

June 2018

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



To all the men who nurtured us
physically, emotionally, mentally, and spiritually;
by birth, by adoption, by fostering, by mentoring

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



MINISTER'S MUSINGS



Greetings Faith UCC Community!

We have been busy over the past six months formulating our core values, vision, and mission of our church. The documents for this are copied below. These documents are the result of our consensus about what mattered most to our understanding of who we are as a church and who God wants us to be in the foreseeable future.

As such, these documents become guiding principles for all of our interactions – not only in worship, meetings, and church events, but also in our relationship with one another and others within and beyond our church walls. These are the values (along with our behavioral covenant that we completed earlier) that represent who we intend and strive to be now and in the future.

How are these identity statements reflected in all that we do within the church? This should be our frequent question. If these statements are not reflected in what we do, then we may need to reconsider what it is that we are doing. If they are reflected, we may still ask if there are ways they could be reflected.

All of our ministry teams, which we are in the process of revitalizing, are to consider these documents in doing their specific forms of ministry. When we consider new programs, events, and such that we propose to do as a church or ministry team, we are to use these agreed upon values to guide our decision-making. Is what we are considering consistent with our core values, in accordance with our vision, and reflect our mission? These are the questions that should be in our minds as we think about how our church might move forward in ministry to the wider community and world – as well as how we relate to one another and those who walk through our church doors.

Having a common understanding of who we are as a congregation is vital for unity of spirit, and will help us to respond faithfully to God's call to us in the years to come. It will also help us attract similar and like-spirited people who are looking for a faith community in which to share their own spiritual journeys.

But these statements should also inspire us to be more active in our church – to be the individuals who live out these core values, vision, and mission in our own lives as we represent Faith UCC. As members and attenders of this church, we need to personally commit ourselves to these values to better serve our church and who God is calling us to be in this place.

I am hoping that we will have 100% participation by all of our members and attenders in some key element of our vision and mission statements. This can be done by being more active in our ministries, and working more with our ministry teams. It involves regular worship attendance as often as possible by all of us. It requires that we each emulate the values we see proposed by these documents.





I'm hoping we can consider ways of streamlining our ministry teams, making them more fluid, having less requirements on being members of them for several consecutive, and better allow people who are only here seasonally to be able to feel welcomed to join in our ministries, programs, and ministry teams with no guilt about not being able to be here for an entire year. We will still need to have chairpersons who will commit to at least one year so as to keep things moving ahead and keeping communication about various projects before the entire congregation, and I'm hoping that some of you will consider stepping up in this way. But each of us has a responsibility to do our part in helping our church live out its values day to day, month to month, throughout each year in whatever ways that we can give of our time, talents, and energies.

I pray that we will be in full swing of living up to our potential at the Spirit's calling by the time a settled pastor is called. We have much to do to make this happen, and I encourage you all to reflect on how you individually can best serve God at Faith UCC by what you have to offer. Please let me know how you are willing to serve!

Blessings of love and peace,
Pastor Bret

The Values, Vision, and Mission of Faith United Church of Christ

The Core Values of Faith United Church of Christ*

Inclusiveness/Open & Affirming/Welcoming

Fostering Outreach to Younger Community (PSU, et al), and Serving the Wider Community

Justice to those who don't receive it (social, environmental, etc.)

Volunteerism and service within the church's programs, ministries, ministry teams, etc.

Valuing and honoring tradition in worship with progressive theology, values, and language. (Recognition that "tradition" at Faith UCC, as in the Biblical tradition, is evolving and also elastic and flexible.)

Communally caring, loving, and nurturing of each other.

Education (all ages) – religious, cultural, societal, etc.

Spiritual Growth (all ages) – connecting generations, breadth & depth, guidance (mentoring), support groups, intellectually stimulating.

*Core values are not listed in any order of hierarchy.

The Values, Vision, and Mission of Faith United Church of Christ

The Vision Statement of Faith United Church of Christ

Faith United Church of Christ is a progressive community of faith that seeks to:

Live out an extravagantly welcoming, radically inclusive, and open and affirming faith in which we embrace the beautiful diversity of God's people, all of whom we see as our siblings regardless of race, ethnicity, gender identity, sexual orientation, dis/ability, and circumstance of life.

Foster outreach and relationships with people of all ages, with emphases on younger members and families in the State college area and those in the Penn State University community, in order to heed God's call to us to serve locally and beyond.

Advocate for justice wherever there is injustice, and both speak and work for changes in local, regional, national, and world attitudes and laws that will address both systemic and personal injustices to groups and individuals.

Embody an ethos of service and volunteerism through the church programs, ministries, and Ministry Teams by which our church responds to God's call by aiding one another and the wider community.

Kindle and sustain a set of values, theology, and language that is innovatively progressive, while doing so in a structure of worship that respects tradition without being constrained by it.

Cultivate compassion, kindness, and caring concern within our congregation and wider community so as to nurture a spirit of cooperation, collaboration, and mutual support.

Edify our minds, hearts, and souls by educating ourselves and others about other faiths, cultures, societies, and human endeavors so as to further mutual understanding in the hope for peaceful relations.

Nurture spiritual growth in each person at every level of development so as to make wise our God-given consciences, deepen our resolve to follow Christ's call to love one another as ourselves, and broaden the Spirit's influence by doing our part in making the world a better place.

The Values, Vision, and Mission of Faith United Church of Christ

The Mission Statement of Faith United Church of Christ

We, the congregation of Faith United Church of Christ, live out our mission by faithfully:

Welcoming, befriending, and empowering all persons who seek a haven of spiritual sustenance and inspiration.

Providing an outreach of invitation and inclusion to the wider community, with an emphasis on children, young persons and the PSU community.

Speaking, writing, and acting in our personal, social, political, and religious lives in defense of those for whom justice is denied.

Investing and committing our time, talents, and efforts to create, nourish, support, and invigorate the ministries, programs, and leadership of our church to carry out our vision through volunteerism as well as requested and appointed service.

Affirming both creative and traditional elements within worship that are compatible with our progressive Christian values, and encouraging our pastor, staff, and congregation to appreciate the diversity of liturgy and interpretation in which we are each uniquely blessed while in sacred fellowship.

Practicing kindness and displaying compassion in all of our relationships within our church to facilitate a community of healing, encouragement, nurture, and peace.

Learning, teaching, and interacting with one another with the intent of fostering understanding, building relationships, and developing networks that expand our minds, inspire our spirits, and uplift our souls.

Engaging our sense of wonder and awe, inquisitively acknowledging our doubts and questions, planting seeds of sacred mystery, cultivating the crops of faithfulness, and reaping a harvest of blessing so that God's light might shine on us and through us to our world.

At our May 21 monthly meeting, it was decided Rev. Meyer will focus on revitalization of Faith's ministry teams/committees. Rev. Meyer suggested reviewing our Core Values with these groups; this "in-reach" is envisioned as a way to strengthen our outreach. Some of our teams have been inactive for some time, and it is hoped that we can begin a process of renewal.

The Faith Church Profile (complete with pictures!) was submitted this week [end of May, ed.] for review by the Penn Central Conference (PCC) staff. From the profile they will develop a brief job description that will be posted nationally. Interested persons will be able to review our profile and will submit their pastoral profiles to the PCC office, who will in turn forward them on to our Search and Call Committee for consideration.

We all need to remember that as the Search Committee does its work, it will observe important confidentiality protocols. The committee will give us status reports as appropriate, but we can support their efforts best with our patience and prayers.

--Larry Bair, Consistory President



Greetings from TMT,

GREAT NEWS – We now possess an AED (Defibrillator). It will be easily accessible outside the admin office. It has both adult and pediatric capabilities. We would like anyone interested in being trained in the use of the AED to please sign up with Clifton Merchant. The training will be led by the Red Cross for AED use (Adult and Pediatric) and first aid and CPR at no charge to you. Please take advantage of this potential lifesaving opportunity. Where and when TBA.

Exterior projects are progressing. The two trees beside Locust Lane steps have been removed in preparation for the steps to be repaired. Our railing on College Ave will be painted.

This month we treated for termites at the Locust Lane door.

Please remember the Strawberry Festival on June 13, Wednesday, on our newly waxed Romig Hall floor. Please attend, volunteer or otherwise support this fun event!

Peace of Christ,
Alva

[ed: Jeff is already trained/certified in Basic Life Support, which includes AED use, as required for his position as a hospice chaplain.]



The Caring Network...

What is the Caring Network and what do the Caring Leaders do?

We are very fortunate to have a group of nine Caring Leaders (volunteers) who are friends and members at Faith Church. They are: Edna Bicehouse, Jane Childs, Jean Frank, Sue Doran, Rev. Ernie Hawk, June Irvin, Mary Jane Wild, and Jim and Sally Welsh.

Each Caring Leader has a list of people from the church with whom they keep in contact.

Our main question is: *“How do you want to be cared for?”*

Please let your Caring Leader know if you have a prayer request or if you need help or support in some way.

If you have any questions please call me at 814-777-0339 or email me at sandy99@onemain.com.

Thank you,

Sandy Miller -
Caring Coordinator

Part of the Caring Network's work is done through the Prayer Shawl ministry.

Caring Network leaders bring ministry needs to the Pastor and others on the Caring Teams. If you know anyone in the Faith Caring Community (members and friends of Faith) who would welcome receiving a handmade prayer shawl (also known as “comfort shawls” or “peace shawls”), please let Pastor Myers know.

The purpose of the prayer shawls, which are made for both men and women, are to comfort, support, and encourage. Prayer shawls are prayers for healing and hope. Since 2011, we have given over 30 shawls to members and friends of Faith. Each shawl is labeled with a prayer and the name of the recipient.



Please contact Sandy Miller (sandy99@onemain.com), leader of the Caring Teams, or Pastor Bret (revbmyers@yahoo.com) if you know someone who you think would like to receive a shawl.



CHURCH SCHOOL



Church School Schedule --- June 2018

- June 3 - (Proper 5) – (10) Parent Care Day/ Communion
June 10 - (Proper 6) - (11) God Chooses a King/ a Child
1 Samuel 15:34 – 16:13
June 17 - (Proper 7) - (12) Jesus Stops the Storm/Peace Be Still
Mark 4:35 – 41
June 24 - (Proper 8) - (13) There Is Power In A Touch
Mark 5:24 -34

Our Church School sessions will continue through the summer, except on PCD's (Parent Care Days).

Beginning June 24 our Church School will be led on various Sundays throughout July and August by Abby (and Cindy) Reed.

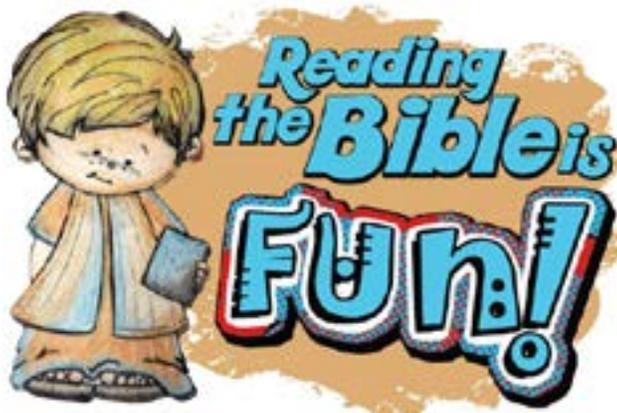
Please continue to bring your children and encourage them to participate. Some parental assistance may occasionally be needed, so please be willing to help if asked.

Our thanks to Abby and Cindy.

See you in Church School!

Blessings!

Barb Chellman, *Church School Coordinator*
(bkcwminc@aol.com)



To volunteer or for more information about either Church School or Nursery, please contact:

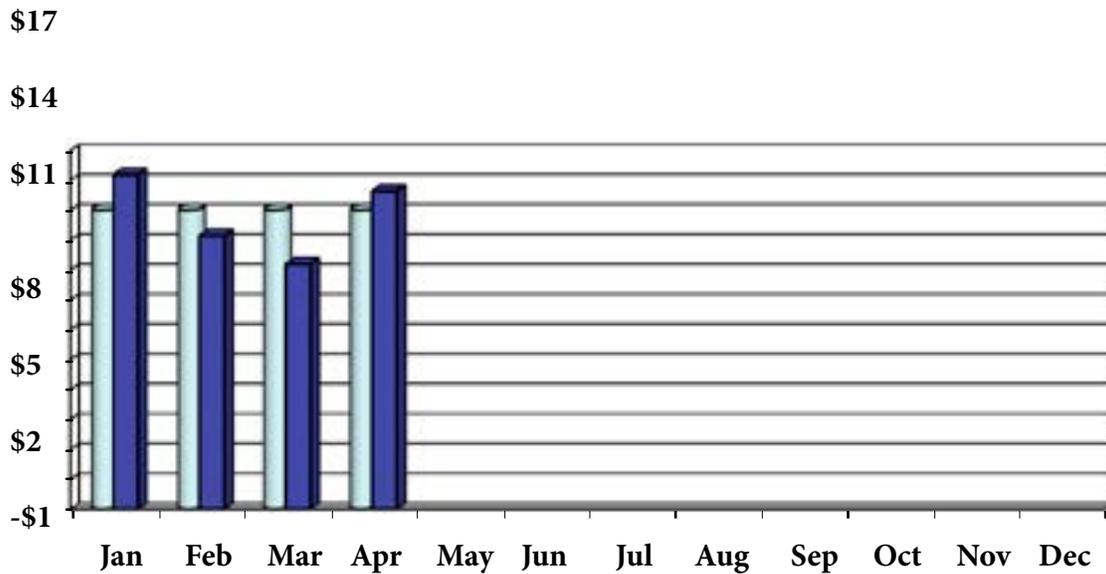
Barb Chellman: bkcwminc@aol.com
Michelle Barnard: rmwcgrad@hotmail.com

April 2018

Faith United Church of Christ

Monthly Offerings: Budget vs. Actual

■ Budget ■ Actual
Thousands



April 2018

Total received = \$10,642

Total budgeted = \$10,000

Budget to actual difference (Current Month) = + \$642

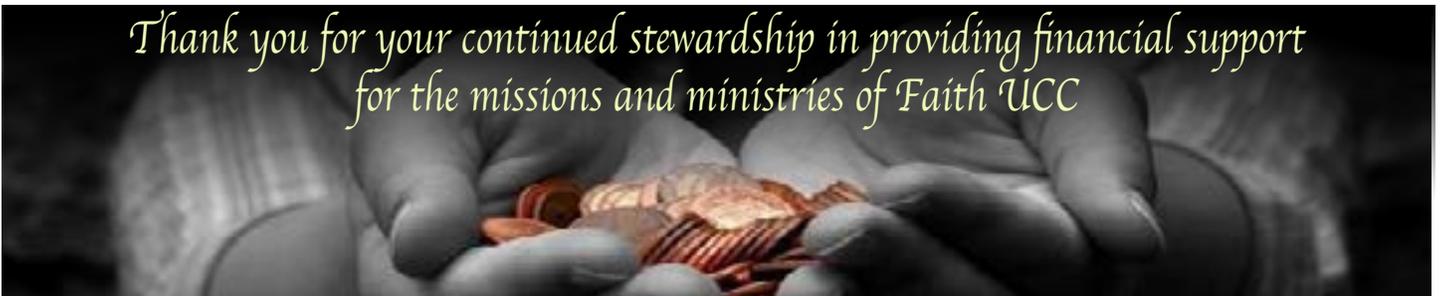
April Year-to-Date

Total Received = \$39,186

Total Budgeted = \$40,000

Budget to actual difference (Year-to-Date) = (\$814)

*Thank you for your continued stewardship in providing financial support
for the missions and ministries of Faith UCC*



FAITH HAPPENINGS

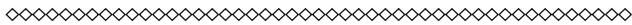


JUNE SPECIAL OFFERING

Strengthen the Church (STC) is a special mission offering to reimagine and build the future of the UCC: to largely support youth ministries and full-time leaders for new churches in parts of the country where the UCC voice has not been heard.

STC funds will also be used to award grants to help congregations communicate the “God is still speaking,” message.

Thank you for your consideration and financial support!



71st Annual Strawberry Festival

- **Date:** Wednesday, June 13, 2018
- **Time:** 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
- **Menu:** Meyer Dairy ice cream, a variety of cakes, and lots of strawberries!!
- **Tickets:** At the door, \$6/adult; \$3/children & students

Location: Romig Hall (basement level)
Faith United Church of Christ / 300 E. College Avenue / State College, PA 16801
(corner of College Ave. & Locust Lane - church is next to Taco Bell)



A YEAR(!) ago, we began an on-going fundraiser in partnership with Great Lakes SCRIP. Just to review, SCRIP is a program which allows members and friends to contribute funds to Faith Church in the course of their regular shopping.

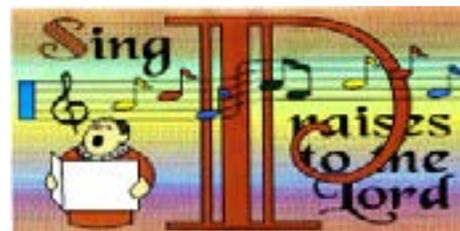
If you would like to order your own cards online—for details contact Melissa Coble (mcoble19@gmail.com) or Carlton Miller (jclmiller@gmail.com).

The established process will continue to be an option for those who choose it.

Contact Lois Bair, Melissa Coble, or the office.

Great Lakes Scrip has over
750 RETAILERS
to choose from, so you
can use scrip on practically
every purchase!

[View them all here.](#)



CHOIR

NO Rehearsals

through the summer



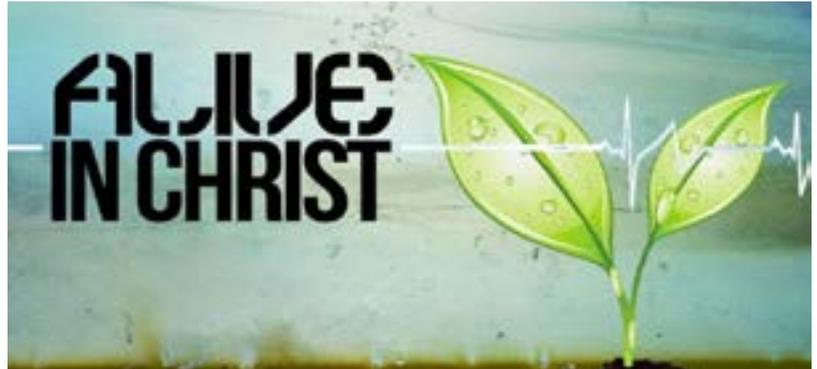
August 5th!

Details to come!

The call to the **Fifty-Sixth Annual Meeting** of the Penn Central Conference of the United Church of Christ will convene

June 8 - 9, 2018

at [Susquehanna University](#),
514 University Avenue - Selinsgrove, PA 17870.



ALIVE IN CHRIST
Re-visioning Key Vital Signs
([Colossians 2: 6-19](#))

This year we will focus on equipping local churches with practical tools and resources to thrive

[Annual Meeting Draft Agenda](#)

Annual Meeting Costs:
Friday Registration - \$35
Saturday Registration - \$35
Friday Dinner - \$13
Saturday Breakfast - \$6.50
Saturday Lunch - \$10.50
Double Occupancy - \$40
Single Occupancy - \$50

****REGISTER FOR EVERYTHING, SAVE \$10!**

[TO REGISTER](#)

We will have a robust children's program this year - a 'mini Annual Meeting'.
Children's registration will follow!

* All clergy are expected to attend annual meeting. If you are unable to be present, please notify the conference office in writing via e-mail or letter in order that you may be excused.

Each church shall be entitled to be represented by two (2) lay delegates at least one of whom should be under 21 years of age, wherever feasible in the local situation.

**The ONA Ministry Team of the Penn Central Conference
Welcomes Andy Lang to this year's Annual Meeting**

**OPEN AND AFFIRMING
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
ONA MINISTRY TEAM
PENN CENTRAL CONFERENCE**



ONA & the Bible

An Open and Affirming conversation can help congregations re-discover basic biblical values. Learn how congregations have faithfully explored biblical texts and learned why and how they can welcome their LGBTQ neighbors.

Speaker: Andy Lang, Executive Director, Open and Affirming Coalition, United Church of Christ

Successful Practices of ONA Churches: Learn about the strategies used by churches within Penn Central Conference that has led to an Extravagant Welcome - Topic Areas include: Successful ONA Vote, A Community Presence, Spreading understanding with a particular focus on children and youth, and Welcoming and Healing.



Andy Lang has 18 years of experience as a communications professional in the United Church of Christ. He was a daily newspaper reporter and a Congressional public-relations specialist in Washington, DC, before moving to Cleveland to join the UCC's national communications staff in 1993.

Andy has been the Coalition's executive director since 2010: in that capacity, he leads the UCC's Open and Affirming Program. His passion is to reach the nearly 3,700 UCC congregations that have not yet adopted an ONA covenant. He is a member of Plymouth United Church of Christ in Shaker Heights, OH. Andy's pronouns of choice are "he, him, his."

Join Us – **June 8** before Annual Meeting at Susquehanna University
9:30 AM: Registration and 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM: Pre-Conference
Cost \$30 and includes lunch

The next **Culture Crawl and Festival** will take place on **Sunday, June 10.**

Please be aware that Calder Way will be closed from McAllister to South Allen and from Locust Lane to Heister Street.

In addition, the 100 block of Allen Street will be closed from 12-8 pm for this event.

For more information and how to get involved with this event call Tommy Tate at (814) 238-6457.

<https://statecollegeculturecrawl.com/>



First Annual Central PA Theatre and Dance Festival June 22

From mainstage performances of
The Hunchback of Notre Dame and Poe: Deep Into That Darkness
Improvisation Comedy,
Burlesque,
Belly Dancing,
Panel Discussions,
Readings,
Classes,
Workshops,
Family-Friendly Activities,



and many others, the festival offers 3-days of programming with over 20 companies participating!

We have over 105 events planned-check out the daily schedules! June 22-Sunday, June 24

Join us in downtown State College at:

The Central PA Dance Workshop	Sidney Friedman Park	Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Plaza
Movement Arts Studio	Schwab Auditorium	State College Municipal Building
The State Theatre	Webster's Bookstore Cafe	

and other venues to be announced.

<http://www.downtownstatecollege.com/event/first-annual-central-pa-theatre-and-dance-festival/2018-06-22/>

Along with First Fridays, this may be an opportunity for Faith Church to reach out to the community. If you have any ideas, contact the office or Lois Bair.

UCC Designations for Faith Church Consideration

As we consider the vision and mission of Faith Church, it is important to ask not just where we've been and what we've done, but what God may be calling us toward in the future. We are already an ONA church, but there are three (3) other UCC designations that may also speak to our progressive stance to be a light in the world. Please read the following information prayerfully, seeking God's guidance as to whether these designations might be ways that we'd like Faith UCC to use to speak to our local community and wider world.



Creation Justice Church

Whether it is taking on climate change or addressing the lead poisoning of children, environment justice ministries could not have a higher purpose or calling than they do now. IF the followers of Jesus today care about the air we breathe, the water we drink, or the world in which we live, then environmental justice ministry should undoubtedly be an integral strand in any church's DNA. The UCC's Creation Justice Church program aims to do just that.

Learn more about how churches can participate in the UCC's Creation Justice program. For steps in becoming a Creation Justice church, go to: http://www.ucc.org/how_it_works_becoming_a_creation_justice_church

A Just Peace Church

The Just Peace Church vision is a hallmark of UCC theological identity. For 30 years, the Just Peace Church Pronouncement has inspired a grassroots movement of UCC congregations committed to corporately naming and boldly proclaiming a public identity as a justice-doing, peace-seeking church. The Just Peace pronouncement articulates the UCC position on war and peace distinct from other approaches such as crusade, pacifism, or "just war." Grounded in UCC polity and covenantal theology, the position focuses attention on alleviating systemic injustice for all types using non-violence and calls us to offer the message, grounded in the hope of reconciliation in Jesus, that "Peace is possible!"



Learn more about becoming a Just Peace Church:

For more information, contact: uccjustpeace@gmail.com and join us in conversation via Facebook and Twitter @JustPeaceUCC. A Just Peace Handbook is downloadable at: <http://uccfiles.com/fef/just-peace-handbook-06-2015.pdf>

Patriotism, Nationalism, and the Christian Life is a resource for UCC congregations which suggests appropriate Christian responses during times of war. http://d3n8a8pro7vhmx.cloudfront.net/unitedchurchofchrist/legacy_url/6535/patriotism.pdf?1418431405

The Sanctuary Movement

Underscoring the love of neighbor, with several speakers proclaiming that no human is illegal, delegates to General Synod 2017 overwhelmingly declared itself an Immigrant Welcoming Denomination and called on all settings of the UCC to do the same.

The resurgence of the Sanctuary Movement works to provide protection in our houses of worship for those facing violence, discrimination, and deportation.

Read the General Synod Resolution here:

<http://www.wcucc.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/05/Immigrant-Welcoming-Conference-Resolution-Final-Version.pdf>

JUNE BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES, AND VOLUNTEERS



JUNE BIRTHDAYS

1 ANN GRAVES
 2 DON ASENDORF
 3 ERNIE HAWK
 AUBREY GIBSON
 4 RANDY BOWERS
 6 JUNE IRVIN
 7 CADEN L. WINTERS (CHILD)
 STEPHEN PELLETIER
 9 SHANNON GIBSON
 14 RICHARD BENNINGHOFF
 MARGARET HAMMOND
 16 ALVA CHELLMAN
 18 LOUISE HARRIS
 ARLIENE HOY
 20 LISA NEIDIGH
 JORDAN BARNARD
 24 MICHELLE BARNARD
 KEES BRANDSE
 VINCE LUNETTA
 25 DARLENE RIPKA

10 CARLTON & SANDY MILLER FLOWERS
 12 LARRY & LOIS BAIR JUNE 3
 DAVIN & ALI CARR-CHELLMAN 10
 17 WAYNE & EDNA BICEHOUSE 17 JANE CHILDS
 NICHOLAS & PEGGY SALAMON 24

18 DANIEL & EILEEN PFAFF
 25 STEPHEN & JULIE PELLETIER LITURGIST
 27 DON & BETTY ASENDORF JUNE 3
 JIM & SALLY WELSH 10



ACOLYTE
 JUNE 3
 10
 17
 24
 NURSERY
 JUNE 3 COMMUNION
 10
 17
 24

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE
 JUNE 3
 10
 17
 24
 SUNDAY TRUSTEES
 JUNE 3
 10
 17
 24

COMMUNION TEAM
 JUNE 3
 ALVA CHELLMAN, CYNDI VINCENTI,
 CLIF MERCHANT, JUNE IRVIN
 10
 17
 24
 USHERS
 JUNE 3



JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

4 DREW & JEAN FRANK
 JOE & CAROLYN MEYER
 7 RANDY & SUE BOWERS
 10 JUNE IRVIN
 17 KEES & SUSAN BRANDSE
 24

Blanks indicate openings.



WORSHIP CALENDAR



June 3 9th Sunday in Ordinary Time
1 Sa 3:1-10, (11-20); Ps 139:1-6, 13-18 OR
Dt 5:12-15; Ps 81:1-10
2 Co 4:5-12
Mk 2:23-3:6

Holy Communion

Stretch Out Your Hand

June 10 10th Sunday in Ordinary Time
1 Sa 4:8-11, (12-15); 16-20; Ps 138 OR
Ge 3:8-15; Ps 130
2 Co 4:13-5:1
Mk 3:20-35

The Will of God

June 17 11th Sunday of Ordinary Time
1 Sa 15:34-16:13; Ps 20 OR
Ez 17:22-24; Ps 92:1-4, 12-15
2 Co 5:6-10, (11-13), 14-17 OR 2 Co 5:6-17
Mk 4:26-34

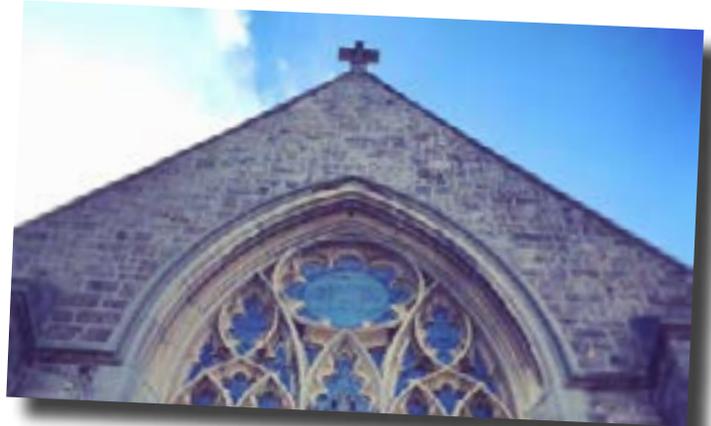
Flourishing

Father's Day

June 24 12th Sunday in Ordinary Time
1 Sa 17:(1a, 4-11, 19-230, 32-49; PS 9:9-20 OR
JB 38:1-22; PS 107:1-3, 23-32
2 Co 6:1-13
Mk 4:35-41

In the Boat Together

Open and Affirming Sunday



Prayers for healing and wholeness:

Carlton Miller, Susie Keck, Joann Edwards, Lisa V. (John Vincenti's daughter), Bob Ritzman, Lisa B. (JoAnn's daughter), Brandon G., Lisa Neidigh, Bunnie Hartswick, Katelynn Wilson, Darlene Ripka, April S., Randy Brown (Aimee's Dad), the Piggot family, Robert Zupp (Eileen Pfaff's nephew), the Snook family.



These are the standard weekly texts which may or may not be used on a particular Sunday for worship. If you would like to know what texts are being used, go to the church website on Friday evening or Saturday to check the [online bulletin](http://www.faithucc.info/bulletins.html).
<http://www.faithucc.info/bulletins.html>

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

Faith Works!

WORSHIP: 10:45 AM

We welcome children!

During the service, nursery care is provided for infants and toddlers (up to 4 years old) and Church School for children and youth ages 4+ years (except on Communion Sundays). **Holy Communion is celebrated monthly -- usually every first Sunday.**

Pastor: faithuccpastor@comcast.net

Office: faithucc@comcast.net

Web Site: www.faithucc.info

 Facebook: facebook.com/SCFaithUCC

 Twitter: twitter.com/FaithUCCSCPA