

FOCUS



ON

FAITH

Volume 48, Number 5
2018



Sunday School—9:00 am
Worship—10:15 am

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

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

*Ruth Cressman, LaVerna Diehl,
Joan Hassler, Evelyn Hovis, and
Sue Walter*

2018 Consistory

President: Wes Koser

Vice President: Deb Orach

Secretary: Michele Keeler

Elders: Deacons:

Mim Allison Michele Keeler Colleen Kandt

Deb Orach Qiyi Zhu Stoffey Barb Scattergood

Wes Koser John Barone Tom Berghold

Jane Van Horn Kevin Long Mary Ellen Long

Church Treasurer: Joe Orach

Liaisons:

Christian Ed— John Barone Kitchen Krew—Jane Van Horn

Fellowship/Outreach—John Barone Enduring/Memorial—Mary Ellen Long

Property—Wes Koser Staff Relations—Qiyi Zhu Stoffey

Worship—Mim Allison Budget & Finance—Deb Orach

Mission—Barb Scattergood Youth Group—Kevin Long

Day Care—Colleen Kandt Fundraising—Michele Keeler

*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,

Anticipation: 1. realization in advance; foretaste; 2. expectation or hope; 3. previous notion; slight previous impression

Back in mid November I purchased a Christmas Cactus with more blooms on it than I could count. I wrote about it in the December Focus on Faith sharing with you my great anticipation of a glorious bloom of my cactus! Our wonderful sexton, Dorothy, came in very early in the morning as she does every Tuesday and noticed that my cactus looked very thirsty and gave it a nice drink. Unfortunately, a Christmas Cactus is not thirsty when it is blooming ... so little by little each bud fell off. They never had a chance to bloom. I figured I would just have to wait until next Christmas to appreciate it. In the meantime, I did what I could do to get the message across that I would take care of the watering duties:



Advent is a season of waiting, expectation, and anticipation. I thought that my cactus was a great symbol of the season.

Lent is a season of preparation and also a season of anticipation. Easter is a season of fulfillment; fulfillment of all of the anticipated promises of Advent and Lent and while Easter Sunday has come and gone, we are still living in the liturgical season of



Easter. We are still celebrating the fulfillment of God's magnificent promise.

And so imagine my surprise when just a few weeks ago I discovered some new buds on my Christmas Cactus! At first I wasn't sure if these buds were simply new growth or if they would

provide blossoms. I waited in eager anticipation until:



Yes! My Christmas Cactus bloomed turning itself into an Easter Cactus!

Advent is not the only season of anticipation. Easter is also a season of anticipation; anticipation of what miracle God will do next in our world.

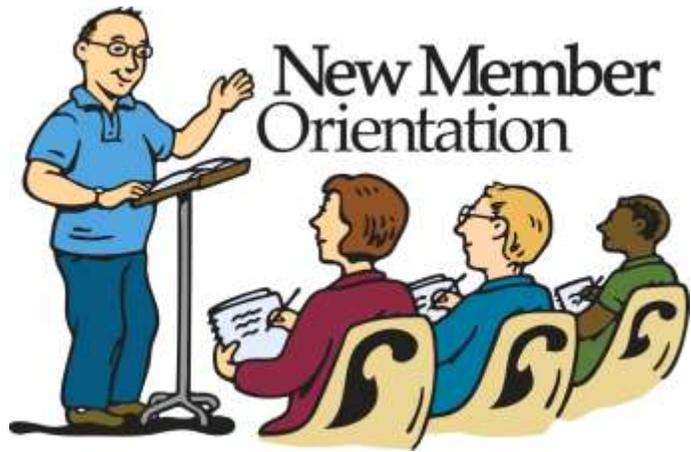
During this season we fully expect that all of God's promises will indeed come true in ways that we had never thought possible.

The Resurrection we celebrated on Easter Sunday has power throughout the year. The reality of forgiveness gives us opportunities to overcome whatever odds are caused by our own limitations. If a Christmas Cactus can bloom at Easter, so can we.

Peace,

Interested in joining
Our Church family?

Sunday
May 6, 2018
7:00 pm in the
Memorial Room



Sunday
May 13, 2018



Thanks, Mom!

At his graduation, a young man tasked with giving a speech began reading from some notes. "I want to talk about my mother and the wonderful influence she had on my life," he said. "She's a shining example of parenthood, and I love her more than words can ever do justice."

The graduate then paused, appeared to struggle a moment and looked up at the audience with a mischievous smile. "It's really hard to read my mom's handwriting," he said.



PUZZLE ANSWER: "Honor your father and your mother, as the Lord your God has commanded you." Deuteronomy 5:16, NIV

We will be planting the garden on **Sunday, May 20th** following worship. The more help the merrier!! If you would like to donate plants, potting soil or any other garden supplies, please contact us and we will let you know what we need.

Help will also be needed to maintain the garden throughout the spring and summer months.

If you love to garden and are willing to help in any way please contact Becky Hite at 610-554-2224.

Last year we provided Betty Lou's Pantry with cucumbers, tomatoes, peppers, and never ending green beans! We look forward to bringing them lots more fresh veggies this year!



CALLING ALL 2018 GRADUATES!!

We would like to honor our High School and College graduates in the June issue of Focus on Faith. Please call the church office

or email faithchurchcv@gmail.com by **May 15th** with the following: Name, date of graduation, degree, school name, and future plans. (We can't honor you if we don't hear from you:)



FROM THE DISCIPLESHIP DESK

*"In like a lion out like a lamb"...*not always. Some years the month of March just doesn't cooperate with us and what we expect from our weather patterns. And so...we do what any ordinary differentiated mature people do when things don't go our way--we whine.

"Oh man, I thought Spring started two weeks ago."

"Easter's over; I thought we were done with the snow."

"Old man winter's holding on for dear life this year."

To be clear, I'm the first in line to be whining. I'm as human as anybody else.

The order of nature God created doesn't follow our schedules or our likings. Doesn't God know this isn't how things aren't supposed to be?

Asking that question avoids the reality we all know, and that is--we are not in control. It's a small thing for the weather to stay cold a few weeks longer than it should. It's little more than an annoyance in our part of the world, but let it serve as a reminder to us of what it means for our area to endure cold temperatures this far into April. Every cold day is a day that a single mother needs to pay for heating oil so that her children stay healthy. Every frigid evening is another night the homeless sleep in the uncompromising bone-chilling dark.

What if we saw our discomforts as an opportunity to show others the love of Christ?

Matthew 25:35-36 reads, "for I was hungry, and you gave me food, I was thirsty, and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger, and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me." →→→→→

What would it be like if when the weather patterns didn't go our way, we didn't whine--but instead were called to action to do the work of the Gospel? We can't change the cold, and God doesn't expect us to change the weather, but we are expected to turn our whining into the act of showing Christ's love.

Pastor Josh

Don't forget about Children's Church!!!



Children's Church is a place for kids to praise God and show Jesus' love!

2nd Sunday of May after the Children's Sermon!

A Look Ahead.....

*Sunday, June 3rd will be the last day of Sunday School.
Our Church picnic will follow worship.*

*Our Summer Worship Schedule will start on June 10th.
Worship will begin at 9:00 am.*

May 20, 2018

*Pentecost
Communion*

Welcoming New Members

*Cake & Coffee Reception
Following Worship*



THE POWER OF PENTECOST

Before Pentecost the disciples found it hard to do easy things; after Pentecost they found it easy to do hard things. —A.J. Gordon



*The Church Office
will be closed
Monday, May 28th in
observance of Memorial Day.*

THOSE WHO WILL SERVE IN MAY

Head Usher: Wes Koser

Nursery: Catherine Stevenson

Financial Secretary: Tom Hovis

	May 6	May 13	May 20	May 27
Greeter	Ray & Doris Horwath	Faye Tirpak	Henry & Sue Roberts	Joan Hassler
Ushers	Cindy Talaber, Donna Schoenberger, Ruth Smith, Cathy	Sue Walter, Jane Van Horn, Tom & Brenda	George Rau, Donna Schoenberger, Scott & Louise	Bruce & Michelle Keeler Ray & Mitzi Foulke
Lay Reader	Donna Schoenberger	Ron Demkee	N/A	MaryEllen Long
Acolyte s	Morgan Webb Noah Ritter	Alex Kane Will Kane	Avery Koser Noah Jellison	Damyn Allison
Flowers	Hite	Walter	Roberts	Roberts



Our 7th Annual Yard Sale will be held on Saturday, September 8th. This year an indoor Craft Show will be added! We will start accepting items for the yard sale in August. Stay tuned for more details...



FROM THE TREASURER— MARCH FINANCIALS

MARCH	MONTH	YTD	Last Year	
Receipts	\$17,948	\$52,015	\$17,974	\$53,061
Disbursements	\$22,586	\$64,240	\$19,579	\$61,886
	(\$4,637)	(\$12,224)	(\$1,604.56)	(\$8,825)

	Weekly Attend.	Weekly Offering	over/under \$3500 goal
3/4	77	\$ 3,342	(\$ 158)
3/11	87	\$ 2,449	(\$ 1,051)
3/18	84	\$ 2,216	(\$ 1,284)
3/25	100	\$ 2,658	(\$ 842)
Total	348	\$ 10,666	(\$ 3,335)

Special Offerings:

Blankets - \$248 (total \$1317)

OGHS—\$55

Helping Hands—\$84

Betty Lou's Pantry—\$25

Fundraising Income—

Auction—\$919

Out of Ordinary Expense—

Snow Removal—\$1165 (Jan—Mar Total—\$3590)



From the Secretary:

The **deadline** for **June Newsletter** articles and information is **May 15th**. Please email to faithchurchcv@gmail.com or place on Secretary's desk.

The 2018 ALTAR FLOWER SCHEDULE has several openings—April 29, July 29, August 5, September 30, October 21, November 25. The cost will remain \$34 for the new year. Call the office to reserve your date!



Many thanks for your support of Betty Lou's Pantry! For the last Sunday of March and the first two Sundays of April, our regular donations included 149 items and \$50.

ITEMS CURRENTLY NEEDED:

**CANNED PASTA • BAKED BEANS • CANNED TUNA
BOXED POTATOES • CHUNKY/HEARTY SOUPS**

Items stocked at the Pantry include:

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

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 —*Mike Ford*

BAG & BASKET BINGO FUNDRAISER THANK YOU

Thank you for making the Mission fundraiser another successful event! Selling tickets to your friends and family members helped us to have a sell-out crowd. The donations to the Basket Raffle were very generous. Most of all, thank you for all of your time volunteering in the kitchen, on the floor, organizing baskets, setting up and taking down tables and chairs, mopping the floor and every other task that needed to be completed. We did see a profit of @ \$4750. Again, we thank you!

ANNUAL LETTER CARRIER FOOD DRIVE

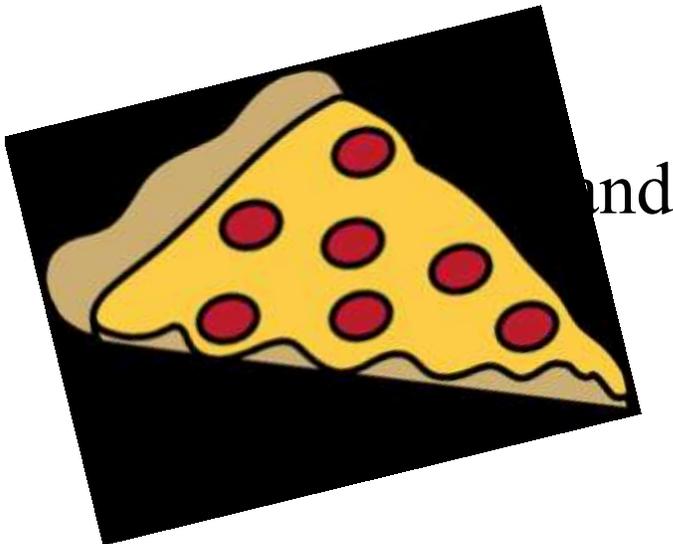
The Letter Carriers will be collecting food for **Betty Lou's Pantry** on **Saturday, May 12, 2018**.

Please leave a bag of food near your mailbox on that date. If your donation is not picked up, please leave it off at the Coopersburg or Center Valley Post Offices or the Southern Lehigh Public Library.

If you are scheduled to help out, please report to the church at your designated time. Thank you.



When you invest in the vision supported by Strengthen the Church, your gift will plant new churches, awaken new ideas in existing churches, and help develop the spiritual lives of our youth and young adults. Please take a moment to read the included [flyer](#) and consider how you might help. **A Mission Moment will be held in May**—watch the weekly emails for a date!



SUNDAY, MAY 20, 2018
12—3 pm

Pizza and Prophecy is a time for the Sunday School teachers and leaders to vision and discuss about the future of Christian Education at Faith. We will be writing our own prophecy and through the power of God, we will fulfill that prophecy in the days to come.



2018 LAWN CREW

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!

05/07/18	Tim Hovis	484-223-9476
05/14/18	Terry Muth	610-838-8048
	NEED VOLUNTEER	
05/21/18	Scott Christman	610-428-1182
	Dennis Frantz	610-691-8714
05/28/18	Steve Sosnowsky	610-967-3669
	NEED VOLUNTEER	
06/04/18	Kevin Long	610-282-3077
	Tony DiSanto	610-866-9096
06/11/18	Dwayne Schantz	610-797-4994
	Bob Shelly	610-965-7999
06/18/18	Tim Hovis	484-223-9476
06/25/18	Steve Sosnowsky	610-967-3669
	Glenn Scholl	610-965-6726
07/02/18	Joe Orach	610-346-7977
	NEED VOLUNTEER	
07/09/18	Brett Dill	610-351-0032
	Jack Maginn	610-346-8084
07/16/18	Chuck Talboo	610-282-1552
	Randy Hughes	610-967-5061
07/23/18	Dennis Frantz	610-691-8714
	Kevin Long	610-282-3077
07/30/18	Scott Christman	610-282-4928



SPRING BINGO April 22, 2018



MAY BIBLE READINGS

May 1

Lev. 16:20–34
1 Thess. 5:1–11
Matt. 6:7–15

May 2

Lev. 19:1–18
1 Thess. 5:12–28
Matt. 6:19–24

May 3

Lev. 19:26–37
2 Thess. 1:1–12
Matt. 6:25–34

May 4

Lev. 23:1–22
2 Thess. 2:1–17
Matt. 7:1–12

May 5

Lev. 23:23–44
2 Thess. 3:1–18
Matt. 7:13–21

May 6

Lev. 25:1–17
James 1:2–8, 16–18
Luke 12:13–21

May 7

Lev. 25:35–55
Col. 1:9–14
Matt. 13:1–16

May 8

Lev. 26:1–20
1 Tim. 2:1–6
Matt. 13:18–23

May 9

Lev. 26:27–42
Eph. 1:1–10
Matt. 22:41–46

May 10

Dan. 7:9–14
Heb. 2:5–18
Matt. 28:16–20

May 11

1 Sam. 2:1–10
Eph. 2:1–10
Matt. 7:22–27

May 12

Num. 11:16–17, 24–29
Eph. 2:11–22
Matt. 7:28–8:4

May 13

Exod. 3:1–12
Heb. 12:18–29
Luke 10:17–24

May 14

Josh. 1:1–9
Eph. 3:1–13
Matt. 8:5–17

May 15

1 Sam. 16:1–13a
Eph. 3:14–21
Matt. 8:18–27

May 16

Isa. 4:2–6
Eph. 4:1–16
Matt. 8:28–34

May 17

Zech. 4:1–14
Eph. 4:17–32
Matt. 9:1–8

May 18

Jer. 31:27–34
Eph. 5:1–32
Matt. 9:9–17

May 19

Ezek. 36:22–27
Eph. 6:1–24
Matt. 9:18–26

May 20

Deut. 16:9–12
Acts 4:18–21, 23–33
John 4:19–26

May 21

Prov. 3:11–20
1 John 3:18–4:6
Matt. 11:1–6

May 22

Prov. 4:1–27
1 John 4:7–21
Matt. 11:7–15

May 23

Prov. 6:1–19
1 John 5:1–12
Matt. 11:16–24

May 24

Prov. 7:1–27
1 John 5:13–21
Matt. 11:25–30

May 25

Prov. 8:1–21
2 John 1–13
Matt. 12:1–14

May 26

Prov. 8:22–36
3 John 1–15
Matt. 12:15–21

May 27

Job 38:1–11; 42:1–5
Rev. 19:4–16
John 1:29–34

May 28

Prov. 10:1–12
1 Tim. 1:1–17
Matt. 12:22–32

May 29

Prov. 15:16–33
1 Tim. 1:18–2:15
Matt. 12:33–42

May 30

Prov. 17:1–20
1 Tim. 3:1–16
Matt. 12:43–50

May 31

Prov. 21:30–22:6
1 Tim. 4:1–16
Matt. 13:24–30



HEART LIGHT

This Mother's Day, make a bright gift for someone special in your life.



What you need:

- Scissors
- Cardstock
- Tape
- Mason jar
- Primer paint
- Acrylic paint (3 colors)
- Paintbrushes
- Battery-operated tea light
- Paper and pen
- Hole punch
- Twine

What you do:

1. Cut out two cardstock hearts and tape them to the jar sides, near the bottom.
2. Paint the entire jar with primer paint. Let dry.
3. Paint splotches of acrylic paint over the primer. Let dry. Remove the heart shapes.
4. Place the tea light in the jar.
5. Write a note that says, "Mom, you're the light of my life!" Punch a hole in one corner of the note, thread twine through the hole and tie the note around the jar's neck.

MAY Birthdays

01 Tom Berghold	15 Mia Miller
01 Sadie Schaffer	16 Ken Ritter
02 Linda Koch	17 Autumn Kandt
02 Owen Hovis	19 Sandi DiSanto
03 Noah Jellison	19 Kim Ritter
03 Tyler Ritter	19 Brian Bross
04 Samantha Ritter	20 Randy Hughes
04 J Bittenbender	20 Meagan Santoro
05 Wayne Gollie	20 Brandon Barone
05 Byun Miller	21 Michele Keeler
06 Linda Torrence	22 Megan Farino
07 Ainsley Dill	22 Jacob Snyder
09 Linda Erney	23 Dennis Duda
09 Richard Featherman	24 Roy S. Slekovac
09 Sarah Frech	24 Heather Koser
09 Alex Weidner	24 Spencer Gunkle
10 Caroline Frantz	27 Alex K
10 Scott Smith	29 Eugene Kemmerer
11 Barbara Scattergood	29 Randy Siegfried
12 Layne Frech	31 Gavin Gunkle
13 Lily Frech	31 Kristen Jellison



Please call the church office with any omissions or corrections.

