

# FOCUS



# ON

# *FAITH*

Volume 46, Number 8  
2017



**September 3, 2017**  
**Summer Worship—9:00 am**

**September 10, 2017**  
**Sunday School—9:00 am**  
**Worship—10:15 am**

PASTOR: Rev. Dr. Bruce C. Stevenson  
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC/ORGANIST: Dennis J. Duda

# Faith United Church of Christ

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Thank you to the newsletter crew for their help in mailing the newsletters each month -

*Arlene Beck, LaVerna Diehl, Joan Hassler, Evelyn Hovis, and Sue Walter*

## **2017-18 Consistory**

President: Wes Koser

Vice President: Deb Orach

Secretary: Michele Keeler

### **Elders:**

Mim Allison

Deb Orach

Wes Koser

Jane Van Horn

### **Deacons:**

Michele Keeler

Qiyi Zhu Stoffey

John Barone

Kevin Long

Colleen Kandt

Barb Scattergood

Tom Berghold

Mary Ellen Long

**Church Treasurer: Joe Orach**

### **Liaisons:**

*Will be determined at September Consistory meeting.*

*We are a people  
who have come together  
through a common faith,  
a common love,  
and a common covenant  
with the triune God;  
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,  
and together we endeavor  
to be a community of  
worship,  
education,  
mission,  
fellowship,  
and stewardship.*



## A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Friends,

Sometimes things just don't work out but then something new, perhaps even better, happens. When I wrote my last article to you I told you how my family was going to travel to a different vacation spot this summer. Instead of going to the family lake house in New Hampshire we would spend a week on Cape Cod. I had put money down on a nice little cottage along the Cape Cod National Seashore and was really looking forward to it until ...

Even though Catherine had requested that week off as soon as she was allowed to ask for time off someone at work with more seniority beat her to the punch and she was denied the week that I had rented the cottage. They were willing to give her the week before that off but not the week I had rented the cottage. So we had to figure how we were going to put something together for a summer vacation.

I was going to take the first two weeks of August for vacation. I would stay at home during the first week getting things done around the house, the yard, etc. that I had been neglecting and then the second week on the Cape. Patience was only planning on taking one week off and had negotiated that second week of August with her clients and with the lead pastor at Union U.C.C. in Neffs. Ethan was going to take that second week off to join us on the Cape and we were already beyond the 60 day point when I could get my money back. What to do, what to do?

First I am happy to say that I contacted the owner of the cottage and he was willing to refund my money. PHEW! The lead pastor at Neffs was willing to let Patience change her vacation week to the first week of August. PHEW! Patience was also able

to move at least some of her clients to that second week so while she won't have a full week free she will have several days that we can do things as a family. PHEW! Ethan and his girlfriend Alyssa will be able to re-arrange some things in their busy lives to join us for some of our new planned activities. PHEW!

While our family vacation certainly won't be what we thought it would be we are going to have a vacation none-the-less and I know it will be full of fun and memorable family experiences.

The trip to the Cape fell apart before the July/August newsletter went to print. Sandy asked me if I wanted to re-write my article and I said "No, there's still a point to be made in it." Now as I write this article the vacation hasn't even happened yet. By the time this arrives in your homes I will have left and come back. Did you miss me???

Sometimes things don't work out the way we planned but something good comes out of them anyway, sometimes something even better. I can't tell you right now if our plans will be better than a week on the Cape but I will tell you this: I am determined to have a good attitude and use the time off that I have as the blessing it was intended to be in the first place.

I could sulk and be disappointed. I simply choose not to be.

As Christians, sometimes we think that God should have created a world in which everything goes well, our lives are void of problems, and everything works out the way we want them to. That couldn't be further from the truth. Things do not always go well. There are often problems. Life is full of disappointments. Things do not always go the way we want them to. But that does not mean that God has abandoned us to misery. It means that when disappointments come we have a choice: sit and sulk or look for

new opportunities. Sometimes that is how we discover the opportunities that God wants us to take in the first place. These are the unexpected blessings of life.

I am sure that I am not all that different from you and sometimes things just don't work out the way you thought or hoped they would. When that happens keep looking for that hidden blessing that you couldn't see when you first started making your plans. I guarantee they're out there.

Peace,



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## **FALL YARD SALE!**

**Saturday, September 9th**

**8 am—2 pm**

**Vendors Welcome—\$10 space  
(Bring your own tables.)**

**Food will be available for purchase**



Items to be donated can be dropped off on the stage in Fellowship Hall Sunday mornings or during the week on Mondays through Fridays from 8 am—5 pm. If you can volunteer your time, please contact Ruth Smith @610-797-4635. (NO TV's or Computers.) Help will be needed to price items, to set up, and to clean up. Please consider helping out!!



SUNDAY  
SEPTEMBER 10, 2017

9:00 am

Attention all children, youth, AND parents! Come and celebrate the first day of the new Sunday School year! Meet the teachers, enjoy music

by Darin Jellison, and story telling by Mary Ellen Long! You won't want to miss it!

10:15 am

Join Us during worship to Hear About

"Amigos des Guatemala Health Clinic"

Reverend Sharon Harfman and her assistant Garry Barraco will be sharing information on the Amigos des Guatemala Health Clinic that is being built by the Penn Northeast Conference. Rev Harfman will be sharing information about this ambitious and much needed project. The Mission Team would like Faith UCC Congregation to support their effort. Donations of \$624 have already been collected through a Special Raffle at Basket Bingo but it is not enough. We are hoping to raise more than \$1,000. We hope you will join us and support their work.

After Worship everyone is invited to Fellowship Hall to join in a Taco Luncheon.

Our guests will also be displaying their wares for purchase from Guatemala.

Please plan to join us!



June 30-July 4, 2017 | Baltimore, MD  
Baltimore Convention Center

*As another General Synod has come and gone I would love to share my experience with all of you here at Faith! We would start each day with a 6:30 AM breakfast caucus so all of the delegates could discuss our resolutions and all changes that were made by the committee. Then, we would walk down to the convention center and start business, the plenary sessions would begin at 8 AM. While the delegates are in plenary sessions voting on the resolutions, the youth would be in workshops or at service projects. We would all come together each night to have worship. It has been interesting to go from being a youth at general synod to a voting delegate. This was also our conference minister Alan Miller's last general Synod with us! As we said goodbye to Alan, we welcomed our new conference minister Bonnie Bates with open arms! I very much so look forward to serving as a voting delegate at General Synod 32 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin!*

*Tori Schoenberger*

## IMPORTANT TO NOTE:

If you or a loved one are hospitalized, please contact Pastor Bruce or the church office. Please do not assume that the hospital will call, they do not. Pastor Bruce can be reached at 610.866.7425.

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**Rachel (Ritter) and Adam Zehnder**  
are proud to announce the arrival of  
***Gwendolyn Ann Zehnder!***

Gwendolyn was born on July 19, 2017  
weighing 6 lbs 10 oz and measuring 19” long.  
(Proud Grandparents are Kim & Ken Ritter.)



***God's Blessings to you all!!***

*Long time Faith member*

***Doris Slekovac*** passed away on  
*July 24, 2017 at the age of 91. Please  
keep husband, Roy, and the entire family  
in your thoughts and prayers as they deal*

*with difficult days ahead.*

**Please make the following change in your  
Directory:** (effective 8/26/17)

**Howard & Marian Barrick**  
**84 Derstine Rd.**  
**Hatfield, PA 19440**  
(same phone: 215.536.8883)



# *Thank You ...more than I can say.*

*To all the members of Faith United Church of Christ,*

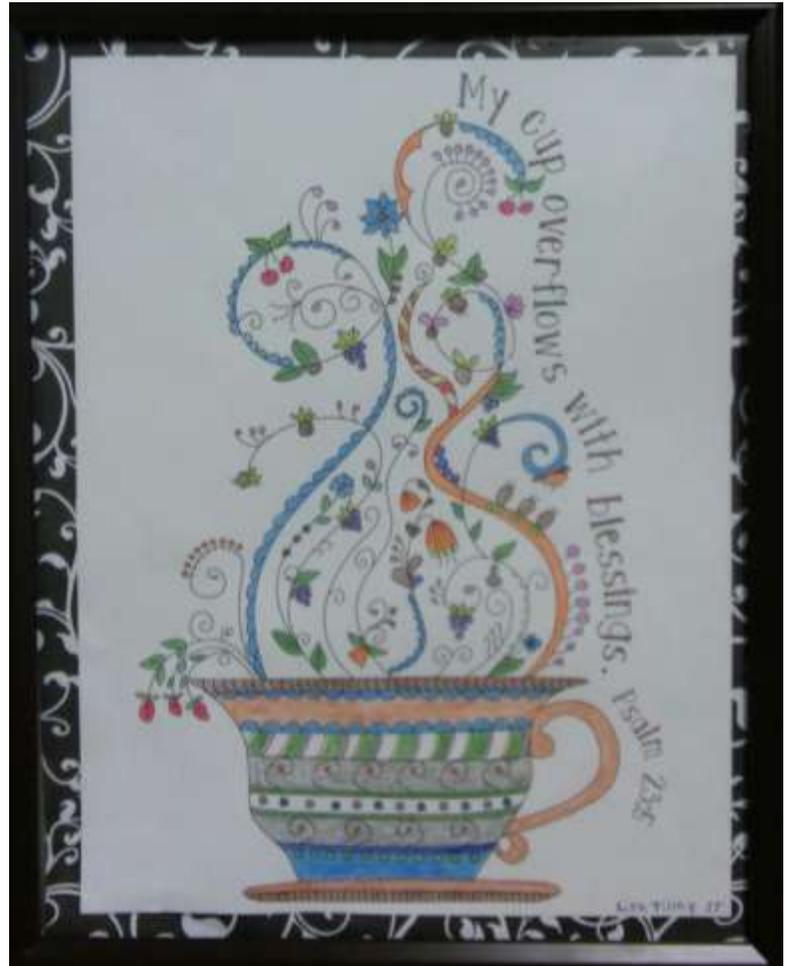
*Thank you so much for all of  
The cards that were sent—they  
sure cheer you up when your  
down and out. Most of all  
thanks for all your prayers,  
thoughts, and concerns. I sure  
feel very blessed to have you  
all.*

*I'm taking one day at a time.  
Some days are harder but  
that's when a card shows up  
in the mail.*

*God is good and sure works  
his wondrous ways.*

*God Bless You All  
Today, Tomorrow & Forever*

*Lisa Tilley*



(Displayed in the Memorial Room)

**UPDATE ON BRUCE KEELER:** The end of July Bruce suffered a fractured hip socket—the result of a fall through a roof he was checking for water leaks. A pin was placed in the socket and he was put in traction. As of 8/21 the bone is healed, the pin removed, and no more traction!! He will continue to recuperate at Ben's house in Elwood City until he is released by the Dr.

*The Keelers would like to thank everyone for the prayers, cards, well-wishes, and for all of your support through this ordeal.*

## Kraig Koehnlein's Eagle Service Project



Kraig's project entailed cleaning up our bench area the weekend of August 5th. He sturdied up and painted the bench, reset the bricks in the sidewalk, and landscaped the area.

Over 20 boys from Troop 364 helped with Kraig's project. Tilley's Nursery donated use of the

truck and 15% discount and Rick Tilley (boy scout helper & church member) personally donated the mulch and gravel at no cost to the project. Thanks to the generous contributions made by both Rick and our church members, the net cost to church was \$13.

# THOSE WHO WILL SERVE IN SEPTEMBER

Head Usher—Caroline Frantz for Michele Keeler

	Sept 3 9:00 am	Sept 10 10: 15 am	Sept 17	Sept 24
<b>Greeter</b>	Doris Horvath	Sue Walter	Faye Tirpak	Diane Neidermeier
<b>Ushers</b>	Mim Allison George Rau	Tom & Brenda Hovis Joe & Deb Orach	Linda Torrence Ruth Smith Ken & Kim Ritter	Tony & Sandi DiSanto Cathy Wimmer tbd
<b>Lay Reader</b>	Brenda Hovis	Cindy Talaber	Louise Christman	Cathy Wimmer
<b>Acolytes</b>	Noah Jellison	Weiland Hite Noah Jellison	Avery Koser Weiland Hite	Noah Ritter Avery Koser
<b>Flowers</b>	Talboo	Koch	Beck	Horwath
<b>Financial Secretary</b>	Tom Hovis	Tom Hovis	Tom Hovis	Bob Shelly
<b>Lawn Crew</b>	Tim Hovis	Schantz/Erney	Torrence/Koser	Joe Orach



*The Church Office will be closed on  
**Monday, September 4th**  
in observance of Labor Day!*

## LAWN CREW SCHEDULE



Please coordinate a time schedule with each other for the week. If you are able to fill in a blank, call the other person and let them know. Thanks!

08/28/17	Tom Herstine	610-797-7129
09/04/17	Tim Hovis	484-223-9476
	Volunteer needed	
09/11/17	Dwayne Schantz	610-797-4994
	Roger Erney	610-797-7227
09/18/17	Bruce Torrence	610-282-4081
	Wes Koser	610-841-7077
09/25/17	Joe Orach	610-346-7977
	Volunteer needed	
10/02/17	Brian Bross	484-223-5171
10/09/17	Tim Hovis	484-223-9476

## COB UPDATE

**Thank you to all who participated and supported the COB Day event! The event raised just over \$25,000!!** Please know that COB day is over BUT 2017 recipient fundraising is NOT. We continue raising funds until the end of October and disburse the final amounts on Celebration Sunday, Oct.29! Monetary donations are welcomed!

**The fundraising for the 2017 recipients continues with a 5K run to be held on October 21 at DeSales University.** There is also a 2.5 mile walk as well! Go to <http://www.cobcares.org> for information, registration and sponsorship opportunities! Come Join in the fun!! Should you have additional questions, you can call Nancy Carr at: 484-201-3405.



## FROM THE TREASURER— JUNE & JULY FINANCIALS

JUNE 2017	INCOME	EXPENSE	Last Year	
Receipts	\$15,379	\$124,536	\$15,379	\$124,536
Disbursements	\$19,133	\$134,315	\$19,133	\$134,315
	(\$3,753)	(\$9,779)	(\$3,753)	(\$9,779)

	Weekly Attend.	Weekly Offering	over/under \$3500 goal
<b>6/4</b>	102	\$ 3,185	(\$315)
<b>6/11</b>	72	\$ 1,833	(\$1,667)
<b>6/18</b>	71	\$ 2,301	(\$1,199)
<b>6/25</b>	46	\$ 1,158	(\$2,342)
<b>Total</b>	291	\$ 8,478	(\$5,522)

JULY 2017	INCOME	EXPENSE	Last Year	
Receipts	\$22,120	\$146,657	\$19,049	\$130,046
Disbursements	\$19,194	\$153,510	\$19,226	\$137,530
	\$2,926	(\$6,853)	(\$176)	(\$7,484)

	Weekly Attend.	Weekly Offering	over/under \$3500 goal
<b>7/2</b>	61	\$ 2,709	(\$791)
<b>7/9</b>	50	\$ 1,958	(\$1,542)
<b>7/16</b>	50	\$ 2,568	(\$932)
<b>7/23</b>	52	\$ 2,502	(\$998)
<b>7/30</b>	52	\$ 4,653	\$1,153
<b>Total</b>	321	\$ 10,329	(\$3,671)



**From the Secretary:**

The **deadline** for **October Newsletter** articles and information is **August 10th**. Please email to [faithchurchcv@gmail.com](mailto:faithchurchcv@gmail.com) or place them in the Secretary's mailbox in the conference room.

**ALTAR FLOWER** dates available! **October 1, 8, 22, 29, November 12, 19.**  
The cost is \$34.



**Many thanks for your generosity and your continuing support of Betty Lou's Pantry!** Currently, over 100 families are being assisted. All of the recipients are very grateful for your generosity.

**MOST NEEDED ITEMS:**

**LIQUID LAUNDREY DETERGENT • CANNED PASTA • TUNA/MEAT HELPERS • BAKED BEANS • RICE-A-RONI/NOODLE & PASTA RONI • BOXED POTATOES • BOXED PASTA (NO SPAGHETTI) •**

**Items stocked at the Pantry include:**

- |                             |                                |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Pork & Beans                | Chili                          |
| Canned Fish (salmon) & Meat | Canned Pasta                   |
| Peanut Butter               | Canned Tomatoes & Canned Sauce |
| Kidney & Black Beans        | Chunky Soups                   |
| Canned fruit                | Macaroni & Cheese              |
| Canned Tuna                 | Canned Vegetables              |
| Beef Stew                   | Dry Pasta & Spaghetti          |
| Spaghetti Sauce             | Canned Tuna                    |

Monetary Donations are a particularly effective way to help the Pantry. A donation of \$10 will buy over 60 lbs of food through Second Harvest. If you are in need or know of someone in the area who is, please call **610-282-2838** and leave a message, or email [bettylouspantry18036@gmail.com](mailto:bettylouspantry18036@gmail.com)

—Mike Ford

## **An Update from our Budget & Finance Committee**

With your contributions and pledges we move closer to paying off our mortgage. We currently have \$23,400 in pledges, of which we have received \$17,335.

In May of this year we made an extra principle payment of \$15,500 against our mortgage, which reduced our mortgage balance to \$13,593 and reduced our monthly payment by more than half, from \$1,270 to \$592. Our current mortgage balance, as of today, stands at \$11,985. We will make another principle payment as more of the pledged funds arrive.

Thank you to all who have helped to get us closer to our goal. By reducing, and hopefully eliminating, this debt, we will free up monthly cash flow for other needs of our church. Presently, we are considering using the freed-up cash flow to partially fund the salary of a new Christian Education Director/Youth Director. The future of Faith UCC is our youth!

Should we be successful enough to raise more than our mortgage balance, we will apply the excess to some much-needed work around the property, such as sealing the cracks in the parking lot or updating our exterior lighting to a more energy efficient and user-friendly system.

Let us not take our eyes off of the goal! Please consider giving to this worthwhile endeavor. It is not too late to contribute or make a pledge.

# 2017 VBS



See more photos on the Christian Ed page of our website - [www.faithchurchucc.org](http://www.faithchurchucc.org)





## ***SEPTEMBER BIBLE READINGS***

### **September 1**

1 Kings 5:1–6:1, 7  
Acts 28:1–16  
Mark 14:27–42

### **September 2**

1 Kings 7:51–8:21  
Acts 28:17–31  
Mark 14:43–52

### **September 3**

1 Kings 8:22–40  
1 Tim. 4:7b–16  
John 8:47–59

### **September 4**

2 Chron. 6:32–7:7  
James 2:1–13  
Mark 14:53–65

### **September 5**

1 Kings 8:65–9:9  
James 2:14–26  
Mark 14:66–72

### **September 6**

1 Kings 9:24–10:13  
James 3:1–12  
Mark 15:1–11

### **September 7**

1 Kings 11:1–13  
James 3:13–4:12  
Mark 15:12–21

### **September 8**

1 Kings 11:26–43  
James 4:13–5:6  
Mark 15:22–32

### **September 9**

1 Kings 12:1–20  
James 5:7–20  
Mark 15:33–39

### **September 10**

1 Kings 12:21–33  
Acts 4:18–31  
John 10:31–42

### **September 11**

1 Kings 13:1–10  
Phil. 1:1–11  
Mark 15:40–47

### **September 12**

1 Kings 16:23–34  
Phil. 1:12–30  
Mark 16:1–8 (9–20)

### **September 13**

1 Kings 17:1–24  
Phil. 2:1–11  
Matt. 2:1–12

### **September 14**

1 Kings 18:1–19  
Phil. 2:12–30  
Matt. 2:13–23

### **September 15**

1 Kings 18:20–40  
Phil. 3:1–16  
Matt. 3:1–12

### **September 16**

1 Kings 18:41–19:8  
Phil. 3:17–4:7  
Matt. 3:13–17

### **September 17**

1 Kings 19:8–21  
Acts 5:34–42  
John 11:45–57

### **September 18**

1 Kings 21:1–16  
1 Cor. 1:1–19  
Matt. 4:1–11

### **September 19**

1 Kings 21:17–29  
1 Cor. 1:20–31  
Matt. 4:12–17

### **September 20**

1 Kings 22:1–28  
1 Cor. 2:1–13  
Matt. 4:18–25

**September 21**

1 Kings 22:29–45  
 1 Cor. 2:14–3:15  
 Matt. 5:1–10

**September 22**

2 Kings 1:2–17  
 1 Cor. 3:16–23  
 Matt. 5:11–16

**September 23**

2 Kings 2:1–18  
 1 Cor. 4:1–7  
 Matt. 5:17–20

**September 24**

2 Kings 4:8–37  
 Acts 9:10–31  
 Luke 3:7–18

**September 25**

2 Kings 5:1–19  
 1 Cor. 4:8–21  
 Matt. 5:21–26

**September 26**

2 Kings 5:19–27  
 1 Cor. 5:1–8  
 Matt. 5:27–37

**September 27**

2 Kings 6:1–23  
 1 Cor. 5:9–6:11  
 Matt. 5:38–48

**September 28**

2 Kings 9:1–16  
 1 Cor. 6:12–20  
 Matt. 6:1–6, 16–18

**September 29**

2 Kings 9:17–37  
 1 Cor. 7:1–9  
 Matt. 6:7–15

**September 30**

2 Kings 11:1–20a  
 1 Cor. 7:10–24  
 Matt. 6:19–24



# APPLE SNACKS



These healthy chips make a yummy back-to-school snack.

**What you need:**

- 4 apples, cored and cut into 1/8" rings
- Large bowl
- Spoon
- 2 teaspoons cinnamon
- 2 teaspoons sugar
- Baking sheets (sprayed)

**What you do:**

1. Place apple slices in the bowl. Add cinnamon and sugar. Stir so apples are coated evenly with the mixture.
2. Place apple slices on the sprayed baking sheets in a single layer.
3. Bake at 200 degrees for two to three hours, until chips are dry but still slightly soft.

# September Birthdays

01 Anna Tilley

01 Dan Thompson

02 James Tilley

03 Iris Shelly

03 John Barone

03 Greg Thompson

03 Adriana Muth

03 Tim Long

05 Evelyn Hovis

05 Pauline Kemmerer

09 Tim Holschwander

09 Patti Shelly

10 Carol Beck

10 Olivia Muth

14 Howard Barrick

14 Evelyn Trumbauer

14 Virginia Haller

14 Patricia Bley

14 Gavin Kennedy

17 Cindy Talaber

17 Kate Jellison

18 Donna Herndon

20 Tam Christman

21 Carrie Fosbenner

21 Wendy Thompson

22 Romaine Zeiner

23 Cathy Wimmer

24 Craig McCormick

26 Susan Roberts

26 Erin Gollie

27 Abby Muth

28 Michael DiSanto

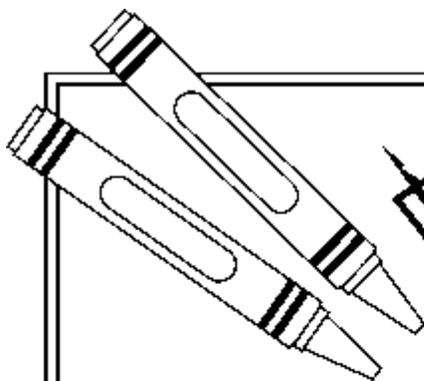
28 Damyn Allison

29 Ruth Smith

29 Eric Fosbenner



Please call the church office with any omissions or corrections.



# PUZZLE

## APPLE OF HIS EYE

Start each school day by remembering God's loving care for you.

*Directions: Starting at the K by the stem and going clockwise, circle each word. Then place the words in the blanks to complete Psalm 17:8.*



“

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_;

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_”

PSALM 17:8, NIV