

February Fourth Teller

2023 The Year of Evangelism

*The earnest prayer of a righteous person has great power
and produces wonderful results.*
-James 5:16b

Dear Fourth Avenue UMC Friends,

A few Sundays ago, I declared this year as The Year of Evangelism for Fourth Avenue United Methodist Church. As your pastor, I want to call us to a renewed attention to the church's mission of proclaiming and bearing witness to the good news of Jesus Christ. And I want to call each of us to renew our commitment to sharing the good news with our family and friends who are not walking by faith in Jesus Christ and many who are living in spiritual confusion. I want us to focus on our vital task of evangelism throughout this coming year.

As Christians, we have good news to share with the world. This is life-changing, eternity altering news. And Jesus wants to equip us to impact people with the gospel, to be fishers of men and women and hook people on Jesus. God the Holy Spirit is at work to stir the hearts of people to awaken to their need for Christ and cause them turn to him in repentance and faith. People are seeking answers to life's ultimate questions, healing for life's hurts and relief from guilt and shame. They are looking for a purpose to live for and people with whom to share their lives. They are longing for hope in uncertain times and ultimately in the promise of life eternal. Our faith in Christ answers each one of these human longings. Nothing else does.

One of the primary ways that we engage in this soul winning mission is through prayer. God calls us to pray fervently, frequently, and expectantly for those who are distant from God and groping in the darkness. The letter of James makes an incredibly inspiring and empowering claim:

*The earnest prayer of a righteous person has great power
and produces wonderful results.*
-James 5:16b

Armed with this word from God, we know we have an incredible weapon through prayer. God truly hears and responds to the prayers of those who are living in a right relationship with God. The earnest prayers we offer have great earth shattering power and bring about truly wonderful answers. And so, let's devote ourselves to soul winning prayer this year and be part of God's fishing and evangelistic mission.

Now here's an important disclaimer: When we pray that people will come to saving faith in Jesus Christ, our prayers cannot force them against their will to bow the knee to Jesus. They will always have free-will and the power to choose, but the promise of James is that our prayers will make a difference.

Prayer is an incredible spiritual weapon in the life of a believer. Through prayer, we go to battle against the forces of darkness and deception. We believe that every time we fall to our knees and pray darkness and deception recede and loosen their grip on those for whom we pray. Prayer is simply the foundation for the church's soul winning mission.

As Christians, one of the most painful things we experience is the knowledge that some people we know and love deeply do not have a saving relationship with Jesus Christ and could be lost eternally. If Jesus lived in your home and he knocked on your bedroom door one evening and made this promise: I am going to answer every single prayer you prayed last week. ***Would there be anyone new in the kingdom of God tomorrow? Let that question penetrate your mind, awaken your slumbering soul, and drive you to your knees. There is a great joy in joining with God to lead a lost sinner into God's eternal embrace.***

The prayers we offer for the salvation of lost souls have incredible power and is the foundation for the church's soul winning mission.

For 2023 as the Year for Evangelism for Fourth Avenue UMC, I am sincerely yours,

Pastor Greg



Coffee with Pastor Greg



A Coffee with Pastor Greg will be held in the Berean Room after worship on Sunday, February 12. Those who are new to Fourth Avenue United Methodist are invited to gather with others in the church family to get better acquainted and learn more about the church and Pastor Greg's personal story. Those who have been worshipping with us at Fourth Avenue UMC and are considering church membership are especially urged to attend.



May We Have Your "Souport"?

I "souple" it's time to think soup!!! That's right, folks, during the 6 Fridays of Lent (Feb. 24, March 3, March 10, March 17, March 24 and March 31) we need many "souperstars" to participate in our 2023 Lenten Soup Luncheons. There are several ways you can help – making desserts, prepping vegetables (veggie prep happens on Thursdays at 12:30 and 5:30), serving soup, waiting on tables, washing dishes, etc. – OR – if you are unable to work, making a donation to put toward buying ingredients would be "souperb"!!!! Please participate in any way you can to make this another memorable, meaningful and joy-filled "souple" endeavor. Our community truly enjoys our "souperior" soup!

Thank you!
Kelly Landsverk,
contact person for the Lenten Soup Luncheoncommittee
507-330-2840



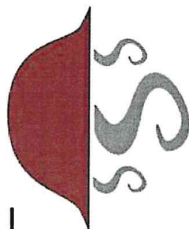
Welcome to Our 2023 Community Lenten Soup Luncheons

Serving 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM

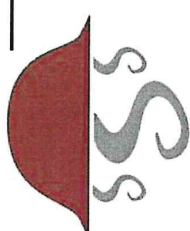
Adults: \$10.00 / Children 12 & Under: \$5.00

Family Plan \$25.00

All you care to eat soup served with bread, crackers, milk, coffee & water and 1 piece of dessert



Take Out: Quart of Soup \$9.00 Pint of Soup \$6.00 Dessert \$2.00
 For takeout orders, call 334-4308 Tuesday - Thursday 9 AM - Noon



Friday, February 24	Turkey Noodle	Hamburger Vegetable	•Chicken Wild Rice	*Cream of Potato
Friday, March 3	Turkey Noodle	Hamburger Vegetable	Pasta Fagioli	*Broccoli Cheese
Friday, March 10	Turkey Noodle	Hamburger Vegetable	•Chicken Wild Rice	*Corn Chowder
Friday, March 17	Turkey Noodle	Hamburger Vegetable	•Split Pea & Ham	*Cream of Potato
Friday, March 24	Turkey Noodle	Hamburger Vegetable	Chili	**Clam Chowder
Friday, March 31	Turkey Noodle	Hamburger Vegetable	•Chicken Wild Rice	*Broccoli Cheese

* Meatless soups • Gluten Friendly



Fourth Avenue United Methodist Church
 219 4th Avenue NW
 Faribault, MN 55021

Sunday Worship Service: 9:00 AM

Fellowship: 10:15 AM

In Sympathy



David L. DuChene, age 70, was born March 3, 1952 and passed away on January 22, 2023.

He honorably served with the 25th Army Infantry in the Vietnam War. David married Kathryn Kalien on April 7, 1973. David worked as a machinist in Faribault and Owatonna.

He was active in the American Red Cross, teaching CPR and first aid classes. He enjoyed hunting and fishing, and he felt peace at the lake. For many years David was a caretaker at Walcott Township's Woodman Cemetery.

David was a lifetime member of the VFW and later Disabled Veterans of America. He endured the emotional effects of war and lifelong effects of Agent Orange, being disabled with chronic heart and lung issues.

In 2019, David was introduced to the Believet Canine Service Partners organization. He strongly supported the Believet mission as a spokesperson, volunteer dog trainer, and mentor to fellow veterans.

David's illness stole his breath and his strength but certainly not his spirit or his love for his family. He leaves his wife **Kathy**, daughter **Sara DuChene-Boyd**, and son **Justin DuChene**, four grandchildren, other family and friends, and his buddy and faithful companion dog Jack.

Visitation will be Friday, February 10 from 1:00 – 3:00 pm, with a celebration of life service following at Fourth Avenue United Methodist Church. Private burial will be later.

Cards and memorials can be sent to the DuChene family at 910 9th Street SW, Faribault, MN 55021.

Rev. Dean A. Nosek, age 75, passed away on January 9, 2023.

He was ordained as a deacon in 1972 and as an elder in 1975 of the Minnesota Conference of the UMC. He is survived by seven of his children and his parents, Wallace and Mabel Nosek. Rev. Nosek was pastor at Fourth Avenue UMC from July 1, 2006 to August 31, 2007. A memorial service will be held in the Twin Cities at a future date.



Our condolences are extended to our sister **Alta (Lloyd) Holling** on the death of her brother, Leo Leslie, on January 1, 2023. You may send cards to the Hollings at 1425 Carriage Circle, Faribault, MN 55021.



Our condolences are extended to the family of **Dorothy Fischer**, a long-time Fourth Avenue UMC member, on January 17, 2023. A memorial service was held at Boldt Funeral Home on Tuesday, January 31 at 10:30 am with Pastor Greg Ciesluk presiding.





**INVITE
A FRIEND
SUNDAY**

February 12, 2023

Scripture Memory Verse For February

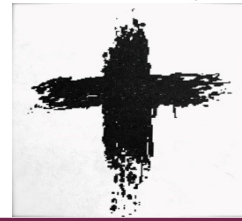
“The earnest prayer of a righteous person has great power and produces wonderful results.”

-James 5:16b

Ash Wednesday, February 22

Lent, the 40 day season (not including Sundays) which prepares us to celebrate the triumph of God in the resurrection of Jesus Christ begins this year on Ash Wednesday, February 22. Please mark your calendars as we begin this holy season with the Imposition of Ashes and Holy Communion.

Worship in the Sanctuary at 7:00 pm

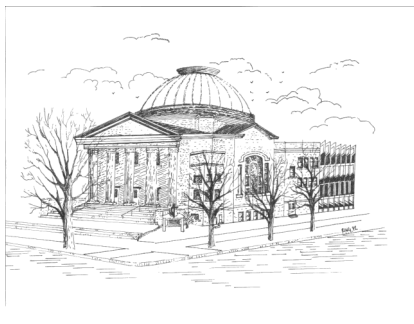


**Trustees, Church Council Announce
Project RESTORE**

The Church is now accepting gifts for Project RESTORE. The Sanctuary painting project will get underway in mid February. The ceiling of the Sanctuary including the dome will be painted by Steele Painting over the course of two or so weeks. The total cost will be just over \$66,000. Project RESTORE will be funded by the generosity of members and friends of Fourth Avenue UMC. It is hoped that our congregation will raise a third of the funds (\$22,000) for the current Sanctuary painting effort with other funds from the Building Preservation and Improvement (BPI) fund and the Bequests & Gifts (Endowment) Fund. You may mark your gifts for Project RESTORE.

Project RESTORE is under the direction of the Board of Trustees and Jim Heyer the Chairperson. Feel free to contact a member of the Trustees.

Jim Heyer, Chair	507-210-4654 (cell)
Marcia Speiker, Secretary	507-412-1975 (cell)
John Baldwin	507-380-3059 (cell)
Tom Bossmann	507-291-1357 (cell)
Mike Grundman	507-491-3208 (cell)
Ken Harren	507-779-0294 (cell)
Dale Hauptli	507-838-5232 (cell)
Jackie Luedke	507-685-2206 (home)
Kathy DuChene, Treasurer	507-323-5662 (cell)



Stay tuned for an upcoming mailing and weekly updates. It's an exciting time for our church and we pray and work for breakthroughs and a future with hope. Let's unite as we begin **Project RESTORE!**

February Birthdays

Julie Schiffer	03
Wanda Weber	03
Gerald Hildebrandt	05
Phyllis Ford	07
Andrew Ciesluk	07
Tamara Kern	09
John Baldwin	12
Kenneth Geary	14
Kevin Vrieze	18
Landon Hatfield	21
Sandra Jandro	22
William Sonpon	22
Dustin Hale	25
Elaine Dibble	28
Dwayne Weber	28

Prayer Chain

If you need prayer for any reason, there is an active group in our congregation committed to praying for you.

Contact **Carole Evans** at 507-210-6971 or e-mail her at caroleannjean@gmail.com.



February Worship Servers

Ushers

Khaler Grant

Will Sonpon

Hanna Gehrke

Dominic Ericksen

Lay Readers

Feb. 5 ~ Nicholas Sonpon

Feb 12 ~ Kirsten Grunnet

Feb 19 ~ Rebekah Ciesluk

Feb 26 ~ Gary Braun

Acolytes

Feb 5~ William Sonpon

Feb 12 ~ Khaler Grant

Feb 19 ~ Ella Prange

Feb 26 ~ Comfort Sonpon

February Anniversaries

John & Carole Evans	05
Jacob & Verus Kandakai	11
Kevin & Kathie Vrieze	14
Nathan & Kari Rosett	16
Raymond & JoAnn Schulz	23



Summer Camp

It's Time To Register For Camp! Registration has opened for the 2023 camping season! Check out the upcoming camp sessions at the Camp Minnesota website and pick your favorite camp location: Northern Pines, Koronis Ministries or Kowakan Adventures. Camp listings and registration information are on the Camp Minnesota website at camps@campminnesota.org. Scholarships are available to help with the cost.



United
Women
in Faith

United Women in Faith

Thursday, February 9, 2023

1:00 pm

1208 Mitchell Dr., Faribault

YOU ARE INVITED !

Please save the date for our February meeting!

February 2023 Fourth Teller Events

February 1 ~ Freedom Kids 5 pm, Choir 6 pm, & Confirmation 7 pm

February 2 ~ Trustees 6:30 pm & Operation 23 to 0 7pm

February 4 ~ Jesus Food at the Faribo Mall West 10 am

February 5 ~ Worship Celebration with Communion 9 am & Soup Luncheon Meeting 10:15 am

February 6 ~ Lakelanders 7 pm

February 7 ~ Ad Council 6:30 pm

February 8 ~ Freedom Kids 5 pm, Choir 6 pm, & Confirmation 7 pm

February 9 ~ United Women in Faith at Carolyn Minshall's home 1 pm

February 10 ~ David DeChene's Visitation 1 to 3 pm & Funeral Service 3 pm

February 12 ~ Worship Celebration-Invite a Friend Sunday 9 am & Coffee with Pastor 10:15 am

February 13 ~ Missions/Memorial Committee 7 pm & Lakelanders 7 pm

February 14 ~ Valentine's Day

February 15 ~ Freedom Kids 5 pm, Choir 6 pm, & Confirmation 7 pm

February 19 ~ Worship Celebration with Anointing of the Sick 9 am

February 20 ~ Lakelanders 7 pm

February 21 ~ Finance 2:45 pm

February 22 ~ Freedom Kids 5 pm, Choir 6 pm, & Ash Wednesday Service 7 pm

February 23 ~ Prepping veggies 12:30 pm & 5:30 pm & Pastor Greg & Rebekah leave for Walk to Emmaus through February 26

February 24 ~ Soup Luncheon 11 am to 1 pm

February 26 ~ Worship Celebration with Pastor Orde Preaching 9 am

February 27 ~ Lakelanders 7 pm

February 28 ~ SPRC 6:30 pm



Who is God, Anyway?



Eddy's got questions.

Written by Rebekah Ciesluk



Our very own Rebekah Ciesluk has published her first children's book! Eddy Elafontay with the help of his mother and friends discovers God loves him & lives in his heart. It is a heartwarming & inspiring book!

Signed copies of "Who is God, Anyway?" are available to purchase from the office for \$25. All proceeds from the sale of the book go to Freedom Kids.



Walk to Emmaus - February 2023

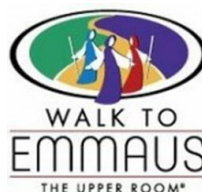
Are you looking for a way to energize your faith and equip yourself to be a more effective Christian disciple? The Walk to Emmaus provides a life-giving 72 hour retreat experience that many have found to be an experience of a lifetime.

The Walk to Emmaus experience begins with the prayerful invitation from a sponsor or someone who has walked the journey before you. You are expected to be a member of a local church, have a desire to strengthen your spiritual life; and willing to dedicate your life to God in an ongoing manner.

Men's Walk is February 16-19, 2023.

Women's Walk is February 23-26, 2023.

Interested persons may contact Pastor Greg at 218-310-8813 to find out more information.



Welcome Kirsten Grunnet

The Staff Parish Relations Committee is excited to announce our newest staff member - **Kirsten Grunnet** as our church's Administrative Assistant. She began on January 24. Kirsten brings to our church staff a love for God and the Church and a lifelong desire to serve God through the Church. Her faith in Christ and love for the church was nurtured in her high school years by a woman who served in a similar position in her church in Montana where Kirsten grew up. Kirsten also brings a wide breadth of life and work experiences, people and computer skills.



In addition, Kirsten works part-time at Shattuck-St. Mary's as the administrative assistant for Health Services. Kirsten and her husband Peter joined the church on Pentecost Sunday 2022 and now sing in the choir. Kirsten also served on the R.E.M. Liberia Board. They have three children - Isaac, Maren & Anna (Anna joined the church in November) and they have three corgis - Watson, Basil, & Gigi Joy.

As Kirsten settles into the position, she will be in the church office on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays, 1:30-4 pm.

Kirsten loves the warm, welcoming church home family found at Fourth Ave UMC! She is excited to be the hands & feet of Jesus!

Please give Kirsten a hearty Fourth Avenue UMC welcome.

Congratulations Ella Prange

Our very own **Ella Prange** was recognized as a member of the Faribault Emeralds Dance team on Monday, January 30th. Here is a picture of Ella and Pastor Greg at the recent dance event. Ella is a senior at Faribault High School and the daughter of **Brad & Elizabeth Prange**. She has been dancing with the Emeralds for the past six years. The team recently won the Overall Big 9 Championship! Congratulations to Ella on her hard work in dance! Fourth Avenue UMC is so proud of your dedication to dance, school & the church!



Welcome Jean



Greg and Rebekah Ciesluk are now a host family for the Rotary Exchange Program. Here they are with their foreign exchange student Jirapat "Jean" Piyapanee from Thailand. The photo was taken after the Winter Band Concert at Faribault High School. Jean is a percussionist. He also plays basketball and tennis and plays guitar and some piano. He is a fan of the NBA's Golden State Warriors.

**Fourth Avenue
United Methodist
Church
219 4th Ave NW
Faribault, MN**



Pastor Greg Ciesluk

Phone: 218-310-8813

Pastorgreg.fourthaveumc
@gmail.com

Office Email:

fourthaveumcoffice@gmail.com

WWW.FOURTHAVEUMC.ORG

Phone: 507-334-4308

Office Hours: 1:30 pm-4:00 pm

Tuesday-Thursday

Staff

Choir Director: Kelly Landsverk

Accompanist: Doug Madow

Nursery Attendant: Kim Luedke

Custodian: Ken Harren

Admin Asst: Kirsten Grunnet

Office Volunteer: Kathy DuChene

Sunday Worship/9:00 AM

Join us at 2:42 PM daily as we pray our church's Breakthrough Prayer.



Our Church's Breakthrough Prayer

O God, our God, we praise and magnify Your Name!

Great are You, Lord, and greatly to be praised

With you, all things are possible.

We know that you are *with* us and *for* us

and Your plans are for our good,

for a future and a hope.

Breakthrough into our lives and into our church.

Stir up afresh our faith.

Set our hearts aflame with the fire of your love.

Open our eyes to new, fresh possibilities
and fill us anew with the power of your Spirit.

Usher us into a new season of faithfulness
and fruitfulness for your Kingdom;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.