

a monthly magazine publication of Faith Church

Jan 2020

# *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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2020  
LOADING.....

**Happy New Year!**

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

Happy New Year and Happy Anniversary!

Happy anniversary to us, Faith UCC! January 1, 2020 marks our one-year anniversary of ministry together as Pastor and congregation. I remember walking into Romig Hall on New Year's Eve last year and my introduction to our ministry together was some of the best chili in all of Pennsylvania. Spicy chili, sweet chili, vegan chili, grandma's chili and the aroma of spices filled our fellowship hall as we blessed the year and prayed for the new year ahead. This was my introduction to your giftedness in making delicious food that soothes the soul and uplifts the spirit. A gift that should not be overlooked and that I have been a recipient of in the last year!

The traditional one-year anniversary gift is paper. Many of us will write down our New Year's resolutions on paper. Goals we have to be kinder, to work out more, to read more, and maybe to volunteer more. Paper will hold the dreams we aspire to. Some of us will have one word that we wrote down on a piece of paper that will give us focus for the year ahead. Paper will hold our intentions. Some of us have our holiday cards strung up on our walls which is paper reminders of our loved ones far and near.

While goals and vision boards are important, the good news of the Epiphany season is that grace is not about behaving better or doing more. The grace of God is for those of us who know we need it. For those of us who on the fifth day of January have already broken our resolutions and feel the guilt creep in. The grace of God is for those of us who know we are human, imperfect dreamers who are in need of God. The point of the Christian life is not to do more in order to earn God's love it is to receive the grace that we did not buy, earn, or achieve. Grace is yours. Why? Because God loves you. Period.



So what can we give each other this one year anniversary? Perhaps next to our lofty resolutions, and Christmas cards, and papers that have piled up over the holiday we all can write one word down on a piece of paper and put in on our fridge or mirror or perhaps write it above our goals for 2020. On a piece of paper write the word GRACE. Let this be a reminder to you, to me, and to our ministry together that in a world that rewards for achieving and being the best and strongest, the message of the church is one of GRACE. God's love for each of us not because we have earned it, but because God loves us and moves toward us – GRACE.



I invite you to join our whole community on New Year's Eve again for the First Night Chili. Let us remind each other over our hot bowls of good food that it is the grace of God why we are here and it is the grace of God we recommit to in 2020.

Happy New Year and Happy anniversary to us, Faith UCC! Another round of grace for us all!

In the grace of Jesus – Pastor Jes

# TRUSTEES UPDATE

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Your TMT met on December 3, 2019 after a one month hiatus. We welcomed the return of a pastor's report. Pastor Jes' report was timely and very informative. Clifton Merchant reported on the 310 property which will be vacated by Taco Bell at the end of February. We are seeking a new tenant to take over at that time.

We had the squirrel cage blower repaired on furnace #5. This is the furnace for heat in the offices and the nursery. Also our minisplit system needed to have Freon added to keep the units efficient and operating at their peak.

We have a new snow removal contractor, Landscape II. They were pleased to add Faith Church to their downtown customer list when others were not interested.

This month we had two squares of sidewalk replaced on College Avenue in front of Taco Bell, which we are bound by lease to maintain. There are two additional squares on Locust Lane yet to be replaced.

The upper rain gutter on the west side has come apart. Marcon Co will be setting scaffolding in order to reach the height necessary to make this repair.

OOTC3 will be staying overnight beginning January 3 to 13. Please try to volunteer as much as you are able and help with this commitment of Faith Church outreach.



Stay tuned for more exciting projects planned for 2020!

Happy New Year from your Trustee Ministry Team!

Clifton and Alva

Greetings to our Faith UCC families,

January 5, 2020 – Parent Care Day

January 12, 2020 – Seeking the Savior

Matthew 2:2 “Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw His star when it rose and have come to worship Him.”

January 19, 2020 -- I’m Proud of You

Matthew 3:17 And behold a voice out of the heavens, saying, “This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.”

January 26, 2020 -- Show and Tell

John 1:29, 34 – 35 John said, “Look, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!”

Blessings,

Barb Chellman



# 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.

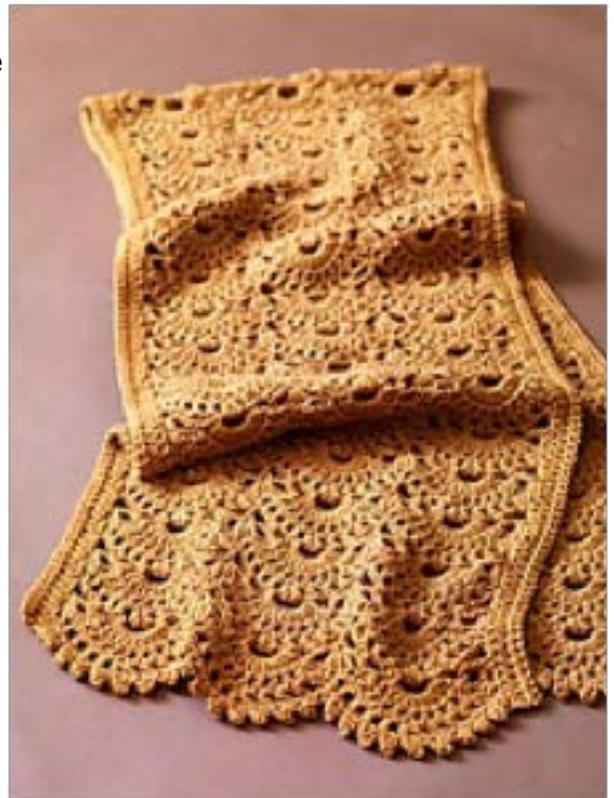
The following people, members and friends, are the Caring Leaders who volunteer to reach out to help us stay connected. Each leader will contact the people on their list by calling, sending a note or meet up, to get to know you better. They are: Edna Bicehouse, Jane Childs, Jean Frank, Sue Doran, Rev.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

Please feel free to call Sandy Miller – [814-777-0339](tel:814-777-0339) – or email [sandy99@onemain.com](mailto: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.



## JANUARY SPECIAL OFFERING

### Centre Safe

Centre Safe provides services for women, men, and children who have experienced dating & domestic violence, sexual assault or stalking. Inclusive of all gender identities and sexual orientations.

Make checks payable to Faith UCC with "Center Safe" noted in the memo line or on the offering envelope.

Learn more at: <https://ccwrc.org/>



### Directory

A new directory will be published shortly after Consistory changes are made.

And with so many new folks joining Faith Church, we want to ensure we have accurate contact information.

If your contacts have changed, if you would like your contacts in the updated directory, or you've never let us know how best to contact you, use this QR code to go to the online form created for this.



The form also includes requests for other optional information.

<https://fucc.breezechms.com/form/24e4f1>

**The Adult Forum** class meets at 9:30 every Sunday in the library room. The first Sunday of each month is used for a discussion of current published articles of interest to Faith members. Other Sundays currently study Christianity from the Reformation until today. About half the time is watching a



DVD on the day's topic with the remainder of the time used for discussion.

#### January Topics:

- Jan 5 Current Events Discussion
- Jan 12 The Gospel & Global Civil Rights
- Jan 19 Culture Wars & the Christian Right
- Jan 26 Challenges of 21st Century Christianity

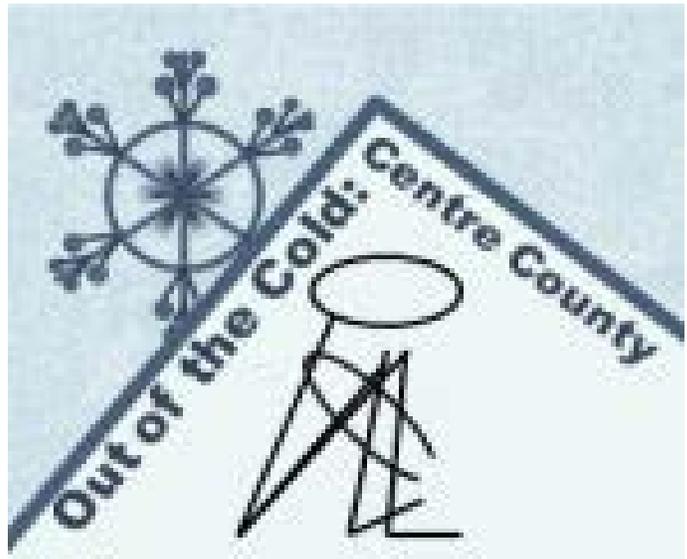
## OOTC Overnight

Faith is hosting the overnight shelter from **Jan 2-13**.

Check out the Volunteer Handbook (Here or hard copy on the Gathering Space table).

Use the Signup Genius link to indicate whether you'd like to help with overnight supervision, meals, or other needs as listed. <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0f45a9ad2ba5fa7-faith>

Even though Faith is partnering with the State College Evangelical Free church this year, please don't wait until the last minute to sign up.



***There are still quite a few openings, for overnights, hosts, and breakfast foods.***

Jeff is the point of contact for both congregations: admin here, elder there. Contact him if you have questions or would like help signing up.

JUST FOR



Good news/Bad news

Bad news: Accidentally rubbed ketchup in my eyes.

Good new: Now I have Heinzsight.

## First Night Café

As part of the community First Night festivities, Faith will again offer warm food and fellowship on New Year's Eve at its renowned First Night Café! It takes many hands to bring this wonderful project to life, so starting Dec. 8 we'll be asking folks to sign up to supply foods and to volunteer as café workers.

Join the fun and support Faith ministries in the process! For more information, contact any of the Café Committee members—

Lois Bair, Susan Brandse, Jane Childs, Brent Frank, & June Irvin (see the Café flyer on the next page).

# *Faith United Church of Christ*

(an Open and Affirming Congregation - ONA)



The First Night Chile Cafe is celebrating its 26th year in conjunction with the State College First Night celebrations (also celebrating 26 years). The Cafe is open from 4 - 6:30 pm, December 31. Proceeds benefit the ministries of Faith Church.

**Come enjoy a variety of homemade chili and cornbread, hotdogs, desserts, and beverages!**

Donation: \$8 for adults, \$4 for children under 10., \$6 for college students, and \$20 for a family of 4.

Use the Calder Way entrance and take the stairs down to Romig Fellowship Hall. Wheelchair friendly entrance is off Locust Lane (marked Office) with an elevator to the hall.

# FAITH CALENDAR



January 2020						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 New Year's Day	2 OOTC Day OOTC Overnight	3 OOTC Overnight First Friday	4 OOTC Overnight
5 2nd Sunday After Christmas OOTC Overnight	6 OOTC Overnight	7 OOTC Day OOTC Overnight	8 OOTC Day SMART Recovery OOTC Overnight	9 OOTC Day OOTC Overnight	10 OOTC Overnight	11 OOTC Overnight
12 3rd Sunday After Christmas OOTC Overnight	13 OOTC Transfer	14 OOTC Day Trustees 7pm	15 <i>FW Deadline</i> OOTC Day SMART Recovery Axis THON Fund-raiser	16 OOTC Day	17	18
19 4th Sunday After Christmas Meetup: International Exchange 2pm	20 Consistory 5:30	21 OOTC Day	22 OOTC Day SMART Recovery PSU Sustainability: Green Burial 4pm	23 OOTC Day	24	25
26 5th Sunday After Christmas Meetup: International Exchange 2pm	27	28 OOTC Day	29 OOTC Day SMART Recovery	30 OOTC Day	31	



## DID YOU KNOW?

- January is named after the Roman god Janus, who was always shown as having two heads. He looked back to the last year and forward to the new one. The Roman New Year festival was called the Calends, and people decorated their homes and gave each other gifts.
- January 1st is both the furthest away and closest day to December 31st. Because of time zones, the first person born in a year can be born before the last person of the previous year.
- 1622 - January 1st became the start of the "new Year" (it was March 25 for a long time prior)
- 1886 - 1st Tournament of Roses took place in Pasadena, California
- 1908 - 1st New Year's ball drop at Times Square, NYC



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



## January Highlights

Experience the cool vibe of downtown State College during our monthly **First Friday** events.

A casual atmosphere features art, people-watching, mingling with friends, shopping, and dining at the diverse and delectable State College restaurants.

First Friday goers will experience after-hours access to galleries and shops, free bites and beverages, live music and entertainment, retail and restaurant specials, and more.

And there's free parking in the Pugh, Fraser and Beaver garages with validations from participating merchants.

Start Time: 5:00 pm  
Location: Downtown State College  
Address: 127 S Fraser Street  
Website: <http://firstfridaystatecollege.com>



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

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



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



<https://www.statecollege.com/calendar/?startts=1573534800&endts=1573707600>

# BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES, AND VOLUNTEERS



JANUARY BIRTHDAYS  
 3 JOHN VINCENTI  
 6 WILLIAM HAMMOND  
 10 SUE CROMWELL  
 22 BOB GRAVES  
 30 MEGAN ARVIN  
 ANNA BAIR

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

JAN 5  
 12  
 19  
 26

## COMMUNION TEAM

JAN 5

## FELLOWSHIP HOUR

JAN 5  
 12  
 19  
 26

## FLOWERS

JAN 5  
 12  
 19  
 26

## LITURGIST

JAN 5  
 12  
 19  
 26

## NURSERY

JAN 5 COMMUNION (PARENT CARE DAY)  
 12  
 19  
 26

## SUNDAY TRUSTEES

JAN 5  
 12  
 19  
 26

## USHERS

JAN 5  
 12  
 19  
 26

**Blanks indicate openings.  
 Please notify the office for corrections.**

# 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.

JANUARY 5 [2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday After Christmas](#)

HOLY COMMUNION

JANUARY 12 [3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday After Christmas](#)

JANUARY 19 [4<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Christmas](#)

JANUARY 26 [5<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Christmas](#)

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.



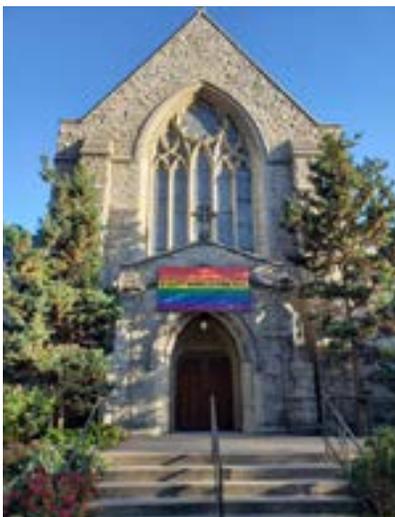
## Prayers for healing and wholeness:

The family of Daniel Pfaff, Patty Bittner (Jean's daughter), Lisa V. (John Vincenti's daughter), Darlene Ripka, the Pig-got 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](mailto:PastorJesFaithUCC@gmail.com)

Office: , [faithuccsc@gmail.com](mailto:faithuccsc@gmail.com)

Web Site: [www.faithucc.info](http://www.faithucc.info)

 Facebook: [facebook.com/SCFaithUCC](https://facebook.com/SCFaithUCC)

 Twitter: [twitter.com/FaithUCCSCPA](https://twitter.com/FaithUCCSCPA)