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## THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCHES

LIBERTY POLE — Sun. Worship 9:00 AM — S6759 Hwy. 27 — (608) 675-3630

VIROQUA — Sun. Worship 10:30 AM — 221 S. Center Ave. — (608) 637-3551

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February 15, 2009

6th Sunday after the Epiphany

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\*Please stand if you are able

**PRELUDE** *a time to prepare for worship through prayer and meditation*

**CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP**

**WELCOMING WORDS**

(please sign the attendance sheets)

\***CALL TO WORSHIP** (responsively) *Psalm 30:1-3*

I will extol you, O Lord, for you have lifted me up, and did not let my foes rejoice over me.

**O Lord my God, I cried to you for help, and you healed me.**

O Lord, you brought up my soul from Sheol,

**restored me to life from among those gone down to the pit.**

\***OPENING PRAYER** (unison) "Concerning the Scriptures"

Blessed Lord, you have caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning. Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, One God, forever and ever. Amen.

(after *The Book of Common Prayer*)

\***HYMN OF PRAISE**

"Honor and Praise"

*The Faith We Sing* No. 2018

\***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (unison)

the Apostles' Creed

Hymnal No. 881

**PRESENTATION OF BIBLES**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS, JOYS & CONCERNS**

**PASTORAL PRAYER**

**THE LORD'S PRAYER** (unison)

Hymnal No. 895

**CHORAL PRAYER RESPONSE**

**CHILDREN'S MOMENT**

**OLD TESTAMENT READING**

*II Kings 5:1-14*

(insert)

**CHOIR ANTHEM** "His Eye Is On the Sparrow" Gabriel/Scheam  
*Sandy Jacobson, flute*

**NEW TESTAMENT READING** *Mark 1:40-45* (insert)

**\*HYMN** "Christ for the World We Sing" No. 568

**SERMON** "Who Decides Who Gets Healed?" Pastor Ethan

**OFFERING**

**\*DOXOLOGY**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Him, all creatures here below;  
praise Him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

**\*OFFERTORY PRAYER**

**\*CLOSING HYMN** "Great Is the Lord" *The Faith We Sing* No. 2022

**\*BENEDICTION**

**\*THREEFOLD AMEN** Hymnal No. 898

**\*POSTLUDE**

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**USHERS** . . . . . Layne & Janette Hanson

**ACOLYTE** . . . . . Ted Hanson

**LITURGIST** . . . . . Layne Hanson

**GREETERS** . . . . . Layne & Janette Hanson

**Last Sunday's attendance:** 66

**Last Sunday's offering:** \$2159.50

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Pastor Ethan Larson

Organists: Joyce Funk (Liberty Pole), Kathy Hanson & Barb Casper (Viroqua)

Choir Director (Viroqua): Lynn Whitney

church office phone: 637-3551

website: [www.viroquaumc.org](http://www.viroquaumc.org)

e-mail: [info@viroquaumc.org](mailto:info@viroquaumc.org)

[pastor@viroquaumc.org](mailto:pastor@viroquaumc.org)

**THE WVRQ RADIO BROADCAST** today is sponsored by Janet Schipper in appreciation of the youth group.

**THE BULLETINS** are given in honor of the third graders, who are receiving their Bibles today.

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### CALENDAR

today	2 PM	Liberty Pole Long-Range Planning Committee meets at Barb Robson's home
today	3-5 PM	youth group prepares meal for Fortney Hotel
Mon.	6 PM	Viroqua History Committee meeting
Tues.	7 PM	Viroqua Administrative Council meeting
Wed.	6 PM	choir practice at Viroqua
Thurs.	1:15 PM	prayer meeting at Viroqua
Thurs.	5:30 PM	joint Worship Committee meeting at Viroqua
Fri.		newsletter deadline
Sat.	8:45AM - 2:30PM	Basic Lay Speakers Course at Viroqua Church

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The **Viroqua Area Relay For Life**, a fundraiser for the American Cancer Society, will be held on June 12 and 13 this year. Our two churches have had a team participating in this event for several years, but the team needs a captain, and we don't currently have one. The captain attends one or two meetings, and organizes the team members into walking shifts. Please contact the church office if you are interested in being the captain of our team.

## II Kings 5:1-14

<sup>1</sup> Now Naaman was commander of the army of the king of Aram. He was a great man in the sight of his master and highly regarded, because through him the LORD had given victory to Aram. He was a valiant soldier, but he had leprosy.

<sup>2</sup> Now bands from Aram had gone out and had taken captive a young girl from Israel, and she served Naaman's wife.

<sup>3</sup> She said to her mistress, "If only my master would see the prophet who is in Samaria! He would cure him of his leprosy."

<sup>4</sup> Naaman went to his master and told him what the girl from Israel had said.

<sup>5</sup> "By all means, go," the king of Aram replied. "I will send a letter to the king of Israel." So Naaman left, taking with him ten talents of silver, six thousand shekels of gold and ten sets of clothing.

<sup>6</sup> The letter that he took to the king of Israel read: "With this letter I am sending my servant Naaman to you so that you may cure him of his leprosy."

<sup>7</sup> As soon as the king of Israel read the letter, he tore his robes and said, "Am I God? Can I kill and bring back to life? Why does this fellow send someone to me to be cured of his leprosy? See how he is trying to pick a quarrel with me!"

<sup>8</sup> When Elisha the man of God heard that the king of Israel had torn his robes, he sent him this message: "Why have you torn your robes? Have the man come to me and he will know that there is a prophet in Israel."

<sup>9</sup> So Naaman went with his horses and chariots and stopped at the door of Elisha's house.

<sup>10</sup> Elisha sent a messenger to say to him, "Go, wash yourself seven times in the Jordan, and your flesh will be restored and you will be cleansed."

<sup>11</sup> But Naaman went away angry and said, "I thought that he would surely come out to me and stand and call on the name of the LORD his God, wave his hand over the spot and cure me of my leprosy.

<sup>12</sup> Are not Abana and Parpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than any of the waters of Israel? Couldn't I wash in

them and be cleansed?" So he turned and went off in a rage.

<sup>13</sup> Naaman's servants went to him and said, "My father, if the prophet had told you to do some great thing, would you not have done it? How much more, then, when he tells you, 'Wash and be cleansed!'"

<sup>14</sup> So he went down and dipped himself in the Jordan seven times, as the man of God had told him, and his flesh was restored and became clean like that of a young boy.

### Mark 1:40-45

<sup>40</sup> A man with leprosy came to him and begged him on his knees, "If you are willing, you can make me clean."

<sup>41</sup> Filled with compassion, Jesus reached out his hand and touched the man. "I am willing," he said. "Be clean!"

<sup>42</sup> Immediately the leprosy left him and he was cured.

<sup>43</sup> Jesus sent him away at once with a strong warning:

<sup>44</sup> "See that you don't tell this to anyone. But go, show yourself to the priest and offer the sacrifices that Moses commanded for your cleansing, as a testimony to them."

<sup>45</sup> Instead he went out and began to talk freely, spreading the news. As a result, Jesus could no longer enter a town openly but stayed outside in lonely places. Yet the people still came to him from everywhere.