

LIFE LINE

OCTOBER 2017 Newsletter of Faith UMC

FAITH STORIES

from the month of September



Foundations Class

This group met on September 18 and it was a mixed group of seventeen from different churches, backgrounds, etc. Participants discovered their learning style and discussed transformation and the dimensions of Christian discipleship. These classes meet every Monday night between now and November 6. If interested in trying this class, please call the church office at 570-368-2459.



Moms Connect Group

This group met on September 19 and it was AWESOME! Thank you to Mitzi Herron for leading the group on the topic of creating balance and to Brenda Slocum for imparting her words of wisdom! Interested in joining this group? The next meeting will be Thursday, October 19 at 6:00 pm in Fellowship Hall (see page 6). For more information, call the church office at 570-368-2459.

Pictured: Betsy Bjorkman, Jessica Clayton, Brittney Frey, Mitzi Herron, Kate Meckbach, Tessa Little, Jessie Metzger, Meghan Maeulen, Stef Frelin, Emily Tate, Brenda Slocum, Dayna Comitz, Elise Meckbach, Erica Wurster.



JOURNEY: Next Steps Prayer Team Commissioned

On the weekend of September 16-17, at all three worship services, members of the JOURNEY: Next Steps Capital Campaign Prayer Team were commissioned. Other members of the Lead Team went forward for support. This picture is from the 9:45 am Sunday service. L to R: Crystal Miller, Mike and Kim Steinbacher, Robin Metzger, Dorothy Thomas, Jared Hetherington, Eddie and Mairrette Rodriguez, Lisa Epright, Mike Wright, Letty and Rick Gray, Rick Wurster, Scott Konkle, Kristen Lowe, Rebecca Sharp. Back row: Tony Sharp, Pastor Jake Waybright.

Pastor's Pen -

"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, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen. (Ephesians 3:20-21, NIV)

Hopefully in the last few weeks you received the vision brochure for our fall initiative **JOURNEY: Next Steps**. It is time to raise our vision and raise the funds to keep moving ahead with the vision God has given our church. Over the next several weeks we are going to be talking about the next steps for us as we continue **to do whatever it takes** to reach people who aren't here yet and invite them to **a life-changing relationship with Christ**.

Six years ago Pastor Larry pulled together a team to prayerfully consider how our facilities were serving current needs and positioning us to continue to reach more people and make a greater impact in our community. Out of that conversation emerged a master building plan that reflected the vision of the congregation and would serve as a tool for years to come to **make more disciples of Jesus Christ**.

What is exciting about this time is that we can see the pieces of the vision that was birthed years ago coming together right in front of our eyes. Phase 1 of the new building is going up and we will be able to move our Children's Ministries into the new wing sometime this winter. As we see a dream become reality we are inviting everyone to pray for the disciples who will be made and the lives that will be touched using the tool of the new building. In particular we want you to pray that we will be able to welcome more children, make a greater community impact, and invite more people to follow Jesus. In particular we are inviting you to pray for this by praying that

**No child in our community would grow up without experiencing the love of Jesus
No person in our community would go to bed hungry, and
No one in our community will miss the invitation to follow Christ**

Please make sure to read more details about this **God-sized destination** in your vision brochure and to look over the details of the building and financing in a second brochure that will arrive in the middle of October. I'd also love for you to come out to one of our Affinity Gatherings listed below where you can ask questions and get an in person Hard Hat Tour of the new building from a member of our Facilities Design or Capital Campaign teams. **Our goal is that every person at Faith Church is able to get a picture of where we are headed**, what it will take financially to get there together, and to join in prayer for God to move and to show us each our part.

As we pray these prayers together I am confident that God will do immeasurably more than we can dream or imagine. I'm also confident that God will show each of us our part in this dream as we pray **"Lord, what do You want to do through me?"** Let's boldly take these next steps together!

Grateful to be on this journey with you,
Pastor Jake



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

JOURNEY: Next Steps Fall Capital Campaign

Are you curious about JOURNEY: Next Steps? Would you like to take a "hard hat tour" of the new building? Are you ready to be a part of God's vision for Faith Church or are you already "all in" and would just like an update? Join one of the informational gatherings happening this October. To register you can contact the church office, or go to faithum.net/journey-next-steps or use the QR Code provided.

- **Kids' Crew Gathering** (for those with kids, grandkids, or those who are connected with our Children's Ministry)
 - * Friday, October 6 at 5:30 pm in Faith Café
 - * Dinner and childcare provided
- **A Legacy Gathering** (for those who would like to learn about legacy giving)
 - * Saturday, October 7 at 10:00 am in Faith Café
 - * Light refreshments provided
- **Join the JOURNEY Gathering** (for those interested in JOURNEY: Next Steps - recommended for those new to Faith Church since 2014)
 - * Saturday, October 14 at 6:30 pm in Faith Café
 - * Dinner and childcare provided

Everyone is encouraged to attend one of these gatherings. All gatherings are interchangeable - feel free to pick one that meets with your schedule.



JOURNEY

next STEPS

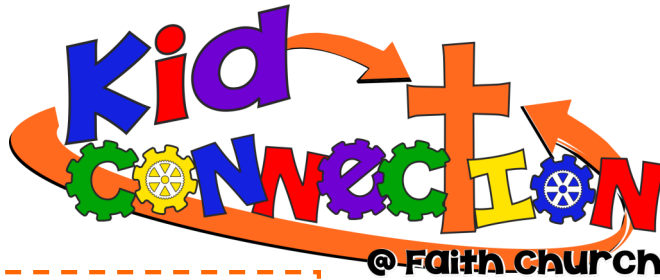
**Grounded in Gratitude
Revealed in Prayer
Lived in Faith**

Don't miss out on these exciting JOURNEY: Next Steps events!

- Hard Hat Tours and Affinity Gatherings
 - I. October 6, 2017 – Kids' Crew Gathering
 - II. October 7, 2017 – Legacy Gathering
 - III. October 14, 2017 – Join the JOURNEY Gathering
- Gratitude Weekend – October 15
- Prayer Weekend – October 22
- Ministry Weekend – October 29
- Prayer Event – November 16
- Combined Commitment and Celebration Worship @ McCall Middle School – November 19
- First Fruits Offering – December 10
- Announcement Sunday – December 17

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

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



Thank You Kid Connection Teachers!

Our Kid Connection programs at Faith Church are growing! In addition to the many individuals who rotate through our classrooms as helpers, we are blessed to have several wonderful folks as teachers. Thank you to the following individuals who serve as Kid Connection teachers here at Faith Church:

Diane Dunlap	Heather Ramsey
Theresa Burkholder	Marlene Brown
Kate Meckbach	Hillary Hofstrom
Mandi Westphal	Tara Crebs
Jessi Carpenter	Kevin Handley
Marybeth Croll	Meghan Maeulen
Brenda Slocum	

Orange Spotlight

I am grateful for the privilege of participating in the presentation of Bibles to our 3rd grade students during worship services on Sept. 30-Oct 1. The annual Bible presentation is a source of joy to many in the church. As we celebrate the students, we reflect on the amazing gift we have been given of living in a time and place where we have access to God's words. The Bible is the living Word of God and we hold it in our hands! Each week I have the unique privilege of watching all of our Kid Connection teachers sharing the Bible with children. Kid Connection leaders are faithfully introducing children to the wonder, might, and love of our God who has created us, redeemed us, and continues to guide us daily.

During October, our preschoolers will discuss several stories from the life of King David and learn that God is always with us even when we experience unexpected challenges. Meanwhile, our elementary classes will be discussing stewardship defined as taking care of what you have because it all belongs to God. Your child will learn that everything they own or use including their time belongs to God and so they should use it wisely and generously to glorify Him.

Kid Connection Classes

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

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

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



JOURNEY: Next Steps - A Word to Parents

Construction on the building expansion is underway! Our children have been eagerly watching as construction workers laid the foundation and built the walls of the space that will house our new preschool and Kid Connection classrooms. As they continue to observe the physical framework of the building grow, we will begin teaching them about its less visible foundation and framework of generosity and stewardship. The generous giving and thoughtful stewardship of the congregation hold the church community together and have brought this new building from a hope to a reality.

The biblical principles of stewardship and generosity are best learned and practiced in childhood within the family in partnership with the local church. As the adults in the congregation prepare for the JOURNEY: Next Steps Capital Campaign, the children will be active participants. Our children will discuss thankfulness, generosity, and stewardship and the capital campaign team will encourage children to contribute hours of service and fundraising ideas. Please include your children in conversation about your prayer and discernment process as you determine your family financial giving during the campaign.

Children's Bell Choir for Grades 3-5

Bell Choir for students in Grades 3-5 will begin on Wednesday, October 11 before Praise Kids practice at 3:20ish pm. If interested, contact Lisa Konkle.

Kid Connection Sunday Serving Schedule for October-November 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

10/1 - Team 1 10/8 - Team 2 10/15 - Team 3 10/22 - Team 4 10/29 - Team 5 11/5 - Team 6 11/12 - Team 7
 11/19 - Celebration Service at McCall 11/26 - Team 8

John Bower Basketball League

Sign-ups for coaches for the John Bower Basketball League are ongoing. If you are interested in coaching, please contact Andrea Lucas ASAP. Sign-ups for players will be held in early November. Students who regularly attend Faith Church from Kindergarten - Grade 6 are eligible to play. If you need more information, e-mail Andrea Lucas at het_atc@yahoo.com.



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.

SIX · EIGHT

10/4 SIX:EIGHT
 10/11 SIX:EIGHT
 10/18 SIX:EIGHT
 10/25 SIX:EIGHT
 10/28 CORN MAZE

NINE · TWELVE

10/1 NINE:TWELVE
 10/8 NINE:TWELVE
 10/15 NINE:TWELVE
 10/22 NINE:TWELVE
 10/28 CORN MAZE
 10/29 NO NINE:TWELVE

CORN MAZE

AT SNYDER'S FARM
 10/28/17 5:30P-8P
GRADES 6-12

OCTOBER 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 World Communion Weekend 8:30a-Trad. Worship 9:45a-Cont. Worship w/Kid Connection/3 rd Grade Bible Presentations 9:45a-Adult SS 11:15a-Bell Choir 6:30p-FSM 9:12	2 6p-Girl Scouts 6:20p-Connection Event 6:30p-Foundations 6:30p-Merge	3 10a-Leadership Team Mtg. 3p-Worship Design Team Mtg. 6p-Sr. Box Packing 6:30p-JNS Team Mtg. 7p-Cub/Boy Scouts	4 4p-Praise Kids 6:30-8pm-FSM 6:8	5 5:30p-Voces of Faith 6p-Sun. Praise Team 7:30p-Sat. Praise Team	6 9:15a-Friday Fun 9:15a-MTO 5:30p-Kids' Crew Group	7 10a-Legacy Gathering 5:30p-Contemporary Worship with Kid Connection 6:30p-Starting Point
8 8:30a-Trad. Worship 9:45a-Cont. Worship w/Kid Connection 9:45a-Adult SS 11a-Starting Point 11:15a-Bell Choir 4p-FOG 6:30p-FSM 9:12	9 6p-Girl Scouts 6:30p-Foundations 6:30p-Merge	10 10a-Leadership Team Mtg. 7p-Cub/Boy Scouts	11 3:20p-Children's Bell Choir 4p-Praise Kids 5:15p-Preschool Board 6:30-8pm-FSM 6:8	12 5:30p-Voces of Faith 6p-Sun. Praise Team 6:30p-Ch. Council 7:30p-Sat. Praise Team 7p-WB Christian Wrtrs	13 9:15a-Friday Fun 9:15a-MTO	14 JNS Gratitude Wknd 10a-Join the JOURNEY Gathering 5:30p-Contemporary Worship with Kid Connection
15 JNS Gratitude Wknd 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	16 6p-Girl Scouts 6:30p-Foundations 6:30p-Merge	17 10a-Leadership Team Mtg. 6:30p-JNS Mtg. 7p-Cub/Boy Scouts	18 Newsletter Deadline in 1 week 3:20p-Children's Bell Choir 4p-Praise Kids 6:30-8pm-FSM 6:8	19 5:30p-Voces of Faith 6p-Sun. Praise Team 6p-Moms Connect 6:30p-Church Council 7:30p-Sat. Praise Team	20 9:15a-Friday Fun 9:15a-MTO 5-9p-Boy Scouts/FH	21 JNS Prayer Wknd 8a-Noon-Pancake Breakfast 5:30p-Contemporary Worship with Kid Connection 6:30p-New Member Class
22 JNS Prayer Wknd 8:30a-Trad. Worship 9:45a-Cont. Worship w/Kid Connection 9:45a-Adult SS 11a-New Member Class 11a-Kid Connection Teacher Mtg. 11:15a-Bell Choir 4p-FOG 6:30p-FSM 9:12	23 6p-Girl Scouts 6:30p-Foundations 6:30p-Merge	24 10a-Leadership Team Mtg. 7p-Cub/Boy Scouts	25 Noon-Newsletter Deadline 3:20p-Children's Bell Choir 4p-Praise Kids 6:30pm-FSM 6:8	26 5:30p-Voces of Faith 6p-Sun. Praise Team 7p-Book Club 7:30p-Sat. Praise Team	27 9:15a-Friday Fun 9:15a-MTO	28 JNS Ministry Wknd 5:30p-Contemporary Worship with Kid Connection FSM 6:12-Corn Maze
29 JNS Ministry Wknd 8:30a-Trad. Worship 9:45a-Cont. Worship w/Kid Connection 9:45a-Adult SS 11:15a-Bell Choir 4p-FOG	30 6p-Girl Scouts 6:30p-Foundations 6:30p-Merge	31 10a-Leadership Team Mtg. 6p-Trunk or Treat 7p-Cub/Boy Scouts				

Praise Kids-Children's Choir for ages 4-Grade 5
 FOG-Faces of Grace-Youth Choir for Grades 6-12
 Voces 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

Kid Connection-classes from birth through Grade 5
 Merge-Open Community Group for Adults-Childcare provided
 Sr. Box Packing-1st 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
 Connection Event - Event to connect w/others

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.

GROW



Deb Ottenmiller
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Text-570-244-7002
570-368-2459

The Forgotten Populations Book Club

This club continues with *Be Safe, I Love You* by Cara Hoffman, the story of a female veteran returning home haunted by service trauma. The book is \$9 and will be available for pick-up at the church. The club will meet to discuss the book and its implications for living as Christians at 6:30 pm on Thursday, October 26 at Faith Church. Please contact Mary Broussard at broussm@lycoming.edu if you would like to participate or have any questions.

Moms Connect Group

Our next meeting will be Thursday, October 19 at 6:00 pm in Faith Café on campus - Our second meeting will bring us into the fall season with a special **Soup Supper**. We will enjoy sharing recipes, tasting each other's soups and some time of fellowship. Our topic this month will be **Affordable Family Fun**. We will share local ways to enjoy special time with your families without breaking the bank. Connect with one of our leaders, Betsy Bjorkman at 814-933-8056 [also text], with additional questions. Our private Facebook group is Moms Connect of Faith Church.

SERVE AND GO



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

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. If you are interested in helping to lead one of these events, contact Pastor Rusty. (Please Note: With the Children 1st Building Project, all dates and events are tentative.)

1. Volunteers in Mission Trip: Oak Hill, West Virginia: October 1-7
2. Family Promise Host Week #3: October 15-22
3. Trunk or Treat: October 31 - 6-8:00 pm - McCall Middle School Parking Lot
4. Food Packing IV Event: November 5 - McCall Middle School
5. Operation Christmas Child: Not a collection site this year. Brochures and drop off information will be available.
6. Thanksgiving Baskets - November: in association with McCall Middle School
7. Oasis of Hope Angel Tree: December
8. Special Christmas Eve Offering: December 24

Pray for Our Oak Hill, WV Volunteers in Mission Team!

Please be in prayer for our Volunteers in Mission trip to Oak Hill, West Virginia. The team will be leaving Sunday morning, October 1 and will return on Saturday, October 7. Pray for safe travels and that the love of Jesus would be shared in many tangible ways with the people of Oak Hill.

Trunk or Treat

Faith Church will be hosting Trunk or Treat at the McCall Middle School parking lot on Tuesday, October 31 from 6-8:00 pm. Start stocking up on that candy to fill your vehicle's trunk. Sign-ups will be on the Connect Cards starting in October. **We would also like to serve baked goods** with the hot chocolate and apple cider. No need to sign-up - just bring your baked goods to the canopy that Tuesday evening by 5:45 pm.

Thanksgiving Baskets

We will be collecting food, assembling and delivering baskets to families from the McCall Middle School. Details in the November newsletter and future bulletins.

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 during the week of November 13-17. Exact hours for drop off will be published in the bulletin when they are posted by Pine St. UMC.



Family Promise Host Week Is Coming Up!

Our final Family Promise host week for 2017 is coming up October 15-22. Each host week requires many servants to make the week a success. Service areas include: providing meals, dinner hosting, transportation, overnight hosting, tear down, etc. The Family Promise display table will be set up in the Narthex/Lobby each weekend in October leading up to our host week. If you have any questions, contact Faith Church Family Promise Coordinator, Marybeth Croll at children777@comcast.net.

Food Packing IV Is Almost Here!

On Sunday, November 5 **at McCall Middle School**, 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. The event will run from 1:00-6:00 pm. The one hour time slot sign-ups will take place during the weekends of October 14-15, 21-22, and 28-29. 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!

Just for Fun! Alaska Slideshow Presentation and Ice Cream Sundaes - Coming in November

Rob Barbour has lived in and traveled to Alaska frequently. He has photographed beautiful pictures of God's creation in the state of Alaska 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 seeing and hearing about some of Rob's adventures.

New at Faith Church? Start Here!

Faith Church has so much great stuff going on that it can be hard when you are new here to know where to get started in finding your place. If this is where you find yourself, **Starting Point** is a perfect next step for you. Pastor Jake and Deb Ottenmiller, Director of Group Life/Assimilation, lead this gathering after weekend worship for you to get an overview of what makes this place hum with life and some of the ways you might find your place. The informal conversation allows you to find out more about the church, ask questions, and make a personal connection. Starting Point is being offered Saturday, October 7 at 6:30 pm and Sunday, October 8 at 11:00 am at Faith Church in Room 10.

New Member Classes

New Member Classes are being offered Saturday, October 14 at 6:30 pm and Sunday, October 15 at 11:00 am at Faith Church in Room 10. We'll explore Connect, Grow, Serve, Go - mission and vision of Faith Church. Join us on the journey of Faith! You must have completed Starting Point before attending this class.

To register for any of these classes or if you will need childcare, please contact Deb Ottenmiller at 570-368-2459 or dottenmiller@faithum.net.



Faith Church Leadership Team

Jake Waybright, Lead Pastor.....jwaybright@faithum.net
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Faith Church Council

Ben Meckbach - Chairperson
 Emily Miller - Recorder
 Keith Atherholt
 Tara Crebs
 David Dawes
 George Hinston
 Ed Pry 6.

Faith United Methodist Church

Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:00 am-4:30 pm

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

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OCTOBER 2017

Life Line

