

FOCUS



ON

FAITH

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2019



LEAD PASTOR: Rev. Dr. Bruce C. Stevenson
PASTOR OF DISCIPLESHIP: Rev. Joshua Knappenberger
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 -

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

2019 Consistory

Officers:

President: Deb Orach
Vice President: Kevin Long
Secretary: Mary Ellen Long

Elders:

Deb Orach
Mim Allison
Jane Van Horn
Kevin Long

Deacons:

Colleen Kandt
Tom Berghold
Barb Scattergood
Mary Ellen Long

Justin Koser
Becky Hite

Church Treasurer: Joe Orach

Liaisons:

Christian Ed: Barb Scattergood
Kitchen Krew: Jane Van Horn
Fellowship/Outreach: Deb Orach
Enduring/Memorial Gifts: Mary Ellen Long
Property: Colleen Kandt
Staff Relations: Jane Van Horn

Worship: Mim Allison
Budget & Finance: Deb Orach
Mission: Kevin Long
Youth: Justin Koser
Day Care: Pastor Bruce
Choir: Tom Berghold

*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,

I think most of us set some summer goals for ourselves, at least I do. But not every project gets done on time. For example, I had planned on building a pergola with a brick patio underneath during the summer of 2017. Well, it wasn't completed so finishing it became a project for the summer of 2018. In the spring of 2018 the tree pollen was particularly bad and my allergies were off the charts keeping me inside until all of the tree pollen had finally blown or washed away. But the summer of 2018 was full of rain and every day that was sunny and would have allowed me to work on the project was a day that demanded other things of me. So the summer of 2018 came and went without much progress on the pergola project. The bricks for the patio are still stacked in the driveway (My wife is living up to her name with me on this project ... Patience). Now the spring of 2019 has arrived and I am determined to get this job done and enjoy it before the snow falls!

Not every worthy project or goal is completed on time or when we expected. Some projects are not even completed AS we expected. Sometimes in the midst of what might appear to be a failed project we find something even better. Now, don't get me wrong. My pergola is going to be a pergola and the bricks are going to be a patio! The pergola is not going to end up in the fireplace and the bricks will not be used for a fence!

Often times in the church we think that perhaps we have failed when an idea or a plan doesn't come out the way we had planned or hoped. Before we give up on the plan maybe we just have to rethink it. Maybe there is nothing wrong with the plan. Maybe the outcome we got wasn't so bad after all.

This is what a mentor of mine once called “Reframing the question rather than demanding a specific answer.” I think when we demand a certain answer we deny ourselves of seeing what God may be doing in our midst. We may miss the fact that in spite of what we thought we would achieve God is taking our efforts and making something even better happen.

Last summer I had a *question* for the Circle of Faith Bible study. I had read a book that had a compelling message and I was looking for a place to share what I had learned. Circle members had read the book and for a variety of reasons they were not interested in pursuing a study of it. Was that a failure? No. I had to rephrase my question. That would bring me to a different format to share what I had learned. I had a *question* for our Worship Committee this winter. “Should we offer a new service during Holy Week this year?” For a variety of reasons, the Worship Committee did not want to. Does that mean that I failed at creating a new and creative worship experience? No. I had to rephrase the question. What are other new and creative worship experiences that will speak to the passions of others?

If we are going to be faithful in ministry we have to be flexible enough to let go of our questions and hold onto God’s question. That is how we will accomplish what God is calling us to do. That is certainly more faithful and certainly much less frustrating!

Peace,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Pastor James". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Water Communion

As we carry on the traditions of friendship and community with each other, the Worship Committee would like to initiate a new practice that would allow each of us to renew our baptism in a way that is special and unique to each of us.

We're sure all of you have special locations that make you feel happy and safe, or just able to forget your worries and have fun. So sometime this spring and summer, while you are on vacation or just enjoying time at home, we would like you to take one of the tubes (available in the church office) with you and collect some water from your special place. This could be at your favorite beach, the ocean, mountains with streams or lakes, a favorite fishing hole, golf course, or hiking trail. Maybe a luxurious bath or hot tub! Perhaps standing on a porch during summer rains or getting splashed going down a water flume at an amusement park. It could be something as simple as the hose you use to water your flowers and your garden, the tub where you bathed your children when they were young, or your kitchen where you have prepared many meals. Whatever or wherever you feel happy, grab some water AND make SURE that someone takes a picture of you collecting your water. Please turn your picture into the church office by Sunday, August 18th.

On Sunday, September 15th bring your water to church and we will celebrate what we are calling “**Water Communion.**” During the service that day everyone will come forward and pour the water into the baptismal font. We will dedicate the water and have it sterilized and throughout the year at each baptism we will pour a portion of the water into the baptismal font.

This way we will all be participating in baptisms by our actions and our promises. Children as well as adults are encouraged to participate.

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO ALL MEMBERS OUR ANNUAL MEETING WILL BE HELD ON SUNDAY —JUNE 2, 2019

Agenda:

- Approval of a slate of Elders, Deacons and Consistory Officers
- Adoption of a Vision Statement for Faith U.C.C. (see pg 16)
- Adoption of a Welcoming Statement for Faith U.C.C.
- Presentation of Tythe.ly – online giving



PLEASE PLAN TO ATTEND

Sunday, June 2, 2019

**Last day of Sunday School—9:00 am
Worship @ 10:15 am followed by
Congregational Meeting**

After the meeting plan to stay for our
Church Picnic

Please bring a side dish and or dessert to share!
Hamburgers, hot dogs, and drinks will be
provided. If you are able to lend a
hand in getting things ready
please contact Pastor
Josh @ 484-505-9788.





Sunday, June 9, 2019
PENTECOST SUNDAY
10:15 a.m.
Communion will be served.

You won't want to miss this special service.

Our Summer Worship Schedule begins **Sunday, June 16, 2019**. Worship Services will begin at **9:00 am**.



Summer Sunday School!
Beginning June 16th!

The summer is here, but Sunday School isn't going away! During summer worship, Pastor Josh will hold Summer Sunday School. Participating children will follow Pastor Josh after the Children's Sermon to explore the stories of Jesus and more.

FROM THE DISCIPLESHIP DESK

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I don't like working with numbers, but numbers do fascinate me. The concept of Gematria, for example, the idea that every word in the Old Testament corresponds with a numerical value that helps us to interpret the scripture astounds me.

What captures my attention most with the use of numbers in the Bible are the so-called "sacred numbers." These numbers are three, seven, twelve, and forty. These are the numbers that repeatedly appear in the stories. Jacob worked seven years to gain his wife, the twelve tribes of Israel that came together to form a nation, Moses spent forty years in the desert, and Noah spent forty days in the Ark.

Three is also used repeatedly, but recently, I've wondered whether three is actually the sacred number. Three is used to describe God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. The angels who came to visit Abraham visited in a group of three. Daniel's friends Shadrach, Mischach, and Abednego entered the fiery furnace as a group of three. In Jesus' transfiguration, he spoke with Moses and Elijah.

In each of these scenarios, there was always fourth divine being vital to each story. Sometimes hidden right in front of us. We forget that Abraham also sat at the table with the angels. We forget that Daniel observed his friends in the furnace as the flames did not consume them. We forget that Peter spoke on the mountaintop as well as Jesus, Elijah, and Moses. In each of these stories, it is the most human of each group that is sacrificed to arrive at the number three. If four is the sacred number, what does that mean for the Trinity? What does it mean for the three-in-one that was present at the Bap-

tism of Christ? The Father's voice from Heaven, the Holy Spirit, as the Dove, and Jesus, the Son, rising from the water. The Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, in many ways at the very core of what we believe, and yet, without John and his clamshell, there would be no Baptism of Jesus—a fourth divine being.

We talk about the Trinity and sing about it every Sunday, but there is a divine being in our worship. A sacred entity without whom worship, mission, and fellowship, would not be possible. As much as Pastor Bruce, and I would like it to be, the fourth being is not us. It is you. Each of us individually completes the quadrangle.

You, who are reading this, are a divine being and without you, the Trinity cannot feed the hungry, the Trinity cannot worship without you, the Trinity cannot laugh or cry with your neighbor unless you or cry laugh first. Without you, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit; the Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer, are useless theories that exist in our minds.

It takes a fourth divine being to make the work of the Trinity happen—do not ever forget, or even doubt that fourth being clothed in divinity—is you.

Pastor Josh



Holy Spirit, Holy S'Mores!

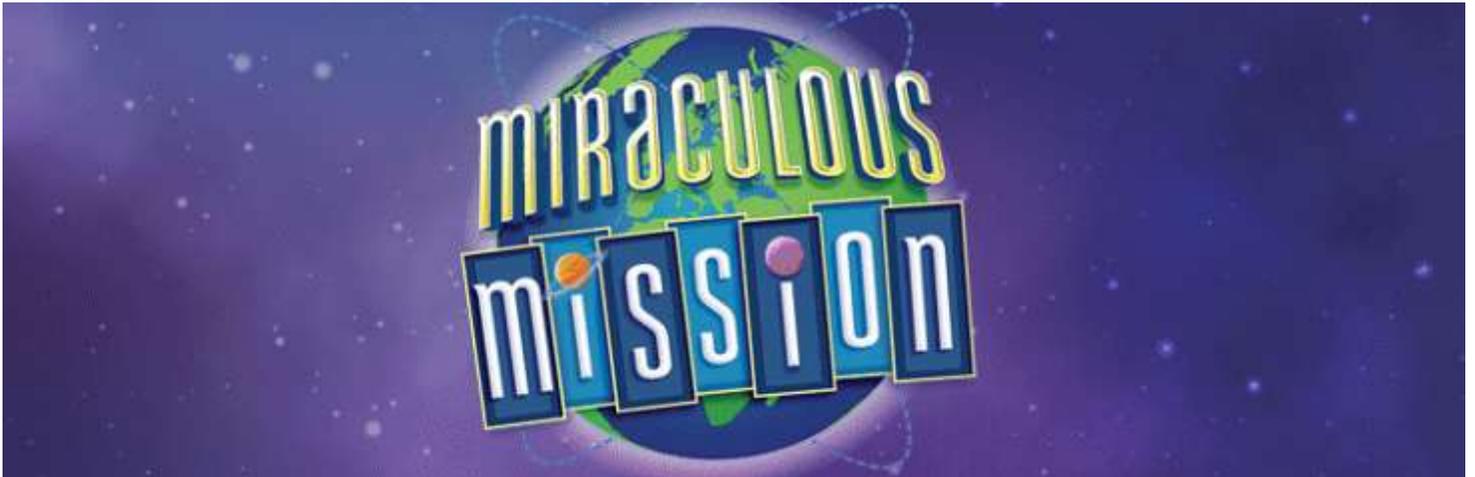
Oh, those Summer nights! The Triple G's will be taking advantage of the summer nights of 2019. We will be holding monthly campfires from June through August...stay tuned for the dates!

June 2nd is the last day of Sunday School!



As Sunday school prepares to come to a close, it's the pleasure of the Christian Education Committee to announce we will be hosting **The Disciples of Joy**, a Christian Clown group based in Bethlehem. They are looking forward to coming to our church for some "clowning around" and to deliver a special message to our Sunday School children. **All are**

invited to come watch the show on Sunday, June 2nd during the Sunday School hour. See you there!



Vacation Bible School is coming, and for it we are going—on a **Miraculous Mission!** This year for VBS, we will journey with Jesus as he is sent on his miraculous mission to bring us all grace and forgiveness through his death and resurrection. Dates and times for VBS this year will be from July 29-August 1st from 6:30-8:30 PM.

Miraculous Volunteers Needed for VBS!

Any miraculous mission needs the help of miraculous guides. If you are an adult in the church, and as VBS is approaching, please review the dates and times and consider volunteering with us as we make the journey to salvation from our sins through the resurrection of Jesus Christ. If you're willing or able to lend your time and/or talents talk to Pastor Josh. Don't worry, you don't have to be able to perform miracles to join us on our journey. Dates and times for VBS this year will be from July 29-August 1st from 6:30-8:30 PM.



If you haven't heard yet the word is out! Faith Church now has a very up-to-date site of our own on Facebook! PLEASE "LIKE" us

on Facebook and "SHARE" with your friends so we can show everything that's happening at Faith to all! The site is used to announce things we're doing and show things we have done. Besides the church's activities we want to lift up our church family's joys! So take lots of pictures and share with Darin Jellison, Becky Hite or Caroline Frantz and we'll make sure to post them. You can TAG Faith's site too. *Let's see how many new LIKES we can get till the next Focus on Faith comes out right now we have 48!*

You can also find us on **Instagram!**





***Congratulations to our
2019 Graduates!***

High School Graduates:

Justin Koser will graduate from Southern Lehigh High School on June 7th. He will be attending Penn State Lehigh Valley in the fall.

College Graduates:

Noah Kandt graduated from Miami University in December 2018 with a BS in Sports Leadership and Management with a concentration in coaching and a minor in religion. He worked as a student manager for the men's basketball team for four years and aspires to become part of a division 1 or 2 college basketball coaching staff.

Logan Koch graduated Magna Cum Laude from Shippensburg University on May 11th. He earned a Bachelor's of Science degree in Business Administration—Accounting and Management. Logan will begin a new job with PNC Bank in Pittsburgh, PA in August.

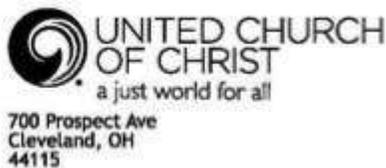
Gabrielle Koehnlein will graduate June 1st from University of Delaware with a Bachelor's in Accounting and MIS. She will be working at Deloitte in Philadelphia.

Catherine Stevenson graduated from Northampton Community College on January 26th earning an Associate Degree in Early Childhood Education. Catherine plans to go back to school in Spring of 2020 to earn her Bachelor's Degree.



*Congratulations to all the graduates! Please plan to join us for worship on **Sunday, June 16th, 9 am** at which time we will celebrate your accomplishments with you!*

JUNE'S SPECIAL OFFERING



**STRENGTHEN
THE CHURCH
OFFERING**

The Strengthen the Church offering supports the expansion of ministry and growth of UCC local congregations. Your support of this offering will help the UCC fulfill on its commitment to creating a just world for all by investing in new ministries and practices that meet the emerging needs of local communities.

As God calls our congregations to be the church in new ways, your generosity will plant new churches, awaken new ideas in existing churches and develop the spiritual life in our youth and young adults.

Please take a moment to read the insert included in your newsletter and prayerfully consider how you can help.

The special envelope included may be brought to church any Sunday in June.

THOSE WHO WILL SERVE IN JUNE

Head Usher: Mary Ellen Long

Nursery: Catherine Stevenson

Financial Secretary: Bruce Torrence

	June 2 10:15	June 9 10:15	June 16 9:00	June 23 9:00	June 30 9:00
Greeter	Colleen Kandt	Bonnie Stenroos	Sherry Meluskey	Diane Neidemeier	Shirley George
Ushers	Ken & Tara Koehnlein Deb Herstine Donna Schoenberger	Jerry & Linda Lennon Tom & Brenda Hovis	Wes & Heather Koser	Steve & Sandy Sosnowsky	George Rau Sue Walter
Lay Reader	Ken Koehnlein	Brenda Hovis	Heather Koser	Sandy Sosnowsky	Mary Ellen Long
Acolytes		Alex & Will Kane			
Flowers	Keelers	Scholl		Long	Beck

COMING SOON TO FAITH CHURCH...

ON-LINE GIVING

Watch your bulletins and weekly emails for more details!

2019 LAWN CREW SCHEDULE

05/27/19	Steve Sosnowsky
06/03/19	Kevin Long/Tony DiSanto
06/10/19	Dwayne Schantz/Bob Shelly
06/17/19	Tim Hovis
06/24/19	Steve Sosnowsky/Glenn Scholl
07/01/19	Joe Orach
07/08/19	Brett Dill/Jack Maginn
07/15/19	Chuck Talboo/Randy Hughes
07/22/19	Dennis Frantz/Kevin Long
07/29/19	Scott Christman
08/05/19	Brett Dill/Jack Maginn
08/12/19	Tom Hovis/George Rau
08/19/19	Terry Muth/Glenn Gunkle
08/26/19	Tom Herstine
09/02/19	Tim Hovis
09/09/19	Dwayne Schantz/Roger Erney
09/16/19	Bruce Torrence/Wes Koser
09/23/19	Joe Orach
09/30/19	Brian Bross
10/07/19	Tim Hovis



In order to keep Faith's Member Information
up to date, please contact the church office
if there is a change to your:

- **Home Address**
- **Email Address**
- **Phone Number**

Thanks, *Sandy*



FROM THE TREASURER— APRIL FINANCIALS

	Weekly Attend.	Weekly Offering	over/under \$3500 goal
4/7	79	\$ 3,470	(\$30)
4/14	99	\$ 3,097	(\$403)
4/18 Maundy Thurs	51	\$ 297	
4/21 8 am	90	\$ 3,117	(\$383)
4/21 10:15	133	\$ 2,266	(\$1,234)
4/28	72	\$ 1,703	(\$1,797)
Total	466	\$ 13,950	(\$3,847)

Special Offerings:

One Great Hour of Sharing - \$557
Bety Lou's—\$75

Fundraising Income

Pierogi Sale—\$108

Here is the draft of our new Vision Statement
to be adopted at the
June 2nd Congregational Meeting:

Faith United Church of Christ Vision Statement

United with Christ, we are committed to sharing the
transformative love of God's grace, and peace through
service to our neighbors



From the Secretary:

The **deadline** for **July/August Newsletter** articles and information is **June 10th**. Please email to faithchurchcv@gmail.com or place them in the Secretary's mailbox in the conference room.

2019 ALTAR FLOWER SPONSORS NEEDED! The following dates are in need of sponsors: 7/21, 7/28, 8/4, 8/11, 9/1, 9/29, 10/6, 10/20. Please call the office to reserve your date (s). The cost is \$35.



Many thanks for your support of Betty Lou's Pantry! For the last three Sundays of April and the first two Sundays of May, our regular donations included 293 items and \$25.

MOST CURRENTLY NEEDED ITEMS:

MEAT HELPERS • CEREALS • BOXED POTATOES

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 | |

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

Helping the Homeless



Have you seen these boxes in the Narthex? They are filled with goodies that would be useful to a homeless person. If you are aware of anyone who may need some extra help, please feel free to keep a few in your car, ready to be distributed to one of our neighbors in need. Thank you.

Spring Bingo Thank You!

The Mission Team's annual Spring Bingo Fundraiser was another great success! We appreciate everyone's support with donations for the basket raffle & door prizes, financial support and giving of your time to make this all work so smoothly. We entertained 130 guests and raised \$4,200 for Mission projects. The Mission Team thanks you for your support!



SAVE THE DATE...

September 8, 2019



TONY CAMPOLO
will share with us during
worship about
Beyond Borders,
a ministry in Haiti,
which we support with our
Joyful Noise Collection.

Tony Campolo is professor emeritus of sociology at Eastern University and a former faculty member at the University of Pennsylvania. For 40 years, he led the Evangelical Association for the Promotion of Education, an organization which he founded to create and support programs serving needy communities. More recently, Dr. Campolo has provided leadership for the progressive Christian movement, Red Letter Christians as well as, for the Campolo Center for Ministry, a program which provides support to those the church has called to full-time ministry. He has written more than 35 books and can be found blogging regularly on tonycampolo.org and redletterchristians.org. Tony and his wife Peggy live near Philadelphia and have two children and four grandchildren.

Mark your calendars and start saving those “treasures” for our FALL YARD SALE!

**Saturday, September 7th
8 am—2 pm
Vendors Welcome—\$10 space
(Bring your own tables.)**

Items to be donated can be dropped off on the stage in Fellowship Hall beginning Sunday, August 3rd or during the week on Mondays through Thursdays from 10 am—3 pm. If you can volunteer your time, please contact Ruth Smith @ 610-797-4635. (NO TV’s or Computers.)



PLANNING FOR THE NEXT PENNY PARTY!

Seems like a long way off but it takes a lot of planning for another **January Penny Party**. Again, thank you to everyone who helped in anyway to make our first Penny Party a fun time and successful Fund-Raising event!

For those who did attend, now that you know how it goes, hope you’ll keep your eyes open to help prepare for our next party. If you see great buys or clearance sales of the things we could use as penny items we sure would be grateful for your help with donations. Maybe you have some things you are looking for an occasion to “regift”, think of donating these things to the cause. Caroline Frantz will accept your donations as items that might be used for the penny party or possible door prize gifts.

With your help, we can have another fun Penny Party event! *Save the date, January 26, 2020!*



JUNE BIBLE READINGS

June 1

Ezek. 3:4–17
Heb. 5:7–14
Luke 9:37–50

June 2

Ezek. 3:16–27
Eph. 2:1–10
Matt. 10:24–33, 40–42

June 3

Ezek. 4:1–17
Heb. 6:1–12
Luke 9:51–62

June 4

Ezek. 7:10–15, 23b–27
Heb. 6:13–20
Luke 10:1–17

June 5

Ezek. 11:14–25
Heb. 7:1–17
Luke 10:17–24

June 6

Ezek. 18:1–4, 19–32
Heb. 7:18–28
Luke 10:25–37

June 7

Ezek. 34:17–31
Heb. 8:1–13
Luke 10:38–42

June 8

Ezek. 43:1–12
Heb. 9:1–14
Luke 11:14–23

June 9

Isa. 11:1–9
1 Cor. 2:1–13
John 14:21–29

June 10

Deut. 30:1–10
2 Cor. 10:1–18
Luke 18:31–43

June 11

Deut. 30:11–20
2 Cor. 11:1–21a
Luke 19:1–10

June 12

Deut. 31:30–32:14
2 Cor. 11:21b–33
Luke 19:11–27

June 13

Song of Sol. 1:1–3, 9–11,
15–16a; 2:1–3a
2 Cor. 12:1–10
Luke 19:28–40

June 14

Song of Sol. 2:8–13;
4:1–4a, 5–7, 9–11
2 Cor. 12:11–21
Luke 19:41–48

June 15

Song of Sol. 5:10–16;
7:1–2(3–5)6–7a(9); 8:6–7
2 Cor. 13:1–13
Luke 20:1–8

June 16

Deut. 6:1–9 (10–15)
Eph. 4:1–16
John 1:1–18

June 17

1 Sam. 1:1–20
Acts 1:1–14
Luke 20:9–19

June 18

1 Sam. 1:21–2:11
Acts 1:15–26
Luke 20:19–26

June 19

1 Sam. 2:12–26
Acts 2:1–21
Luke 20:27–40

June 20

1 Sam. 2:27–36
Acts 2:22–36
Luke 20:41–21:4

June 21

1 Sam. 3:1–21
Acts 2:37–47
Luke 21:5–19

June 22

1 Sam. 4:1b–11
Acts 4:32–5:11
Luke 21:20–28

June 23

1 Sam. 4:12–22
James 1:1–18
Matt. 19:23–30

June 24

1 Sam. 5:1–12
Acts 5:12–26
Luke 21:29–36

June 25

1 Sam. 6:1–16
Acts 5:27–42
Luke 21:37–22:13

June 26

1 Sam. 7:2–17
Acts 6:1–15
Luke 22:14–23

June 27

1 Sam. 8:1–22
Acts 6:15–7:16
Luke 22:24–30

June 28

1 Sam. 9:1–14
Acts 7:17–29
Luke 22:31–38

June 29

1 Sam. 9:15–10:1
Acts 7:30–43
Luke 22:39–51

June 30

1 Sam. 10:1–16
Rom. 4:13–25
Matt. 21:23–32



GIVE A HELPING HAND



Make this craft to show appreciation for your dad or another special man.

What you need:

- Acrylic paint
- Paintbrush
- Adult garden gloves
- Garden gloves that fit you
- Permanent marker

What you do:

1. Paint your right palm and press it on the back of the right adult glove. Lift to reveal your handprint. Repeat with your left hand and the left glove.
2. If you have younger siblings, layer their handprint(s) on top with a different color.
3. Write your name(s) and the date.
4. Repeat steps 1 through 3 on your gloves.
5. Present the gift. Offer to use your gloves to give a helping hand with chores!

June Birthdays

01 Amy Schafer

02 Amy Grammer

02 Joel Ritter

03 Ruth Cressman

05 Alyce Featherman

05 Roger Erney

05 Alison Stebbings

06 Miles Stebbings

06 Adele Gasda

08 Jean Cambiotti

08 Carol Eisenhart

09 Ellen Stetler

09 Sara Hovis

09 Morrison Hite

12 William Steele

12 Brooke Bittenbender

13 Nicole Schaffer

16 Gertrude Steinbach

17 LaVerna Diehl

17 Diane Haas

18 Diane Jenny

18 Brenda Snyder

19 Amanda Y

24 Karen Talboo

25 Shirley George

25 Jennifer Schaffer

26 Monica Campbell

27 Deb Orach

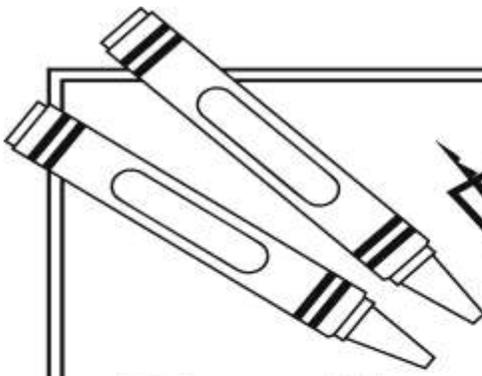
27 Adam Bouc

27 Andrew Weidner

28 Rodney Koch



Please call the church office with any omissions or corrections.

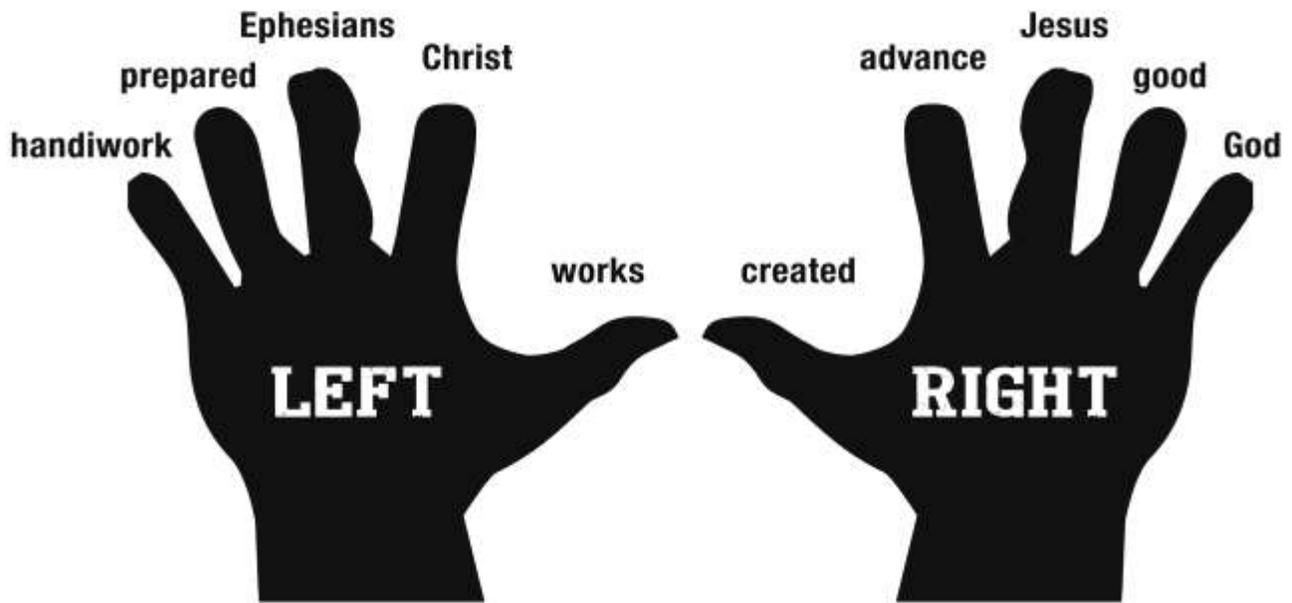


PUZZLE

Handiwork to do good works

God has a special plan and purpose for each of us.

Directions: Use the finger-position clues under the blanks below to complete Ephesians 2:10, NIV.



For we are God's _____, _____ in
L pinky R thumb

_____ to do _____,
L pointer R middle R ring L thumb

which _____ in _____
R pinky L ring R pointer

for us to do. _____ 2:10, NIV
L middle