if corporations has to have consensus from a community to build a plastic factory near them, or an incinerator. Shouldn't this be what happens regularly? Since consensus would give everyone power to have their voice be heard, it would force people to listen to each other, and answer the concerns instead of moving past them.

But What's Wrong with a Majority Rule System?

The majority rule system is et up to have a winner and a loser. This promotes conflict and lends itself to steamrolling an idea over a minority that dissents with the majority opinion. People in a majority rule system don't need to listen to the dissenting minority or take their opinion seriously because they can simply outvote them. Majority rule systems say that the majority is infallible and they have nothing to learn from the minority. There is no moral system at work with a majority rule system and there is nothing to say that the majority of people will come up with a morally acceptable system.

But We Wouldn't Be Able to Accomplish Anything!

Well, this isn't exactly true. Using consensus based decisions the Iroquois nation managed their land and people very effectively. More recently, the Zapatista network in southern Mexico has been using consensus decision-making with everyone 16 and over participating. Any proposal by the Mexican Gov't has been endlessly discussed by each small village in the Zapatista network until everyone agrees. The decision to wage war, and then continue after the Mexican Gov't made some initial concessions was done consensually with a 98.2% approval. Consensus has also been used at 300 person anti-nuclear protests and during all sorts of activities. It is an all-inclusive form of decision-making that everyone can walk away from comfortable and satisfied with the outcome.

Be Honest, What Are the Bad Things About Consensus?

Since it is a lengthier process to hash out ideas until all objections are resolved, your group meetings might be a bit longer and some proposals might regularly take more than a week to decide. Also, since some proposals may be just shot down without hope of compromise, consensus sometimes favors the status quo.



**Chancel Choir
Practice**
Summer
Break

CCF Helpers

We're on Summer
Break!

Enjoy your summer,
see you back here in
September!

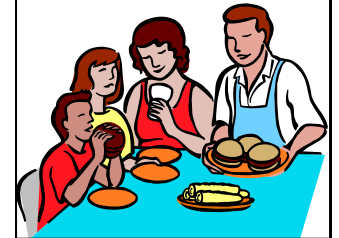


CCF

Summer
Break

Community Meal

July 29,
2012



USHERS

THIS MONTH

8:45 AM

1 - Rick & Jacque Triplett

Scripture - Penny Buettner

8 - Steve & Suzann Christensen and

Scripture - Keith Danburg

15 - Kathy Larson

Scripture - Lee Carter

22 - Dan & Rachel Brown Family

Scripture - Zeanna Odens

29 - TBD

Scripture - Annette Froid

11:00 AM

1 -

Scripture -

8 -

Scripture -

15 -

Scripture -

22 -

Scripture -

29 -

Scripture -



July Bus Driver Schedule

1 - Tony Miller & Ryan Findley

8 - Mike Fox & Jake Greder

15 - Pat Garrelts & Dan Odens

22 - Jim Brewer & Pat Slack

29 - Tony Miller & Ryan Findley

The Nebraska Conference Cooperative School of Christian Mission for Clergy & Laity

Weekend Session

July 27-29, 2012

Friday, 6 p.m.—Sunday, 12:30 p.m.

Weekday Session

July 29—August 1, 2012

Sunday, 6:00 p.m.—Wednesday 12:30 p.m.

Event held at the Kearney Holiday Inn

Register online at www.umcneb.org/umw

Questions? Contact Denise Larsen at

necoopscm@gmail.com

Softball Schedule

Monday, July 9 ~ 6:45 p.m.

Faith v E-Free on Field # 4

Monday, July 16 ~ 8:45 & 9:45 p.m.

Faith v Common Ground on Field # 3

Faith v Grace Fellowship on Field # 2

Monday, July 23 ~ 6:45 & 7:45 p.m.

Faith v FUMC Gold on Field # 3

Faith v FLC Angels on Field # 3

Faith's Fireworks

Youth and adults of Faith – are you looking to add a bit of spunk to your summer for a week?! Volunteer to work our fireworks stand that serves as a youth fundraiser; open the week leading up to Independence Day. Watch for sign-ups in service or contact the church office.

Camp Bear

Day Retreat For Grieving Youth

Friday July 20, 2012 ~ 8:30 a.m.—3:30 p.m.

Trinity Presbyterian Church

3910 - 22nd Ave, Kearney, NE

If you are interested or have questions, please call Lisa Anderson at 308-865-7090.

Faith Helps

Habitat for Humanity

On Saturday, July 28, our congregation is asked to provide a morning devotion and a lunch to folks who are building houses for Habitat. Fran Wilson has been arranging for Faith to be involved in this way for years, so please thank him for his work! Although the Breakfast Club Sunday School class usually provides the food for the lunch, you are welcome to let Fran know if you would like to contribute in some way. Since Pastor Michelle will be on vacation that day, we also need a church member to provide a SHORT devotion and prayer, usually 5 minutes or less, around 9 a.m. at the site which Fran will share when we get closer to the day. And who says we can't do more??? Let's have a team from Faith that day go and help build, paint, nail, sand and work on whatever we can to help the Habitat Team! Let's let the community know that we support Habitat by helping out in all ways that we can. A sign up sheet will be available during worship or call the Church Office if you would like to join the Faith Building Team.



UMYF is now on summer schedule, meeting every 2nd & 4th Wednesday of each month from 7-8:30pm, so mark your calendar as follows for great fellowship and fun:

July 25

(No meeting July 11)

August 8 & 22

The Nursery is Open!

8:45 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. Services

Infant—5 yrs Welcome!

Joleen Stowell is our new Nursery Attendant for Sunday morning services. She comes to us from UNK; help us give her a warm welcome!



**Faith United
Methodist Church
Administrative Council
Meeting**



June 12, 2012 ~ 6:30 p.m.

AD COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Suzann Christensen, Marie Danburg, Karen Humphrey McBride, Lee McQueen, Pastor Michelle Reed, Dayla Rhodus

AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER/PRAYER: The meeting was called to order at 6:33 p.m. by Chairperson Karen Humphrey McBride. Pastor Michelle opened with prayer. Marie Danburg gets a gold star for arriving at 6:00 p.m. (the time was printed incorrectly in the newsletter).

GO TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN: The sale of the Miller estate home will amount to an additional \$34,000 - \$36,000. The check should be arriving soon. Vacation Bible School was wonderful – the kids were great, the teachers were great, and the help was great!

REVIEW OF MINUTES: Patty McQueen took minutes in Suzann's absence in May. (**Thank you – AGAIN – Patty!**) The minutes were not available for review.

FINANCIAL REPORT: No report (Sue Divan on vacation)

COMMITTEE REPORTS: ART IN THE PARK, CAMPUS MINISTRY, CAPITAL FUND, CARING AND SHARING, CHRISTIAN EDUCATION, COMMUNITY GARDEN, COMMUNITY MEAL, HEALTHY LIFESTYLES, MEMORIAL, NURTURE, PRAYER QUILTS, RENOVATION, LAY LEADERSHIP, SAFETY, SPRC, TRANSPORTATION, TRUSTEES, WORSHIP TEAM

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

Ad Council members dispensed with committee reports and spent the evening discussing a draft letter to the congregation explaining the process of dealing with the Miller estate. Pastor Michelle suggested that the letter focus on two overall questions: (1) Where is God leading our church (what is our common vision/goal)? (2) How will we utilize our resources to achieve that vision/goal? Differing points of view were expressed as we discussed the process of consensus building and how and when Mr. Jess will conduct it. Larry Jess will fill the pulpit on July 29 so congregational members will have a chance to become acquainted with him. We are looking at mid-to-late August as a possible launch date. I'm not sure whether this will be a soft launch or hard launch. (Ad Council members learned new terminology too . . .)

THE LORD'S PRAYER: The meeting closed with praying The Lord's Prayer.

ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned, 7:25 p.m.

Suzann Christensen, Recording Secretary

Myth: “The Church Should Meet My Needs”

From Him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work. *Ephesians 4:16*

Today’s church service just didn’t do anything for me. Sunday mornings are my only day of the week to sleep late. It’s incredibly frustrating to drag myself out of bed to go to church and then not get anything out of it. I went church shopping the first weekend I moved here and started my new job. Over the next couple months, I tired out several different kinds of churches, even though I come from a Methodist background. I did mega-churches, small churches, funky retro church that met in strip malls and coffee bars, stiff church with ice cold marble flooring that complemented the even cooler reception from their starched members. The church I’m attending now is OK, but it’s not really my style. I walked into Sunday School and immediately knew these weren’t “my people”. They invite me to their socials, but what’s the point when I have nothing in common with them? I occasionally glance over the bulletin, scanning for ministries that might suit me, but I rarely find anything that garners more than an occasional blip on my interest radar. It makes me wonder where all my offering money is going. The most exciting thing I see happening is in the children’s ministry - no way, thank you. I come to church to relax, not to stress out over who’s had their snack or to build a miniature church out of dried pinto beans and empty toilet paper rolls. One would think a church this size would have something for everyone (and some good-looking guys wouldn’t hurt). Why is it so hard to find a church that meets my needs, doesn’t talk about money more than once a year and has a decent music program? ~ Gabriela

When it comes to understanding the purpose of the church, we often have it backwards. The church does not exist for us, though we are central to its existence. The capital - C Church— which is the big picture, universal Church that includes all believers - exists for Jesus alone. The Church is his bride (see Revelation 19:7; 21:2) The little - c church— which is the local church in a neighborhood near you - is how God reaches the masses with his gospel and love. It is also an incubator for baby Christians, a hospital for hurting people, a gathering place for all to worship and an opportunity for maturing believers to hone their spiritual gifts through serving one another. Although it is human nature to make life “all about me”, the church is all about serving Jesus through serving his people. That’s why petty arguments about the music being too loud, the music being too dull, the pastor talking too long, the service starting too early, the service starting too late and all the other rationales for why we resent the church for not catering to our preferences are just that - petty preferences that do not matter. The next time you try to make church all about you, remember this:

† The church is Jesus’ body (see 1 Corinthians 12:27).

† Jesus promises to build his church - regardless of our personal tastes (see Matthew 16:18).

† Jesus loved the church so much that he dies for it. The church matters to him, so it should matter to us (see Ephesians 5:25-27).

When we begin to make church more about Jesus and less about us, we look for ways to love the body of Christ. Ironically, God rewards our unselfish actions by meeting our needs in return - if we will just put him and his church first (see Matthew 6:33).

“The local church is the classroom for learning how to get along in God’s family. It is a lab for practicing unselfish, sympathetic love” ~ Rick Warren

BibleGateway.com, *NIV Women’s Devotional bible* by Zondervan & *True Identity: The Bible for Women* by Zondervan