

a monthly magazine publication of Faith Church

Oct 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



Reformation Day-Oct 31

IN THIS ISSUE...

- ["Pastor's Perspective" on page 2](#)
- ["Consistory Corner" on page 4](#)
- ["Trustees Update" on page 5](#)
- ["Church School" on page 6](#)
- ["Caring Network" on page 7](#)
- ["Faith Happenings" on page 8](#)
- ["Just for Grins" on page 9](#)
- ["Faith Calendar" on page 11](#)
- ["Did You Know?" on page 11](#)
- ["Community Events" on page 12](#)
- ["Birthdays, Anniversaries, & Volunteers" on page 14](#)
- ["Worship Calendar" on page 14](#)
- ["Prayers" on page 14](#)

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

You Belong

Let's rewind in history. Imagine that it's the year 1563 and we live in a region of Germany called the Palatinate. Martin Luther has already nailed his 95 theses to the All Saints Door in Wittenberg, Germany in 1517. The Reformation has begun and will last until about 1648.

The church in Europe is in a place of monumental change. Everything that was understood to be true about the church is being challenged. The old practices no longer fit the new generation. The new generation has caught the vision of The Reformation and wants things to change.

The power would no longer reside within the ordained few. The power would be in Scripture that would be available to all people, grace given to all, a relationship to Christ for all people not mediated through a priest, a life of faith, and to God's glory alone not the glory of humankind. The Reformation was an awakening of the democratization of the Spirit of God that was poured out for all people and once again the access to God was given to all.

Back in Germany, the ruler of the land, Elector Frederick II, thanks to his wife, Princess Marie of Brandenburg-Kulmbach, is a new convert to the ideas of John Calvin – another monumental Reformer. He decides to gather a large group of ministers and commission them to write a Reformed confession in the form of 129 questions and answers that would serve the people as a devotional tool for preaching and teaching of Scripture. This devotional document, called the Heidelberg Catechism, would serve as one of the most influential catechisms in the Reformed tradition of the Reformation for years to come including today.



Which brings us to 2019. The Pastoral impulse of the Heidelberg opens up with the first question, which frames our thoughts this month:

Q 1. What is your only comfort in life and in death?

A. That I am not my own, but belong—body and soul, in life and in death—to my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ.

He has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood, and has set me free from the tyranny of the devil. He also watches over me in such a way that not a hair can fall from my head without the will of my Father in heaven; in fact, all things must work together for my salvation.

Because I belong to him, Christ, by his Holy Spirit, assures me of eternal life and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for him.

Wandering pilgrim, resistant doubter, joy-filled believer – by the grace of Jesus, we belong to God. It is in that spirit that we live and minister together as Faith United Church of Christ. Our bold proclamations of warm welcome, our joyful worship that lifts the Spirit, and our faithful fellowship that seeks to serve our community is theologically undergirded by our belief and proclamation that we all belong to God. You belong to God. No matter what a church has said in the past, or what your family has said, or even what you have said in your own mind – you belong to God. God's grace is with you.

The last Sunday in October, Protestant churches honor the movement of the Reformation and we make room for the new Reformation. We will sing A Mighty Fortress is our God (which Martin Luther wrote) and we will pray that God gives us the spirit of nimble hearts to make room for what is new as we build off the old foundations.

As the church is globally changing again, we are called to be part of the new movement of God's spirit. It's an exciting time as we learn and respond to God's fresh Holy Spirit in our lives. And at times, we may wonder what does the future hold and what part is ours to play. As we follow God's leading together, let the pastoral words of the Heidelberg guide us and grant us the Peace of Christ. You belong—body and soul, in life and in death—to our faithful Savior, Jesus Christ. Each one of us belong!

Let our witness to our community be a proclamation of God's lavish grace of belonging to each and every person!

Belonging in Christ together,

Pastor Jes

Several months ago, the Taco Bell franchisee, Charter Foods, gave the Consistory written notice of their decision not to renew their lease after the current 5-year term ends on February 28, 2020.

In response to their notice, your Consistory appointed a voluntary, 310 Working Group comprised of Wayne Bicehouse, Clif Merchant, Carlton Miller and Clovis Morrison. After discussion and discernment, the 310 Working Group was expanded at the September Consistory meeting to include Chrissy Bowers, Barb Chellman, and Margaret Hammond. Together the 310 Working Group has been charged with considering the various options, conducting research regarding the options for Faith Church and present to Consistory, what they believe is the best option for our congregation. Currently, Consistory members and the 310 Working group are working to research and determine whether development, lease, or sale of this property would be the best option for Faith United Church of Christ's future as it aligns with our Mission, Vision, and Values.

On October 6, Consistory has called a non-voting Congregational Meeting to create an open and transparent communication as we prayerfully discern and research the best options to bring to a vote at a later congregational meeting. At the October 6th Congregational Meeting it is our hope to

- Formally introduce the 310 Working group members,
- Provide a history of the 310 property and its role it has played in our Church
- Share what 310 is looking at and considering
- Question and Answer session to learn the Congregational voice.

All who worship with us are welcomed to attend the October 6th meeting.

Together in Service,

Jared

Jared Hammond
President, Consistory



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,

Church School -- October 2019

October 6, 2019 - Communion, Parent Care Day

October 13, 2019 – Please and Thank You - The Thankful Leper
Luke 17: 11-19

October 20, 2019 – Pray and Don't Give Up
Luke 18: 1

October 27, 2019 – Headed for a Fall/The Pharisee and the Tax Collector
Luke 18: 9 - 14

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.



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.



OCTOBER SPECIAL OFFERING

Neighbors In Need (UCC)

Neighbors in Need (NIN) is a special mission offering of the United Church of Christ that supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States.

One-third of NIN funds support the Council for American Indian Ministry (CAIM). Two-thirds of this offering is used by the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries (JWM) to support a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects through grants.

Neighbors in Need grants are awarded to UCC churches and organizations doing justice work in their communities. These grants fund projects whose work ranges from direct service to community organizing and advocacy to address systemic injustice.

This year, special consideration will be given to projects focusing on serving our immigrant neighbors and communities.

<https://www.ucc.org/nin>

The Adult Forum class will begin to meet on Sunday, September 8 and continue each Sunday morning at 9:30 AM in the Meyer Library.



September 8 and the first Sunday of each month thereafter will be used to discuss current published articles of topics of interest to Faith members.

Starting September 15 we will begin discussion of the History of Christianity from the Reformation forward continuing our Spring study of the earlier history. Each session will begin with a DVD for about one-half hour followed by discussion for the remainder of the session. The first three sessions for September 15, 22, and 29 will address (1) Luther and the Dawn of Protestantism, (2) Zwingli, Calvin, and the Reformed Tradition, and (3) the Catholic Reformation.

Please join us for interesting and productive discussions.

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!

COMMUNITY EVENTS



Farmer's Markets



<https://happyvalley.com/state-college-pa-things-to-do/events/state-college-penn-state-event-calendar>

[Use the Date Search function on the left.](#)

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



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

BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES, AND VOLUNTEERS



OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

- 1 JIM WELSH
- 8 JEAN FRANK
- FINN HOLLIS (CHILD)
- 12 CYNDI VINCENTI
- 14 TOM DAUBERT
- 15 DAVID BOWERS
- TAMRA FOUNTAINE
- 15 JOHN BAIR
- 17 BOB HUNT
- CHERYL MEYER
- 21 SUE DORAN
- 23 EDNA BICEHOUSE
- WYETH FRANK
- 26 CHRIS COBEL
- 28 LARRY BAIR
- 29 MARILYN MORRISSON
- 30 BRENT FRANK

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

- OCT 6
- 13
- 20
- 27

COMMUNION TEAM

- OCT 6

FELLOWSHIP HOUR

- OCT 6
- 13
- 20
- 27

FLOWERS

- OCT 6
- 13
- 20
- 27

LITURGIST

- OCT 6 SUE CROMWELL
- 13 MATTHIEW HAINES
- 20 MERIDYTH LANZA
- 27 APRIL MYERS

NURSERY

- OCT 6 COMMUNION (PARENT CARE)
- 13
- 20
- 27

SUNDAY TRUSTEES

- OCT 6
- 13 TOM DAUBERT
- 20
- 27 NEIL CHRISTY

USHERS

- OCT 6
- 13 TOM DAUBERT
- 20
- 27

Blanks indicate openings.
Please notify the office for corrections.



OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

- 7 KEES & SUSAN BRANDSE
- 20 VAUGHN & KATHRYN SHIRK
- 24 SEANN & CINDY REED



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.

Oct 6 [17th Sunday After Pentecost](#)

[John 17:20-25](#)

[Psalm 37:1-9](#)

World Communion Sunday

Oct 13 [18th Sunday After Pentecost](#)

Rev Dr Anne Ard, guest preacher

Centre Safe

Oct 20 [19th Sunday After Pentecost](#)

Oct 27 [20th 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 Beckie Romig (Manager for OOTC), the family of Don Asendorf, the family of Lynn Christy (Neil's brother), Patty Bittner (Jean's daughter), 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!

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