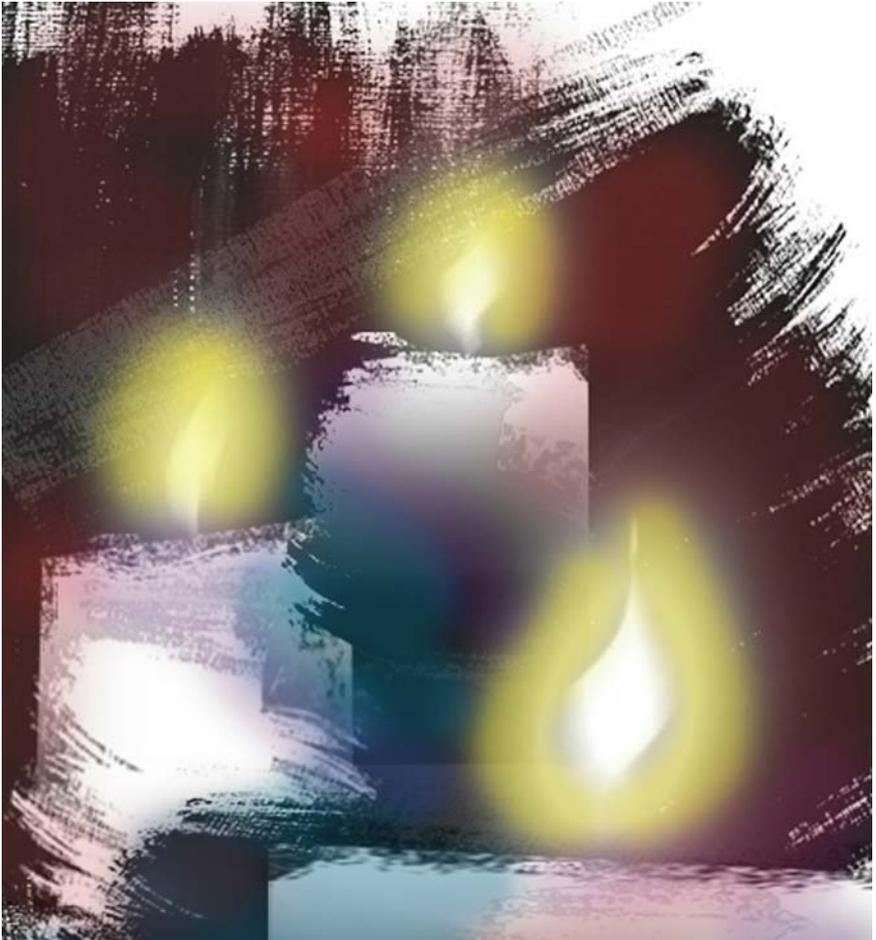


the Faith
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Living and sharing the miracle of God's grace. *Flyer*

EMMAUS, PENNSYLVANIA



VOLUME 47

ISSUE 11

DECEMBER 2017

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Please visit us on the web!
www.faithchurchemmaus.org
 Our website is a great resource!
 Also check us out on Facebook!



Church Staff

Pastor

Rev. William Schram

Clerk of Session

Lynn Ingram

Organist/Director—Senior Choir

Brian Snyder

Director—Children's & Youth Choir,

Tammi Howorth Handbell Choirs

Administrative Assistant, Faith Flyer Editor

Lynda Scheirer

Custodian

Scott MacKenzie

Church Officers

Elders

Rob Clark, Jack Decker, Jim DePhillips III,
 Lisa Heineman, Tim Melnick, Diane Millick,
 Michelle Somishka, Erik Walker, Chuck Waters
 Lynn Ingram, Clerk of Session

Deacons

Eleanor DePhillips, Terry Eck, Deb Ferguson,
 Toni Fernandez, Luana Graber, Ann Greenwood,
 Joanne Herring, Donna Hill, Mark Ingram, Elaine
 Smits; Jana Masenheimer, Co-Moderator
 Melanie Shimer, Co-Moderator

Contact Us!

Phone: 610-967-5600

Fax: 610-928-5600

office@faithchurchemmaus.org

Over the river and through the woods to Grandmother's house we go! Do you remember singing this bouncing little piece as a child? I sure do! It was my song.

And it didn't seem to matter that the trip was actually from our house to our aunt and uncle's house to which Grandma and Grandpa Case journeyed. There were river crossings and woods along the way. This song was mine!

The mere hint of the tune suggested everything that I loved about those Christmas dinners: the unalloyed affection in my life—Grandma—who lived by grace; the mysterious smell of Grandpa's pipe (long before anyone worried about second-hand smoke); the prospect of high adventures with cousins rarely seen; and, of course, the cornucopia of "goodies" that graced that table of love!

Over the river and through the woods to Grandmother's house we go! This was my song!

I am no longer a little boy. In time the song applied to trips to my parent's home with our children. Over time my heart has been tuned to sing other songs for Christmas. But the longing to return home—especially at Christmas—has never left me. As the Scriptures for this year's season of Advent and Christmas attest, this desire to come home is lodged deep in the human heart. We all long to go to our Father's house. Listen to Zephaniah's call to come home:

"Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; Shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! At



Advent Greetings to you all!
Rev. William Schram

that time I will bring you home, at the time when I gather you; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes, says the LORD. (3:14,20)"

Centuries later, St. Augustine told the tale of everyone's heart: "You arouse us to take joy in praising you, for you have made us for yourself, and our heart is restless until it rests in you."

As you plan for Christmas travels and celebrations and during this season of Advent and Christmas, also address the natural longing for the heart's true home. Our Advent themes will encourage you to come to aspects of the home we have in Christ: Hope, Peace, Joy and Love. Please come home to these. Think also of members who have been less visible and invite them to come home. Think of neighbors or family who could be blessed by the gospel's call to come home. Join our services and activities described elsewhere as a way come to the true heart of Christmas.

Peace,
Pastor Bill

WORSHIP

EVERY SUNDAY @ 10:00 AM

Upcoming Worship Themes

*(subject to revision due to changed circumstances or inspiration.
The further the date, the greater the possibility of change.)*

- **Sunday, Dec. 3** 1st Sunday of Advent— *“Come Home to Hope”*
- **Sunday, Dec. 10** 2nd Sunday of Advent— *“Nowell, Nowell, Emmanuel”*
Christmas Cantata
- **Sunday, Dec. 17** 3rd Sunday of Advent— *“Come Home to Love”*
- **Sunday, Dec. 24** Christmas Eve (4th Sunday of Advent)
 - 10:00 AM Family Christmas Eve Service
 - 9:00 PM Christmas Eve Candlelight Service with Moravian Brass Band— *“Come Home to Bethlehem”*
 - 11:15 PM— *“Carols, Candles, and Community”* at the Emmaus Triangle

From Welcoming to Inviting

This month, step up your thinking and talking about the church. We've been sharing what people love about the church. This can help spark your thinking. Consider one word or phrase that describes our church well. Then use that word to finish the phrase, “My church is _____.” Again, do this in conversation with one person per week, during the month.

- ◆ “My church is struggling with that very issue.”
- ◆ “That’s a hard situation. I’ve found my church is very supportive in difficult times.”
- ◆ “My church is having a Christmas cantata also!”
- ◆ “My church is also collecting items to help people at Christmas.”

Church Choirs Take note

Guest Musician

On December 10, the Senior Choir and a guest flutist will present “*Nowell, Nowell, Emmanuel*” a Christmas cantata by Gilbert Martin. Additional singers are welcome to join the choir for this presentation. Rehearsals began in October following worship. See Brian Snyder for more information. 4spadesdoubled@gmail.com

Senior Choir Rehearsal

Rehearsals are held on Wednesdays at 7:00 PM. If you are interested in singing with the choir, please contact Brian Snyder. 4spadesdoubled@gmail.com

Children & Youth Choirs

Youth Handbell Choir will rehearse at 8:30 AM, followed by breakfast and vocal choir rehearsal. Children’s Handbell Choir will be rehearsing at 9:30 AM, before worship time. Children’s Vocal Choir will rehearse from 11:00 AM—11:20 AM. If there are questions on any of those choirs, please contact Tammi Howorth. tammi@faithchurchemmaus.org or text/call 610-730-4652.

Adult Handbell Choir

Rehearsals are 6:00 PM on Monday evenings. Please look for future announcements. If there are questions on any of those choirs, please contact Tammi Howorth. tammi@faithchurchemmaus.org or text/call 610-730-4652.

Contact Information—Pastoral Care Needs

- To contact our pastor, please use Bill Schram’s email address, revbill@faithchurchemmaus.org. (*Note: Friday is a day off for Bill.*)
- For pastoral care needs between 9:00 AM and 2:00 PM, Mondays through Thursdays, contact the church office—610-967-5600.
- After hours, please contact either of the Co-Moderators of Deacons...Jana Masenheimer — 610-737-0984 or Melanie Shimer—610-965-8764; or Lynn Ingram, Clerk of Session—484-695-9073, who will make the appropriate connections.
- For medical emergencies or death, contact Bill at 570-242-9319.

*Your session voted to be a signer of this covenant
at its Nov. 14 meeting.*



Covenant among
Religious Communities of the Lehigh Valley

Approved _____, 2017

As communities of faith, we, the undersigned on behalf of our respective organizations, believe that our religions are the rich wellsprings from which we draw commitments to serve, support, and benefit one another. Our religions teach us that G_d is the creator and sustainer of the world and that responding faithfully to G_d requires us to commit to serve creation.

Responding to G_d requires us to strive together for the common good: the care of the earth for the generations to come, the pursuit of justice for all, and the protection of our rights to practice and express our faiths as best as we can. Responding to G_d requires us to take to heart a genuine concern for the well-being of each other. When our neighbors' well being becomes our own concern, we can truly be faithful to G_d. So, consistent with our religious teachings, we commit to stand together for those in the Lehigh Valley who are vulnerable and whose voices are not heard. We commit to teach our children compassion for those whose struggles are different from our own. We promise to become a force for good.

In order to achieve this vision we recognize that our respective communities in the Lehigh Valley have much work to do. With sincere effort, we commit ourselves

- To deepen our understanding of each other's religions
- To recognize that we do not agree on all things
- To model respect for each other's religions
- To work together on issues of human equality and social justice, consistent with our religious values.

Together we place our trust and hope in G_d, that G_d will bless and guide our efforts and that G_d will turn our efforts into a blessing for us and our neighbors.



They're Back!!

Pot Luck Lunches... right after church

On the first Sunday of each month, the Fellowship Committee will host a Pot Luck Lunch. So instead of Sunday School, come share a meal and enjoy your faith family through fellowship.

Please bring a dish to Share....

Date	Main Dish	Last names beginning with		
		A-M	or	N-Z
December 3	Goulash	Salad or Side		Dessert

Always looking for volunteers to help, contact Diane Millick.
dianemillick@yahoo.com

Fellowship Hour

Volunteers are needed for many Sundays to come throughout the end of the year. Please sign up. It's easy, and instructions are provided if needed.

The sign up sheet is outside Fellowship Hall. If you have any questions, please ask Fellowship Committee Elder Diane Millick 484-695-0391 or dianemillick@yahoo.com





COMMUNICATIONS

Photos Needed

Do you have a smart phone? Then, you are a designated photographer! You are encouraged to take photos of church members/friends at our events and activities! Right after snapping pictures, you can send them right onto Lynda in the church office (office@faithchurchemmaus.org), where she will store them for use in publications or just store them for church history! We are always looking to document our church activity. Thank you!

Prayer Chain Requests

Prayer messages should be emailed directly to prayers@faithchurchemmaus.org. Messages can also be sent through a form on the Prayer Requests page of the church website. If you wish to be included in our Prayer Chain distribution list (or if you don't think you are receiving messages), please contact the church office.

Have it? Need it?

Do you **Have** something that you are trying to get rid of, or that you can offer? Are you in **Need** of something? If so, please use the new "I have:/ I need:" bulletin board by the parlor to communicate your desires. Let's help each other out! Items posted do NOT have to be free. We just ask that you remove your "ad" if your need has been met. Need help creating an "ad"? Please contact Lynda in the church office for assistance.

Cancellations due to weather

Faith Presbyterian Church communicates cancellations on 69 News! Winter is coming, so please stay tuned to our event changes by:



- 1) Watching the scrolling cancellations on 69 News.
- 2) Going to the 69 News website (<http://www.wfmz.com/weather/school-and-business-closings/149606>) and searching for a post from our church.
- 3) Signing up for alerts by going to this website (<http://www.wfmz.com/Sign-Up-for-Email-Newsletters-Alerts/29028180>) and setting up an account for auto alerts to your e-mail, etc.

This is just another way we hope to keep information lines open at our church!

Church Office

- During the month of December, the proof copy of the Pocket Directory can be found on a table in the Narthex. Please review your family's listing to be sure it is correct. A red pen should be tucked in the pocket for your use in making any corrections. Please consider adding cell phone numbers and email address changes.
- The Annual Report will come out in January, the week prior to the Annual Congregational Meeting. The deadline for submissions is the December 31.
- The long counter in the church office is a work space. When you place baskets, boxes and bags on the counter, they are in the way of the weekly work flow. Please find other spots to place them, and let those who are picking them up know where to look.
- The church office is open on Mondays through Thursdays from 9:00 am to 2:00 PM. It is never open on a Friday. Phone messages and emails left on Fridays are not answered until the following Monday.

DISCIPLESHIP

NEWS



MAKING DISCIPLES WHILE GROWING AS DISCIPLES

Sunday Morning Discipleship Opportunities

The Discipleship Committee will keep this schedule until the end of the school year.
NO CLASSES DURING WORSHIP ON THE 1st SUNDAY OF THE MONTH. NO SUNDAY SCHOOL ON DECEMBER 24 OR DECEMBER 31.

- 9:30 am: Middle School (grades 6, 7, 8) meeting in room 4
Sr. High (grades 9, 10, 11, 12) meeting in room 4
- **Following Children's Time in worship:** Grades K through 5 meeting in room 3
Children not yet in Kindergarten – Nursery
- **11:15 am to Noon:** Adults –meeting in room 7 (see article on next page.)

Additional Discipleship Opportunities

There are also small groups that meet during the week. New participants are always welcome.

- **Women's Devotional Fellowship** meets on **Thursdays** at participants homes from **9:30 AM to 11:30 AM**. Contact: Toni Fernandez
- **Disciples of Christ (DOC)**, a men's study & discussion group, meets every other **Thursday** at **7:30 AM** in the parlor. Final 2017 dates: **11/30, 12/14** Contact: Bill Herring
- **Noon Bible Study** meets on **Wednesdays** in the Parlor. Come share the Bible with this lively group! All are welcome! Contact: Ellen Bender
- **Faith Watercolor Painters Group** will meet on **Thursdays** in the Fellowship Hall from **1pm to 4pm**. This group is led by **Dick Farmer** and assisted by Ed Klova. Please contact Dick Farmer 610-967-4401 for additional information.
- **"Christians & Racism"** Discussion Group meets at 6:00 PM here at the church, on the first and third Sundays of the month. December Meetings: **12/3, 12/17**

Youth Group

Youth Group Dinners: Each week, our youth share dinner and friendship together from 6:30-7:00pm. One great way to support the youth is to sponsor their Sunday dinner at Faith. You can support our youth by either cooking or sponsoring a meal. There are many ways you can do this. You can:

- Donate money for pizza or take-out
- Cook a meal at the church
- Pick-up and deliver take-out or pizza for one of our meetings
- Bring in a crock-pot meal for everyone to share.

These are just a few ideas of different ways you can participate. You can also come up with your own ideas for a meal. Last year, we had chili night, taco night, pizza, spaghetti night, hot dogs and hamburgers. You can sign up on the signup genius here: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090549a5ae2cab9-youth2>

Christmas Party: December 10 from 5:00-8:00pm Youth (high school and middle school) and mentors are invited to attend our Christmas party! This year, it would be great to have a potluck meal, games, and a gift exchange. You are invited to bring a gift that is \$5, and this year we will switch up the rules on our gift exchange... Please also bring a side dish or dessert to share. Please RSVP if you are able to join us.

Spring Youth Retreat: There will be a spring youth retreat for middle school and high school youth at Spruce Lake! The retreat will be May 4-6, and the theme is "Messy Faith!" The cost of the retreat is \$130, and please let me know if you need scholarship assistance. **You must RSVP by January 28th** with a copy of the registration form and a Faith permission slip and a \$50 deposit.

MSYG & HSYG Schedule

- December 3: Youth Group Meetings at Faith (MSYG at 5:00/HSYG at 6:30pm) dinner together from 6:30-7:00pm
- December 10: Youth Group Christmas Party (with gift exchange) 5:00-8:00pm
- December 17: Christmas Caroling at Phoebe Home and dinner following (meet at Faith at 3:15pm for carpool)
- December 24: No youth group

The Discipleship Committee, through the dedication and passion of its many volunteers, is able to offer the following programs to the church. However, we are never finished, in our effort to better serve the needs of our members. We are always open to new ideas and ways to further the Discipleship of Faith Presbyterian Church.

The Discipleship Committee meets the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 7:00 PM in the Parlor. All are welcome to join us.

Current Events Through the Eyes of Faith

Adult Sunday School Class—December 2017

Join us each Sunday that Church School is held for a lively discussion on a current issue. Using “The Wired Word” curriculum, we will present a brief synopsis of the story, followed by probing questions and a time for confronting the issue with scriptures and hope. Listen for the “class bell” and gather in room #7.

Where / when: Brick Classroom # 7 at 11:20 a.m. - end at 12 noon.

Who: All adults age 18 and up are welcome.

Leadership team: Bill Herring, Carole Wilson, Deanna Robinson (coordinator)

Are you struggling to apply your faith to today's issues? Join us!

Topics for December

- Dec. 3 – NO CLASSES
- Dec. 10 – “**Most Americans Say They’re Sinners and Want to Mend Their Ways.**” A study found that 67 percent of Americans say they are sinners and most don't like that they are. This finding seems especially significant in an America that is becoming more secular, and it gives us an opportunity to consider what it means to be a sinner and what opportunities for ministry this research might suggest. If you wish to start thinking about our topic in advance, please pick up a copy of the handout with the same title available at the church.
- Dec. 17 – “**Author Anne Lamott Releases New Book on Mercy.**” Anne Lamott has written a book of essays titled *Hallelujah Anyway: Rediscovering Mercy*. We will explore the gift of mercy God offers the world through the person and work of his Son. If you wish to start thinking about our topic in advance, please pick up a copy of the handout with the same title available at the church.
- Dec. 24 – NO CLASSES (Christmas Eve)
- Dec. 31 – NO CLASSES (New Year's Eve)

Faith Church is on the Web!

For all the latest information, audio sermons,
calendar highlights, and news, visit us at:
www.faithchurchemmaus.org



Find us on Facebook at
Faith Presbyterian Church Emmaus



Christmas Joy Offering: OUT OF GRATITUDE WE GIVE

Each year during the Advent and Christmas season, we turn our eyes to Bethlehem and celebrate the wondrous gift of Jesus Christ, our Savior. By giving to the **Christmas Joy Offering**, you honor this gift by providing assistance to **current and retired church workers** in their time of need and developing our future leaders at **Presbyterian-related racial ethnic schools and colleges**.

The *Christmas Joy Offering* will be received and dedicated on **December 24, 2017**.

The offering is used to help fund the following programs:

The Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions

In 2016, the Assistance Program distributed 612 grants and approximately \$1.1 million to qualifying pastors, missionaries, other church workers, and their families.

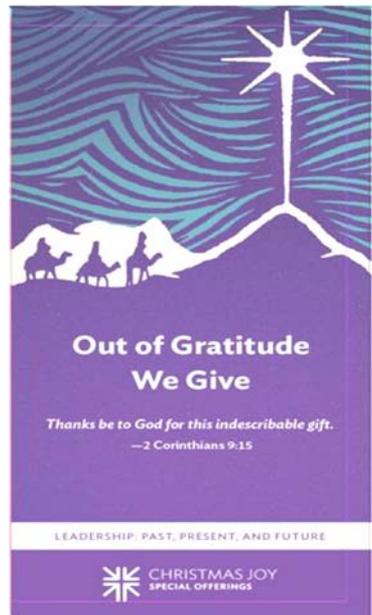
The Assistance Program offers assistance to folks in one of these three categories:

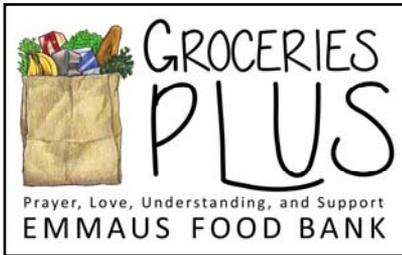
- retired church workers with financial and housing needs
- church workers with urgent financial needs
- pastors with vocational leadership needs

Racial Ethnic Leadership Development

The *Christmas Joy Offering* provides opportunities for deserving students to attend Presbyterian-related racial ethnic colleges and schools. In 2016 \$1 million were used to provide education and leadership development skills at Presbyterian-related racial ethnic schools and colleges.

Faith Presbyterian Church received \$2922.00, with 36 participants, in 2016 for the Christmas Joy Offering. Do you think we can be JOYFUL givers and “top” that amount?





Faith Church volunteers have been providing food to the GROCERIES PLUS Emmaus Food Bank on a weekly/monthly basis. Also, Faith Feeds Garden supplied fresh produce during the summer months. This food helps to assist GROCERIES PLUS (held at Bethel Bible Fellowship Church, Emmaus) by providing fresh food for needy families in the Emmaus area.

This program includes four distribution days each month. These times are every 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month from 10:00 AM - 12:00 noon, and every 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month from 12:00 noon - 2:00 PM. There are up to 30 plus different families pick up food during each time!

The Mission Committee communicates with this vital program more intentionally each year. We at Faith, continue to seek ways to support needy families in the surrounding Emmaus community. **The Mission Committee would like to continue to collect Hygiene products for GROCERIES PLUS throughout the year.** As many of you know, hygiene and cleaning products are expensive and are not provided on a regular basis at the food bank.

Several Ways to help - Current Needs:

Laundry Detergent, Paper Towels
Tissues, Dish Detergent, Dove, Ajax, Dawn...(not dishwasher)

Current Food Needs:

Because of the recent Boy Scout Food Drive, the pantry is well stocked with canned goods and shelf stable food. The items listed above continue to be a big hit with the folks that come in, and there is never enough for every family.

***Place donations in Campbell Soup container for now.**

The Mission committee communicates monthly with GROCERIES PLUS to determine up to date needs. They are also partnering with other agencies and churches.

Any questions see Jack Decker. GROCERIES PLUS coordinator is Beth Lorah at Bethel Church, BLORAH@Juno.com. They welcome any VOLUNTEERS from FAITH CHURCH to help pass out bags of food each month (see times above).




Holiday Craft Fair

Spend the day with us!

The Holiday Craft Fair will kick off early on Saturday, December 2. There are lots of vendors signed up this year...many of them favorites returning for the third time! Women of Faith have been busy organizing the vendor layout, and crafting more delightful gifts items, while at the same time the Mission Committee has been busily gathering generous raffle prizes from local merchants

All we need at this point is volunteers to help set up on the two days prior, and **shoppers** on Saturday.

Westminster Wishes

Granting a wish for a Westminster resident? Please place the gift (wrapped or unwrapped), with the tag attached, in the box under the Giving Tree, by December 3rd.

Last minute questions? Please ask Anne Zayaitz, Lisa Decker, or Beth Kunkle.

Thank you Faith Elves!

A Community Space

The 412 continues to schedule dates! Users are mentors, support groups, yoga, Zumba, college administration leaders, and many from other walks of life. Check the calendar for starting times. www.412emmaus.com. Details will be shared as they are made available!



FOUR TWELVE

December brings the following users: Juice Plus, Healthy Living, Zumbini with Jackie, Trauma Sensitive Yoga, Heart Rhythm Meditation, Ain't No Shame in Chronic Pain, Support Group, Mom's Club of Lehigh Valley

There is still plenty of room for YOU to do something in this space during December, and invite the friends and neighbors with whom God is calling you to connect. Contact the [412](http://www.412emmaus.com) to check availability. **Why don't YOU use the space?!**

DEACONS

Following to lead | Leading to Serve

A Word from the Deacons

Are you or a loved one in need of home medical equipment? The church has some medical equipment that is available for members to borrow, such as wheelchairs, crutches, shower chairs, commode, etc. If you have a need, please see your Deacon. You can also contact Jana Masenheimer at 610-366-7153 or Melanie Shimer at 610-965-8764.



Do you have an Extra Minute?

The Board of Deacons has identified the following members who are either confined to their homes, at a nursing facility, or sometimes unable to attend Sunday worship services:

- Bunny Ashcraft----- Devon House
- Kay Cole----- Home
- Mitch Connor ----- Devon House
- Taffy Connor----- Home
- Donna Kastner ----- Home
- Sandy Missmer----- Home
- Theodore Rogal----- Brookview Independent Living
- George Smits----- Brookview Independent Living

If you have an extra minute, perhaps you could call, send a card or even visit one of these members. Their phone numbers and addresses are located in the Faith Directory. Be a Deacon in your own right and help make someone's day a little brighter.

BOARD OF DEACONS

Co-ModeratorsJana Masenheimer, Melanie Shimer
 Eleanor DePhillips, Terry Eck, Deb Ferguson, Toni Fernandez, Luana Graber, Ann Greenwood, Joanne Herring, Donna Hill, Mark Ingram, Elaine Smits

Happy
BIRTHDAY!
to you.



December Birthdays

12/1	Betsy Han	12/18	Owen Dredge
12/4	Marie Heffner, David Wilson, Cathy Wiese	12/19	Thomas Eck, Bonnie Osterwald
12/5	Susan McCracken	12/20	Dorothy Harshman, Erik Walker
12/6	Dianne Macdonald	12/21	Marie Comoglio, Nora Harford
12/7	Terry Eck, William MacHose, Jessica O'Neil	12/23	Dennis Arndt, Bella Cachiguango
12/8	Brynn Durn, Bonnie Hillman	12/24	Christina Johns
12/9	Scott Greb, Jade Yen	12/26	William Kennington III, Carole Wilson
12/10	Mark Heimbach	12/27	Jack Ferlino, Beth Kunkle
12/12	Laurie Hillanbrand, Sue Lawall, Samuel Luff	12/28	Archer Waters
12/13	Cameron Godiska	12/30	Matthias Staack
12/14	Ryan Kennington		
12/15	Harry Dennis, Cawley Waters		

Giving to our church is easy!

Besides placing your offering in the plate passed on Sunday, or mailing it in, there are other ways to give to Faith Church. You can donate via credit card or a direct transfer from your bank. Just scan this QR code, or click the DONATE button on the church website and fill out the form. For more information about this option, please read the details about electronic giving on the Donate page of the church website:





Operating Fund Financial Report

Below is the 2017 report of operating income *vs.* expenses through Oct. 31, 2017

	October 31, 2017	YTD: 2017
OPERATING INCOME:	\$ 26,522.00	\$ 202,400.00
OPERATING EXPENSES:	\$ 14,024.00	\$ 175,823.00
Misc. Expenses:	13.00	239.00
ANNUAL RESERVE (DEFICIT):	\$ 12,485.00	\$ 26,338.00

SCRIP Program

Thank you to all the participants in the Great Lakes SCRIP and Weis gift card programs. Profits for the year 2017 will be designated as additional income toward the Operating Budget. Please help this program continue to provide funds to the church by making purchases using SCRIP.

- The total amount raised in 2017 is **\$765.99**.
- The next deadline is **December 3**.

Faith Church uses the scrip fundraising program, allowing church members to raise money for the church. Scrip is just another way to pay for everyday purchases using gift cards in place of cash, checks, and credit cards.

You simply purchase gift cards from the church at face value. The cards are then ordered by the church's Scrip coordinator at a reduced price. The difference is an **instant rebate for the church**, which is then used to defray the costs of items that Session has approved of in advance. In the past, the rebates have helped to pay for blacktop repair and lighting improvement.

Help the church make this program a bigger success!! For a complete list of retailers or for more information check the **table in the Fellowship Hall** or www.glscrip.com. Contact Lynda Scheirer at adnyl510@gmail.com if you have any logistical questions.

Eagle Scout Project Outdoor Gathering Space

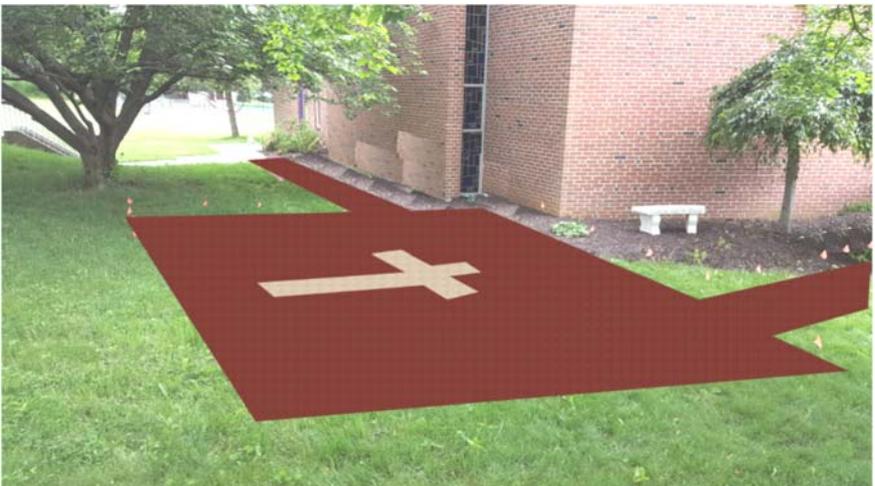
My name is Anthony Howorth. I am a Life Scout in Troop 131 and a member of this church. Session has granted approval for my Eagle Scout project here at Faith Presbyterian.

For my project I will be building an outdoor gathering space composed of brick pavers. The space will be rectangular in shape with a cross embedded in the middle. Two walkways will connect the existing front and back sidewalks to the gathering space. The project will also serve to remedy drainage issues in the area.

Funding for materials will be via general or memorial donation. Engraved memorial bricks may be purchased for \$50 [4x8 brick] or \$100 [8x8 brick]. Memorial benches may also be purchased for \$1000. All donations will be excepted into account "6918 Eagle Project."

I will begin construction in early March and plan to complete the project by the end of May. Any form of help would be greatly appreciated. Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Anthony Howorth
anthonyh0331@gmail.com





Session Meeting November 14, 2017

Pastor's Report:

- There were no weddings or baptisms, with one funeral for Paul Stauffer
- Planned and led Wednesday Bible Study
- Visits: 7 hospital and 3 home
- 70 pastoral care or work related phone calls and spent 38 hours at the 412

Deacon's Report: Jana Masenheimer

- Deacon's continue to monitor care groups
- Poinsettia cards are out with the last day to order being December 3
- Collection boxes for the college student care packages (totaling 18) are located in Fellowship Hall with one collection box also located in the narthex. Boxes will be packed on November 27
- Provided \$50 in gift cards

Report of Treasurer:

- Motion approved to receive the Treasurer's Report
- There were no major expenditures and pledges for the previous month were above normal.

Examination of Elders Elect:

- Elder Elect Bruce Luff provided Session his statement on why he wanted to become an Elder.
- A motion was approved to accept Jack Decker, Bruce Luff and Erik Walker as Elders for the Class of 2020; the installation will be on January 7, 2018.

Special Projects: Narthex Update from Dick Farmer

- Congregation member Dick Farmer provided an update to Session on the plan to install wall mounted coat racks in the hallway by the carillon closet, bathrooms and church entrance doors (rear parking lot door and Second Street door). With the installation of these wall mounted coat racks, the current coat rack in the narthex would be dismantled and torn down as the church continues to move forward with narthex renovations.
- Session thanked Mr. Farmer for his commitment and hard work on this project as well as his ability to see the many wonderful possibilities in store for the narthex renovation

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Session in a Nutshell

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- Motion was approved to purchase six coat racks from ULINE and have the coat racks installed by congregation members

Report of Clerk:

- Motion approved to accept the October 11, 2017 Session Minutes
- Motion approved to accept the November 5, 2017 Special Called Congregational Meeting Minutes
- 2018 Communion Server volunteer list provided to Session members for their participation
- 2018 Ministry and Mission Leadership volunteer list provided to Session members for their completion.
- Clerk requested from Session members to have their Committee Annual Reports submitted by December 30, 2017.

New Business:

- Motions approved
 - Christmas Eve Services:
 - * 10:00 am Family service
 - * 9:00 pm Senior Choir / Adult handbell service
 - * 11:15 pm Emmaus Triangle Park service with the Barn
 - To delete Blair Dooner from our rolls per her request.
 - To hold work camp cookie sale on December 17, 2017 to benefit work camp trip 2018.

- Reverend Schram provided Session members with the “Expectations for Church Leaders” document and requested Elders read and abide by these tenets as they are the leaders of our church
 - There was good discussion about these tenets and how it should fit into our daily lives as congregation members and more importantly as Elders and leaders of our church
- Reverend Schram also provide Session with the Lehigh Conference of Churches “Covenant Among Religious Communities of the Lehigh Valley’ document that he requested Session review, and after thorough discussion, agree to and sign the Covenant. The Covenant is a statement of support and commitment for all religions within the Lehigh Valley and the world in order to deepen our understanding of each other’s religion, to recognize that we do not all agree on all things, to model respect for all religions, and to work together on issues of human equality and social justice consistent with our religious values.
 - The Lehigh Conference requested signing (if agreed to) by Sunday, November 19, 2017
 - The signing of the document (as it is currently written) does not have any financial ties/requests to churches who sign, but rather a symbolic and spiritual

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Session in a Nutshell

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- commitment to the Covenant. More than likely, the Lehigh Conference will hold a series of lectures/meetings and services to show different religions across the valley for all to attend if they so choose to do so.
- After discernment on this Covenant, Session approved the motion to sign and support this Covenant.
 - Reverend Schram also discussed and provided Session with some further insight on the 'Welcoming to Inviting' document that was in the Sunday church hand out.
 - He provided the group an update and also asked each Elder if they felt inclined to do so, to write a short statement or words about "What I love about this Church?" By asking the Elders of Session, he will share comments and names with the congregation during Sunday announcements on the screen.
 - He will also be asking congregation members if they would like to participate in this. The more members of our church we can help to see our church, the more people and our congregation members will talk about it.

Committee Reports:

- **Special Projects**
 - Narthex discussion with Mr. Dick Farmer
- **Stewardship**
 - Annual donation sheets provided to the congregation; as of the Session meeting, 45 stewardship cards were turned in
- **Worship Administration**
 - The former hymnals we used will be available for another two weeks to congregation members who are interested in having one; First Presbyterian in Bethlehem will take the remainder at the beginning of December 2017
- **Building and Grounds**
 - Fall clean up occurred on November 11, 2017
 - Burkholders HVAC conducted their winter check of the HVAC system
- **Discipleship**
 - Good turn-out for youth group for both the high school seniors and middle school students
- **Fellowship**
 - Continue to look for congregation members to assist in running fellowship hour after service
 - Diane Millick purchased many supplies for December into January, but eventually more supplies for these fellowship sessions will need to be procured

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Session in a Nutshell

(Continued from page 22)

- **Finance**
 - Provided the PNC with a proposed full salary and benefits package for a future pastor
- **Membership**
 - Looking at possibly eight new members starting the class in January 2018
- **Mission**
 - Craft show will occur on Dec 2 with 28 vendors
 - Looking at 2018 and discussion of ‘what is community?’ How do we see ourselves fitting into the East Penn community or broader community?
- **Nominating**
 - The future of 412 is being discussed
 - Still 3 slots vacant for Elders; still looking for and recruiting possible candidates
 - Use of Facilities Committee: Sally Heimbach was re-appointed to the committee

Respectfully submitted,
Erik Walker, Elder

Faith Church Ministry & Mission Leadership

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

- Discipleship Chuck Waters
- Fellowship Diane Millick
- Membership Jim DePhillips
- Worship Lisa Heineman

EVANGELISM

- Mission Jack Decker, Rob Clark

STEWARDSHIP

- Administration
- Building & Grounds Erik Walker
- Finance Tim Melnick, Chuck Waters
- Nominating..... Tim Melnick
- Special Projects Michele Somishka



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Merry Christmas!



The **Faith Flyer**

December 2017