



LIFE LINE



AUGUST 2023 NEWSLETTER OF FAITH UMC

OUR MISSION: MAKING DISCIPLES OF JESUS CHRIST FOR THE TRANSFORMATION OF THE WORLD
OUR VISION: DEEPLY DEVOTED FOLLOWERS OF JESUS, MAKING GOD'S KINGDOM REAL

OUTDOOR WORSHIP AND CHURCH PICNIC



THE VIEW FROM HERE

At its core, the gospel is a story of beauty, truth and goodness. That story began with creation, as God saw all that He had made and declared it good. The crowning glory of creation was humanity – created in God’s image to reflect that beauty, truth and goodness.

The story of the gospel continues as humanity chose to walk away from God and fall away in sin. But that wasn’t the end of the story. In Jesus, the Way, the Truth and the Life, the gospel flowed toward redemption – For God so loved the whole world, that Jesus came, not to condemn, but that the world might be saved through Him. Now, the story continues to unfold toward its completion, which is nothing less than the restoration of it all – to beauty, truth and goodness.

masterpiece



In August, we are going to look at how art, through some works that are called masterpieces, can illustrate and offer the magnificent story of the gospel in ways that may not include words. We will be drawn into the story in ways that change us from the inside out. And we will be invited to join our creative God in loving the world back to that same beauty, truth and goodness. If you like art, you’ll love this series. Even if you think the idea of visiting an art museum is as exciting as watching paint dry (see what I did there?), you’ll appreciate this series. I look forward to seeing you all after summer has taken us in a lot of different directions.

As we prepare ourselves for what Autumn holds, I can’t wait to see what God has in store for us, Faith Church!

In Christ,
PL



Larry L. Leland
Lead Pastor
lleland@faithum.net
570-368-2459

WATCH YOUR BULLETINS

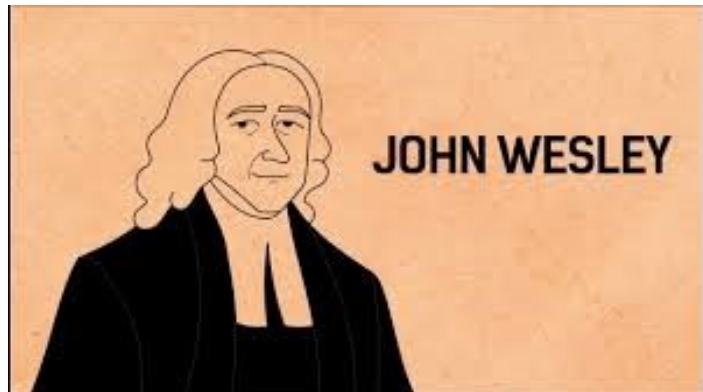
Calling all dusters, window washers, cleaners, etc.! Our Children’s Wing needs a little TLC for the new season of Kid Connection and the upcoming Preschool year. Watch your bulletins for more information coming soon. Many hands make light work!

STAFF TRANSITIONS

Marion Handley will be transitioning from her role of Director of Children’s Ministries to Director of Age-Level Ministries and Congregational Care. She will take on the leadership of the Congregational Care Team, while overseeing ministries with children and youth, including Preschool.

Jessica Neiman will begin serving as our Director of Children’s Ministries in a part-time position, overseeing our ministries for children from birth through 5th grade and their families. She will focus on Kid Connection and Nursery Care, and provide support for events like Vacation Bible School and Easter Jam.

This transition will happen through the month of August. Please be in continued prayer as we walk into this new, exciting season!



JOHN WESLEY QUOTES

~ Do all the good you can, by all the means you can, in all the ways you can, in all the places you can, at all the times you can, to all the people you can, as long as ever you can.

~An ounce of love is worth a pound of knowledge.

~The best of all is, God is with us.

~Do no harm. Do good. Stay in love with God.

~The essential part of Christian holiness is giving the heart wholly to God.

~Let your words be the genuine picture of your heart.

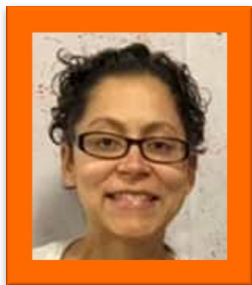
FAITH CHURCH STAFF

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Jody Robinson, Treasurer.....treasurer@faithum.net

FAITH CHURCH COUNCIL

Jim Carpenter - Chairperson
Lisa Vrabec - Recorder
Ben Clark
Hillary Hofstrom
Scott Konkle
Chip Lamade
Sheila Lomax
Susan Marshall
Paul Zimmerer

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES



Marion Handley
Dir. of Children's Ministries
mhandley@faithum.net
570-368-2459

KID CONNECTION - ORANGE SPOTLIGHT

This August our kids will learn that the Bible is the story of God's love for us as His incredible creation. Our elementary age children will be hearing all about our powerful and creative God! We will encourage them to look around at the world to see how His might and imagination are reflected in the things He has made. Meanwhile, our preschool age children will also be looking at things God has made and learning that each of them is wonderfully made in the image of God. We'll be encouraging kids of all ages to dream big and use their God-given imaginations this summer and beyond! Thank you for sharing your kids with us as we explore the Bible together and discover the priceless treasure God's Word contains!

KID CONNECTION SERVING TEAM SCHEDULE FOR JUNE-JULY 2023

Team 1: Jenn Larson, Linda Lloyd	8/06	Team 7
Team 2: Ryan Tira, Amy Tucker, Kim Rakestraw	8/13	Team 8
Team 3: Danielle or Matt Harris, Carrie Knapp, Cherie Wurster, Jamie Burns & Lilly	8/20	Team 1
Team 4: Susan Ravert, Lisa Good, Tiffany Feigles, Kim Winters	8/27	Team 2
Team 5: Rachel/Chris Knipe, Tessa Little, Jenna LoCricchio	9/03	Team 3
Team 6: Brenda Clouser, Chelsea Howe, EvieLynn Perry, Kristi Michael	9/10	Team 4
Team 7: Crystal Miller, Brigitte Wright, Chelsea Burkholder, Chris Meckbach	9/17	Team 5
Team 8: Andrea Lucas, Julie Vogel, Pamela/Riley/Cameron Nelson	9/24	Team 6

FAITH CHURCH NURSERY SCHEDULE

8/06 - Nicole Duarte, Kitty Hofer 8/13 - Kelly Howell, Megan Perkinson 8/20 - Joni Perchinski 8/27 - Erica Yoder

SERVING OPPORTUNITY: SEEKING NURSERY HELPERS!

Please consider signing up to serve in the nursery during our contemporary service Sundays at 9:45. Our helpers hold and play with our infants and young toddlers and help them feel safe and comfortable while parents are in the worship service. All you need is a willing spirit and up to date background checks! Please contact Marion to sign up.

URGENT KID CONNECTION SERVING OPPORTUNITY

Friends, we rely on your participation in the serving rotation to provide safe and fun environments for our kids! As we prepare for the upcoming school year we are in need of at least 8 people willing to join the serving rotation and commit to help once every 8 weeks. If your child is attending Nursery or Kid Connection and you are not currently a member of the serving rotation, please consider signing up to serve. In addition, if your child is graduating out of Kid Connection into FSM please consider whether you might be willing to continue serving periodically either on your own or with your middle schooler assisting. We LOVE when our teens step into serving! Please contact Marion with questions.



MUSIC CAMP

- Monday - Wednesday, August 7-9
- For kids in grades K-5
- 6-8:00 pm each evening
- Get ready for music, scripture and fun!
- Please RSVP to Lisa Konkle at 570-259-8957



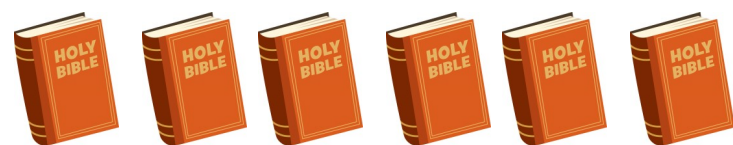
BACKPACK BLESSING

Faith Church invites all attenders to celebrate together the beginning of a new school year. We will pray a blessing over those in our community who are currently students, teachers, and administrators on Sunday August 20. You are welcome to bring along your backpack!



KID CONNECTION 2023/24 KICKS OFF WITH "MOVE UP DAY" AUGUST 27!

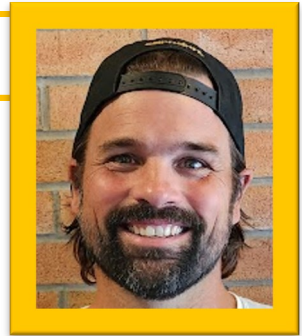
We're gearing up for a great year! On Move Up Weekend kids move up to their new classrooms based on their age and grade for the 2023-24 school year. We encourage you to thank your child's current teachers and explain to your child ahead of time that they will be transitioning to new classrooms. On "Move Up Weekend" you will check-in your child in Planning Center as usual and then follow posted directions to their new drop off location. Please stop at the Reception Desk if you have any questions or need to update any contact information.



BIBLE PRESENTATION WEEKEND FOR 3RD GRADERS

We are excited to present your third grader with a Bible! This year the Bibles will be presented on Sunday October 29th during the worship services. Children receiving Bibles should plan to attend a meeting with a parent or "sponsor" who will come forward with them during the presentation. The meeting dates are currently TBD. Parents of 3rd graders will receive additional information, but please contact Marion with any questions or concerns.

FAITH STUDENT MINISTRIES



Christian Calehuff
FSM Team Leader
fsm@faithum.net
Text - 570-916-1429

- ⇒ August TBD - FSM 9:12 Bible Study and Breakfast - Griggs
- ⇒ Saturday, Aug. 26 - Combined Hangout - Pool Party - Time TBD - Home of Mandi Westphal (2107 Mahaffey Lane, Wmspt.)

JUST FOR KIDS

CHILDREN IN THE BIBLE

Who am I? Solve the maze to find out!

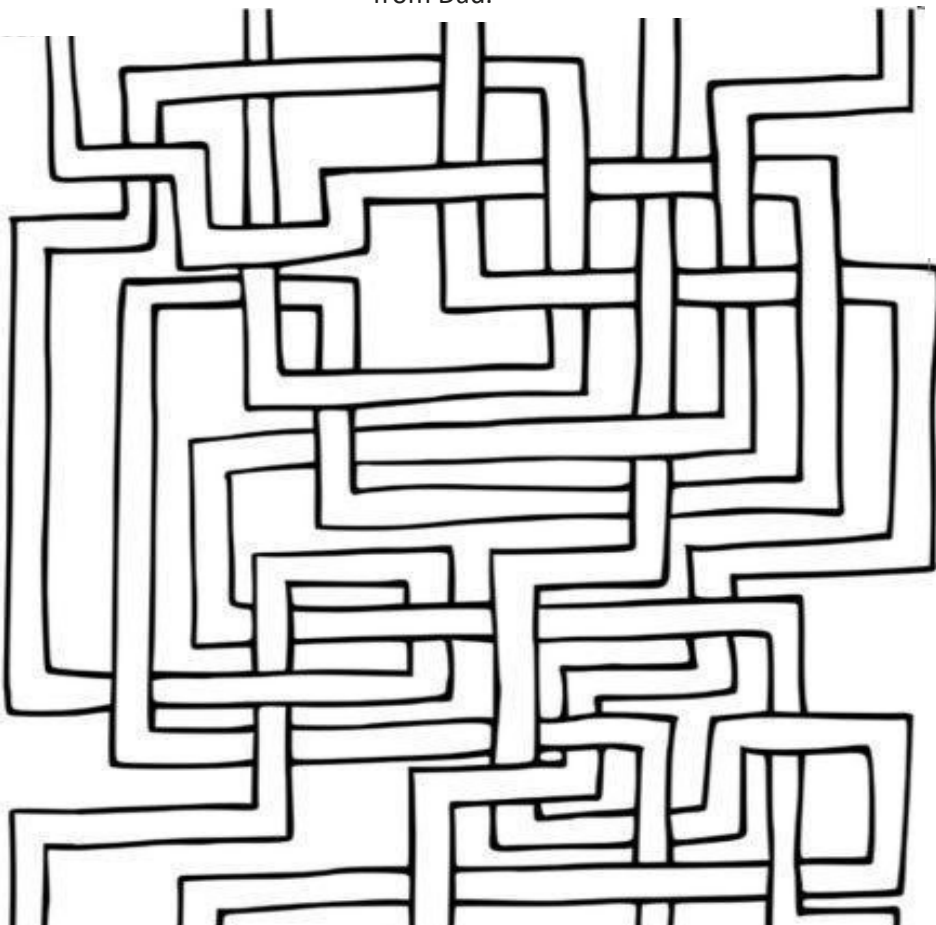
My older brothers left me to watch the sheep when Samuel came to anoint a new king and when the army of Israel was fighting the Philistines.

I babysat my little brother while he was floating in a basket in the river.

My older brothers hated me, especially when I got a coat of many colors from Dad.

I became king of Judah when I was only 8 years old—and I repaired the temple of God.

When I was a baby, my mom placed me in a basket in a river. Later, I was adopted by Pharaoh's daughter.



GROW/SERVE



Deb Ottenmiller
Dir. of Group Life
and Assimilation
570-368-2459

GRIEFSHARE



Faith Church is offering a GriefShare course beginning August 23 through November 15 each Wednesday evening from 6-8:00 pm in the Student Ministries Room. The course is built around a series of 13 weekly group sessions. Each session will include a video seminar, group discussion, and journal reflection. A \$20 registration fee will include a participant workbook. For registration/contact information, please scan the QR code or go to: <https://www.griefshare.org/groups/166909>



Leaders - Becky McDaniel,
Suzanna Miller, Andrea Tira
and Danielle Harris.

SUGAR FAST

If you run to sugar for comfort or reward, eat mindlessly or out of boredom, feel physically and spiritually lethargic, or struggle with self-control, this fast will help you discover not only freedom from your craving but an entirely new appetite for the good things God has for you. Beginning September 6, please join us in the Student Ministries Room (BRRW) each Wednesday morning at 10:30 am or each Wednesday evening at 6:30 pm, location TBD. Questions? Contact Crystal Miller at dcil_miller@yahoo.com or 570-916-7050.



COMING IN SEPTEMBER

BAPTISM

Our next Baptism will take place on Sunday, September 10. If you are interested in Baptism for yourself or your children, please contact Pastor Larry at lleland@faithum.net.

PIZZA WITH THE PASTOR

Join us for Pizza with the Pastor on Sunday, September 10 at 11:15 am in Large Group Room 21. Whether you're new to Faith Church or have been connecting with us for some time and desire to know what we're about, join Pastor Larry and others for Pizza with the Pastor. You'll hear a little about our story, and the ways God is working in and through our church. Link to sign-up: <https://faithumc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1849549>

WOMEN'S GATHERING

Beginning September 20, the Women's Gathering will meet the 3rd Wednesday each month at 10:00 am in Faith Café. All women are welcome to join us! This season we will explore stories of God's faithfulness as 'Pew Sisters'. Each woman sitting in the church today has a story to share, so plan to join us as we delight in the sisterhood of believers.

TWO MEMBERSHIP OFFERINGS

1. In-Person - Sunday, September 24 - 2-6:00 pm
Sign-up link: <https://faithumc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1849570>
2. Online - Tuesdays, September 19 and 26 - 7-9:00 pm Pastor Larry will provide the class link to participants who Register. Please Register by September 10 at <https://faithumc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1849629>

WOMEN'S GROUP

Study: *The Women of the Bible Speak*. All women are invited to join this group which will meet Monday nights, Sept. 25-November 20 from 6-7:30 pm in Room 10. Lead: Brenda Schmick at 570-971-3689.

OUTREACH

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

The Faith Build project is under way! We are excited and ready to jump in and start building. Not only is this an opportunity to bless a neighbor in need, it is also an opportunity to get to know one another more deeply while serving.

Volunteers from Faith Church will be swinging hammers on August 12 and 26 from 7:30 am-4:00 pm. Whether you have building experience or not, you are welcome to participate on either or both days. If you'd rather not build but can make food, lunches are appreciated as well.

If you would like to participate, sign up using the QR code or email Mason Neiman. We look forward to this opportunity to join Jesus in loving our neighbors well.



Mason Neiman
Director of Worship &
Creative Arts
mneiman@faithum.net
570-368-2459

FAMILY PROMISE

This August, through our partner *Family Promise*, we have the opportunity to bless area families experiencing homelessness. August 6-12 Faith Church will "host" struggling families by providing meals. During this window, individuals, families, and small groups from Faith Church prepare and deliver dinners for each night of the week. A online signup form will be made available where you can sign up to provide an evening's meal. If you have any questions or want more information, check your bulletin and feel free to reach out to Darci Kirby at darckirby619@gmail.com.

NEW SERMON SERIES

masterpiece



ART THROUGH THE EYES OF FAITH

This is the description of the book, Rembrandt Is in the Wind, that sparked the idea for this series. "The book is part art history, part biblical study, part philosophy, and part analysis of the human experience; but it's all story. The lives of the artists in this book illustrate the struggle of living in this world and point to the beauty of the redemption available to us in Christ. Each story is different. Some conclude with resounding triumph while others end in struggle. But all of them raise important questions about humanity's hunger and capacity for glory, and all of them teach us to love and see beauty."

August 06 - *Art, Humph! What Is it Good for?* - Exodus 21:1-11, Ephesians 2:10

August 13 - *Reclaiming Wonder* - Psalm 8

August 20 - *Artful Conviction* - Matthew 25:31-46

August 27 - *Rembrandt Is in the Wind* - Mark 4:35-41

September 3 - *Broken and Beautiful* - 2 Corinthians 4:1-12

FAITH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

OFFICE HOURS: Monday-Thursday, 8:00 am-3:30 pm and Friday-8:00 am-Noon
(Closed Daily 12:30-1:00 pm for Lunch)

PHONE #: 570-368-2459

EMAIL: office@faithum.net

WEB: www.faithum.net **FACEBOOK:** www.facebook.com/faithmontoursville

HAVE A PRAYER REQUEST? Call or email the office or fill out an online Connect Card on our website.

If you would like to receive the newsletter (in color!) via email, please contact the church office.

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Life Line

AUGUST 2023



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