# LIFE LINE

**NOVEMBER 2017 Newsletter of Faith UMC** 

# FAITH STORIES

FAITH CHURCH

from the month of October



Renee Bower, Jean Myers and Cherie Wurster helping pack meals for Senior Citizens.





The Baptism of Hudson Meckbach as witnessed by his parents, Ben and Kate and his little sister, Finley.





# Pastor's Pen

<sup>20</sup> Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, <sup>21</sup> to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen. (Ephesians 3:20-21, NIV)

One of the favorite parts of my job as a pastor is to get to hear people's stories. In particular I love to hear the stories of how God is at work in a person's life. That's what I love about our Starting Point and Membership Classes. We go around the table and ask people about why they are connected at Faith Church and so often the answers we get are about God's work. Often people comment that they were drawn to the church because they experience God's presence here. For many people they relate that they have never experienced God's presence in the way that they have experienced at Faith Church. I get to hear people talk about getting to know Jesus and being changed as they learn what it means to follow Him with tears in their eyes.



Jake Waybright Lead Pastor jwaybright@faithum.net 570-368-2459

It's these stories that keep me motivated to keep pushing forward as a pastor and as a disciple. When I hear the faith stories of people who are here I want to do everything I can to make sure that many more faith stories are written.

That's a big part of what our JOURNEY: Next Steps campaign is all about. It's about doing our part to see more stories of faith written at Faith Church. It's about no child in our community growing up without experiencing the love of Jesus, no one in our community going to bed hungry, and no person in our community missing the invitation to follow Christ. It is about making more disciples of Jesus who will connect, grow, serve and go.

I hope you have marked your calendar and plan on attending our Celebration Service at McCall Middle School on Sunday, November 19. It is going to be an awesome celebration of what God is doing here, and a time for us all to step up to do our part in God's next steps that will help even more stories of faith happen. See you there!

Peace and Grace,

Jake Waybright, Lead Pastor



# WELCOME TO OUR NEW FAITH STAFF

# **Business Manager**

Hello, my name is Julie and I am the new Business Manager. My husband Matt and I have been married for over 13 years and we have two young sons. We started coming to Faith in 2012 and felt an instant connection. I have always wanted my sons to experience having a church family and friends like I grew up with, and they truly do. I have happily served in Kid Connection, VBS, fellowship Sunday mornings, and with Thanksgiving Baskets. Walking through the doors at Faith, I feel such an excitement and joy that the Lord is providing us with something so powerful. I am excited to be a part of this church and watch the amazing growth.

This is a major career change for me as Business Manager. I have a degree in business and landscape and have worked in the landscape industry for over 10 years. I welcome the new challenges, all there is new to learn, and helping with moving this church in such a positive direction.



# Nursery/Childcare Coordinator

Hi, I'm Shannon Perrotta and I moved to Williamsport in 2001 to attend Pennsylvania College of Technology where I received my degree in Early Childhood Education. While attending college I met my husband Nick. We moved to

Pittsburgh not long after I graduated, where I was a Preschool teacher for 6 years. We married in 2009 and began our family. In 2012 my husband was lucky enough to get a transfer home allowing our children Alexis, Anthony, Alivia, and Angelina to grow up close to their family. We were blessed to begin attending Faith Church about 3 years ago and became members about 2 years ago.



# **Nursery Assistant**

Hello I'm Jenna Locricchio, I feel very blessed to be able to be apart of the staff at faith Church. I feel incredibly grateful to be married to my high school sweetheart, and to have met my husband at a young age! We have a beautiful 2 year old daughter, Emilia. She is such a fun free spirit. She truly is

my baby doll. I really enjoy putting all of my focus and energy into my daughter and making sure our days are filled with lots of activities and fun. I am really looking forward to building relationships with the parents and getting to know



all the babies in the nursery and caring for them as they grow!



### **Current Sermon Series**

(No Saturday worship, see below)

# **Important Dates**



# **Hard Hat Tours**

Would you like to see the construction "up close and personal"? Join one of the Hard Hat Tours conducted by Pastor Jake and members of the Facilities Design Team and JOURNEY: Next Steps leadership team. These tours will take place the weekends of November 4-5 and 11-12 after each worship service - Saturdays at 6:30 pm and Sundays at 9:30 am and 11:00 am. Please meet at the left exit door in Faith Café.

# Midnight Prayer Service and 18 Hour Prayer Vigil

"Devote yourselves to prayer with an alert mind and a thankful heart." – Colossians 4:2 (NLT)

Please join us on Thursday, November 16 for a time devoted to praying for Faith Church, the surrounding community, and the Journey: Next Steps campaign. We will begin with a 1 hour prayer service at midnight on November 16 in the sanctuary to kick off our vigil. The vigil will last from 12:00 am through 6:00 pm. This is a special time to thank God for His provision and to ask, "Lord, what do You want to do through me?" We want to cover every minute of the 18 hours in prayer. Sign up for a 30 minute prayer slot at the church or online at faithum.net. Questions? Contact a member of our Prayer Team: Chris Wright (cswmfw@comcast.net), Mike Wright (mfwcsw@comcast.net) or Eddie Rodriguez-Lopez (eorodz@gmail.com).



# **Construction Update**

The new building is moving along quickly. We had some great weather in October which allowed the construction crew to make a lot of progress. The most visible progress has been with the masonry, as concrete block and brick have begun to define the areas of the worship center and gym and to finish the exterior of the children's wing. In November the masonry work will continue, along with new water lines and natural gas as soon as the permitting process is complete. If all goes well, the Children's Wing may be completely under roof by Thanksgiving. If you haven't had a tour yet, make sure to take advantage of one of the tours happening after worship during the first two weeks of November!

# All Saints Remembrance

All Saints Day is Wednesday, November 1. The weekend of November 4-5 we will take an opportunity to give thanks for all those who have gone before us in the faith. Those who died in the past year from our congregation were *Michael Lord, Dorothy Springman, Evelyn Gehr, Donald Baker, Barbara Hall, Sandra Gilbert, Thomas Judd, Carl Lutz, and William Reed, Sr.* 

# Alaska Slideshow and Ice Cream Sundaes

Rob Barbour has lived in and traveled to Alaska frequently. He has photographed beautiful pictures of God's creation in the state including wildlife and its habitat. Please join us in the Faith Café on Saturday, November 11 following our 5:30 worship service as Rob shares his Alaskan pictures and experiences. Invite a friend, make a sundae, and enjoy a time of fellowship.



### Bell Choir

Faith Church is looking for new recruits for the Bell Choir. If you are interested in learning to ring you are welcome to join rehearsal on Sundays after the 9:45 am worship - noon. We'll 💉 be working on Christmas music.



# Voices of Faith (Adult Choir)

Please join us at practice beginning Thursday, November 16 at 5:30 pm if you would like to sing for the Christmas season. All are welcome!

For more information contact Lisa Konkle at 570-368-2459.

# New Website Launch

Faith Church's website at www.Faithum.net has a new look and more features to help you connect, grow, serve and go. It is also a great tool for you to invite others to come experience what God is doing in and through Faith Church. Check it out. New features include:

- Mobile friendly
- Improved online worship experience
- Easy to use giving platform
- Smoother and more comprehensive online event sign-up
- Places for you to request care
- New tools for you to explore next steps of Faith

# Blue Christmas Service

Faith Church will host a service of hope for those grieving on Sunday, December 17 at 7:00 pm. Save the date!

### Thank You

Darrin Feerrar, Elementary Principal for the Montoursville School District sent a letter to the congregation of Faith thanking us for our support of Kindergarten Summer Camps at each elementary school. "We could not possibly run this program without the financial support provided by Faith Church."

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			3:30p-Ch. Bell Choir 4p-Praise Kids 6:30-8pm-FSM 6:8	5:30p-Voices of Faith 6p-Sun. Praise Team 6:30p-Book Club 7:30p-Sat. Praise Team	3 9:15a-Friday Fun 9:15a-MTO	4 All Saints Wknd Daylight Savings Time Ends 9a-PK Drama Wkshp 5:30p-Cont. Worship w/Kid Connection 6:30p-Unload trucks for Food Packing IV 6:30p-Hard Hat Tour 6:30p-BB Sign-ups
5 All Saints Wknd 8:30a-Trad. Worship 9:30 & 11a-Hard Hat Tour 9:45a-Cont. Worship w/Kid Connection 9:45a-Adult SS 11a-BB Sign-ups 11:15a-Bell Choir 1-6p-Food Packing IV 4p-FOG 6:30p-FSM 9:12	6 6p-Girl Scouts 6:30p-Foundations 6:30p-Merge	7 10a-Leadership Team Mtg. 3p-Worship Design Team Mtg. 6p-Sr. Box Packing 7p-Cub/Boy Scouts	8 3:30p-Ch. Bell Choir 4p-Praise Kids 6p-Preschool Open House 6:30-8pm-FSM 6:8	5:30p-Voices of Faith 6p-Sun. Praise Team 6:30p-Ch. Council 7:30p-Sat. Praise Team 7p-WB Christian Wrtrs	<b>10</b> 9:15a-Friday Fun 9:15a-MTO	9a-PK Workshop for All 5:30p-Cont. Worship w/Kid Connection 6:30p-Alaskan Adventure 6:30p-Hard Hat Tour
8:30a-Trad. Worship 9:30 & 11a-Hard Hat Tour 9:45a-Cont. Worship w/Kid Connection 9:45a-Adult SS 11a-Care Mtg 11:15a-Bell Choir 4p-FOG 6:30p-FSM 9:12	6p-Girl Scouts 6:30p-Merge	14 10a-Leadership Team Mtg.  7p-Cub/Boy Scouts	Newsletter Deadline in 1 week 3:30p-Ch. Bell Choir 4p-Praise Kids 6:30p-Moms Connect 6:30-8pm-FSM 6:8	5:30p-Voices of Faith 6p-Sun. Praise Team 6p-Moms Connect 6:30p-Church Council 7:30p-Sat. Praise Team	17 9:15a-Friday Fun 9:15a-MTO	18 NO Saturday Worship
19 9:30a-JNS Celebration Event 4p-FOG 6:30p-FSM 9:12	6p-Girl Scouts 6:30p-Merge	21 10a-Leadership Team Mtg. 7p-Cub/Boy Scouts	Noon-Newsletter Deadline 3:30p-Ch. Bell Choir 4p-Praise Kids	23 Happy Thanksgiving CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	24 10a-Noon-FSM 6:12 Turkey Bowl	5:30p-Contemporary Worship w/Kid Connection
26 8:30a-Trad. Worship 9:45a-Cont. Worship w/Kid Connection 9:45a-Adult SS 11:15a-Bell Choir 4p-FOG 6:30p-FSM 9:12	6p-Girl Scouts 6:30p-Merge	28 10a-Leadership Team Mtg. 7p-Cub/Boy Scouts	3:30p-Ch. Bell Choir 4p-Praise Kids 6:30-8pm-FSM 6:8	30 5:30p-Voices of Faith 6p-Sun. Praise Team 7:30p-Sat. Praise Team		

Praise Kids-Children's Choir for ages 4-Grade 5 FOG-Faces of Grace-Youth Choir for Grades 6-12 Voices of Faith-Adult Choir Bell Choir-for Grades 6-Adult FSM 6:8-for students in Grades 6-8 FSM 9:12-for students in Grades 9-12 Starting Point - For those wishing to join Faith JNS Celebration Event-one combined service

Kid Connection-classes from birth through Grade 5 Merge-Open Community Group for Adults-Childcare provided Sr. Box Packing-1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the month, pack food for Seniors MTO-Mothers Time Out-childcare (birth-age 4) for attenders Friday Fun-help with Kid Connection readiness/office projects Foundations-class for basics of the faith New Member Class - for those wishing to join Faith

Moms Connect Group-Adult Women Book Club (Forgotten Populations)-Open JNS - JOURNEY: Next Steps Capital Campaign Children's Bell Choir - grades 3-5 Baptism Mtg.-for baptism for yourself/child WB (West Branch) Christian Writers Group Food Packing IV - Pack food at McCall School

For more information on any of the above groups or anything on the calendar, please call the church office at 570-368-2459. These activities were planned at the time of this publication, but are subject to change.

Alaskan Adventure-ice cream social/pics of Alaska

# CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES





**Marion Handley** Director of Children's Ministries mhandley@faithum.net 570-368-2459

# Kid Connection Classes

Saturdays at 5:30 pm Nursery: 0-3: Room 21 PK-Grade 5: Room 25

Sundays at 9:45 am Nursery: 0-2: Room 21 PreK4-K: Room 24 Grades 2/3: Room 25

2s & 3s: Room 22 Grade 1: Room 26 Grades 4/5: Room 23





# Orange Spotlight

During November, our kids will be learning about thankfulness! The preschoolers will be serving up "recipes for thanks" while our elementary kids discuss the virtue of gratitude and what it means to recognize the good gifts that we have received from God and other people. Kids will learn why we should be thankful not only for fun presents or favorite meals, but also for things that may not seem at first like gifts given in love, such as God's gift of the Ten Commandments. We encourage our kids to demonstrate gratitude and thankfulness in a variety of ways including sharing what they have and serving other people in their family or community.

# Kid Connection Sunday Serving Schedule for November-December 2017

Team 1: Dottie Mathers, Betsy &/or Dave Bjorkman, Jessie Williams, Lori Parke

Team 2: Valerie Mosteller, Darci Kirby, Elise Meckbach, Ryan Tira, Quinn Burkey, Kevin Handley

Team 3: Stef Frelin, Danielle and/or Matt Harris, Emily &/or Adam Tate, Denise Plankenhorn, Julie Stokes

Team 4: Rebecca Huffman, Kevin Handley, Kim Rakestraw, Susan Ravert, Dave Rinker, Keith & Sharon Atherholt

Team 5: Tessa Little, Emily Miller, Kevin Handley, Jenna LoCricchio, Brenda Laudenslager

Team 6: Sarah Keiser, Tina Remsnyder, Jessie Metzger, Crystal Miller, Jane Heintzelman, Susan Waybright

Team 7: Andrea Lucas, Julie Vogel, Cherie Wurster, Lindsay Davis, Brian Cozzi, EvieLyn Perry

Team 8: Sheryl Snyder, Lauren Caputo, Mitzi Herron, Jessica Wertz, Rick Gray, Kevin Handley, Kaitlin Eck

11/5 - Team 6 11/12 - Team 7 11/19 - Celebration Service at McCall (Nursery Only) 11/26 - Team 8 12/3 Team 1

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12/10 Team 2 12/17 Team 3 12/24 Christmas Eve (Nursery Only) 12/31 Team 4

# John Bower Basketball Sign-Ups!

Sign-ups for John Bower Basketball will be November 4-5. Children who regularly attend worship services or Kid Connection at Faith Church will be eligible to play. There will be a table for sign-ups where you can turn in forms and payment. The cost to play is \$5 per child. In addition, if your child desires a team t-shirt the cost will be an additional \$10. Please contact Andrea Lucas het atc@yahoo.com with questions.

# JOURNEY: Next Steps for Kids

# JOURNEY: Next Steps Basketball Fundraiser

sports, VBS games, and more once it is fully furnished. have the opportunity to earn money Detailed information and sign-up sheets will be posted to contribute to our capital campaign online and distributed through Kid Connection. Please by doing chores at home, having a contact Reba Fry (fryfamily46811@verizon.net) or Kevin bake or yard sale, making and selling Handley (kevinjahandley@gmail.com) with questions.



# JOURNEY: Next Steps Coin Banks

Join us on November 25 at McCall Middle School for our | Coin banks have gone home with the kids from Kid basketball tournament fundraiser! The tournament is a fun | Connection! Each child was able to decorate his/her own box. way for our elementary students and youth to raise money Children attending Kid Connection are learning about toward completion of the gymnatorium which will be able to stewardship and generosity and praying for the local I host basketball practices and games as well as other indoor I community and the vision behind our building project. They

> simple crafts, or suggesting their own creative ideas. Please return the I banks on or before the weekend of December 2-3.



# Faith Church Leadership Team

Jake Waybright, Lead Pastor.....jwaybright@faithum.net Rusty Wolfinger, Associate Pastor.....rwolfinger@faithum.net Diane Dunlap, Office Administrator......office@faithum.net Marion Handley, Director of Children's Ministries ......mhandley@faithum.net Jared Hetherington, Dir. of Student Ministries ......jhetherington@faithum.net Deb Ottenmiller, Director of Group Life......dottenmiller@faithum.net Tony Sharp, Director of Worship.....tsharp@faithum.net Julie Vogel, Business Manager......jvogel@faithum.net

# Faith Church Council

Ben Meckbach - Chairperson Emily Miller - Recorder Keith therholt Tara Crebs **David Dawes** George Hinston Ed Pry

# STUDENT MINISTRIES



Jared Hetherington Director of Student Ministries jhetherington@faithum.net 570-368-2459



Grades 9-12 - Whether you're just starting High School life or if you're an upper classman, join us on Sundays from 6:30-8:30pm as we walk through life and serve and grow together.



Grades 6-8 - Need a place to relax and get away from the stress of Middle School? Join us on Wednesdays from 6:30-8pm as we discover who God is and who He created us to be.





# **GROW**



Deb Ottenmiller
Dir. of Group Life/Assimilation
dottenmiller@faithum.net
Text-570-244-7002
570-368-2459

# The Forgotten Populations Book Club The Forgotten Populations Book Club reschedu

The Forgotten Populations Book Club rescheduled its October meeting for 6:30 pm on November 2, when we will discuss *Hidden Figures* by Margot Lee Shetterly, the story of African-American women who made NASA's space missions possible. Our November and December meetings will be combined when we meet at 6:30 pm on December 7 to discuss *Be Safe, I Love You* by Cara Hoffman, the story of a female veteran returning home haunted by service trauma . Please contact Mary Broussard at <a href="mailto:broussm@lycoming.edu">broussm@lycoming.edu</a> if you would like to participate or have any questions.

# Moms Connect Group



The next meeting is Wednesday, November 15 at 6:30 pm in Room 10. Our third topic will hopefully help connect us to God and each other as we talk about Dealing with Loneliness. Motherhood is a time when you are never alone right? So why do we sometimes struggle with feeling lonely? We will dive into this topic together in an always confidential and very supportive group.

The December meeting will be on Thursday, December 7 at 6:00 pm in Faith Café - The topic this month is very appropriately Holiday Traditions. We will have an extended time this evening to share treats together, talk about our family Holiday traditions and the celebration of Christ's birthday as well as have a spirited gathering with Christmas music and fellowship.

# Did You Know?

There are multiple ways you can connect at Faith beyond the worship setting, to grow into God's plan for your life. Here are a few ways to take some of those important next steps. Connect with me for additional details!

# **Large Community Group Connect Events**

These one hour events are offered two times a year, with the express purpose of forming new short term group experiences with your circle, or with fellow Faith Church attendees who pursue the same goal. It's an opportunity for you and your friends (DO plan to invite your friends along!) to gather in a larger group setting with other people who also desire this form of community, and figure out how that will look for you.

# MERGE

Where faith and life meet. MERGE is an opportunity for you and your friends to take that next step out of the sanctuary and into a Community Group. MERGE meets Monday nights at 6:30pm in Faith Café. Childcare is provided

# Form your own Community Group

Grab a few friends from your current circle [people you would like to hang around with more], and invite them over to your home to experience a short term Community Group setting! We can show you how!

# **Church Wide Series**

Once a year all current groups and congregants are encouraged to experience a church wide Community Group study that partners with the current series

6.

# **SERVE AND GO**

# Go, Go, Go in 2017

Here are the "GO" events that we currently have scheduled for 2017. We'll need **ALL OF GOD'S FAITH CHURCH SERVANTS** if these events are going to make an impact for Christ in our community and beyond.

- 1. Food Packing IV Event: November 5 McCall Middle School
- 2. Operation Christmas Child: Not a collection site this year. Brochures and drop off information will be available.
- 3. Thanksgiving Baskets: November in association with McCall Middle School
- 4. Oasis of Hope Angel Tree: December
- 5. Christmas Eve Offering: United Churches of Lycoming County Food Pantry and Hurricane Maria: Puerto Rico Support



Pastor Rusty Wolfinger Associate Pastor rwolfinger@faithum.net 570-368-2459

# Food Packing IV Is Sunday, November 5<sup>th</sup>!

On Sunday, November 5 <u>at McCall Middle School</u>, Faith Church will become a meal packing assembly machine! We will be partnering once again with the EndHunger organization with hopes of packing 50,000+ meals. These meals will be used locally in Lycoming and the surrounding counties. The event will run from 1:00-7:00 pm. You may still sign up at the worship services on November 4-5 or just show up the day of the event. In addition, we will need a crew to unload the food product at McCall immediately following our Saturday evening worship service on November 4. This is a ministry for the entire family!

# **Operation Christmas Child**

For a variety of reasons, we will not be a drop off location for Operation Christmas Child boxes this year. However, OCC "how to pack a box"

brochures will be available at the welcome centers and in the office toward the end of October. Boxes may be dropped off at Pine Street UMC (441 Pine St. Wmspt.) during the week of November 13-19. Drop off hours are M-W (12-5:00 pm), Th-F (12-6:00 pm), Sat. (11:00 am-1:00 pm), Sun. (12:30-6:30 pm).

# Thanksgiving Baskets



We will be collecting food and monetary donations pack Thanksgiving baskets for families from the C.E. McCall Middle School. Monetary gifts can be given to Pastor Rusty or dropped off in the church office. Food donations collected in Pastor Rusty's office the entire month of November. Servants are also needed to pack and

deliver the baskets on Sunday, 11/20 at 11:15 am. Connect Card sign-ups will begin later this month.

### **Items Needed:**

Canned Corn
Canned Cranberry Sauce
Turkey Gravy

Boxed Hot Chocolate

Canned Green Beans
Canned Sweet Potatoes

Boxed Stuffing

**Instant Mashed Potatoes** 

Box Cake/Brownie Mixes & Frosting

\$20-25 Weis Gift Cards to purchase turkeys & dessert pies

# Oasis of Hope Angel Tree

Oasis of Hope is a ministry that serves girls (ages 12-18) who have been victims of the sex-trafficking industry. Often times when girls enter the Oasis facility they only have the clothes that they are wearing. One of the first things the Oasis of Hope staff do is to take the girls shopping for clothing and personal hygiene items. It is our hope that Faith Church might supply them with enough gift cards to help each girl they welcome in 2018. On the weekends of December 2-3 and 9-10 there will be a Christmas tree with angels on it in Faith Café. Each angel will be for a \$25 gift card from Target or Old Navy. Just follow the instructions and return the cards by the weekend of December 16-17.



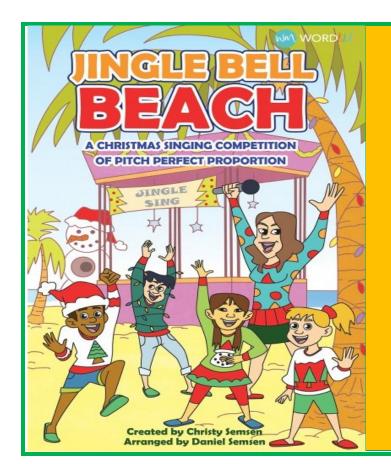


# **Family Promise**

Thanks to all who served during our host weeks in 2017. Host week dates for 2018 will be out soon. Please pray about your involvement in the new year.

# Trunk or Treat

Thanks to all who brought their cars, candy, smiles, and love for Jesus to the McCall Middle School parking lot this year.



# **SAVE THE DATE**

Sunday, December 3 3:00 pm

# **PRAISE KIDS**

**Proudly Present** 

Jingle Bell Beach

Followed by a dinner in Fellowship Hall.

# **Faith United Methodist Church**

Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:00 am-4:30 pm **Phone** #: 570-368-2459 Email: office@faithum.net

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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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FAITH CHURCH
TOO FAITH CHURCH

