

A Season of New Beginnings

*“Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ!
In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope
through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead...”*
-1 Peter 1:3



Dear Fourth Avenue UMC Friends,

Ready or not! The Fall is here. September signals a season of new beginnings as the summer gives way to the fall, school resumes for students, leisure time gives way to greater structure, and church life picks up. I trust you’ve noticed our attendance at Sunday worship has been strong throughout the summer and the buzz is palpable as we gather on Sundays. I have been very gratified to see this momentum building among us. And so, as I enter this season in my leadership as your pastor, I have been giving a great deal of thought as to priorities for myself and the church for the next nine months. I would like to share my four priorities with you in this column.

- **Awaken and Strengthen Faith in Jesus Christ**

The church’s core mission is to make disciples of Jesus Christ. This is the main thing. Through this upcoming year, I will be emphasizing the importance of deepening and developing our faith in Jesus and teaching about the practices that grow our faith and make it strong. Beginning October 2, we will commence the *Commitment to Christ* campaign. This will give each of us and our congregation at large an opportunity to rethink our commitment to Christ and grow in our life of faith. Stay tuned for more details this month in worship and the weekly e-newsletter.

- **Practice Building Biblical Christian Community**

Disciples of Jesus Christ live in community and are obedient to his commands. A strong, vibrant Christian community functions well in accordance with God’s design revealed in Scripture. Coming out of the pandemic gives us a great opportunity to build our church family on biblical principles. Toward this end I hope to teach on the “one another” commands in the New Testament, raise up a lay team of persons who can minister to others in need of prayer, and encourage home gatherings. I also want to ask you to participate in the congregational meetings that will be happening monthly with Rev. Susan Nienaber. You can read more about our first gathering on Wednesday, September 21 from our Council Chair, Deb Jindra-Pope, (p. 5) in this edition of the Fourth Teller.

- **Develop a Signature Children’s Ministry**

The call to pass the faith onto succeeding generations is core to the gospel. This has been an area of weakness for some time. We now have an energetic leader in Rebekah Ciesluk we can rally around and a few young families with which we can start a movement. Now is the time! I want to see a team of supporters and co-laborers form to develop this ministry. I believe there are many families with young children in our community who will respond to such an initiative.

- **Strengthen the Culture of Leadership**

Everything rises and falls on leadership. A congregation can only prosper to the degree its leaders lead. There is a lot expected of our church leaders and riding on them. Toward that end, we need to invest more resources to develop our church's leaders. Coming out of Covid, we will re-institute a three-year cycle of leadership on committees and calling forth new leaders this fall and hold a leadership retreat some time in the coming year.

I hope you will consider these priorities in your thoughts and discussions with one another. And keep praying for God to pour out his Holy Spirit upon our church and energize us as we go into this momentous season of new beginnings.

For a fruitful season of new beginnings, I am sincerely yours,

Pastor Greg

September Memory Verse

*"Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ!
In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope
through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead..."*
-1 Peter 1:3

Upcoming Worship Celebration

Sept. 4 - Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

"Choose Life"

Pastor Jef Olson preaching

Prayer Chain

We're always looking for people willing to join us in our ministry of intercession, especially in moments of crisis.

When a need becomes known, email alerts are sent out and people pray. What a difference our prayers make!

YOU can join the growing ranks of Fourth Avenue UMC's prayer chain. Please know you can still be an important part of this ministry without having email. Phone calls can be made as well.

To join, please contact our Coordinator, **Carole Evans** at:

caroleannjean@gmail.com

or 507-210-6971.



Offering

August 28

Unified Budget \$2,738.00



Calendar of Events

September 1	Trustees, 6:30 pm in Parlor
September 1	Operation 23 to Zero, 7 pm in Library
September 3	Jesus Food, 10 am to 12 noon Faribo West Mall
September 4	“Choose Life,” Pastor Jef Olson preaching
September 7	Choir Practice, 6 pm in Choir Room
September 8	United Women in Faith, 1:00 pm in Parlor
September 8	Ad Council, 6:30 pm in the Parlor ** Please note change of date**
September 14	Choir Practice, 6 pm in Choir Room
September 15	Rice County Piecemakers, 7:00 pm in Fellowship Hall
September 17	Walk/Stroll for Ataxia, 9:00 am to 1:00 pm Wolfe Park, St. Louis Park
September 18	Coffee with Pastor Greg, 10:15 am Berean Room
September 20	Finance, 2:45 pm in Parlor
September 21	Choir Practice, 6 pm in Choir Room
September 21	Congregational Meeting, 7:00 pm in Parlor with Susan Nienaber *invitation to ALL who are part of FAUMC*
September 23 & 24	Faribault Prays 3:00 pm on 9-23 to 3:00 pm on 9-24
September 27	SPRC meeting, 6:30 pm in Parlor
September 28	Choir Practice, 6 pm in Choir Room
September 5, 12, 19 & 26 Lakelanders Practice, 7:00 pm in Choir Room	

Instructions for Online Giving

Steps to set up an online giving account through VANCO:

1. Go to giving page: www.fourthaveumc.org
2. Select 'Sign Up' in the upper right of the giving page
3. Enter your first and last name, along with your email and a password for future access.
4. Check your email for your VANCO profile confirmation code.
5. Enter the code within designated field to confirm your email and complete your sign up

Video Walk Thru: <https://share.vidyard.com/watch/Jy7ZGhKQQDERE9vkrKcN4R>

www.fourthaveumc.org

Like us on Facebook

September Birthdays

Stephanie Hagberg	02
Kim Luedke	04
Father Henry Doyle	07
Zach Waterston	12
Madeline (Maddy) Schiffer	14
Irene Eiler	18
Henry Morgan	18
Keith Stoos	18
Melva Ochs	20
George Smith	25
John Evans	26
Kelly Shimmin	26
Cheryl Kleeberger	29
Hunter Hale	29
Michael Grundman	30
Joe Jandro	30



Our Sympathy

We extend our sympathy to **Elaine (and Leon) Dibble** on the death of Elaine's sister, **Marlene Ress**.

Marlene was born on January 14, 1933. She passed away on Tuesday, August 9, 2022 at her home in Faribault at the age of 89. Private family services were held at Maple Lawn Cemetery in Faribault.

Please send cards to Elaine and Leon Dibble at 1542 Hemlock Ave, Owatonna, MN 55060.

September Anniversaries

Toby & Corrie Wikoff	05
David & Joyce Buresh	06
Brent & Tamara Kern	14
Jack & Jackie Luedke	16
Dan & Pam Kucera	23
Jesse & Ashley Osmundson	27

October

Wayne & Audrey Quiggle	10/01
Kelly & Karen Shimmin	10/01

Average Worship Attendance

<u>Month</u>	<u>In Person</u>	<u>Online</u>
January 2022	32	16
February 2022	45	17
March 2022	48	15
April 2022	73	18
May 2022	68	10
June 2022	69	12
July 2022	72	24
August 2022	58	13

September Worship Servers

Ushers

September 04 ~ Jan Barbo & John Baldwin
September 11 ~ to be determined
September 18 ~ to be determined
September 25 ~ to be determined

Lay Readers

September 04 ~ Kelly Landsverk
September 11 ~ Deb Jindra-Pope
September 18 ~ Shari VanDerVeen
September 25 ~ Rod Mahler

Acolytes

September 04 ~ Ella Prange
September 11 ~ Comfort Sonpon
September 18 ~ William Sonpon
September 25 ~ Ella Prange

Monthly Congregation Meeting

Please Join Us In The Church Parlor

On Wednesday, September 21st at 7 pm our congregation will have the opportunity to begin a series of meetings with Rev. Susan Nienaber, Director of Congregational Vitality for the Minnesota UMC. These meetings will be designed to teach us how to best communicate effectively and respectfully with each other on topics involving our church's future. This is not just for church leaders, committee members, etc., **it is an invitation to all who are part of the FAUMC congregation.** Meetings will be held once a month until spring, with the exception of no meeting in December.

In our first congregational gathering, we will review the use of circle processes, talk about the practice of good dialogue, develop our agreements as a group and spend some time practicing. This will be an important time to set the frame for our future work together as a congregation.

In today's world where controversy is so prevalent, what a great opportunity to learn and practice new processes and skills. What we learn will become useful not only for the betterment of our church family, but also in all aspects of our personal lives. And to top it off, dessert and coffee will be served!!! You won't want to miss it.

Deb Jindra-Pope, Ad Council Chair

Coffee with Pastor Greg



If you have been worshipping with us at Fourth Avenue UMC and would like to consider joining the church, plan to join Pastor Greg for coffee after worship on **Sunday, September 18, at 10:15 am in the Annex/Berean Room area.**

Participation in the coffee does not indicate a decision to join the church, only an interest to know more.

Congratulations!

We extend congratulations on behalf of our entire church family to Amanda Weber and Michael Allison who were united in marriage on Saturday, August 20, 2022 in St. Peter, MN.

Parents are Dwayne and Wanda Weber and brother, Christian. Amanda's grand parents are Joe and Sandy Jandro, also of our congregation.



Thank You Note From Andy Prange

Church Family,
Thank you for the generous gift of \$1,000 to put toward my college tuition. I am looking forward to returning to Faribault from Duluth this December with my engineering degree completed. This gift will give me a reminder that I have a strong foundation of faith to come home to.

Thanks again for being so giving, Andy



The Upper Room devotional booklet includes a daily reading of the scriptures & a brief life story. Stop by the information center to pick one up, or call the church office and we will send you one.

There is a new issue available now for September/October.

Donation - \$1.00.

Church Directory Update

The church paper directory is being updated in our data base. Please let me know if your contact information has changed (address, phone, email, etc.) so we have the most recent info.

Feel free to contact me with questions or concerns. Thank you.

Kathy DuChene

Meals on Wheels

Fourth Avenue delivered meals to individuals in the Faribault area for the weeks of August 1-5 and August 8-12.

Volunteers were **Carole Evans, Dan & Shari VanDerVeen, Deb Jindra-Pope, Linda Hellevik and Jan Barbo.**

Thanks to all of you for serving on our behalf in this beautiful way.

Choir Practice to Begin

Choir practice is about to begin! Anyone interested in singing in the Fourth Avenue Choir is invited to join us at rehearsals on Wednesday nights, starting Wednesday, September 7th at 6 pm in the choir room in the lower level.

Looking forward to singing praises to God with members old and new!!

Kelly Landsverk

United Women of Faith

United Women of Faith held our August meeting on the 11th of August. It was a salad pot luck luncheon at Carolyn Minshall's home. We had a group of 14. Everyone brought something wonderful to share. We also welcomed two new members to our group, Donna Smith and Marcia Morris-Beck. A short business meeting was held to discuss an issue that had come to our attention. We want to thank Carolyn for sharing her home with us.

Our next meeting will be September 8th at 1:00 pm in the church parlor. Everyone is welcome.

Carole Evans, Secretary

YOUR Help is Needed!



Thank you for your faithfulness in consistently supporting the ministry of Fourth Avenue UMC with your presence and gifts. Our income has been running very close to our local expenses. However, with our total annual budget of \$206,440 (which includes apportionments), we need \$3,970 a week to cover all expenses. The end result IS our apportionments are NOT getting paid, except for the funds received that are designated for apportionments.

Thank you for your support!

Kathy DuChene,
Church Treasurer

Jesus Food Packing Event

**Saturday, September 3, 10 am - 12 noon
at Faribo West Mall**

Join us **Saturday, September 3, 2022 from 10 am - 12 noon** at the Faribo West Mall to pack food for individuals in need.

Be a part of this fellowship and make a difference in many lives.

Please bring a friend to share in this meaningful experience.



Walk/Stroll for Ataxia

Dear Friends,

We are fundraising for the National Ataxia Foundation because they do amazing work, and we're inviting friends like you to support our campaign.

This year's walk is Saturday, September 17th at:

Wolfe Park
3700 Monterey Drive
St. Louis Park, MN 55416
9:00 am - 1:00 pm

You can find out more about the organization and make a donation here: <https://igfn.us/vf/AtaxiaWalkMN/team/GrantnLauri> or stop and see one of us in church. You can also donate by text by texting AtaxiaWalkMN84 to 71777.

Thanks for taking a moment to check it out!

Grant and Lauri Lammin

Special Thanks to Kelly Landsverk

Thank you Kelly for organizing our "special music series" for the summer. Also thanks to Doug Madow for sharing his talents at each of our services! Many individuals have shared their gifts with us. The music has been inspirational, making each service special and unique.

Thank you both for continuing to bless our worship services!

Faribault Prays

The Fifth Annual **Faribault Prays** event is scheduled for 3 pm Friday, September 23 to 3 pm on Saturday, September 24.

God's people from area churches are uniting their prayers to seek God's welfare for the city. Our church is assigned to pray for a downtown route.

You and a friend can walk, ride in your car, bike or motorcycle, or pray from the comfort of your home.

Pick up your prayer guide, map, a button to wear and sign up for your time slot. Watch the weekly news for more information.



To All Who Enjoy A Walk In The Fall

Once again, the Faribault community churches will be participating in the annual fundraiser, Crop Walk. The money raised is used to address hunger and poverty locally and around the world. A portion goes to our local food shelves. The remaining funds not only provide food to other countries, but support the means and education for those countries to find ways to improve their diets through better methods of growing their own crops, developing updated irrigation systems, raising livestock and poultry, to name a few.

In Faribault the participating churches vie to see which congregation can raise the most money. FAUMC has supported this project for many years. This year the walk will be held on Saturday, October, 1st. Registration begins at 8:10 am in the cloister of The Cathedral of Our Merciful Saviour. The walk is only about one mile and we are usually done before 10 am. We would especially love to have our young people join us. Anyone wishing to participate or support our walkers by making a donation, contact Deb Jindra-Pope for information and/or a donation envelope:

Deb Jindra-Pope
email: debjindra@gmail.com
cell phone: 952-237-9693

Have You Heard It?

All week LONG.....

I've been singing this SONG.....

“This is the day, this is the day that the Lord hath made, that the Lord hath made.

Let us rejoice, let us rejoice and be glad in it, and be glad in it.

This is the day that the Lord hath made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

This is the day, this is the day that the Lord hath made.”

Please join me, so I can hear all of you!
Kathy DuChene

Servants Wanted To Enhance Church Communications

Do you like to take pictures on your phone?

We are looking for a person or two who would take pictures of the church at worship, fellowship, and activities and submit them to the church office so we can pepper our weekly communications with signs of the many blessings that are stirring among us.

Do you have a way with words and enjoy writing?

We are looking for people who would like to write about the good things that have happened or are happening in our church and community. The mission of Christ is greatly impacted by the way we use our words to tell God's story.

If you would like to serve in these ways, speak to Pastor Greg or Kathy DuChene.

August Was Rural Evangelism Mission - Liberia Month



Our Rural Evangelism Mission – Liberia Breakfast Fundraiser on August 21st was a very successful event. Approximately 75 individuals met in the Fellowship Hall after worship for a delicious breakfast of various egg bakes, fruit, hashbrown casserole, breads, coffee and orange juice. There was excitement in the air as our fellowship continued. Guests joined us from other churches as well as supporters of R.E.M. from outside of our church. A total of \$6,135 was raised. Of this amount, 64 scholarships were designated totaling \$4,800, and \$1,335 was received in donations for evangelist revivals being held throughout the year, Christmas parties and gifts for the students.

THANK YOU to everyone participating! Tena Harren provided her leadership and organizational skills to the Board for this event. Thrivent provided a gift of \$250.00 for advertising, decorating, food and supplies needed. The Board thanks ALL who made this event successful!

R.E.M. will keep you informed of events as they happen over the next few months. Funds have recently been wired to Liberia, so the school registration process has begun. We have identified 41 students at this time for scholarships. The remaining money designated for scholarships will be kept for the next enrollment period. Thank you for your support!

Great Joy in the House

There was great joy in the house on Sunday, August 21st, as we gathered for worship. A buzz permeated the group as we felt the power of God in our midst and anticipated what God was going to do among us. From the beginning, the Praise Band, back from their Covid hiatus, led us to offer our voices in joyful song and shared some uplifting songs that had our toes tapping, and our hands clapping.

A special thank you to our Praise Band members: **Kelly Landsverk, Brad Prange, Lauri Lammin, Jean Vincent**, vocalists; **Doug Madow**, piano and guitar; **Chris Schiffer**, guitar and **Kelly Shimmin**, percussion.



Summer Music Series

Thank you Pastor Greg for sharing special music with us this past Sunday.

Pastor sang “We Believe” as part of the worship service. Thanks for being a part of our summer music series.



**Fourth Avenue United
Methodist Church
219 4th Ave NW
Faribault, MN
55021-5170**



◆ **Sunday Worship 9:00 AM**

Pastor Greg Ciesluk

Phone: 218-310-8813

Pastorgreg.fourthaveumc@gmail.com

Office Email:

fourthaveumcoffice@gmail.com

Phone: 507-334-4308

Office Hours: 9:00 am to 1:00 pm

Tuesday thru Thursday

Staff:

Choir Director: Kelly Landsverk

Organ/Accompanist: Doug Madow

Nursery Attendant: Kim Luedke

Custodian: Ken Harren

Secretary: Sue Allen

Office Volunteer: Kathy DuChene

Tech Volunteers: Grant & Lauri
Lammin

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.