

February 2016

Faith Works!

FAITH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST | STATE COLLEGE, PA 16801 | 814.237.3904 | WORSHIP: 10:45 AM
AN OPEN AND AFFIRMING CONGREGATION OF THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



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[Photo credit: Greg Fox]

NO MATTER WHO YOU ARE OR WHERE YOU ARE ON LIFE'S JOURNEY, YOU ARE WELCOME HERE!

FROM OUR PASTOR

Dear Friends,

Winter seemed to happen all at once here in Pennsylvania. Several areas in Harrisburg, Philadelphia and Lancaster are still digging themselves out of the 30+ inches of snow from the blizzard Jonas that pummeled the East Coast in late January. I'm still praying for the safety and restoration of a sense of normalcy for all who were adversely affected by this winter storm.

Since we did not get a lot of snow in State College, we were fortunate to still be able to gather for worship on Sunday, January 24. When I got to church that morning, all the sidewalks and entryways were clear, allowing worshippers safe access to the sanctuary. Many thanks to the *Trustees* for their continued good work in keeping our church safe and accessible.

As we near the beginning of Lent which begins on February 10, we will begin the 40-day Lenten journey with an *Ash Wednesday service at 7:00 pm*. Our youth will lead us in worship by providing music for the service. The church will also be open earlier that day (11 am-1 pm) for "Ashes to Go" -- an opportunity to be marked with ashes and to spend time in personal prayer. We introduced this for the first time last year and it was well received by students and others in the surrounding community.

In addition to Sunday services, Lent devotionals (from the *UCC StillSpeaking Writers' Group*) will be available as spiritual food for the journey. You may pick them up in the Gathering Space as early as February 7.

Throughout Lent, the Forum will offer a study on *Forgiveness* and everyone (including students) are invited to attend and participate. They will meet every Sunday in Lent at 9:30 am in Asendorf Library (3rd floor). Be sure to contact Jean Cole if you have any questions.

Isn't it good to know that we don't have to journey alone? We can journey together through Lent. May it be so.

In Christ,
Pastor Monica



LENTEN STUDY – “Forgiveness”
Sundays in Lent @ 9:30am in the Library (3rd floor)

CONSISTORY CORNER

January is “reorganization month” for the Consistory at Faith. In December, Cyndi Vincenti finished her term and three years as Consistory President. In the fall, Bob Dunham resigned from the Consistory prior to his move to Florida. We thank both Cyndi and Bob for their exemplary service to our church and wish them well on their next ventures.

At the January 30th regular meeting, Jared Hammond and Clovis Morrisson will start their first terms on the Consistory. The agenda for the meeting will include electing officers, setting meeting dates for the year and establishing task forces to study our Constitution and Bylaws, worship service time, and fundraising strategies.

We are looking forward to continuing the positive progress of our church. Please continue to hold our congregation and its leadership in prayer.

-- Cindy Reed



CARING NETWORK

Isn't it interesting when you stop and think about all the good people in this world who are caring and thoughtful to others? Unfortunately we seldom hear about them on the news. It is obvious there are many different ways to express Caring.

In this story "Honest Judge" we are reminded how sometimes it takes everyone to make a difference.

HONEST JUDGE – from inspireme online

An old man who stole a loaf of bread was brought to appear in court in front of the Judge. The old man did not try to deny that and confessed that he did steal bread, but justified that by saying: I had no choice, I was starving, I almost died.

The judge told him: "You know you're a thief and I have to condemn you and make you pay \$10 today, but I know you do not have it because you stole a loaf of bread, so I'll pay it for you."

The audience became silent looking at the judge. At that moment, the judge took out \$10 from his pocket and asked to be deposited in the court bank account. Then stood up, looked to the audience and said: "You all are asked to pay \$10, because you live in a town where the poor are forced to steal a loaf of bread."

At that meeting, \$480 was collected and the judge gave it to the old man.

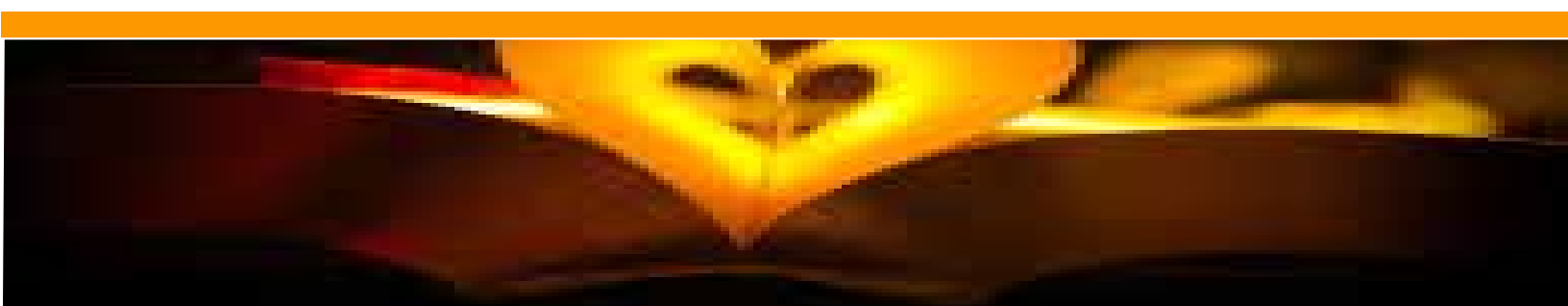
Your caring team strives to connect, in meaningful ways, with each person in our church family. If you have any questions about the Caring Network please call me at 814-777-0339.

The Caring Team includes: Virginia Biber, Edna Bicehouse, Jane Childs, Sue Doran, Jean Frank, Rev. Ernie Hawk, June Irvin, and Jim & Sally Welsh.

---Sandy Miller (Coordinator)

"When we feel love and kindness toward others, it not only makes others feel loved and cared for, but it helps us also to develop inner happiness and peace."

--- Dalai Lama



TRUSTEE UPDATE

Your Trustee Ministry Team (TMT) met for the New Year on January 19, 2016. We reviewed our “Wish List,” prioritized the projects and added a couple of additional projects like painting and *sprucing up* the Nursery and Romig Hall bathrooms.

TMT would like to move forward on the repair of the north stairwell leading to the balcony and the purchase of a defibrillator. To operate the defibrillator will require trained personnel. TMT is asking for persons willing to volunteer for this training. A few of our members have been trained and tell us the training is not too difficult.

TMT is also arranging for an inspection, maintenance recommendation and estimate for new clear covering for our stained glass windows.

We are also planning for the new plantings on the west lawn when warmer weather arrives.

If you observe a project from the Wish List that you would like to support, just note it on your donation. As always, we appreciate your input and support in caring for Faith Church.

2016 TRUSTEE MINISTRY WISH LIST

1. Repair wall in sanctuary (N.E. stairwell)
2. Purchase defibrillator
3. New planting (west lawn)
4. Paint Nursery and Romig Hall bathrooms
5. Repair ceiling panels in sanctuary outside aisles
6. Repair ceiling over entrance to narthex
7. Air conditioning in Asendorf Hall/Meyer Library
8. Window leaks
9. Repair side wall concrete on outdoor steps on Locust Lane
10. Repair outside figurines and overhead ornaments at Locust Lane stairwell
11. Seal coat parking area behind Church, layout and mark parking spaces

--- Alva Chellman and Clif Merchant (Co-Chairs)

FOR SALE

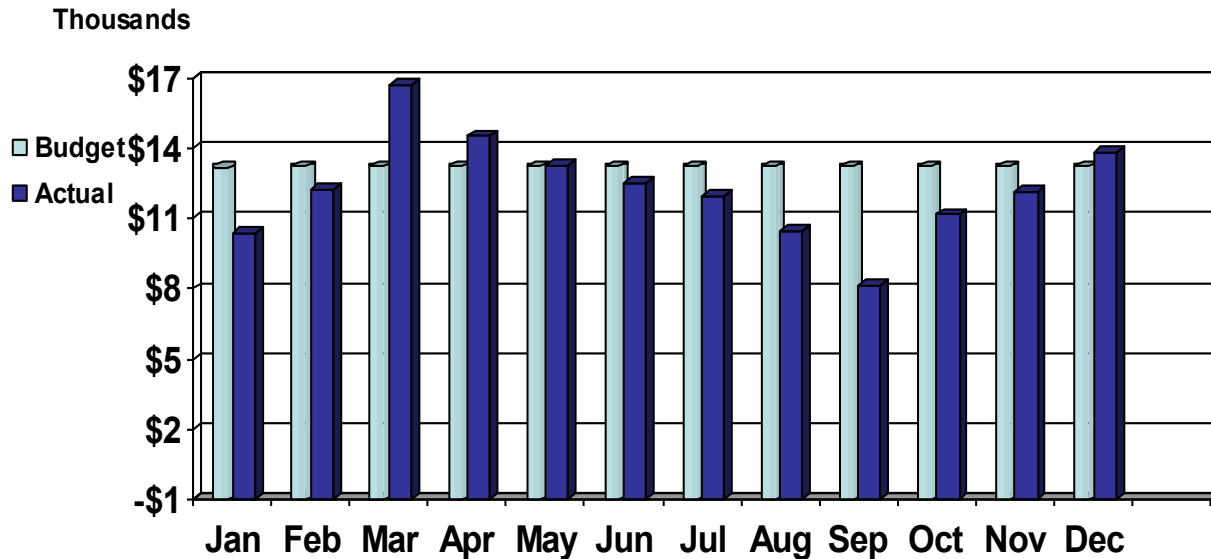
40 folding metal chairs @ \$5 each (or less for quantity sales)

Contact Alva Chellman for more information

Stewardship

Time. Treasure. Talent.

DECEMBER 2015 MONTHLY OFFERINGS budget vs. actual (updated)



December 2015 (updated)

Total received = \$13,863 Total budgeted = \$ 13,221
 Budget to actual difference (Month of December) = \$ +642

January - December 2015 - Year-to-Date

Total received = \$ 141,989 Total budgeted = \$ 158,650
 Year-to-Date budget to actual difference = \$ -16,661

Regular offering income for the month of December was over budget by \$642, reducing the year-to-date shortfall to \$16,661 for the year. Year-to-date expenses were under budget by \$17,585, resulting in a net gain of \$2,742 for the year ended December 31, 2015. Because of the net gain (income in excess of expenses) for the year in our General Fund, we have increased our fund balance from \$4,774 at 1/1/2015 to \$7,862 at 12/31/2015. *Thank you for your gifts and generosity!*

Thank you for your gifts and generosity...



WOMEN'S GUILD UPDATE

The Faith UCC Daytime Women's Guild is off to a good start for 2016. On Monday Jan. 25, after the "big" snow storm nine women enjoyed a Ladies Lunch Out at the Deli restaurant. The food was very good and the fellowship even better. Such a great way to get to know each other better.

A short Business Meeting was squeezed in after orders were taken and we were waiting to be served. We read correspondences received, discussed the Nut Sale closure, including our profits and how the money might be used. The profits this year(after deducting the cost of \$3,149.21 to initially purchase the nuts) was \$1,210.79. Part of this money will be used to provide baby blankets to an orphanage in Rwanda, the rest of the profit for special needs -- possibly emergency needs for the church or related projects. Women's Guild thanks all who helped the Nut Sale to be successful by ordering the nuts,transporting them to the church, setting up each Sunday, buying the nuts, selling the nuts at church or to your friends and organizations. It has been a great team effort. Thanks!

The next meeting for the Daytime Women's Guild will be Feb. 25 at noon in Romig Hall. Remember to bring your own Bag Lunch. Coffee will be provided. This meeting will be a Business Meeting.

Any woman that attends Faith UCC is a member of the Guild. You are always welcome to any Guild daytime or evening meeting or event.

--- Edna Bicehouse



FAITH HAPPENINGS

SERRV CHOCOLATE!

If chocolate is part of your tradition for celebrating Valentine's Day and Easter, don't miss the chance to make it Fair Trade chocolate. Seasonal sweets, along with the usual assortment of Divine Chocolates and a selection of handcrafted gift items, will be available for purchase after worship on the following Sundays—

VALENTINE: January 31 and February 7

EASTER: March 13 and March 20

Look for the display in Romig Hall during Fellowship Hour.

--- Lois Bair

SERRV to enrich and inspire
fair trade • handmade • nonprofit



FAITH HAPPENINGS

PSU STUDENTS- *Join us for LUNCH!*

Getting to Know Faith UCC!

Get connected - Meet people - Find your fit

DATE: Sunday, February 14, 2016
TIME: 12:30pm
PLACE: Panera Bread (Beaver Ave.)
COST: FREE!

(Graduate & Undergraduate students are invited!)

RSVP by **February 12** to: faithucc@comcast.net or
Pastor Monica



LENTEN STUDY-- *"Forgiveness"*

THE FORUM GROUP will be reading and discussing the book *"Forgiveness"* every Sunday during the six weeks of Lent -- beginning February 14 @ 9:30 am (in the Library on the 3rd floor). The topics include:

- Beginning--A Kinship Appeal
- Self-Examination--Prelude to Forgiveness
- Honesty--Engaging the Inner Struggle
- Repentance--Getting a New Mind
- Forgiving--Embracing Freedom
- Beginning Again: Reconciliation & Restoration

Everyone is welcome (*including College students*) to join us to add your thoughts and reflect on something that touches us all.

Contact *Jean* for more information: faithucc@comcast.net or 814.237.3904 (Church office)

FEBRUARY SPECIAL OFFERING

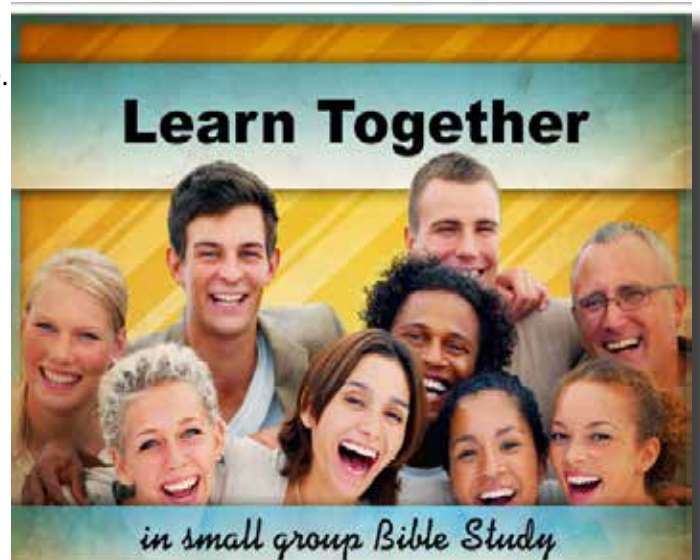
MIDPENN LEGAL SERVICES is the "emergency room of the legal profession." As the sole provider of free, civil legal assistance in Centre County, MidPenn advocates for the disabled, elderly, children, working poor and survivors of domestic violence in areas such as: protection from abuse, custody, housing, health care, consumer, elder law and public benefits.

Legal assistance can be life altering for those in poverty or fighting to break free of domestic violence. Unfortunately, stress on local families has resulted in a 23% increase in the number of people applying for legal aid. Limited resources result in one-half of eligible applicants being turned away.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration and financial donation.

Congratulations!

Congratulations to **TOM DAUBERT...**
unanimously voted in as the new State College
Borough Council President!



COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS

EVENSONG AT ST. ANDREW'S

February 7 @ 5PM

The Adult Choir of St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 208 West Foster Avenue in State College, PA, will sing a service of choral evensong on Sunday, February 7, at 5 PM.

The service will feature music by Charles Stanford, - Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in C and the anthem O FOR A CLOSER WALK WITH GOD - Psalm 114 to a chant by Hubert Parry and a Phos Hilaron by John Stainer. Organ music by Robert Hobby, Sam Batt Owens and Johann Pachelbel will also be part of the service.

A reception will follow in Room 325. Please join us for this gentle service, a perfect way to end the Lord's Day and prepare for the week ahead.

--- Molly and Walter Wells

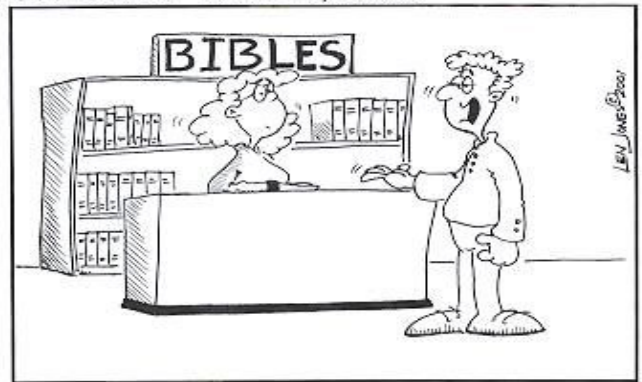
GLOBAL VOICES COMMUNITY SING-A-LONG

February 21 @ 2:30PM, SCHLOW LIBRARY



HUMOR CORNER

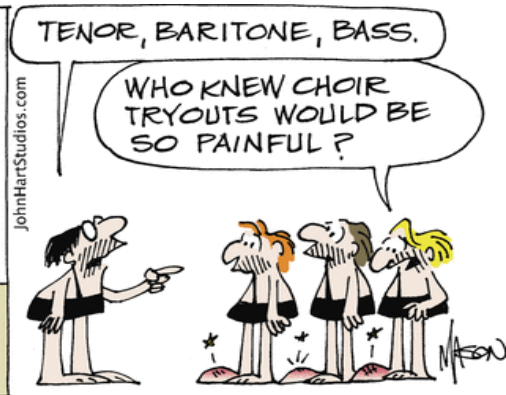
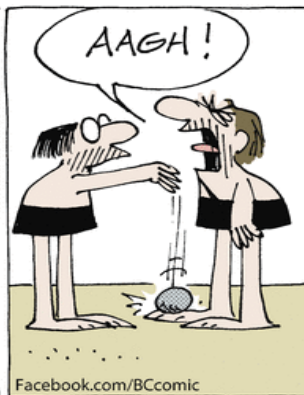
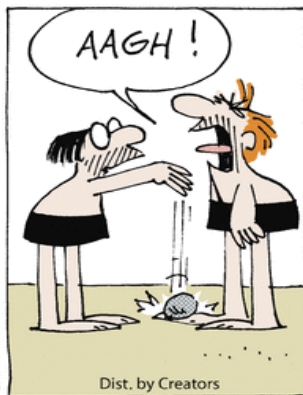
ALTAR EGO by Len Jones



"What I really need is a translation that won't leave me feeling guilty, convicted, or in need of making some kind of decision."



"The Pastor keeps referring to 'this morning's text' ... but which one?"



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES AND VOLUNTEERS

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Jared Hammond
- 3 Cecil Irvin
- 5 Steven Romig
Mary Jane Wild
- 10 John Armington
- 14 Meta Meckstroth
Abby Reed
Jordan Reed
Colin Ruffer
- 16 Phyllis Hertzog
- 17 Christopher Davidson
- 18 Betty Asendorf
Olive Hollis
- 19 Cheryl Cubbage
- 23 Samuel Meyer
- 27 Cyndy Engle
Sara Mauck

FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

- 4 Bob & Virginia Biber
- 14 Dennis & Cheryl Meyer
- 25 Jim & Mary McDevitt

ACOLYTE

- 7 Jules Carr-Chellman
- 14 Lukas Filko
- 21 Jordan Reed
- 28 Carter de Streel

LITURGIST

- 7 Abby Reed
- 14 Tina Aumiller
- 21 Mike Hogan
- 28 Richard Benningoff

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

- 7 Chris Coble
- 14 Davin Carr-Chellman
- 21 Alva Chellman
- 28 Pastor Monica

USHERS

- 7 Davin Carr-Chellman, Asher Carr-Chellman, Jules Carr-Chellman
- 10* Alva Chellman, Larry Bair (*Ash Wednesday Service*)
- 14 Martha Thompson, Peggy Salamon, Neil Christy
- 21 Wayne Bicehouse, Edna Bicehouse, Bob Ritzmann
- 28 Larry Bair, Ben Harris, Jim Welsh

FELLOWSHIP HOUR

- 7 Sue Doran
- 14 OPEN
- 21 June Irvin (*Informational Meeting @12pm in Romig*)
- 28 OPEN

SUNDAY TRUSTEES

- 7 OPEN
- 14 OPEN
- 21 OPEN
- 28 OPEN

NURSERY

- 7 None (Communion Sunday)
- 14 Jean Cole/Jean Frank
- 21 Cyndi Vincenti/Jean Frank
- 28 OPEN

FLOWERS

- 7 June Irvin
- 14 OPEN
- 21 OPEN
- 28 OPEN



WORSHIP CALENDAR

February 7 — TRANSFIGURATION

Text: Ps 99

2Cor 3:12-4:2

Luke 9:28-36(37-43)

Sermon: *"Changed in a Moment"*

Other: Holy Communion (pew);

UCC Lent devotionals available

February 10 — **ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE @7:00PM**

"Ashes to Go" ...11am - 1pm

February 14 — First Sunday in LENT

Text: Ps 91:1-2, 9-16

Rom 10:8b-31

Luke 4: 1-13

Sermon: *"Feasting on God's Word"*

Other: Baby baptism

February 21 — Second Sunday in LENT

Text: Ps 27

Phil 3:17-4:1

Luke 13:31-35

Sermon: *"Under the Shadow of God's Wings"*

Other: Installation of Consistory & Ministry Teams

February 28 — Third Sunday in LENT

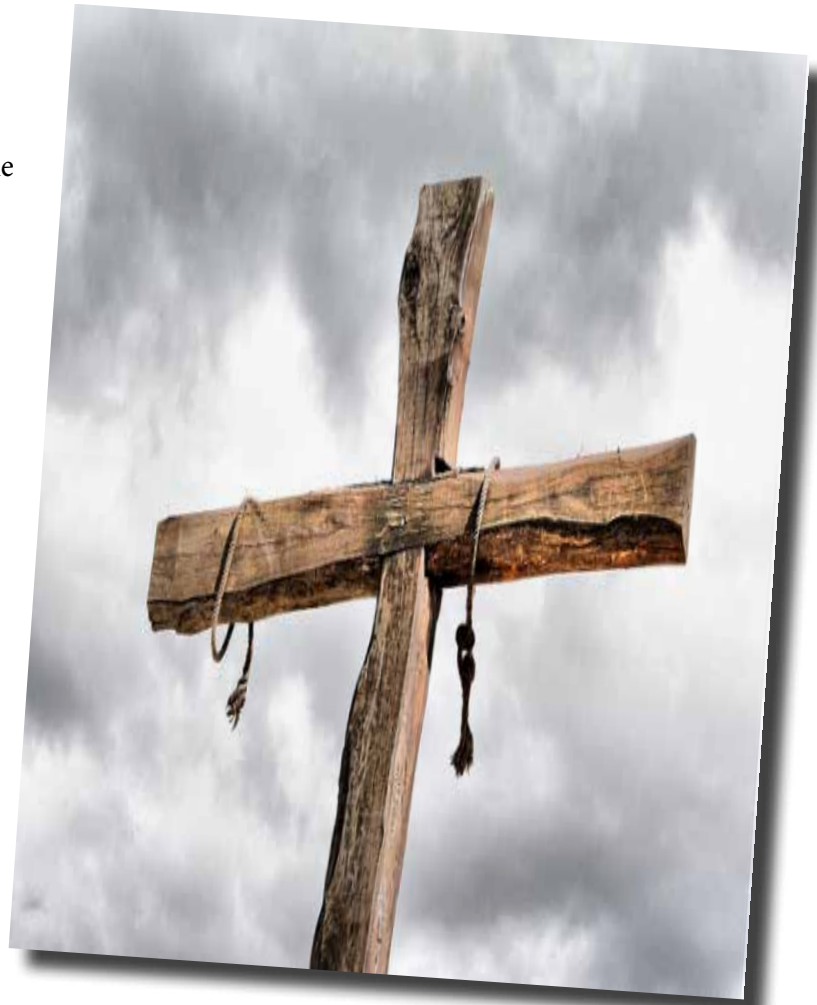
Text: Is 55:1-9

1 Cor. 10: 1-13

Luke 13: 1-9

Sermon: *"There's Still Time to Change"*

Other:



Prayers for healing and wholeness: Cecil Irvin, Linda Merchant, Susan Meyer, Lisa B., (JoAnn's daughter), Ron Neidigh, Timothy Tressler (Ruth's son), Brandon G., Randy Brown (Aimee's father), Lisa Neidigh, Paul M., Anna Mary, Josh Williams, Jane Sheckells, Hazel Tuller, Bunnie Hartswick, Molly (beloved pet), people affected by recent blizzards, crisis in Flint Michigan and victims of domestic violence.

LENTEN STUDY – "Forgiveness"

Sundays in Lent @ 9:30am in the Library (3rd floor)

Faith United Church of Christ

300 East College Avenue

State College, PA 16801

FaithWorks!

WORSHIP: 10:45 AM

We welcome children! During the service, nursery care is provided for infants and toddlers (0-3 years) and Church School for children and youth ages 4+ years., except on Communion Sundays. **Holy Communion is celebrated monthly -- every first Sunday.**

Pastor: faithuccpastor@comcast.net

Office: faithucc@comcast.net

Web Site: www.faithucc.info

 Facebook: facebook.com/SCFaithUCC

 Twitter: twitter.com/FaithUCCSCPA