

the Faith Flyer

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Living and sharing the miracle of God's grace.

EMMAUS, PENNSYLVANIA

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Because your
steadfast love
is better than
life, my lips
will praise
you. PSALM 63:3

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- Ministry Focus: Women's Thursday Study– Page 16.
- What is a Faithful Member?– Page 5.

There is a lot of information provided in each newsletter, and this issue is particularly beefy!

Please take the time to read the articles our committees have shared.

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

Custodian

Joan Decker

Church Officers

Elders

Doug Boyd, Heather Davis, Terry Eck,
John Gill, Sally Heimbach, Bruce Luff,
Jim Robinson; Ann Lowell, Clerk of Session

Deacons

Carolyn Baittinger, Donna Call, Tracey Gill,
Liz Kenny, Kim Kreider, Beth Kunkle,
Elaine Smits, Yvonne Stauffer;
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

Office hours are Monday through
Thursday: 9 AM to 2 PM-ish

Pastoral Care Needs

For medical emergencies or deaths,
contact:

- Pastor Becki at
revmallozzi@faithchurchemmaus.org,
or...
- Deacon Moderator: Deb Ferguson at
dwfchurchemail@gmail.com.

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: May 15

Personal Contact Information

Phone numbers and email addresses of
members are not shared to publications
that are shared online.

Zoom Links

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

A Note from the Pastor's Desk

Do you remember when you joined the church?

Most of us have some memory of joining the church. I remember joining my family's church after a year-long confirmation class. Joining the church was an exciting time for me. I was considered "the weird kid" who loved coming to church – I hated dressing up, but I really saw church as my other home. I looked forward to Sundays when I could worship, teach Sunday school, and then attend Sunday school as a student. After confirmation I was so excited to take the vows to become an ordained deacon (I was 15 years old). I have great memories of how the church where I grew up (and where both of my parents grew up) encouraged me to be involved in the church, even at a young age.

Most of us have some memory of joining the church, and I'm wondering what it looks like to rekindle that initial joy of being part of a church family. I'm especially wondering this now when we're imagining ways of being together and rebuilding relationships within the faith community. For a long time, the pandemic made it impossible for some to come to church in person. Many still have not felt comfortable returning to in-person activities. Yet, as a community of faith we remain in a position to wonder what it means to be a church member in a post-quarantine society.



Rev. Rebecca Mallozzi

Notice I'm not saying "post-pandemic." The realities of Covid-19, like the good ol' fashioned flu, is that some variant or another will probably be around for the foreseeable future. But I also believe we must find a balance between making decisions rooted in faith versus rooted in fear. And perhaps there is also space to confess the pandemic is a convenient excuse to avoid doing something we really don't want to do. Hear me, I am NOT making light of the pandemic at all. Yet, as we think about our future together, we must be honest with ourselves about *why* we actually say "no thank you" to something, including something involving an in-person engagement with the faith community.

When do you come back to in-person worship? When do you participate in a church fellowship activity? When do you send the kids to a Sunday Morning Together gathering? Am I too comfortable worshipping at home? We're all asking these questions.

(Continued on page 4)

Pastor's Message

(Continued from page 3)

Some are saying churches should discontinue online worship services all together. Some respond, "At least people are attending." And online worship makes it possible for homebound members to stay connected (for those that have access to the technology). Some churches make online services available for only the homebound members. Honestly, I don't know the right answer on this one because I see the pros and cons. I see what online worship has made possible and I know how comfortable it is to worship at home when the weather outside is less than stellar.

There are multiple sides to every issue, including what it looks like to be the body of Christ in a post-quarantine world. There are multiple sides to reflecting on what it looks like to be part of a faith community in this particular time and place. I believe each church member needs to make space for that reflection and consider honestly: what *does* it mean to you to be a part of a church community? Is it enough to worship online? Does that count as being a part of the life of the church? I can't answer yes or no for you; this is a heart and spirit issue between you and God. As your faith leader, I will say this: your value to me is not based how you attend. You are valuable to me because you are a child of God.

As Presbyterians, we believe this about belonging to a faith community: "Membership in the Church of Jesus Christ is a joy and privilege. It is also a commitment to participate in Christ's mission. A faithful member bears witness to God's love and grace and promises to be involved responsibly in the ministry of Christ's Church." On another page of this newsletter, you'll see some examples from our *Book of Order* for what that might look like. We want to stay connected to each other. We want to stay connected to God. We want to foster and nurture relationships because that's how we love God and love our neighbors as we love ourselves.

Ultimately, what that looks like is up to you. My encouragement to you is to spend some time in reflection. Reflect on the membership statement of belief and the list of ways for how that might look. Reflect on what being a part of a faith community means to you and if you feel in the depths of your heart that you actually feel disconnected, please know you are not alone. Please know I am here for you and I want to be with you on this journey. I truly believe we are in this together. We are a faith *family*, after all.

Blessings to you,
Pastor Becki Mallozzi



From *The Book of Order (G-1.0304)*: “A faithful member bears witness to God’s love and grace and promises to be involved responsibly in the ministry of Christ’s church. Such involvement includes:

- Proclaiming the good news in word and deed
- Taking part in the common life and worship of a congregation
- Lifting one another up in prayer, mutual concern, and active support
- Studying scripture and the issues of Christian faith and life
- Supporting the ministry of the church through the giving of money, time, and talents
- Demonstrating a new quality of life within and through the church
- Living responsibly in the personal, family, vocational, political, cultural, and social relationships of life
- Working in the world for peace, justice, freedom, and human fulfillment
- Caring for God’s creation
- Participating in the governing responsibilities of the church
- Reviewing and evaluating regularly the integrity of one’s membership, and considering ways in which one’s participation in the worship and service of the church may be increased or made more meaningful





SUNDAY MORNINGS
10:00 AM
IN-PERSON &
ONLINE!

*Scriptures and Sermons for Spring Worship**

March 2—Ash Wednesday

“Star Dust”

Scripture: Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

March 6: “Even in the Desert”

Luke 4:1-13:

March 13: “Under God’s Wing”

Scripture: Luke 13:31-35

March 20: “You Are Worthy”

Scripture: Luke 13:1-9

March 27: “Prodigal Grace”

Scripture: Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

April 3: “Brazen Acts of Beauty”

Scripture: John 12:1-8

April 10—Palm Sunday

“Even the Stones Cry Out”

Scripture: Luke 19:28-40

April 17—Easter

“An Expansive Life”

Scripture: Luke 24:1-12

April 24—Holy Humor Sunday

“The Humor of it All”

Scripture: Acts 5:27-32

May 1: “Legacies”

Scripture: John 21:1-19

May 8: “The Specks in Our Eyes”

Scripture: Matthew 7:1-5

**May 15—Recognizing Mental Health
Awareness Month**

“How We Love Them When It’s Hard”

Scripture: John 13:31-35

May 22: “Partnership in the Gospel”

Scripture: Philippians 1:1-18

May 29: “The Christ Hymn”

Scripture: Philippians 2:1-13

**Plans are subject to change.*

Our worship services can be watched live on YouTube, as they happen, anywhere you have an internet connection. Find the link on our website under *Media—Live Stream*, or check it out at <https://bit.ly/FPCLive>. Past services are archived and viewable at *Media—Sermons & Bulletins*.

Lent 2022: Full to the Brim

During the season of Lent, we'll be using the Sanctified Art's theme, "Full to the Brim." From the creators:



"Full to the Brim doesn't ignore or deny sin and suffering. It doesn't absolve accountability for wrongdoing. Instead it contextualizes our faith. If love is our beginning, how can we live our lives led by love's promises? It reminds us to live fully—as we pursue justice and hope, or express grief and gratitude. And so, this Lent, let us trust—fully—that we belong to God. Let us increase our capacity to receive and give grace. Let us discover the expansive life God dreams for us."

Throughout the season, we will gather for Visio Divina, which is a way of using art and poetry to guide our devotions. We will gather on Thursdays at 1p.m. in person and at 7p.m. via zoom. The Sanctified Art's Lenten devotional is available as well in the narthex.

I share the prayer of the "Full to the Brim" creators that this Lenten season and theme will be transformative and healing. How will God inspire you to live more fully this season?

If you have any questions, please let me know!

-Pastor Becki

The Zoom link will be emailed out weekly and will be on Facebook. All are welcome.



- Palm Sunday (April 10) 10a.m.
- Maundy Thursday (April 14) 7p.m.
- Good Friday Service of Shadows (April 15) 7p.m.
- Easter Sunday (April 17) 10a.m.



What's Holy Humor Sunday (or Bright Sunday)?

The idea of setting aside one Sunday each year to celebrate God's gift of laughter and joy may be new to some, but it's got a long rich history in many congregations around the world.

Churches in 15th century Bavaria used to celebrate the Sunday after Easter as *Risus Paschalis* ('God's Joke,' or 'the Easter laugh'). Priests would deliberately include amusing stories and jokes in their sermons in an attempt to make the faithful laugh. After the service, people would gather together to play practical jokes on one another and tell funny stories. It was their way of celebrating the resurrection of Christ — the supreme joke God played on Satan by raising Jesus from the dead.

The observance of *Risus Paschalis* was actually outlawed by Pope Clement X in the 17th century.

Perhaps people were having too much fun.

In the last 30 years, many congregations have really made a push to resurrect this tradition. In our church, we take Holy Humor Sunday to share laughs together and keep the Easter celebration going (that's why it's traditionally celebrated on the Sunday after Easter). You're invited to run a joke by Pastor Becki to see if it's something you can share in church. You're also invited to wear a silly hat or a brightly colored shirt. Bring out the loudest tie or Hawaiian shirt in your closet! We expect your socks to give us a smile.

This year (April 24), the service will run backwards to represent how Jesus turns expectations on their head. Come and join us in merriment!

As G.K. Chesterton wrote once: "Angels fly because they take themselves lightly. Never forget that the devil fell by force of gravity. He who has the faith has the fun."

Happy 2022! Session has met three times since our last newsletter and the theme of our discussions has truly toggled between *Joy* and *Concern*.

The Joy is financial. We ended up 2021 with a small reserve, the remaining stained-glass windows are financed, and the Berkenstock fund supported expenses incurred after the office flood. Pledges for 2022 improved from last year. Our church is blessed with monetary resources! Thank you kindly.

The Concern is about time and talents. Our boards of Deacons and Elders are functioning with fewer people. We are entering year two of no formal leadership over the needs of our Building & Grounds. We are currently without formal leadership for our Worship Committee. We constantly need Ushers and Worship Assistants. We need help with Mission projects and Fellowship events. Our committees need more people.

the CLERK'S CORNER

by Ann Lowell

We are entering a time when virus restrictions appear to be easing again (this is a Joy!). We are also entering Lent soon. We will be asked *How does Jesus call us to live more fully?* Please consider this question as we pray for leadership and participation. Our church is the most help to the community when we have a healthy balance of time, talent and treasure.

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

Feb. 2022 Session Highlights

- Finances to start 2022 are healthy.
- Session had ongoing reflection on current area Covid trends. Some restrictions will be loosened immediately (removing the pew ribbons and reinstating microphone use during Joys & Concerns). Others will be addressed in about a month.
- We are collecting bids to replace the outdoor (parking lot) lighting (currently not functioning properly).
- A roof repair (over the Vestry) will be completed soon.
- Our youngest youth are enjoying a weekly video series by Pastor Becki.
- Please leave the kitchen clean after you use it!
- Sunday Morning Together events have been planned through May.
- A new membership photo mosaic is posted on the Membership page of the church website.
- Concern for volunteers for various events continues to be an issue.

DISCIPLESHIP

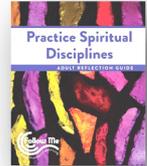
A LIFELONG PROCESS OF FOLLOWING JESUS

Here we go – Wouldn't it be grand that if by the end of spring we would be back to normal or a "new" normal, which is exactly how I began this update one year ago. I guess it still applies. Your Discipleship Committee is moving forward with plans for the coming spring and summer.

SUNDAY
Morning
TOGETHER

Let's begin with Sunday Morning Together (SMT) for kids and grownups of all ages and/or families. Intergenerational activities, or events benefitting our church or community, are planned for the remaining two Sundays in February, 20th and 27th, for every Sunday in March with Lenten themes, and for all future Sundays through May 22. A special invite to attend is extended to our younger children up through 5th grade and their parents, as we wish to stay connected with you. In addition, these children are also enjoying the weekly Bible storytelling on Kid-Vid with Pastor Becki on Thursdays. Meanwhile, the adult Sunday School class on Sunday morning plans to resume in March.

The Adult Class will begin again on Sunday, March 6 following worship (approx. 11:15 AM). Our study is a Lenten series:



Practice Spiritual Disciplines, part of the curriculum titled "Follow me: Biblical Practices for Faithful Living". Spiritual disciplines are usually thought of as the things that help us draw near to God, and can include different forms of prayer, meditation, study, and service. Spiritual practices are seen as those things Jesus did, said or embodied; and that we as Jesus' followers try to do as well.

Join us for a special journey during this Lenten season, March 2 (Ash Wednesday) through Palm Sunday, and beyond. Questions: Deanna Robinson or Anne Laubach.

Our junior and senior high Youth Groups, meeting jointly with The BARN community, under the very capable direction of Pastor Jo Marchetto have plans and activities planned through May. (Please see Pastor Jo's separate article.)



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SMALL GROUPS

The **Small Groups** are beginning again with Word on Wednesday (WOW) in March with Pastor Becki. The Thursday Women's Study Group is presently meeting weekly on Zoom or in homes. (See Deanna Robinson's update.) Please also see the update on Disciples Of Christ (DOC) provided by Terry Eck.

Vacation Bible School (VBS) is being planned for June 20-23 from 6-8:00 PM. The theme is Lighthouse Kids: Shining God's Light. All kids are welcome—aged three through 5th grade. Please mark your calendars. Planning stage has begun, and those interested in helping or volunteering should contact Sally Heimbach. Once again, this year we will be participating with The BARN after last year's very successful partnership. Kids and adults look forward to this event each year!



The **Triennium**, July 24 – 27 in Indianapolis this summer, offers a unique faith experience and opportunity for older youth entering 9th grade this coming fall up to their senior year. If you are interested please contact either Pastor Jo or Pastor Becki ASAP! as the deadline is approaching.



For your information, our distribution of luminaries at Christmas was successful in our first attempt. To get more exposure, next year we will also plan to have them available during the Old Fashioned Christmas Day celebration on the Triangle in Emmaus. We'll keep you posted. Thanks again to those who helped assemble them during an SMT session last December.



Lastly, **Thank you** for your continuing involvement with Discipleship at FPC whether you teach, volunteer, or serve in some other way, or just participate like on Sunday mornings, we think it's what following Jesus is all about!



Word on Wednesday

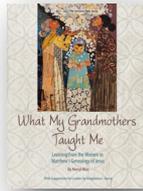
Our WOW Group meets Wednesdays at noon in the parlor. All are welcome to attend!

- March 2-April 13: Lenten study, "Illuminating Lent: The Lord's Prayer." Participant books will be available the week before (they are free!).
- *WOW will not meet on April 20.*
- April 27-May 25: A five-week study on stories of sacred space s (Exodus 3, Joshua 4, Leviticus 25, Matthew 26, and Psalm 71)
- *WOW will be off for the summer until September.*

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Thursday Women's Study Group

Beginning February 10, we again began gathering together in the homes of our members for study and prayer. This spring our study is titled *What My Grandmothers Taught Me: Learning from the Women in Matthew's Genealogy of Jesus*.



The 5 women mentioned in the Gospel of Matthew were not from well-to-do, socially acceptable families. Rather, they were foreigners or persons of questionable reputations. Why are they included in the lineage of Jesus? And what are the implications of this inclusion for our own faith practice and faith communities?

We welcome others to join us on Thursday mornings 9:30-11:30 AM. For more information, contact Deanna Robinson.

Youth Group

The winter was a ton of fun at youth group! We had a number of fun events including our Christmas party, movie marathon, and more! We went to a Phantoms game, and we had a fun

afternoon at Back to the Arcade. The big news was that we were able to escape from the Soul Collector escape room.

This spring, we continue meeting weekly for events and activities. We are planning to go skating, a trip to Urban Air, Nerf Gun capture the flag, and more! If you would like to receive the youth group weekly email, send me an email to be put on the list (joanne@thebarnlv.org).

I would like to give a huge thank you to all the parents and mentors who support our youth by sponsoring dinner! Every week, we share a meal together as an opportunity to get to know one another. If you would like to sponsor a dinner, you can sign up here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090549a5ae2cab9-youth6> If you have any questions, please reach out and ask.

Two exciting experiences for high school youth:

Planning begins for workcamp! Work camp will be July 9-17, and we are going to Erie, PA. This is a fun week where we spend time getting to know the residents of Erie, meeting youth from around the

(Continued on page 13)

Disciples of Christ (D.O.C.)

DOC has decided to postpone all future gatherings until further notice. When the decision to continue with DOC is made, all interested participants will be notified. Thank you Terry Eck as leader.

country, and we grow closer to God. It is an amazing and fun experience! If you have any questions or would like to learn more, you can reach out to Jo Marchetto (joanne@thebarnlv.org).

This summer, we are also hoping to send youth to the Presbyterian Youth Triennium! This is a wonderful event for youth to meet 5,000 of their best friends from presbyterian churches around the country. We worship, learn, and grow together through the week. And- it is a ton of fun! The event will be held at the Indianapolis Convention Center July 24-27, 2022. The website for triennium is updated with new information! You can visit: <https://presbyterianyouthtriennium.org/> to learn more.





COMMUNICATIONS

Have It/Need It Bulletin Board

Do you have something that you are looking to get rid of? Do you need something? Let's see what can be exchanged within our church community!

What kinds of things are we talking about? Pretty much anything. You may need a piece of furniture or a specific tool, and someone at church just might have what you need. You could be looking to find a home for any number of household items you no longer need...for example: furniture, puzzles, small kitchen appliances, etc. We only request that you do not drop them off here until someone wants them (*unless they are small and light enough to hang on the bulletin board*).

Please contact the church office to "advertise" something you have. And please be sure to let it be known when something should be removed. Thanks!

Here are some HAVE It items:

- **Two Cemetery Plots for sale.** Cedar Hill Memorial Park on Airport Road. Total cost \$1,000 plus processing fee. Contact the Baittingers.
- **Styrofoam Coolers** - Cube-like in shape. contact John or Tracey Gill if interested.
- **KeySmart Keychain. FREE!** A durable compact key holder. Hanging on the bulletin board!
- **(2) Apple Watch Cases FREE!** Gold edged, for 40mm watches. They are hanging on the bulletin board!
- **Shore House Rental in Ocean City, NJ:** Contact Bob Bieler for information.

Here is the sole NEED It item:

- **Mason Jars** in various sizes, for jelly for the Women of Faith holiday craft fair. Contact Bonnie Osterwald.

Faith Presbyterian Church Facebook Group



Change of Status to PRIVATE

The Communications Committee and some of the administrators for the Faith Church Group, recently became aware of changes to Facebook policies regarding Groups. The biggest change is that we can no longer regulate who is in the Group.

Previously, people had to be approved by one of the Group administrators to join. This Group was limited to members of the church. Sometimes sensitive information is shared and in the hands of someone who is not part of our community that could have unintended consequences. This was managed in part by asking potential Group members to answer some simple questions to verify their connection to Faith. Over time we loosened those restrictions due to more remote connecting and allowed folks who are somehow connected to the church to join.

At the end of last 2021, we began to see folks bypass that vetting process. Now that approval process is gone and folks who are not related to Faith Church have joined our Group. The only solution, besides deleting the Facebook Group, is to make it private. The active administrators and Communications Committee recently discussed this at a meeting and a decision

to roll out a change to a private Group was made. In the past few days, we have seen our page infiltrated by unknown people who are using it to post items unrelated to the church. Those posts could potentially be harmful. The change to private has been initiated.

What does this mean for you?

- If you are currently a member of the Group, nothing changes.
- If you want to join the Group, you need to be invited and then approved.
- If you want to invite someone to join, you can do that! See the instructions below.

To use a link to invite new members to a private hidden Group:

- From your News Feed, click **Groups** in the left menu and select your Group. If you don't see **Groups**, click **See More**.
- Click **...** at the top right.
- Select **Share**. If you don't see **Share**, it means the admins don't allow members to invite new members with a link.
- Select **Invite with link**.
- Click the link to copy it, then share it.
- If you want to share the link through Facebook, click **Done** then **...**, then **Share**, and select a method for sharing it on Facebook.

Please remember that our Group is designed to be a place where we can share things and respond with grace.



Thursday Women's Study Group

This group was started in February 2009 and was originally called Devotional Fellowship or Thursday Devotional Fellowship. They met in the homes of the participants and started each gathering with a time of fellowship before the study time. The leadership or facilitation of the group rotates through the participants.

The first study was on the book *Bad Girls of the Bible*. This book can be found in the parlor book shelves

My Time with GOD was the next study guide, starting in September 2009 and went through most of 2010.

In February 2011, the group used a study guide on *Philippians* and in May 2012 they started a study on *Revelations*.

The name was changed to Women's Devotional Fellowship in February 2013 and the study was on the *Gospel of Mark*.

In 2016, they used *Proverbs* as their focus.

In 2019, the name was changed to Women's Spiritual Study Group and they used the book *HOLY ENVY: Finding God in the Faith of Others*.

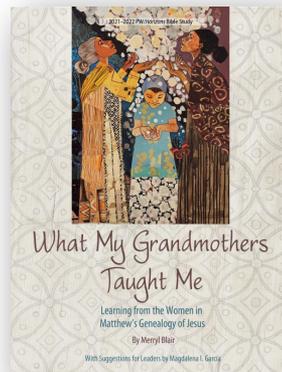
2020 found the group meeting via ZOOM for their gatherings.

In 2021, the name was again changed to Thursday Women's Study Group and their focus was on *Psalms*.

This group is still going strong and has recently resumed meeting in person. Their current study is *What My Grandmothers Taught Me*, looking at the women in the gospel of *Matthew*.

Regardless of what it is called, this group has been an integral part of the spiritual life of the church for over a decade.

If you are interested in learning more, please contact Deanna Robinson.



DEACONS

Following to Lead | Leading to Serve

Easter Flowers

Just an alert that the order forms for Easter flowers will appear in the pew card holders in about one month. There will also be an opportunity to obtain an order form through any of the groups you are a part of including Facebook and the Thursday announcement email blast. Think Spring! We are about 1/2 way there! 🌸

Prayer Concerns

- Becky Shreck • Betty Dennis • Marie Heffner
- Dorothy Perrin • Dick Garber

Military Service

- Jack Melnick, United States Marine Corps.
- Doland J. Miller, nephew of Joe Smits
- Jeremy Miller, nephew of Joe Smits
- Bella Santamaria, Naval Academy, niece of Jim & Eleanor DePhillips

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:

- Kay Cole-----Fellowship Villa
- Marie Heffner-----Lehigh Center
- 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.

MISSION

across the street & around the world

One Great Hour of Sharing

HUNGER – DISASTER – DEVELOPMENT
OGHS MAKES A DIFFERENCE IN THE WORLD

OGHs, started in 1949, is one of the oldest ecumenical efforts in raising funds for the betterment of communities. What started as an hour-long radio appeal has evolved into the most participated Special Offering in the PCUSA. **60%** of the congregations participate and projects supported by the OGHS reach more than **100** countries.

OGHS IS THE SINGLE, LARGEST WAY THAT PRESBYTERIANS COME TOGETHER EVERY YEAR TO WORK FOR A BETTER WORLD

A gift to **One Great Hour of Sharing** enables the church to share God's love with our neighbors-in-need around the world by providing relief to those affected by natural disasters, provide food to the hungry, and helping to empower the poor and oppressed.

- Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (32% of offering)
- Presbyterian Hunger Program (36% of offering)
- Self-Development of People (32% of offering)

Faith Presbyterian Church will receive the **One Great Hour of Sharing** offering on **Palm Sunday, April 10.**

In 2021 we received **\$8573.00**. Do we think we can increase this in 2022?



What Time of Year is it? It is Time for Fish Banks!

Fish Banks and the Sharing Calendars will be available on February 27 in the Narthex. We will receive the Fish Banks on Palm Sunday, April 10. All proceeds will be included in our **OGHS offering.**



Weather Alert Boxes

Consider picking up an extra item when you do your grocery shopping to help someone not so "food secure" as most of us. When bad weather is predicted and the Conference Kitchen (a new name now that the Daybreak and Soup Kitchens are combined) must be closed, Weather Alert Boxes are handed out the day before the storm. In addition, the Street Outreach Team, who visit encampments in the area, will also see that those folks receive a Weather Alert Box along with encouraging them to seek temporary housing in one of the area shelters.

Throughout February, food items can be placed in the large soup can inside the front door until the end of February. Suggestions include dry cereal, granola bars, fruit cups, dry milk pouches, instant coffee, bottled water, juice boxes, chicken/tuna packets, individual bag chips, beef jerky, trail mix, wrapped pastry, candy bars, and easy open soup cans.

Do not miss this chance to reach out and help to provide a basic need... food... and show that someone does care. Many thanks!

!! Really, Really BIG Thank You to Mission Supporters!

Faith Church has collected
\$3,400.00 for the **Christmas Joy** offering !
\$485.00 increase over 2020.
!!WAY to GO FAITH!!

Angels along life's trail

Wearry long-distance hikers sometimes encounter "trail angels" — people who offer food and drink, bandages, shoelaces and even a place to do laundry. Along the Pacific Crest Trail, one home, dubbed Hiker's Heaven, serves as a mail drop. Trail angels say they find great joy in offering kindness to strangers.

Unexpected kindnesses — and regular rest stops — make any journey less grueling and more enjoyable. That's also true on the journey of life as we experience (and bestow) generosity and pause to spend time with God. After all, "It is God to whom and with whom we travel," said Elisabeth Elliot. "And while he is the end of our journey, he is also at every stopping place."

PLUG

INTO FELLOWSHIP EVENTS



The 2021 winter was tough for fellowship. Reading group met a couple of times at Donna Call's warm and welcoming home. We had great discussions and look forward to continuing those open discussions this coming March and every other month after.

Outside of that, we were very cautious of COVID and stopped fellowship following worship. As restrictions lift, we hope to bring back more of our traditional fellowship opportunities; fellowship following worship, pot luck meals, and much more.



This coming spring, we will have opportunities to attend our local Iron Pigs together and partake in a fun Easter Egg Hunt throughout Emmaus.



Palm Sunday will be the egg hunt (rain date the following Saturday) and is encouraged for all ages. Adults enjoy time together, both during the walk between church members homes or visiting with the home owners while the young ones (in age or heart) enjoy gathering and sharing eggs. The egg hunt isn't just for those with a sweet tooth as some eggs will have non-edible puzzle pieces that we will need to put together when all the fun hunting has been had.

We look forward to fun, laughter and time together in the upcoming months.





Operating Fund Financial Report

Below is the report of operating income vs. expenses through January 31, 2022.

| | January, 2022 | YTD: 2022 |
|---------------------------|---------------|--------------|
| OPERATING INCOME: | \$ 48,444.00 | \$ 48,444.00 |
| OPERATING EXPENSES: | \$ 27,009.00 | \$ 27,009.00 |
| Investment Income: | 1,518.00 | 1,518.00 |
| Misc. Expenses: | \$ 0.00 | \$ 0.00 |
| ANNUAL RESERVE (DEFICIT): | \$ 19,917.00 | \$ 19,917.00 |

Church Office

It is so exciting to have a new desk after all these years! The old desk served us well, but it became very worn, with broken corners and doors, and terribly a scratched surface. In fact, prior to the office upheaval that resulted from the water leak, the whole office was beginning to look shabby. With the new carpet and the new furniture, it looks pretty spiffy again! (Lynda has been overheard raving that the desk has drawers!)

The new copier is also pretty cool. It has some very useful and efficient abilities that the old one didn't have, like scanning two-sided documents! The scanned documents that were stored in the old one's memory, *i.e.* the Expenditure Request form, will have to be rescanned, and that will happen eventually, when Lynda figures out how to do it. In the meantime, just ask Lynda.

The office will continue to work on a hybrid schedule, with Lynda leaving as soon as her work is completed. But with the pandemic easing (hopefully), her hours have extended to *closer to normal* each week. If you are planning on an visit after noon, it's still a good idea to call first.

MARCH



BIRTHDAYS

- 3/1 Sadie Kennedy, Jeff Shreck
- 3/2 Katelyn Gilpatrick
- 3/3 Helen Perry, Louise Schaefer,
Amy Waters
- 3/4 Steve Eck
- 3/12 Jayme Ingram, Beth Mitchell
- 3/13 Andy Ingram
- 3/14 Ruth Rozsitch
- 3/15 Jack Krissingner, Katie Smits
- 3/16 Luana Graber, Todd Greb
- 3/18 Gwen Osterwald
- 3/19 Keanna Pipines
- 3/20 Sophia DePhillips
- 3/21 Jack Hillman, Philip Martin, Jr.,
Pat Rinehart, Janie Slamon
- 3/22 Sandra Krissingner
- 3/24 Bill Bender, Bill Kennington, Jr
- 3/26 Jack Melnick
- 3/28 Dick Hulbert
- 3/29 Robin Mathias
- 3/30 Max Kennedy
- 3/31 Anthony Howorth

APRIL



BIRTHDAYS

- 4/5 Joan Hulbert
- 4/6 Austin Godiska
- 4/8 Michael Jackson
- 4/9 Jonna Boyd, Joe Seem
- 4/11 Julie Garber, Sam Wilber
- 4/12 Yvonne Stauffer
- 4/14 Andrea Mauro
- 4/15 Josh Hillanbrand,
Barbara Newman
Brent Schaefer
- 4/16 Bob Brownbridge
Carter Lowell
- 4/18 James Laubach
- 4/20 Becki Mallozzi, Pam Martin
- 4/26 Steve Shussett
- 4/30 Lisa Heineman





- 5/2 Gabby Howorth,
Jim Robinson
- 5/3 Liz Greb, Natalie Greb
- 5/6 Kate Mitchell
- 5/7 Savannah Zuzzolo
- 5/8 Rob Clark
- 5/11 Dick Scheirer, Becky Shreck
- 5/12 Robyn Davis
- 5/13 Rob Haley
- 5/14 Tom Lawall
- 5/17 Chip Colson
- 5/18 John Gilpatrick,
Scarlet Zuzzolo
- 5/20 Donna Kastner
- 5/21 Suzanne Seem
- 5/23 Carter Kuebler, Christy Smits
- 5/26 Tammi Howorth
- 5/27 Platte Moring, Bob Vitale
- 5/29 Joanne Herring, Liliana Spak

Complete Serenity

Many of us have heard the first part of what's called "The Serenity Prayer," attributed to theologian Reinhold Niebuhr. But we would do well to learn the rest of it as well:

"God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the difference, living one day at a time; enjoying one moment at a time; taking this world as it is and not as I would have it; trusting that you will make all things right if I surrender to your will; so that I may be reasonably happy in this life and supremely happy with You forever in the next. Amen."



When God Giggles

Before dinner, our family was preparing to pray, which we do by holding hands. Upon discovering that one child hadn't washed his hands, my husband struck a contorted pose to avoid physical contact. The mealtime blessing quickly dissolved into laughter as we each peeked at him.

Afterward, as we passed around the food, I asked, "What do you imagine God thought about us laughing during prayer?" One child quickly replied, "I think he was laughing right along with us."

Yes! Although prayer is reverent, God invites us to converse with words, emotions — and even giggles!

—Janna Firestone

Thank you!

Give thanks in all circumstances

I Thessalonians 5:18

The words *Thank You* are two very powerful and motivating words. They let us know when we are doing things right, and that we are appreciated. They can never be overused! Whenever notes are received, we want to give our church members a chance to read them. Here is what was received since the last newsletter:

Thank you for the very generous donation of \$1,000 in support of our very important programs. Your generosity will continue to help **Valley Youth House** in its mission to become the catalyst for youth to achieve their desired future through genuine relationships that support families, ensure safe places, and build community connections.

Our positive outcomes and legacy of excellence would not be possible without the support of thoughtful people like you. On behalf of Valley Youth House and those we serve, thank you for your help in expanding our reach to the most vulnerable youth and families within our community.

Sincerely,

Christina J. Schoemaker, Senior VP



Thank you for your gift of \$1,000 to the **Fellowship Community** Annual Fund. Your support of Benevolent Care for our residents is greatly appreciated.

Gifts to the Annual Fund support every aspect of the Fellowship Community experience, providing opportunities to improve our residents' quality of life, as well as the ability to be responsive to emerging opportunities and challenges. Donations like yours make a tremendous difference!

On behalf of our grateful residents and staff, we thank you for your continued prayer and financial support.

In His Service,

Tracy Kleppinger Bozik, Development & Communications Manager



(Continued on page 25)

I want to express my deep gratitude for your gift of \$1,000 to the **Allentown Rescue Mission**. You are such an encouragement. Thank you!

Through the kindness of caring friends like you, so many who are experiencing challenging times in our community are being blessed with nutritious meals, clean clothes, comfortable beds, biblical guidance, and hope for the future. What a blessing it is to see lives changed and hope restored through the message of God's love. Erik Fuqua, Development Director



Thank you, on behalf of **The Lehigh Conference of Churches**, for your recent contribution of \$1,901.88, to support our neighbors in need.

For over 65 years, we have brought together area faith organizations like yours to the needs of the most vulnerable while building partnerships and fostering unity. With you, we can carry out the work of God well beyond our collective walls, providing housing, hope, and healing to those who need it most. This most generous gift allows us to continue our work with more than 14,000 individuals and families in the Lehigh Valley living in poverty. The Conference is most grateful for your support.

Faithfully,

Pastor Genie Watson, Ecumenical Associate

Faith Church is on the Web!
**For all the latest information, audio sermons,
calendar highlights, and news, visit us at:**
www.faithchurchemmaus.org

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



Tyler Hill, a member, replacing a bulb as an employee of G&C Electric on 1/28.



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 |
|------------------|---|
| March 4-5..... | Youth Groups 3-Hour Famine |
| March 6 | Lent Begins |
| March 10 | Thursday Lenten Prayer Services begin (5 weeks) |
| April 10..... | Palm Sunday One Great Hour of Sharing Offering Egg Hunt |
| April 14..... | Maundy Thursday |
| April 15..... | Good Friday |
| April 17..... | Easter |
| April 18..... | Church Office Closed |
| April 20..... | Pastor's Birthday |
| April 24..... | Holy Humor Sunday/Anniversary Sunday |
| May 30 | Memorial Day |
| June 5 | Pentecost |
| June 20-23 | Vacation Bible School |
| July 4 | Independence Day |
| July 24-27 | Triennium |

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



Palm Sunday
Maundy Thursday
Good Friday Service of Shadows
Easter Sunday

See Pg. 7 for dates & times.



The **Faith Flyer**

Spring 2022