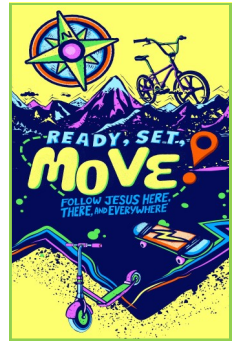




# LIFE LINE

JUNE 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



## PRAISE KIDS SPRING MUSICAL - PRAYSTATION



## THE VIEW FROM HERE

One of my favorite things happens every June! At the end of this month, our Worship Design Team will gather for our annual retreat. We will look back at the last year and pray over how we think God might be inviting us to lead Faith Church in our congregational worship in the year to come. We will brainstorm ideas for specific series and sermons, we will think about creative possibilities to connect with God and with each other, and we will line out a tentative calendar.

Our hope is to answer the following questions:

- Are there specific words God has for us in the coming year, as individuals and as a church?
- What does God want us as followers of Jesus to look like, and to be doing at the end of this year because of what happens in worship?
- What does God want us as a congregation to look like, and to be doing at the end of this year because of what happens in worship?

You can help us answer those questions by prayerfully completing the survey found at this link:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/392WM9S>

If you can complete the survey by June 18, we will take those insights with us into the planning retreat.

Looking forward to worship with you into 2023, 2024 and beyond!

In Christ,  
PL



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

### **CELEBRATING THE SHIMKO FAMILY**

Pastor Joseph Shimko will be ending his time among us on June 6. Joseph and Vicki have come to conclude that God is leading them to Miramar Beach, Florida where Joseph has accepted a full-time chaplaincy position at Ascension Sacred Heart Emerald Coast Hospital. Please be in prayer for Pastor Joseph, Vicki, and their children, Makenzie, Caleb, Jonathan and Abby. Specifically, pray for the selling of their home here, the settling in Florida, and the transition that everyone will be undertaking. **Join us after both worship services on Sunday, June 4 in sending off the Shimko family.** We will have some special refreshments following each service and will honor the family with a card shower. If you feel led, I believe that a gift card from Lowe's, Home Depot, or restaurant chains would be a great blessing as they are working to sell their home here and will be settling in Florida over the summer.

*After much discernment, Vicki and I have come to conclude this is where God is leading us next. It was a very difficult decision, as we have come to love the Williamsport area and our Faith Church family. You have loved us and welcomed us as one of your own. It will be with deep fondness that we will look back upon our time here. Thank you for allowing me to use some of my ministry gifts to care for the people of Faith Church and to preach God's Word. It's been an honor to be a part of the pastoral team as well as the ministry team you've assembled. Vicki and I are excited for your future and believe greater days are ahead for Faith Church. Joseph*



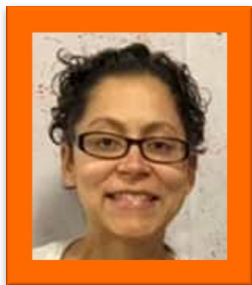
### **FAITH CHURCH STAFF**

Larry L. Leland, Lead Pastor.....lleland@faithum.net  
Joseph Shimko, Director of Congregational Care.....jshimko@faithum.net  
Jim Anthony, Facilities Assistant.....jim\_anthonysr@comcast.net  
Christian Calehuff, FSM Team Leader.....fsm@faithum.net  
Diane Dunlap, Office Administrator.....office@faithum.net  
Marion Handley, Director of Children's Ministries .....mhandley@faithum.net  
Beth Jones, Director of Harvest of Hope.....harvestofhope@faithum.net  
Lisa Konkle, Choral Coordinator/Organist.....lkonkle@faithum.net  
Kaila Clancy, Nursery Caregiver.....kailaclancy5@gmail.com  
Deb Lindner, Voices of Faith Accompanist .....dndlindner@epix.net  
Kristen Lowe, Tech Director .....klowe@faithum.net  
Maureen McBride, Finance Secretary.....finance@faithum.net  
David Miller, Facilities Manager .....dmiller@faithum.net  
Deb Ottenmiller, Director of Group Life & Assimilation.....dottenmiller@faithum.net  
Mason Neiman, Director of Worship & Creative Arts.....mneiman@faithum.net  
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

During June and July our preschool and elementary Kid Connection lessons are linked to our Vacation Bible School lessons and theme. We will learn about Paul and his letters to the early church as we discover what it looks like to follow Jesus here, there, and everywhere our whole life long! We can't wait to spend this summer exploring FAITH and what it looks like for us to be confident in God's proven faithfulness. Thank you for sharing your kids with us as we learn together!

### FAITH CHURCH NURSERY SCHEDULE

6/04 - Erica Yoder  
6/18 - Joni Perchinski

6/11 - Ashley Wool  
6/25 - Kitty Hofer, Megan Perkinson

### KID CONNECTION SERVING TEAM SCHEDULE FOR JUNE-JULY 2023

Team 1: Betsy &/or Dave Bjorkman, Jenn Larson, Linda Lloyd

Team 2: Ryan Tira, Amy Tucker, Kim Rakestraw, Julia/Lydia Edler

Team 3: Danielle or Matt Harris, Carrie Knapp, Cherie Wurster, Jamie Burns & Lilly

Team 4: Susan Ravert, Lisa Good, Tiffany Feigles, Taylor Stark, Kim Winters

Team 5: Rachel/Chris Knipe, Tessa Little, Sandrina Womer, Jenna LoCricchio

Team 6: Brenda Clouser, Chelsea Howe, EvieLynn Perry, Kristi Michael

Team 7: Crystal Miller, Brigitte Wright, Chelsea Burkholder, Chris Meckbach

Team 8: Andrea Lucas, Julie Vogel, Pamela/Riley/Cameron Nelson

6/04 Team 7

6/11 Team 8

6/18 Team 1

6/25 Team 2

7/02 Team 3

7/09 Team 4

7/16 Team 5

7/23 Outdoor Worship/Picnic-No

Nursery or KC

7/30 Team 6



### VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2023

Join us for Ready, Set, Move! Sunday, June 18-Thursday, June 22 evenings from 6-8:30 pm for kids age 4 through rising Grade 6. VBS 2023 is all about following Jesus here, there, and everywhere.

- **Register:** VBS registration opens April 2! Registration is online only, please register your child or yourself as a volunteer at <https://faithumc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1670745>.
- **Serve:** We need teens and adults to sign up to serve so that we can welcome about 200 kids to our campus for VBS in June. You can sign up as a crew leader, games helper, craft helper, and more by contacting Jackie Bragunier at jackiebvbs@gmail.com or Marion Handley.
- **Give:** We rely on donations of food and other items every year for VBS. This year we are requesting donations of packaged snack items. Suggested snack donations include goldfish, pretzels, Oreos, popcorn, etc. We are able to use a wide variety of items, but please choose options that do not contain nuts. The collection table is in the Narthex/Lobby.
- **Borrow:** In addition, we need to borrow "things that move" for decorations that fit our VBS theme for this summer. Please bring in bikes, scooters, roller blades, etc. which are clearly labeled with your name so that we can return them after VBS. Kids will not be riding on these items and we expect to return them in the condition that we receive them.

### ATTENTION ALL VBS CREW LEADERS!

Thank you to all who have signed up to serve as Crew Leaders. If you haven't already attended a training, please join us Sunday, June 4 at 11:15 am in Large Group Room 21. Contact Jackie Bragunier at jackiebvbs@gmail.com with questions.

### KID CONNECTION SERVING DURING HOLIDAY SEASONS

Thank you to all who serve in Kid Connection so that all of our kids have a safe and nurturing environment in which to hear God's Word! Kid Connection does operate throughout the summer in order to welcome guests and remain faithful in sharing the Good News of Jesus with our youngest attenders. As we approach the summer travel season, please be proactive in swapping serving dates early if you expect to be traveling on your scheduled serving date. We pray you have safe and restful vacations! Recognizing that summer is also a time when people pause to consider what commitments they'll be making during the upcoming school year, please let me know if God is calling you to begin serving, try out serving in a different ministry area, or perhaps even step into a teaching role in Kid Connection. We hope you will remain a part of the serving team this summer and beyond!



# FAITH STUDENT MINISTRIES

*It was you who set all the boundaries of the earth;  
you made both summer and winter. Psalm 74:17*



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

Hello Faith Church,

What an amazing year we just had! We are planning a June party to celebrate all the wonderful times at this season of FSM. We will be enjoying an evening up at the pavilion with games, music, and food.

This summer, we at FSM plan on supporting our VBS program. All of us are excited to be leaders and helpers during the weeklong time with our community. Faith Church is truly a place where we can see the hands and feet of God's people at work.

During the break we will be reaching out to all the 6<sup>th</sup> graders and inviting them to FSM. I cannot wait to see all the new faces that will be part of our FSM family. With that said, we are also looking for new leaders to join us. This ministry is a great place to use your God given time, talents, and treasures in building His kingdom.

We have decided to have a monthly High School Bible Study and a combined group activity this summer. This will allow us to stay connected over the upcoming break.

I want to give a BIG THANK YOU to all the helpers. Matt, Elise, Mandi, Shelia, Marion, Kyra, Danielle, Barb, the meal hosts, and Faith Church for your generosity which is so much appreciated. I love having you as part of FSM family.

Please look at our posted board for schedules and more information on our monthly High School Bible Study, combined group activity night, and the FSM kick-off swim party.



- ⇒ Saturday, June 24 - Combined Hangout - 7-9:00 pm - Location - TBD
- ⇒ June TBD - FSM 9:12 Bible Study and Breakfast
- ⇒ Saturday, July 29 - Combined Hangout - 7-9:00 pm - Location - TBD
- ⇒ July TBD - FSM 9:12 Bible Study and Breakfast
- ⇒ Saturday, Aug. 26 - Combined Hangout - Pool Party - 7-9:00 pm - Location - TBD
- ⇒ August TBD - FSM 9:12 Bible Study and Breakfast

## ***THE 2023 SUMMER CAMPS AND RETREATS ARE NOW LISTED ONLINE!***

The Susquehanna Conference Camp and Retreat Ministries provides opportunities for authentic relationships with Jesus, experienced in community, and in the beauty of God's creation. To register your child(ren) and to see a list of all the opportunities, check out [www.susumcamps.org](http://www.susumcamps.org)! To inquire about what scholarships may be available through Faith UMC, please contact Marion Handley at [mhandley@faithum.net](mailto:mhandley@faithum.net).



## FRESH EXPRESS

### **Faith Church Harvest of Hope Ministry Now Distributes Fresh Food 2X per month**

Our Fresh Express Food Distribution Program is ongoing, and has seen an increased number of households served. While it is a blessing to provide food for these families, it is an indication that many in our community are struggling with food insecurity. Thank you for continuing to support this ministry, Faith Church!

#### **FRESH EXPRESS #1**

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month
- 3-5:00 pm
- Brushy Ridge Road Wing
- Faith Café
- June 8      July 13      Aug. 10
- Sept. 14    Oct. 12      Nov. 9
- Dec. 14

#### **FRESH EXPRESS #2**

- 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of each month
- 5-7:00 pm
- Brushy Ridge Road Wing
- Faith Café
- June 27      July 25      Aug. 22
- Sept. 26      Oct. 24      Nov. 28
- Dec. 26

## GROW



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

### **JUNE 4 IS NAME TAG SUNDAY**

We are hoping to grow relationship and build a culture of "we". So getting to know one another's names is a really good step! You are invited to grab a name tag on the first Sunday of each month. Let's get to know one another a little better!

### **GRIEFSHARE COMING SOON!**

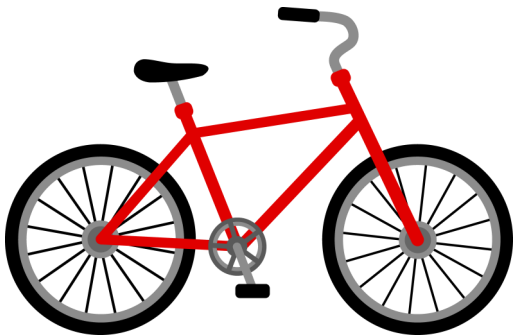
GriefShare is coming to Faith Church in August. Watch your July newsletter for additional information on signup and content. For a sneak preview, go to <https://www.griefshare.org/>.

### **2023 COMMUNITY GROUPS**

- Larry Eckert - 412-996-5070  
Tuesday PM on Campus
- Michelle Eckert - 724-309-5742  
Deb Rowles - 570-337-1149  
Women's Wednesday 1x a month AM on Campus during the school year
- Tara Crebs - 570-971-3018  
Emerge (Mixed) Wednesday PM on Campus
- Jim Carpenter - 570-447-8382  
Men's Zoom Group
- Elise Meckbach - 603-315-4249  
Women PM in her Home
- Keith Atherholt - 570-447-5292  
Men's AM Zoom
- Keith Atherholt - 570-447-5292  
Men's afternoon Zoom
- Brenda Schmick - 570-971-3689  
Women Wednesday PM on Campus
- Susie Gehr - 570-447-3353  
Diane Dunlap 570-368-2459  
Women Thursday AM at Wegman's
- Larry Leland - 570-898-5978  
Men's Monday Lunch at Wegman's
- Barb Leland - 570-898-5979  
Kristen Lowe - 570-337-9319  
Women Tuesday PM off campus
- Lou Palazzo - 570-419-9678  
Men Wednesday AM on Campus
- Jerry Eisley and Ron Gearhart  
Adult Sunday School Mixed on Campus

### **WOMEN'S GATHERINGS**

Thank you to everyone who made the Women's Gatherings successful - the attendees, music makers, the delicious snack makers, and those who brought the lessons to life on the gifts of the Holy Spirit. Please mark your calendars with the third Wednesday of each month beginning in September as we will start to meet again.



**READY,  
SET,  
MOVE!**

## WORSHIP AND OUTREACH

### **TRANSFORM**

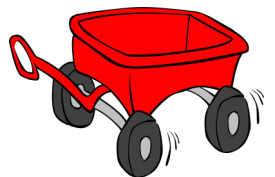
Faith Church is excited to participate in TRANSFORM again this year. TRANSFORM provides an opportunity for area churches and organizations to work together the week of July 31-August 4 to do projects for area folks in need. All skills and ages can participate. Also, if you or someone you know needs help with home repairs/maintenance, you are invited to register as well. To give the organizers lead time in planning logistics, please register via their website by July 1, using this link: <https://firstchurch.cc/transform/>. This is a great opportunity to work together to bless our neighbors whom God loves in tangible ways!



Mason Neiman  
Director of Worship &  
Creative Arts  
[mneiman@faithum.net](mailto:mneiman@faithum.net)  
570-368-2459

### **HABITAT FOR HUMANITY'S FAITH BUILD**

The Greater Lycoming Habitat for Humanity's Faith Build project is nearly underway! With ground-breaking planned early this month, we will be able to start swinging hammers by the end of the month or early July. We'll keep you posted as more concrete dates and activities become available. In the meantime, feel free to scan the QR code to let Habitat know how you would like to get involved. For instance, besides building, providing lunches for crews is a wonderful way to participate. This is a great opportunity to work alongside other faith communities to bless the world around us.



**READY, SET, MOVE!**



**Habitat  
for Humanity®**

SERMON SERIES

# READY, SET, MOVE!

FOLLOW JESUS HERE, THERE, AND EVERYWHERE

JUNE 04 - DO WHAT JESUS SAID

JUNE 11 - BELIEVE WHO JESUS IS

JUNE 18 - LOVE BECAUSE JESUS LOVES YOU

JUNE 25 - TRUST THAT JESUS IS WITH YOU

JULY 02 - SHARE WHAT JESUS DID

Let us keep looking to Jesus. He is the One who started this journey of faith. And He is the One who completes the journey of Faith ~  
Hebrews 12:2a

### 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

JUNE 2023



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