



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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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—2024 Consistory

President—Tom Hovis, Vice President—Bruce Torrence
Secretary- Joan Hassler

Elders

Kim Ritter	Melissa Shafer	Tom Hovis
Joan Hassler	Donna Schudel-Barone	Bruce Torrence

Church Treasurer: Deb Herstine

Liaisons:

Worship & Music—Joan Hassler
Christian Ed—Donna Schudel Barone
Fundraising—Tom Hovis
Budget & Finance—Bruce Torrence
Memorial & Enduring Gifts—Bruce Torrence
Property—Tom Hovis
Mission—Kim Ritter
Justice—Melissa Shafer



A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Friends,

I am pretty sure that many of you already know that I cook one night a week. Some time ago my wife claimed that when we got married, I promised to cook one night a week. I don't remember that being a part of the vow that I took or a promise that I made but regardless it was a fair request to make and I like to cook and I'm a very competent chef! As a matter of fact, when it comes to the big holiday meals, I am usually the one in the kitchen feeding everyone. However now Ethan has found a fondness of cooking and has become an accomplished baker and so he always contributes to holiday meals.

Patience has asked that I cook on Saturday evenings as Saturday is a pretty full work day for her. I must admit that sometimes I'm just not in the mood to cook or I'm not feeling very imaginative, or my mind is too focused on Sunday and the demands of Sunday morning. On nights like that I cheat a bit and I get take out. We both like Chinese food so if I'm not cooking often times that's what's on the menu for the night; Chicken and Broccoli for Patience and Catherine (if she's not working) and General Tsao's or Kung Poa Chicken for me (I like the hot stuff!)

Of course, the meal always ends with a fortune cookie and I never get a fortune that I would consider a "fortune." To me a fortune is a prediction of some sort. I usually just get something that has some sort of a "statement" stuffed inside. A "statement," no matter how wise, insightful, or clever is *not* a fortune!

Recently I went online to find some decent fortune cookie fortunes and I found this:

"I cannot help you, for I am only a cookie 😊"



Yup. It's really silly to expect so much of a cookie!

Sometimes we expect too much of the people in our lives, our parents, our spouses, our children, our bosses, our neighbors ... the list could go on.

How about God? Is it possible to expect too much of God? After all, God expects a great deal from us. Who among us hasn't had questions that we longed to have answered by God.

I've come to the conclusion that as much as we want answers from God at times the answers just don't come until we are receptive enough to receive them. We are deaf to the voice of God until we are ready to listen to answers that may not suit us. We must put aside our eagerness, our hurt, our pain, our desires for a "quick fix" answer and hear the truth. Actually a "quick fix" answer may be found in a fortune but the truth will always come from God.

And so, when you are looking for an answer from God, when you are receptive to that voice, then prepare your heart and mind and when you do you will hear it.

In the meantime, enjoy some fortune cookies! ☺

Peace,

The Church Office will be closed on
Monday, October 9 in observance of
Indigenous Peoples' Day

Mission News for October

TREX Bench- Plastic Recycling

As of mid-September, the members of Faith have collected **256 pounds** of plastic. We are **just over half-way** to our goal of 500 pounds! We have 3 months to bring in the remaining 244 pounds. That's an average of 80+ pounds a month. Keep up the good work and keep that plastic coming in. Ask friends, family and neighbors if they would be willing to donate their plastic to our mission.

Please remember it must be soft plastic that **you can push your thumb through**. If it's labeled with 2 or 4 it is acceptable. It also must be clean and dry. Cereal box bags are acceptable as long as the **crumbs are dumped out**.



We're on our way to earning **Bench #3!**

The picture on this page shows 6 very large bags of plastic. **That amount weighs only 68 pounds**. We need to fill 7-8 of those bags every month for the next 3 months.

Thank you for helping with the success of this mission.

The new daycare is up and running! **Future Child Stars** will be holding classes Monday through Friday from 6 am—6 pm. During this time the daycare will keep the Sunday School Wing locked for the safety of the children.

BEYOND BORDERS FAMILY SPONSORSHIP

We recently learned that all 3 of our sponsored families have graduated from the program and are well on their way to becoming successful business women. All of their children are attending school and are receiving at least 1 nourishing meal at home each day. Soon we will be receiving more information on the families and will be sharing that with you.

Many thanks to all of the Faith family sponsors. You have truly made a huge difference in the lives of these families. They no longer suffer from ultra-poverty.

There are some major changes that will be made for the next cohort. The cohort will last 24 months instead of just 18. The cost will also be increasing from \$1,800 to \$2,400. Just like everywhere else inflation is affecting their expenses.

The Mission Team has made the decision to sponsor another family. We are hoping that with your help we can sponsor many more families once again. Information on how you can help sponsor will be forthcoming. In the past, several families and individuals have joined together to sponsor 1 family.

NEIGHBORS IN NEED

During the months of September and October Faith Church will be collecting the annual **Neighbors in Need Offering**. This offering is one of the special UCC missions collected throughout the year. This mission supports **ministries of justice** and compassion the US.

In 2023, the Neighbors in Need **“BEHOLD!”** theme continues. This

year's focus is on **environmental justice**. Plastics, electronics, and other non-compostable wastes are being shipped across, and even tossed into, our waterways, launched into space, as well as buried in landfills. As people of faith, we believe these egregious acts are sinful and unholy. We must be better stewards of our planet!

Please prayerfully consider making a generous donation to this special mission of the United Church of Christ.



THE CARING PLACE

Five boxes of school supplies, a box of copy paper and enough paper clips to last a couple years were delivered to TCP, along with a check to help cover other supplies that might be needed.

When we delivered the school supplies we realized that TCP is

not just an after-school program. Many families were waiting patiently outside while looking through racks of clothing and waiting their turn to receive food. We discovered that The Caring Place certainly does CARE for our neighbors in need. We were greeted and assisted by several kind staff members. The Caring Place is very special in assisting those in need in the heart of Allentown.



BETTY LOU'S PANTRY

Once again we wish to thank the volunteers that helped serve the families in September for food distribution at BLP. We served 44 families each time. Thank you for giving of your time and kindness in helping our neighbors in need.

Most needed items at this time include:

Hamburger Helper or Manwich

Tuna Fish

Hearty Soups

Chicken Noodle Soup

CHURCH WORLD SERVICES HYGIENE KITS **HELPING THE VICTIMS OF NATURAL DISASTERS**

Mark Your Calendars for Sunday, October 22 for a Mission Lunch after Worship.

After eating lunch we will be assembling hygiene kits.

As we are all well aware there have been numerous natural disasters occurring across our planet, including the US. There is a tremendous need for basic hygiene supplies to get into the hands of the victims of these events. Church World Services will deliver Hygiene Kits to those areas who are in need of help. **We will be assembling these kits after a Mission Lunch on Sunday, October 22.** If you wish to donate any of the items listed below, there will be a collection box in the Narthex.

OR If you wish to make a kit or 2 these are the items that should be included.

One hand towel measuring approximately 15" x 28" to 16" x 32" (no fingertip, bath, dish towel or micro-fiber)

One washcloth

One wide-tooth comb removed from the package

Must be sturdy with at least 6 inches of teeth

No pocket combs or picks

Rattail and combs without handles are acceptable

One fingernail or toenail clipper removed from the package (either one is acceptable)

One bath-size bar of soap in the original package

One toothbrush in the original package

Ten standard size Band-Aids

All items need to fit inside a one-gallon Ziploc type bag. Remove the excess air from the bag and seal before boxing.

Do NOT add any extra items or toothpaste. A tube of extended ex-

MARK YOUR CALENDARS...

Faith's Penny Party
November 5, 2023

Bring your change!

There will be FUN and PRIZES for the whole family!

Doors open at 12 noon—Games begin at 1:00!

Penny Party Donations

We need your help to make this fundraiser a huge success.



The Fundraising Committee is looking for donations for the Penny Party. Items could include, but are not limited to, canned items (current sell by dates only please—we will not use any expired canned items), paper products, cleaning items, childrens items (crayons, coloring books, toys, etc.), or any items that you think people might want to take a chance on.

There will be totes in the narthex to place your donated items into. The totes will be marked Penny Party, and will be to the left of the front doors.

The Fundraising Committee will also be accepting baskets for the Basket Raffle, or items to add to a basket for the raffle. All donations are greatly appreciated.

Donations can be given to Brenda Hovis, or left in the church office marked Penny Party.

Thank you. Your support means so much to us.

The Fundraising Committee



OCTOBER VOLUNTEERS

Fin Sec: Bob Shelly

Date	Ushers	Lay Reader	Flowers	Head Usher
10/1	Donna Schoenberger Tom Hovis Mike Ford Bruce Torrence	Donna Schoenberger	Barbara Maursky	Kim Ritter
10/8	Diane Neidermeier Cindy Talaber	Cindy Talaber	Rose Mirth	Bruce Torrence
10/15	Chuck & Karen Talboo	Karen Talboo	Roger & Linda Emey	Kim Ritter
10/22	George Rau Faye Tirpak	Patience Stevenson	Brenda Hovis	Cindy Talaber
10/29	Tom & Brenda Hovis	Brenda Hovis	Rose Mirth	Tom Hovis



FAITH FINANCIALS

August	Month	YTD
Receipts	\$15,893.90	\$149,372.99
Disbursements	\$17,848.66	\$164,418.48
	(\$1,954.76)	(\$15,045.49)



Many **thanks for your continued generous support of Betty Lou's Pantry!** Our donations for the last three Sundays of August and the first two Sundays of September included 423 items.

ITEMS CURRENTLY NEEDED:

**HAMBURGER, CHICKEN OR TUNA HELPERS
CANNED TUNA
HEARTY SOUPS**

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

Answers to Puzzle:
Salamis, Paphos, Perga, Antioch, Iconium, Lystra, Derba



OCTOBER BIBLE READINGS

October 1

2 Kings 17:1–18
Acts 9:36–43
Luke 5:1–11

October 2

2 Kings 17:24–41
1 Cor. 7:25–31
Matt. 6:25–34

October 3

2 Chron. 29:1–3; 30:1
(2–9) 10–27
1 Cor. 7:32–40
Matt. 7:1–12

October 4

2 Kings 18:9–25
1 Cor. 8:1–13
Matt. 7:13–21

October 5

2 Kings 18:28–37
1 Cor. 9:1–15
Matt. 7:22–29

October 6

2 Kings 19:1–20
1 Cor. 9:16–27
Matt. 8:1–17

October 7

2 Kings 19:21–36
1 Cor. 10:1–13
Matt. 8:18–27

October 8

2 Kings 20:1–21
Acts 12:1–17
Luke 7:11–17

October 9

2 Kings 21:1–18
1 Cor. 10:14–11:1
Matt. 8:28–34

October 10

2 Kings 22:1–13
1 Cor. 11:2 (3–16) 17–
22
Matt. 9:1–8

October 11

2 Kings 22:14–23:3
1 Cor. 11:23–34
Matt. 9:9–17

October 12

2 Kings 23:4–25
1 Cor. 12:1–11
Matt. 9:18–26

October 13

2 Kings 23:36–24:17
1 Cor. 12:12–26
Matt. 9:27–34

October 14

Jer. 35:1–19
1 Cor. 12:27–13:3
Matt. 9:35–10:4

October 15

Jer. 36:1–10
Acts 14:8–18
Luke 7:36–50

October 16

Jer. 36:11–26
1 Cor. 13:(1–3) 4–13
Matt. 10:5–15

October 17

Jer. 36:27–37:2
1 Cor. 14:1–12
Matt. 10:16–23

October 18

Jer. 37:3–21
1 Cor. 14:13–25
Matt. 10:24–33

October 19

Jer. 38:1–13
1 Cor. 14:26–33a
(33b–36) 37–40
Matt. 10:34–42

October 20

Jer. 38:14–28
1 Cor. 15:1–11
Matt. 11:1–6

October 21

Jer. 52:1–34
1 Cor. 15:12–29
Matt. 11:7–15

October 22

Jer. 29:1, 4–14

or Jer. 39:11–40:6

Acts 16:6–15

Luke 10:1–12, 17–20

October 23

Jer. 44:1–14

or Jer. 29:1, 4–14

1 Cor. 15:30–41

Matt. 11:16–24

October 24

Lam. 1:1–5 (6–9) 10–12 or Jer. 40:7–41:3

1 Cor. 15:41–50

Matt. 11:25–30

October 25

Lam. 2:8–15 or Jer. 41:4–18

1 Cor. 15:51–58

Matt. 12:1–14

October 26

Ezra 1:1–11

or Jer. 42:1–22

1 Cor. 16:1–9

Matt. 12:15–21

October 27

Ezra 3:1–13

or Jer. 43:1–13

1 Cor. 16:10–24

Matt. 12:22–32

October 28

Ezra 4:7, 11–24

or Jer. 44:1–14

Philem. 1–25

Matt. 12:33–42

October 29

Hag. 1:1–2:9

or Jer. 44:15–30

Acts 18:24–19:7

Luke 10:25–37

October 30

Zech. 1:7–17

or Jer. 45:1–5

Rev. 1:4–20

Matt. 12:43–50

October 31

Ezra 5:1–17

or Lam. 1:1–12

Rev. 4:1–11

Matt. 13:1–9



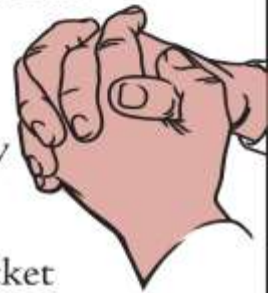
MISSIONARY- MINDED PRAYER

An important part of missions is prayerfully supporting the church. Use this activity to guide your family's prayer time.



What you need:

- Plastic bag (large zippered)
- Permanent marker
- Bandage
- Toy plane
- Heart-shaped drawing or toy
- Spoon
- Coin
- Hot-sauce packet



What you do:

1. Label the bag with details about the missionaries you'll be praying for (names, location, specific needs).
2. Add small prayer-prompt objects to guide your prayer time (bandage = health, plane = travel, heart = relationships, spoon = cultural connection, coin = finances, hot sauce = boldness).
3. Include other objects that will prompt prayer for missionaries' specific needs.
4. Place the bag where it will remind your family to pray regularly.

October Birthdays

04 Brittney Campbell

06 Bob Grammer

07 Amanda Gunkle

08 Karen Long

08 Ashley Arnold

12 Doris Horwath

12 Brylie Kepner

16 Kellan Maginn

16 Patience Stevenson

16 Duane Jones

16 Grace Uninsky

17 Kraig Koehnlein

18 Larry Weidner

19 Ben Muth

20 Joyce Butz

21 Logan Koch

22 Debby Herstine

22 Susan Angstadt-Sullivan

23 Jean Rau

24 Wayne Biery

24 Addison Dill

25 Jane Lenner

25 Deb Biery

26 Hunter Steele

27 Ron Demkee

27 Charles Castetter

27 Anthony DiSanto Jr

28 Susanna Berghold

28 Tyshonn Barone

28 Trevor Campbell

29 Zina Sosnowsky

30 Debra Miller

31 Mim Allison



Please contact us about corrections or omissions to the list.



CITY SEARCH

God used Paul to spread the Gospel to many cities during his first missionary journey. Can you find them all?

Directions: From the fragments, guess each city and locate it on the map. Use the Bible references to help.



- | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| A. SALAMIS (ACTS 13:5) | E. ICONIUM (ACTS 13:51) |
| B. PAPHOS (ACTS 13:6) | F. LISTRA (ACTS 14:6) |
| C. PERGA (ACTS 13:13) | G. DEBE (ACTS 14:6) |
| D. ANTIOCH (ACTS 13:14) | |

