



A Message from Interim Pastor Diane Curtis

One of the crafts I remember most as a child was making window decorations every fall. We would collect colorful leaves, select a few favorites, put them between two sheets of wax paper, and then a parent would iron them. At home we would hang these on our windows. I loved looking at them!

What I loved (and still do) even more was going outside to experience the fall leaves. Jumping in just raked piles, crushing dry ones to hear them crackle, and throwing handfuls in the air were great ways to spend a sunny fall afternoon.

There is a vast difference between sitting inside admiring the colors of fall and going out into the world to experience all autumn has to offer. The same is true for many parts of our lives, especially our spiritual lives. Faith in Jesus Christ is the basis of our spiritual lives. It is relatively easy to admire the depth of our faith, to read, pray, study, and worship to grow our faith. The challenge is to walk out the door to experience faith, to do faith.

During this fall season I will be encouraging us to put our faith into action even more than we currently do. Sermons will focus on this theme. Opportunities to think outside the box, to plan, and to do faith will be available. Prayerfully ask the Lord to prepare you to take risks for him.

I believe God is calling us to go forward, to live into a new future, to do faith. There are challenges ahead but with the Lord's help and our commitment we can work through them. The world awaits. Let's go!

Faithfully in Christ,
Pastor Diane



Summer Sundays Were Just for Kids!

Summer Sundays took the place of Sunday School for July and August. In July, we planted seeds to see what God would grow. The other Sundays, we watered and cared for the garden. Our plants are growing as happily as we are! Thanks to Caroline for all of her help!



Sunday Sundaes!

Mark Your Calendar – Sunday, Sept. 18th

We will be serving ice cream to celebrate a **special kickoff event**. There will be **games**, **crafts** and **activities** for all ages. Plus, there will be **ice cream**!



The Deacons THANK YOU for the School Supply Drive

Thanks to your generosity, there were enough school supplies to **COMPLETELY FILL 8 backpacks** for Haines School. The extra supplies were donated to Memorial Middle School.



HOPE Garden Donates 1,000 POUNDS!

Can it be true that HOPE Garden has donated 1,000 pounds of produce? We must admit, it's not true. **The garden has donated 1,041.21 pounds!**

Thanks to all of the volunteers for the hours they commit to caring for the garden and harvesting the crops, weighing each item and seeing that all of it goes to feed people needing fresh food.



Whoever has a bountiful eye will be blessed, for he shares his bread with the poor.

Proverbs 22:9



Congregational Town Hall Meeting

Sunday, September 25th

The Session invites you to attend a town hall meeting on Sunday, September 25th immediately following worship. The purpose of the meeting is to share with you details regarding the financial status of Faith Church. There will be an opportunity to ask questions and provide feedback. Please plan to attend.

9/11 Prayer Vigil

Sunday, September 11th

Protestant Community Church

The Protestant Community Church in Medford is organizing a **15th anniversary prayer vigil** on Sunday, September 11th to pay silent tribute to all those who lost their lives that day in 2001. Participants are invited to pray for all those touched by the events of 9/11.

The vigil will run from **8:46 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.** and will be followed by a remembrance ceremony. It will be held in the Leon Todd Memorial Park near the church. If you are interested in participating, please call Sally Lavalley at 609-268-0264 for a specific time, or just come anytime.



OG Men's Bible Study resumes on Sept. 8th at 9:30 am.



Morning Glories Women's Bible Study resumes on September 15th at 9:15 am.

Adult Sunday School Class Begins October 2nd

Many people are good at pointing out problems. What if God's people were among the few who are good at finding solutions? This study focuses on Talbot Davis's book *Solve: Finding God's Solutions in a World of Problems*. It centers on Nehemiah who faced the difficult work of rebuilding the wall of Jerusalem after his people returned from exile. Facilitator: Diane Curtis



Calling All Christians to Make a Joyful Noise! Join Our Music Ministry

Do you love music? It doesn't matter if you have prior experience and it doesn't matter how high or low your skill level is. Consider joining one of the music ensembles at Faith Church.

Serving God and the church through music is a fun and rewarding way to contribute to worship. Each ensemble rehearses weekly on **Thursday evenings for one hour**.

We are looking for **choir members**. Contact Bethan Neely if you are interested in making a joyous noise with your voice. We're also looking for anyone who can ring a bell! **Handbells** are a great way to get involved in music regardless of age or experience. For both groups, the primary requirement is an enthusiastic attitude and a willingness to try something new!

Musicians and singers are invited to share their talents by **joining the band**. No need to be a member of Faith Church, so spread the word to your friends. Contact Eric Schwank for details.



Update on the Doyle Family

The Doyles recently sent us a newsletter in which we learned that they had a difficult summer. Dwayne's mother passed away on May 31st and they were unable to come home for the funeral. When they did arrive back in the states in July, their daughter Sarah was admitted to CHOP with serious health issues. Sarah is feeling better and the family hopes to return to their work overseas in October. You can pick up a copy of their newsletter in the Fellowship Room with other handouts. Please pray for the Doyle family and especially for Sarah's health.



International Gift Sale Clearance Event Save the Date – Nov. 11 and 12

We still have treasures left from our annual International Gift Sales. **We're having a blowout sale of gift items and display pieces.** There will be no fancy table draping – just items on tables at amazing prices.

We need your help! Please plan to volunteer for a few hours either day. **We will set up on Friday, Nov. 11 and will sell items on Saturday, Nov. 12.**

There will be more information in the October bulletins. See Linda Mackey with questions.

Church Bulletin Board

Flu and Pneumonia Shots: Mark your calendar! Rite Aid will be with us after worship on Sunday, **October 16th** to give flu shots and pneumonia vaccinations. More details will appear in the bulletin at the end of September. See Bob Casey if you have any questions.

Youth Weekend Custodian: We're seeking a back-up youth weekend custodian. Please call the church office if you know someone who might be interested.

Casseroles for Camden: Every fourth Tuesday, Steve Carter takes casseroles from our freezer to the New Visions Homeless Day Shelter in Camden. Just add your casserole to our freezer on the shelf marked "Casseroles for Camden" and Steve will deliver it.

Fellowship Set Up and Clean Up: We need folks to set up, bring treats and clean up. You can do one thing or do them all! Please sign up in the book that's on the Fellowship food table! The rows are labelled for each Sunday. We need your help!





Labor Day Weekend Workers

Volunteers turned out to weed, prune, rake and clean up the church grounds over Labor Day weekend.

