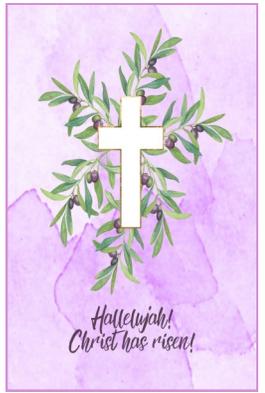




FAITH CHURCH
CONNECT.GROW.SERVE.GO.

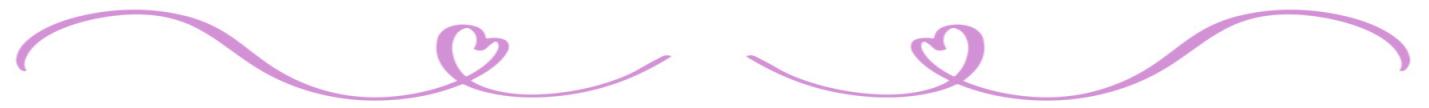
LIFE LINE

APRIL 2025 NEWSLETTER OF FAITH UMC



OUR MISSION: MAKING DISCIPLES OF JESUS CHRIST FOR THE TRANSFORMATION OF THE WORLD

FSM AND WINTER JAM - MARCH 2025



WELCOME OUR NEW OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR

We are excited to share the news that Sarah Young will be joining the staff of Faith as our new Office Administrator, beginning the week of March 24. Sarah and her husband, Mike, are Montoursville residents and have two adult children in the area. Sarah brings a wealth of experience, having served on staff in a church office for over a decade. Sarah also brings a passion for Faith Church's mission and a joy that will add to both our staff team and the welcome our office shares with those who visit.

If you haven't yet met Sarah, feel free to stop by the office at some point and say hello. But you can also see her as part of the leadership team for Faith Student Ministries or leading the Find Your People study on weekday evenings. Continue to pray for God's Spirit to lead the amazing team He pulls together as part of the kingdom work of this congregation.

Welcome, Sarah!

Sarah Young
Office Administrator
office@faithum.net
570-368-2459



THE VIEW FROM HERE

“Serve wholeheartedly, as if you were serving the Lord, not people...”

Ephesians 6:7

One of the core practices in following Jesus at Faith Church is serving. If we are connecting with God, and growing in our faith, we believe that serving is a natural outflow of that work of the Holy Spirit in us. And April is National Volunteer Month, a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the spirit of service that is alive and well at Faith Church.



Larry L. Leland
Lead Pastor
lleland@faithum.net
570-368-2459

There is no way in a brief newsletter article to celebrate all of the ways that volunteers make the ministry of this congregation happen. From tearing down chairs to pouring love into our children and students. From reading scripture to refereeing basketball games. From leading special events to making meals for new parents. From leading us in music to visiting our shut-ins. From serving our neighbors through Harvest of Hope to serving one another by making coffee on Sunday mornings. From leading community groups to serving on Church Council.

As a staff team, we’d like to not just say thank you. We want to celebrate you. **So, please mark your calendars for Friday, May 16 from 6:00-7:30 p.m. You are invited to a Servant Celebration Dinner.** More details to come, but plan now to join us for a joyous time of gratitude for the servant hearts who help us live into the kingdom together.

I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.

Philippians 1:3-6

In Christ,
Pastor Larry



HOLY WEEK CELEBRATIONS

In 8 short days, the Christian Church celebrates some of the fulness of the gospel. On Palm Sunday, we join the crowds in honoring Jesus as King. On Maundy Thursday, we gather with Jesus and the disciples at the table to remember. On Good Friday, we kneel at the foot of the cross, in awe of the depth of Jesus’ love and sacrifice. On Easter morning, we join the astonished women who go to the tomb and find it empty.

This year’s Holy Week falls later in the calendar than usual (in case you ever wondered, Easter is observed on the first Sunday after the first full moon after the spring equinox). Holy Week for Faith Church looks like this:

Sunday, April 13

- Palm Sunday Celebrations – 8:15 and 9:45
- Easter Jam – following the 9:45 service

Thursday, April 17

- Community Maundy Thursday Service with Communion – 7:00 p.m. at Faith Church

Friday, April 18

- Community Good Friday Service of Tenebrae – 7:00 p.m. at Faith Church

Sunday, April 20

- Easter Sunrise Service – 6:30 a.m. at the Faith Church Bell Tower
- Easter Breakfast – 7:00 a.m. in Faith Café
- Easter Worship Celebrations – 8:15 and 9:45

Plan now to walk this journey with Jesus and with your fellow followers from the crowds of Palm Sunday to the connection of Maundy Thursday to the anguish of Good Friday and the unfettered joy of Easter morning!

SOUP & SCRIPTURE

EACH THURSDAY IN LENT FROM 12-1:00 PM

Date	Host Church	Speaker	Theme
04/03/25	Wallis Run UMC	Larry Leland	The Truth of God
04/10/25	Faith UMC	Mark Shover	The Life of Sacrifice

SEEKING DIRECTOR OF WORSHIP AND CREATIVE ARTS

Faith Church currently has a staff opening we are looking to fill. If you are interested in applying, please see the website <https://www.faithum.net/careers-at-faith-church> for full job descriptions. Cover letters and resumes can be submitted to lleland@faithum.net.

Director of Worship – full-time (may consider part-time depending on applicant)

Pray for God to raise up the right person for this important role in the ongoing ministry of Faith Church. And please show your gratitude to the volunteer leaders and teams who are serving us so faithfully in this interim time.



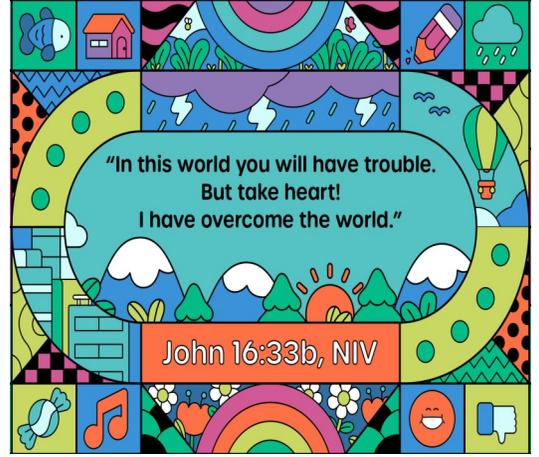
CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES



Julia Edler - Director
Gail Rollman - Assistant Director
Email: children@faithum.net
570-368-2459

For the month of April in Kid Connection the kids will be learning that even when we face trouble, we can find hope because of Jesus. We can believe that something good can come out of something bad. Want to join in the fun and the learning? We love our volunteers and are always looking for more. Contact Julia or Gail.

Mark it on your calendars to join us after second service on April 6 to fill thousands of Easter eggs with candy. We also would LOVE more candy donations for all those eggs.



EASTER JAM

April 13's Easter Jam will be fun for all with a picnic style lunch, Easter Egg Hunt and Resurrection Stations following the second service in the parking lot on the Brushy Ridge Road side of the church. Here are some ways you can help or get involved!

- ⇒ Invite your friends! We will have an egg hunt for infants up to Grade 5, a hot dog lunch, and prayer walk.
- ⇒ Donate candy! In order to make this an epic Easter Egg hunt we need CANDY! You can bring in individually wrapped candy from now until April 6. Place in the marked bins located in the foyer between the Sanctuary and Faith Café.
- ⇒ Mark it on your calendars to join us after second service on April 6 to fill thousands of Easter eggs with candy. We also would LOVE more candy donations for all those eggs.
- ⇒ Donate items for the lunch! You can use this link: <https://tinyurl.com/msnpww2v> or the QR code to sign up. You can also donate money. Make sure to mark your envelope as Easter Jam and put in the offering.
- ⇒ Help serve! We could use help with sign-ups, egg hiding, food serving, and cleaning up on April 13. Just mark on your Connect Card that you want to serve!



FAITH STUDENT MINISTRIES

FSM 6:12 - GRADES 6-12 - SUNDAYS FROM 4:30-6:30 PM



Christian Calehuff
FSM Team Leader
fsm@faithum.net
Text - 570-916-1429



T-SHIRT FUNDRAISER

Order forms and sample shirts are located in Faith Café. All monies raised will go directly towards supporting the activities, service projects and the needs of FSM.

FSM MEALS

FSM is in need of providers for their Sunday evening meals. Approximately 25-35 students and volunteers eat at 6:00 pm. If you or your small group would like to provide a meal, please scan the QR code to go to the Sign Up Genius and choose a date that works for you.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0F49AAA623A3FA7-50919305-fsmdinner#/>



FSM APRIL 2025

FAITH STUDENT MINISTRIES 6-12 GRADES

SUN 06 ↘ FSM 4:30 - 6:30

SUN 13 ↘ FSM 4:30 - 6:30
PALM SUNDAY/EASTER JAM

SUN 20 ↘ NO FSM
EASTER SUNDAY

SUN 27 ↘ FSM 4:30- 6:30

LOOKING AHEAD: NO FSM 5/11 & 5/25

MORE INFO: CHRISTIAN CALEHUFF, TEAM LEADER

FSM@FAITHUM.NET

CONFIRMATION CLASS MEETS 6:30-7:30 EACH WEEK

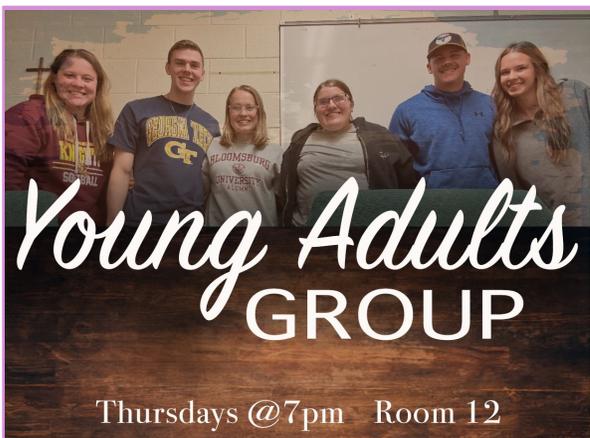
GROW/SERVE



PIZZA WITH THE PASTOR

Join us for Pizza with the Pastor on Sunday, April 6 at 11:15 am in Large Group Room 21 (Children's Wing). Whether you're new to Faith Church or have been connecting with us for some time and desire to know what we're about, we hope you will join us! You can Register with the church office at 570-368-2459, or at any time by marking your Connect Card.

Deb Ottenmiller
Dir. of Group Life
and Assimilation
dottenmiller@faithum.net
570-368-2459



FAITH WOMEN'S GATHERING

In Faith's Women's Gathering we are studying a series called *Beautiful Feet*, by Deb Burma. We will look at God's grace in Christ who walks along side of us. Please plan to join us on Wednesday, April 9 (please note date change) at 10:00 am. We will meet in Faith Café. Any questions please call Michelle Eckert at 724-309-5742 or Deb Rowles at 570-337-1149.

Young Adult Fellowship and Study happens each Thursday in Room 12, 7:00 pm, on Faith Campus. Feel free to stop in. Contact Olivia at 717-437-1467 or Jason at 570-651-5969 for more information.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY STARTS AFTER EASTER

A Women's Beginner Bible study will start Wednesday, April 23. This new group begins at 10:00 am, meeting in the staff area on the Brushy Ridge Road wing. If you would like to know more about the Bible, this is the group for you. All women, at all life stages are encouraged to come and learn and grow in knowledge and relationships. Please contact leader Christia Keyte at 732-425-8687, with questions.

COMING MAY 4 - NEW MEMBER CLASS

This 1-day Membership Class experience will be Sunday, May 4 from 1-5:00 pm, in Room 10 (Fairview Drive Wing). We will explore together what membership looks like for a follower of Christ. Light refreshments will be available. There are workbooks for each participant that we provide for you (a short and easy pre-read), with a little homework to do prior to our meeting. Workbooks are available at the Sign-Up Center in the Café area on Sundays, or through the church office during the week. Please Register by April 27 with the church office at 570-368-2459, or mark your Connect Card.



EASTER FLOWER ORDERS

It's time to order the Easter flowers that will decorate the Sanctuary and FCC on Easter Sunday. Flowers can be presented in honor of or in memory of friends or loved ones. There is a choice of tulips, mums or mini daffodils at \$8.00 each. Please order by using the insert in today's bulletin. **Payment is due with your order. Please make checks payable to Faith UMC with "flowers" on the memo line, or pay online. Deadline April 6.**

ORDER FORM FOR EASTER PLANTS- PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Name _____

(Print name as you would like it to appear in the bulletin as to whom the flowers are from.)

I would like to purchase Easter flowers:

In Honor of: _____

In Honor of: _____

In Memory of: _____

In Memory of: _____

Number of tulips: _____ mums: _____ mini daffodils: _____ @ \$8.00/ea. = _____ Total

Please make checks payable to Faith UMC with "flowers" on the memo line.

2025 EASTER OFFERING

EASTER OFFERING

Each year, Faith Church designates a special offering around Christmas and Easter – which is above and beyond our normal giving. With the financial challenges we’re facing as a congregation, some of you have asked whether it would be wise in this season to simply direct all giving to our ongoing expenses. After significant discussion among staff and council, we’ve decided to once again designate the Easter Offering beyond our ongoing expenses for two reasons:

- 1) This offering is above and beyond our tithe and regular offering. We never want it to impact our ongoing generosity, so we make it voluntary for those who feel led. If you are currently giving what you feel led to give, or if you prefer to designate an additional gift this season to our normal ministry costs, please follow the Spirit!
- 2) Our Christmas and Easter offerings comprise a significant percentage of our overall giving to missions work as a church. We always want to be reminded that our call is to connect, grow, serve and go by reaching out to the community and the world.

With that in mind, we are designating this year’s Easter Offering to two incredible missions here in Lycoming County. One that reaches our own neighbors and one that connects us with kingdom work around the globe. Half of this year’s offering will be distributed to the following two agencies:

HARVEST OF HOPE

With the combination of rising prices and budget cuts to many of our culture’s safety nets, more folks from our own community are experiencing significant food insecurity than ever before. Not only have more families come to both of our Fresh Express food distribution events each month. Central PA Food Bank has not been able, for several months, to provide our neighbors with meat and in the most recent months, even eggs – a significant source of protein for many hungry people in our communities.

I-TEC - INTERNATIONAL TECHNICAL ELECTRIC & CONSTRUCTION <https://itec.org/>

I-TEC is a non-denominational ministry, right here in Montoursville, utilizing volunteers to meet the technical needs of missionaries and not-for-profit organizations worldwide. Their mission statement – Powering Missions Worldwide – is literally and spiritually what they do.

Recent projects have included work in February in Jamaica at Youth With A Mission facilities. One did infrastructure and electrical work for a solar power project at a Retreat and Ministry Site. Another restored electricity and water to a ministry site in the mountains that had been damaged by hurricane. Later this year, the team will travel to Nigeria to provide power for a Hospital and Nursing College operated by Serving in Mission.

Special envelopes are available in the newsletter and bulletin each week between now and Easter morning, as we gather to celebrate resurrection!

CONGREGATIONAL TEAM CARE MEETING - CANCELLED

The April 20 meeting is cancelled.



MUSIC

from the

HEART



PERFORMANCE AT

FAITH CHURCH

700 FAIRVIEW DR.
MONTOURSVILLE, PA 17754

SATURDAY APRIL 5TH, 2025

6:00 PM





FREE OF CHARGE
LOVE OFFERING WILL BE
TAKEN

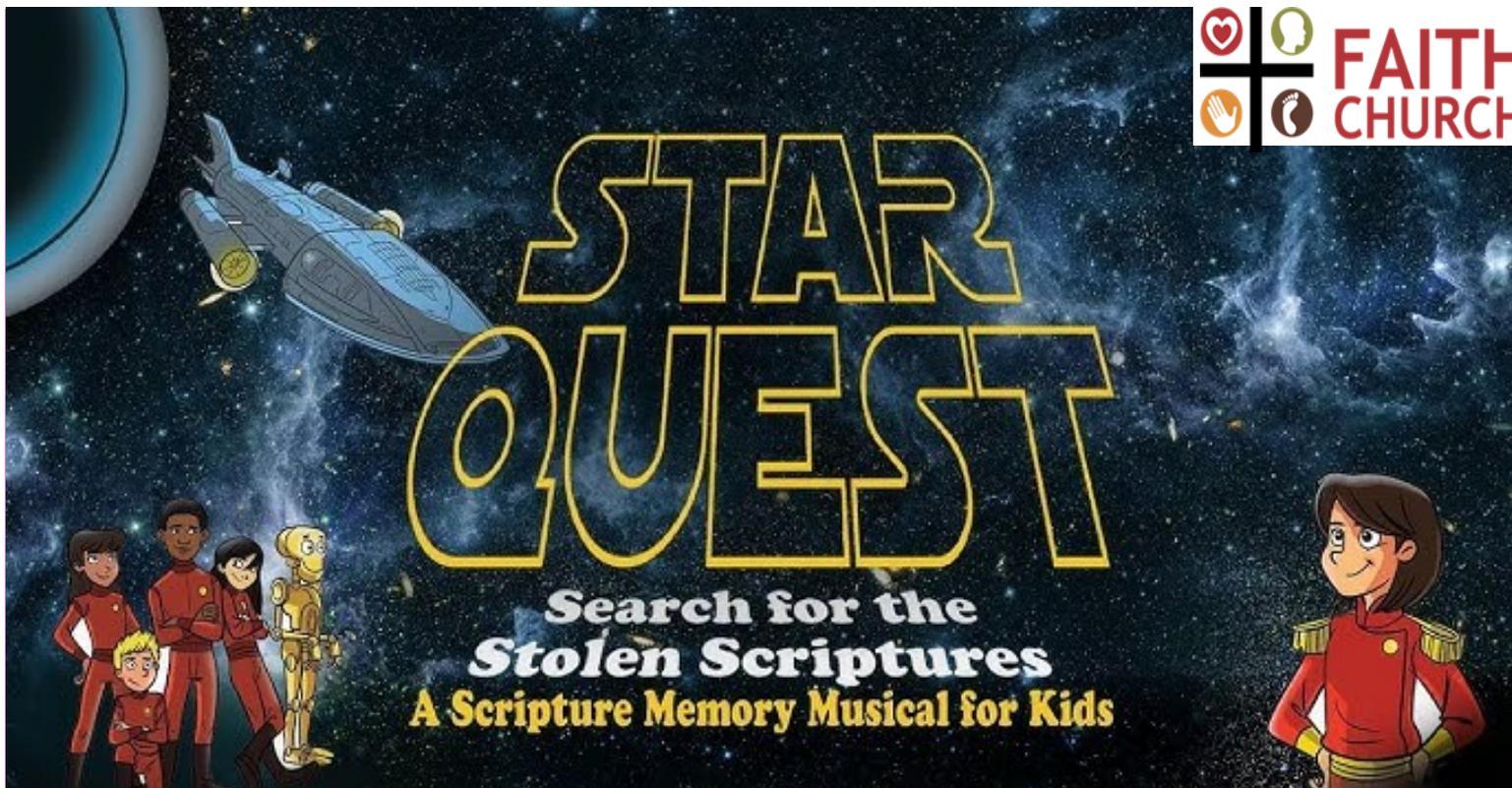
FAITH CHURCH STAFF

Larry L. Leland, Lead Pastor.....lleland@faithum.net
 Jim Anthony, Preschool Custodian.....jim_anthonysr@comcast.net
 Christian Calehuff, FSM Team Leader.....fsm@faithum.net
 Diane Dunlap, Office Assistant.....diane.dunlap@hotmail.com
 Julia Edler, Director of Children’s Ministries.....children@faithum.net
 Marion Handley, Associate Pastor.....mhandley@faithum.net
 Matthew Harris, Facilities Managerfacilities@faithum.net
 Lisa Konkle, Choral Coordinator/Organist.....lkonkle@faithum.net
 Deb Lindner, Voices of Faith Accompanistdvlindner@gmail.com
 Kristen Lowe, Tech Directorklowe@faithum.net
 Deb Ottenmiller, Director of Group Life/Assimilation.....dottenmiller@faithum.net
 Megan Perkinson, Director of Harvest of Hope.....harvestofhope@faithum.net
 Jody Robinson, Business Manager.....treasurer@faithum.net
 Gail Rollman, Assistant Director of Children’s Ministries.....children@faithum.net
 Sarah Young, Office Administrator.....office@faithum.net

FAITH CHURCH COUNCIL

Rachel Knipe - Chairperson
 Ben Clark - Vice Chairperson
 Susan Marshall - Secretary
 Larry Eckert - Lay Leader
 Scott Konkle
 Dan Mathers
 Lori Parke
 Paul Zimmerer

PRAISE KIDS SPRING MUSICAL



THE PRAISE KIDS OF FAITH CHURCH
WILL PRESENT THIS SPRING MUSICAL ON
SUNDAY, APRIL 27 AT 3:00 PM
EVERYONE IS WELCOME!
REFRESHMENTS FOLLOWING IN FAITH CAFÉ

FAITH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

OFFICE HOURS: Monday-Thursday, 8:00 am-3:30 pm (Closed for lunch from 12:30-1:00 pm) and Friday-Closed

PHONE #: 570-368-2459 EMAIL: office@faithum.net

WEB: www.faithum.net FACEBOOK: www.facebook.com/faithmontoursville

HAVE A PRAYER REQUEST? Call or email the office or fill out an online Connect Card on our website.

If you would like to receive the newsletter (in color!) via email, please contact the church office.

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

APRIL 2025

Life Line



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