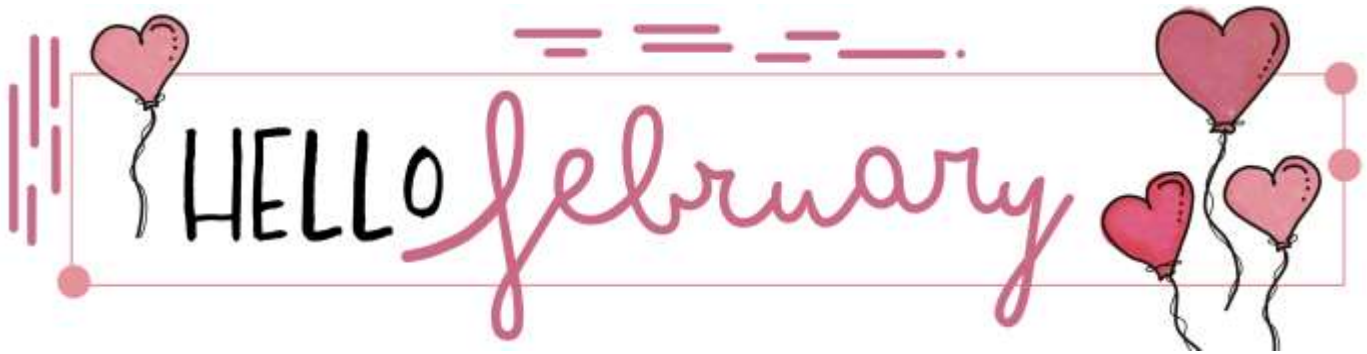




FAITH

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

Sunday School is held during a portion of church.

Watch us on [YouTube](#)

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

Faith United Church of Christ

5992 Route 378
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.*

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,

We are coming out a “loud season,” Advent. And loud it should be! After all Advent, while a season of preparation, is a celebration of the greatest event of all! The arrival of Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love into a dark and agonizing world.

Now we enter Lent (slightly earlier this year than usual) which is more of a quiet, if not silent, season of the church year. I found a statement of faith about lent not that long ago entitled *Silence* by Liz Frenz that I would like to share with you.

*Into the silence of the void the Creator spoke,
and the world came into being.
The Word of God in the vastness brought light from darkness,
matter from nothing,
flesh from dust,
life from lifelessness.*

*In the quiet of a small town in Palestine
the Word of God came to us.
Even though of one being with the Creator,
Jesus our Christ, taking on human form, was born,
lived and walked among us,
speaking the words of life.
He was crucified, died, and was buried.
He rose from the dead and speaks to us today.
He is the one who saves us from ourselves.*

*In the stillness of our souls the Spirit of God,
who is one with the Creator and the Christ,*

*whispers the Word,
and calls us back to the Creator,
back to the Christ,
back to the wholeness of everlasting life
in the unity of the Creator, Christ and Spirit.*

Silence, darkness, dust, lifelessness, quiet, whispers ... all of these, and other words in this creed, reflect the purpose of this season which is to reflect upon the presence of Christ in our lives.

There are many Lenten Disciplines that we practice— fasting, prayer, study, etc. Perhaps this year we can try practicing some silence. I will be the first one to say that I have a hard time practicing silence. I am not always comfortable in a quiet room so I will make noise myself which is not always helpful! But when I can be silent, I hear new voices and new words and a new message from God.

This Lent practice some silence and listen the voices speaking to you.

Peace,



**The Church Office
will be closed February 19th
in observance of Presidents' Day.**

Puzzle Answers:
a 6; b 4; c 1; d 7; e 2; f 5; g 3



The program format is similar to last year's—there will be no weeknight gatherings and each individual completes the weekly lessons at their own pace.

Wandering Heart Figuring out faith with Peter

The journey of faith for Peter—and for us—is not necessarily linear. Instead, our journeys often feel like wandering. Even though the journey is not predictable, we are always tethered to the heart of God—no matter how far we wander.

Please join us this Lenten Season!

(Printed Materials to take part in the program are available in the Narthex. Digital Materials are available in the weekly email.)

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE

February 14, 2024

7:30 pm



FEBRUARY IS BLANKET MONTH

Please prayerfully
consider how you
can help!

Generosity is a way of life for Rev. Joanna Samuelson and she's planting the seeds of generosity, justice and compassion early in her twin sons Henry and Malcom.

“It is one thing to talk about caring for others, or to teach or preach about it, but it's quite another thing to participate.” she said.

Through their local church, Joanna, Henry and Malcolm are putting their faith into action, serving their community and sharing hope and compassion with neighbors in need through their CWS blankets ministry.

“We have plenty of blankets that we can use for comfort and for warmth,” said Joanna. “But to know that through our commitment to this ministry that these blankets are going to be a place to offer comfort and security to those who may not have a safe place to live or to sleep, is truly a privilege.”

Joanna is leaving a legacy of compassion and generosity that her sons will follow.

“As people of faith, we need to look out for others when we see people in need.” Malcolm said. “[It] can go a long way in helping



JOANNA AND HER SONS, HENRY AND MALCOLM (RESPECTIVELY)

someone else's life.”

Malcolm and Henry were two of 14 youth serving their community during their church's youth mission week. They shared 230 kits and blankets with individuals and families in need.

“Getting involved is super important.” shared Henry. “That's what God tells us to do, and that's what we should do as Christians.”.

To read more about Blanket Month go to <https://cwsblankets.org/>



The CEREAL Bowl of Caring

Our current mission is a **Cereal Drive** for Betty Lou's Pantry. The Pantry is in serious need of **CEREALS** of all types:

sweetened, unsweetened, and oatmeal. Our challenge was to see a collection of 150 or

more boxes of cereal. That would be enough for 1 distribution. After the second Sunday of receiving donations, there are over **140 boxes already!** **Maybe we can donate enough cereal to cover an entire month of distributions.**

Thank you for your extreme generosity.

The collection will continue through **February 18.**

SOUP & CHILI COOK-OFF

Sunday, February 18

We will once again be holding a **Soup & Chili Cook-off Lunch** after Worship on **Sunday, February 18.** Maybe **YOU** will make the best soup or chili this year. You may be the one to take home the golden ladle!

Everyone will be able to vote.

If you can't make soup for any reason, please join us to enjoy some social time with friends and family. **There is always plenty of food.**

OR if you really want to bring something, then bring some crackers or cookies or other dessert to share with all.

Mark Your Calendars for these Upcoming Mission Events:

Jan 14- Feb 28: Cereal Bowl of Caring Collection
(Benefits Betty Lou's Pantry)

February 4-25: Church World Services Blanket Month

February 18: Soup & Chili Cook-off Lunch
(Benefits Cereal Collection)

Members & Friends of Faith,

A big thanks to all for helping to fill my Christmas stocking again this year. I look forward to this each year.

May you have a happy and healthy New Year.

*Your Sexton,
Dorothy*



Dear Friends,

Thank for the generous gifts that I found in my "Christmas Stocking." I think you're getting to know me very well! While many of you put gift cards in my stocking all of them were to my favorite places! And so thank you for your generosity.

My hope and prayer for our church family is that we will enjoy this new year and continue to enjoy doing ministry and mission together.

*God Bless Always,
Pastor Bruce*

Dear Friends,

Thank you for the cards and gifts you put in my Christmas Stocking this year. Your generosity is greatly appreciated!

*Happy New Year!
Sandy*

Dear friends of Faith Church,

Santa's mega-stockings this year was filled with a huge array of cards, personal notes and so many gifts. Thank you so much for your generosity and thoughtfulness. Hoping you and your families enjoyed a blessed holiday season. Wishing all of you a healthy and happy New Year!

*Sincerely,
Dennis*



CROSS OF ASHES — On Ash Wednesday, as Lent begins, worshipers' foreheads are often marked with ashes in the sign of the cross. The ashes traditionally come from burning palm branches from the previous Palm Sunday. In the Old Testament, ashes were a sign of mourning and repentance. Today, some worshipers wipe off the ashes before leaving church, to symbolize being cleansed from sin by Jesus' death; others wear the ashes the rest of the day, carrying the cross of Christ into the world. Reciting Genesis 3:19 often accompanies the placement of ashes: "You are dust, and to dust you shall return."

FEBRUARY VOLUNTEERS
Head Usher : Donna Schudel-Barone
Financial Secretary: Bob Shelly

Date	Ushers	Lay Reader	Flowers
2/04	Faye Tirpak Doris Horwath	Barbara Maursky	A Friend
2/11	Bob & Patti Shelly	Brenda Hovis	Shelly
2/14	Brenda & Tom Hovis	Pastor Bruce	n/a
2/18	Donna Schoenberger Deb Herstine Rose Mirth Cindy Talaber	Donna Schoenberger	Talboo
2/25	Karen & Chuck Talboo	Karen Talboo	A Friend

FAITH FINANCIALS



December	Month	YTD
Receipts	\$35,157.55	\$246,372.40
Disbursements	\$24,046.28	\$249,373.58
	\$11,111.27	(\$3,001.18)

Cash Balances: QNB Checking \$11,712
 QNB Savings \$ 9,365
 \$21,007



Many **thanks for your continued generous support of Betty Lou's Pantry!** Our donations for the last three Sundays of December and the first Sunday of January included **183 items.**

**ITEMS DESPERATELY NEEDED:
(WE'RE ALMOST OUT OF THEM!!)**

**CEREAL
SPAGHETTI SAUCE**

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*



FEBRUARY BIBLE READINGS

February 1

Gen. 23:1–20
Heb. 11:32–12:2
John 6:60–71

February 2

Gen. 24:1–27
Heb. 12:3–11
John 7:1–13

February 3

Gen. 24:28–38, 49–51
Heb. 12:12–29
John 7:14–36

February 4

Gen. 24:50–67
2 Tim. 2:14–21
Mark 10:13–22

February 5

Gen. 25:19–34
Heb. 13:1–16
John 7:37–52

February 6

Gen. 26:1–6, 12–33
Heb. 13:17–25
John 7:53–8:11

February 7

Gen. 27:1–29
Rom. 12:1–8
John 8:12–20

February 8

Gen. 27:30–45
Rom. 12:9–21
John 8:21–32

February 9

Gen. 27:46–28:4, 10–22
Rom. 13:1–14
John 8:33–47

February 10

Gen. 29:1–20
Rom. 14:1–23
John 8:47–59

February 11

Mal. 4:1–6
2 Cor. 3:7–18
Luke 9:18–27

February 12

Prov. 27:1–6, 10–12
Phil. 2:1–13
John 18:15–18, 25–27

February 13

Prov. 30:1–4, 24–33
Phil. 3:1–11
John 18:28–38

February 14

Amos 5:6–15
Heb. 12:1–14
Luke 18:9–14

February 15

Hab. 3:1–10 (11–15)
16–18
Phil. 3:12–21
John 17:1–8

February 16

Ezek. 18:1–4, 25–32
Phil. 4:1–9
John 17:9–19

February 17

Ezek. 39:21–29
Phil. 4:10–20
John 17:20–26

February 18

Dan. 9:3–10
Heb. 2:10–18
John 12:44–50

February 19

Gen. 37:1–11
1 Cor. 1:1–19
Mark 1:1–13

February 20

Gen. 37:12–24
1 Cor. 1:20–31
Mark 1:14–28

February 21

Gen. 37:25–36
1 Cor. 2:1–13
Mark 1:29–45

February 22
Gen. 39:1–23
1 Cor. 2:14—
3:15
Mark 2:1–12

February 23
Gen. 40:1–23
1 Cor. 3:16–23
Mark 2:13–22

February 24
Gen. 41:1–13
1 Cor. 4:1–7
Mark 2:23—3:6

February 25
Gen. 41:14–45
Rom. 6:3–14
John 5:19–24

February 26
Gen. 41:46–57
1 Cor. 4:8–21
Mark 3:7–19a

February 27
Gen. 42:1–17
1 Cor. 5:1–8
Mark 3:19b–35

February 28
Gen. 42:18–28
1 Cor. 5:9—6:11
Mark 4:1–20

February 29
Gen. 42:29–38
1 Cor. 6:12–20
Mark 4:21–34

In the event of inclement weather and we have to cancel worship you will receive a phone call from the One Call Now System.

Please keep us posted on any changes to your phone number.

Thank you.

HEART strings

Make this heartfelt craft as a decoration or gift.

What you need:

- Yarn
- Scissors
- Parchment paper
- Baking sheet
- Heart-shaped cookie cutters
- ¼ cup cornstarch
- ½ cup water
- Adult help



What you do:

1. Cut yarn into 12-inch pieces.
2. Place cookie cutters atop a baking sheet lined with parchment paper.
3. Combine cornstarch and water in a saucepan. Heat mixture over medium heat, stirring until thick and smooth. Remove from heat and cool to form a "glue."
4. Dip each piece of yarn into the mixture to coat completely. Squeeze off any excess.
5. Place yarn in the cookie cutters, allowing pieces to cross and loop within the heart. Add more until the cookie cutter is filled and the yarn looks like a heart.
6. Remove cookie cutters and bake the sheet for two hours at 150°F, or until hearts are dry and hard.

February Birthdays

04 Darin Jellison

04 Griffin Koch

05 Brett Dill

05 Karlee Allison

06 Tracy Adams

06 Bob Campbell

07 Ben Keeler

10 Ethan Stevenson

13 Grace Koch

14 Jade Stoffey

15 Joe Smith

15 Molly Grammer

18 Steve Fosbenner

18 Eric Hite

19 Sandy Sosnowsky

22 Elisa Talboo

22 Nancy Gollie

22 Dana Kernick

22 Monica Gunkle

23 Brenda Hovis

28 Donald Koch, Jr



Please contact with corrections or omissions to the list.



CONNECTED BY LOVE

God's Word is filled with messages about love,
which connects us to God and to one another.

*Directions: Draw a line from the beginning of each Bible verse
(on the left side) through the heart to the rest of the verse
(on the right side). Use the Scripture references for help.*

- a. We
- b. Above all,
- c. My command
is this:
- d. And over all
these virtues
put on
- e. Greater
- f. See what
great
- g. There is
no fear in



- 1. each other as I have
loved you. John 15:12
- 2. has no one than this: to
lay down one's life for
one's friends. John 15:13
- 3. But perfect love drives
out fear. 1 John 4:18
- 4. each other deeply,
because love covers
over a multitude of sins.
1 Peter 4:8
- 5. the Father has lavished
on us, that we should
be called children of
God! 1 John 3:1
- 6. because he first loved
us. 1 John 4:19
- 7. which binds them all
together in perfect
unity. Colossians 3:14