

FOCUS



ON

FAITH

Volume 49, Number 4
2020



9:00 am —SUNDAY SCHOOL
10:15 am—WORSHIP

LEAD 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 -

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

OUR VISION STATEMENT

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

2020 Consistory

Officers:

President: Kevin Long

Vice President: Becky Hite

Secretary: Mary Ellen Long

Elders:

Kevin Long

Jane Van Horn

Mike Ford

Jerry Trexler

Deacons:

Mary Ellen Long

Tom Berghold

Justin Koser

Becky Hite

Tracy Adams

Kim Ritter

Ken Koehnlein

Brenda Hovis

Church Treasurer: Deb Herstine

Liaisons:

Christian Ed: Mike Ford

Fellowship/Outreach: Kevin Long

Enduring /Mem. Gifts: Mary Ellen Long

Property: Ken Koehnlein

Staff Relations: Jane Van Horn

Worship: Kim Ritter

Budget/Finance: Jerry Trexler

Mission: Tracy Adams

Youth Group: Becky Hite

Day Care: Pastor Bruce

Fundraising: Brenda Hovis

Choir: Tom Berghold



A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Friends,

It's a well-known fact that from time to time I "misplace" things. It seems that its always the same things: my wallet (which only includes debit/credit cards), a money clip (which includes cash, my driver's license, insurance cards, and business cards, my keys, cell phone, AND my glasses. Boy do I miss the days when I could leave the house without those! I am sure that if you asked my family, they would tell you that the list I just gave you is incomplete but let's leave them out of this.

Recently, I lost some things that I never thought I would lose. They were so important that I recorded them and placed them in a very safe place. It was every password to everything account you can imagine. Welcome to the age of computers and it was on a computer where I had them all stored and encrypted. Before you blame the computer it's my fault. I accidentally hit the button that erased them all. Sigh.

With the single stroke of just one key on the key board I lost:

My pin number and passwords to 4 bank accounts

Passwords for Credit cards

4 email accounts

My Amazon account

My Netflix account

My HBO NOW account

My Amazon account for streaming (I don't even watch that much TV!)

Insurance passwords (5 of those)

Medical records

This doesn't even mention the passwords that I have to the countless apps that I have on my phone and computer. What a mess this was!

Slowly I have been contacting the people that I need to restore all of this information. It wasn't the end of the world but it was terribly bothersome and I have no one to blame but myself.

However ... I tried terribly hard to find someone else to blame. It was the computer! It was the program that I was using! The cat must have sat on the computer key board (He's actually been known to do that!). But no matter how creative I tried to get with my excuses, I was the one to blame.

Things happen in life that just stink and we have no one to blame but ourselves. When we finally accept the fact that we are the one at fault we can be really hard on ourselves. It is moments such as these that we need to remember that we have to forgive ourselves as easily and thoroughly as God does.

Lent is a season in which we focus on the forgiveness that is available to us because of Jesus' sacrifice on the cross. It is a peculiar season in that as we focus on the darkness of Jesus' journey to Jerusalem where he will be confronted by His enemies, be betrayed by one of his closest friends and handed over to the Roman authorities, and then, executed on trumped up charges. we are actually experience more light and warmth in our world. In the midst of this darkness we are actually experiencing more light and warmth in our world, as Spring approaches.

Allow the darkness of the scriptures that are read each Sun-

day to remind you of the pain and price that Jesus paid for your forgiveness. Allow the increasing light and warmth of spring remind you of the salvation that Jesus brings.

I'm doing something a little odd on my Lenten journey. Each password that I restore will be a step closer to Easter and once I have recovered and recorded each and every one of them I will CELEBRATE just as we all will on Easter Sunday!

Peace,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Pastor Bruce". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Pastor Bruce

We've Lost A Friend

Evelyn K. Trumbauer, 83, passed away Monday, March 16, 2020 in Quakertown Center. Her husband Kenneth (Skip), 88, passed away on March 9th. Please keep the Trumbauer family in your thoughts and prayers.

Hello Friends,

Grace and peace to you in these unpredictable times. I just wanted to update you on things here at the church and church life over the next few weeks.

- Unfortunately our building will remain closed through Holy Week. However our Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, and Easter Sunday services will still be available on Facebook and our website (faithchurchucc.org).
- On Saturday, April 4th from 12:00 – 2:00 PM we will be doing “Drive-by Palms” for those who wish to have palms for Palm Sunday. Simply drive to the church and meet Pastor Bruce by the side doors of the sanctuary. **DO NOT GET OUT OF YOUR CAR!** Pastor Bruce will be masked and gloved and will bring your palms to you.
- We will continue remote worship until further notice.
- On Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday (4/6, 7, & 8) we will be offering “Drive-by Communion” from 12:00 – 2:00 PM for Maundy Thursday and Easter Sunday. Drive by the side of the church near the pastors office and honk your horn. Again, **DO NOT GET OUT OF YOUR CAR!** Pastor Bruce will be masked and gloved and will come out to give you a communion kit to be used as you watch the Maundy Thursday and Easter Sunday Services on Facebook or on our website. The kit you receive will be a prepackaged small cup of grape juice and a wafer covered in foil. Pastor Bruce will consecrate the elements that you receive.
- Remember these services are on Facebook and the webpage and can be watched at the time of the service and again afterwards for those who missed it. Don’t miss the special music we have lined up for you...

- o 4/5 Palm Sunday, a Walk Through Holy Week. Music by Kevin Long, trumpet, and Matt Wehr, organ
- o 4/9 Maundy Thursday
- o 4/12 Easter Sunday. Music by Kevin Long, trumpet, and Matt Wehr, Organ

Lastly, I know that this COVID-19 pandemic is impacting our lives in many ways, one of which is our finances. It's not just affecting our finances in HOW we spend our money but how we are RECEIVING our income as well. I want to be sensitive to every situation or circumstance. But during this time I would like to remind you that our financial obligations continue. I am still remaining in touch with members of the congregation, writing, designing worship, and preaching ... in front of a camera (who would have thought!). Sandy is working at home, responding to calls, sending out correspondence, handling finances, and updating our website (still a work in progress). And of course, the typical bills continue to come in.

During this time, you can continue to financially support the ministry of your church as you are able. You can simply mail your gift in or use one of two online giving programs: Tithe.ly which is on our website or your own bank's bill pay. Your church depends upon your generous and faithful stewardship to maintain this ministry in whatever form it takes!

Please be safe, stay inside as much as necessary, and remain healthy.

Pastor [Signature]

"Spring shows what God can do with a drab and dirty world." —Virgil A. Kraft



Like everything else this Easter we have to think “outside of the box” and the same is true of our Annual Easter Egg Hunt. So, what I would like each of you to do is to put a drawing of Jesus, a stuffed Bunny, or Chick in a window visible from the street. If you are willing to do this we will list the addresses where there will be an “Easter Sighting” and parents can load their kids into the car and go on a “Treasure Hunt!” If the kids see your “Easter Image” you can check it off their list. Remember parents, no getting out of cars! If you would like to take part please contact Becky Hite so she can put you on the list!

Becky’s Contact Info:

Email - rebeccanhite@gmail.com

Call or Text: 610-554-2224



Donna's Angel Mission Project



There is Still Time to
Order Easter Candy!!

As part of my mission
project I am selling home-
made peanut butter eggs
and coconut eggs to raise
money for the Allentown

Rescue Mission. The suggested donation is \$5/1/2 pound;
\$10/pound. Please contact me at **610-390-1574** and leave a
message including your name and phone number. We will
make arrangements for pickups and deliveries. Orders will
be taken through April 5th.

Thank you for your support.

~Donna Schoenberger



From a worship bulletin:

Ordering Hymns

"The Church of God Cannot Be Found"

The Creed

But it's *bound* to be recognized wherever people share Christ's love!

Mission Fundraiser- Spring Bingo Postponed



This is usually the time of year that Faith United Church of Christ holds its annual Mission Bingo event. However, as we are all well aware, the coronavirus is changing all of our lives. In the best interest of participants and volunteers, the decision has been made to indefinitely postpone our bingo fundraiser that was scheduled for April 26, 2020. It is our plan to monitor the situation and make a decision about rescheduling the event when the danger has passed. We appreciate your support of our fundraiser throughout the years. It is our hope that we will soon be able to reschedule this event and we will let you know when a decision has been made. Best wishes for good health to you and your family.

Karen and Chuck Talboo
Mission Team Leaders

Update on **Dennis Duda**:

Dennis remains at home recovering from his surgery. As you most likely know his surgery was a bit more complicated than had been anticipated and he will need further treatment to complete the process. Unfortunately, due to the COVID-19 pandemic he is not able to go to a hospital or treatment facility at this time so his recovery will take longer than he would like. Continue to keep him in your prayers.

2020 Annual Faith Church Talent Auction

Thank you to all who took part in our on-line auction by donating and/or bidding. Because of you we were able to add \$1,200 to our General Fund!



Mark your calendars for our **Yard Sale on September 12, 2020!** Details will follow for donated items to be dropped of but in the meantime, if you plan to donate items please make sure they are in good shape and sellable. We would like to concentrate our time on sorting and pricing, so if you think an item is worth something then donate it, but if it is bordering on trash, please save us the time of disposing it. Thank you ahead of time for your help with this part of the yard sale.

FROM THE TREASURER— FEBRUARY FINANCIALS

	FEBRUARY	YTD
Receipts	\$20,006.12	\$41,741.60
Disbursements	\$21,937.61	\$44,240.72
	(\$1,931.49)	(\$2,499.12)

	Attendance	Offering	over/under \$3500 goal
2/2	100	\$ 2,508	(\$992)
2/9	74	\$ 3,318	(\$182)
2/16	80	\$ 2,508	(\$922)
2/22	71	\$ 1,521	(\$1,979)
2/26	42	\$ 410	Ash wed
Tithe.ly		\$ 800	
Total	367	\$11,066	(\$4,145)



From the Secretary:

The **deadline** for **May Newsletter** articles and information is **April 10th**. Please email to faitchurchcv@gmail.com or place them in the Secretary's mailbox in the conference room or on her desk.

Interested in sponsoring 2020 ALTAR FLOWERS? The following dates are open: July 12, 19, 26, August 2 . Please call the church office to reserve your date. The cost is \$35.



Many thanks for your support of Betty Lou's Pantry! For the last two Sundays of February and the first two Sundays of March, our regular donations included 204 items and \$95. The monetary donation includes another donation from the congregation in memory of Chuck Talboo's brother Art and Karen Talboo's sister Judy.

THANK YOU for your help in collecting cans of hearty soups, chili, ravioli and stew for Betty Lou's Pantry! **A grand total of 203 cans** was collected.

MOST CURRENTLY NEEDED ITEMS:

MEAT HELPERS • CANNED RAVIOLI • BOXED POTATOES

Items stocked at the Pantry include:

- | | |
|-------------------|-------------------------|
| Pork & Beans | Chili |
| Canned Pasta | Peanut Butter |
| Canned Tomatoes | Canned Sauce |
| Kidney Beans | Chunky Soups |
| Canned fruit | Macaroni & Cheese |
| Canned Vegetables | Canned Chicken & Salmon |
| 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



APRIL BIBLE READINGS

Wednesday, April 1

Exod. 7:8–24
2 Cor. 2:14–3:6
Mark 10:1–16

Thursday, April 2

Exod. 7:25–8:19
2 Cor. 3:7–18
Mark 10:17–31

Friday, April 3

Exod. 9:13–35
2 Cor. 4:1–12
Mark 10:32–45

Saturday, April 4

Exod. 10:21–11:8
2 Cor. 4:13–18
Mark 10:46–52

Sunday, April 5

Palm/Passion Sunday
Zech. 9:9–12
1 Tim. 6:12–16 *or*
Zech.
12:9–11; 13:1, 7–9
Luke 19:41–48

Monday, April 6

Lam. 1:1–2, 6–12
2 Cor. 1:1–7
Mark 11:12–25

Tuesday, April 7

Lam. 1:17–22
2 Cor. 1:8–22
Mark 11:27–33

Wednesday, April 8

Lam. 2:1–9
2 Cor. 1:23–2:11
Mark 12:1–11

Thursday, April 9

Maundy Thursday
Lam. 2:10–18
1 Cor. 10:14–17; 11:27
–32
Mark 14:12–25

Friday, April 10

Good Friday
Lam. 3:1–9, 19–33
1 Peter 1:10–20
John 13:36–38 *or* John
19:38–42

Saturday, April 11

Lam. 3:37–58
Heb. 4:1–16
Rom. 8:1–11

Sunday, April 12

Easter
Exod. 12:1–14
John 1:1–18
or Isa. 51:9–11
Luke 24:13–35

Monday, April 13

Exod. 12:14–27
1 Cor. 15:1–11
Mark 16:1–8

Tuesday, April 14

Exod. 12:28–39
1 Cor. 15:12–28
Mark 16:9–20

Wednesday, April 15

Exod. 12:40–51
1 Cor. 15:(29) 30–41
Matt. 28:1–16

Thursday, April 16

Exod. 13:3–10
1 Cor. 15:41–50
Matt. 28:16–20

Friday, April 17

Exod. 13:1–2, 11–16
1 Cor. 15:51–58
Luke 24:1–12

Saturday, April 18

Exod. 13:17–14:4
2 Cor. 4:16–5:10
Mark 12:18–27

Sunday, April 19

Exod. 14:5–22
1 John 1:1–7
John 14:1–7

Monday, April 20
Exod. 14:21–31
1 Peter 1:1–12
John 14:(1–7) 8–17

Tuesday, April 21
Exod. 15:1–21
1 Peter 1:13–25
John 14:18–31

Wednesday, April 22
Exod. 15:22–16:10
1 Peter 2:1–10
John 15:1–11

Thursday, April 23
Exod. 16:10–22
1 Peter 2:11–3:12
John 15:12–27

Friday, April 24
Exod. 16:23–36
1 Peter 3:13–4:6
John 16:1–15

Saturday, April 25
Exod. 17:1–16
1 Peter 4:7–19
John 16:16–33

Sunday, April 26
Exod. 18:1–12
1 John 2:7–17
Mark 16:9–20

Monday, April 27
Exod. 18:13–27
1 Peter 5:1–14
Matt. (1:1–17) 3:1–6

Tuesday, April 28
Exod. 19:1–16
Col. 1:1–14
Matt. 3:7–12

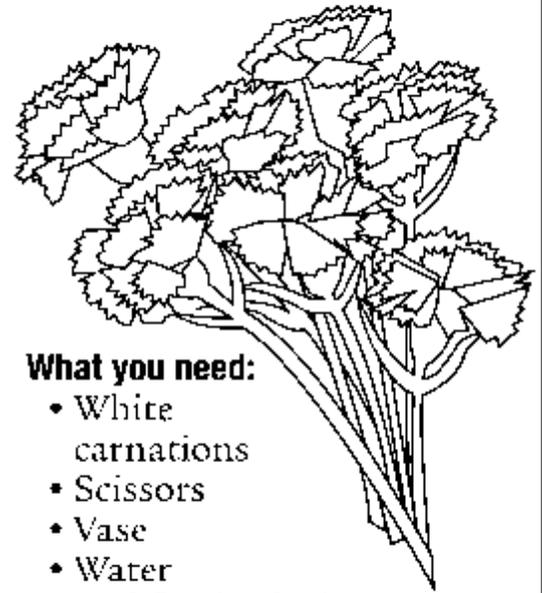
Wednesday, April 29
147:1–11
Exod. 19:16–25
Col. 1:15–23
Matt. 3:13–17

Thursday, April 30
Exod. 20:1–21
Col. 1:24–2:7
Matt. 4:1–11



Scripture AND NATURE

Conduct a simple experiment to illustrate Easter's meaning.



What you need:

- White carnations
- Scissors
- Vase
- Water
- Red food coloring
- Bible

What you do:

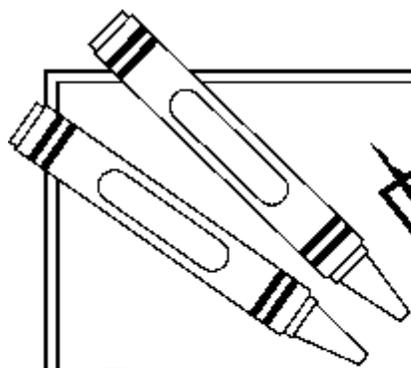
1. Cut the carnation stems (at an angle) to about 8 inches long.
2. Fill the vase halfway with water. Add 10 drops of food coloring. (More may be needed to darken the water.)
3. Add the cut flowers and observe what happens to the petals over time.
4. Discuss how this is like Jesus' work on the cross. Read 1 Peter 2:22-24 (NIV) and reflect on what his death means for us.
5. To learn more about this experiment, research capillary action.

April

2	Marge Kichline	25	Nancy Schantz
3	Sue Walter		Vaughn Stoffey
	Rylie Maginn	27.	Tyler Schaffer
5	Lisa Allison		Karli Hieter
6	Mary Ellen Long	28	Tom Hovis
	Bonnie Leight		Kevin Gollie
7	Jill Heineman	29	Adam Weidner
10	Kay Ruser	30	Tom Herstine
11	Adam Heineman	31	Patricia Babos
	Avery Koser		
12	James Snyder		
	Chris Miller		
13	Corinne Gunkle		
22	Jan Hughes		
	Sonya Dill		
23	Dee Hutchinson		



Please call the church office with any omissions or corrections.



PUZZLE

Picturing the *Lord's Supper*

Jesus ate the Passover meal with his disciples
as a symbol of the new covenant.



Directions: Use the picture clues to fill in key words from Luke 22:19-20, NIV.



And he took _____, gave _____ and _____ it, and gave

it to them, saying, "This is my _____ given for you; do this in



_____ of me." In the same way, after the supper he



took the cup, saying, "This _____ is the new _____ in my



blood, which is _____ out for you."

LUKE 22:19-20, NIV

Answer: bread, thanks, broke, body, remembrance, cup, covenant, poured