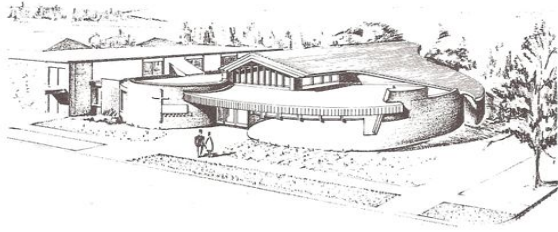


October 2019

Matters of Faith



**Faith United Church of Christ
1001 5th Street Int'l Falls, Mn
218-283-2486**

**Sunday Worship 2:00 p.m. Oct. 6
10:30 a.m. Oct. 13, 20, 27**

A while back I went to the doctor and received a bit of a discouraging diagnosis. After reviewing all the test and the general examination, the doctor looked at me and suggested I watch what I eat, lose weight, and reduce stress. Then came the news some find disappointing. The doctor looked at me and said "John, your biggest problem is you are getting older and just can't do what you use to do." Recently I was in a meeting with an individual all excited as they joyfully announced that they had just turned 60. A conversation with another person, shared their concern how fast change could come as we aged. I agreed with them. At 70 I would very much like to have the abilities and energy I had when I was sixty and I said I had noticed that as I age the changes come faster. They looked at me and said "Wait until you get to 80, then the changes happen even faster." (sigh) I remember a few years ago I was at Senior bowling and had just made a terrible shot. I walked back to my seat muttering to myself that I was getting to old for this. There stood the most consistent bowler in the group who was over 90. (sigh)

Reality is getting older is unavoidable in living our lives. Like other changes we face it is inevitable. A part of the key to it is how do we let the changes affect us. The older I get the more I find my need to put my daily faith in God as I am called to take on life's challenges. Fifteen years ago when I lost a kidney to cancer and was diagnosed with diabetes, I was scared. But God has helped me understand that if I take care of myself, it will be ok. I'm not talking about some theology about what happens in the "Sweet By and By." I am talking about developing the Faith to face the growing struggles of life and the challenges life throws at us. Some of these challenges haven't changed since I was a youth, such as figuring out what God is calling me to do and having the faith to accept those challenges, and having the Faith that God will give me the strength, knowledge and power to muddle on. Being faced with a growing list of physical and mental limitations may make it even harder to believe that God still has work for us to do. Add to that how much of advertising aimed at seniors is designed to use fear to sell us things that will help us deal with getting older. Recently I heard a church member say that they had a problem going to the Care Center, because they noticed that many of the people there were younger than they were. I haven't had that experience

in a great degree yet, but I remember calling on a pastor in his final days of life and him saying to me "I never thought I would end up here in the nursing home, in this condition, when I called on people in places like this." Funny I think about it a lot and wonder, "will I end up like that". Just as when I was younger I look to mentors to help me face aging. For example one person keeps telling me they are still young at 87 and I've seen many others like that throughout my years of ministry. My point in all of this is the longer I live the more important my Faith is in just getting through the day and struggles of the day. The book learning I've gotten over the years and still get by being an avid reader of a wide variety of books is very important. I'm now reading how the common chicken has had an effect on world history. Yet I see so many people and churches ruled less by Faith and more by fear. The folding of hands in prayer, is in many cases being reduced to a wringing of hands of being afraid. Change in life is impossible to avoid yet God offers to help us if we reach out to God in Faith not fear. It is not enough to spend our life in prayer, because often we are praying for the wrong things in the wrong way. We pray for things important in the world but not to God. Faith means being willing sometimes to accept the changes that come from living not praying that they not happen, when they are inevitable or attempting to ignore them. Many of the changes we face are like getting older. They are a part of living and if we are going to do that more and more we need to trust in God to get us through our daily lives and the changes we all face

---Pastor John.

THE OLDER YOU GET
THE BETTER YOU GET
UNLESS YOU'RE A
BANANA
BETTY WHITE

You can't help
getting older,
but you don't
have to get old.
- George Burns
Double Quotes
doublequotes.net

YOUNG AT HEART
SLIGHTLY OLDER
IN OTHER PLACES

WE SHOULD START
REFERRING TO 'AGE' AS
'LEVELS', SO WHEN YOU'RE
LVL 80 IT SOUNDS MORE
BADASS THAN JUST BEING
AN OLD PERSON.



“SPECIAL THANKS” TO DONNA FREDERICKSON,



WE HAVE BEEN SO BLESSED WITH HER TALENT AND DEDICATION TO FAITH UNITED CHURCH. **OCTOBER 06** WILL BE DONNA’S LAST DAY FOR PLAYING OUR ORGAN FOR OUR WORSHIP SERVICES.



The NEIGHBORS IN NEED offering, which we will receive on October 6, 2019, supports the UCC's ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. Two-thirds of the offering is used by the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries to fund a wide array of local and national justice initiatives, advocacy

efforts, and direct service projects. Through ucc.org/justice, our national Justice and Witness Ministries office offers resources, news updates, and action alerts on a broad spectrum of justice issues. Working with members of the UCC Justice and Peace Action Network (a network of thousands of UCC justice and peace advocates), Justice and Witness continues its strong policy advocacy work on issues such as the federal budget, voting rights, immigration, health care, hate crimes, civil liberties, and environmental justice. Neighbors in Need also supports our American Indian neighbors in the UCC. One-third of the offering supports the UCC's Council for American Indian Ministries (CAIM). Historically, forebears of the UCC established churches and worked with Lakota, Dakota, Nakota, Mandan, Hidatsa, Arickara, and Hockak in North and South Dakota, Wisconsin, and northern Nebraska. Today there are 20 UCC 30congregationson reservations and one urban, multi-tribal UCC congregation in Minneapolis, Minnesota. These churches and their pastors are supported by CAIM. CAIM is also an invaluable resource for more than 1,000 individuals from dozens of other tribes and nations who are members of other UCC congregations in the U.S.



Faith United Church has an active prayer chain. If you have prayer requests for someone, or yourself, call the church office at 283-2486 or Norma Krats at 285-7015. You must have permission to put someone on the chain...either from the person, or from a close relative. They will remain on the prayer chain list until a request to remove them is made.

To put someone on the list for Sunday bulletin prayers, call the church office at 283-2486. People will be on the list for one week only, unless you ask that they remain on the list. In that case, please call back when they can be removed.



October 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3 6:30pm Cub Scouts	4	5
6 2:00pm Worship Service "Neighbors in Need"	7 6:30pm Girl Scouts	8 10:00am Finance Mtg.	9 1-3:00pm Memory Cafe	10 12:00pm Elephant Eaters 6:30pm Cub Scouts	11	12
13 10:30am Worship Service	14 5-6:30pm Ruby's Pantry	15	16	17 9:00am Men's Club At Voyageur 11:30 Council Mtg.	18	19
20 10:30am Worship Service +PrayerChain FiresideRoom	21 6:30pm Girl Scouts	22	23 1-3:00pm Memory Cafe	24 10:00am Evangelism & Membership Meeting 6:30pm Cub Scouts	25	26
27 10:30am Worship Service	28	29	30	31 <i>Halloween</i> 		

November 2019 (tentative)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 ? Worship Service	4 6:30pm Girl Scouts	5	6	7 6:30pm Cub Scouts	8	9
10 ? Worship Service	11 5-6:30pm Ruby's Pantry	12 10:00am Finance Mtg.	13 1-3:00pm Memory Cafe	14 12:00p.m. Elephant Eaters 6:30pm Cub Scouts	15	16
17 ? Worship Service	18 6:30pm Girl Scouts	19	20	21 9:00am Men's Club At Voyageur 11:30 Council Mtg. 6:30pm Cub Scouts	22	23
24 ? Worship Service	25	26	27. 1-3:00pm Memory Cafe	28 <i>Thanksgiving Day</i> 	29	30

Faith United Church

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We're on the Web!


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www.faithuccifalls.org

Find us on Facebook 

Faith United Church UCC

*and don't forget to
become a fan!*

Matters of Faith is published by Faith United Church, UCC for it's members and friends

*No matter who you are,
or where you are on life's journey,
you are welcome here.* 



Address Correction Requested

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