

# *Faith United Church of Christ*

*“An inclusive spiritual family shaping a better you for creating a better world.  
A place to make a difference.”*

August 19, 2018

Sacred Fellowship 10:45 AM

*We are delighted that you are here today! We hope you will find us an affirming, uplifting, and committed family of faith. Here we work to make everyone, without any exceptions, to feel accepted, inspired, and encouraged in their spiritual journey. In dialogue, we seek to understand. In encouragement, we seek to heal. In all things we yearn to live by love, for peace, with joy. This is a place where your intellect will be challenged, your heart will be nurtured, and your spirit refreshed. Varying beliefs are expressed openly and freely, and your doubts will not be suppressed. We trust that we are all, every person and part of creation, continuing to be blessed by God’s grace; and that in community we can help each other to see this grace alive in our lives and relationships. We hope to share our gifts with you, even as we pray that you will want to share your gifts with us. Whoever you are and wherever you may be in your life’s journey, we invite you to be a part of our lives and our spiritual home. Welcome!*

## **CALLED TOGETHER AS SPIRITUAL FAMILY**

### **Welcome and Announcements**

*Please sign the registration pads at the ends of the pews on the center aisle.*

*We ask that you please shut off cell phones  
and practice quietness during the service.*

*Please join us for fellowship and refreshments after the worship  
in Romig Hall (lower level of elevator or stairs).*

*\* = You are invited to stand as you are able*

**Prelude**    Adagio from Concerto in B minor                      A. Vivaldi (arr. J. G. Walther)

**Welcoming the Light of Love in Our Midst**    (acolytes light altar candles)

*We prepare ourselves for communing with the sacred as love’s light is brought into our awareness. The light of love burns within and among each of us, and we carry that light into our sanctuary; visually reminding us of the image of the divine that lives in our hearts, minds, and souls – and that we nourish through our faith-filled fellowship.*

**Affirming God’s Presence in Us All**                      “You Matter!”

## **Sharing Christ's Peace**

*As a sign of our reconciliation with God and one another, greet and welcome those around you and share "the peace of Christ."*

**\*Hymn of Divine Wisdom** "Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise" **#1**

## **\*Centering Our Souls**

You, O God, teach us to be lovers of wisdom:

**Remind us that knowledge is not wisdom.**

When we become preoccupied with the 'facts,' prod us to consider the values.

**Teach us how to live in harmony with one another, doing that which is good and just for all.**

Inspire us to learn as much as we can, but also to use that information for noble purposes.

**No job is worth losing our integrity, and no progress is worth hurting others.**

When we seek to change others, help us to first look to the changes we need in ourselves.

**When we hope to change the world, may we do so only by being respectful, considerate, and kind.**

Whatever may be our dreams, help us to focus on building relationships with others.

**For the evidence of wisdom is compassion and generosity.**

Keep us mindful of these virtues, as we seek how best to live by them.

**Encourage us to be your faithful followers, now and always.**

**Our Stories of Random Acts of Kindness & Intentional Deeds of Compassion**

**WE LISTEN FOR THE SACRED IN THE MIDST OF OUR LIVES**

**A Time for All God's Children**

**Prayers**

***Sharing Our Joys and Concerns***

***Silent Meditation: The Prayers of the People***

***Pastoral Prayer***

***The Prayer Jesus Taught*** (unison) *Please feel free to do the version you know, or the one below:*

“Our heavenly Creator, sacred be your name: your kin-dom\* come, your will be done, on earth as if in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For yours is the kin-dom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen”

*\*“Kin-dom” is an inclusive, non-authoritarian, and egalitarian term that reminds us that we are all “kin” as the children of God.*

**\*Hymn for Seeking Wisdom**      “As the Earth Turns upon Its Axis”      **see insert**

**Scripture Lessons**                      I Kings 2.11-12; 3.5-15 Proverbs 2.1-10

**Message**                                      “In Pursuit of Wisdom”

**\*Hymn for Living in Wisdom**      “Come, Teach Us, Spirit of Our God”      **#287**

**WE DEDICATE OURSELVES TO GOD’S SERVICE  
THROUGH FAITHFULNESS**

**Giving of Our Tithes and Offerings**

*“Generosity arises from gratitude like heat arises from fire. Like fire, gratitude is lovely to see; but when it warms others with generosity, that is when it becomes a true blessing.”*

**Offertory** Organ Improvisation

**\*Song of Dedication**

*Tune: Old Hundredth; p. 7*

The light of love does shine most bright when all are siblings in our sight;

We are one fam’ly on this earth; we are God’s children from our birth.

**\*Unison Prayer of Dedication**

We are called to be a generous people, always building up the Body of Christ. Let us not forget our calling, but to humbly, patiently, and gently live it day by day. Let us help bear with love the burdens of the weak, the poor, and the oppressed – coming to their aid in word, in action, and by sharing what we have with them. Let us all make every effort to build unity between ourselves and our brothers and sisters throughout the world, letting your Spirit lead and strengthen us so that we may create the bond of peace with justice that makes us all one. Let these gifts we offer today aid this calling we have from you, and so also aid those most in need. Amen

**\*Encouragement for the Journey**

**Postlude**                      Allegro from Sonata in D Major

C. P. E. Bach

## **\*The Light of Love Goes into the World**

*Love's light is not extinguished from our worship, but is transferred from the flame of the candles to the passion in our hearts that we may go forth to let the light of love shine through us as we go to serve in the world!*

### **WE GO FORTH AS PEACEMAKERS** **TO CREATE JUSTICE FOR ALL**

*Our worship is fulfilled, and our purpose is confirmed,  
through our service as God's stewards to the world and all creation.  
Use the blessings God has given you as you share  
the joy in your heart, the wisdom in your mind,  
the love in your spirit, and the peace in your soul.*

*Thank you for sharing sacred fellowship with us.*

Faith UCC is an open and affirming church, embracing diversity in our congregation and community, and affirming the dignity and worth of every person. We are an inclusive community of faith that celebrates God's presence through worship and the sharing of God's word. We welcome all persons into the full life and ministry of the church, regardless of race, ethnic background, gender identity, sexual orientation, capability, or circumstance of life.

#### Our Ministry

Ministers — All the Congregation  
Fellowship — Jean Cole

Interim Pastor — Rev. Bret Myers

#### Church Staff

Custodian — Scott Luzier  
Organist—Mark Ferraguto

Church School Coordinator — Barbara Chellman  
Administrative Assistant — Jeff Stormer

*The liturgies for this morning's worship, along with the Song of Dedication, were written by Rev. Bret S. Myers except where otherwise noted.*

**Prayers for healing and wholeness:**

Cyndy (Marilyn's daughter-in-law), June Irvin, Ben and Louise Harris, Jane Sheckells, Dan and Eileen Pfaff, Susie Keck, Joann Edwards, Lisa V. (John Vincenti's daughter), Lisa B. (JoAnn's daughter), Brandon G., Lisa Neidigh, Katelynn Wilson, Darlene Ripka, April S., Randy Brown (Aimee Dad), the Piggot's family, Robert Zupp (Eileen Pfaff's nephew), the Snook family.

*God Answers  
Knee Mail*



**Welcome to all first-time (and returning) guests to Faith**

**UCC!** We would like to get to know you and for you to get to know us. Join us after worship for coffee and **conversation**.

There is free parking on Sundays at the meters and at the McAllister & Pugh Street parking garages – so, we hope you'll worship with us again next Sunday!

**Electronic Giving Options:** During the offering time in the service, you may place your offerings on the plates the ushers will bring around. If you prefer to give electronically simply **scan the QR code** with your smartphone to be directed to our online donation page.



**August Special Offering**  
**Bethany Children's Home**

(<http://www.bethanyhome.org>) is Pennsylvania's first DPW Sanctuary® Certified agency, having earned the certification in 2010. Thanks to their Sanctuary® accreditation, youth who have been abused and neglected have the opportunity to live the lives they deserve. Unique and specialized programs give youth access to a variety of therapeutic, spiritual, and cultural services in addition to recreational activities.



- Aug 26 21<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time
- Aug 27 Classes begin on campus
- Aug 27 Consistory Meeting, 5:30 **Note date change**
- Sep 2 22<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

### Get In Touch with Us!

Faith United Church of Christ 300 E. College Avenue State College, PA 16801

Tel: (814) 237-3904 Websites: [www.faithucc.info](http://www.faithucc.info)

[facebook.com/SCFaithUCC](https://facebook.com/SCFaithUCC)

Church Office Email: [faithucc@comcast.net](mailto:faithucc@comcast.net) Pastor's Email:

[revbmyers@yahoo.com](mailto:revbmyers@yahoo.com)

Church Office Hours: 9:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. Tuesdays, Thursdays, & Fridays

Pastor Bret's Office Hours: Tuesday 5-8 p.m., Wednesday 11 a.m.-2 p.m., Thursday 2-4 p.m.  
or other hours by appointment.

Appointments are recommended so as to give you the time you need without interruptions. You may call the church office, or his cell at 608-370-9472, or email him at [revbmyers@yahoo.com](mailto:revbmyers@yahoo.com).