



# LIFE LINE

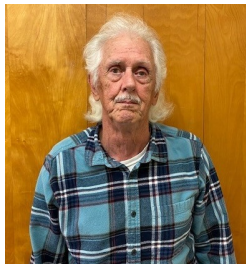
## NOVEMBER 2024 NEWSLETTER OF FAITH UMC



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

### NEW MEMBERS

Faith Church welcomed five new members on October 13, 2024:  
Christia Keyte, Edie Gilbert, Greg Gilbert, Ruth Vierra, and Stephanie Minnick



Faith Church Helping Others in NC — twice for those affected by hurricane Helene



Habitat for Humanity Project



FSM Corn Maze Faith's youth and leaders sharing a great time



PASTOR LARRY WITH



PRE-SCHOOL KIDDOS SHOWING THEIR APPRECIATION



### ALL SAINTS REMEMBRANCE

On Sunday, November 3, Faith Church will celebrate All Saints Day. We will take an opportunity to give thanks for ALL those who have gone before us in the faith over the past year from our congregation.

Please join us for this very special time of remembering:

- Denise Clark,
- David LeFever
- Faye Mathers
- John Irion
- Charles Wacker







Larry L. Leland  
Lead Pastor  
lleland@faithum.net



### **The View From Here**

As we move into the month of November, our minds and hearts are naturally drawn toward thanksgiving and Thanksgiving. Gratitude is a posture that we assume as we seek to be aware of the myriad ways that God has blessed us. In the throes of the COVID pandemic, I began a discipline of sharing on Facebook by starting each day with praise for the scripture verse that came across my email each morning and ending each day with gratitude for some gift of God that I saw in that day. Four plus years later, I'm still at it. I don't need to tell you that some days, it's harder to find something specific to be grateful for. Some days, it's as simple as a good meal, cooked with my family. Other days it's as profound as seeing a heart radically changed by Jesus.

But I believe cultivating a practice of gratitude can also shape a life into one of generosity. And generosity is one of the practices that helps us be with Jesus, become like Jesus and do as Jesus did.

In November, we're going to be talking in worship about cultivating a generous life, so that we might each find the beauty in giving. Pastor Marion and I will be reflecting on scriptures and putting forth a generosity challenge as we look toward this season of thanksgiving and to the new year. It is our firm belief that, while we have seen generosity displayed in so many ways in our life together, it is also one of our growing edges as a community of disciples. And we look forward to the ways that God will shape our hearts and our common life into those deeply devoted followers who experience the beautiful kingdom by living generously toward one another and toward God.

In Christ,  
PL

### **2024 CHURCH CONFERENCE**



In the United Methodist Church, a church conference is an annual meeting, and ours will be held this year on Sunday, November 10 at 6:00 p.m. here at Faith Church, as part of the Montoursville Cluster. This annual business and vision meeting for the congregation completes important business for the church, including setting the pastor's salary package, electing officers for the coming year and other yearly tasks. But this is about more than just voting on a few business items. It is about setting the tone for ministry for the coming year and getting a glimpse of the vision that God has for 2025. While membership is required to vote on the congregational business, everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend. Rev. Daniel Wilt, currently our Williamsport District Superintendent, will be on hand to lead us, along with our

sisters and brothers from charges in the Montoursville Cluster. Any questions about the church conference process, don't hesitate to contact Pastor Larry.

### **Harvest of Hope**

Rev. Beth Jones has served as our Director for Harvest of Hope since July of 2022. What began as an interim work in which she planned to help us for a year has turned into two and a half years of faithful leadership to this incredible ministry. At the end of this year, however, Pastor Beth will step away from this role to devote her full efforts to the growing work of Deep Green Journey, her ministry creating space for healing and wholeness in the wild. She will, however, continue to be a vital part of our life together as a congregation, and for that we are grateful indeed.



With her departure, we will be looking to hire a new director for Harvest of Hope. This part-time position averages 10 hrs./week and provides staff connection to the amazing team of volunteers that serve as part of our twice monthly Fresh Express food distribution and Backpack Ministry for Montoursville Area School District students. If you would like to apply for the position, or would like more information, please send a letter of interest and resume to Pastor Larry at [lleland@faithum.net](mailto:lleland@faithum.net).

### **BUILDING A RULE OF LIFE WORKSHOP**

"...a rule of life helps us become" - Giles Kemper

On Sunday, November 10, from 11:15-12:30, join Pastor Larry Leland and Mason Neiman for a workshop focused on giving participants practical resources to build a rule of life that will help us become. Building on our study of Practicing the Way, we will walk through a process to develop a personal plan which can be a guide to train us toward being with Jesus, becoming like Jesus, and doing as Jesus did. Each person will walk away with an individualized plan of possible next steps in their apprenticeship to Jesus.



Please sign up on the connect card on November 3 in order to arrange the room and materials for our time together.

# CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

Julia Edler, Director  
Gail Rollman, Asst. Director of  
Children's  
Ministries

If you have a child who would like to have some fun while learning about God - come join us in Kid Connection, for Bible stories, videos, games, and music.

Ages: Nursery - 2 years old  
Pre K - 5 years old



## Kid Connection Serving Team Schedule:

**Team 1:** Lauren Reeder, Vanessa Johnston, Kelly Howell **Team 2:** Amy Tucker, Kim Rakestraw, Stephanie Matlack  
**Team 3:** Danielle or Matt Harris, Cherie Wurster, Jamie Burns (& Lilly) **Team 4:** Lisa Good, Tiffany Feigles, Kim Winters, Linda Richards  
**Team 5:** Rachel and Chris Knipe, Jenna LoCricchio, Erica Blake **Team 6:** Brenda Clouser, Chelsea Howe, EvieLynn Perry, Kristi Michael, Brittany Ring **Team 7:** Robyn Smelko, Brigitte Wright, Chelsea Burkholder, Chris Meckbach, Amber Bowes  
**Team 8:** Andrea Lucas, Julie Vogel, Pamela Nelson, Rebecca McDaniel  
**Nov. 3rd:** Team 2 **Dec. 1st:** Team 6  
**Nov. 10th:** Team 3 **Dec. 8th:** Team 7  
**Nov. 17th:** Team 4 **Dec. 15th:** Team 8  
**Nov. 24th:** Team 5 **Dec. 22nd:** Team 1 **Dec. 29th:** No Kid Connection

## FAITH CHURCH NURSERY SCHEDULE FALL 2024:

**Nov. 3rd** - Erin Heap, Lisa Vrabec **Nov. 10th** - Hillary Hofstrom, Erica Blake  
**Nov. 17th** - Joni Perchinski, Nicole Duarte **Nov. 24th** - Sarah Young, Kitty Hoffer  
**Dec. 1st** - Michelle Eckert, Ben Clark **Dec. 8th** - Erin Heap, Katie Farley  
**Dec. 15th** - Joni Perchinski, Erica Yoder **Dec. 22nd** - Ben Clark, Lisa Vrabec **Dec. 29th** - Jen & Kaytlin Larson, Nicole



Hey Kid Connection pre-K parents! This month, we're learning to trust God because no matter the situation, God's got it. God is with you wherever you go. That means that no matter what lies ahead, God has it! There is nothing too big that God can't handle. This is a foundational truth for our little ones and it's a good reminder for us, too! No matter what you face, you don't have to face it alone. God is with you, and God can always be trusted. Who's got it? God has it.

To all parents of K-4th grade students, during the month of November it's our mission to make disciples and to grow in our faith in Jesus Christ. This month is all about generosity and making someone's day by giving something away. If you stop to think about it, everything we think of as "ours" was really a gift. Because God gives us good things, we should be willing to share with others. It's easier to be generous when we remember that everything we have was given to us by a generous God!

## JINGLE BELL BEACH

Everyone is invited to come see the Jingle Bell Beach performance on Sunday, December 15th at 3 pm. And, afterwards join us for a pot luck dinner, chicken & tableware will be provided - bring your favorite dish to share in the Faith Cafe. If you have any questions contact Lisa at lkonkle@faithum.net. You can sign up on the connect card December 1st & 8th.



## UPWARD BASKETBALL 2025

The new season is just around the corner! Are you interested in being a part of this wonderful outreach to our community? Upward Sports was founded in 1995 out of a desire for the church to meet the needs of families in the community. We, at Faith Church, have been involved with this program since 2021. By focusing on the sports experience and the whole person, a church can help participants grow mentally, athletically, spiritually, and socially. The sports experience you will find provided by a local church helps participants learn a sport and learn for life by understanding God's plan for their life. If you are interested in volunteering, there are many different ways to get involved: coach, assistant coach, referee, scorekeeping, concessions, halftime devotions, set up/tear down, and prayer team. Please scan the QR code and choose how you would like to help this ministry.



Questions - contact Barb Leland at [faithumcupward@gmail.com](mailto:faithumcupward@gmail.com).

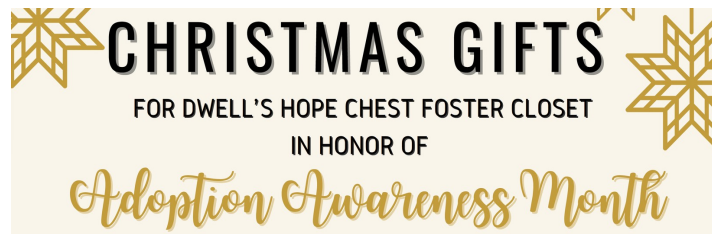


# OUTREACH



**Mason Neiman**  
Director of  
Worship & Creative  
Arts  
mneiman@faithum.net

## DWELL COLLECTION



November is National Adoption Awareness Month. To celebrate, Dwell Orphan Care is hosting their Hope Chest collection! Twice a year, Dwell partners with churches and groups to provide items to support kiddos and families in adoptive and foster care situations—and Faith Church is excited to participate. During the month of November, Faith Church is pleased to help gather some of these gifts.

To join the fun, if you're internet savvy, follow the QR code to go to Dwell's kiddos' Amazon Wishlist. You can purchase gifts online and have them sent to yourself, the church, or directly to Dwell. If the internet's not your bag, they're always in need of free and clear laundry detergent, stamp booklets, or fast-food gift cards (\$25 max). Then, feel free to drop your donations in one of the bins at each church entrance to love children in need and the families who support them. If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to Mason Neiman at mneiman@faithum.net.

[https://www.dwellorphanicare.org/hopechest%20https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/1R9O4YTCVGP0P/ref=nav\\_wishlist\\_lists\\_1](https://www.dwellorphanicare.org/hopechest%20https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/1R9O4YTCVGP0P/ref=nav_wishlist_lists_1)

## Deck the Halls

- **What:** A Church-Wide gathering to spruce up and decorate the church for Advent and Christmas. We'll provide some snacks, festive music, and a lot of fun tasks to accomplish together.
- **When:** Sunday, November 24, 6:00-8:00 p.m.
- **Who:** Everyone is invited, from the youngest among us to the oldest.
- **Where:** All over. We'll decorate the sanctuary, FCC, and Faith Café. We'll also do some cleaning and clearing in our Children's Wing, Student Ministries Room and wherever we can.
- **Why:** Advent is a season of preparation. Coming together to deck the halls can set our spirits on that journey toward Christmas, and the joy of receiving Christ anew. It is also a great reminder that, during the month of December, we have more guests come through Faith Church than any other time throughout the year. And just like at home, when we are welcoming guests, we spruce the place up to be as inviting as possible.



Sign up on your connect card in November or reach out to Pastor Larry at lleland@faithum.net for any questions!



## SPECIAL COLLECTION



Sunday, November 24th there will be a special collection for United Methodist Student Day. Investing in our students, your gifts will underwrite scholarships for United Methodist undergraduate

and graduate students allowing them to achieve education goals with a financial freedom.



See last page for details.

### FAITH CHURCH STAFF

Larry L. Leland, Lead Pastor.....	lleland@faithum.net
Jim Anthony, Preschool Custodian.....	jim_anthonysr@comcast.net
Christian Calehuff, FSM Team Leader.....	fsm@faithum.net
Diane Dunlap, Office Assistant.....	diane.dunlap@hotmail.com
Marion Handley, Associate Pastor.....	mhandley@faithum.net
Matthew Harris, Facilities Manager .....	facilities@faithum.net
Beth Jones, Director of Harvest of Hope.....	harvestofhope@faithum.net
Lisa Konkle, Choral Coordinator/Organist.....	lkonkle@faithum.net
Deb Lindner, Voices of Faith Accompanist .....	dvindner@gmail.com
Kristen Lowe, Tech Director .....	klowe@faithum.net
Maureen McBride, Financial Secretary .....	finance@faithum.net
Chris Nau, Secretary/Communications Coord.....	office@faithum.net
Julia Edler, Director & Gail Rollman, Assist. Director of Children's Ministries.....	jneiman@faithum.net
Mason Neiman, Director of Worship & Creative Arts.....	mneiman@faithum.net
Deb Ottenmiller, Director of Group Life/Assimilation.....	dottenmiller@faithum.net
Jody Robinson, Business Manager.....	treasurer@faithum.net

### FAITH CHURCH COUNCIL

Jim Carpenter - Chairperson
Lisa Vrabc - Recorder
Ben Clark
Rachel Knipe
Scott Konkle
Chip Lamade
Sheila Lomax
Susan Marshall
Paul Zimmerer

## FAITH STUDENT MINISTRIES - FSM



Christian  
Calehuff  
FSM Team  
Leader  
fsm@faithum.n

Hello Faith Church,  
WOW, a full two months of youth nights have passed by since we started this season of FSM. We are truly making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. Maybe it's just our local area, but it is actively participating in God's plan. Within the last month we got to hear from Eleanor & Raigan with their testimony on what this church means to them. Our congregation heard these young ladies publicly witnessing and professing their faith, they both did an excellent job. That really meant a lot to our leader volunteers, and it is evidence that our hands at work take part in cultivating Godly children. We also connected with our youth at our first ever miniature golf tournament. A night where we teamed up with each other and tried our best for a whole in one! We ended the evening by enjoying a good meal together and thanking God; I am truly amazed at how much pizza these kids eat!

We continue to serve and had leader development talks on keeping our sanctuary safe and how to have boundaries within our ministry for healthy discipleship. These discussions are to help prepare our leaders in the various situations & tasks while being a God honoring servant. Our youth continued to grow by learning more from Jesus' Sermon on the Mount. The bottom line is treating others with ultimate respect, no matter what the circumstance. When our hearts are not aligned with God's heart we cannot expand His Kingdom. Another fun activity in October was the Corn Maze at Snyder's. Our youth group joined First Church's youth group FUZE, for a night of games, music and stomping around in a corn field. We started pairing up with FUZE this past year at different times and we call this time together uniting with the body of Christ. In a small way, we all have different gifts that together can be used for the body of Christ.

As our ministry continues to Connect, Grow, Serve & Go, we are planning a fall youth retreat in November. The focus of our teachings will be on Practicing the Way. FSM is excited to participate in our church wide study and felt this is a great place to teach our youth more about discipling Jesus all while spending a couple of nights on the Loyalsock at two of our church families' cabins. Lastly, I want to thank all those of you who support FSM with prayer, your time & talents and financial blessings. We really could not have a ministry this enriched without these gifts. We are fortunate to have support from a church that can love us the way you do. Thank you and God bless.



Grades 6th - 12th come grow in discipleship November 8th-10th, 2024 at local cabins on the Loyalsock.



*No FSM  
Sunday  
December 1st*



**SUNDAY  
NOVEMBER 3RD  
3 AM  
OR BEFORE BED  
ON SATURDAY**

## GROW/SERVE



Deb Ottenmiller  
Dir. of Group  
Life and  
Assimilation  
dottenmiller@  
faithum.net

### DATE NIGHT

Who could use a COUPLES NIGHT OUT of fun, food, and adventure!! On November 8th, 6:30-8pm. Faith Church will host 'Nacho Kinda Date Night' in the Faith Cafe. There will be fun things to do, plenty to eat, and an adventure! Make sure to sign up early, as the maximum size for 20 couples! Sign-up at the Sign-Up Center in Faith Cafe. Can't wait!



### The Women's Monthly Gathering

will take place November 20th, at 10:00 in the Faith Cafe on campus. We will be taking our discussions from the Women of Faith series "Living above worry and stress". All women are invited to join us for one hour the third Wednesday of each month. Please bring your Bible if you have one. Thank you and if you have any questions, please contact Michele at 724-309-5742 or Deb at 570-337-1149

### YOUNG ADULT GROUP - FELLOWSHIP & STUDY



**Where:** Room 12  
**When:** Thursdays @ 7 pm  
**What:** Book of Luke learning about the

life & death of Jesus.

**Contact:** Olivia @ 717-437-1467 or Jason @ 570-651-5969

### SURVIVING THE HOLIDAYS

Grief Share is offering a one-day event on Faith Church campus entitled *Surviving the Holidays*. On Wednesday November 6th, from 6:30-8:00pm, Room FSM [Faith Student Ministries – Brushy Ridge wing] Enter via Fairview Drive Entrance, cross the church and head down the right hallway. How to Cope with painful emotions, social events, and traditions after loss. Find comfort, strength, and hope with us, as we gather for *Surviving the Holidays*. Register by November 4th with Danielle Harris at 570-447-5104, or at the Sign-Up Center in Faith Cafe.





# NEW SERMON SERIES



## NEW SERIES BEGINNING NOVEMBER 3RD

**November 3rd: A Generous Life Reflects a Generous God**

**November 10th: A Generous Life Shapes Our Hearts**

**November 17th: A Generous Life Blesses Others**

**November 24th: A Generous Life Is All About the Kingdom**

Thanksgiving is just around the corner. Let's help our neighbors in need. This month, we will be collecting food and monetary donations to pack Thanksgiving Baskets. Food donations can be dropped off in Faith Café now through Thursday, November 21. Monetary donations can be dropped off at the church office throughout the month. We will begin packing directly after the 9:45 worship service on November 24th and will begin delivery shortly thereafter. And we need all the hands we can get to pack and deliver! Signups for helping packing and delivery via Connect Card will begin in late October. This is a great opportunity to love our neighbors well! So with a generous heart, go shopping and raid your pantry to love our neighbors well this Thanksgiving season! For more information, contact Mason Neiman at mneiman@faithum.net.

**ITEMS NEEDED: Cans of Corn, Green Beans, Cranberry Sauce, and Sweet Potatoes, jars of Turkey Gravy, 6 oz. Boxes of Stuffing Mix, Boxed Hot Chocolate packets, 14 oz. box of Instant Mashed Potatoes, Boxed Cake or Brownie Mixes & Frosting, and \$25-Weis Gift Cards to purchase Turkeys.**

### **ORDER YOUR POINSETTIAS**

Order your poinsettia plant(s) to decorate the church for Christmas. Plants may be purchased for \$8.00 each and may be placed In Memory of or In Honor of loved ones. Plants must be paid for at the time of ordering. **Hurry, the deadline for orders is Sunday, November 24th.** PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY AND AS YOU WOULD LIKE IT TO APPEAR IN THE BULLETIN. THANK YOU!

In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

# of plants \_\_\_\_\_ X \$8.00 each = \_\_\_\_\_

From \_\_\_\_\_

### **Faith United Methodist Church**

**OFFICE HOURS:** Monday-Thursday, 8:00 am-3:30 pm and Friday-CLOSED

**PHONE #:** 570-368-2459      **EMAIL:** office@faithum.net

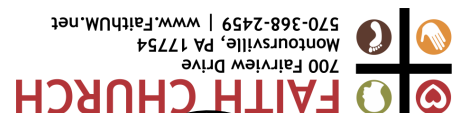
**WEB:** www.faithum.net    **FACEBOOK:** www.facebook.com/faithmontoursville

**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



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November 2024