

a monthly magazine publication of Faith Church

Sep 2019

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



Faith Church Welcomes You!

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

New School Year Mercies

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. Lamentations 3:22-23

September brings the commencement of new beginnings. Parents are sending their kids back to school and my Facebook timeline is full of pictures of kids and their first day of school. Professors organize their classes and research schedules. Children with new backpacks carry their crayons and paper to school. Teenagers gear up for Fall sports, consider band or choir, learn to organize homework schedules, and establish a little more independence each year. In the midst of the new school year, the weather changes with crisper air and the stores are decked out in pumpkins and apples. For many, this season is also the start of college sports. There is a particular joy I have always felt in September as I pull out sweaters that were packed away for the summer. There is a mercy in the cooler temperatures that the humidity of the summer lacks; there is a mercy in being able to start anew each program year.

I have been contemplating mercy over the past few months. In Greek, mercy is ἔλεος which means compassion. Scripture is clear in both the Hebrew Testament and the New Testament that God is merciful. God is the merciful one. God is the compassionate one. New beginnings are the very nature of God; mercy is God's character. What happened last year doesn't get to dictate what happens this year; that is mercy. A fresh beginning to grow, to learn, and to pray.

As we begin a new program year at Faith UCC, I pray for each of us to experience the new mercy of God every morning and that we know the love of God and trust God's loving faithfulness to us. I pray that when we wake up in the morning we quiet the worry or the work load or the school load with the whispers of God saying to us, "Mercy, mercy, mercy. Let's begin anew today." I pray our church presence in our community is one of mercy and compassion. I pray we experience the mercy of God and that mercy inspires us to do good and work for justice and reach out to those in need of mercy.

Indeed, the steadfast love of God never ceases and this is the love we welcome each of you to come and experience in worship and in the life of the fellowship of our congregation.

Join us on Sunday September 8th for our Welcome Back Sundaes where we will welcome the mercy of God, welcome the choir back, and eat ice cream sundaes after church.

Together in the mercy of God,
Pastor Jes



TRUSTEES UPDATE



The Trustees recently approved the purchase and installation of two Ring Doorbell devices on the doors on the Calder Way and Locust Lane sides of the church. Maybe you noticed them already.

A separate Ring Chime unit is plugged in to the AC outlet outside Jeff Stormer's office. This chime unit produces an audible tone whenever someone approaches either door.

The Ring Doorbell units do two important things to make life a little easier, and perhaps a little safer, for Pastor Jes and Jeff:

Any time someone approaches either door, the Ring apps on the tablet devices of Pastor Jes and Jeff will produce an audible ring and also show a live, full-motion video of the area around whichever door's Ring unit has been triggered by the person approaching.

Pastor Jes can see the person at the door and they can have a 2-way conversation with that person. The person at the door cannot see Pastor Jes or Jeff, but they can see the person at the door.

Each time the Ring Doorbell is triggered, a 30-second, full-motion video will be recorded and stored in the "cloud" where it can be retrieved for up to 30 days.

We hope that this saves time for Pastor Jes and Jeff and enhances the safety for everyone in our church building.

If you would like to see a demo of the Ring Doorbells, ask Pastor Jes or Jeff.



CHURCH SCHOOL



Greetings to our Faith UCC families,

My thanks to all who volunteered to teach over the summer weeks. I hope you enjoyed your time with our children! Blessings to you!

Our September schedule will be as follows:

September 1 - Hymn sing – Children will attend and sing with the congregation.

September 8 - Parent Care Day (PCD), Sacrament of Communion & Sunday Sundae (Ice Cream?)

September 15 – Church School Lesson: The Lost Sheep, Luke 15: 1 - 7

September 22 – Church School Lesson: Do the Right Thing, Luke 16: 1 – 13

September 29 – Church School Lesson: The Rich Man & Lazarus, Luke 16: 19 - 31

Blessings,
Barb Chellman

Back to School Blessing
by the Rev. Marilyn E. Thornton

Bless my paper and my pen,
Guide my spirit deep within,
Help me think and help me play,
This whole school year, day by day.

As I move from class to class
Guide my footsteps; clear my path,
Keep my tongue to speak your words.
Let your will for me be heard.

Whether far from home or near,
May I hold God's precepts dear.
To do my best at every task,
For this blessing, I do ask.

Help my family be a part
As I lift my mind and heart.
As I study, work and pray,
Be with them throughout the day.
Of whom much is given, much is required.
May learning be your greatest desire!



CARING NETWORK



The Caring Network...

“No one is useless in this world who lightens the burdens of another.” Charles Dickens.

What comes to your mind when you see the word CARE? Have you ever felt others really don't care about you? I often heard people say, “who cares, it's all about them.” Here at Faith UCC we have a caring church family and we invite you to be part of that family.

We have a team of Caring Leaders who help us to stay connected. They inform our Pastor Jes and Sandy Miller, the Caring Coordinator, to decide how to share with our church family. The important question is: How do you want to be cared for? When people share information with us that they wish to keep confidential, we respect their wishes.

The following people, members and friends, are the Caring Leaders who volunteer to reach out to help us stay connected. Each leader will contact the people on their list by calling, sending a note or meet up, to get to know you better. They are: Edna Bicehouse, Jane Childs, Jean Frank, Sue Doran, Rev. Ernie Hawk, June Irvin, Mary Jane Wild, and Jim and Sally Welsh.

Please feel free to call Sandy Miller – 814-777-0339 or email sandy99@onemain.com if you have any questions or concerns. We want to make sure you are included, and welcomed here at Faith Church.

Part of the Caring Network's work is also done through the Prayer Shawl ministry, by our Women's Guild.

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 Jes know.

The purpose of the prayer shawls, which are made for both men and women, is to comfort, support, and encourage. Prayer shawls are prayers for healing and hope. Since 2011, we have given over 40 shawls to members and friends of Faith. Each shawl is labeled with a prayer and the name of the recipient.



SEPTEMBER SPECIAL OFFERING

Park Forest PreSchool

is dedicated to providing low income families with a comprehensive preschool program that includes education, social skills, and developmental motor skills taught by qualified teachers in a friendly, safe environment.



The preschool continues their mission of assisting at-risk children to grow and thrive while preparing them for a successful start in public school.

You can learn more about them on their website: <http://www.parkforestpreschool.org>

2019 Special Offerings Year to Date		
<i>Month</i>	<i>Charity</i>	<i>Amount</i>
January	Centre Safe	365.00
	Out of the Cold Centre County	10.00
February	Mid Penn Legal	485.00
	OOTC3	30.00
March	One Great Hour of Sharing	415.00
	Penguin Packs (Kiwanis)	1000.00
April	Hoffman Homes for Youth	250.00
May	Hartman Center	380.00
	Penguin Packs (personal donation)	70.00
June	Strengthen the Church	338.00
	Noisy Offering (Penguin Packs)	156.90
	Penguin Packs (personal donations)	100.00
July	OOTC3	465.00
	Strengthen the Church	90.00
August	Bethany House	260.00
	Noisy Offering (Penguin Packs)	232.98
	Penguin Packs (personal donation)	500.00
Total		5147.88

SCRIP Update

In April 2017 we began an on-going fundraiser in partnership with Great Lakes SCRIP. Just to review, Great Lakes SCRIP is a program which allows members and friends to trigger retailer contributions to Faith Church in the course of their regular shopping.



Through this program we obtain shopping cards for local businesses—e.g. Giant Foods, Weis Markets, CVS—as well as on-line shopping sites like Amazon, LLBean, etc. These cards are the same as the ones you can buy at kiosks in many stores—the difference is that Faith Church receives the “commission” on the sale of the card, rather than the store. The beauty of SCRIP is that there’s no need to purchase anything out of the ordinary. Faith Church benefits when you buy your gas and groceries, or whatever else you routinely purchase. If you like to give gift cards for birthdays and holidays, why not buy them through SCRIP? If you have planned events on the horizon, consider using SCRIP cards to purchase supplies.

Participants follow these simple steps:

- 1) Choose from the orange list of participating businesses, found on the round table in the Gathering Space (or at the SCRIP website www.shopwithscrip.com --click on the “Retailers” link.)
- 2) Decide the number of cards you want and the whole-dollar denomination for each card.
- 3) Fill out an order slip and prepare payment. (Order slips are also in the Gathering Space.) Checks should be made payable to Faith UCC, with SCRIP written on the memo line. Give the order and payment to Lois Bair.
- 4) Cards in stock are available immediately. Orders placed on Sunday should be available for pick-up within one or two weeks.
- 5) Use the cards as cash for shopping at the designated business. (They’re treated as gift cards at most check-out stations, and gas points and rewards apply as with any other form of payment.) You spend the face value of the card, and Faith UCC receives a percentage of the card purchase.

NOTE: Cards do not expire and can be used by anyone.

One key to success with SCRIP is for folks to anticipate future shopping needs and obtain the appropriate cards in advance of their purchases—for example, the Women’s Guild orders Weis cards to be used in their shopping for the June Strawberry Festival.

The other key to success is the same as for most fundraising—the more, the merrier!

Please consider giving it a try!

If you are aware of any errors or additional news that can be shared, please [contact](#) the church office!



Thank You!!!

The Strawberry festival in June was a great success: good food, good fellowship, and a good boost to our treasury.

Thanks to all of you who helped with cakes, with serving in some way, with using your tickets. It take us all to get things done!

Thanks, too, to our Out of the Cold guests who have been here Tuesdays and Thursdays. They go the extra mile to make sure the kitchen and fellowship hall are neat and clean!

The NUT Sale is coming! Order forms can be found in the bulletin announcements and online. Please note that we will only purchase enough cases to fill these pre-orders. Forms are due September 29. Place your order now to be sure you have what you want in time for the holidays!

YOU'RE INVITED!

Enjoy an afternoon in the country, watching apples being pressed on a vintage cider mill which dates back to the 1880's. It's an informal event for Faith members and friends, and there's lots of opportunity for hands-on participation--and you can go home with a jug of the freshest cider possible!

DATE: Sunday, **September 29**

TIME: 2:00 to 4:30

PLACE: The Bair "Homestead" in Decker Valley, approx. 30 min. drive from State College. (Set GPS for the Seven Mts. Wine Cellars, Spring Mills location; drive past the winery on Decker Valley Rd. another 1.5 mi. or so, and turn at the Cider Press sign on the left.)

For more information, or to arrange carpooling/transportation call Lois Bair at 359-6090 by September 28.

(It's an outdoor event, so we'll be hoping for good weather. If in doubt, call Lois at the number above.)



FAITH IN PHOTOS



FAITH CALENDAR



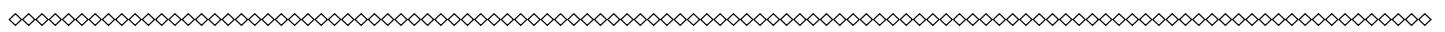
September 2019						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3 OOTC Day	4 SMART Recovery	5 OOTC Day	6 First Friday	7
8	9	10 OOTC Day	11 SMART Recovery	12 OOTC Day	13	14
15	16	17 OOTC Day Trustees 7	18 <i>FW Deadline</i> SMART Recovery	19 OOTC Day	20	21
22	23 Consistory 5:30	24 OOTC Day	25 SMART Recovery	26 OOTC Day	27	28
29	30					



DID YOU KNOW?

US President Zachary Taylor coined the term “Frist Lady” to refer to the wife of the president. Prior to that, they were commonly referred to as “Presidentress.”

Now you know.



If you have an event, or know of an event that should be listed, please contact the office.

All announcements are available on the church website:
<http://www.faithucc.info/news.html>.

COMMUNITY EVENTS



September Highlights



Farmer's Markets



<http://www.visitpennstate.org/events/>
Use the Date Search function on the left.

<https://www.visitpennstate.org/eat/farmers-markets/>



2019 Living in One Neighborhood (LION) Bash

LION Bash is a community resource fair and block party where attendees are able to learn more about services and policies that are in place to ensure that community members have a safe and enjoyable time while in the community.

This year's fair will be on Wednesday, **September 10**, from 5 to 8 p.m. on the 100 to 300 blocks of South Allen Street in Downtown State College.

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES, AND VOLUNTEERS



FELLOWSHIP HOUR

SEP 1
8
15
22 SUE DORAN
29

USHERS

SEP 1
8 TOM DAUBERT
15 TOM DAUBERT
22
29

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

16 CHRISTINE BOWERS
17 KATELYN MOYER
19 ADAM FOUNTAINE
PATRICIA HERTZOG
21 KIRK NEIDIGH
25 KATHERINE GERHART
JACKI HUNT

FLOWERS

SEP 1
8
15
22
29

Blanks indicate openings.
Please notify the office for corrections.

SPECIAL DATES IN SEPTEMBER

2 LABOR DAY
6 FIRST FRIDAY
7 BUFFALO @ PENN STATE
14 PITTSBURGH @ PENN STATE
27 PENN STATE @ MARYLAND

LITURGIST

SEP 1 HYMNN SING SUNDAY
8
15
22
29 APRIL MYERS

NURSERY

SEP 1 HYMNN SING SUNDAY
8 COMMUNION (PARENT CARE)
15
22
29



CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SEP 1
8
15
22
29

SUNDAY TRUSTEES

SEP 1
8 TOM DAUBERT
15 TOM DAUBERT
22
29 NEIL CHRISTY

COMMUNION TEAM

SEP 8 JESSY DEFENDERFER, SUE DORAN,
JUNE IRVIN, PEGGY SALAMON



WORSHIP CALENDAR



You will notice that the readings below are taken from the Revised Common Lectionary, hosted by Vanderbilt University in Nashville, TN.

All the text references are listed for use with other translations.

Clicking the link for each date will take you to the NRSV reading at the Lectionary, where all the scriptures listed for that day are displayed in one place for your convenience.

- Sep 1 Hymn Sing Sunday
- Sep 8 13th Sunday After Pentecost
[Jeremiah 18](#)
[Psalm 1](#)
- Sunday Sundaes
Holy Communion
- Sep 15 [14th Sunday After Pentecost](#)
- Sep 22 [15th Sunday After Pentecost](#)
- Sep 29 [16th Sunday After Pentecost](#)

Scripture texts and Lections are from the Revised Common Lectionary Daily Readings, hosted by Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN. See the [Terms of Use](#) for copyright details.



Prayers for healing and wholeness:

The family of Ilene Maharg, the family of Don Asendorf, the family of Lynn Christy (Neil's brother), the family of Jane Sheckells, Patty Bittner (Jean's daughter), Darlene Ripka, the Piggot family.

Please help us keep this list up to date. Notify the office of additions or removals.

Also please secure permission of the prayer recipient to have their name(s) published.

Thank you for your help!

Faith United Church of Christ

300 East College Avenue
State College, PA 16801

Contact the office to unsubscribe.

FaithWorks!

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: PastorJesFaithUCC@gmail.com

Office: , faithuccsc@gmail.com

Web Site: www.faithucc.info

 Facebook: facebook.com/SCFaithUCC

 Twitter: twitter.com/FaithUCCSCPA