



Words of Faith

Volume XXII, No ii

May/June/July 2016

Simple Words of Faith from Our Own Doctor

May The final countdown to summer vacation! Or at least that was my mantra as a kid growing up. Like most kids, I didn't really mind school, but summer vacation time was 'the best'! I have wonderful memories of Summer Camp where my entire family would move out to Kiwanis Kamp outside of Linglestown for eight weeks! We lived in cabins. The campers would come to us from downtown Harrisburg in groups of 40 – girls one week, boys the next. We had a pretty tight schedule all week with morning chapel and evening vespers led by my Gramma, Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner and evening snack cooked by my Mama, and then afternoon pool time and night time hike led by my Dad. We had lots of help with other older teens or adults coming and going all summer long to 'help.'

I think part of the enjoyment, for me at least, was the anticipation of 'good things to come'. I liked looking forward to what I hoped would be a great summer. When I mentioned this to a friend recently, she asked if I was ever disappointed – my expectations outgrowing my experiences. I can honestly say that the 'real' experience of summer was always better than what I could imagine it to be. I liked the 'living of it'! There were always surprises (my fall into the pond down by the pool - where we were not supposed to be - and being chased out by a Turtle that I could have ridden on ... or the year I was stung by lots and lots of bees, or the years I was the life guard and Red Cross Water Safety Instructor.... I even rescued my sister Phyllis when her Golden Retriever was trying to crawl on top of her in the pool – although I did get teased because I jumped in and dragged the dog out leaving my sister to swim ashore.....). These may not sound like 'fun' things, but they are great memories. And I never, in my wildest imagination could have come up with these.

I do hope you are anticipating 'the best summer ever' for our church and our faith. We can look forward to a great Faith Fest, Vacation Bible School in June, Outdoor Worship Services, Animal Blessing and Christmas in July, and even "All Together Worship" in August as we explore – how to "Be the Church". But I think the living of it will be even better than we could ever, in our wildest dreams, imagine. Hebrews 11:1

Your Sister of Expectations,
Jane

Shakespeare in Song

On Sunday, May 15, the Wilkes University Chorus and the Wilkes University Chamber Singers will present Shakespeare in Song at Faith United Church of Christ in Hazleton. The Wilkes University Choral Ensembles are directed by Dr. Steven Thomas, Director of Choral Activities and Chair of the Division of Performing Arts at Wilkes

The free concert begins at 7:30 PM and is open to the public. A free-will offering will be taken. The program marks the 400th anniversary of Shakespeare's death with choral works that set texts from seven of Shakespeare's plays. Featured texts include "O Mistress Mine," "Orpheus with His Lute," "It Was a Lover and His Lass" and the opening scene of Macbeth, in settings by Vaughan Williams, Matthew Harris, William Schuman, György Orbán, Emma Lou Diemer and Stefan Kalmer. Also on the program are a selection of English madrigals, all written during Shakespeare's lifetime.

The University Chorus is the University's largest choral ensemble, and is open to any member of the Wilkes community, by audition. Recent repertoire includes Beethoven's Symphony No. 9, Rutter's Gloria, Brahms' Requiem, Vivaldi's Gloria and a variety of shorter works. The Chamber Singers is the University's select vocal ensemble, and is open to any student member of the Wilkes University Chorus, by audition. The Chamber Singers typically perform a wide range of a cappella repertoire, from Renaissance to contemporary music, and frequently collaborates with the Arcadia Chorale on the annual NEPA Bach Festival. For more information on this concert, please contact Dr. Steven Thomas at 570-408-4434 or steven.thomas@wilkes.edu.

ECUMENICAL DISCUSSION

Have you been paying attention to our new Pope's sound bites? He has a wonderful sense of wisdom and everyday life. "Life is a journey. When we stop things don't go right." "We must always consider the person." "Right now we do not have a very good relation with creation." Pope Francis wrote a book about this last quote, called "Laudato Si: On Care for Our Common Home". Monsignor Vincent Gramalia will be our guest on Sunday afternoon May 22nd at 3:00 to help us discuss this book. All of our ecumenical partners in the Greater Hazleton Ministerium are invited as well. Please mark your calendars and join us in the double Sunday School room!



Special Worship Weekends

Mothers' Day: May 7 & 8

Memorial Day Remembrances: May 28 & 29

Fathers' Day: June 18 & 19

Outside Worship services: June 25 & 26 (bring your lawn chairs)

Fourth of July Celebrations: July 2 & 3

Christmas in July: 9 & 10

Pet Blessing: July 23 & 24

Outside Worship services: July 30 & 31 (bring your lawn chairs)



Ladies Night Out/Guys Morning Out

The fourth Wednesday evening of each month, a group of us Ladies go out to eat together. We laugh, we share our stories and read a bit of scripture (and even learn some stuff). Everyone (well, every female someone) are invited to come. We pay for our own meals. Just sign up at church in the Narthex. May 25th 6:00 PM @ Perkins, June 22nd , and July 27th,

PS - Due to popular demand, there will be a "Guys Morning Out" scheduled for Breakfast @Antonio's 8:00 am May 28th! Sign up in church Narthex.

Giving Tree

Many thank you's to everyone who purchased a Bible for our Sisters and Brothers in Kenya at Pastor Ondimu's church. She had told us that she has 2 Bibles for 62 people. ALL OF YOU responded so quickly and lovingly! Thank you so very much! We have enough money to purchase 42 Bibles and shipping costs too! As of this printing, we still have three more weeks so those numbers will go up! Wow! The final Sunday is May 15th to hand in your \$5 donation in memory or in honor of a loved one. (pick up envelopes from narthex at church). We will print all of the donations on Sunday May 22nd. And again, we (Outreach Committee) thank you and Pastor Lispher Ondimu's is over the top grateful!

Our next Giving Tree Project is for Foster Children. Kids Peace came and talked with the U.C.C. Pastors of the Susquehanna Area Mission Council. They told us that Foster children carry their possessions in garbage bags. How sad :(The Pastors are each asking our churches to donate good/used luggage and backpacks for our "In the Bag" project. We will collect these suitcases and backpacks (put a few school supplies in each) from May 22 thru August 20th. On August 20th we will have a joint Picnic at Weatherly's Eurana Park from 1:00 thru 6:00. A representative from Kid's Peace will be with us and have a blessing of the bags! Please bring your bags to our Giving Tree!



LAY PASTOR'S CORNER

I love math and never tire of teaching it. I enjoy the challenge of solving problems and seeing students get excited about finding solutions to challenging problems. I am certain my students think that I am a "math nerd". In fact, I still have my "slide rule" from high school! You may or may not know that a slide rule, mostly obsolete now, is a manual calculating device. It's what we used before calculators. Well, now I guess that makes me a really "old" math nerd! One of the reasons I believe I enjoy math so much is that there is always a solution to the problem. If you perform the correct operations in the correct order, you will get the correct answer. Wouldn't it be nice if we could work out life's problems with a nice equation and the promise that if we followed the steps properly, we will reach a solution? Unfortunately, life doesn't work itself out in an equation and there are no promises that you will find a solution. Furthermore, solutions to life's problems are not always black or white. Sometimes there is not a right or wrong answer, and the answers

may not be the same for everyone. Our faith, however, does offer us promises. Our faith promises that we are not alone in the day to day challenges. Our faith promises that moment by moment God is with us offering guidance and direction. Our faith helps us to understand that worry is not a strategy for problem solving in life. Our faith helps us to understand and believe that we don't have to do everything on our own.

We at Faith are fortunate to be part of a loving, caring, supportive family of faith. Each time I walk through the hallowed doorways, I believe that we truly are partners in Christ's service. I would like to take this opportunity to extend a heartfelt thank you to all of you, my faith family, for accepting me as your Associate Pastor. Thank you for your support, and your generous and beautiful gifts which I will always treasure. Many, many thanks!

"I thank my God upon every remembrance of you." Philippians 1:3

Grace and peace, Lynne Wallace

2016 Consistory Meeting Schedule:

Sun. May 8 @ 11:10 AM
Thurs. June 9 @ 6:30 PM
Sun. July 10 @ 11:10 AM
Thurs. Aug. 11 @ 6:30 PM

Sun. Sept. 11 @ 11:10 AM
Thurs. Oct. 13 @ 6:30 PM
Sun. Nov. 13 @ 11:10 AM
Thurs. Dec. 8 @ 6:30 PM



Mothers' Day Tea

If you would like to take a trip down Memory Lane and remember your Mama OR have a nice cup-a-tea with your Mom, please sign up and come to our Sunday School Mothers' Day Tea. It is open to all! Sunday, May 8th 9-9:45!

CHANGE OF ADDRESS OR PHONE?

Have you moved recently? Changed your telephone number? If so, please call the church office at 454-5982 to make the correction.

Our computer records need to be accurate so that we can get the newsletter, envelopes and other correspondence to you.

You can also drop a note in the weekly collection plate, or send updates to:

Faith UCC, 21 Faith Dr., Hazleton, PA 18202.
PLEASE HELP US KEEP OUR RECORDS UP TO DATE.

YARD SALE

"Everybody's Yard Sale"

"No matter who you are or where you live, you are welcome to come Sale with us!" If you have 'things, stuff, or treasures' you would like to sell, sign up for a \$10 space and come Sale with us! We offer free coffee for vendors and we will take care of the advertising! It is perfect for the Apartment dweller or the one trying to down-size! Tell your friends and neighbors – Everyone is welcome! It's our ministry to the community! Please call Linda to reserve a space – 570-956-7927.

Come SALE away!

Bingo Gift Certificates

Still a bargain at -\$15.00
See or call Dotty Burrell at 570-788-3910

OUTSIDE WORSHIP SERVICES

We are looking to try outside services on the last weekends of June, July and August! (6/35&26, 7/23&24 and 8/28). Bring your lawn chair, bug spray and umbrella (for the sun). If the weather is inclement we will be inside. Pray for Sunshine and Lollipops!



Spring Cleaning Revised

Saturday May 14th we are going to have a Spring Cleaning – all hands on deck! Bring your buckets and rakes, trash bags and dust cloths! We are looking to clean all the nooks and crannies, as well as the brush and cobwebs. We will start at Noon and continue through 4 PM! Please mark your calendars for this very important detail!

Sunday School News

Sunday School will continue through June 26th with a Fun Exploration of the Holy Spirit (think kites, pinwheels, wind socks, edible fire, campfire and water games!) along with fruits of the spirit. Sunday School will then break for the summer and resume in Fall with Rally Day occurring on Sunday Septe



Widow's Web

The Widow's Web will begin meeting once again, starting May 11th from 1 - 2:30 in Sunday School rooms 5 and 7. For more information, contact Lorna Veglia at 570-436-1937 or Nancy DeMara at 570-956-6981.

Moms Missing Moms

For those Moms who are raising their own children without the benefit of being able to ask their own Moms for help, support, or advice, because they have passed on, this new support group is for you. We will be meeting the third Saturdays of each month 2 - 3:30 in our double Sunday School rooms starting May 21st. Any and all "Moms Missing Moms" are welcome (even if your children are raised/older). Sometimes it helps us all to know how you were able to cope or deal with issues or not. Call/Text/Facebook Message: Elizabeth Williams 570-926-7253 or M. Jane Hess 570-401-2239 with questions or to let us know you are coming! PS We will definitely have to serve M & M's!

Faith UCC 200 Club Winners

Preliminary prizes - \$50.00 each!

1st Prize 1-08-16 Sandy Merola #192
2nd Prize 1-15-16 Janet Heidenreich #008
3rd Prize 1-22-16 Jim Rossi #194
4th Prize 1-29-16 Ben Drobnock #121
5th Prize 2-05-16 Sarah Lukacs-Nagy #012
6th Prize 2-12-16 Tracey Smith #077
7th Prize 2-19-16 Eileen Wardingo #163
8th Prize 2-26-16 Deb Gallagher #076
Final Grand Prize \$400.00
2-28-16 Judy Hartzel #118

Congratulations!

SUMMER BINGO

Vacations will soon be in full swing, and with that comes the need for substitute workers at Friday night Bingo.

This is a great time to try out the job, and there's no snow or ice to worry about!

When cooking for Bingo, spring and summer is a good time for lighter fare such as pasta or fruit salad. Or how about potato salad or rice pudding?

Food items must be brought to the church by 3:30-4:00 p.m. Friday or the night before.

Contact Judy Hartzel at (570-459-2923) or (570-956-1981) to book a date to work, cook or donate food or drinks.

WE APPRECIATE WHATEVER YOU CAN BRING...A CAKE, SPECIALTY ITEM OR YOURSELF!

When you aren't working, enjoy Bingo in our smoke-free atmosphere where the coffee is still free!

FLOWERS-BULLETINS-CANDLES

You are invited to remember or honor loved ones anytime this year by sponsoring flowers, bulletins or candles. The chart is posted on the wall outside the choir room.

Pick a Sunday that is significant to you and your loved ones: anniversaries, birthdays, death days, graduations or any other special days.

Please sign up for your special Sundays and then follow the instructions posted.



Bulletins are \$10 per Sunday, candles \$15, table bouquet \$27.00, and altar flowers are \$37.50. Your sponsor message will be listed in the bulletin on the appropriate Sunday.

SOCIAL HALL RENTAL

Please remember that our church social hall is available for rental by people and organizations both inside and outside of our congregation.

Contact Building Superintendent Judy Hartzel at 459-2923 for rental information.

Faithfest

June 18th, 11 AM - 5 PM

Tricky Trays!

Faith Fest is just around the corner and we are once again preparing the tricky trays!

We are taking donations of new items to arrange into tricky trays, or... if you are feeling creative, you can build your own themed tricky tray to donate! It's all about fun. The value of each tray is at least \$25.

Items/trays can be given to Debbie Elliot, Lee Schaeffer, or Sue Schaeffer.

They can also be placed in the Quilt room – please be sure to leave us a note with your name.

This is one of our most popular and successful fundraisers! As always, we thank you for your generosity and your willingness to share in the fun. Blessings!



More FaithFest!!

The Faith Fest Team has been busy planning a wonderful celebration of Faith! We will have Tricky Trays (need donations - see above), Quilt Raffle (you should have received these to sell – more available at church – thank you to all of the donations – over \$2,100), Bake Sale & Candy Sale (donated Baked Goods needed), Great Food – Halupki, Sausage/peppers, Meatball hoagies, Potato Pancakes, Fried dough, Chicken Pot-Pie, & SO much more – Walk-in Bingo from 12-2, Free Make & Take Crafts for kids 11-2, Book Room, and Yard Sale 11-4.

**New This Year: Every Sr. Citizen will receive 2 coupons at the door:

1 - \$1 off a food item (Kitchen food, Out Door Stand – think potato pancakes, etc., or Bake/Candy Sale item)

2 - \$1 off games of chance (Bingo, Tricky Tray cards or Quilt Raffle ticket)

Also, Everyone is invited to put their name and phone number in the bucket for our Free Door Prizes! This is your church! You are the best advertising we have! Tell your friends, neighbors, golf buddies, bowling team, book club, Mason's group, to come on down!!

Honor and Remember Our Veterans

On Memorial Day Weekend we will take the time in each of our services to remember the sacrifice our Veterans have given to us. We are a grateful congregation and like to express that gratitude in a real and tangible expression. We are inviting everyone to remember their family loved ones by filling out the form in this Newsletter and submitting it to the offering plate at church or mailing them to the office with a \$5 donation. These names will be printed in the bulletin and a flag will be planted in the grass at church in their honor. Please leave them up through for Flag Day 6/14 and Independence Day July 4th. You may remove them any time after that. Thank you!

Faith UCC Consistory 2016

Class of 2016			
Marty Karchner E	384-3628/401-0714	mckarch@frontier.com	Communication Committee
Marijo Penkala E	455-2743/436-0359	jpenk1@verizon.net	Fundraising
Mary Ribarchik D	570-582-3216	flyersgirl26@yahoo.com	
Harold Warg E	570-956-2133		Property Committee
Class of 2017			
Dawn Hydock E	570-956-3735		Staff & Personnel
Sara Lukacs-Nagy D	454-3999/579-8726	slnagy@yahoo.com	Deacon's Fund
Dean Schlauch D	459-1276		Worship Committee
Gary Marsch E	570-956-8950	gmmarsch@gmail.com	
Class of 2018			
Larry Corra D	578-2789	coachlarry@verizon.net	Christian Edu/Youth
Sue Hennigan D	215-378-3419	mrsh1@mac.com	Lucky Number/200 Club
Nancy Waters D	441-7881	nwaters19090@yahoo.com	Bingo Committee
Rev. Nasrani E	454-1982		Women of Faith
Jane Hess	570-401-2239	jdhess@frontiernet.net	Pastoral Care Team
			Outreach Committee
			Elders

Faith of Our Fathers

June 19th is a day set aside for a celebration of our fathers. Joanne Potance had her roof re-shingled this past year, and the roofer uncovered a part of the roof where her father had written his name and date on the sheathing under the shingles. She said it was like getting a special note from her Dad after all these years. What a wonderful surprise! To help honor and remember our fathers, everyone is invited to donate \$5 towards a virtual stone our new truck shed. Let us honor our Fathers and their faith in our future!

Faith Fest Entertainment Schedule

- 12:00: Smoke and Mirrors (very popular) Saxophone Quartet
- 12:30: Boy Scout/Girl Scout Band
- 1:00: DeMelfi School of Music
- 1:30: Keystone Job Core Students
- 2:00: Freeland Community Choir
- 3:00: Elite Dance School
- 4:00: Quilt Raffle Drawing
- 4:30: Tricky Tray Drawing

Memorial Day Flags

Your Name _____ Phone # _____

In Memory of _____

In Honor of _____ Cost is \$5.00 per flag

Number of Flags ____ Total Due _____

Orders due by May 22nd. Flags will be displayed outside the church through July 4th. Please send to: Faith UCC, 21 Faith Drive, Hazleton, PA 18202 Thanks!

Memorial Day Flags

Your Name _____ Phone # _____

In Memory of _____

In Honor of _____ Cost is \$5.00 per flag

Number of Flags ____ Total Due _____

Orders due by May 22nd. Flags will be displayed outside the church through July 4th. Please send to: Faith UCC, 21 Faith Drive, Hazleton, PA 18202 Thanks!



Order Form for Fathers' Day Virtual Stones for Truck Shed

Your Name _____ Phone # _____

In Memory of _____

In Honor of _____ \$5 per Virtual Stone

Total # of Stones ____ Total Due _____

Orders due June 12th with payment

Please send to: Faith UCC, 21 Faith Drive, Hazleton, PA 18202

Worshipful Opportunities!

Easter is an ‘all-year-long’ celebration of the core of our Easter Faith. We learned this from our Sunday School youth leading us in a wonderful Easter celebration on April 17th! If you missed the life-sized Easter basket with all of our young people in it, you have missed the point of it all. We will continue to celebrate Easter Egg surprises on May 1 & 8. Then we will begin the season of Pentecost on May 15th as we discover what it means to “Be the Church”. We will be using our National UCC materials for “Be the Church” along with a book by Estelle & Paul Nixon called “Weird Church”. Come to worship! Bring your friends and families! Come Be the Church – together! Please Note: In August we will be using our Summer Worship Schedule – Only One service per weekend at 9:00 am on Sunday morning in August. (No 4:30 Saturday, no 8:00 Sunday, no 10:00 Sunday). We will celebrate how to Be the Church “All in Together”. Thanks! Worship Committee!

<p>April 30 4:30 PM Vespers/Communion May 1 8 & 10 AM Easter VI/Communion John 5:1-9 Easter Eggs of Healing</p> <p>May 7 4:30 PM Vespers/Communion May 8 8 & 10 AM Easter VII/Communion John 17:20-26 Easter Eggs of Prayers</p> <p>May 14 4:30 PM Vespers May 15 8 & 10 AM Pentecost Sunday Acts 2:1-21 Be the Church!</p> <p>May 21 4:30 PM Vespers May 22 8 & 10 AM Pentecost I Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31 Be the Church with Wisdom</p> <p>May 28 4:30 PM Vespers May 29 8 & 10 AM Pentecost II/Memorial Day Luke 7:1-10 Be the Church Together!</p> <p>June 4 4:30 PM Vespers/Communion June 5 8 & 10 AM Pentecost III I Kings 17:8-16 Be the Church with Compassion</p> <p>June 11 4:30 PM Vespers June 12 8 & 10 AM Pentecost IV I Kings 21:1-10,15-21a Be the Church – Choose Justice</p>	<p>June 16 4:30 PM Vespers/Faith Fest June 17 8 & 10 AM Pentecost V Fathers’ Day – I Kings 19:1-15a Two Word Sermon</p> <p>June 25 4:30 PM Vespers/Outside (bring your lawn chair) June 26 8 & 10 AM Pentecost VI – Outside – Galatians 5:13-25 Be the Church with the Fruit of the Spirit</p> <p>July 2 4:30 PM Vespers/Communion July 3 8 & 10 AM Pentecost VII/Communion II Kings 5:1-14 Be the Church Surprising Prophets</p> <p>July 9 4:30 PM Vespers July 10 8 & 10 AM Christmas in July Luke 2:1-7 Associate Pastor Lynne</p> <p>July 16 4:30 PM Vespers July 17 8 & 10 AM Pentecost IX Luke 10:38-42 Associate Pastor Lynne</p> <p>July 23 4:30 PM Vespers July 24 8 & 10 AM Pentecost X/Pet Blessing Luke 11:1-13 Be the Church Shaped by Prayer</p> <p>July 30 4:30 PM Vespers/Outside (bring your lawn chairs) July 31 8 & 10 AM Pentecost XI/Outside Luke 12:13-21</p>
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Faith United Church of Christ
 21 Faith Drive
 Hazleton, PA 18202
Return Service Requested

May/June/July 2016

**Mark your calendars!
 The deadline for our Aug/Sept/Oct 2016
 Newsletter is July 10th Please be prompt!**

Wish to submit an article for the newsletter?

Please send submissions to :

Karen Herb
 PO Box 373
 Beaver Meadows, PA 18216-0373
 Email: herb2857@aol.com
 Phone: (570) 710-1752

You may drop off articles at the church office. Church office hours are: Wednesday from 2-4 PM, Thursday from 4-6 PM Faith UCC e-mail address: faithuccchaz@verizon.net Building Superintendent: Judy Hartzel – 459-2923 Circle of Prayer – To add names, call Carol Koch at 788-1038

Worship Services:
 Saturday 4:30 PM
 Sunday 8:00 and 10:00 AM
 Sunday School: 9:00 AM
 Church Office Phone: 454-5982
 Kitchen Phone: 454-8427
 Rev. Hess Cell Phone: 401-2239
 Address: 21 Faith Drive
 Hazleton, PA 18202