



March 2009

The Good News

Faith United Methodist Church
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What Adjectives Would YOU Use to Describe Faith UMC?

When Colin, my fourth-grader, works on his homework he is often asked to use adjectives to make his writing more descriptive. Remember adjectives, those words used to describe a noun? They can take our writing from black and white to Technicolor.

I've had adjectives on my mind lately as I have been reading the book *Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations*, by United Methodist Bishop Robert Schnase. We are using this book as the basis for our small group Lenten study this year as well as for our Lenten sermon series. Schnase uses adjectives to intensify the meaning of the words he uses to describe fruitful congregations, those churches that are fully engaged in making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Schnase says fruitful congregations are ones who practice radical hospitality, passionate worship, intentional faith development, risk-taking mission and service, and extravagant generosity. *Radical, passionate, intentional, risk-taking, extravagant.* Are those adjectives that come to mind when you think of church?

If you haven't yet signed up to participate in the study, I encourage you to do so. It will be a marvelous, energizing, thought-provoking, spirit-deepening way for you to spend Lent (how's that for a string of adjectives!). Groups begin meeting the week of March 1st, so don't delay. You can contact Gina Dawson at 301-881-1881 or sign-up on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall on March 1st. Books will be available for sale on March 1st and you can purchase one even if you aren't participating in a study group.

May God bless you richly this Lent as you take time to prepare your heart to celebrate this Easter and the Resurrection of Christ with exceeding joy!

Grace and peace,
Kathryn



Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations

Worship & Study With Us This Lenten Season

Mar 1—First Sunday in Lent

- * Rev. Kathryn Woodrow Preaching
- * *Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations—Radical Hospitality*

Mar 8—Second Sunday in Lent

- * Rev. Kathryn Woodrow Preaching
- * *Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations—Passionate Worship*

Mar 15—Third Sunday in Lent

- * Rev. Corey Sharpe Preaching
- * *Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations—Intentional Faith Development*

Mar 22—Fourth Sunday in Lent

- * Rev. Dr. Peter Moon Preaching
- * *Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations—Risk-Taking Mission and Service*
- * United Methodist Women's Sunday
- * Rev. Moon is the Senior Pastor of Woodlake UMC in Midlothian, VA (www.woodlakeumc.org). Peter grew up at Faith UMC and is better known to the Faith community as the son of Martin and Janice Moon. We hope you will join us for worship as we welcome Peter home to Faith.

Mar 29—Fifth Sunday in Lent

- * Rev. Kathryn Woodrow Preaching
- * *Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations—Extravagant Generosity*

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- Last October, when California wildfires destroyed thousands of homes and displaced nearly a million people, the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) was there.
- Since 1990, Nicaraguans have been learning how to acquire clean drinking water and ensure basic sanitation for rural residents to who live with unsafe water. UMCOR is still there.
- As a new semester begins at the Magambe Vocational School in Zimbabwe, students orphaned by HIV/AIDS learn trades that promise a future of steady work. UMCOR has been there.



humanitarian-aid organization. Necessities of life include food, shelter, and clothing. However, many people around the world lack these basic necessities. The One Great Hour of Sharing offering makes those necessities a reality by sharing the goodness of life with those who hurt.

By giving to One Great Hour of Sharing, you enable UMCOR to keep the promise that 100% of designated gifts go to the specific causes. Unlike other mission programs, UMCOR receives no World Service or apportionment money. This is why your faithful support of the One Great Hour of Sharing offering is crucial.



Working in more than 80 countries, including the United States, UMCOR continues to be there and be hope for millions of people, often the poorest in society, who suffer as a result of natural catastrophes, conflicts or wars. UMCOR responds to natural and civil disasters so massive that they overwhelm a community's ability to

recover on its own. UMCOR partners with local organizations and survivors.

On Sunday, March 22nd, place your offering for the One Great Hour of Sharing in the special envelope. Or you can make a donation online at <http://new.gbgm-umc.org/umcor/>. You can also learn more about the areas UMCOR is involved in and watch a special video about One Great Hour of Sharing.

God calls us to be the hands, heart and hope of the church for people who are suffering. Through the One Great Hour of Sharing, we enable the church to answer that call.

Thank you.

Text from UMCOR's website about One Great Hour of Sharing

The One Great Hour of Sharing special offering is the financial lifeblood of UMCOR, United Methodism's not-for-profit, international,

What Might a Youth Choir Look Like at Faith?

With Michael Wu directing music at the church since January, it might help to know what he has done with youth choirs in the recent past. Along those lines...



At 4:00pm on Sunday, March 15, Faith Youth are cordially invited to see a Youth Choir Festival at Vienna Baptist Church, 541 Marshall Road SW, Vienna, VA 22180 (703-281-4400). Youth choirs from about eight churches in the Washington Metropolitan area will combine to work with guest conductor John Yarrington, professor of choral music at Houston Baptist University, Houston, TX. The Capital Beltway Chapter of Choristers Guild—a Christian organization that enables churches and children/youth music leaders to nurture the spiritual and musical growth of children and youth—sponsors this event, which occurs every two years.

Faith UMC Director of Music Michael Wu serves as festival accompanist, as he has for Choristers. Grace UMC, Gaithersburg, where Michael served as Director of Music and Organist for the past 12 years, will be among the participating choirs. The services gives youth an exposure to how several other churches in our area work with youth choirs, and a sampling of what that music might sound like.

Rev. Corey Sharpe is organizing transportation for youth to and from that event. The service lasts about an hour, and is open to the public.

SPRC Budget Update

The church budget process has been completed for 2009, and the Staff-Parish Relations Committee (SPRC) was able to reduce its budget by \$36,000 (all of Faith's ministry areas were asked to cut spending to keep in line with financial pressures). This was accomplished several ways. We changed from employing a full time custodian to contracting with a cleaning service. When a new Church Administrator was employed, the hours for that position were reduced. In addition, none of the staff members received a pay raise for 2009. As a token of appreciation to the staff, full time employees were granted an additional five days of leave time and part time employees received three additional days of leave for this year.

Bob Dahlstrom, SPRC Chair

Youth Work Trip Update

A group of 12 youth and 5 adults are heading to Reading, PA this summer from June 21st to 27th with Group Work-Camps Foundation. In Reading, we will be repairing homes and interacting with the residents.

As always, we need your prayer and financial support. Our fundraisers include the Pancake Supper on February 24th, a Cinnamon Bun Bake Sale on March 22nd, some of the proceeds from the Mission Auction, and a Car Wash on May 17th. And we can take direct donations through Sunday offerings—make checks payable to Faith UMC and put in the memo field "youth work trip".

Thank you very much for supporting the youth over the years with this annual, life-enriching, and spiritually moving activity. We really appreciate all you do for us!

Sixteenth Annual Mission Auction & Dinner March 27th: Dinner at 6pm, Auction at 7pm

Looking for a lively night out that also raises money for our mission outreach programs? Then join us on Friday, March 27, for an evening of fun and fellowship at the sixteenth Annual Mission Auction & Dinner.

Dinner will begin at 6pm, followed by the auction at 7pm. Childcare will be provided.

Among the items to be offered this year:

- Back by popular demand, our Old Town Trolley tour driven/narrated by Tom St. Clair, featuring a new daytime route. As last year, this mobile party is bound to be fun and will sell out fast with a fixed price bid of \$75/seat.



- Bethany Beach House—Columbus Day weekend or entire week. 6 bedrooms, 4.5 baths, elevator, 1/2 block from the beach, and near the end of the boardwalk. Big enough for two families!
- An hysterical, historical bike tour of Washington, DC landmarks, including a marvelous Marriot hot breakfast or lunch for two.

A running list of the auction items is posted on the Missions Bulletin Board in the Fellowship Hall.

Tickets (\$7 single/\$20 family) will be sold during Coffee Hour in the Fellowship Hall and at the door the night of the auction. If convenient, please buy your tickets before auction night so we can

get an accurate count for dinner preparations and seating arrangements. Also specify whether childcare will be needed.

While we actively solicit **donations** from local enterprises, almost 70% of the auction proceeds come from items and services donated by the members of the congregation. Donation forms are available in the church office or at the Sunday fellowship ticket sales.

Last year the congregation's thoughtful donations and generosity raised over \$14,000 to **support Faith UMC's local, national, and international mission outreach programs.** 100% of the



proceeds from this year's auction will go to supporting the local Manna food pantry, a Faith UMC Youth Group Work Trip to Reading, PA to assist elderly/handicap residence refurbishment, and a Volunteers in Mission (VIM) trip by members of the congregation to assist Faith UMC sponsored missionaries, Nan & Miguel McCurdy, in the refurbishment of a primary school in Nicaragua.



Nan & Miguel McCurdy & Family

Please join us this year for what is always an entertaining and fun-filled evening for worthy causes.



2008 Youth Work Trip Team

Join us for a variety of summer camps for all ages—children, youth and adults. More information about these camps, as well as Registration Forms can be found at our website at www.FaithWorksHere.com/summercamp.html.



Faith Preschool Camp—Six one-week sessions from June 1st to July 10th, 9am-1pm.

KidServe—Two one-week sessions from June 22-26 and August 24-28, 9am-12:30pm for children in 1st to 4th grade.

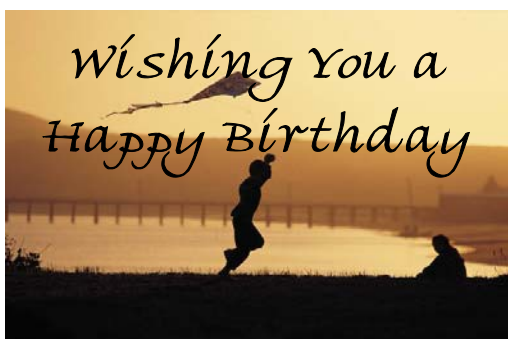
Choir Camp from June 29-July 3, 9am-1pm for children in 1st to 4th grade.

Middle School Camp from June 22-26, 9am-4pm for youth in 5th to 7th grade.

Vacation Bible School / Wildwood Forest for all ages (children, youth, and adults), from 6-8pm—Choose to come all or some of the Tuesday evenings...July 14th, 21st, 28th, and August 4th & 11th.



Faith Preschool has openings in its 2s, 3s, and 4s classes for the Fall of 2009. Contact Rosemarie Lapham, Preschool Director, at 301-881-1416 to learn more and to register for this fall.



- Mar 1—Bonnie Dunn, Matthew Henley
- Mar 3—Karen Dipeppe, Jamie Dobbs, Julie Oldach, Jean Young
- Mar 4—Becky Acklin, Nathan Benjamin
- Mar 5—Kristin Liverman, Ginny Reber, Bernie Stark, Kirk Williamson
- Mar 6—Henry Bryant Jr., Phyllis Croson
- Mar 7—Bob Graves, Sam Rankin
- Mar 8—Rosamond King
- Mar 9—Doug Shields
- Mar 10—Carol Bridgers, Ivy Coldren,

- David Singleton, Lori Summers
- Mar 11—Allison Readler, Randall Scott, Warren Wright
- Mar 12—S.R. Benjamin, Brian Harper, June Watts, Tricia Wood
- Mar 13—Linda Bowles, Janet Freeman, Elisabeth Landgren, Nancy Skinner
- Mar 14—Michelle Castagnola, Morgan Hatten, Jonathan Lew, Mary Mehring
- Mar 15—Elizabeth Howell
- Mar 16—Lesley Avery, Samantha Clark
- Mar 17—Nicole Beisner
- Mar 18—Judy Beisner, Sawyer Kibbe
- Mar 19—Stephan Pahner Jr.
- Mar 20—Charlotte Lowry, Megan Schaeffer
- Mar 21—Terrie Tuckman
- Mar 22—Ashley Tomlinson
- Mar 23—Cassie Luckey, Bob Redding
- Mar 24—Henry Bryant III
- Mar 26—Patti Beisner, David Kuhn, Mary Stark

- Mar 28—Jeffrey Newton, Debbie Spriggs
- Mar 29—Susan Keller, Emma Landgren, Joe MacCormack
- Mar 30—Kim Benjamin, Boots Wickham, Christopher Zhao
- Mar 31—Cooper Breen



- Mar 3—John & Shirley Fuscoe; John & Gerane Sever
- Mar 11—Robert & Lyn Mullinax
- Mar 14—Walt & Patsy O'Connell
- Mar 15—Jim & Leslie Sorenson
- Mar 25—Mark & Joyce Derby



Holy Week Calendar

The intensity of the story picks up. The week begins with triumph and joy as Jesus enters Jerusalem. It quickly turns to sorrow as the Jesus has a last meal with his disciples, is arrested, and tried. The world comes crashing down as Jesus is crucified on the cross. The disciples are afraid, unsure...wasn't Jesus the Messiah? But sorrow turns to overwhelming joy as God reveals His glory by raising Jesus from the dead. What Good News! What Great News!

You are invited to experience the story and celebrate Jesus' final week and resurrection, practicing *Passionate* Worship. It's also an excellent way to practice *Radical* Hospitality as you invite your friends, family, neighbors, and acquaintances to join us.



This service embodies the sharp contrasts of Holy Week. In the entrance with palms, led by the children, we share the excitement of Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem which is reflected in joyful music.

As the service continues we move into the reading of portions of the Passion narrative, transitioning us into the somber period of Holy Week also reflected in the music provided by the Chancel Choir.

Scripture Readings: Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29; Mark 11:1-11; Philippians 2:5-11; Mark 14-15 (selected verses)



On this night Christians commemorate the supper Jesus shared with his disciples before his crucifixion, when Jesus washed the disciples' feet and instituted the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper. Through the proclamation of the Word, confession and pardon, and Holy Communion we will share in this powerful event.

Our worship will be enhanced by the Chancel Choir's singing of the beautiful *Kleine Orgelmesse* (or "Small Organ Mass") of Franz Joseph Haydn (1732-1809) which will be woven throughout this 90-minute service.

Scripture Readings: Exodus 12:1-4, 11-14; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26; John 13:1-17, 31b-35



During this powerful service we will recall through scripture, readings, and music, the crucifixion of Christ. The Chancel Choir will provide music for this service including "Ah, My Dear Lord," a musical setting of a poem by Henry Vaughan (1621-1695).

Scripture Readings: Psalm 22; Hebrews 10:16-25; John 18:1-19:42



Join us for this joyful celebration of the Good News of Christ's Resurrection.

The M Street Brass Quintet, Chancel Choir, and Bells of Faith add fanfare to the celebrations of Easter Sunday, with everyone—congregation included—encouraged to join in singing the "Hallelujah" chorus from *Messiah* at the conclusion of each worship service.

Sunday School will be cancelled so that our children and youth can join in the celebration. The Nursery will be open during both services.

Scripture Readings: Acts 10:34-43, Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24; 1 Corinthians 15:1-11; John 20:1-8



You are invited to our annual Easter Breakfast on Saturday, April 11th. We will dye eggs (bring a dozen hard-boiled eggs), hunt for eggs (bring a basket), eat breakfast, meet Nutty the Squirrel, and more!

It's fun for the whole family—bring your grandparents. Even if you don't have children, come and enjoy the celebration.

If you would like to help with the preparation, please contact Sara Romeyn at advisors@starpower.net or 301-309-0854.