

FAITH NOTES

Faith United Methodist Church
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January 2010



From the Pastor

Do You Hear What I Hear?

But the angel said to them Luke 2:10a

A few years ago, Cara and I attended my 15-year college reunion. It was fun seeing old friends and seeing how we've changed! My friend Craig Streeter had achieved his dream of becoming a Cobra helicopter pilot for the U.S. Marines. When he heard that I had gone from Mechanical Engineering to ordained ministry, he said, "I've got a story to tell you!" He told me about flying in Iraq during a combat mission. "... It was pitch black, I couldn't see a thing. My instruments showed that nothing was in front of me, but I heard this voice, felt it really, that told me 'Go Up!' Instantly, I pulled up hard." He continued, "Steve, if I hadn't listened to that voice, I would have hit some power lines and died. I believe it was God."

How do we hear the voice of God? When we believe we have heard it, how do we re-

spond? The scriptures are filled with stories about ordinary people who heard a voice and responded. Sometimes the voice is loud, sometimes quiet. Sometimes the person in the story does what the voice says right away, but many times the person resists or even tries to run away (think Jonah!). In every instance that I can think of, when the person does what the voice asks, ultimately lives are saved, people are delivered, hope is kindled and God's kingdom reigns.

A great example of how this works is portrayed beautifully in the Song "Do You Hear What I Hear?" Based on Luke's telling of Jesus' birth, the song traces the path and effects of the voice of God.

Said the night wind to the little lamb... Said the little lamb to the Shepherd boy...

Said the Shepherd boy to the mighty king... Said the king to the people everywhere...

Pray for peace, people

ev'rywhere... The Child, the Child, Sleeping in the night

He will bring us goodness and light, He will bring us goodness and light

As "Jubilee Charter Members" beginning together this new Year and this new decade in the life of Faith UMC, let us each listen for the voice of God, let us help one another listen together and then... let's all work together to follow that voice and watch what happens.

Pastor Steve



Membership

Here we GROW again!

We invite you to become a member of our Faith Church family. There will be a series of 3 classes in this February session facilitated by pastors Steve and Cara, along with Lauralee Stiffler, Coordinator of Lay Ministries. Class dates will be Wednesday,

February 3, 10 and 24th from 6:30 – 8:00 pm. There will not be a class on Ash Wednesday, February 17th. Please be in attendance at all 3 classes. New members will be received in to membership on Sunday, February 28th. For more information, Contact the church office for more information (330.499.6040).



Installation and Recognition of Lay Leadership

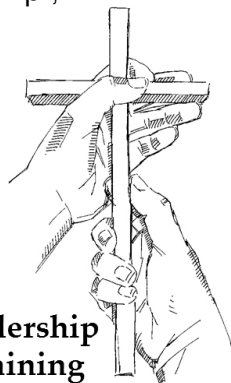
Join us during all three services on *Sunday, January 17* as we recognize the lay leadership of Faith Church for 2010. That Sunday is the *Baptism of the Lord*. Through our baptism we are all called to Christian service. We are blessed to be a lay lead congregation. Please come as we celebrate our church leaders who, along with our church members, further God's kingdom and give Him the glory through our many ministries and missions.



OUR NEW LAY LEADERSHIP

Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations

Join us as we represent Faith Church at the *Tuscarawas District Leadership Training*. This event will be close to home at Church of the Lakes UMC on *February 6, 2010 from 9:00 a.m. to noon*. Workshops include: "Radical Hospitality", "Passionate Worship", "Intentional Faith Development", "Risk-Taking Mission & Service", and "Extravagant Generosity". Faith Church has already paid the group registration fee, which means that an unlimited number of people from our congregation may attend at no cost to you. Registration forms are available in the church office. Pick one up today and sign up for the workshop of your choice.



Leadership Training

Fair Trade Coffee

Through the UMCOR COFFEE PROJECT, our congregation is enjoying delicious coffee, tea, cranberries, nuts, baking cocoa and chocolate while helping small-scale farmers in Latin America, Africa, Asia and even the US as they build a better future for themselves and their families. Through the project, farmers earn a fair price for their products have access to affordable credit and gain a long-term trading partner they can trust, a Fair Trade organization called Equal Exchange. With

your support, these communities invest in education, health care and agricultural improvements. In addition, each pound of coffee, tea or chocolate purchased by United Methodist congregations through the project, Equal Exchange makes a contribution to UMCOR programs that support community-based cooperatives in their particular regions. Equal Exchange is committed to Fair Trade on 100% of our coffee, tea and chocolate products.

Faith Church continues to follow the Bishop's encourage-

ment in supporting Fair Trade. It is not our goal to make a profit on the sales. We have rounded the prices for easier purchasing, sales and bookkeeping (sometimes as little as 5¢ and never more than 50¢). We look forward to your future purchases. We are happy to order larger quantities. Please contact me with your special orders. Thank You! Candy Ziegler, Contact the church office for more information (330.499.6040).

Laity Training 2010

"You're a perfect fit!"

You are an integral part of our team. We work together in different directions and at different speeds, but linked together with the same goal, furthering God's kingdom.

Laity Training is an essential part of ministry. All leaders of Faith Church will gather together on *Thursday, January 14, 2010 at 7:00 pm* in Robinson Hall. This is not a "meeting". We will have time to get to know one another as new people join with returning people to serve on ministry teams. We will learn about "Rethinking Church", worshipful work and begin a book study to build community and recommit ourselves to loving God and carrying out our ministries.

Laity Training is open to all interested members of our congregation! Come and learn more about the ministry and mission of Faith Church.

Please bring a nonperishable food item or paper product for Canton Calvary Mission.

Contact the church office for more information (330.499.6040).

Thank You!

People of Faith United Methodist Church, thank you.

We have received numerous expressions of love and appreciation over this first Christmas with you. What a gift you have been to us. We give thanks for you and this appointment every day. Serving in ministry with you has been a joy and we look forward to our continued journey in 2010 and we pray for years to come.

Sincerely,

Pastors Steve and Cara,

Eli and Atticus

Sewing Group

In December the sewing group of Faith Church delivered 87 lap quilts to the Canton Care Center, Crisis and Intervention Center and Child and Adolescent Center.

A big thank you to: Ann Everetts, Helen Harper, Elise Krigline, Barbara Mantyla, Mary Lou Slaughter and Barbara Whitacre for all the hours of stitching and laughter.

Anyone interested in being a part of this great ministry can join us on Tuesday mornings from 9:00—11:30am.

Betsy Oby, Chair

Partners in Faith

We're getting ready for another *Partners in Faith* Date Night!

Date: Friday, January 8th

6:15 Drop off your kids

6:30 Program in the Chapel

7:00 Go out for a date!

9:30 Pick up your kids

Questions? Contact the church office for more information

Partners in Faith



Visioning Retreat

"Faith for Tomorrow"

All are invited to attend a church wide retreat on Saturday February 20th. Join us to set measurable goals for 2010 and visioning for 2020.

Second Wind

January means it's time to travel with Dot Fisher! Last January, we went to the bottom of the world. Join us this year for a trip to the top.

Date: Tuesday, January 12th

Time: 11:45 am to 2:00 pm

Program: Dot Fisher, *Looking for Nanook*

Cost: \$4/person

Contact the church office for more information (330.499.6040).

Hope you can make it!

Canton Calvary Mission

Canton Calvary Mission requests cereal/oatmeal for January. The Mission feeds over 500 families monthly and appreciates all donations of non-perishable foods, personal hygiene and paper products. A marked box is located in the gallery for contributions to the Food Pantry. Thanks for your generous support.



Display Case

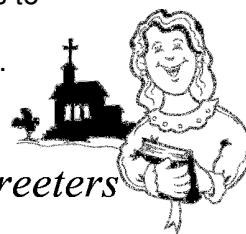
"Collections & Reflections" is our new Display Case feature January through March. Our members can showcase their collections and hobbies! A great opportunity to get a glimpse of the different interests & intrigues of our members. So dust off those special trinkets - items from travel, hobbies - current & past, collectibles, rare and

maybe not-so-rare, and bring them in to share. An antique book and postcard collection is one example that will be featured. Items will be shown for 2-4 weeks and assistance with installation and propping can be provided. To share your collection (we would like 4-6 different collections - or more!), Contact the church office for more information (330.499.6040).

Greeters

A New Year's Resolution for all: "I will be a Greeter in 2010." The new sign-up sheet is now in Robinson hallway waiting for your signature. Thanks to all who volunteered in 2009.

Evelyn Hewett



Greeters

Volunteer Opportunities

Quilters/Sewers

Tuesdays, 9-11:30am Rooms 5 & 6
Betsy Oby, Chair

Stitchers: Bring handwork
2nd & 4th Thursdays, 2-4pm in the Parlor

Bixler Library

Thursdays, noon to 2pm
Candy Ziegler, Chair

Prayer Shawl Ministry

1st Thursdays, 2-4pm in the Parlor
Barbara Whitacre, Chair

Sewing for Missions

1st & 3rd Wednesdays, 6:30-8:30pm, Room 16

Worship in January



3 8:30 Joy Unlimited & Celebration Bells

9:45 Praise Band

11:00 Chancel Choir

Rev. Wendell Stoneburner preaching,
Henderson Settlement

10 8:30 Kathy & Katie Schirra

9:45 Praise Band

11:00 Chancel Choir, Kathy & Katie Schirra

Rev. Steve Stultz Costello preaching

17 8:30 Carol Choir

9:45 Praise Band

11:00 Chancel Choir

Rev. Cara Stultz Costello preaching

24 8:30 Chancel Choir

9:45 Praise Band

11:00 Instruments of Praise

Rev. Steve Stultz Costello preaching

31 Camp Sunday

8:30 Instruments of Praise

9:45 Praise Band

11:00 Joy Unlimited

Rev. Gary Jones preaching



Join us for the Morning
Prayer Service on
Tuesday, February
2nd at 8am. Rev. Cara
Stultz Costello will be
our presenter.

www.FaithUMChurch.org

Mailed January 5, 2010



Worship with Us:
Sunday Services: 8:30, 9:45, & 11:00
Sunday School: 9:45 & 11:00

Get to know Us:
Reverends Steve & Cara Stultz Costello, Co-Pastors
Trudy Jones, Director of Christian Education
Ron Harrison, Director of Youth Ministries
Alina Dorto, Director of Faith Friends

Contact Us:
Phone: 330.499.6040
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Education

Pennies for Paraguay

We have new photos and letters from our 8 children at the New Horizon School in Paraguay. Check them out on the bulletin board near the Prayer Room. They are currently on summer break but begin school again in February. Our *challenge* will be to have the sponsorship funds for them by that time. We currently have \$2200, but we'll need \$3300. This will require your attention and giving. If you would like to have credit for your contribution, make your check out to the church and put *Pennies for Paraguay* on the memo line. We've met this challenge in the past and can do so again!

Wednesday Night Programs

January 13 is the date when the Wednesday night programming for all ages will resume. Following the children's choirs, a meal is served at 6:00 p.m. in Robinson Hall. At 6:30 p.m. FW Friends for children age 4 through those in 5th grade begins. FW Friends is like youth group for elementary kids! Nursery care is provided for younger children. See the separate article about adult programming. Costs remain the same and can be paid all at once or weekly. Scholarships are available.

Please remember that if schools are closed due to poor weather, the Wednesday evening programs are also cancelled.

Women's Retreat

Ladies, mark your calendars for April 23-24. Join us at the Salt Fork Lodge for our next retreat. Pastor Cara Stultz Costello will be leading us around the topic of *Sabbath: The 3 R's*. Watch for full details and costs.



Community Christmas

Community Christmas would like to thank the members of Faith Church for all the support given this year through Adopt-a-Family and Giving Tree toy distribution, coats for Christmas, etc.

With the economy as it is right now it shows the generosity of this church to give to

those who are less fortunate. Many of the volunteers were from Faith Church.

You have made a big impact on the health of this community this Christmas season and we thank you so much. Jake & Lynda Lebold



Soup Labels

Don't forget winter is here and it is Campbell soup time.

Please save the labels for Red Bird Mission and put them in the labeled box in the hallway. I will take care of cutting and sending them out.

Lynda Lebold UMW Missions



Membership Care

Birthdays

Happy Birthday to:

- Lela Patterson who will be who will be 96 years old on January 23rd
- Betty Hine who will be 91 on January 26th

Deaths

We extend prayers and sympathy to the families of:

- Jody & David Lindower on the death of Jody's mother;
- Bette Miller on the death of her husband, Andy Miller;
- John and Penny McClellan on the death of John's father, Roy
- Ann Bartley, on the death of her father, Roy
- Jean Pickett, on the death of her husband, David



We received thank you notes from Christine Jenkins, Wendell Rinehart, Dale and Ginny Walters, Mary Jo and Bob Boettler, Bette Miller, Sandy Rustad, Doris Ashley, Phyll Psolla, Betty Riddle, the Snyder Family, and Martha Grant. The notes are posted on the bulletin board in Robinson Hallway.

A 2010 Church Goal: Biblical Education

Faith Church will place a strong emphasis on *Biblical Education* this year. We would like every member to make a commitment to regular reading and study of the scriptures. Did you know that a recent study shows that reading or listening to the Bible at least four days a week provides a measure of protection against the temptations you face? It is an important step in growing in maturity as a disciple. In order to support your journey, the following classes and materials are available for you.

Sundays: There are classes for all ages. The three adult classes welcome new members and will be covering the following topics:

- **9:45 Faith Bible Class** begins a DVD study called *Experiencing God: Knowing and Doing the Will of God*. If this is a topic about which you would like to learn more, join teacher Bob Snyder in the east parlor.
- **9:45 Faith Meets Life** starts a new study called *Faith Out Loud*. We are called to witness to our faith with our whole beings, including our words. But what do we say? Come watch a 10-minute video, reflect on your journey and then join in the lively discussion in the west parlor, led by Kim Reynolds and Bobbi Vine.
- **11:00 Adult Class** meets in the east parlor. Their study will be *When the Game is Over It All Goes back in the Box: On Living Life in Light of Eternity*. "Using popular games as a metaphor for our temporal lives, this DVD curriculum with John Ortberg neatly sorts out what's fleeting and what's permanent in God's kingdom. Like cards and tokens at a board game's end, life's rewards – houses, cars, promotions – all get 'put away' after we take our last breath. Being Master of the Board is not the point; being rich toward God is."

Mondays: Covenant Bible Study is an in-depth study and discussion group open to new members. They meet at 7:00 p.m. in room 16. Members are encouraged to offer their perspectives on the scripture being studied; hence, the group is open to many different ideas. *See Trudy for a copy of the group's covenant if you are interested in attending.*

Tuesdays:

- **Living the Questions** begins at 7:00 p.m. on January 12 for 11 weeks. This is a DVD and web-based study that will help "seekers" and "church alumnae" alike discover the significance of Christianity in the 21st Century. Conversations with leading theologians, church leaders, sociologists, and biblical scholars will be included in each session. Sermon clips, lecture excerpts, original jazz interpretations of classic hymns, and concrete spiritual practices will contribute to the overall theme of faith as a journey, not a destination. Steve Moore, Jim Skinner, Jay Althouse and Tom Douce will share in facilitating this class.

Wednesdays: Join us for supper at 6:00 p.m. in Robinson Hall (1/13 to 3/24). Please call the church office to let us know that you are coming so we can plan to have enough food.

- **Companions Women's Bible Study** meets at 9:30 a.m. in room 16 and is open to four new members at the end of January. Call Linda Reynolds to find out more.
- **Disciple: Invitation to John** is the perfect option for those who are **new to Bible study** as well as those who are veterans. You will read about two chapters of the Gospel of John a week, and reflect on your reading, answering a few questions in the study guide. DVD segments will enrich the study led by Bob Kuchner. Meets from 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. starting January 13 to March 24. Cost: \$10 for book. (Free childcare)
- **Ask the Pastors.** Do you have questions about the Bible, our denomination, or social issues? Here's the class for you! Each week, one of the pastors associated with our church will host a discussion about issues the class brings up. Using scripture, experience, and other resources, the group will endeavor to bring some clarity to the issue. Begins on January 13 from 6:30-8:00 p.m. (Free childcare)
- **DivorceCare** continues at 6:30 p.m. in room 5, facilitated by Jan Highway. This class assists the church in helping people recover from separation and divorce, using a biblical approach. (Free childcare)

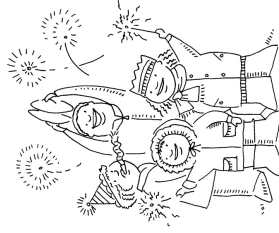


Resources for Bible Study

Fifty copies of each of two Bible studies have been purchased and are available at both entrances: (1) *The Bible Reading Plan* schedule has two Old Testament and two New Testament scriptures for each day, 25 days of the month. This study will help you grasp the unity of the scriptures. (2) *5 x 5 x 5 Bible Reading Plan* will help you read through the New Testament if you commit to 5 minutes a day, 5 days a week, with 5 ways to dig deeper. Pick up your copy.

Copies of *The Upper Room* and *Daily Bread* are also available in the gathering area.

January 2010



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
3 Communion Sunday School in Robinson Hall 5:00 Youth Choirs 6:00 Covered Dish Dinner	4 Mon. Schedule 7:00 Guitar Fellowship 8:00 Men's B-ball 	5 Tues. Schedule 6:00 Men's prayer group 9:00 Prayer/Bible Study 9:00 Sewing Group 9:30 Women's Study 9:30 Celebration Bells 12:15 Mom's In Touch 6:30 Women's Prayer Group 7:00 Boy Scouts 8:00am Prayer Service 8:30 Scout Committee	6 Wed. Schedule 6:00 Young Men's Study 5:00 Cherub/Carol Choirs 6:30 Financial Peace U 7:30 Chancel Choir 6:30 Missions Sewing 	7 Thur. Schedule 7:15 Retired Men's Breakfast 7:30 Working Women's Brkfst 12:00 Library volunteers 2:00 Prayer Shawl Min.	8 6:16 Partners in Faith Date Night 	9 7:00am Men's Study, IHOP
10 Epiphany Confirmation class Commissioning Brunch after services 3:30 Confirmation 5:00 Youth Choirs 6:00 - 8:00 Youth B1	11 Mon. Schedule 9:00 Circle of Faith	12 Tues. Schedule 11:45 Second Wind 7:00 Living the Questions 7:00 Usher, Greeter, Reader, Communion Training	13 Wed. Schedule 6:00 Dinner 6:30 FW Friends 6:30 Study of John 6:30 Ask the Pastor 6:30 Divorce Care 12:00 Lydia Circle	14 Thur. Schedule 9:15 M.O.M.S. 2:00 Faith Stitchers 7:00 Laity Training	15 Boy Scout Campout FAITH NOTES DEADLINE	16 Youth Ski Treat
17 No Youth Group	18 Mon. Schedule	19 Tues. Schedule 6:30 Finance Ministry 7:00 Living the Questions 7:30 Worship Ministry	20 Wed. Schedule 6:30 Missions Sewing	21 Thur. Schedule 1:00 Alzheimer's Group 7:00 Trustees	22	23 7:30 MOFC Planning mtg
24 11:00 Confirmation 3:00 Pinewood Derby 5:00 - 8:00 Youth	25 Mon. Schedule	26 Tues. Schedule 7:00 Living the Questions 7:00 SPRC	27 Wed. Schedule	28 Thur. Schedule 9:15 M.O.M.S. 2:00 Faith Stitchers 6:45 Membership Care 7:00 Circle of Love	29 5:00 Confirmation to Temple Israel	30 7:00am Men's Study, IHOP Faith Kitchen
31 11:00 Confirmation 3:00 Confirmation 5:00 - 8:00 Youth	