



# A Warm Heart

May 2018

A NEWSLETTER OF FAITH UNITED CHURCH, COMBINING FAITH TRADITIONS OF LUTHERAN AND UCC CHURCH DENOMINATIONS

*Greetings Brother and Sisters in Christ,*

Spring is trying real hard to appear. We see the green grass and lots of work for ourselves as we think about mulching, planting flowers and oh yes mowing our lawns. We observe the farmers planting their crops and cleaning out their pens. We look forward to the blue skies and the sun rising every morning. What a true blessing God has given to each of us. So take a moment and relish God's creation. Soak in the beauty and allow yourself to relax and listen to all the sounds of nature. What a true gift we have been given.

As you continue to read your newsletter you will see that we have many, many activities planned for the next several months. As your pastor I challenge you to think about your interests and how you might want to participate in these activities. How you might want to serve God as we look around at nature, and observe our neighbors in need and how we can take action to help those in need.

We will be saying good-bye to Marlene McPherson on Sunday May 27. Marlene has served our churches through the years with her musical ministry and musical talents. She has been a true blessing and we wish her the very best as she joins her husband Brian for worship.

On Sunday April 29<sup>th</sup> I preached from John 15:1-8 where Jesus says I am the true vine. As we continue to grow in our faith and in our spirituality I challenge you to stay spiritually connected as a branch to Jesus Christ. Jesus asks us to follow him and yes that is a wonderful walk of life; but Jesus is also asking us to stay connected spirituality. Jesus is asking us to be willing to go deeper in our faith. To find a deeper connection with him that gives us the courage and strength to produce more fruit as we share the love of God with others. Obedience to God will bring much joy in our lives.

Ask yourself this question: "How is your soul?"

*In Christian Love,*

*Pastor Elaine*

## Happenings at Faith United Church



Everyone is welcome at Faith United Church! We extend an invitation to anyone in the community who would like to join us in worship and in having fun!!



### Softball

The Faith United Softball Team is getting ready to take the field. If you're interested in playing, please contact Dave Hile or Bob Sweger. **The first game is scheduled for May 14<sup>th</sup>** against Little Germany at Loysville. The full schedule is being put together & we'll get that out to everyone once it's provided to us. Hope to see many of you come out to play and to cheer on our team!!



### Mother's Day & Blessing of the Bikes

May 13 is Mother's Day and we'll also be blessing the bikes. So bring your helmets and bikes!!



### Pentecost

May 20<sup>th</sup> is Pentecost Sunday. Celebrate the church by wearing **RED** and bringing a red flower to plant outside!



### Farewell to Marlene

On May 27<sup>th</sup> we will celebrate the music ministry of Marlene McPherson. Marlene is retiring from her music ministry at Faith United, and we will be hosting a meal to honor her many contributions to our church. If you plan to attend there's a sign-up sheet in the front entrance way of the church.



### Musical Director

Zack Nyce will be taking over as Faith United Musical Director. Welcome Zack!!



### Vacation Bible School

Come join us for Vacation Bible School, **June 11<sup>th</sup>- 15<sup>th</sup>**, 10 am - 12 noon. The theme is Splash Canyon. Learn about God being with Baby Moses in the river, God with his people as they entered the Promised Land, God Healing Naaman in the Jordan River, God saving Paul from the sea and Jesus being Baptized. Join us for creative crafts, water games and yummy munchies! We promise a good time and a few water battles!

Volunteers are needed!! Please contact Jody Frey if you can help!



### The American Cancer Perry County Relay for Life Noon June 15<sup>th</sup> to Noon June 16<sup>th</sup>. Newport High School

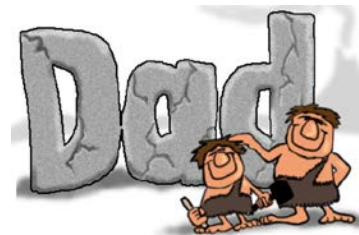
Faith United Hope Team is ready to start walking! Our team sold 200+ ham & cheese sandwiches, raising over \$800 for the cause. THANK YOU to everyone who bought, sold, and helped out!!

We'll also be selling Ham & Cheese sandwiches & Root Beer at our tent at the Relay For Life.

There's still time to register to walk.

You can also:

- donate to our Team
- purchase Luminaria bags in memory/honor of...
- purchase a Tiki Torch in memory/honor of...



### Father's Day Dinner

**June 17<sup>th</sup> at 7:45 am** - Rise & shine a little early that Sunday to enjoy our Father's Day breakfast. Traditional fare as well as breakfast casserole will be served. A sign-up sheet will be available closer to the event.



**MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**

**PIG OUT 2018**



The Community Pig Out 2018 will be held on **June 23<sup>rd</sup>**. The church will provide the pork and bottled water. We're also asking folks to bring a covered dish. There will be games and plenty of other activities for the kids.

We'll also have some special drawings to raise money for the food bank.

Watch for more details in the Sunday bulletins.



**Church Picnic**

On July 1<sup>st</sup> our church service and picnic will be held at the pavilion (weather permitting). Please note: Worship will begin at **10:00 am** that day.

**Ickesburg Carnival & Bi-Centennial Celebration**

**Sunday July 22<sup>nd</sup>** - The Carnival will kick off at 6:00 pm with the acoustical country/southern gospel music of Keep'in it Simple.

**Thursday, July 26<sup>th</sup>** - The moving Vietnam Memorial Wall arrives. The Opening Service for the Bi-Centennial will be that evening at 6:00 pm and our choir will be singing. More information will soon be available.

**Friday July 27<sup>th</sup>** - Faith United will again be working to sell food for the Fire Co.

**Saturday July 28<sup>th</sup>** - Ickesburg's Bi-centennial Parade begins at 11:30 am. Faith United is working on a float for the parade. Please contact Kate Orris if you'd like to help with the float.

**Sunday July 29<sup>th</sup>** - Community Worship Service at 10:00 am at the Fire Company grounds. Looking for as many people as possible from local churches and the community to be in the choir for this service.

**By the way... we will also have our pie/cake/goodies stand at the carnival!**



**CHURCH DIRECTORY** -

Updated church directories are available in the social room. Please contact Fay Watson, 717-574-5590 if you need a directory!



**ALTAR FLOWERS** - We are now getting altar flowers from Lana's Flower Boutique. The cost is a bit higher - \$35. Please contact Fay Watson if you have any questions.



**HOSPITALITY** Sign-up sheet for 2018 is in the front entranceway. Find a friend or two and provide some light snacks on the second Sunday of the month.



**Sunday School for our Children EVERY Sunday**

We have a great group of teachers who will to share Bible Stores with our children every Sunday. If you can't make church and you still want to bring your children for Sunday school, please do so. Sunday School starts around 10:15.



**Holy Communion**

Faith United Church celebrates *Holy Communion* on the **first Sunday of each month** and on other special Holy Days.

*Faith United Church*

*6968 Veteran's Way, Ickesburg PA 17037*

*TO:*

