

*Footsteps to Faith*



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## **Advanced Lay Servant Class-Leading Worship**

Saturday: March 17 & 24, 2018

9:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Place: Westby United Methodist Church

202 E State Street Westby WI

608 648-2528 – Church Office

<http://driftlessministry.org/>

Teacher/Facilitator: Pastor Jim Aniol

Theme: Leading Worship in the United Methodist Church



This course focuses on the ministry of the lay servant who either regularly or occasionally leads a group or congregation in worship and we will learn the basics of United Methodist worship.

Drawing upon five basic principles, we will learn the formative nature of worship and how it can revitalize persons' lives. The five principles are:

1. God's Word is primary
2. Active congregational participation is crucial
3. Spontaneity and order are both important
4. Worship should be relevant and inclusive
5. Worship is communion

We will also discuss;

1. The basic resources for planning and leading worship
2. The basic pattern of UM worship and its origins
3. Practical suggestions how to renew and revitalize worship
4. How to be effective leaders in planning and revitalizing worship
5. How to lead our congregations into a deeper and richer experience of God through worship.

The required text is "Worshiping with United Methodists Revised Edition: A Guide for Pastors and Church Leaders Paperback by Hoyt L. Hickman" (ISBN 13: 978-0-687-33526-8) and may be purchased from The Upper Room Bookstore, or Amazon.com. There is no registration fee for this class, your only cost is the book.

Please come to class on March 17th having read through Chapter 6, Proclamation and Response, and knowing that you will be in a non-threatening environment where your thoughts and contributions are valued. Also, please bring a copy of your church bulletin so we can learn from each other, and a bag lunch as dining options in the area are very limited.

**To register – or with questions send an email to: [pastor@driftlessministry.org](mailto:pastor@driftlessministry.org)**

**Deadline for Registration: March 9th, 2018**

In the February article I discussed the article by church consultant Karl Vater, "Recalibrate: 10 Steps Every Church Must Take This Year, Or Be Dead In A Decade". But God doesn't want His churches to just survive, He wants them to thrive as they carry out the Great Commission of Matthew 28. This month we discuss the Five New Testament Purposes from "The Purpose Driven Church" by Pastor Rick Warren.

**Purpose 1 - Worship** – Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind – Matthew 22:37 – Worship is how we show God that we love Him. Churches grow, and become stronger through worship. Missing worship on Sunday should create a gap in your life, we should enjoy expressing our love to God as much as we love our hobbies. And attending worship is not just coming to watch the show, we all have to participate in worship as the psalmist says in Psalm 34:3 "Glorify the Lord with me; let us exalt his name together". Also worship isn't just what we do on Sunday, healthy churches help people worship God through every area of their lives, every day of the week. We need to make worship a priority in our life.

**Purpose 2 – Ministry** - Equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up - Ephesians 4:12 - Healthy churches grow broader through ministry. In our current situation, where every denomination, in every state is suffering a shortage of pastors. The role of pastors has expanded to the role of teacher, as we are to equip all members for ministry, as Paul tells us in Ephesians 4:12 "to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up". We are saved to serve each other, so God has given every believer a unique shape – a mixture of spiritual gifts, passions, abilities, personality, and experiences – to serve God by serving others. Every member is called to be a minister in God's church where unused spiritual gifts result in unmet needs.

**Purpose 3 – Evangelism** - preach the gospel to all creation - Mark 16:15 - Healthy churches grow larger through spreading the Good News of salvation through Jesus Christ. Now our purpose is to not just add people to fill up the church seats, it is so that God can save them. Healthy churches focus on reaching the next unchurched person in their community. Growing churches are churches that join Jesus on mission to seek and to save the lost. Communicating the Good News of salvation is so important that it appears five times in the New Testament (Matthew 28:19-20; Mark 16:15; Luke 24:47-49; John 20:21 and Acts 1:8). Jesus commanded us to grow His church, not for our benefit, but because God wants people to be saved. Pastor Warren says that if we knew the cure for cancer that we would certainly share it, how much better would it be to share the cure for eternal salvation?

**Purpose 4 – Fellowship** - Love your neighbor as yourself - Matthew 22:39 - Churches grow through fellowship. John Wesley grew the early Methodist church through small fellowship groups where people really cared for each other, and held each other accountable for their spiritual development where biblical community takes place. As Christians we are called to belong, not just believe. Being a Christian is a contact sport, contact with others.

**Purpose 5 – Discipleship** - become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ - Ephesians 4:13 - Healthy churches grow deeper through discipleship. We were created to become like Christ, and the local church is God's instrument of choice to establish a process through which Jesus' followers can grow spiritually. Growing churches are filled with growing believers, stated another way, disciples creating disciples.

The most important thing to remember is that our great commitment to the great commandment (Matthew 22:37–40) and the great commission (Matthew 28:19–20) will help God's church grow great.

# CHURCH MESSAGES



## MARCH BIRTHDAYS

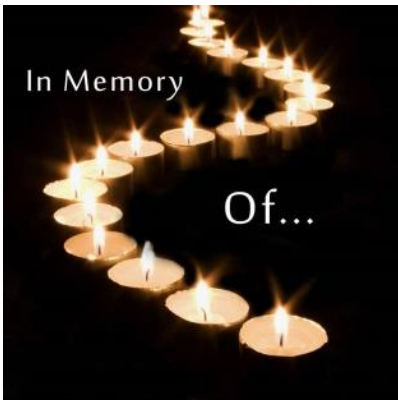
March 1	Emma McDonald
March 8	Mya Fish
March 8	Vivanna Widner
March 13	Mike Hall
March 16	Kurt Manke
March 23	Darien Hendrickson
March 24	Kyle Clark
March 29	Larry Campbell
March 31	Pastor Jim



## THANK YOU

Thank you to everyone who helped in any way at the soup supper/auction/music. Despite WI winter roads, we had a very good crowd. We were able to give \$2500 toward the GYM (God's Youth Ministry) roof and remodel. Great job everyone!

## MEMORIAL FUND



As you look for places to send a memorial for a loved one who has died, birthdays, anniversaries etc., please remember Faith United Methodist Church. We would ask that you write on your check "Memorial fund" or "in memory of" and designate if there is anything specific you want your donation to go to (i.e. VBS, church repairs, church expenses etc.). Thank you for thinking of our needs.

## MARCH BIBLE STUDY PLAN

During the month of January and February, several members of Retreat UMC have joined me in an interactive Bible study using the YouVersion app (<https://www.youversion.com/>). We have all enjoyed it and have decided to continue this format of Bible study in March using the Oswald Chambers: Prayer - A Holy Occupation 30 Day study. Here is a summary of that study.

"Discover the wisdom of Oswald Chambers, author of My Utmost for His Highest, in this treasury of insights about prayer. Each day features a short scripture reading, quotations from Chambers and a question for personal reflection".

On March 1st we will post the link on the Driftless Regional Ministry website (<http://driftlessministry.org/>), and I pray that you will join us.



# UPCOMING EVENTS

## MARCH

Thursday, March 1	6:30 PM	Faith Board Meeting at Faith UMC
Tuesday, March 6	1:00 PM	Women of faith (WOF) will meet at Ann Pierce's home
Saturday, March 17, 24	9AM-2:30 PM	Advanced Lay Servant Class (Book is Required!)
Sunday, March 11	9:30 AM	Communion at Faith
Wednesday, March 7, 14, 21	5:30 PM 6:30 PM	Soup Supper at Westby Lectio Divina service at Westby
Sunday, March 25	9:30 AM	Palm Sunday
Thursday, March 29 (Maundy Thursday)	5:30 PM 6:30 PM	Soup Supper at Westby Tenebrae Service/Candlelight at Westby
Friday, March 30 (Good Friday)	10:00 AM 1:15 PM 7:00 PM	Services at SW Lutheran Church Community Services at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Westby Services at New Hope UMC

## APRIL

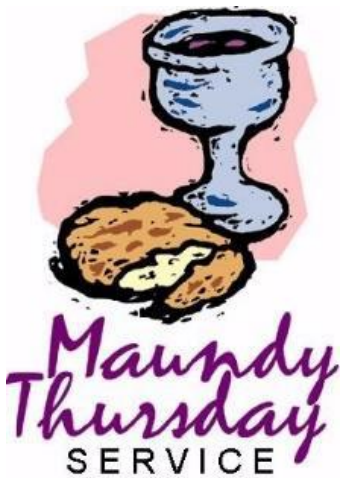
Sunday, <b>April 1</b> (Easter Sunday)	7:00 AM	Joint Worship New Hope/Retreat at Retreat Breakfast to follow at Retreat Fellowship Hall
	9:30 AM	Easter service at Faith UMC
	10:45AM	Easter service at Westby UMC
Friday, April 20		Cornerstone Chili Supper and Auction
Saturday, April 28 (Date to be confirmed at WOF meeting so please check date in next month's newsletter)	Noon – 2:00 PM	Pie & Ice Cream Social at Faith
Monday, May 28	11:00-1:00PM	Memorial Day Dinner
Saturday, June 23	10:00-4:30PM (Time to be confirmed)	Faith Fest



# DRIFTLESS AREA CHURCH ACTIVITIES



Join us each **Wednesday** during **Lent** for an evening of Fellowship and prayers at the Westby UMC. Lectio Divina is an open study of scripture and sharing. Our evening begins with a Soup Supper to share followed by Lenten Study in Church.



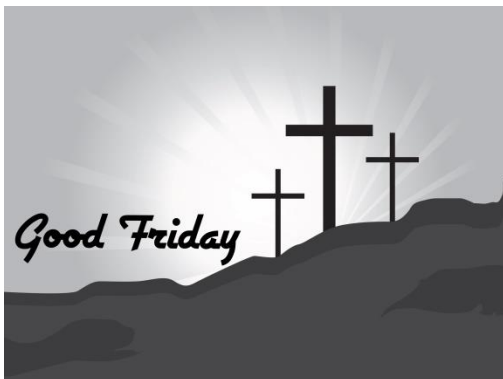
Join us for Maundy Thursday Service March 29 at Westby UMC

Soup & Bread Supper at 5:30 pm

Tenebrae Service & Lord's Supper at 6:30 pm

We are still in need of people to read a short passage for the Service.

Please see Pastor Jim if you feel the call to help.



Join any area church for Good Friday services.

10:00 AM SW Lutheran Church (S8466 Prairie Rd., Viroqua)

1:15 PM Community Service at Our Savior's Lutheran Church, in  
Westby

7:00 PM Good Friday Service at New Hope UMC

# Pastor Jim's Schedule

E2286 Hwy 82 DeSoto WI 54624

Cell Phone: 608-632-3939

Parsonage: 608-648-2528

## March 2018

<i>SUNDAY</i>	<i>MONDAY</i>	<i>TUESDAY</i>	<i>WEDNESDAY</i>	<i>THURSDAY</i>	<i>FRIDAY</i>	<i>SATURDAY</i>
				1 Faith Board Mtg at 6:30	2 Pastor's Sabbath	3 On Call 9-12:00
4 8:00 Joint Worship at New Hope  9:30 Faith 10:45 Westby	5 Parsonage office 9:00-4:00	6 Visitation	7 Parsonage office 9:00-4:00  5:30 Soup Supper; 6:30 Lectio Divina; Service;	8 Visitation	9 Pastor's Sabbath	10 On Call 9-12:00
11 <b>DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME STARTS</b> 8:00 Worship Joint worship @/New Hope 9:30 Faith 10:45 Westby	12 Parsonage office 9:00-4:00  10:00 New Hope Board Meeting @ New Hope	13 Visitation	14 Parsonage office 9:00-4:00 5:30 Soup Supper; 6:30 Service; 7:30; Westby Board Mtg	15 Visitation  6:30 Retreat Board Mtg @parsonage	16 Pastor's Sabbath	17 <b>9AM-2:30 Advance Lay Servant Class at Westby UMC</b>
18 8:00 Joint Services @ New Hope- Voting Day; 9:30 Faith; 10:45 services at Westby	19 Parsonage office 9:00-4:00	20 Visitation	21 Parsonage office 9:00-4:00  5:30 Soup Supper; 6:30 Lectio Divina	22 Visitation	23 Pastor's Sabbath	24 <b>9AM-2:30 Advance Lay Servant Class at Westby UMC</b>
25 8:00 Joint Services @New Hope; 9:30 Faith; 10:45 Services & 12 noon Confirmation At Westby	26 Parsonage office 9:00-4:00	27 Visitation	28 Parsonage office 9:00-4:00	29 Visitation 5:30 Soup Supper 6:30 Maunday Thursday Tenebrae Service/Candle light @ Westby	30 Good Friday 10:00 SW Lutheran 1:15 Community service in Westby 7:00 @ N. Hope	31 Pastor's Sabbath