



# LIFE LINE

OCTOBER 2024 NEWSLETTER OF FAITH UMC

OUR MISSION: MAKING DISCIPLES OF JESUS CHRIST FOR THE TRANSFORMATION OF THE WORLD  
OUR VISION: DEEPLY DEVOTED FOLLOWERS OF JESUS, LIVING INTO GOD'S KINGDOM



## FSM



Ethan &  
Logan  
Bragunier

Troop 21

God &  
Church  
Award

September 1



Dudes &  
Foods

September  
21



Membership  
Class

&

Ladies  
Gathering







Larry L. Leland  
Lead Pastor  
lleland@faithum.net

# THE VIEW FROM HERE



While October is traditionally Pastor Appreciation Month, here at Faith Church, we are blessed to have a staff of pastors and laypersons who faithfully and effectively lead us in our mission of making disciples of Jesus Christ.

Throughout the month of October, we invite you to take one or more of the opportunities below to bless the amazing women and men who live out their unique vocations by serving on Faith Church's staff. Drop a staff member a card or note, specifically thanking them for their work, and sharing how they have helped you become a more deeply devoted follower of Jesus. Take the

opportunity to have coffee or lunch with someone on staff and ask them how you can pray for them. In lieu of an individual gift, consider contributing to our **Staff Appreciation Offering**. These gifts, *above and beyond our regular tithes and offerings*, will be received throughout October. This year's Staff Appreciation Offering will help underwrite the cost of several staff members traveling to the Exponential Conference in Chicago in November, and to provide online access for others who aren't able to make the trip. As always, pray. In seasons of growth as well as transition, your prayers buoy the spirits of the pastors and others God has called to walk with you on this journey of faith and ministry. Finally, stay tuned on our social media for staff member highlights throughout the month.

Blessed to be part of this team,  
PL

## 2024 CHURCH CONFERENCE

In the United Methodist Church, a church conference is an annual meeting, and ours will be held this year on Sunday, November 10 at 6:00 p.m. here at Faith Church, as part of the Montoursville Cluster. This annual business and vision meeting for the congregation completes important business for the church, including setting the pastor's salary package, electing officers for the coming year and other yearly tasks. But this is about more than just voting on a few business items. It is about setting the tone for ministry for the coming year and getting a glimpse of the vision that God has for 2022.

**While membership is required to vote on the congregational business, everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend.**

Rev. Daniel Wilt, our Williamsport District Superintendent, will be on hand to lead us, along with our sisters and brothers from charges in the Montoursville Cluster. Any questions about the church conference process, don't hesitate to contact Pastor Larry.



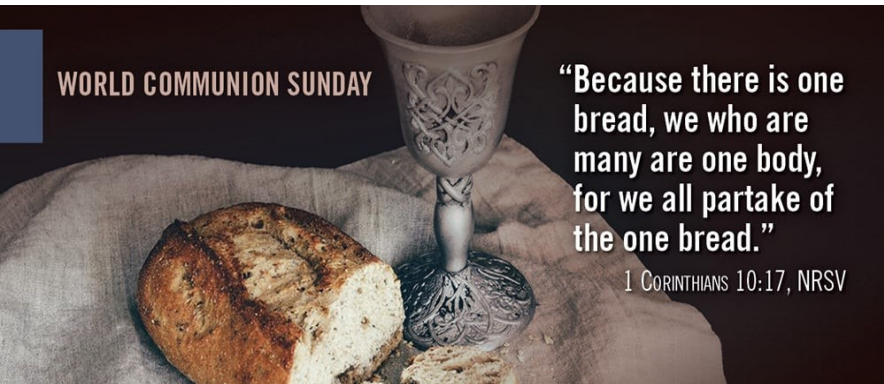
## QUARTERLY CONVO



Pastor Larry and the Church Council invite you to our next Quarterly Conversation, held after each service on Sunday, October 27. At this brief gathering – 20 minutes at most – we will share some kingdom glimpses, updates from the first nine months of the year and opportunities to pray as we look ahead to the next season. After the 8:15 service, we will gather back in the sanctuary, and after 9:45, we will gather in Room 10, across from the church office.

## WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY SUNDAY OCTOBER 6

Providing global education and vocational impact. Your gifts equip racial and ethnic students through scholarships for national and international graduate students who will transform communities around the world. ResourceUMC.org/WCS



# CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES



Jessica Neiman  
Dir. of Children's  
Ministries  
jneiman@faithum.net

Kid Connection: During the 9:45 am service, Infant through 5th grade join in the mission of the church making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world where all are invited to become an apprentice to Jesus with age appropriate, hands-on learning.

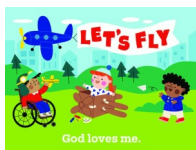
## Kid Connection Serving Team Schedule for Fall 2024:

- Team 1:** Lauren Reeder, Vanessa Johnston, Kelly Howell - **October 27, December 22**  
**Team 2:** Ryan Tira, Amy Tucker, Kim Rakestraw, Stephanie Matlack - **November 3**  
**Team 3:** Danielle or Matt Harris, Cherie Wurster, Jamie Burns (& Lilly) - **November 10**  
**Team 4:** Lisa Good, Tiffany Feigles, Kim Winters, Linda Richards - **November 17**  
**Team 5:** Rachel and Chris Knipe, Jenna LoCricchio, Ericka Blake - **November 24**  
**Team 6:** Brenda Clouser, Chelsea Howe, EvieLynn Perry, Kristi Michael, Brittany Ring - **October 6, December 1**  
**Team 7:** Robyn Smelko, Brigitte Wright, Chelsea Burkholder, Chris Meckbach, Amber Bowes - **October 13, December 8**  
**Team 8:** Andrea Lucas, Julie Vogel, Pamela Nelson, Rebecca McDaniel - **October 20, December 15**

## FAITH CHURCH NURSERY SCHEDULE FALL 2024:

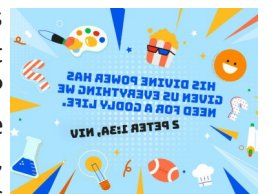
- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>Oct. 6</b> - Sarah Young, Katie Farley       | <b>Oct. 13</b> - Kitty Hofer, Ben Clark  |
| <b>Oct. 20</b> - Joni Perchinski, Lisa Vrabec   | <b>Oct. 27</b> - Jen and Kaytlin Larson, Erica Yoder   |
| <b>Nov. 3</b> - Erin Heap, Katie Farley         | <b>Nov. 10</b> - Hillary Hofstrom, Erica Blake   |
| <b>Nov. 17</b> - Joni Perchinski, Nicole Duarte | <b>Nov. 24</b> - Sarah Young, Kitty Hoffer   |
| <b>Dec. 1</b> - Michelle Eckert, Ben Clark      | <b>Dec. 8</b> - Erin Heap, Katie Farley  |
| <b>Dec. 15</b> - Joni Perchinski, Erica Yoder   | <b>Dec. 22</b> - Ben Clark, Lisa Vrabec <b>Dec. 29</b> - Jen & Kaytlin Larson, Nicole Duarte |

**Nursery:** (Birth through 2 years) During the 9:45 service children will be encouraged to play, and build friendships with others! After the worship set Diane Dunlap will present a short Bible story and an invitation to a coloring page related to the story.



**Preschool:** (3-5 year old class) Our preschoolers will go to places like school, daycare, church, and grandparents' houses. We know God has plans for each of them, and as they grow, they will go to even more places that might be even further away. We want to make sure that wherever they go, they can look to God with a trusting heart and say, "Let's fly!" because they know God is always with me.

**K-4th Grade:** There are a lot of choices that we need to make in life. Some of those choices can help us grow and shape us positively. Others can pull us in different directions, leaving us struggling to figure out which choice is best. What do we do when we're confronted with all of these choices? Do we rush ahead? Or do we pause and let God lead us toward the best way to act? Self-control is a fruit of the Spirit. It's one of the ways we can tell that God is transforming our lives and that we're growing in our faith. Thankfully, we don't have to find self-control on our own. When we follow Jesus, God's Spirit is with us and helps us make the wise choice.



**5th Grade:** Our 5th graders join their class for the opening worship in the front two rows closest to the Kids Wing in the Faith Community Center (FCC)! 5th graders then attend class where teachers cultivate a safe space to read the Bible, ask questions, play games, and pray and support one another. The month of October, 5th graders will continue the Sermon on the Mount through the use of the Bible Project resources, they will be taking a new look at the world and Jesus' invitation to make his story our story!



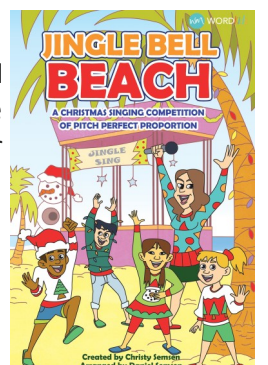
Do you have a kiddo (or know one) grade K-8th who loves Christmas and wants to have a good time? If so, they are cordially invited to join Praise Kids for Jingle Bell Beach, a Faith Church Christmas musical on December 15th at 3 pm followed by a potluck dinner!

Rehearsals will be held on the following Sundays from 11:00 am-Noon in Room 21:

October 6th & 20th - November 3rd - December 1st

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact Ms. Lisa at lkonkle@faithum.net.

(And if Sundays don't work for you, there will be rehearsal opportunities on some Wednesdays).



## BELLS

Calling all bellboys and bell-ladies! Bells is back in business! If you're a faithful Ding-a-ling, here are our upcoming rehearsal dates from 11 am-noon:

October 13th & 27th - November 10th - December 8th & 22nd

If you've never rung before but would be interested in joining, by all means email Ms. Lisa at lkonkle@faithum.net!



OUTREACH



Mason Neiman  
Director of  
Worship & Creative  
Arts  
mneiman@faithum.net

So for all of you who told me when we started volunteering on the Habitat for Humanity Faith Build project, “I don’t know how to do construction, but call me when it’s time to paint,” well this is your time—the house is nearly done! What an exciting time to work alongside the prospective homeowner in these final stages to help make her dream a reality! So if you don’t want to miss your chance to jump in and get your hands dirty (or painty) before it’s done, feel free to reach out and I’d be glad to get you on board. Our next build day will be Saturday, October 12th, from 8-4 pm. And if building’s not your thing, but food is, you can always help provide lunches for the crew. If that interests you, free to reach out to Becky Stabley at (570) 368-1714 as she is kindly spearheading keeping everyone fed and hydrated. If you have any questions, head on over to the sign-up table in Faith Café or email Mason Neiman at mneiman@faithum.net.



Join us for our annual Trunk or Treat, which will take place on Thursday, October 31st in the C. E. McCall Middle School parking lot from 6:00-8:00 pm.

You are invited to bring a trunk-full of candy to hand out to trick-or-treaters in this fun outreach to the community.

Our FSM youth will be on hand to provide hot chocolate and help park cars. If you can’t make it the night of, but would like to help, donating candy is the way to go! During the month of October, feel free to place all the candy you can scrounge in the baskets at each church entrance.

If you’d like to join the fun, follow the QR code: or contact Mason at mneiman@faithum.net.



This fall we have the opportunity to bless area families experiencing homelessness through our partner Family Promise. During the week of October 20-26th, we will bless struggling families by providing meals. Throughout this window, individuals, families, and small groups can sign up to provide a meal using a forthcoming Signup Genius link, and then deliver it that evening. If you have any questions or want more information, check your bulletin and feel free to reach out to Darci Kirby at darcikirby619@gmail.com.



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
Marion Handley, Associate Pastor.....	mhandley@faithum.net
Matthew Harris, Facilities Manager .....	facilities@faithum.net
Beth Jones, Director of Harvest of Hope.....	harvestofhope@faithum.net
Lisa Konkle, Choral Coordinator/Organist.....	lkonkle@faithum.net
Deb Lindner, Voices of Faith Accompanist .....	dvlindner@gmail.com
Kristen Lowe, Tech Director .....	klowe@faithum.net
Maureen McBride, Financial Secretary .....	finance@faithum.net
Chris Nau, Secretary/Communications Coord.....	office@faithum.net
, Director of Children’s Ministries.....	@faithum.net
Mason Neiman, Director of Worship & Creative Arts.....	mneiman@faithum.net

FAITH CHURCH COUNCIL

Jim Carpenter - Chairperson
Lisa Vrabec - Recorder
Ben Clark
Rachel Knipe
Scott Konkle
Chip Lamade
Sheila Lomax
Susan Marshall
Paul Zimmerer



Marion Handley  
Associate  
Pastor  
Mhandley  
@faithum.net

CONGREGATIONAL CARE & AGE LEVEL MINISTRIES

The Faith Church Congregational Care Team will meet in Room 10 on October 20th following the 9:45 am worship service. Our Congregational Care Team has the privilege to serve by supporting our church family through celebrations, health challenges, times of grief and other transitions. Interested in joining? Contact Marion Handley, mhandley@faithum.net or call the church office for more information.





Christian  
Calehuff  
FSM Team  
Leader  
fsm@faithum.n

**FAITH STUDENT MINISTRIES - FSM**

Hello Faith Church! FSM 2025 has begun and there is much to praise God. As a team, we started the month being prayed for by our congregation. What a wonderful experience to share with our youth leaders, THANK YOU FAITH CHURCH! God continued to bless us that day with a great night of connecting with our students starting the new year at FSM, we have new faces to welcome. Our leaders were excellent at helping the kids feel comfortable in this new environment. We had “ice breakers” and activities that were inclusive and allowed for us to get to know each other on a more personal level all while having some fun and laughter. In growing closer to each other, trust is established, and the hearts, minds and ears are more comfortable with receiving truths that are being taught from the bible. This year looks a little different at FSM, as we share a new time together Sundays from 4:30-6:30 pm. Grades 6 through 12 meet at the same time for games and lessons, then break up into more appropriate age level small groups for conversation around the lesson. This is all followed by a meal provided by many of our church's small groups and members. In starting our new season, we will be studying from the book of Matthew, where Jesus taught his followers on the Sermon on the Mount. Our Lord’s Prayer and what does righteousness in the Kingdom of God look like? These are just a few of the topics we will be growing in knowledge. For the next several weeks, we will be doing this same study lesson as our 5th grade friends in Kid Connection. What a wonderful way to learn God’s wisdom with other groups from within our church! At different times this year in FSM there will be lessons that will be done in parallel with church services and small groups. Like, in November we will be doing a youth retreat focusing on what it looks like to be a disciple, Practicing the Way. What an awesome approach as we all can grow together in the church. It is my hope that in doing these similar studies, we will have more opportunities to have conversation within our families and then go into the world living a life modeled by Jesus. Please continue to pray for FSM’s students and leaders. We appreciate your financial support too! It allows us to incorporate fun activities like roller skating, miniature golf and the corn maze into group time outside the church building, all while building in a Godly relationship with each other. If you want more information on FSM, please reach out to me or check our bulletin board out for updates.

**CORN MAZE OCTOBER 20TH**

Time: 4:30 to 6:30 pm  
Location: Snyder's Farm  
467 RT 87 HWY (rear)  
Montoursville  
Group Fellowship  
Cost \$5



**COMING IN NOVEMBER**

Grades 6th - 12th come grow in discipleship November 8-10, 2024 at local cabins on the Loyalsock. More information will be coming.  
Parents meeting October 13th



Do you enjoy cooking and baking? Are you and/or your small group looking for a way to serve? FSM needs you. We are looking for individuals and /or groups to prepare a meal for the youth during their FSM meetings on Sunday nights. Check out the link or QR code for the Sign Up Genius to see how you can plug in and help. You can sign up for the entire meal or just part of it. If you have any questions, reach out to Barb Leland at blleland31@gmail.com. QR code:

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

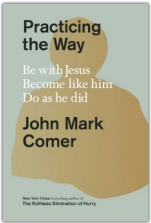


**GROW/SERVE**



Deb Ottenmiller  
Dir. of Group  
Life and  
Assimilation  
dottenmiller@  
faithum.net

**PRACTICING THE WAY**



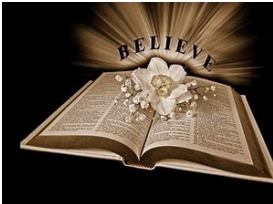
Beginning October 6th, groups will be hosting the coming 4-week Church-Wide Series Practicing the Way. You can connect to one for a short term, as a first or next step! Or participate in the Training and lead/host one yourself! I would love to help you! Contact Deb @ 570-244-7002.  
atdottenmiller@faithum.net

**DATE NIGHT**

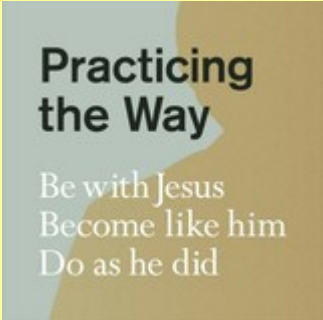
Save the Date!  
Friday - November 8th  
Who could use a COUPLES NIGHT OUT of fun, food, and adventure!! On November 8th 6:30-8 pm Faith Church will host a Couples Night in the Faith Cafe. This event is open to couples of all ages. Make sure to sign up early that you are planning to attend!  
Sign-ups and details will be available beginning October 20th, at the Sign-Up Center in Faith Cafe. Can't wait!

**THE WOMEN’S MONTHLY GATHERING**

Taking place October 16th, at 10:00 in the Faith Cafe on campus. We will be taking our discussions from the Women of Faith series “Living Above Worry and Stress”. All women are invited to join us for one hour the third Wednesday of each month. Please bring your Bible if you have one. Thank you and if you have any questions, please contact Michele @ 724-309-5742 or Deb @ 570-337-1149.



NEW SERMON SERIES



NEW SERIES BEGINNING OCTOBER 6TH

- October 6th: Apprentices of Jesus
- October 13th: Be With Jesus
- October 20th: Become Like Jesus
- October 27th: Do As Jesus Did

CHURCH COUNCIL NOMINATIONS

Our Church Council, made up of 9 members elected for up to two consecutive three-year terms exists to ensure the vision of helping people connect in worship, grow in community groups, serve the body of Christ and go into the world to make disciples of Jesus. The Church Council at Faith Church focuses their work in three areas (Staffing, Facilities and Finance) including:

- Approve the Annual Budget.
- Approve the hiring of any member of the Leadership Team.
- Annually review the Lead Pastor in conjunction with the District Superintendent.
- Approve all land acquisitions, facility construction and significant legal obligations.
- When a special need exists, the Council can create a task force consisting of a sub-group of the board and/or other church members. This would include the election of new members to the Church Council.
- Actively pursue learning opportunities as it relates to large church structure and development. This could include books, conferences and other learning tools.

Folks that serve on the Church Council should possess the following character traits:

- Compassion (love for Jesus, his people, and his mission).
- Competency (skills consistent with human resources, operations and stewardship).
- Creativity (ability to look at the total of God’s resources and bring the best into the church).



Faith United Methodist Church

OFFICE HOURS: Monday-Thursday, 8:00 am-3:30 pm and Friday-CLOSED

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

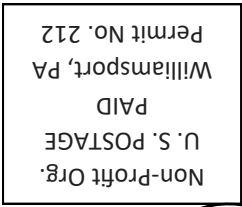
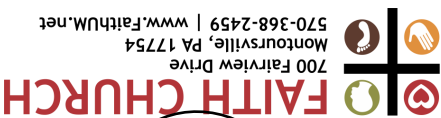
WEB: www.faithum.net FACEBOOK: www.facebook.com/faithmontoursville

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

Life Line



October 2024