

September 2022

FAIRVIEW UNITED METHODIST CHURCH NEWSLETTER

Loving God & Loving Others = worship + missions



**ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI:
MAKE ME AN INSTRUMENT
OF YOUR PEACE**

LORD, MAKE ME AN
INSTRUMENT OF YOUR
PEACE.
WHERE THERE IS HATRED,
LET ME SOW LOVE;
WHERE THERE IS INJURY,
PARDON;
WHERE THERE IS DOUBT,
FAITH;
WHERE THERE IS DESPAIR,
HOPE;
WHERE THERE IS
DARKNESS, LIGHT;
AND WHERE THERE IS
SADNESS, JOY.
O DIVINE MASTER, GRANT
THAT I MAY NOT SO MUCH
SEEK
TO BE CONSOLED AS TO
CONSOLE;
TO BE UNDERSTOOD AS TO
UNDERSTAND;
TO BE LOVED AS TO LOVE.
FOR IT IS IN GIVING THAT
WE RECEIVE;
IT IS IN PARDONING THAT
WE ARE PARDONED;
AND IT IS IN DYING THAT
WE ARE BORN TO ETERNAL
LIFE.
AMEN.

The **International Day of Peace**, also officially known as World Peace Day, is a United Nations-sanctioned holiday observed annually on September 21st. On this day, the UN Peace Bell is rung at UN Headquarters in New York. The inscription of the Peace Bell says "Long live absolute world peace." The day was first celebrated in 1981 and has grown to become a day of global celebration, education, and reflection on peace in local communities and throughout the world.

Peace Day activities: *Minute of silence at 12 noon (all timezones)
*Peace education events *Intercultural and interfaith dialogues
*Workshops on the UN Peace Day theme *Meditation and prayer
*Planting peace poles *Community gatherings *Vigils *Concerts and festivals
*Soccer/football matches in the spirit of peace *Service to others
*Feasts for Peace *Writing peace poetry *Yoga *Marches, parades and flag ceremonies
*Public programs with government officials *Engaging youth in peace-building activities.

Engaging in Peace Day can take place privately, as part of a group and/or as a participant in an event or program.

Peace Garden: Did you know there is a Peace Garden in Dunseith, North Dakota? Dr. Henry J. Moore of Islington, Ontario conceived the idea of a garden on an international border where people could share interests and celebrate friendship in 1928. A year later, he proposed the idea and the National Association of Gardeners who approved the plan for the International Peace Garden. Manitoba donated 1451 acres and North Dakota purchased and donated 888 acres to the garden along the international boundary line. The International Peace Garden established its organizational structure and hired a landscape architect from Minneapolis who began turning ideas into reality. By 1934 operations were well underway and the Civilian Conservation Corp descended upon the area to perform the physical labor of turning the prairie and forestland into a garden to celebrate peace.

Romans 12:17-19 (MSG)

Don't hit back; discover beauty in everyone. If you've got it in you, get along with everybody. Don't insist on getting even; that's not for you to do. "I'll do the judging," says God. "I'll take care of it."

#BEUMC

ResourcesUMC.org/BeUmc

Christ's prayer for our unity and command to gather all to the table, to make space for one another, appreciate one another, and look for Christ in each other, prohibits us from creating individual tables only for those who think, act, look, and perceive the world like we do. The #BeUMC campaign honors the core values that connect the people of The United Methodist Church. This grassroots campaign, built upon powerful stories of congregations and people living their faith, celebrates what draws us to The UMC and what we aspire to be.

DISCIPLE MAKING:

First and foremost, we are dedicated to the mission of making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world in the tradition of John Wesley.

Matthew 28:18-20

Jesus came near and spoke to them, "I've received all authority in heaven and on earth. Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to obey everything that I've commanded you. Look, I myself will be with you every day until the end of this present age."

Following his resurrection, Jesus prepares the disciples for his ascension. MaShew closes his gospel with Jesus's final words to his disciples, which we sometimes refer to as the Great Commission. The mission statement of The United Methodist Church echoes the Great Commission. Our role as United Methodists is to continue the work of making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

- According to MaShew, this is the first time the disciples are seeing Jesus after the resurrection.
- MaShew tells us "they worshipped him, but some doubted." Why would some doubt? What do you think is the source of their doubt?
- In their faith and doubt, Jesus directs them to continue his work in his physical absence. They are to make disciples of all nations, baptize and teach.
- How has The Great Commission been misunderstood and misused through the years? How should we understand it?
- Jesus begins by saying, "I've received all authority in heaven and on earth." What does Jesus' authority have to do with the commandment to make disciples of all nations?

- Jesus concludes by telling the disciples that he will be with them. Why do you think he includes that here? How might the disciples (and we) find it comforting that Jesus is with us every step of the way?

Something to think about:
How will you encourage discipleship in those around you this week?

VIRGINIA COMMUNITY SENIOR CENTER

Join the Virginia Community Senior Center on Wednesday, September 21st at 2:00 p.m. in the Virginia UMC Fellowship Hall.



CHARGE CONFERENCE

Our Charge Conference will be held at the Jacksonville Centenary UMC on Sunday, October 30th at 4:00 p.m.

OUR STAFF AND SERVICES AT A GLANCE

FAIRVIEW UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

3135 N. Cr 800e
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10:00 AM Fairview Sunday School
10:50 AM Fairview Worship Service

Pastor: J. William Werner
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