



Living Faith
United Methodist Church

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Pastor Jaime Farias

Sunday, December 27, 2020

It's Time

Matthew 7:7-8

Prayer Requests

- **Dennis Lunde** ~ healing
- **Pat Falk** ~ health
- **Tom Collin's youngest Son Kory** ~ health
- **All who are feeling isolated and lonely**
- **Bishop Ruben Saenz, Jr.** for his leadership and for modeling life in Christ
- **Transition for LF & All UMC's**
- **Protection from viruses and illnesses going around**
- **Shirley Morris** ~ healing, encouragement
- **Donna Chaney** ~ health & strength
- **Gloria Peterson** ~ health
- **Our nation, our leaders** ~ wisdom and discernment
- **Vernon Thomsen** ~ health, pain management
- **Elderly, shut ins**
- **Adeng , Annie, Julie Kristin, and Renson Michael Chen**
- **Pray for Marriages, Families, Relationships**
- **LFUMC, and all of God's churches**



Merry Christmas!

GREETINGS FROM LIVING FAITH UMC

Christmas Eve Worship

5:00 p.m. Family Worship

11:00 p.m. Worship

From The Pastor

SO, THIS IS CHRISTMAS!

It has already been six months since July 1st when I came to serve Omaha Living Faith UMC. I give thanks to the Lord for giving me such a blessing. Praise be to his holy name! What a wonderful experience he has granted us, right? Perhaps you never thought having a Hispanic minister as your pastor. But here we are, learning together, what does it mean to be like Rudolph the Red Nose Reindeer leading Santa Claus's sleigh.

I know it is not easy to welcome someone with a different ethnicity. Other churches are having quite the same experience as well. There are some other clergies from Latin America, Africa, Korea, and other Asian countries, serving as pastors just in the Great Plains Annual Conference. The truth is we all are God's holy people, and we are all members of Jesus Christ's Body. Indeed, "There is no longer Jew or Gentile, slave or free, male and female. For you are all one in Christ Jesus." (Galatians 3:28).

The Christmas story tells us about a child that was born more than two thousand years ago. He was not an ordinary child because he was the Son of God, the Most High and Holy One. Yet, when he was born in a small village called Bethlehem, where nobody knew about him. The Lord sent his Angel to announce Jesus' birth to the shepherds staying in the fields nearby. Yes, these outcasts from the Israelite society were the first ones hearing the Good News about it. "Don't be afraid!" he said. "I bring you good news that will bring great joy to all the people. The Savior—yes, the Messiah, the Lord—has been born today in Bethlehem, the city of David!"

Even Jesus himself didn't have a place to lay his head. His mother, Mary, laid him in a manger, because there was no lodging available for them in Bethlehem. He came to his own people, and even they rejected him. Jesus Christ was the creator and owner of this world, but the world didn't recognize him. Only those who believe in him and accept him as their Savior and Lord, they receive the right to become children of God.

So, "this is Christmas", as John Lennon tells us in his song, "And what you have done; another year over, a new one just begun. And so this is Christmas, for weak and for strong; the rich and the poor ones have waited so long. And so happy Christmas, for black and for white, for yellow and red ones, let's stop all the fight." A very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Let's hope it's a good one without any fear."

Thank you, beloved, for welcoming me as your pastor. My wife, my family, and I, appreciate so much your warm hospitality and kindness.

We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Pastor Jaime

METRO CITY PRAYER
DECEMBER 2020
IMMIGRANTS/REFUGEES

“And you saw how the LORD your God cared for you all along the way as you traveled through the wilderness, just as a father cares for his child. Now He has brought you to this place.” Deuteronomy 1:31

**“He found him in a desert land, and in the howling waste of a wilderness; He encircled him, He cared for him, He guarded him as the pupil of His eye.”
Deuteronomy 32:10**

“Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the city of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David which is called Bethlehem...” Luke 2:4

God’s love for the stranger and the alien is woven throughout the Bible. Abraham left his home to follow God’s leading to an unknown land. Jacob left Canaan with his family to sojourn in Egypt during a time of famine. The children of Israel fled slavery in Egypt and wandered in the wilderness for 40 years. In the New Testament, Mary and Joseph were forced by the Roman government to leave Nazareth and travel to Bethlehem for the census; from there they took their newborn son Jesus and fled to Egypt for their very lives, unable to return to Israel until it was safe. During this month when we celebrate our Savior’s birth, we see that He understands what it’s like to be a refugee, because He was one.

Historically our state has been identified as a place of sanctuary and supply. Beginning with the pioneers we have been a city of refuge welcoming those from many nations. No one has been untouched by this year’s pandemic, but it has hit many immigrant families especially hard. Multiple generations living under one roof make it more difficult to isolate ill family members; language barriers make it difficult to understand instructions on how to keep their families healthy, and the closure of many businesses impacts them as well. May the church in our Metro area “encircle them, care for them...just as a father cares for his child”. May we be His heart in the Heartland for the dispossessed!

Pray—Pray for grace to adjust to a new culture, language, climate and way of life for refugees and immigrants. Upon their arrival refugees have a 90 day window to find a job, begin language studies, navigate life (money, transportation, jobs, work permits, government agencies, etc.).

Pray—Pray for schools, agencies and ministries that work with immigrants and refugees. Ask the Lord to pour His grace and provision on them so that they may be effective advocates for their clients needs. May they have divine creativity in providing their services within the framework of current pandemic restrictions.

Pray—Pray that the Church would embrace and welcome the immigrant and refugee, recognizing the richness of what their cultures add to our city. May we be salt and light and filled with the love of Christ for our newcomers!

All 2020 remittances must be postmarked on or before Jan. 8, 2021. Remittance sent after Jan. 1 must clearly be marked with "December 2020" if you are remitting 2020 money. Payments postmarked after January 8, 2021 will be considered 2021 money regardless of how the remittance is marked.



**Prayer Stations delayed
until March 28.**



Food Pantry

Thank you for your current donations.

We are in need of donations for our food pantry.

Pastor Jaime & Phil Fisher took the food pantry items to Millard South this week.

We are now collecting for Living Hope's Food Pantry.

We cannot accept food that is expired. Thanks!

Weather and Cancellations

Living Faith United Methodist Church follows the policy of Millard Schools. If the schools are cancelled, the church's daytime and evening activities will be cancelled.

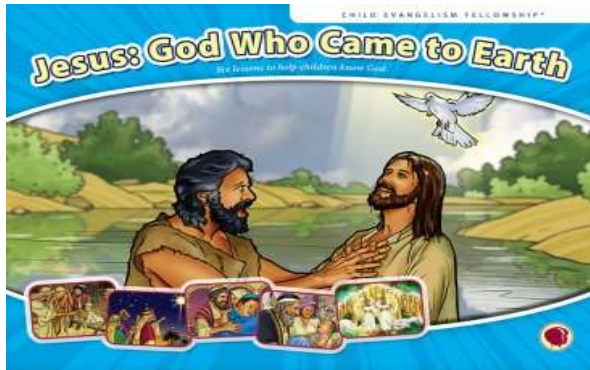


For cancellation information, please check our Facebook Page or our local TV stations.

In the case of threatening weather on Sundays, the decision to cancel worship will be made by the Pastor.

Children's Worship Service

9:00 a.m.



- Lesson 2: Wise Men Worship The Savior
- Lesson 3: Jesus Obeys His Heavenly Father
- Lesson 4: Jesus Is The Promised Savior
- Lesson 5: Jesus Is The Sinless Savior
- Lesson 6: Happy Birthday review Party!



2-weeks in
Advent &
Christmas

Sunday School classes

- Dec. 20 - An Angel Appears to Mary: Luke 1:26-38; (Psalm 89:1-8) and
- Dec. 27 - Simeon and Anna Welcome Jesus: Luke 2:22-40; (Galatians 4:4-7)



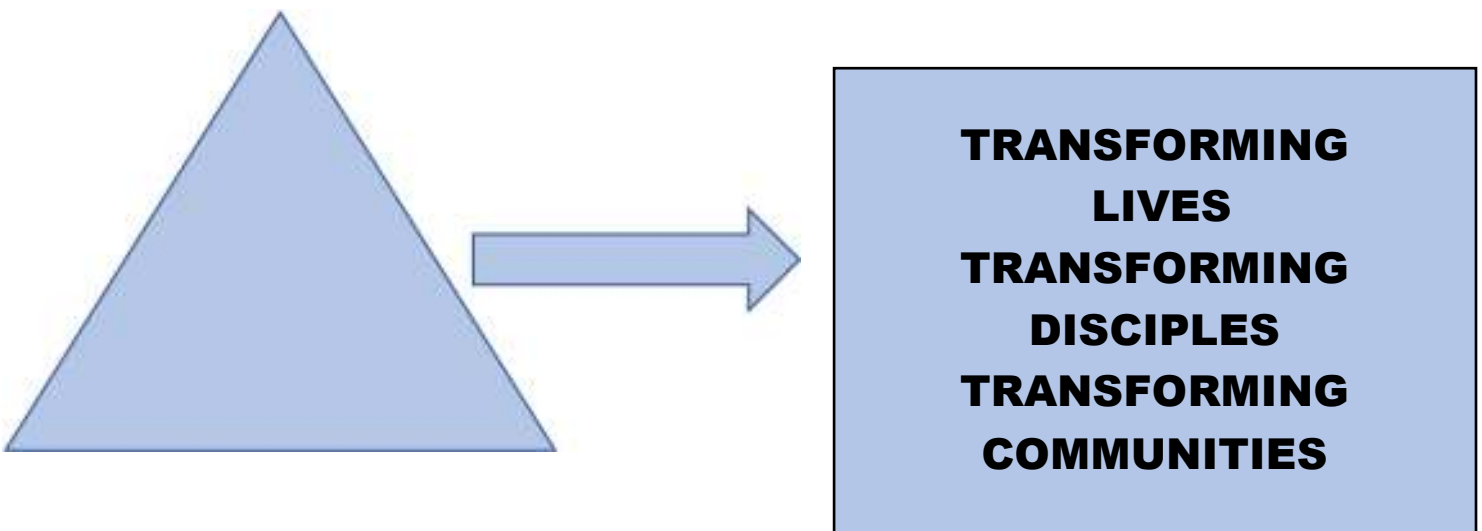
Coming up!
In January

- Kids look for places of belonging, places where forgiveness exists, places where they can experience a genuine connection. The Gospels teach us that places like these exist. In these stories kids learn that we can know God through Jesus, we can know forgiveness because of Jesus, that Jesus knows us and wants us to follow him. **The message of Jesus is powerful and something we can subscribe to!**

TransforMission Vision

Jesus also used this illustration: “The Kingdom of Heaven is like the yeast a woman used in making bread. Even though she put only a little yeast in three measures of flour, it permeated every part of the dough.” Matthew 13:33 NLT

Our Vision is to build up a church with a holistic worldview and a broad understanding of the kingdom of God. Through an Environment for Growth, We will lead the church by tenaciously creating a spiritual environment which will enable the entire congregation to remove the obstacles to believe in God’s Word, and to experience the Holy Spirit power to change lives and to transform this community with the influence and communication of Jesus’ gospel. We will make this church to become like the yeast permeating every part of the dough. Our vision is to see the Kingdom of God growing from within each life into a new creation. Our church will not be shaped by today’s culture, rather it will make a cultural transformation through the supernatural activity of God’s transforming power.



THEOLOGY OF VISION

SYMBOLIC PRISM= HOLY TRINITY

FATHER, SON, AND HOLY SPIRIT

MINISTRIES DEVELOPMENT

SIDE A: SCRIPTURES

SIDE B: PRAYER

SIDE C: DISCIPLESHIP



TRANSFORMATION VISION

TRANSFORMING LIVES

TRANSFORMING DISCIPLES

TRANSFORMING COMMUNITIES



This group is studying Hebrews

9:00 a.m.
Fellowship Hall



Read through the Bible, Study Together

9:00 a.m.
Room D

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Join us every Sunday morning for

Children Worship Service

9:00 am

And Sunday School classes

at 10:00 am

Nursery - Room G

Preschool – Room F

Kindergarten - 2nd grade - Room A

3rd, 4th and 5th grades - Room B



All children are **WELCOME**

HELP NEEDED

Vacuuming & emptying trash
in the Fellowship Hall, Sunday
School Rooms (except F & G)
and empty Kitchen Trash

We clean our own church. Can you help?

You only need to commit about 2 hours per month, and you can clean at a time that works for your schedule. (Currently cleaners are requested to come Thursday - Saturday)



**CONTACT TRACY IN THE
OFFICE. 402-393-2321**

Scripture and Sermon Titles

You are invited to read the Scriptures prior to Worship Services.

Thursday, December 24

Let's Go To Bethlehem!
(Not to the North Pole)
Luke 2:1-20

Sunday, December 27

It's Time!
Matthew 7:7-8

A Look Ahead

Dec 24 ~ Christmas Eve Worship 5:00 p.m. & 11:00 p.m.

Dec 25 ~ Christmas ~ Office Closed

Dec 31 ~ New Year's Eve

Jan 1 ~ New Year's Day ~ Office Closed

EPIPHANY SEASON

Sunday, January 3 ~ Epiphany Day

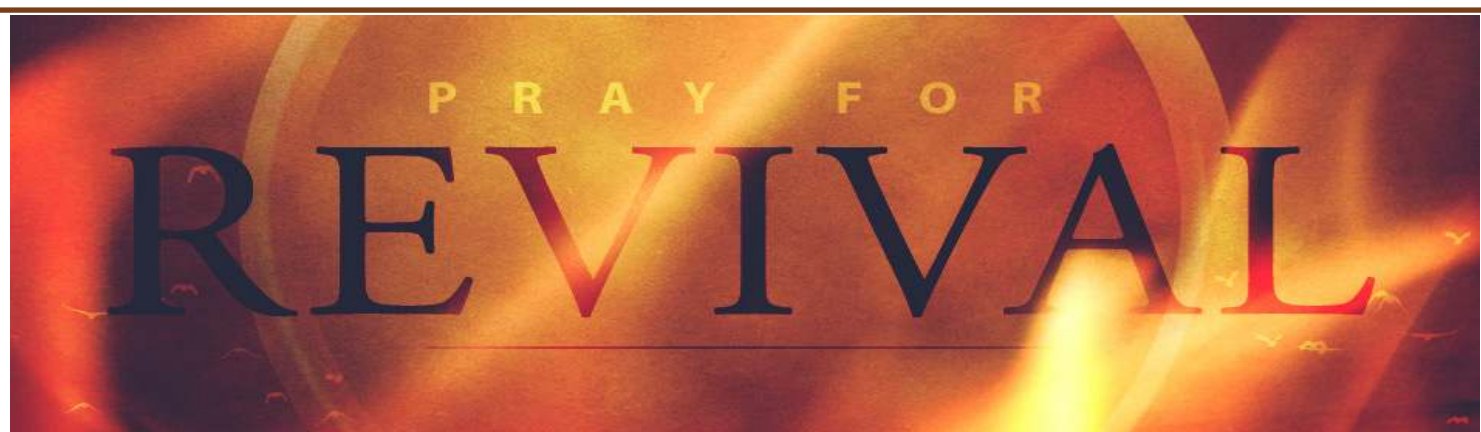
The Wise men; A Symbol Of The Church
Matthew 2:1-23

Sunday, January 10 ~ (First Sunday after the Epiphany)

Baptism Of The Lord
A Different Baptism
Acts 19:1-7
Mark 1:4-11

Sunday, January 17 ~ (Second Sunday after the Epiphany)

Jesus The Stairway Between Heaven And Earth
1 Samuel 3:1-14
John 1:43-51



Revival Prayer Meetings

Thursdays at 11:00 a.m.

Dec 24 Thurs	5:00 p.m. 11:00 p.m.	Christmas Eve Worship Christmas Eve Worship
Dec 25 Fri		<i>Office Closed</i>
 <p><i>Merry Christmas</i></p>		
Dec 27 Sun	9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 10:10 a.m.	Children's Worship Service Adult/Youth Sunday School Children's Sunday School Worship
Dec 28 Mon	6:30 p.m.	Boy Scouts Troop 405 ~ FH
Dec 30 Wed	6:30 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 6:00 p.m.	Men's Bible Study ~ Vidlaks Women's Bible Study ~ Room D Confirmation Class ~ Room D
Dec 31 Thurs	2:00 p.m.	<i>New Year's Eve</i> Revival Prayer Meeting ~ WC



Jan 1 Fri		<i>Office Closed</i>
		
Jan 3 Sun	9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 10:10 a.m. 7:00 p.m.	Children's Worship Service Adult/Youth Sunday School Children's Sunday School Worship/Holy Communion Prayer Service ~ Zoom
Jan 4 Mon	6:30 p.m.	Boy Scouts Troop 405 ~ FH
Jan 5 Tues	7:00 p.m.	Worship Committee Meeting
Jan 6 Wed	6:30 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 6:00 p.m.	Men's Bible Study ~ Vidlaks Women's Bible Study ~ Room D Confirmation Class ~ Room D
Jan 7 Thurs	2:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Revival Prayer Meeting ~ WC Praise Team Practice
Jan 9 Sat	2:30—5:30 p	Emmaus Gathering ~ WC
Jan 10 Sun	9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 10:10 a.m.	Children's Worship Service Adult/Youth Sunday School Children's Sunday School Worship
Jan 11 Mon	6:30 p.m.	Boy Scouts Troop 405 ~ FH
Jan 12 Tues	6:30 p.m.	Finance Committee Meeting
Jan 13 Wed	6:30 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 6:00 p.m.	Men's Bible Study ~ Vidlaks Women's Bible Study ~ Room D Confirmation Class ~ Room D
Jan 14 Thurs	7:00 p.m.	Praise Team Practice
Jan 17 Sun	9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 10:10 a.m.	Children's Worship Service Adult/Youth Sunday School Children's Sunday School Worship
Jan 18 Mon	6:30 p.m.	Boy Scouts Troop 405 ~ FH
Jan 19 Tues	7:00 p.m.	Church Council
Jan 20 Wed	6:30 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 6:00 p.m.	Men's Bible Study ~ Vidlaks Women's Bible Study ~ Room D Confirmation Class ~ Room D
Jan 21 Thurs	7:00 p.m.	Praise Team Practice

OUR MISSION

To make disciples for Jesus Christ
to transform the world

OUR VISION

- 1) To be disciples for Christ
- 2) To bring others to Christ

OUR GOALS

- 1) Become & remain Spiritually Strong
 - a) Attend Worship Regularly
 - b) Be Part of a small group
 - c) Pray faithfully
- 2) Share God with our Community & the world
 - a) Mission Shares
 - b) Service to others
 - c) Reaching out
- 3) Interact with The Holy Bible Daily
 - a) Educate & guide our children & youth
 - b) Christian Education for all ages

REQUIREMENTS FOR CORPORATE WORSHIP

During Covid-19

1. MUST WEAR MASKS ~ AVAILABLE IF NEEDED
2. CHILDREN REMAIN WITH FAMILY
3. ENTER/EXIT MAIN DOOR ONLY
4. USHERS WILL SEAT & DISMISS CONGREGANTS BY ROWS
5. BIBLES NOT AVAILABLE, PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN
6. TITHES & OFFERINGS IN DESIGNATED BOX IN LOBBY
7. BULLETINS & ATTENDANCE SHEETS WILL BE PLACED AT SEATING AREAS
(Please place attendance sheets in box in the lobby.)
8. NO SINGING BY CONGREGANTS

FOR FULL PLAN SEE ATTACHED RETURN TO CORPORATE WORSHIP PLAN

Who is at higher risk?



Older adults



People who
have serious
chronic medical
conditions

Heart Disease
Diabetes
Lung Disease



Supplies to have at home:

- Necessary medication – ask healthcare provider about obtaining extra
 - If extra is not possible – consider using mail order
- Be sure to have over the counter medicines and medical supplies to treat fever and other symptoms
- Have enough household items and groceries on hand
 - Grocery stores with 'at-risk' hours
 - Consider ways of getting food brought to your house



Everyday Precautions

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds
 - If soap and water is not available – use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol
- Avoid touching high touch surfaces in public places (elevator buttons, door handles, handrails, handshaking, etc)
- Avoid touching your face, nose, eyes, etc.
- Clean and disinfect your home to remove germs
- Stay home as much as possible



Symptoms and emergency warning signs:

- Pay attention to COVID-19 symptoms (fever, cough, and shortness of breath)
- Emergency warning signs:
 - Difficulty breathing or shortness of breath
 - Persistent pain or pressure in chest
 - New confusion or inability to arouse
 - Bluish lips or face



If you get sick

- Stay home and call your doctor
- Consult with your health care provider for more information
- Stay in touch with others by phone or email
- Determine who can care for you if your caregiver gets sick
- Know when to get emergency help

Need more information?

Douglas County Health Department
COVID-19 Information Line
(402) 444-3400
www.douglascountyhealth.com

United Way
Resource Hotline
211

Nebraska Department of Health and
Human Services Information Line
(402) 552-6645

**Our mission is to make disciples
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Check Us Out

www.livingfaithumc.com

Facebook! Search: Living Faith UMC

Sync up with our Google Calendar – look for us at info@livingfaithumc.com

Click the link below to get set up with our calendar:

<https://accounts.google.com/ServiceLogin?service=cl&passive=1209600&continue=https://www.google.com/calendar/render?tab%3Dwc&followup=https://www.google.com/calendar/render?tab%3Dwc&sc=1>

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