



A Message from Pastor Becca

The season of Stewardship is upon us. Your session chose to be very transparent as they have faced our financial challenges. We have rallied together to work toward some fundraising goals. We are all thinking of creative ways to bridge the gap in our budget as well as finding ways to make much needed repairs to our building and parking lot. I am so grateful for your support and voices during these past several months. As we enter into October, we will enter into our season of stewardship and moments for mission of finances will give way to talk of sharing what we have as a spiritual discipline or practice. Of course, one factor in this conversation is financial giving; we will come back to that shortly.

Before we go any further, let's take a moment to focus on a question I am hearing regularly: Are we going to survive? Yes! Beloved community, Faith is not closing now and will likely not close for a long time, if ever. The way we look might change as we work to live within our budget. Staffing is the biggest change the elders are considering as we discern our budget for next year. The session's decisions will be based on many factors, including our total pledges at the end of October. Dear ones, know that we have been called in this time and place to be the church in our community. Our call to serve others in the name of Jesus will not change.

This spring I was learning alongside colleagues about practices that help foster longevity in ministry. One part of that was taking a good look at my own financial situation. The biggest take away I had from that time was that how I spend money is just as much a part of my faith journey as how much time I spend in prayer or hiking. While shopping I have always tried to keep ethics in mind, although it is very difficult to wade through the ethics of every product or corporation. I never really thought about paying my bills as spiritual practice before or a vital part of my walk. Yet I walked away with some new ideas. In a culture where spending is encouraged around every corner, it is worth considering how we prioritize the use of our resources.

While our resources include financial assets, they do not stop there. We have been gifted with time and talents in addition to our earthly treasure. As you begin to prayerfully consider your stewardship commitment, I invite you to consider your time and talent. Most of you are already serving in some way around this congregation. Note how many hours per month you spend working on church items. What you are already giving in terms of time is part of your personal practice of stewardship. Pray over if there is something else you could give your time to.

God has gifted each of us uniquely and we have vast opportunity to use those talents in our community and congregation. So often when we hear talent we think of tap dancing or wood carving, now if either of those are talents you have, and you want to serve the church with, let's talk! More likely though you have talents or gifts that are more ordinary, like brewing the perfect cup of coffee, changing light bulbs, a love of gardening, organizing spaces or events, feeding people, and so on. These are just as much a part of our stewardship commitment as our monetary gifts.



Remembering Sharon Redheffer, our dear sister in Christ, with love and grateful hearts for her service to Faith Church and for her kindness to all.

"Jesus said: Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest." Matthew 11:28

Celebrating the Baptism of Ethan Joseph Breig, son of Christopher and Stacey Breig, September 23, 2018



Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these." Matthew 19:14



Fall Education Schedule

Presby 101	Half Truths	Confirmation Class	Hands on Church!
Learn about our structure, what we believe about the Bible, predestination, marriage, and more. Classes meet at 11am: 10/21 11/4 12/2	A discussion of Adam Hamilton's book about common Christian sayings that are not quite biblically sound. Classes meet at 11am: 10/14 11/11 12/9	The Theo Academy Confirmation curriculum, a video series. Classes meet at 11am: 10/28 11/25 12/23	A time of exploration of faith for families. All are welcome, but this is especially for those with young children. Coming soon. Watch for a sign-up sheet in the Fellowship Area.



Faith Bible Study Groups

OGs Men's Bible Study is watching a new video series called "Following the Messiah," a walking tour of what is believed to be the biblically correct path Jesus took on his journeys. There will be open discussion following the video, then brunch at Medport Diner. The group meets on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month at 9:30am at the church.

Morning Glories Women's Bible Study is reading "Unveiling Mary Magdalene" and discovering the Gospel truth about the most "myth-understood" woman of the New Testament. The group meets every Thursday at 9:15am at the church.

Please Join Us!



All-in-One Sunday School October Schedule

- 10/7 God Will Guide Us
- 10/14 God Wants Us to be Peacemakers
- 10/21 Sometimes God Surprises Us
- 10/28 God Wants Us to be Encouragers



Coat Collection!



The Mission Committee is collecting winter coats (new or slightly used) for the Christian Caring Center. Please drop off your donations on **Sunday, October 7th or 14th** in the box located in the Fellowship Room. THANK YOU for your generosity in helping those in need!

Food Shelf Requests!

The food shelf needs restocking with additional canned soups, canned fruit, canned vegetables, pasta sauce, peanut butter, tea bags, instant coffee, juice and instant foods. Any and all contributions are greatly appreciated!!





Rummage Sale Update!

The final total is in and we raised over \$1,500! Thank you so much to everyone who rented a table, to everyone who donated all or part of their sales to the church, and to those who helped us advertise on social media. Thanks to all of the bakers who donated so that we could have a bake sale in addition to the hamburgers and hot dogs (a special shout-out to “grill masters” Sandy and Mike Prescott for purchasing *and* cooking the food!). So many people worked together to make this happen and even the weather cooperated – thanks to ALL!

We hope to do it again next year.





HOPE Garden Update – Fall Planting!



It has been a good growing season, with donations exceeding 1,400 pounds to date. A new round of crops has been planted for fall, including lettuce, spinach, beets and radishes. Once these are in, we'll resume deliveries to the Christian Caring Center's and St. Vincent de Paul's food pantries. Thanks to ALL for your support throughout the season!



Prayer Shawl Ministry Update!

The Prayer Shawl Ministry just completed their 11th year! THANK YOU to all the volunteers who donated their time and knitting talents throughout the year to make dozens of prayer shawls, baby blankets, lap robes, scarves and prayer pillows. Over 500 pocket prayer squares were distributed to patients at Memorial Hospital in Mt Holly, the Spanish mission in Hammonton, Small World children and also with all shawls for comfort & healing. The PSM welcomes additional home knitters, so please contact Janet Sharpe if you can help!





Fun and Fellowship at the WELCOME HOME PICNIC and CARNIVAL!! September 16, 2018





Elder Roles for 2018/2019:

Buildings and Grounds: John Ford
Christian Education (Discipleship): Linda Hamilton
Clerk: Ginny Magnus
Connections: George Anderson
(Connections absorbs the roles of Belonging and Communications.)
Finance and Stewardship: Joe Currie
Mission and Outreach: Ginny Hagan
Nominating: John Heald
Personnel: John Heald
Worship and Music Team: Jonathan Cohill
Small World Board Member: Steve Carter

Deacon Roles for 2018/2019:

Executive Board

Moderator: Kay Galberg
Vice Moderator: Lorraine Kunkle
Secretary: Bonnie Halle
Treasurer: Mary Currie

Missions

We Care: Lorraine Kunkle, Joyce Schreiner
Meals: Mary Currie, Bonnie Halle
Cards: Joan Zinader
Helping Hands: Pat Cohill, Dave Wood
Blood Drive and Immunizations: Pat Carter
Food Shelf and Turkey Drive: Betty Engelke, Betty Ann Beck
Nominating: Lorraine Kunkle
Hospitality: Paige Caracuzzo
CCC Liaison: Joan Zinader
Memorial/Haines School Outreach: Kay Galberg
HOPE Garden: Mary Currie
Panera Bread Pickup: Lorraine Kunkle, Dave Wood



A Special Donation

In memory of Bob Engelke, former pastor of Faith Church, Mary Jane and George Anderson have generously gifted Faith Church sufficient funds to make repairs to the Sanctuary roof. The remainder will go into the church's general fund.

Pastor Becca's Fall Open Office Hours

Monday: Noon-3pm

Tuesday: 9am - Noon

Wednesday: 10am- Noon

Lakes Coffee in Medford Lakes

Thursday: 9am-11am

Note: This is not a comprehensive list of the hours Pastor Becca will be working. These are the hours you can drop by and find her in the office if you need to talk. She is available outside these hours by appointment. She is ALWAYS available via cell phone for emergencies.

Did You Know?

If you bank online, you can set up an automatic payment for your contribution to Faith Church. You'll never have to worry about forgetting your envelope!