

the Faith

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Living and sharing the miracle of God's grace.

Flyer

EMMAUS, PENNSYLVANIA

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On the cover: Outdoor worship



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- Pastor Becki's reflection on 2020.
- Plans for Advent and Christmas.
- Ministry Focus—a new quarterly informative article about various groups in Faith Church.
- Community outreach and mission initiatives.
- How some plan to celebrate the holidays during the pandemic.
- So many Thank You notes!

Church Staff

Pastor

Rev. Rebecca Mallozzi

Clerk of Session

Ann Lowell

Organist/Director—Senior Choir, Bell Choir

Brian Snyder

Administrative Assistant, Faith Flyer Editor

Lynda Scheirer

Church Officers

Elders

Jack Decker, John Gill, Sally Heimbach, Andy Ingram, Bruce Luff, Jim Robinson, Erik Walker, Chuck Waters, Cathy Wiese, Dave Wilson; Ann Lowell, Clerk of Session

Deacons

Carolyn Baittinger, Donna Call, Eleanor DePhillips, Maggie Haley, Liz Kenny, Beth Kunkle, Andrea Mauro, Elaine Smits, Yvonne Stauffer, Beth Walker; Deb Ferguson, Moderator

Contact Us!

Phone: 610-967-5600

Fax: 610-928-5600

office@faithchurchemmaus.org

Find us on **Facebook** at
Faith Presbyterian Church Emmaus

FAQs

Sunday Worship: 10:00 AM

Church Office Hours:

See Page 16 for office hours at this point during the pandemic.

Pastoral Care Needs

- For medical emergencies or deaths, contact Pastor Becki at revmallozzi@faithchurchemmaus.org or call 484-523-0240.
- Or contact the Deacon Moderator: Deb Ferguson—908-421-3817

Prayer Chain Requests

Messages to be shared via the Prayer Chain may be emailed directly to prayers@faithchurchemmaus.org. Messages, or through a form on the Prayer Requests page of the church website.

Please visit us on the web!

For all the latest information, audio sermons, calendar highlights, and news, visit us at:

www.faithchurchemmaus.org

Next Newsletter Deadline: February 14

Zoom Links

Links to Zoom meetings are not published in church publications, to discourage outside interference.

A Note from the Pastor's Desk

“Praise God for the coming New Year.” Have you found yourself saying that? Back at the end of summer, I started a countdown to the New Year. We’ve seen so much happen in the year 2020 and many of us have just been waiting and hoping for the clean slate of 2021. Families experienced all kinds of things in the past year. Some things were pretty stressful. David and I lost two of our dearest loves over Easter weekend when two of our three cats died unexpectedly (one was old, the other was sick, and the fact that they died so close together was just an unfair thing the universe did to us). Both of our parents had health problems. We both had to navigate working from home, as many of you did. 2020 was crazy.

And yet, it’s not quite over. As I’m writing this, I’m aware this newsletter covers December as well as January and February. With one foot in 2020 and the other foot in 2021, this newsletter reminds us moving into 2021 will not erase, minimize, or change anything that happened in 2020. For many of us, midnight on December 31 will arrive quietly. January 1 may look a lot like December 31. The New Year does not change anything except the last number on your calendar year.

Which I think means 2020 is not a “lost year” so much as it a different kind of chapter in our story. We still have a



Rev. Rebecca Mallozzi

month to go, which means you can still make 2020 end on a high note if you choose (When I think of life as a book, I think of more like a choose-your-own-adventure story than a straight up linear or predictable novel). Perhaps we can start by thinking not just about what we may have lost or given up in 2020, but about what we celebrated in 2020. You may have celebrated a milestone birthday or anniversary. Perhaps a fire truck parade even drove by to help you celebrate. Our church grew in new ways that we may not have been able to experience if the year’s circumstances hadn’t pushed us forward. If we give ourselves space to think about it, there may be more to celebrate than you think!

2020 is not a lost year. At its core, it wasn’t even a bad year, though there were certainly some awful things that happened. And without minimizing the pandemics of the coronavirus and systemic racism, the employment uncertainties, the loss of loved ones and

(Continued on page 4)

Pastor's Message

(Continued from page 3)

the doused expectations of vacations... without minimizing the broken spaces, we can both honor our grief and celebrate what we can about the year.

Remember also 2020 is not over. And if we put a lot of hope into 2021 as being the "Savior Year" to bring us away from 2020, I suspect at least some of us will be disappointed or even resentful when some things don't change. So remember: we can't control everything. But we can control ourselves. The only things that really change are the things we ourselves are intentional about changing. It's the difference between a thermostat and a thermometer. People who are thermometers can tell you what the temperature is. They can tell you how things are in this moment. People who are thermostats work to change the temperature. They work to change things, hopefully for the better for themselves and those around them. I encourage you to be like a thermostat, working to change things for the good.

I want to encourage you to make a list. Make a list with your loved one or even just in your own personal journal. Make a list of ten things about the past year that you celebrate. Look back on those ten things and rejoice. Offer everything else up to God and know God both rejoices and mourns with you. And God will be with you into the coming year as you work to make good memories and memories that will hurt. We

almost certainly will experience both, as we always do. I wish you many blessings and God's peace as we traverse together into the season of Advent and beyond into the new year. Peace be with you!

In Common Calling,
Pastor Becki Mallozzi

Pastor Becki's List of Ten Things

- 1) Spent more time with David than we've ever been able to spend before (a blessing!...most of the time lol)
- 2) Learned new quilting skills
- 3) Able to help my parents in ways I haven't been able to before
- 4) Organized many spaces of my house
- 5) Our church was able to connect with folks in ways we've never connected before
- 6) Able to attend more conferences this year than any other year because I'm not limited by geography, budget, or calendar
- 7) Didn't have to travel for any meetings
- 8) Read some really great books
- 9) Finished some quilting UFOs (UFO's: UnFinished Objects)
- 10) Have saved so much money on gas

What are your ten things? I'd love to hear them, or at least some of them! Feel free to share them with me via email, text, social media, or in person.



SUNDAY MORNINGS
10:00 AM

*Scriptures and Sermons for Winter Worship**

Sunday, November 29 Advent Begins
Surprised by Jesus
Mark 13:24-37

Sunday, January 31
A New Kind of Teaching
Mark 1:21-28

Sunday, December 6
Clearing the Clutter
Mark 1:1-8

Sunday, February 7
A New Kind of Message
Mark 1:29-39

Sunday, December 13
Sowing Joy
Luke 1:46b-55

Sunday, February 14 Transfiguration
Only Jesus
Mark 9:2-9

Sunday, December 20
The Impossible Thing
Luke 1:26-45

Sunday, February 21 Lent begins
A Covenant for Creation
Genesis 9:8-17

Sunday, December 24 Christmas Eve
We Are the Ones Who Dream

Sunday, February 28
A Covenant for the Future
Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16

Sunday, December 27
Pastor Becki on vacation

Sunday, January 3
Keep Going Til You Get There
Matthew 2:1-2

Sunday, January 10
Made New, Made Ready
Mark 1:4-11

Sunday, January 17 & 24
Pastor Becki on vacation

Lend Your Voice!

Have you considered taking a turn as Worship Assistant? With fixes to the sanctuary HVAC system and worship procedure changes, we are worshipping with safety in mind, but the role of Worship Assistant has stayed the same. Please see the church website under [Volunteer Opportunities](#) to sign up. If new to Sign Up Genius, a quick registration is all that's required to pick a slot. And we thank you!

**Plans are subject to change.*

Christmas is Upon Us!

As of this writing, much uncertainty surrounds the Christmas season. With health concerns weighing heavily on everyone's minds, it may be difficult for us to consider celebrating the birth of Christ when traditions may be altered and gatherings limited.

For worship, we have only two Christmas Eve candlelight services planned.

7:30 PM Sanctuary Worship

11:30 PM Outdoor Worship on The Triangle in Emmaus

To assist in distancing, some music will have been pre-recorded, and the sanctuary service will be live-streamed. Local musician and Faith member, Joel Shimer, will again join us this year on The Triangle at 11:30 PM. Whether you join us in person, or virtually, may the spirit of Faith fill your hearts and may the joy of Christ in the world be with us all.

Those Who Dream



During the season of Advent and into Epiphany, we'll be using the resources from the group A Sanctified Art. The theme for this year's Advent/Epiphany season is "Those Who Dream."

From the authors: "In our study of this season's lectionary scriptures, the opening lines from Psalm 126 jumped off the page: *"When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, we were like those who dream."* What does it look like to live as *those who dream*? *The prophets, the psalmists, John the Baptist, Mary, Elizabeth, Joseph, Simeon, Anna, the shepherds and the Magi—they* were all dreamers. They received, discovered, and responded to God's dreams for the world. In Advent, we step into the mystery and awe of God's dreams and pray they shape our reality.

This theme is for the dreamers in all of us—those who dream of a deeper connection with God and those who dream of a better world. It's for those who dream of comfort and for those who have given up on their dreams. It's for those whose dreams have been crushed and for those who show us that dreams take time. Join us this Advent as we dream alongside prophets and angels, Mary and the Magi. Join us as we seek and sow God's dreams for our world."

Join Pastor Becki each week during Advent for special meditative moments following the themes of the preceding Sundays. We will gather via zoom Thursdays at 7p.m. starting on December 3. The link will be available in the weekly email blast.

Reverse Advent

Happy Holidays to you all! Hope this finds you and yours well. It has been a struggle being faced with uncertainty and constant changes to plans, and being faced with not being able to do what we want, when we want to.



A few months ago, I saw a Reverse Advent Calendar posted on Facebook and thought that this would be a good activity for my family and thought why not try to have people at Faith do this as well. The calendar starts after we do Advent[ure] and ends a week or so before Christmas, so that the items could be dropped off at church (in the Narthex), have time to “cool off” and be delivered in to Emmaus Food Bank at Bethel Bible in January. I talked to a representative there and we reviewed the original list and worked it to include items that would not be covered by state subsidies. I look forward to seeing Faith rise to occasion and help the needy.

Peace, John Gill

Reverse Advent Calendar

Each day add an item to a box.

- November 23- box of cereal
- November 24- peanut butter
- November 25- stuffing mix
- November 26- boxed potatoes
- November 27- macaroni and cheese
- November 28- canned fruit
- November 29- toothpaste
- November 30- canned tuna
- December 1- dessert mix
- December 2- jar of applesauce
- December 3- canned sweet potatoes
- December 4- cranberry sauce
- December 5- canned mushrooms
- December 6- box of crackers
- December 7- package of rice
- December 8- package of oatmeal
- December 9- package of pasta
- December 10- spaghetti sauce
- December 11- soap
- December 12- jar of jelly
- December 13- hamburger helper
- December 14- can of corn
- December 15- can of mixed vegetables
- December 16- can of carrots
- December 17- dish/laundry detergent

the CLERK'S CORNER

by Ann Lowell

The Session continues to meet monthly (and more than that if needed!). We celebrate continued Mission giving (to local food banks and beyond), and an exciting new partnership with the local Rotary Club for their East Penn Food Program. We hear of the good works of our Deacons, who quietly support our entire congregation through deliveries and appreciated connections. We hear Zoom is a working avenue for children's Sunday School and Bible Study. We hear of the ways our Fellowship and Worship Committees are working to balance new and old traditions--while being mindful of safety precautions. We hear that our

technology crew is keeping equipment up-to-date, and supplying members of the congregation with tools to allow them

to be/stay connected. We give thanks to our generous members who allow for creativity and innovation to be our biggest challenge.

And now we are looking ahead to 2021. Will we have the leadership and pledge commitments that we need to support our programs and facility? We've stayed energetic and faithful through the fog of 2020 (thank you Pastor Beckil!). May our blessings and hope continue in the days and months to come.

Highlights from our meetings are communicated in Announcement e-mails, and are posted on the bulletin board outside of Fellowship Hall.

Memorial Space Update

Thanks to all respondents of the recent memorial space survey! Of the 40 submissions so far, 36 said YES to the general idea and 27 [68%] said they would likely consider the option themselves.

Naturally, there are concerns about design and maintenance, as well as whether this is an appropriate time to begin such a project.

So, what's next? To bring the idea to fruition, a committee chair is needed to assemble a team and develop a plan for Session approval. If this speaks to you, please contact Andy Ingram for details.

Vision Team Update

The Vision Team has been hard at work discussing, collecting and compiling the mini Congregation Surveys, getting goals from our Committee chairs and focusing on the strategic planning process.



November, 2020 Session Highlights

- The Deacons have been busy mailing and delivering items to college students and shut-ins.
- There will no Christmas Poinsettias sold by the Deacons this year.
- We will be seeking a new custodian due to the unfortunate passing of Scott MacKenzie.
- Fellowship will be hosting the annual Advent-ure program on November 22, and plans are in the works to organize a Christmas Light Walk in December.
- Tablets have been distributed to members of our congregation to help them connect to the church electronically.
- Mission has recently sent funding to: Kirkwood Camp, the Rotary, Allentown Rescue Mission, Meals on Wheels and Second Harvest.
- The Nominating Committee is still seeking leadership with the B&G Committee, as well as the Discipleship Committee.
- Pledge cards for 2021 continue to be received—thank you! And it's not too late to participate.
- The Worship Committee is planning Christmas Eve Services (the late service at the Triangle will feature Joel Shimer).
- Thank you for your feedback collected through the Memorial Garden survey.
- The church budget for 2021 is shaping up. It will include consideration for the reality of the pandemic continuing into next year.

Church Office

- ***Annual Report*** — The **deadline for submissions is December 31**. Copies of the report will be made available the week prior to the Annual Congregational Meeting.
- ***Pocket Directory*** — During the month of December, a PDF of the directory will be included in the Thursday email blast, and a hard copy will be placed on a table in the Narthex. Please review your family's listing to be sure it is correct. Contact the church office with any corrections. **Please consider adding cell phone numbers and email addresses. And how about email addresses for your teen children?** The directory will be printed and made available during January.
- ***Church Office Hours*** — office hours are **Mondays and Thursdays** from **9:00 AM to 2:00 PM**. If office work is completed before 2:00, the secretary will leave early. Call ahead before coming in to the office. Lynda will continue to work from her home on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Keep the following in mind, if you need her to provide you with reports or materials that can be found only on the church computer, you need to contact her early on Mondays or Thursdays. **The office will be closed on the following dates during the winter season:**
 - December 24, 25, 31
 - January 1, 16*, 18
 - February 15
- ***Newsletter Deadline*** — The next newsletter to be published is the Spring 2021 edition. The **deadline is February 14**. The newsletter editor is not responsible for providing information on committees' upcoming events, only sharing what has been provided. If you feel that something has been overlooked, please contact the appropriate committee's chairperson.
- ***Office Work Space*** — The long counter in the church office is a work space, not temporary storage space. When baskets, boxes and bags are placed on the counter, they are in the way of the weekly work flow. Please find other spots to place them, (like unlocked classrooms) and let those who are retrieving them know where to look. And please, follow up to make sure they've been retrieved.

*Office Admin's birthday. 😊



Special Congregational Meeting

There will be a congregational meeting on Sunday, **December 20**, immediately following worship (to begin no earlier than 11:00 AM) for the purpose of electing the slate of officers and Nominating Committee members, as well as voting on the pastor's terms of call. **The meeting will be in person and via Zoom.** New officers will be installed in January.

A Reminder from the Financial Secretary

All contributions to the church that are to be counted as 2020 contributions must be received at the church no later than Monday, **January 4**. Any donations made after that, even if the check is dated 2020, will be counted toward your 2021 contributions. The Financial Secretary will be printing and sending out your 2020 tax statements on **January 14**. Thank you for your understanding.





Celebrating Christmas during a Pandemic

Checking in with church members, we've asked how they plan on celebrating Christmas with COVID-19 having an impact on the usual or traditional gatherings with family.

* * *

As we look forward to the holidays and the new year, during these uncertain times, Bruce and I feel certain that we will not be celebrating with our families. We are in that high risk age category... beware, you get there much quicker than you can imagine! Zooming and face time will be a new holiday experience.

We are constantly counting our blessings as we are going through this pandemic. Holiday blessings came early for us. Bruce's daughter, Kathy, was extremely sick this summer, in and out of the hospital several times. Thankfully, she is doing much better. Mary, Bruce's younger daughter, will be locating with her husband to D.C., much closer than Vegas. We realize that many families have not been as fortunate.

This fall I took part in the Bible study on Faith and Fear. Pastor Becki started each week with the question, "What gives you hope?" That is a practice we have continued, looking for and finding hope in each day.

Reading, *The Overstory*, by Richard Powers, I came across a quote, "Perhaps unlooked-for kindness along the way might yet shorten the path ahead." It seems pertinent for what the world is going through.

Our wish for ALL this holiday season, and beyond, is that we may be both givers and recipients of much hope and kindness. Blessings!

Written by: Bruce and Beth Kunkle

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Learning to live with not-yet-controlled lupus, along with the other various autoimmune disorders that go with it, has been challenging to say the least. I've had to learn to be more flexible and come to terms with the fact that my meticulously and beautifully color-coded calendar is of no use to me when plans change by the minute based on how I'm feeling. Toss a global pandemic into the mix of an already immunosuppressed person's life and I become further restricted in who I can see and where I can go in order to protect my family and myself.

Christmas at the Shreck house this year will greatly contrast with years' past. There will be no breakfast with Santa at our college alma mater, Kutztown University. Perhaps we can pull some strings and Santa can Zoom with Jonathan this year? Gathering with extended family and friends will be very limited and include only those we already see on a regular basis. My heart aches knowing Jonathan will miss out on playing and creating traditional holiday memories with his cousins. We will need to virtually attend Christmas Eve service at church. How I will miss feeling the warmth that surrounds us as a congregation when the sanctuary darkens and then is suddenly illuminated by candlelight above us as we sing *Silent Night*. We will simply have to create alternative ways to usher in the Christmas spirit this year in our home.

Despite the changes this year, we are determined to make this Christmas one to remember. We look forward to driving around the Valley and taking in the Christmas lights while sipping on hot chocolate in the car. We look forward to the warmth and coziness that comes with holiday decor around the house and wearing matching family Christmas pajamas (theme this year yet to be determined). We look forward to snuggling on the couch by the Christmas tree reading favorite children's Christmas stories as a family. We look forward to the Advent season and the anticipation that comes with celebrating Jesus' birth. We look forward to further expanding on Jonathan's understanding of the Christmas story. The circumstances that we face as a family and as a part of the greater community will not stop Christmas from coming. Things will just need to look a bit different this year and that's okay. The love, generosity, and spirit will remain the same.

Written by: Becky Shreck

* * *

MISSION

across the street & around the world

!!BIG Thank You to MISSION SUPPORTERS!!

Faith Church has collected
\$1665.00 for the PEACE and GLOBAL WITNESS offering!
\$416.25 will be sent to EPNHN

!!WAY to GO FAITH!!

Christmas Joy Offering: THE PERFECT GIFT

Leadership: Past, Present and Future
GOD is with us- Matthew 1:23

Each year during the Advent and Christmas season, we turn our eyes to Bethlehem and celebrate the wondrous gift of Jesus Christ, our Savior. By giving to the **Christmas Joy Offering**, you honor this gift by providing assistance to **current and retired church workers** in their time of need and developing our future leaders at Presbyterian-related racial ethnic schools and colleges.



The *Christmas Joy Offering* will be received and dedicated
12/20/2020.

Faith Presbyterian Church received \$3500.00 in 2019 for the Christmas Joy Offering.

Do you think we can be
JOYFUL givers
and “top” that amount?



United in Mission: WOF and Daybreak

Although our physical church interaction has changed over these last months, the greater mission of the church continues. Women of Faith and Daybreak volunteers have combined to help provide some items for the 40 Christmas bags for the Daybreak clients. In addition to giving 40 pairs of slippers, 40 blankets and 40 pillows, there are pillowcases being made for all of the pillows. At the time of this article, some of the Crazy Quilters who meet at Faith Church have volunteered to sew as well.

Daybreak is providing carry out breakfast and lunch but no dinner at this time. The Faith volunteers as well as the Daybreak staff are missing the once a month interaction as dinner was prepared and relationships formed. There have been numerous changes that have impacted their staff of caring individuals. The support of Faith Church is very much appreciated.

Women of Faith have donated many items to be used in the arts and crafts workshop run for the clients of Daybreak. The reaction when the items were delivered was a blessing to see! The leaders were so excited at the possibilities of creating many new projects. The daily Bingo games were supplied with some items donated to be used as prizes. The Rescue Mission also has benefitted from the shopping skills and rewards of our online guru, Sue Lawall, with enough bonus money to buy 16 hoodies for the residents.

This year has been very different for everyone but a common theme seems to be that we miss interacting with others. It has made us more aware of family ties and perhaps think about the people who do not have much of a support system. Hopefully some of this outreach will let those folks know that others do care about them and their needs.

Ministry Focus

Faith's workcamp mission offers youth an opportunity to repair and transform homes while deepening their faith and building new relationships with their peers, youth leaders, and residents. Home repair projects range from painting, to building decks and wheelchair ramps, to roofing and other general home repairs, but the service projects often are secondary to the spiritual growth that happens when teenagers step out of their own worlds and serve those in need. Beyond the physical transformation that happens in communities, teenagers bring the hope and light of Jesus to the residents they serve.

Since 1992, Faith has been sending youth across the country to serve alongside those in incredible need. More than 130 Faith members have worked on over 500 homes and have contributed over 17,300 on-site hours. More importantly, this life-changing opportunity has been a springboard for many of our youth's spiritual lives as they have gone on to serve communities as international ambassadors, camp leaders, and Peace Corp volunteers.

The residents of the homes receiving repair are also forever changed. Following our 2014 trip to Rochester, NY Miss Conover wrote, "The kids were all such an inspiration to me. They worked so very hard and did an incredible job. They all brought joy to my heart and I will miss each and every one. When we did devotions I could feel the Holy Spirit surrounding these young people. I would have never in a million years believed what hard working, awesome kids would touch my life the way they did."

Locations:

1992 - Logan, WV	2006 - Somerville, TN
1993 - Thomasville, GA	2007 - Vandalia, OH
1994 - Bolivar, TN	2008 - St. Louis, MI
1995 - Moncks Corner, SC	2009 - Martinsburg, WV
1996 - Great Barrington, MA	2010 - Savannah, GA
1997 - Savannah, GA	2011 - Middletown, OH
1998 - Milford, NH	2012 - Sutton, NH
1999 - Owen Sound, ON	2013 - Muskegon, MI
2000 - Rumford, ME	2014 - Rochester, NY
2001 - Chicago, IL	2015 - Rushville, IN
2002 - Lansing, MI	2016 - Cedar Grove, WV
2003 - Newport, ME	2017 - Wintersville, OH
2004 - Kenosha, WI	2018 - Virginia Beach, VA
2005 - Marshfield, MA	2019 - Rushville, IN

Participants:

Ryan Allsop	Daria Greb	Eric Lillegard	Katie Rath
Tatyana Alston	Jenna Gross	Jim Lillegard	Sue Robinson
Dave Arney	Jessica Hartman	Stephanie Lillegard	Joriah Rodriguez
Carolyn Baittinger	Rachel Heffner	Tiffany Lillegard	Lauren Sammak
Joanna Baittinger	Dan Hemberger	Sarah Liming	Laura Schaefer
Judy Baittinger	Kate Hemberger	Bryce Linden	Steve Seem
John Barabas	Kathy Hemberger	Kelsie Linden	Joel Shimer
Sara Baxter	Larry Hemberger	Dianne Macdonald	Daniel Shussett
Julie Benner	Tyler Hill	Sean Macdonald	Rachael Shussett
Rebecca Bilder	Bill Holzer	Ester Marchetti	Justin Yen
Erick Brewer	Lindsey Howorth	Joanne Marchetto	Pierce Zechman
Jill Brewer	Joey Hutzayluk	Andrew Martin	Christy Smits
Gabrielle Burger	Steph Hutzayluk	Phil Martin	Katie Smits
Jillian Burger	Jayme Ingram	Allison McCracken	Dorothy Smits
Jonna Burger	Lynn Ingram	Colin McKinnon	Harvey Trop
Bailey Clark	Mark Ingram	Lauren McKinnon	Karen Trop
Emily Cole	Rachael Ingram	Shannon McKinnon	Kelly Trop
Ed Coleman	Sam Jackson	Jack Melnick	Suzy Venezia
Eddie Coleman	Alex Kemps	Meghan Melnick	Jan Vitale
Ben Colson	Courtney Kemps	Annie Mick	Matt Vitale
Kip Coonley	Clara Kennedy	Liz Mick	Sarah Voros
Bryan Cope	Courtney Kennedy	Andrew Millick	Liz Walters
Jack Decker	Sadie Kennedy	Diane Millick	Katie Warner
Jackie Decker	Melanie Kramer	Grady Millick	Archer Waters
Lisa Decker	Josh Kreider	Leigh Moring	Cawley Waters
Marissa Decker	Niko Kreider	Platte Moring	Emily Webb
Tim Dooner	Emily LeFevre	Will Moring	Ella Wiese
Colin Edwards	Joy LeFevre	Brett Moss	Carol Wilson
Chris Fahy	Trina LeFevre	Darren Ortiz	Dave Wilson
Carol Fry	Christina Leinweber	Gwen Osterwalt	Jess Wilson
Lynn Fry	Greg Leinweber	Laura Payea	Joanna Yen
Evan Gill	Nick Leinweber	Lauren Payea	Jonathan Yen
Chad Gorr	Christy Lillegard	Sarah Ratchke	

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Community Building Community

The Stewardship Committee is happy to report on the Fall Pledge Campaign in support of the 2021 Operating Budget. Before getting to the numbers, the committee as well as your Session continue to thank everyone for all you have done and all you continue to do in support of Faith Church's programs to serve our communities both inside and outside of our church walls. Your initiative, faith and just plain old hard work has not gone unnoticed and we thank you.

To date we have received **54 pledges totaling \$184,502**. That means that there are about 25 more folks who we are hoping to hear from. The good news is that it is not too late. We accept pledges by mail, phone call, email or carrier pigeon. I can be reached at 610-762-1692 or anwcaw1988@gmail.com. You can also contact Lynda at the church office and we will make it happen.

We hope to have all pledges by Sunday, November 22 so we can have accurate information to share with the Administration Committee as they prepare the 2021 budget. Again, thanks for all you do. Peace.

**You can also donate
electronically.
Safe. Secure.
Easy. Quick.**

**Go to our website,
click on**





We hope all of our church families are doing well. We are continuing to think about how best to continue Christian education in a meaningful way, without endangering our teachers or children.

Youth Group is meeting in person most Sunday evenings (with appropriate masks and social distancing). If any middle school or high school youth are not on Rev. Joanne's email list please contact Cathy Wiese at 248-622-1672.

Pre-K—5 online Sunday School

Inviting all Preschool through 5th graders to join us for online Sunday school at 9:00 AM on the dates listed below. It will be great to see each other's faces again as we catch up and learn about being a friend in God's way. We will finish up in time for those who are going to church in person to get in the car or for the rest of us to tune into worship online. Hope to see you there! Any questions contact Cathy at cathywiese@gmail.com or 248-622-1672.

December 6
January 31

February 28
March 28

The link for these Sunday school classes can be found in the Thursday email blast. If you would like to be added to the list to receive these emails, please contact the office.

DEACONS

Following to Lead | Leading to Serve

In Lieu of Poinsettias...

Due to the ongoing pandemic, we will not be offering poinsettias this year. As an alternative, the Deacons will be making contributions to two church families in need.

Goodie Boxes

The deacons would like to thank the congregation for all the goodie box contributions for our college students. This year we had 11 recipients receive boxes, which outside of being a box filled with snacks, it lets them know that their church at home is thinking of them during a stressful part of their semester. Thank you again Faith family!

Prayer Concerns

- Becky Shreck
- Betty Dennis
- Marie Heffner
- Dody Perrin

Do you have an Extra Minute?

The Board of Deacons has identified the following members who are either confined to their homes, at a nursing facility, or sometimes unable to attend Sunday worship services:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Chip Benner ----- Cedarbrook | Kay Cole ----- Home |
| Dotti Harshman ----- Luther Crest | Marie Heffner ----- Phoebe Home |
| Sandy Missmer ----- Home | |

If you have an extra minute, perhaps you could call, send a card or even visit one of these members. Their phone numbers and addresses are located in the Faith Directory. Be a Deacon in your own right and help make someone's day a little brighter.



Fellowship

Although the Coronavirus Pandemic continues to impact Fellowship, we are finding ways to gather both in person and remotely. Please join us as you are able.

advent[ure]

November 22 - 1-3pm

ADVENT[ure] will be a little different this year (SURPRISE!!).

We will be decorating the sanctuary and there will be crafts and snacks available. Masks and social distancing will be in practice. If you are unable to attend, we will have "take home" bags available.

Here are some of the activities:

- Decorating the sanctuary (tree, wreath, nativity scene, etc.)
- Blessing box
- Advent chain
- Advent wreath for home use
- Advent devotionals (one designed for families, one designed for the more mature audience)
- Ornament making
- Children gift area (gifts for children to make for their favorite adult)

We are also putting up a tree in the Narthex. We would like to have this tree decorated with cards from the congregation. We will take pictures of your card (and you if you are delivering it in person) and make a video collage to run during the Sundays of Advent.

Please contact Sally Heimbach: 610-965-2102(H) or email her at sheimbch@ptd.net...

- if you plan on attending in person,
- if you would like a "take home" bag, or
- for additional information.

Christmas Light Walk

On Sunday, December 13th at 7:00 pm, we will gather at the church for a Christmas Light Walk through Emmaus. We will depart from the church in small groups and walk through the neighborhood around the church. Each group will be tasked with taking a picture of their favorite Christmas Light display.

Church Picnic

The church picnic on Sunday, September 13th was well attended. As you know, the picnic was coupled with an outdoor worship service. We enjoyed this opportunity to see one another. Thank you to all who volunteered to set up, serve lunch and clean up after lunch.

Fellowship Hour

Regular Fellowship gatherings after worship, provide us with an opportunity to catch up with old friends and develop relationships with new friends. During the pandemic, we have adapted the Fellowship Hour to meet by Zoom. We continue to have a regular small group for virtual fellowship after worship. We have enjoyed staying in touch with one another and sharing pandemic frustrations and successes. If you haven't joined us for Fellowship Hour via Zoom, please give it a try. The details for the Zoom Fellowship Hour appear in the weekly email blast and in the bulletin.

Common Interest Groups

Common Interest Groups provide an opportunity for members, neighbors, friends, and guests to gather around a common interest. The **reading group** is continuing to meet via Zoom. We finished reading "Radium Girls" and "Small Great Things" over the fall. Our next book will be announced shortly; please join us for our next book. The **board game** group will continue to meet through the winter.

Details for the Common Interest groups are being communicated through Facebook, the Faith Life and the Two Weeks of Faith bulletin inserts. If you are interested in participating in a group or forming a new group, please contact Heather Davis or Dave Wilson.



December
 BIRTHDAYS

- 12/ 1 Betsy Han
- 12/4 Marie Heffner, Cathy Wiese,
Dave Wilson
- 12/ 5 Sue McCracken
- 12/6 Dianne Macdonald
- 12/ 7 Terry Eck, Bill MacHose,
Jessica Spak,
- 12/ 8 Brynn Durn, Bonnie Hillman
- 12/9 Scott Greb
- 12/10 Mark Heimbach
- 12/12 Laurie Hillenbrand, Sue Lawall,
Sam Luff
- 12/13 Cameron Godiska
- 1/14 Ryan Kennington
- 12/15 Harry Dennis, Rosemarie Haley,
Cawley Waters
- 12/18 Owen Dredge
- 12/19 Thomas Eck, Bonnie Osterwald
- 12/20 Dorothy Harshman, Erik Walker
- 12/21 Nora Harford
- 12/23 Dennis Arndt
- 12/24 Christina Godiska, Michelle Halpin
- 12/26 Carole Wilson
- 12/27 Beth Kunkle, Jack Ferlino
- 12/28 Archer Waters
- 12/30 Matt Staack



January
 BIRTHDAYS

- 1/1 Dan Hemberger
- 1/4 Carson Halpin
- 1/5 Kathryn Greb
- 1/6 Kay Cole, Miriam Ferlino
- 1/7 Christina Conrad
- 1/8 Laurie Payea
- 1/10 Jack Decker
- 1/12 Marissa Decker, Ella Wiese
- 1/13 Lynn Ingram
- 1/14 Jim Pantano
- 1/16 Lynda Scheirer
- 1/19 Sue Vitale
- 1/20 Heather Nicholas
- 1/22 Mary Gedney, Erin Gill
- 1/26 Matt Somishka
- 1/28 Nelson Fernandez



february

BIRTHDAYS

- 2/4 Beth Walker
- 2/5 Jonathan DePhillips,
Michael Pipines
- 2/7 Tom Luff
- 2/8 John Gill
- 2/9 Bob Bieler
- 2/12 Thomas Zuzzolo
- 2/14 Susan Moring
- 2/15 Jim DePhillips, Quinn Jackson
- 2/16 Will Moring, Ben Wiese
- 2/17 Sam Kennedy, Ann Laubach,
Sarah Tracy
- 2/20 Sandy Missmer
- 2/22 Beth Luff, Leigh Moring,
Barbara Webb
- 2/23 Katrina Piper
- 2/24 Stephanie Lillegard, Don
Macdonald
- 2/25 Heather Davis
- 2/26 Abby Masenheimer



SCRIP Program

Thank you to those who have joined our regular purchasers in the Great Lakes SCRIP gift card scrip programs. We had a few regular monthly purchasers this year, and we are very grateful for them! Won't you consider helping this program continue to provide funds to the church by making purchases using SCRIP.

- The total amount raised so far in 2020 is **\$303.43**
- The **next deadlines** are Dec. 6 (earlier to accommodate Christmas gift giving), Jan. 10, and Feb. 14.

Help the church make this program a bigger success!! For a complete list of retailers or for more information check the **table in the Fellowship Hall** or visit www.glscrip.com. Contact Lynda Scheirer at adnyl510@gmail.com if you have any logistical questions.

Plan ahead for SCRIP

Now is the time to order gift cards for holiday gift giving! They will be ordered on Monday, December 7, and barring UPS delays will be in the church office the following Monday.





Did You Know?

Typically, this column lists things about the church that you may or may not know. In this issue, something more community-wide is being shared by a church member. If you have something in this vein that you would like to share in a future issue, please contact Lynda Scheirer.



In talking to many of you, I have learned what seems to be the best kept secret in the Lehigh Valley.

As a senior citizen, Weis Markets, on a Tuesday, will discount 10% of your order on over 6,000 Weis brand items. All you have to do is register with the cashier prior to checking out. 10% will automatically appear on your store receipt. This does not apply on every Weis item, but I would say on the majority of them.

If you served in the military, a 10% discount applies to your order on a Thursday. All I did to show I was a veteran is produce my VA card. I am sure any document you have showing evidence of your military service will suffice.

On my last two trips to the Weis Market in Macungie, I have saved 25% and 22%, utilizing applicable coupons and my discount.

Apply today and save!!!

Terry Eck



During these unusual times, saving on purchases can be even more valuable to those who are struggling. In future issues, we'd love to share tips on other deals that have been discovered.

Dear Faith Family and Friends,

I would like to thank you very much for the care package you sent. Its contents will be greatly enjoyed through the end of this semester. As everyone is blatantly aware, 2020 has been a crazy year and I am glad to stay connected with all of you despite everything that has been going on. Thank you all again.

Sincerely,

Archer Waters

Dear Church Family,

Thank you for the college student gift box! I am grateful for your generosity. I am doing well in college so far, and I appreciate you thinking about me while I start to prepare for finals.

Thank you,

Carter Lowell

Dear Pastor Becki and Church Family,

I just received the treat box for Finals Week and I wanted to thank everyone who helped in putting it together! It was a pleasant surprise, and I am excited to enjoy it and share it with others!

I hope to see everyone soon over Christmas break, thank you so much!

Cawley Waters

Dear Friends,

On behalf of the Lehigh Conference of Churches, thank you for your recent committed contribution of \$1,000, to support our neighbors who are in need.

Faithfully,

Pastor Genie Watson, Ecumenical Associate

A thank you donation was received by Faith Presbyterian Church from Allied Inspection Services for the tables that were looking for a good home.

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Dear Faith Presbyterian Church of Emmaus,

There's so much packed into what we call "camp life." Late-night campfire conversations, quiet walks in the woods, and loudly sung worship songs—these are all things that can't happen without you.

With your gift of \$500, you make Kirkwood Camp a special community for all kinds of kids. On behalf of our many campers, families, guests, volunteers, and staff, let me say: Thank You. Thank you again for continuing to make this ministry possible.

Grace and Peace,

Ford Behne, Interim Director, Kirkwood Camp

Dear Red Cross Supporter,

The American Red Cross is very grateful for your generous gift of \$1,000 to your local chapter. On behalf of those we serve, thank you.

You make a difference. Thank you for standing with us.

Sincerely,

Gail McGovern, President and CEO, American Red Cross

Thank you so much for the many cards that I received for my 90th birthday! They were very much appreciated. I have many fond memories of helping Sally in the church kitchen and was happy to hear that you enjoyed the turkey BBQ.

Thank you,

Shirley Fox, Sally Heimbach's mother

When folks ask me why I go to church, I always respond "because of the people". The church family's response to sending cards to my mother for her 90th birthday was outstanding. You may have felt it was a simple task to do but the joy it brought to my mom went way beyond that simple task.

Thank you so very much,

Sally Heimbach

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Dear Mission Committee,

On behalf of the staff and students of Lincoln Elementary School, I would like to thank you and the congregation of Faith Presbyterian Church of Emmaus, for the generous contribution of \$463 to our Angel Network Program. With your donations throughout the years, we have been able to provide families with groceries, gift cards, clothing, school supplies, school photo packages, musical instrument rentals, and fees associated with field trips, as well as after-school opportunities.

As always, your donation to our Angel Network will be extremely helpful to us as we strive to meet the needs of the Lincoln families. Many of our students and families are experiencing difficulties as a result of the pandemic. We truly could not help the families at our school without your support.

Thank you for your thoughtfulness and continued generosity!

Sincerely,

Amanda Hemberger, Lincoln School Counselor, East Penn School District

Dear Faith Presbyterian Church,

Thank you for your continued support to the Emmaus Food Bank. Your generosity benefits many in our shared community of Emmaus.

Gratefully,

Leah Jarrett, Bethel Church

Dear Friends at Faith Presbyterian Church,

Please accept my sincerest thanks for your recent donation of \$1,000 on 10/8/2020 to Turning Point of Lehigh Valley. Your generous gift is more than just donation. It's a second chance for survivors of domestic and intimate partner abuse in the Lehigh Valley.

It is because of you that survivors in the Lehigh Valley can count on Turning Point to provide them with the life-saving services they need to escape abusive relationships. For one survivor, that life-saving service is working with one of our legal advocates on how to get a PFA against their abuser. For another survivor, it is a conversation with one of our counselors and feeling for the first time in a long time that someone is

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listening. Your generosity serves as a beacon of hope for survivors in the Lehigh Valley.

Alone, our light flickers in the darkness, but together our lights can illuminate the darkest of place. During October, we focused our awareness and education during Domestic Violence Awareness Month. For more information on how you can get involved, please visit our website at <http://bit.ly/TPLVDVAM>.

In peace,

Lori Sywensky, Executive Director
Turning Point of Lehigh Valley

Dear Partners in God's Mission,

In writing his second letter to the church of Corinth, the Apostle Paul penned, "The pint is this: the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver" (2 Corinthians 9:6-7, NRSV).

For many of our churches, October is the beginning of stewardship season—Consecration Sunday, the Pony Express, every member canvas, and so on. Many of our churches are working on budgets trying to decide where their priorities are for 2021. As you work on next year's church budget, we thank you for your continued support.

On behalf of the Mission Agency, thank you for your generous and faithful support during September. On September 21, 2020, we received \$437.50 for 102 Shared Mission Support.

Thank you once again for your support, dedication and partnership in furthering God's mission around the world. You are a valued partner in mission. As always, please let me know how I can support you in your mission efforts.

Yours in Christ,

Lynn Foreman, Mission Engagement Advisor
Office of Mission Engagement and Support, Presbyterian Mission

Dear Friends at Faith Presbyterian Church,

(Continued on page 32)

Day in and day out, the Greater Valley YMCA is here for our communities, creating a healthier and more connected Lehigh Valley. Our Allentown Warming Station provides a safe place for our neighbors experiencing homelessness to find warmth, friendship, and belonging. As we prepare to reOpen the Station for our 2020-2021 season, we know that our work is more critical than ever before due to the ongoing pandemic, and the effect it has had on our community members.

On behalf of the Greater Valley YMCA, Allentown branch, thank you for your generous donation of \$1,000 in support of our Warming Station. Your donation provides life-saving resources for our community members in need.

On behalf of our Allentown community, we thank you for your generous gift. We believe that when we work together, we can create lasting personal and social changes in our communities. Your commitment to improving lives in the Lehigh Valley is sincerely appreciated.

With gratitude,


Kate Cohen, Chief Development Officer

Dear Friends,

In the book of Acts, the story of Pentecost tells of the amazing way the Holy Spirit pulled together a fragmented and frightened group of Jesus' followers, resting on them and filling them with fresh ways to speak the good news of God's love. The story is told in a way that reminds believers of the tower of Babel in Genesis, where the unity and common purpose of humanity was shattered through pride, misunderstanding and confusion. It was a disaster that shattered human community. I am thinking today how those old stories resonate in new ways during this strange season of the COVID-19 pandemic. In the US and across the globe, people have found common purpose and demonstrated nobility in the face of threat, serving others and preserving life, even while others have allowed fear and crisis to diminish their own humanity and harm the common good. It was, as Dickens once penned, *the best of times and the worst of times.*

Yet, I am also filled with gratitude for the ways the *new* moment of Pentecost is also unfolding, as good news is demonstrated, transcending differences of language, culture and race, through the gifts, prayers, and diligent work of so many in the Presbyterian family. Since the middle of March, PDA has been able to put two million dollars into the field to respond to COVID-19, grants made possible by faithful gifts over the last few years to the general fund of Presbyterian Disaster Assistance. In the

(Continued on page 33)



US, congregations receiving small grants from PDA have expanded the operations of existing food banks and opened new ones. Even while not meeting in person worship, they have reached out a hand to those in their neighborhoods living without shelter, established new relationships with communities living on the margin, refugees, and people whose lack of access to clean water makes sanitation practices challenging, if not impossible.

Our international partners are doing much the same, across the globe, and in addition to emergency food, sanitation, water and shelter, are providing awareness and sensitization campaigns in areas too remote for a strong governmental or regional approach and offering spiritual care along with tangible resources. And even as COVID-19 dominates our thoughts, resources and common life, tornados typhoons, fires and floods still work devastation...and PDA is still showing up and helping. Through all of these communities at work in local response to the pandemic, and in your continued commitment to ongoing disaster response, you have spoken the language of love in a tangible, impactful way, offering a gift that helps to bring renewed hope and joy to those individuals and communities suffering from disaster and its aftermath. On their behalf, thank you.

Please know that your [August 21, 2020] gift of \$1,400 blesses those who walk the hard road toward recovery, letting them know they are not alone, helping them to find hope in the midst of chaos, and making real the promise of Pentecost—the tangible demonstration of the “mighty acts of God” in healing and restoration...in the language each one needs most to hear.

In Christ's peace,

The Rev. Dr. Laurie A. Kraus, Director , Presbyterian Disaster Assistance

Dear [Pastor],

I wish you could join us around the table this Thanksgiving and be part of the conversations at the Allentown Rescue Mission. Each smile, word of thanks, and moment of connection is possible thanks to YOUR gift of \$1,000 on 10/28/2020. You might hear an older gentleman say, “This is the first hot meal I've had in weeks.” You'd see homeless men enjoying warm, comfortable shelter after many cold, hungry nights on the streets of the Greater Lehigh Valley. More than meals, your support provides rescue, recovery, and hope to those in need throughout the year.

Gratefully,

Rosaria M. Stoops, Development Manager



Operating Fund Financial Report

Below is the 2019 report of operating income vs. expenses through October 31, 2019. Reports for months leading up to the summer issue of the flyer will be posted in the church.

	October 30, 2020	YTD: 2020
OPERATING INCOME:	\$ 18,919.00	\$ 215,842.00
OPERATING EXPENSES:	\$ 18,825.00	\$ 217,533.00
Misc. Expenses:	\$ 0.00	\$ 17.00
ANNUAL RESERVE (DEFICIT):	\$ 323.00	\$ (236.00)

Blessings,
 Lynda Scheirer

Reminder—Use of Faith Church Facilities

Mission Statement: Use of Buildings and Grounds of Faith Presbyterian Church, Emmaus PA: *In faithful stewardship, we will offer the gifts of our time, our building and our grounds to our neighbors in love, and to those with whom God calls us into partnership for the purposes of God's work.*

Use of Facilities (UFC) Policy, 2013

The Use of Facilities Committee (UFC) oversees all requests for partnership or one-time use. Members of the committee are Sally Heimbach (current Chair), Lisa Decker and Kris Melnick.

The policy and forms can be found on the church website under **About Us/ Building and Grounds** (bottom of the web page).

Reminder—Dates in this issue, and more

There are always so many dates to remember. This page is intended to provide them all in one place for easy transfer to your preferred calendar, or for hanging on the refrigerator...however you manage your schedule.

Date	Event
November 22	ADVENT[ure]
November 29	Advent begins
December 5	Scrip orders due
December 6.....	Deadline for ordering virtual poinsettias.
December 13.....	Christmas Light Walk
December 20.....	Congregational Meeting re: Nominations Christmas Joy Offering
December 24.....	Christmas Eve (Church Office closed)
December 25.....	Christmas (Church Office closed)
December 29.....	Pulpit Supply
December 31.....	Annual Reports due New Year's Eve (Church Office closed)
January 1	New Year 2021! (Church Office closed)
January 4	Last day accepting 2020 donations
January 14	2020 Tax statements mailed
January 10.....	Scrip orders due
January 18.....	Martin Luther King Day (Church Office closed)
February 7	Annual Congregational Meeting
February 14	Scrip orders due
February 14	Spring Newsletter deadline
February 15	Presidents' Day (Church Office closed)
February 17	Ash Wednesday

Some events are subject to change. If you are ever in doubt, refer to the online calendar for the most up to date information.



Faith Presbyterian Church

3002 N. Second Street

P.O. Box 507

Emmaus, PA 18049

Address Services Requested



The **Faith Flyer**

Winter 2020/2021