

# Faith in Action



## What is our “mantra” at Faith?

Do you have a “mantra?” Is there something- a word, or a phrase- that you hear yourself saying again and again? Some of our family’s mantras are: “Wait three days.” “Rub it out.” And the ever famous “What doesn’t kill you makes you stronger.”

I once knew a church that had gotten into the habit of repeating some mantras. One was “we can’t pay our Mission Shares (apportionments).” Funny, because although there were some years when they didn’t, for the last 5 years they had. And yet, I still heard the mantra “we can’t pay our Mission Shares.”

Another, more damaging, mantra was “we don’t have any children at our church.” This was surprising to me as I added up the number of children who went forward for the children’s time during the worship service. I saw a number of children, usually about a dozen. And yet, I still heard that mantra.

In either case, the church members told a story through these and other similar phrases. “We can’t pay our Mission Shares” is a story about financial struggle and difficulties in paying the budget. As Clif Christopher, author of several books on church stewardship, has said, new people will not join a sinking ship. If the church’s story, or mantra, is that there are financial difficulties, visitors and potential members hear the message. Similarly, “we don’t have any children” will definitely send families to a church that recognizes, supports, and values any children that they have.

Perhaps new, positive mantras should become our habit. Instead of “our attendance is not what it has been in the past” try saying “our attendance is going up!” At Faith, this is the truth. It is also true that from 2008 to 2010 average worship attendance did decline from 176 to 121. But from 2009-2012 attendance rose to 153! Which is more helpful, to tell the story of decline or to tell the story of growth? Likewise, new members have been joining our church steadily for the last 5 years- 11 in 2008, 16 in 2009 and 2010, 25 in 2011 and 12 in 2012.

So now I ask you to say it with me- “Faith is a growing church!” “Faith is a growing church!” “Faith is a *growing* church!” Glory to God, Faith is a growing church!

**Vital: Churches Changing Communities and the World is a new sermon series that begins Sunday, April 14. Join us for the conversation about what it is to be a vital church!**

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Receive your newsletter in **COLOR** via email!  
Send your email address to [faithumc@kdsi.net](mailto:faithumc@kdsi.net).

### Have Coffee With the Pastor

**When:** 4th Sunday of each month  
**Time:** 10:00—10:45 a.m.  
**Where:** Overflow Room

### Faith Fellowship

**When:** Sundays  
**Time:** 9:45-10:45 a.m.  
**Where:** Overflow Room  
**What:** Join us for fellowship & morning beverages after & before services.

### Church COED Softball

Contact Lee or Patty McQueen @ 237-1524 OR [pbm029@yahoo.com](mailto:pbm029@yahoo.com)  
Minimum age is 15 (by May 6th). Church Coed Games will be held on Mondays (some Fridays maybe). Season is May 6th through early August. Game Times are 6:45, 7:45, 8:45 & 9:45 pm. Games are held at Harvey Park. We will use the same shirts so if you didn’t play last year, a shirt will cost you \$10.



- |                           |                         |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1- Judith Stephens-Boller | 12- Tristan Wiles       |
| Ashley Bear               | 13- Lillie Pierce       |
| 4- Phyllis Kantaras       | Jacob Lester            |
| 5- Phillip Hilty          | 15- Patricia Hilty      |
| Phyllis Bennett           | 16- Jason Meester       |
| Sue Anderson              | 17- Shawn Mizner        |
| Lee Carter                | Jaylin Gargan           |
| 6- Marcia Dahlke          | Kaylei Royle            |
| 7- Randy Bauer            | 19- Lia Cool            |
| 8- Thelma Armitage        | 20- Bonny Ball          |
| Corinne Olmsted           | Tari Maaske             |
| Tony Miller               | 22- Katie Bauer         |
| 9- Quinten Clausen III    | Lance Johnson           |
| 10- Erma Petersen         | 25- Jim Brewer          |
| Linda Johnson             | 26- Emma Chandler       |
| Zachry Vasquez            | 29- Allison Kwiatkowski |
| Reggie Schriener          | 30- Fred Blume          |
| 11- Bernard Petska        | Sherry Krell            |
| Patrick Garrelts          | Doug Jesch              |
|                           | Taylor Dunn             |



- 2 ~ David & Carolyn Fornzy  
 8 ~ Darrell & Joan Epping  
 12 ~ Donny & Peggy Mak  
 13 ~ Josh & Jenny Hanson  
 20 ~ Art & Millie Otto  
 28 ~ James & Regan Jennings

We are so grateful to the Faith family for all of the kindnesses and care shown to our mother during the past few years; special thanks to Rev. Reed and many others of you who regularly visited mom. Sincere thanks also to Randy, Fran, and Rev. Reed for providing the lovely celebration of mom's life. We thank too Annette and all the people who coordinated and helped in any way with the funeral dinner. The Faith Church family meant so much to our parents and still to us today, we thank you for that joy and we celebrate the influence the church has in our lives. *The family of Marian Wisch Gary and Sharon Mason, Roger and Vicki Wisch, David and Charlotte Wisch, Cynthia and Larry Marrow.*

Thank You for all your prayers. They are greatly appreciated! Thank You! *Wanda Enns*

**THANK YOU** to all who donated time and supplies or offered support and prayers for our Hoppin' Holy Week Celebration on Palm Sunday and the annual youth Easter SonRise Service!

## Altar Flowers



The ONLY remaining Sundays still available for your special someone to be honored or remembered are April 14th, May 5th & 12th. Please contact the church office to reserve your date today.

## Renovation Update

Renovation Committee thanks everyone who helped with the Home, Lawn and Garden Show by donating food items, seed money and/or helped serve the concession stand March 16th. It was quite an experience not having a kitchen to work from. We played "electrician" most of the morning trying to get all the roasters, coffee pots, hot dog machine etc. to work with the outlets in the exhibit area. Thank goodness for long extension cords -- we used a lot of them!!! The morning customer traffic was very slow, but by noon things picked up and we had a productive day. Our profit was \$1,027.13 this year for the one day show. We really appreciate the support of our congregation for the fundraisers Renovations has done over the years. We could not have raised the money we have without your help!

Renovations is looking at replacing the carpet outside the front door of the church and in the entry way and stairs. We will be seeking the Trustees' approval at the April meeting to do this project. Hopefully, you will see some needed changes in this area of the church soon!!!

Thank you again.

## Trustee Announcements

The Trustees have decided to sell the church van due to lack of use and expenses. Killion Motors inspected the van and valued it at \$5500. If you are interested or know anybody who might be interested in making an offer to purchase the van please obtain and return an offer sheet by contacting the church office at 308-237-2550 or [faithumc@kdsi.net](mailto:faithumc@kdsi.net).

The Trustees will open all offers at the Trustees meeting on May 6th, 2013. If you have any questions regarding the van, please contact any Trustee Member.

When using Faith UMC Facilities, please remember to shut off all the lights (main rooms, hallways, bathrooms, etc) and also double check that the doors are securely locked upon departure. Thank You!



### Host a Foreign Exchange Student

Few experiences can spark an interest in the world such as welcoming a foreign exchange student into your home. A global cultural experience will create life-changing friendships for your family. Would you be interested in hosting a foreign exchange high school student for the school year 2013-2014? Dr. Mark and Chris Brosnihan, (402-469-3911, [christysb1986@gmail.com](mailto:christysb1986@gmail.com)), friends of Rathods are the local coordinator for the Education Foundation for Foreign study in our area. EF Foundation is a nonprofit company, a leader in high school exchange program for last 30 years. If you are interested, you can contact Brosnihans or call Rev. Sam or Ella Rathod, from First United Methodist Church at Hastings, NE. (402-461-3888, [ellarathod@hotmail.com](mailto:ellarathod@hotmail.com)) and they will put you in touch with Brosnihans.

### Abundant Life in the 21st Century

Thursday, April 18th ~ 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

This is a Spiritual Growth Day sponsored by the UMW and being held at First United Methodist Church - 4500 Linden Drive, Kearney. Check out the bulletin boards for more information and registration.

### Volunteer in Mission Trip to Southwest Virginia

Saturday, June 8, 2013 - Sunday, June 16, 2013

**WHO: ANYONE 14 YRS OR OLDER IS WELCOME**  
**Trip includes:** Working five days helping to build and repair homes destroyed by super storm Sandy last November, 2012  
 COST PER PERSON: \$375.00

\$25 discount if paid in full and all paperwork turned in by May 1, 2013  
**FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CALL OR EMAIL:** Teresa Staab  
 at 308-789-6447-Home 308-202-0214 - Cell Email: [bstaab@nctc.net](mailto:bstaab@nctc.net)

**SPONSORED BY: ARCADIA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

# From Faith Friends

Wishing you a heavenly host of reasons to lift up your voice and rejoice this Easter! To all my friends at Faith.

*Thelma Armitage*

Fran, We have now lived in Omaha for almost a month. Almost immediately we placed the musical clock on the wall and we enjoy a little jingle every hour. Thank you and the choir; that was a very nice thing you did. We have a two bedroom duplex in Pacific Springs Village. It is a retirement center operated by the Immanuel Communities; it is the project of a Lutheran conference. Jan may know all about it. They have several of these in several states. There are a lot of duplexes and more apartments in a large central building. The population is about 110. They offer a list of amenities. For example, the maintenance people cleared the snow quickly. It is a nice place but expensive. There is a weight room and I have used it eleven times. I run on the treadmill for twenty minutes and then do six machines. Murray has helped us buy a cell phone, a new computer, a dining room table and chairs, and a small divan. We also bought a new washer and dryer. The people and staff here are very friendly. The residents have a choir, one of them is a professional musician who plays piano and has a teacher's background. We may join them. We went to a United Methodist Church twice; the first time Cassie was there with her baby, which was a surprise. The Village is in the Douglas County and not in the Omaha city limits. It is in what used to be Elkhorn before Omaha annexed it. Our new address, email address & phone number is available from the church office. It would be nice to hear from you and others. Relay our greetings to the choir.

*Otto & Elma Lohrenz*

## Reality Check

After exploring the topic of Healthy Relationships in March, we are still deciding what topic we will shed light onto but whether it's something that affects you personally or a friend, there will be insight for all. 6<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> graders are welcome to join us on **Saturday, April 13 from 1 – 3 p.m.**

## Camp Sunday

John Butler, from Camp Comeca, will offer the message at BOTH services on **April 7**. As a congregation, we will focus on offering support for children and youth who wish to attend camp. HOW?!?! – thru scholarship donation, gas card donation (Faith offers transportation), or transportation donation (speak directly with Cassy).

## Youth Mission Trip ALL-CHURCH TALENT SHOW Fundraiser

Mark your calendar for **Saturday, April 20 at 4pm** and join us in celebrating our God-given talents at an ALL-CHURCH TALENT SHOW. Suggested admission price is \$5 per person or \$15 per family. Check with Cassy Heuertz, for participation details.

## Kids of the Kingdom Sunday School

Join us ANY **Sunday** from **10:00-10:45am**, upstairs to explore God's Word. *Elementary* kiddos will dive back in to *Holy Moly!* video, craft, and Bible story lessons. *Middle School* will wrap-up "A Christian Life".

*High School* will continue to creatively discover the book of John thru games, lessons, and discussion time.

## Schedule Notes:

**April 7 – Camp Sunday** – Focus on supporting children and youth through a Methodist camp experience.

**April 13 – Reality Check**– Contact Cassy Heuertz for more information: [cjheuertz@gmail.com](mailto:cjheuertz@gmail.com) or 402.669.6782

**April 20 – ALL-Church Talent Show FUNDRAISER** – to benefit the Youth Mission Trip.

## Prayers Please

Confirmation Class Retreat April 5-7  
Summer 2013 Youth Mission Trip  
V.B.S. – Kingdom of Faith – August 4-8



## C.C.F.

### (Children's Christian Fellowship)

As the school-year winds down, so does C.C.F., with the LAST DAY on May 1! Until then, we will continue our journey through a variety of Bible stories to build our Christian character. Kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> Grade is invited to join us at ANY TIME on **Wednesdays** from **3:30-5:30pm**

## U.M.Y.F.

### (United Methodist Youth of Faith)

We'll wrap up the school year with "Ruin Your Life" and brainstorming for summer and next year. Join us for dinner, fun, and divin' deep each **Wednesday** from **6:30-8:30 pm**; if you're a 6<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grader that thinks they're up for a life-long challenge.

# Children & Youth

# April 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><b>Courage is not the towering oak that sees storms come and go; it is the fragile blossom that opens in the snow.</b> - Alice M. Swaim</p>	<p><b>1</b> 9:30-10:00 Weight Watchers  5:30 Trustees 7:00 Boy Scouts</p>	<p><b>2</b> 9:30 Women's Bible Fellowship  6:00 Finance 6:30 Girls # 694 7:00 Wolves 7:00 Bears</p>	<p><b>3</b> 12:15-12:45 Weight Watchers  3:30 CCF 5:30 Confirmation 5:30 Praise Band 6:30 UMYF 7:00 Choir</p>	<p><b>4</b> 9:00 Quilters  5:45-6:15 Weight Watchers</p>	<p><b>5</b></p>	<p><b>6</b> 8:30-9:00 Weight Watchers  10:00 Kenya Team</p>
<p><b>7 Camp Sunday</b> 8:45 Worship 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship</p>	<p><b>8</b> 9:30-10:00 Weight Watchers  6:30 Christian Ed 7:00 Webelos I 7:00 Boy Scouts</p>	<p><b>9</b> 9:30 Women's Bible Fellowship  5:30 Nurture 6:30 Ad Council 7:00 Tigers</p>	<p><b>10</b> 12:15-12:45 Weight Watchers  3:30 CCF  5:30 Confirmation 5:30 Praise Band 6:30 UMYF 7:00 Choir</p>	<p><b>11</b> 9:00 Quilters  5:45-6:15 Weight Watchers</p>	<p><b>12</b>  3:00 KHS Class of 1957 Setup</p>	<p><b>13</b> 8:30-9:00 Weight Watchers 9:00-5:00 KHS Class of 1957 Reunion</p>
<p><b>14</b> 8:45 Worship 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship</p>	<p><b>15</b> 9:30-10:00 Weight Watchers  7:00 Boy Scouts</p>	<p><b>16</b> 9:30 Women's Bible Fellowship  6:30 Girls # 694 7:00 Wolves 7:00 Bears</p>	<p><b>17</b> 12:15-12:45 Weight Watchers  3:30 CCF  5:30 Confirmation 5:30 Praise Band 6:30 UMYF 7:00 Choir</p>	<p><b>18</b> 9:00 Quilters  5:45-6:15 Weight Watchers</p>	<p><b>19</b></p>	<p><b>20</b> 8:30-9:00 Weight Watchers  4:00 Youth Talent Show</p>
<p><b>21</b> 8:45 Worship 9:30 Volunteer Recognition Muffins 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship 1:00 Katie Bauer Shower 3:00 Pack 135</p>	<p><b>22</b> 9:30-10:00 Weight Watchers  7:00 Webelos I 7:00 Boy Scouts</p>	<p><b>23</b> 9:30 - Women's Bible Fellowship  7:00 Tigers</p>	<p><b>24</b> 12:15-12:45 Weight Watchers  3:30 CCF  5:30 Confirmation 5:30 Praise Band 6:30 UMYF 7:00 Choir</p>	<p><b>25</b> 9:00 Quilters  5:45-6:15 Weight Watchers</p>	<p><b>26</b></p>	<p><b>27</b> 8:30-9:00 Weight Watchers</p>
<p><b>28</b> 8:45 Worship 9:45 Sunday School 10:00 Coffee With Pastor Michelle 11:00 Worship 12:00 Community Meal</p>	<p><b>29</b> 9:30-10:00 Weight Watchers  7:00 Boy Scouts 7:00 Webelos I</p>	<p><b>30</b> 9:30 - Women's Bible Fellowship  7:00 Tigers</p>	<p><b>April Bus Driver Schedule</b></p> <p><b>7 -</b> Mike Fox &amp; Jake Greder  <b>14 -</b> Tony Miller &amp; Ryan Findley  <b>21 -</b> Pat Garrelts &amp; Dan Odens  <b>28 -</b> Jim Brewer &amp; Pat Slack</p>			

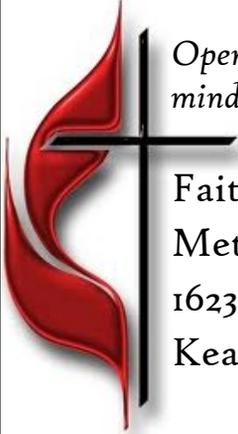
## THIS MONTH USHERS

**8:45 AM**

- 7 -** Steve & Suzann Christensen, Marie Danburg & Kathy Larson  
**Scripture - Penny Buettner**  
**14 -** Darrell & Joan Epping  
**Scripture - Keith Danburg**  
**21 -** Pat Bailey, Steve Christensen, Phyllis Kantaras & Diane Steinbrink  
**Scripture - Charlene Francis**  
**28 -** Steve & Suzann Christensen and Robb & Lee Carter  
**Scripture - Rachel Brown**

**To be human is to listen to the rest of the world with a tender heart, and learn to live life with our arms open and our souls seared with a sense of responsibility for everything that is.**

Lectio with the words of Joan Chittister



*Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.*

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Pastor Michelle Reed  
District Superintendent Alan Davis  
Bishop Scott Jones

*Address Service Requested*

## *Power-Packed Prayers for Public Schools*

1. **Christian students.** "Grand the Christian students who attend this school wisdom and boldness in living out their faith. Help them share effectively the good news of salvation through Jesus Christ with their classmates." (1 Tim. 4:12)

2. **A chosen generation.** "Father, may your kingdom come. From the students at this school, raise up a generation of people who worship You in spirit and in truth." (Jn. 4:23-24, 1 Pet. 2:9)

3. **An open door.** "Lord, may there be an open door in this school for the gospel to be shared with students and staff. Allow full advantage to be taken of every opportunity to name the name of Jesus." (Mt. 7:7, 1 Cor. 16:9)

## *Staying Young*

1. Throw out nonessential numbers.
2. Keep only cheerful friends. The grouches pull you down.
3. Keep learning. Learn more about the computer, crafts, and gardening, whatever. Never let the brain idle.
4. Enjoy the simple things.
5. Laugh often, long and loud. Laugh until you gasp for breath.
6. Let the tears happen. Endure, grieve, and move on. The only person who is with us our entire life is ourselves. Be ALIVE while you are alive.
7. Surround yourself with what you love. Whether it's family, pets, keepsakes, music, plants, and hobbies, whatever, your home is your refuge.
8. Cherish your health: If it is good, preserve it. If it is unstable, improve it. If it is beyond what you can improve, get help.
9. Don't take guilt trips. Take a trip to the mall, even to the next county; to a foreign country but NOT to where the guilt is.
10. Tell the people you love that you love them, at every opportunity.
11. Life should not be a journey to the grave with the intention of arriving safely in a pretty and well preserved body, but rather to skid in broadside, thoroughly used up, totally worn out, and loudly proclaiming, "WOW! What a ride!"
12. Life is not measured by the number of breaths we take, but by the moments that take our breath away.

***Christopher Ian Chenoweth***