



## *A Message from Interim Pastor Diane Curtis*

I don't consider myself a very creative person. Growing up, art class was a disaster (although I can draw a pretty mean stick figure). Music wasn't much better. Sewing, knitting, decorating the house or most other similar activities is not part of my repertoire. Creativity has generally been equivalent to artistic in my book...until I looked through a different lens.

According to the dictionary, creativity is *the ability to make new things or think of new ideas*. Most of us think of creativity as the first part of this definition: make new things. But, it is the second part of the definition that opens up a new world of possibilities. If creativity is thinking of new ideas, we all have the ability to be creative.

Photographer and speaker Dewitt Jones, in his video, "Everyday Creativity," says:

*Creativity, in my view, is an attitude. Much of what we call "creative thinking" really results from taking a fresh look — one that is deeper and more determined — at the mundane experiences of everyday life. Quite simply, creativity is looking at the ordinary and seeing the... extraordinary.*

Creativity is an attitude. If we want to see the world in a creative way, we first need to change our perspective. We look with an expectation that we will see in a new way; that we will look beyond the ordinary to the extraordinary. A tree with leaves changing color can be beautiful. Looking closer at the individual colors of each leaf gives us a different view. Examining the intricacies of one leaf provides yet another perspective. Each picture changes our view of the fall colors and takes us to a different depth of beauty. This is creativity!

My hope for Faith Church is that we can become a creative church. One that looks beyond our own view of our identity, past the hurt and grief of our history, to see the depth of who we are and who we can become with God's help. The picture in my mind's eye of the new Faith Church is beautiful. Let's paint it!

Creatively through Christ,  
Pastor Diane



## Update from the Pastor Nominating Committee

The committee has been working diligently throughout the summer to prepare the "Ministry Information Form." This form includes questions requiring much prayerful thought and discussion as the answers paint a picture of who we are at Faith, our vision and mission goals and description of desired pastoral characteristics, tasks and responsibilities. It will be used to find a pastor for Faith. This form has been completed and presented to Session for review and approval.

## 2016 Fall Kickoff

*We kicked off the fall Sunday School season with an ice cream social during Fellowship. There were crafts for the kids plus cake, ice cream and iced coffee. See you at Sunday School!*



## Sunday School for Children

Sunday school is a great way for children to learn about Jesus and the Bible through stories, crafts and activities. Children attend the first part of worship and then head to class after the Children's message. All ages are welcome.

## Adult Sunday School Class – Join Us!

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.



## Hospital Volunteers Needed

Volunteer Chaplain Aides are needed at Virtua Memorial Hospital in Mt. Holly. There are openings for trained lay visitors every day. Following a training and orientation process, an Aide may donate two to four hours each week to visit patients and offer them friendship and spiritual comfort. <https://www.virtua.org/about/careers/volunteer> or call 1-888-VIRTUA3



## International Gift Sale Clearance Event Volunteer! – Nov. 10, 11 and 12

We still have treasures left from our annual International Gift Sales. **We're having a blowout sale of gift items, cash registers, baskets and display pieces on Saturday, November 12.** There will be no fancy table draping – just items displayed on tables at amazing prices.

### We need your help!

Please plan to volunteer for a few hours during the three days. **We will move items from storage to the church on Thursday and Friday, Nov. 11 and 12. We will sell items on Saturday, Nov. 12.**

Date	Activity	Volunteer Times
Thurs. 11/10	Bring items from shed to church	Noon to 5pm and 5pm to 8pm
Fri. 11/11	Bring items from shed to church Set up and pricing	8am to noon 8am to noon, noon to 5pm, 5pm to 8pm
Sat. 11/12	Selling Cashiers Runners Misc. Clean up	8am to 11am, 10:30am to 1:30pm, 1pm to 4pm 8am to 11am, 10:30am to 1:30pm, 1pm to 4pm 8am to 11am, 10:30am to 1:30pm, 1pm to 4pm 8am to 11am, 10:30am to 1:30pm, 1pm to 4pm 3pm to 4pm

**Do You Have:** A clothes rack we could borrow?

**Can You Donate:** shopping bags, brown bags (large ones or lunch size), tissue paper?

Contact Linda Mackey with any questions.

## Save the Date – November and December

Nov. 6 – Daylight Savings Time ends – change your clocks!

Nov. 12 – IGS Super Sale

Nov. 20 – Join us to decorate the church for Christmas

Nov. 20 – Our Thanksgiving worship will be an Ecumenical Service at St. Mary of the Lakes Church at 7 pm

Dec. 24 – We will have two services. 5 pm is family-focused and there will also be an 8 pm service.

Dec. 25 – No decision has been made yet on Christmas Day service since it falls on a Sunday.



## Medford Crop Walk - Sunday, October 16<sup>th</sup>

- The Medford CROP walk is Sunday, October 16<sup>th</sup>. Check-in is at 1:30 pm at **Freedom Park** and the walk starts at 2 pm.
- The walk is **3 miles** with a 1 mile walk also available.
- All ages can walk!
- Bring a jar of **peanut butter** for each walker.
- Register online at [www.crophungerwalk.org/medfordnj](http://www.crophungerwalk.org/medfordnj)
- Search for Team Faith Church and sign up.
- If you aren't able to walk, you can **donate online** to an individual or a team.
- The **Christian Caring Center** in Pemberton and the **St. Vincent de Paul Society** in Medford are local beneficiaries of the walk.
- Join the team and help reach **our goal of \$1,200** (or more!)
- See Pastor Diane for details.

## Church Bulletin Board

**Future Clothing Drive:** During November, the Deacons will have a Men's Winter Clothing drive to benefit **Seeds of Hope in Camden**. As the weather gets cooler, start saving items to donate. Watch the bulletin for collection details!

**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.

**Updated Membership Directory:** An updated member directory is now available. Please contact the office for an electronic or paper copy. Be sure to update the office with any changes in your phone, address or email.



## 2016 Garden Party

The garden is still providing a bounty of vegetables and we held a HOPE Garden Party to celebrate the year. There was lots of food, a great fire pit and many wonderful stories.

The party was also our goodbye to Mary and Tim Pauza who are moving to Chicago and John Severtsen who is on to new adventures. We will miss them and will make sure that the garden they worked so hard for continues to feed people for years to come.



## Immunization Clinic – Sunday, October 16<sup>th</sup>

After Worship 10:30 to 12 noon

Flu shots (regular and high dose)	Shingles Vaccine
Pneumonia shots (PPSV23 – Pneumovax & PCV13 – Prevnar)	Tdap Vaccine (whooping cough, tetanus & diphtheria)

A Rite Aid Pharmacist will administer shots and submit the claim to your insurance. If you don't have insurance, they will accept a check (\$32.99 for the regular flu shot and \$69.99 for the high dose). The **shingles vaccine must be pre-approved** through Rite Aid. See Bob Casey with questions. Sign up on the bulletin board or use the form in the worship bulletin. Check your vaccination records before the clinic and roll up your sleeve for a healthier winter!



## Leadership Retreat

On Saturday, October 1, your session and deacons gathered at the church for a half-day retreat. We began with a fellowship breakfast and got down to business about learning who we are. We introduced ourselves and told about where we were born and where we had grown up and how God had become warm to us.

This was a preamble to get us into the frame of thinking about every day creativity. For starters, we took a half empty glass of water and we asked each other whether the glass was half empty or half full. This led into a discussion on asset based approach to planning.

We divided into four groups and then listed all of the assets that we thought the church possessed. The individual assets were written on sticky notes. We then took the sticky notes and put them on the walls and tried to connect the dots; that is to say an asset connected to an asset to an asset within the church to find out what we can do with it. The process was to:

1. Recognize the church's assets
2. Set them out and try to connect the dots between various assets
3. Vote with our feet after we selected some asset connections. We moved to the connected dots that we felt drawn to.

The process disclosed several very interesting things that we can do to utilize our various assets.

- Use the church van to bring people from Medford Leas or Leisure Towne to services and church activities.
- Expand the HOPE Garden to encompass more of the community.
- Improve our website and Facebook pages to communicate to a younger audience.
- Increase interaction with the Small World community to bring members to the church.
- Host a golf outing.
- Hold garden concerts with the handbells, choir and even our violin students.
- Utilizing our parking lot as a starting point for activities within the community such as the Dickens festival and the food festival and fireworks, with perhaps a community picnic or barbecue.

These were just a few of the things that we discussed. We discovered that we have many, many assets within this church already. If the assets are seeds, we can grow them with individual and collective efforts to bring our church to its full potential.



## PER CAPITA Details and Description

Each year Faith Presbyterian Church, along with the other churches in West Jersey Presbytery, is asked to make a financial contribution to the Presbytery known as *per capita*. This contribution is a set amount based on the number of members of the particular church, and is split between the Presbytery, Synod and General Assembly to support the work of these governing bodies. **For 2017, the per capita is \$38.75 per member**, with a large majority of that amount supporting the work of our Presbytery. West Jersey Presbytery is absorbing the increase in per capita from the General Assembly and Synod so that the amount each church pays per person remains the same as it has for the past several years. You can help defray this cost by contributing your own per capita to the church (for each *member* in your household). This contribution will be tax deductible and will be recorded on your giving records. Thank you for your support.