

March 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



The liturgical season of Lent begins
Ash Wednesday (March 3, 2019)

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

PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE



Like many children, I was afraid of the dark. I remember when I was five years old my mother got little night-lights to put in my bedroom and in the hallway so I wasn't afraid of the monsters of the night. The night-lights didn't light up my entire pathway, but they illuminated the shadows just enough to know that I could place one foot in front of the other until I got to the bathroom to turn the light on.

I think of my childhood a lot these days as my move from New York City to Happy Valley brings the ability to see the illuminating darkness of the night sky. For the past eight years I haven't seen the stars at night. I have missed the stars; I have even missed the bright darkness of the evening. Sometimes when I am at home I step outside just to look up at the stars. There is now a comfort in the peace of night, even as there is a caution in the shadows of the unknowing.

In Barbara Brown Taylor's book [Learning to Walk in the Dark](#) she says, "New life starts in the dark. Whether it is a seed in the ground, a baby in the womb, or Jesus in the tomb, it starts in the dark." The fog of darkness can sometimes be a scary time in people's lives. Divorce, death, depression, disease, difficult days, the list goes on. But what if darkness was an invitation to new birth? What if we looked at those times in our life as if we were a tulip bulb planted in the comfort of the dark earth waiting for Spring to bloom? We know the promises of our faith, God makes all things new. Darkness is the soil for rebirth.

This month, we enter the season of Lent. It is a season where we walk step by step in self-reflection waiting for the sun to shine on Easter morning. It is a season of mystery, it is a season of prayer, it is a season of contemplation, and it is a season where new life begins in the dark. We know that we don't have to be afraid of the dark as the Scripture reminds us that Jesus walks right with us and is a light unto our path.

Join us on each Sunday as we walk together and with God as The Light is with us in Lent preparing the way for Easter morning when we look into the empty tomb and proclaim, "Christ has risen!"

In Faith, Pastor Jes



CONSISTORY CORNER



The monthly Consistory meeting was postponed a week, because of the severe cold. At the Monday, February 18 meeting the following items were attended to—

- Election of officers—Jared Hammond, past vice-president, will assume the duties of president; Kathryn Gerhart will assume the duties of vice-president; Jean Cole will continue as secretary. We are extremely grateful to these folks for their willingness to serve Faith Church in this way.
- Approval for renewal of the Pastoral Relations Committee
- Approval to re-establish a Music and Worship Ministry Team

As out-going president, this will be my last Consistory Corner for FaithWorks. I want to thank you for the prayers and support given over the last year to move Faith Church forward. We are again feeling the joy of God's love in our worship services, enabling us to continue our ministries throughout the week. We want all to participate in that joy to the extent they are comfortable. We welcome you into the "Body of Christ."

Many opportunities exist to serve and have needs addressed. Please communicate with Pastor Jes to learn more.

In Christ's service,
Larry Bair, Out-going Consistory President



CHURCH SCHOOL



March 3 – Communion Sunday – Parent Care Day (Last Sunday after Epiphany)

March 10 – 1st Sunday of Lent, "Jesus Gets Ready/Resisting Temptation"
Luke 4:1-13

March 17 – 2nd Sunday of Lent, "The Poor People of Jerusalem/Under His Wing"
Luke 13: 31 - 35

March 24 – 3rd Sunday of Lent, "God doesn't Do Things Like That/ God of the Second Chance"
Luke 13: 1 – 9

March 31 – 4th Sunday of Lent, "A Loving Father/ He Loves Me!"
Luke 15: 1 – 3, Luke 20: 11 - 32

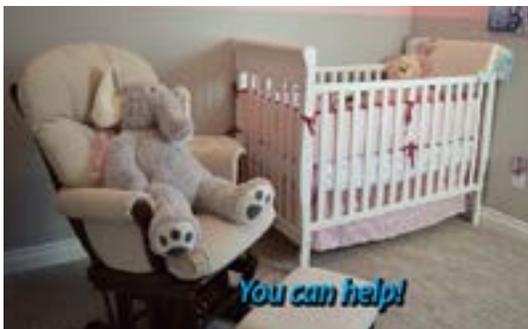
Lent is upon us --- the 40 day period of repentance and renewal before Easter.
Lent begins on Ash Wednesday (March 6) and ends with the Easter Service (April 21).

Lent is a time for prayer, meditation and reflection giving us time to remember the Easter story. Christ lived and died to redeem the world from sin and renew and strengthen our lives through faith. In Church School during this time of Lent we'll be getting ready for Easter and its promises.

Blessings,
Barb Chellman



Dear God,
Thank You for this journey with Your children.
Open our hearts that we may feel Your love. You are with each of us when we are together and apart! Amen



*To volunteer or for more information about Church School, please contact: Barb Chellman: bkcwminc@aol.com

For information about our Nursery, please contact: Matthew Haines: mzh687@psu.edu

CARING NETWORK



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.

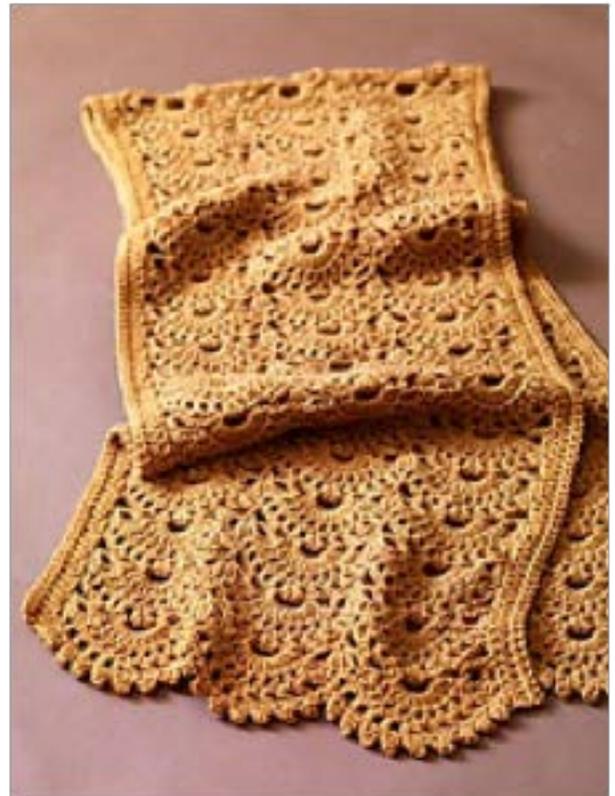
Thank you,

Sandy Miller -

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.



Get to know your Faith Friends!

Each month we will highlight a person, or family, who calls Faith their home church. It is a chance to get to know each other, an opportunity to connect, and be enriched by our growing community. Please welcome this inaugural column!

What's your name?

Stephanie Madden

Why do you go to Faith UCC?

I recently moved to State College and had been attending First Congo UCC in Memphis previously, which had been my first introduction to the UCC denomination. I was immediately drawn to the inclusive and affirming mission of the denomination, so when my husband and I moved to State College I sought out the UCC denomination here. It can be challenging to move to a new area in your 30s without any kids, so when I saw Rev. Jes was the new pastor I was really intrigued about getting more involved with Faith UCC and meeting more people committed to having their faith guide their social justice work.

How do you look forward to getting involved at church?

I look forward to joining the ministries focused on welcoming new people to the congregation and community. Despite being new to the area, I find myself naturally ending up in this role wherever I go. Rev. Jes jokes that I'm the unofficial mayor of State College because of my ability to network and make connections despite living here less than a year. God gave me this gift, so I would love to use it as part of Faith UCC's ministry!

What do you do for a living?

I am an assistant professor of public relations in the Bellisario College of Communications at Penn State

Any music, Scripture, movie, or poem that inspires you that you want to share with us?

This quote inspires me

The woman who does not require validation from anyone is the most feared individual on the planet." - Mohadesa Najumi



FAITH HAPPENINGS



MARCH SPECIAL OFFERING



One Great Hour of Sharing
(<http://onegreathourofsharing.org/> or
<http://www.ucc.org/oghs>)

One Great Hour is a Christian effort to empower, provide water, supply food, and give relief from disasters.

Make checks payable to Faith UCC with "OGHS" noted in the memo line, or use the special envelope on Sunday, March 31st.

The Adult Forum Class

continues to meet at 9:30 each Sunday morning.

We have been studying the first part of 'The History of Christianity from the Disciples to the Dawn of the Reformation'.



Each class consists of a 'Great Courses' talk by an expert (by DVD) of about 30 minutes followed by an open-ended discussion.

We expect to follow this course for most of the first quarter of 2019.

The topics expected for the four Sundays in January are: The Councils and the Trinity, Expansion Beyond the Roman Empire, Justinian and Byzantine Christianity, and Eastern Orthodox and Islam.

Please join us in Meyer Library for a interesting and productive experience.



CHOIR Rehearsals
Thursday Evenings @ 7PM
March 7, 14, 21 & 28



Serrv

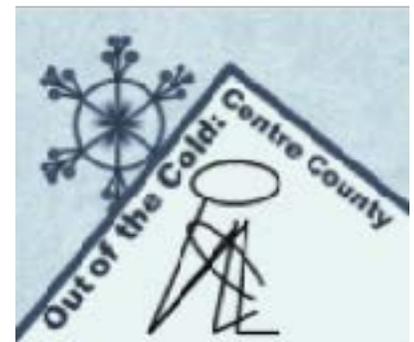
Easter-themed SERRV items will be available to purchase during Fellowship after worship on Sunday, April 7 and Sunday, April 14.



Out of the Cold

Our two weeks of hosting Out of the Cold for **overnight** guests continues through March 10.

There is a sign-up sheet on the table in the Gathering Space so you can indicate what you can provide--and thanks in advance for your willingness to help.



You Can Help!

The Fellowship Hour in Romig Hall following worship is a chance to get to know better the people sharing the pews with you and guests who may join us. (And, if you are able to come, invite guests you might meet that day to join you in fellowship.)

We can always use help in providing the food that is offered, so please sign up on the sheet in the Gathering Space if you can help in that way or just by helping with serving and cleaning up.



Updated Directories now including Pastor Jes and her wife Jessy are available.



Contact the office to have one printed just for you!

If you'd like to access the digital version, please contact Jeff in the office.

Please Contact the Office

with your license plate number if you have a church parking tag.



Wouldn't want to have your car towed just because you might forget to use the parking tag!

Also: please notify the office with any allergies or sensitivities, whether food, cleaners, or whatever. We want to keep you around for a while!

Listen Up!

After a long time out, Sunday sermons can gain be found on the Sermon page of our website!

The most recent is marked in red at the top of the list.

Pastor Jes is really excited about being able to share in this fashion!



start here

New Members Class

Come learn more about what it means to be a part of the Faith Church Family at the New Members Class March 31 after service.

Bach in the Subways

(March 21-25, 2019) – bachinthesubways.org

In 2010 Dale Henderson began frequent performances of the Bach Cello Suites in the subways of New York City. Convinced the decline in classical audiences was largely because many people never get a chance to experience this music live and up close, he believed Bach to be the perfect ambassador for his art form. Feeling the experience was infinitely more powerful with money removed from the equation, Henderson declined donations and instead offered audiences free postcards explaining that his intentions were to sow the seeds for future generations of classical music lovers. His efforts, which he called “Bach in the Subways,” attracted appreciative attention from fans, other musicians, and the media.

Since then, Bach in the Subways caught fire around the world. Henderson’s initiative sparked the work of similarly impassioned people everywhere and on Bach’s 330th birthday in 2015 thousands of musicians in 150 cities in 40 countries offered Bach’s music freely to the public in subway stations, in train stations, on moving trains, on street corners, in cafés, malls, restaurants, zoos, and concerts open to all. More Bach was played and heard in a single day than ever before in history. For 2016 Bach in the Subways was extended over multiple days to again allow musicians to participate on a weekend, and now every year for Bach’s birthday musicians around the world unite to connect countless multitudes with this incredible music.



Celebrate J. S. Bach’s 334th birthday with

BACH IN THE SUBWAYS 2019

Free organ concerts at 11^{AM} and 12^{PM} on
Thursday, March 21st

Mark Ferraguto, organ
Faith United Church of Christ
300 E. College Ave

If you can help promote these free concerts by our own Mark Ferraguto,
please contact the office for flyers!

FAITH CALENDAR



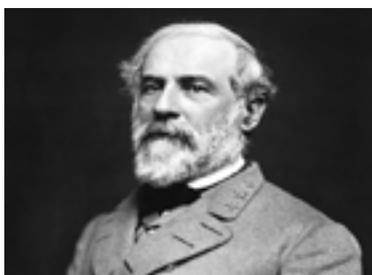
March 2019						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 OOTC First Friday	2 OOTC
3 OOTC	4 OOTC	5 OOTC	6 SMART Recovery OOTC	7 OOTC	8 OOTC	9 OOTC
10 OOTC Daylight Savings Begins	11	12 Trustees 7	13 SMART Recovery	14	15	16
17	18 Consistory 5:30	19	20 <i>FW Deadline</i> SMART Recovery	21 Bach Concert 11 & 12	22	23
24	25	26	27 SMART Recovery	28	29	30
31						

JUST FOR



Historians have discovered that Robert E. Lee did not believe in Santa.

He was a Rebel without a Clause.



Sunday March 10

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



<http://www.visitpennstate.org/events/>
[Use the Date Search function on the left.](#)



Interfaith Power & Light
A Religious Response to Global Warming

[Pennsylvania Interfaith Power and Light](#)

is making plans for our 8th Annual PA to DC Bike Trip from May 10-15, 2019.

For the second year in a row, we'll have two groups, one originating in the State College area and one in the Philadelphia area making the trip to raise a faith voice for action against climate change. This public statement of concern is also a fundraiser for PA IPL and riders spend a day on Capitol Hill advocating for policies that will turn the tide of climate change and protect God's creation and God's most vulnerable people.

[clickable link](#)



This year, we hope to recruit more riders and still have a diverse group so we are asking potential riders to fill out an application between now and January 28. The participants will be selected and make commitments by mid-February.

The application form is at paip.us/what-do-we-do/bike-trip and gives much more information about the trip.

MARCH BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES, AND VOLUNTEERS



MARCH BIRTHDAYS

5 ANDREW AUMILLER
 10 NEIL CHRISTY
 11 SALLY WELSH
 14 DREW FRANK
 JAYE HERRICK
 18 SUE BOWERS
 22 JANET SWIM
 23 ILENE MAHARG
 25 LINDA DAUBERT
 30 JOE MYER
 31 JANE LEE CHILDS

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

MAR 3
 10
 17
 24
 31

COMMUNION TEAM

MAR 3

FELLOWSHIP HOUR

MAR 3
 10
 17
 24 JANE LEE CHILDS
 31

FLOWERS

MAR 3
 10
 17
 24
 31

MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

21 BILL & MARY JANE WILD

SPECIAL DATES IN MARCH

MAR 3
 6 ASH WEDNESDAY
 10 DAYLIGHT SAVINGS BEGINS
 17
 24
 31

LITURGIST

MAR 3
 6
 10
 17 DR STEPHANIE MADDEN
 24 ABBY REED
 31 JIM WELSH

NURSERY

MAR 3 COMMUNION (PARENT CARE)
 10
 17
 24
 31

SUNDAY TRUSTEES

MAR 3
 6
 10 TOM DAUBERT
 17
 24
 31

USHERS

MAR 3
 6
 10
 17
 24
 31

Blanks indicate openings.
 Please notify the office for corrections.



WORSHIP CALENDAR



We begin a new series this month called **A Bold New Thing: How do we live a meaningful life?**

Each week we will explore questions about what it means to live well and at peace with who we are and what our purpose is. We will explore questions about our focus, how to recalibrate when things don't go as we plan, what our purpose is, and how to we serve others. It will be a spiritually energizing series marked each week with the symbols of ashes and water at the baptismal font to symbolize our new season of Lent. As the prophet Isaiah says in chapter 43, "Behold, God is doing a bold new thing!"

March 3 Transfiguration Sunday

[Lk 9:28-36 \(37-43a\)](#)

[2 Co 3:12-4:2](#)

Holy Communion

March 6 Ash Wednesday

[Ps 51](#)

March 10 1st Sunday of Lent

[Ps 41:1-2, 9-16](#)

[Lk 4:1-13](#)

March 17 2nd Sunday of Lent

[Ps 27](#)

[Lk 13:31-35](#)

March 24 3rd Sunday of Lent

[Psalm 63:1-8](#)

[Luke 13:1-9](#)

March 31 4th Sunday of Lent

[Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32](#)

[2 Corinthians 5:16-20](#)

Prayers for healing and wholeness:

The family of Allen Killpatrick, Patty Bittner (Jean's daughter), Cyndi V.'s Family (loss of brother Steve, and Steve's son Christopher Barger), the family of Bunnie Hartwick, Jane Sheckells, Dan and Eileen Pfaff, Lisa V. (John Vincenti'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!



Scripture texts in the links are from the New Revised Standard Version of the Bible, BibleGateway.com.

Lections are from the Revised Common Lectionary Daily Readings.

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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