

## GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### PRELUDE

#### \*CALL to WORSHIP

Who is this Christ-Child, born in poverty, laid in a manger?

**Why, he is the Messiah, the one sent by God!**

Sent? Why was he sent?

**Jesus answered like this: “The Spirit of God is upon me. God has anointed me to preach good news to the poor.”**

Was he not also sent to “Proclaim release for captives, the recovery of sight to the blind!”

**Yes, and to “set at liberty those who are oppressed” and to proclaim the kingdom of God to all! Jesus is born; Jesus is Lord! Let us worship and give praise to God!**

#### \*PASSING OF THE PEACE

HYMN UMH # 242

*“Love Came Down at Christmas”*

#### \*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**We believe in Jesus our Christ and in the beauty of the gospel that began in Bethlehem.**

**We believe in him whom the kings of earth have tried to dismiss and the proud could seldom understand; whose paths were among the common people.**

**We believe in him who proclaimed the love of God to be invincible: whose cradle was a mother’s arms; who looked at others and made them see what his love saw in them; who, through his love, lifted up human weakness to meet the strength of God.**

**We acknowledge the glory of all that is like Christ... the steadfastness of friends, the blessedness of homes, the beauty of compassion, the miracle of hearts made kind at Christmastime.**

**We believe in God’s preferred future and in a faith that can see beyond present evils toward a life and world redeemed. All this we believe through Jesus who is the Christ. Amen.**

### CHILDREN’S MOMENT

SHARING of JOYS, CONCERNS and  
GOD MOMENTS

### SILENT PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

#### OUR LORD’S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen**

\*HYMN *“That Boy-Child of Mary”* UMH #241

\*HYMN *“There’s a Song in the Air”* UMH #249

SCRIPTURE Luke 2:22-40

MEDITATION *“The Eyes Have It”*

### RECEIVING OUR GIFTS

### OFFERTORY MUSIC

\*GLORIA DOXOLOGY *(Refrain from 238 UMH)*

### PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**Loving God, we present to you our gifts. With your grace, turn these gifts of money into something of value for your Kingdom. We praise you with our voices and with our lives. Amen.**

\*HYMN *“Go Tell It on the Mountain”* UMH #251

\*SINGING BENEDICTION UMH #228  
*“He Is Born” refrain, verse 3, refrain*

## 101<sup>ST</sup> BIRTHDAY

Please join Kermit Schulz for cupcakes and ice cream to celebrate his 101<sup>st</sup> birthday at 2:30 p.m. in the dining area of the Spring Valley Care Center on Sunday, December 31<sup>st</sup> or Monday, January 1.

## BIRTHDAY OPEN HOUSE

An open house for friends and family of Herb & Jean Barnhart, in observance of their 90<sup>th</sup> birthdays, will be held on January 6<sup>th</sup> from 10-11 am at Spring Valley Living Estates. Cards only please. Their address is 820 Memorial Drive Suite 143, Spring Valley, MN 55975.

## FAITH FAMILY FINANCES – December 24th

Year to date budget	\$193,466.54
Year to date giving	\$174,701.22
Needed weekly to meet our budget	\$ 3,720.50
Offering	\$ 6,386.62
Attendance	207

## CONFERENCE ANNOUNCEMENT

New Tax Reform Legislation raises the standard deduction for income taxes beginning in 2018. If you currently itemize, and are financially able to do so, consider giving some or all of next year's gifts to your church before the end of this year. You can claim your gifts on your 2017 taxes and give the church a boost. To qualify, your gift must be made by the end of this year, on or before December 31. Contact the Minnesota United Methodist Foundation if you have questions.

## OUR SCHEDULE

1/1	2:30 pm	Kermit Schulz Birthday Party Office Closed
1/3	6:00 pm	Parish Council at Faith
	7:00 pm	Confirmation Class
1/4	7:00 pm	Worship Committee Meeting
1/6	10:00 am	Herb & Jean Barnhart Party
1/7	9:00 am	Worship – Communion
	10:00 am	Sunday School/Youth Coffee & Fellowship
	6:00 pm	Cowboy Church
1/8	6:30 pm	Handbell Rehearsal
1/9	7:00 pm	Trustee Meeting
1/10	7:00 pm	Confirmation
1/11	6:00 pm	Staff Parish Meeting
	6:30 pm	Finance Meeting
	7:00 pm	Church Council
1/14	7:45 am	Vocal Choir Rehearsal
	9:00 am	Worship
	10:00 am	Sunday School/Youth Coffee & Fellowship
	11:00 am	Kitchen Upgrade Meeting Anyone interested may attend.

## YOUTH

Classes for students in 7<sup>th</sup> grade and higher will begin January 7<sup>th</sup> at 10 am. Snacks will be provided. It's time to answer the challenge and let teens know just how important they are to God.

# FAITH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

First Sunday after Christmas  
December 31, 2017



The People Of  
Fountain, Cherry Grove and Spring Valley  
In Ministry Together With  
Rev. David Lieder & Rev. Deanna Woodward