



FAITH

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.



10:15 a.m.—WORSHIP

Watch us on [YouTube](#)

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

Faith United Church of Christ

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Center Valley, PA 18034

610-282-3939

faithchurchcv@gmail.com

www.faithchurchucc.org

We are an Open & Affirming Congregation



No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey you are welcome here.

*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.*

2023 Consistory (through September)

Officers:

President: Tom Hovis
Vice President: Jerry Trexler
Secretary: Joan Hassler

Elders:

Mike Ford
Jerry Trexler
Tom Hovis

Deacons:

Ken Koehnlein	Kim Ritter
Cindy Talaber	Joan Hassler
Avery Koser	Donna Schudel-Barone
	Melissa Shafer

Church Treasurer: Deb Herstine

Liaisons:

Christian Ed: Kim Ritter
Fellowship/Outreach: Tom Hovis
Enduring /Mem. Gifts:
Property: Ken Koehnlein
Staff Relations: Joan Hassler

Mission: Cindy Talaber
Budget/Finance: Jerry Trexler
Day Care: Pastor Bruce
Fundraising: Tom Hovis
Worship: Joan Hassler



A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Friends,

In each group or institution there has to be a set of principles to govern the organization. Without such principles the organization will lose its purpose and eventually fail. This is true of all organizations: schools, businesses, governmental institutions, and yes, also churches.

Many consider the by-laws of a church to be the guiding principles but that is only partially true. Long before by-laws are written the purpose of the institution has to be considered. Where do we find that for a church?

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. All the believers were together and had everything in common. They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

Before any by-laws or creeds were needed to be written down to govern how the church would function, the church had to learn how to be a community. They had to learn what it meant to be a “we” rather than a “me.”

As a community, a “we,” they learned how to devote themselves to the teaching of the apostles, to live together in fellowship, to be attentive to the needs of others, to make self-sacrifices for the sake of the common good, and to live with an intense devotion to the mission of Christ. They could do all of this because they understood what it meant to be a community, a “we.” They lived in awe of all of this.

I'm not sure when or how it happened but eventually the "awe" was lost. The church forgot how to be a "we" and became a "me." Within the Church grew internal conflicts, persecutions, and inter-faith tensions. The Church went from being a strong community to a fledging community.

How did this happen?

As much as I believe in following the Apostle Paul's instructions to do "All things decently and in order," write Faith Statements, Purpose Statements, Mission Statements, and follow Robert's Rules of Orders I sometimes believe that all of the guiding tools can stand in the way of being a community, a "WE!"

Guiding documents and principles are essential to maintain order and accountability but so is freedom in order to maintain community. I think we need both.

Peace,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Pastor Bruce", followed by a long horizontal flourish.

SOME INTERESTING NEWS

About a month ago a small new church looking for a home reached out to Faith Church hoping to rent some space. Pastor Bruce, along with Tom Hovis, Consistory President, Bob Shelly, Budget and Finance, and Chris Youngs, met with some leaders of the church to discuss their needs. Basically, the church is looking to rent our Sanctuary two nights a week and on Sunday afternoon. At this point there is no plan for the church to use any of our AV, Streaming, or musical instruments. There are many more details to work out but it seemed wise to inform the congregation of these on going conversations.



Church Office Hours will change for the Summer beginning July 1st.

I will work **AWAY FROM THE OFFICE** on **MONDAYS** and **WEDNESDAYS** and will work **IN THE OFFICE** on **TUESDAYS** and **THURSDAYS** from 10 am to 3 pm.

I will be available by phone any of the time I'm not in the office (between 9 & 4). You can leave a message on the church phone (610-282-3939) as I'll be checking messages often throughout the day so I can return your call promptly. IF you are in immediate need of something you can reach me at 610-967-6232.

Wishing you all a fun and safe Summer! ~ *Sandy*

**The Church Office will be closed
Tuesday, July 4th
in observance of Independence Day!**

Pastor Bruce will be on vacation July 24th through August 13th. If you find yourself in need of pastoral care during this time please contact Pastor Teresa Martin at 717-654-4044.

Sandy will be on vacation the week of August 21st.

Puzzle Answer: As far as the east is from the west.

JULY VOLUNTEERS

Head Usher : Joan Hassler Fin Sec: Jerry Trexler

Date	Ushers	Lay Reader	Flowers	Lawn
7/2	Rose Mirth/tbd	Joan Hassler	Neidermeier	Dill/Maginn
7/9	Kim Ritter/tbd	Patience Stevenson	Friend	Talboo/Hughes
7/16	Jerry & Elaine Trexler	Cindy Talaber	Hanvile	Kevin Long
7/23	Ray & Mitzie Foulke	Rose Mirth	Mirth	Need Volunteers
7/30	Cindy Talaber/tbd	Cindy Talaber	Talboos	Dill/Maginn

AUGUST VOLUNTEERS

Head Usher: Jerry Trexler Fin Sec: Tony DiSanto

8/6	Kim Ritter/tbd	Rose Mirth	Keeler	Hovis/Rau
8/13	Jerry & Elaine Trexler		Mirth	Muth/Gunkle
8/20	Rose Mirth/tbd	Barb Maursky	Ritter	Herstine
8/27	Cindy Talaber/tbd	Cindy Talaber	Keeler	Tim Hovis

FAITH FINANCIALS



MAY	Month	YTD
Receipts	\$17,433.02	\$91,576.53
Disbursements	\$16,468.38	\$98,677.55
	\$964.64	(\$7,101.02)

SPECIAL OFFERINGS:

STC—\$210 Haiti—\$100 Joyful Noise—\$10

Many thanks for your continued generous support of Betty Lou's Pantry! Our donations for the last three Sundays of May and the first two Sundays of June included 341 items.



ITEMS CURRENTLY NEEDED:

CANNED RAVIOLI BEEF STEW
CANNED FRUIT (eg, PEACHES, PINEAPPLE, MANDARIN ORANGES; NO APPLESAUCE or MIXED FRUIT)

Items stocked at the Pantry include:

Pork & Beans	Chili
Spaghetti Sauce	Canned Pasta
Peanut Butter	Canned Tomatoes & Canned Sauce
Kidney Beans	Chunky Soups
Canned Fruit	Macaroni & Cheese
Beef Stew	Canned Chicken and Salmon
Dry Pasta & Spaghetti	Meat Helpers (Beef, Chicken, Tuna)
Pasta Side Dishes (Rice-A-Roni, Knorr's Rice)	

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](tel:610-282-2838) and leave a message, or email bettylouspantry18036@gmail.com —Mike Ford



Don't forget to take us along on vacation!!

Watch Faith's Sunday Services at anytime from anywhere!

<https://www.youtube.com/@faithchurchuccenter-valley2191>



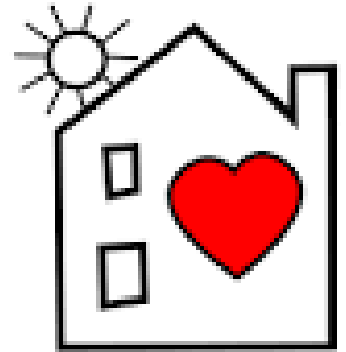
Betty Lou's Pantry

We need your help! August is Faith's month to assist the families at the Pantry. The dates are the second and fourth Saturday in August. **The dates will be August 12 and 26.** You would be needed from **8:15 am to 11:00 am.** We will need 8-10 volunteers. If you can help out either or both days please let Chuck or Karen know ASAP by calling at 610-282-1552 or emailing cktalboo@gmail.com.

During the month of August, Faith is also responsible for donating **100 bottles of laundry detergent.** You may begin bringing in your donations anytime.

The Caring Place

Once again this year we will be **gathering school supplies** for the The Caring Place in Allentown. As a reminder, TCP is a safe afternoon program for all school-age children until parents get home after work. While there, the children receive help with homework and school projects. School supplies of all kinds are needed like paper, pencils, markers, glue sticks, poster board, construction paper, notebooks, folders, etc. Before you know it, Back-To-School Specials will be everywhere. Pick up a few items and deliver them to Faith Church.



A bin will be placed in the Narthex clearly marked for school supplies beginning the first Sunday in August.

Beyond Borders Family Sponsorship

Faith's pledge to Beyond Borders to sponsor 3 families during the last cohort on Laganov Island, Haiti has been completed. This commitment amounted to a giving amount of \$5,400. Many generous Faith Church families pledged to make it possible for each Haitian family to receive \$1,800. Our commitment went from January 2022 through June 2023. All pledges have been met. When we receive information on the families' graduation from the program we will share that with you.

Providing support for these families has helped to improve their lives from living in ultra-poverty to a life with a very bright future.

TREX Bench Plastic Recycling



Here we go Again!

We are going for **BENCH #3!**

You may begin bringing your soft plastic for recycling beginning July 1st. Our goal is to reach 500 pounds in 6 months and TREX will send us another bench.

Please remember that this is not about just getting another bench. But this is Faith Church's commitment to help keep plastic out of our landfills and our beautiful oceans.

A few things to remember:

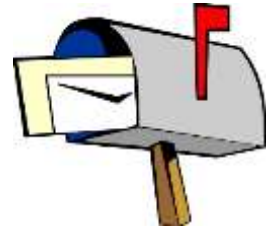
- ~Read the posters to see what is recyclable.
- ~Soft plastics only such as grocery bags and wraps will be accepted.

- ~If it crunches when squeezed throw it in the trash.
- ~All plastic must be clean and dry.
- ~Recycling boxes will be located in the Narthex and Office Lobby.

Thank you once again for helping Faith Church do its part to help keep our planet a beautiful place to live and play!

Dear Rev. Stevenson,

As we enjoy the sun and warmth of summer, I want to say THANK YOU.



THANK YOU for your generous gift of \$200 to the Allentown Rescue Mission. THANK You for choosing to support a ministry right here in our community that helps Rescue, Rehabilitate and Restore homeless men.

*On behalf of everyone at the Allentown Rescue Mission,
Lori Novak, Development Manager*

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*Dear Friends,*

*Thank you, on behalf of The Lehigh Conference of Churches, for your recent contribution of \$500 to support our neighbors in need. With your support we can carry out the work of God well beyond our collective walls, providing housing, hope, and healing to those who need it most. This generous gift allows us to continue our work with ore than 14,000 individuals and families in the Lehigh Valley living in poverty.*

*Faithfully,  
Pastor Genie Watson  
Ecumenical Associate*

*Dear Friends,*

*Thank you so much for your congregation's generous donation to Phoebe Ministries. We can't thank you enough for your support and commitment to those we serve.*

*With gratitude,  
Kristine Paupini  
Donor Relations Coordinator*

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Dear Friends at Faith Church,

Thank you for your generous gift in support of universal quality education for every girl and boy on rural Lagonav Island. Your generosity and solidarity is ensuring that more girls and boys on Lagonav Island are taught by educators committed to this nonviolent, native language, participatory approach to classroom management that teaches students about leadership and democracy. It's an approach that empowers students to practice democracy and become both good citizens and tomorrow's leaders—and it's made possible by your support.

Thank you again for your commitment that is making a lasting difference for every girl and boy in rural Haiti.

David Diggs, Co-Founder & Exec Director of Beyond Borders

Poor August, the only month without holidays! **Still, there's lots to celebrate these final weeks of summer.** Enjoy some summer flavors: August 1 is National Raspberry Cream Pie Day; August 2, National Ice Cream Sandwich Day; August 3, National Watermelon Day; **August 10, National S'mores Day (have a bonfire!);** and August 24 is National Peach Day.

If you share life with young kids, have a water balloon fight on — you guessed it — National Water Balloon Day, August 6! Head out for a final (National) Beach Day on August 30. Or head out for an intergenerational hike on National Trail Mix Day, August 31.

(Continued on pg 14)



JULY & AUGUST BIBLE READINGS

July 1

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

July 2

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

July 3

1 Sam. 10:17–27
Acts 7:44–8:1a
Luke 22:52–62

July 4

1 Sam. 11:1–15
Acts 8:1b–13
Luke 22:63–71

July 5

1 Sam. 12:1–6 (7–15)
16–25
Acts 8:14–25
Luke 23:1–12

July 6

1 Sam. 13:5–18
Acts 8:26–40
Luke 23:13–25

July 7

1 Sam. 13:19–14:15
Acts 9:1–9
Luke 23:26–31

July 8

1 Sam. 14:16–30
Acts 9:10–19a
Luke 23:32–43

July 9

1 Sam. 14:36–45
Rom. 5:1–11
Matt. 22:1–14

July 10

1 Sam. 15:1–3, 7–23
Acts 9:19b–31
Luke 23:44–56a

July 11

1 Sam. 15:24–35
Acts 9:32–43
Luke 23:56b–24:11 (12)

July 12

1 Sam. 16:1–13
Acts 10:1–16
Luke 24:13–35

July 13

1 Sam. 16:14–17:11
Acts 10:17–33
Luke 24:36–53

July 14

1 Sam. 17:17–30
Acts 10:34–48
Mark 1:1–13

July 15

1 Sam. 17:31–49
Acts 11:1–18
Mark 1:14–28

July 16

1 Sam. 17:50–18:4
Rom. 10:4–17
Matt. 23:29–39

July 17

1 Sam. 18:5–16 (17–27a)
27b–30
Acts 11:19–30
Mark 1:29–45

July 18

1 Sam. 19:1–18 (19–24)
Acts 12:1–17
Mark 2:1–12

July 19

1 Sam. 20:1–23
Acts 12:18–25
Mark 2:13–22

July 20

1 Sam. 20:24–42
Acts 13:1–12
Mark 2:23–3:6

July 21

1 Sam. 21:1–15
Acts 13:13–25
Mark 3:7–19a

July 22

1 Sam. 22:1–23
Acts 13:26–43
Mark 3:19b–35

July 23

1 Sam. 23:7–18
Rom. 11:33–12:2
Matt. 25:14–30

July 24

1 Sam. 24:1–22
Acts 13:44–52
Mark 4:1–20

July 25

1 Sam. 25:1–22

Acts 14:1–18

Mark 4:21–34

July 26

1 Sam. 25:23–44

Acts 14:19–28

Mark 4:35–41

July 27

1 Sam. 28:3–20

Acts 15:1–11

Mark 5:1–20

July 28

1 Sam. 31:1–13

Acts 15:12–21

Mark 5:21–43

July 29

2 Sam. 1:1–16

Acts 15:22–35

Mark 6:1–13

July 30

2 Sam. 1:17–27

Rom. 12:9–21

Matt. 25:31–46

July 31

2 Sam. 2:1–11

Acts 15:36–16:5

Mark 6:14–29

August 1

2 Sam. 3:6–21

Acts 16:6–15

Mark 6:30–46

August 2

2 Sam. 3:22–39

Acts 16:16–24

Mark 6:47–56

August 3

2 Sam. 4:1–12

Acts 16:25–40

Mark 7:1–23

August 4

2 Sam. 5:1–12

Acts 17:1–15

Mark 7:24–37

August 5

2 Sam. 5:22–6:11

Acts 17:16–34

Mark 8:1–10

August 6

2 Sam. 6:12–23

Rom. 14:7–12

John 1:43–51

August 7

2 Sam. 7:1–17

Acts 18:1–11

Mark 8:11–21

August 8

2 Sam. 7:18–29

Acts 18:12–28

Mark 8:22–33

August 9

2 Sam. 9:1–13

Acts 19:1–10

Mark 8:34–9:1

August 10

2 Sam. 11:1–27

Acts 19:11–20

Mark 9:2–13

August 11

2 Sam. 12:1–14

Acts 19:21–41

Mark 9:14–29

August 12

2 Sam. 12:15–31

Acts 20:1–16

Mark 9:30–41

August 13

2 Sam. 13:1–22

Rom. 15:1–13

John 3:22–36

August 14

2 Sam. 13:23–39

Acts 20:17–38

Mark 9:42–50

August 15

2 Sam. 14:1–20

Acts 21:1–14

Mark 10:1–16

August 16

2 Sam. 14:21–33

Acts 21:15–26

Mark 10:17–31

August 17

2 Sam. 15:1–18

Acts 21:27–36

Mark 10:32–45

August 18

2 Sam. 15:19–37

Acts 21:37–22:16

Mark 10:46–52

August 19

2 Sam. 16:1–23

Acts 22:17–29

Mark 11:1–11

August 20

2 Sam. 17:1–23

Gal. 3:6–14

John 5:30–47

August 21

2 Sam. 17:24–18:8

Acts 22:30–23:11

Mark 11:12–26

August 22

2 Sam. 18:9–18

Acts 23:12–24

Mark 11:27–12:12

August 23

2 Sam. 18:19–33

Acts 23:23–35

Mark 12:13–27

August 24

2 Sam. 19:1–23

Acts 24:1–23

Mark 12:28–34

August 25

2 Sam. 19:24–43

Acts 24:24–25:12

Mark 12:35–44

August 26

2 Sam. 23:1–17

Acts 25:13–27

Mark 13:1–13

August 27

2 Sam. 24:1–25

Gal. 3:23–4:7

John 8:12–20

August 28

1 Kings 1:1–31

Acts 26:1–23

Mark 13:14–27

August 29

1 Kings 1:32–2:4
(5–46a) 46b

Acts 26:24–27:8

Mark 13:28–37

August 30

1 Kings 3:1–15

Acts 27:9–26

Mark 14:1–11

August 31

1 Kings 3:16–28

Acts 27:27–44

Mark 14:12–26

(Continued from pg 11)

And don't forget to celebrate God's precious gifts

of friends — National Friendship Day is the first Sunday in August; creation — Global Sleep Under the Stars Night is August 8 (prime time for meteor showers!); laughter — National Tell a Joke Day is August 16; and the opportunity to put God's love into action by serving others — on August 22, National Be an Angel Day, or August 28, National Thoughtful Day, and, for that matter, every day of the year — holiday or not.



Use simple ingredients and your imagination to bake these fluffy, cloud-like treats.

What you need:

- 3 egg whites
- ½ tsp. vanilla extract
- Mixer
- 1 Tbsp. cornstarch
- Parchment paper

What you do:

1. Preheat oven to 300°. In a mixing bowl, combine egg whites and vanilla. Mix at medium speed until frothy.
2. While whisking, gradually add sugar and cornstarch. Keep whisking at high speed until stiff peaks form.
3. Spoon mixture onto a baking sheet lined with parchment paper. Create fun shapes.
4. Bake 20 minutes. Cool and enjoy!

July and August Birthdays

JULY

01 Qiyi Zhu-Stoffey
Kenneth Adams
07 Bebe Moyer
09 LaMar Beck
10 Giovanni Farino
11 Jillian Grammer
12 Amy Bittenbender
13 Donna Schoenberger
14 Amanda Heineman
15 Jennifer Ferrara
16 Cheryl Bold
Gracie Lender
17 Delores Castetter
Tina Eaves
19 Nancy Marple
Gwendolyn Zehnder
20 Bruce Torrence
Matthew Long
Anja Heineman
21 George Rau
Charles Talboo
27 Kimberly Kernick
Lily Adams
30 Raymond Horwath
31 Colleen Kandt



AUGUST

01 Kara Kernick
02 Thomas Bley
Robert Shelly
Victoria Steele
Sarah Berghold
Bryce Bittenbender
03 Mark Keeler
04 Diane Neidermeier
05 Mitzie Foulke
07 Rachel Zehnder
Tori Schoenberger
09 Bradley Shafer
10 Donna Gunther
11 Traci Wasylkowski
12 Mikayla Farino
McKayla Hughes
13 Noah Kandt
16 Lee Kandt
17 Pastor Bruce
Lily Maginn
19 Terry Muth
Cade Steele
21 Justin Zsido
Trent Eaves
Kylie Recke
22 Matthew Gumhold
27 Aaron Herndon
29 Lisa Schafer
30 Jane Van Horn
Doug Hutchinson



SEPARATION FROM SIN

David praises God for his love and compassion.
What does God do for people who fear him?

Directions: Using each grid pattern marked below, find the word that appears in all three of those squares. Write the words in the spaces below to complete Psalm 103:12, NIV.

FROM as is can	<i>NORTH</i> from far	at the EAST FROM
is South AS	as do far EAST	the THIS up as
WEST THAT is East	far down WEST	THE be AS West



... so far has he removed our transgressions from us.

PSALM 103:12, NIV