

# A Message from Interim Pastor Diane Curtis

People often ask me, "What does an interim pastor do?" My response is always, "Prepare the church for the next pastor." Although this sounds like too simple an answer, for me it encompasses all that happens during the time of transition. Preparing a church for their next pastor is always complex and never the same for each congregation I serve. Each church is unique; uniquely God's expression of his love in a particular community. The goal is to discover together what God is calling the church to be and do going forward.

That being said, there are things I do at every church. These include:

- Praying for the congregation
- Listening to the people
- Listening for God's voice
- Be the pastor
- Work on reestablishing and building relationships
- Lead the congregation through a discernment process to listen for God's voice
- Partner with the congregation to work towards becoming who God is calling them to be
- Leave the church in the capable hands of their new pastor

It is how we work on the above tasks that makes our relationship truly unique. Along the way, we will have fun, grow in faith, be challenged, and make difficult decisions. Most importantly, we will continually look to the Lord for guidance.

During my initial ministry at Faith Church, I have been diligently praying, listening, being the pastor, and working with you on relationship building. In addition, the church leadership has begun laying the groundwork for a discernment process which will be our primary focus in the fall. Our accomplishments so far:

- The Nominating Committee will be presenting a full slate of elder and deacon nominees at the Annual Meeting on June 7th
- Deacons and Session will have a leadership retreat on June 6<sup>th</sup>
- Session has approved a forward-looking budget for 2015-2016 which they will continue to fine tune as the year progresses
- We will be doing a stewardship campaign in the fall for the first time in several years
- A search committee for a new music director is being formed
- We are working on strengthening the church's relationship with our Small World Preschool

I encourage you to continue to pray for Faith Church over the summer, to watch your email for information about the church, to keep current in your giving, and to consider how God is calling you to be involved in the current and future ministry of our church.

Warmly in Christ, Pastor Diane



# INFO@FAITH June 2015

### **Adult Sunday School in June**

We all know the story of Jonah and the Whale, right? Or do we? The reluctant prophet Jonah was used by God to save an entire city! But, there is more to the story. Join Pastor Diane on Sundays June 14th, 21st, and 28th for "Jonah: Life After the Big Fish" to hear all the juicy details!

### **Annual Meeting – June 7**

The **Annual Meeting** of the Congregation and Corporation of Faith Church will be Sunday, **June 7** in the sanctuary following worship. The purpose of the meeting is to elect officers, receive the budget approved by the Session and consider any other business that may properly be brought to the congregation and corporation.

## **Small World Updates**

Small World Pre-School has wrapped up a very successful year with its Pre-K Graduation on May 28th. Forty-four wonderful little boys and girls are moving on to Kindergarten. We are extremely sorry to see them go, as many of them have been with us since they were two and 1/2, but we are also very excited for them to start the next part of their educational journey. Special thanks to Pastor Diane for speaking at our Graduation and leading us in prayer.

We gave special recognition to Mrs. Laurie Perno. After over 24 years of dedicated teaching, she is retiring. We are very sad to see her go but wish her much happiness in her retirement. The staff and students would like to thank Faith Church for bringing "Super K" (Kay Galberg) and "Super T" (Tracy Janusz) to us for our monthly Chapel Time. We loved it!! Also thanks for the beautiful Children's Garden. We had a lot of fun weeding and planting in it and look forward to helping with it again next year!!

Our enrollment for next year is looking good. Our Pre-K program will go from three days to four days and our Three's program will go from two days to three days. Thank you so much Faith Presbyterian for helping our Small World programs to grow. We can accomplish so much together!!

Small World is a great place to work and we are looking to hire two new teachers for our Three's classes. We also need teachers and assistants to add to our sub list. Please call Jayne Norcross @ 609 654-1022

As I complete my first year as Director, I'd like to thank my staff and everyone at Faith for being so welcoming and helpful. Your prayers, support and encouragement mean the world to me.

Thanks so much! Jayne Norcross, Director







# INFO@FAITH June 2015

## Sleep Mat Dedication!

On Sunday, May 31, **four sleep mats** were dedicated during worship. Christian Caring Center's Development Officer, Irene Wiener was there to accept the mats. **Thank you** to everyone who attended a mat workshop and to everyone who collected and donated bags! We'll start collecting bags again in November and begin the mat workshops in January 2016.





#### **Pat's Farewell**

We said farewell to our Music Director and organist, **Pat Montenegro** with a worship filled with music. He has taken a position at Old St. Joseph's in Philadelphia. We will miss his amazing talents and we wish him and his family the best.

