

## **2011 ANNUAL REPORT**

### **FAITH UNITED CHURCH**

**Pastor Jim Oswald**

I concluded last year's report with the verse from Psalm 66:5 which says, "***Come and see what our God has done, what awesome miracles he performs for people!***" This has been truly a year to "Come and See" what our God has done. During the course of this year we experienced even bigger and brighter things than in the previous year. Beginning with the season of Lent, we asked ourselves the question, "*Am I an ambassador for Christ?*" And that question has had to be answered, over the course of this year, with every activity that took place.

In June, our students took part in the Relay for Life event. We raised more money for cancer research than last year. Having cancer survivors among our congregation gave the students a more personal feel for what they were raising money for...and that carried over to the candlelight service and beyond. Also in June, our students made the trek south to Orange Beach, Alabama, for Student Life Camp. We took 7 more people this year and added another van. The theme for the week was "Devoted." I know that when we are in the camp setting that it is easier to be "devoted," but the continued challenge for our students, and adults, has been whether or not they have stayed devoted. And that takes us back to the question once again, "Am I an ambassador for Christ?" Not just at camp, not just at church, but at work, school, home, sporting events, dance, music concerts...and the list goes on and on. It is in these areas of our lives where the "real" you shines through...so are you devoted?

In July, our adults, students and children spent a day at Worlds of Fun for the Christian Day. Although it was extremely hot, everyone had a great time, and more importantly, got exposed to some of the most popular artists in Christian music today. Hopefully, this was a way of introducing everyone to some music they could listen to in their cars, home, or wherever and begin filling their minds with songs of encouragement, hope and of Jesus' amazing love! Will the music we listen to show that we are ambassadors for Christ?

Also in July, we held the first ever children's camp up at Miracle Hills Camp in Bethany, Missouri. What an awesome two days! More than 50 children, students and adults came together for two days of worship, quiet times, athletic activities, food and bonfires...yet another chance for all of us to be ambassadors for Christ. The camp was so successful that we are expanding it another day this year, so be sure to sign your child up for this exciting and life-changing event. The times I spent at camp are lifetime memories and helped shape who I am today. Please allow your child that same experience, they will come back changed. God truly moves!

In August, we had more than 16 people participate in Willow Creek's Leadership Conference. There is no real way to sum up all that you see, hear and learn over the course of that two day period. Again, lives are changed and you come back a little different. Seeing how God is at work in the world around us only brings us more hope that our world can be changed for the good. That brings up the question once again, "Am I being ambassador for Christ?" "Am I helping bring a positive element of change to our lost world?" "What more can I do?"

With the start of school came the start of another program for our church called, "Kids for Christ" or simply "KFC." This program is a foundational program that introduces children to music, bible study and recreation. In this way, our children will grow spiritually, physically, and emotionally. The results have been more than positive and our hope is for slow growth as we enter the spring session and beyond. This has been yet another way for us to be ambassadors for Christ.

This has truly been a year to *"Come and See,"* but more importantly an opportunity for each of us to look inside and see if we are truly representing Christ in the way that we should. Are we pushing people away, or toward the cross? As we continue to be ambassadors for Christ, we are led into our theme for next year which is, *"Until the Whole World Hears."* Mark 16:15 says, *"Go into all the world and preach the Good News to everyone, everywhere."* And so that is what we must do. We are planning a mission trip for our students this summer and hopefully it is the start of something that will only help our church get the "Good News" into the hands of those who so desperately need it.

Thanks for allowing me to be your pastor! It is truly an honor to serve you, and to serve with you!

Be God's in All Things!

Pastor Jim Oswald

### **President's Annual Report 2012**

Faith United Church experienced an very exciting year in 2011, celebrating 50 awesome years of service to our Lord on October 16, 2011 highlighted with the theme "50 YEARS OF FAITH". What an exciting day that was! Several former members of Faith Church attended the worship service that Sunday to share in the celebration. How great it was to visit and reminisce about all the wonderful memories we have shared as a family in Christ. The Anniversary Committee met throughout the year and did an incredible job organizing this memorable event. The 50-year Celebration was a huge success in commemorating our church history!!

It was a year filled with faith and commitment serving the Lord, with 16 new members joining Faith Church and actively volunteering their time and talents!

The Iffert Trust Fund continued to honor Herb and Peggy's commitment and service to God and Faith Church's youth. Once again, the Trust Fund allowed the BIG group, along with adult sponsors, to attend a youth conference on June 20-24th at Orange Beach, Alabama. College scholarships were provided to several youth members. During the week of June 12-19, the VBS theme "Hometown Nazareth" allowed approximately 30 children to experience a fun-filled week, with over 50 church volunteers making the event a huge success. The JOY and HOPE children attended a terrific summer camp on July 22-23 in Bethany, Missouri with parents serving as volunteers, along with other adults and senior high youth sponsors. Church youth of all ages attended a concert at Worlds of Fun and the Rock for Life concert in Kansas over Labor Day weekend. Kids for Christ (KFC), a week-night youth group that combines the previous JOY and HOPE youth groups, was implemented this fall, with outreach to non-members in the community as well as children currently attending Faith. What a blessing! We continue to be thankful that the Iffert Trust Fund is available to enhance Faith Church's focus on Christian education, youth programs and special projects.

Faith Church once again assisted with funding a group of adults to attend the Willow Creek Conference in Chicago on August 11-12th. Additional members of the congregation were able to attend this year, thanks to Frederick Boulevard Baptist Church hosting a web cam of the conference. It was truly an inspiring event! Each person attending experienced the power of the Holy Spirit and provided personal testimonies to the congregation on the tremendous impact the conference had on their faith.

Financially, it was a sound year for Faith Church, with the operational fund ending the year with a balanced budget. How thankful we are for the tithes, offerings, and memorial gifts/ bequests given to Faith Church, which enable us to serve God through our missions and outreach programs.

Several building improvements in 2011 included upgrading to an electronic bell system; installation of sun shade window coverings for the west side of the sanctuary; purchasing two new sound systems: a portable unit, as well as a comprehensive sound system for the sanctuary; adding outside security cameras; purchasing a new color copier for the church office; and installing new commercial grade playground equipment.

Throughout the year, so many here at Faith Church worked diligently and faithfully, volunteering their time and talents. The Holy Spirit truly has provided each of us with special gifts to do His work and when He called, you answered. Special thanks to Tony Demuth who served as Vice-President; to Michelle Nolan, Clerk; to Dianne Pulley, Treasurer; to Commission Chairs: Devera Lambing, Christian Education; Mina McCall, Church and Ministry; and Carole McClellan, Lay Life. Their leadership was definitely a blessing! Countless others also willingly served the Faith Church throughout the year.

2011 was a year was filled with countless blessings, and we give God the glory for answering our prayers. Throughout the Bible, God gives us His promise that He is with us always. Always remember that God has no hands but ours to do His work and show His love.

May God Bless,            Mike, Prussman, President

### **Report of the Cabinet**

Faith United Church has continued to do God's work of growing in 2011. As a new vice-president I have learned how this church is able to achieve so many goals in one year. It is through the faith and dedication of the members of this church. Thank you for guiding me on this journey. I give special thanks to Mike Prussman, President, Dianne Pulley, Treasurer, Michelle Nolan, Clerk and Loretta Prussman, Cabinet Secretary. Also thanks to the commission chairmen, Mina McCall, Church and Ministry, Carole McClellan, Lay Life and Work and Devera Lambing, Christian Education, for operating their commissions in a faithful manner for growth. Each commission will have their own report in more detail.

Once again the church stepped forward to promote youth activities. Thank you to the adults who went on the student life trip to Orange Beach, AL. and those who were involved in the Miracle Hills youth camp, both adults and the BIG group. Having been to Orange Beach, I have seen the youth grow in the knowledge of Christ and gain experiences that will last a lifetime.

Thank you to all the people who donated money and time to purchase the new playground equipment. This will help visitors and members know that we do care about our younger generation. We have also started a search committee to find a youth minister. A few interviews have been conducted but at this time the position is still open.

This past year we as a church were able to maintain the property, having all the tile floors refurbished and carpets cleaned. This has made the church more presentable to members and visitors. We also had more cameras installed at the exterior of the church. This will allow us to observe all vehicles using our property. The cameras also observe the garage and playground area. Having the cameras installed should help on our insurance premiums, too.

Sadly, we lost our custodian when J.R. Woody passed away this year. He performed his duties each week with no complaints about what he walked into when he came to church to clean. We also need to thank Drew and Alex king for stepping in to fill that position.

Once again I would like to thank everyone for all of their help and guidance this past year. In the next year I will again need your help and I feel that with God's help and your knowledge 2012 will be a blessed journey for Faith United Church.

Tony Demuth, Vice President

**Faith United Church  
Annual Congregational Meeting  
January 30, 2011**

The forty-ninth Annual Meeting of Faith United Church as held on Sunday, January 30, 2011, following a covered-dish luncheon by the Dinner Committee of Women's Fellowship.

CALL TO ORDER: President, Mike Prussman, called the meeting to order at 12:30 pm.

INVOCATION: Missy West read inspirational passage, followed by the invocation.

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS: Debbie Demuth welcomed each new member that joined Faith Church in 2010 and individually named each of the 20 members that were welcomed into membership.

MOMENT OF REMEMBRANCE: For Moments of Remembrance, Eilean McCauley read the names of the four members of the congregation who passed away in 2010. A moment of silence in honor of their memory was followed by a poem.

CLERK'S ANNUAL REPORT: Michelle Nolan, Clerk, presented the 2010 Clerk's Report. Membership at the beginning of 2010 started 164. Twenty new members joined, by affirmation and two member re-activated. Four members were lost by death, with 187 members at the end of 2010. Membership correction needed for Tom Johnson.

TREASURER'S ANNUAL REPORT: Dianne Pulley, Treasurer, presented the Financial Report for 2009, with represented ending balance. She reported that Warrington Fund usage of building upkeep and Iffert Fund usage for youth and special projects. She reported that \$4551.87 was given to mission this year.

STEWARDSHIP ANNUAL REPORT: Jill Brant reported on Stewardship Committee's Drive this year, "Come and See". Pledges received totaling \$105,282, representing about 71% of budget. She reminded the congregation of "Time/Talent" needs that Faith Church has.

OLD BUSINESS:

2011 Budget Approval: Gary Langemach made a motion to accept the 2011 Budget as presented. Dianne Pulley seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

New Building Project: Gary Langemach reported new committee being formed.

NEW BUSINESS:

Open Floor Discussion: Joan Taylor asked status of Youth Minister, Mike Prussman reported position is in budget.

Presidency Position: Mike Prussman is willing to accept an additional one year term as serving President of Board. Ronnie McCauley made a motion to amend Article 3 Section 3 of bylaws for 2011 to allow Mike Prussman to serve as Board President. Dianne Pulley seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Adopt a Precinct: George Fischer presented information about Church adopting precinct. Volunteer sign-up sheet will be in the Narthex. Karen McClellan made a motion to have Faith United adopt the church's current precinct. Sharon Catron seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

President's Remarks: Commission almost wall full, vacancies as follows New Building Committee (2); Board of Stewards (1); Nominating (2 members at large); and Risk Management (2 members at large). Mike recognized Gary Langemach for all his service over the years. Several new committees have been created and will seek members Finance/Scholarship; IT/Sounds; and 50<sup>th</sup> Year Anniversary. Numerous youth activities coming this spring and summer. He reflected on 2010, Pastor Oswald and his family coming; growing membership; Iffert/Warrington Funds; Youth (Orange Beach, AL); Willow Creek: New Electronic Bell; Building Repairs. He gave a personal thanks to all commissions, Gary Langemach, and Faith's staff.

Pastor's Remarks: 2011 is a "Come and See" at Faith United Church. He challenged the congregation to get God's message out to all.

Pastor Jim closed in prayer.

Meeting adjourned at 2:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Michelle Nolan, Clerk.

## Nominating Committee Report

President – Tony Demuth  
Vice President – Reggie West  
Clerk – Michelle Nolan  
Treasurer – Dianne Pulley

### Board of Stewards

George Fischer	2012
Tom Johnson	2012 (unexpired – David Berthiaume)
Carolyn Sagaser	2012
Trudy Lewis	2013
Dale Arn	2013 (unexpired – Reggie West)
Corey Vulgamott	2013
Mike Prussman	2014
Paul Bridenstine	2014
Denny Cobb	2014

### Lay Life and Work

Brian Kidwell	2012
Merry Sharp	2012 (unexpired – Kaylin Nolan)
Travis Rumpf	2012
Teresa Kidwell	2013
Scotty Sharp	2013
Joed Hill	2013
Benny Wheeler	2014
Sharon Rumpf	2014
Jill Cobb	2014

### Church and Ministry

Penny Johnson	2012
Mina McCall	2012
Beverly Miller	2012 (unexpired – Jean Vulgamott)
Jill Brant	2013
Ann Slaybaugh	2013
Carole McClellan	2013
Steven Pulley	2014
Eilean McCauley	2014
Loretta Prussman	2014

### Christian Education

Jenni Butcher	2012
Jody King	2012 (unexpired – Kelly Berthiaume)
Julie Oswald	2012
Brent Hill	2013
Missy West	2013
Sharon Catron	2013
Kara Tolbert	2014
Karen McClellan	2014
Susan Wheeler	2014

Linda Trapp, S.S. Supt.

Respectfully Submitted: Dianne Pulley

**Report of the Church Clerk  
December 31, 2011**

Membership on Record as of January 1, 2011 ..... 187

**New Members Received:**

By Confirmation ..... 0

By Affirmation ..... 16

Total Received ..... + 16

**Members Lost:**

By Death ..... 5

By Transfer ..... 0

By Inactivity ..... 10

By Request ..... 0

Total Lost ..... - 15

TOTAL MEMBERS AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2011 ..... 188

**Members Received: 16**

Kayley Berton  
Kourtney Berton  
Sally Berton  
Scott Berton  
Denny Cobb  
Jennifer Cobb  
Jill Cobb  
Jacob Hoecker  
Shawn Hoecker  
Tammy Hoecker  
Beverly Miller  
Roy Nolan  
Daniel Stroud  
David Stroud  
Benny Wheeler  
Susan Wheeler

**Confirmations: 0**

**Baptisms: 3**

Kourtney Berton  
Jacob Berton  
Jennifer Cobb

**Weddings: 1**

Amy Hinthorne-J.R. Robertson

**Deaths: 5**

Violet Gilmore  
Elden Langemach  
Anna Perry  
Donald Schultz  
J.R. Woody

**Dropped by Inactivity: 10**

Richele Boling  
Mary Devers  
Nate Langston  
Matthew Langston  
Edwin Rumpf  
Janice Richie  
Judy Plumlee  
Deborah Moore  
Carolee Simmons  
Rebecca Wittmeyer

**Baby Dedication: 1**

Eli Berton

Respectfully Submitted, Michelle Nolan



## **Church and Ministry Commission 2011**

Commission Members: Jill Brant, Ruth Sharp, Eilean McCauley, Elizabeth Schoenlaub, Penny Johnson, Jean Vulgamott, Ann Slaybaugh and Mina McCall

Thank you to all of the commission and for all the jobs you took on. A Commission is not one person but everyone working together and you have all done a great job. Thank you to Pastor Jim for working with us.

We didn't have enough for a Confirmation Class this year but in 2012 we have several.

We planned for Lent with an Ash Wednesday Service, Maundy Thursday Service, and Palm Sunday with palms, and Easter Sunday with communion and Easter Lilies.

We planned for the Advent Season, Lighting of the Advent Candles, Hanging of the Greens, and the Christmas Eve Service with poinsettias.

This commission is also responsible for acolytes, candles and candelabras, children's message, communion, greeters, nursery care for worship, pulpit supply, and worship assistants, visitor packets, the calling committee and the visitation committee. We also review the membership rolls at the end of the year.

We had our Summer Luncheon in August and thanks to all that attended.

Thank you to everyone that was on one of our committees or helped us in anyway. We appreciate all the help that we get.

We were sorry to get the resignation of Jean Vulgamott this year but she has been very busy. She still helped out with the Hanging of the Greens. Thank you!

Thank you to the nominating committee we will have a full slate on our commission for 2012!

Special Offering Designations:

Angel Tree - Women's Abuse Shelter (Advent/Christmas)

Christmas Card- Inter-Serve (Advent/Christmas)

The Giving Tree -To a local Title 1 school (includes mittens, hats, socks, and under ware for young children) (Advent/Christmas)

2011 has been a great year and our church has done so many things. I am excited to see what all happens in 2012.

Mina McCall, Chairperson

## **Lay Life and Work Commission**

It is the responsibility of the Lay Life and Work Commission to coordinate the adult fellowship activities and family life events in the church and service in the community. Such things as mission involvement include:

Food Kitchen, Men's Brotherhood, Women's Fellowship and Circles, OWLS (Older Wiser Loving Souls), Family Thank Offering, All-Church Picnic, Harvest party at Hunt's Orchard, Hanging of the Greens, Luncheon for the beginning of Advent, White Elephant Christmas Party, Shoe boxes for Samaritan's Purse, Church World Mission Blanket Program to name a few. Other activities for future consideration are: game nights, skating parties, dinner-theaters, volley ball league, fellowship and mission meals, plus Lenten events and a New Year's Eve watch night. Thank you to all on the commission who have been faithful in attendance and participation. God is our guide and we have sought to follow His direction.

Carole A. McClellan, Chairman 2011

## **Christian Education Commission**

Christian Education had a very good year in 2011. We have been very busy providing programs for our young students. The Sunday School has stayed steady with 30 to 50 participants every Sunday using the "Faith Weavers" curriculum. This year we started a Collage aged Sunday School Class. The adult classes have gone through some changes and have had an increase in attendance.

Family Unity Night did an Easter Play "The Room Below" the story was told by the women preparing for the Last Supper. This was a very moving evening.

Vacation Bible School this year visited Nazareth during the time Jesus was a little boy. We had 30 children attend and over 50 adults helping in some way.

This year for BIG has been BIG. Once again they went to Orange beach for an inspiring retreat, that has helped them to grow in their beliefs. They have once again raised money for Relay for Life supporting the American Cancer Society.

The big change this year is that FUN, HOPE and JOY was reinvented. "Kids for Christ" was born after examining the problems with these programs and much prayer. The K.F.C. program is for children from preschool to 6<sup>th</sup> grade and meets Wednesday night when many parents and family are attending Bible Study. The program separates the younger kids from the big kids in a rotation of Music, Games and Bible study. "Kids for Christ" sponsored a service project to make sure our Shut-Ins received a gift basket for Christmas. The BIG group then delivered them.

We plan on having Faith Family Nights during the year to get the whole family involved. Our first Faith Family Fun night was a dinner and play "The Bethlehem Experience". We turned the Sanctuary into a Bethlehem Marketplace and the adults were able to sit back and watch the kids go through a scripted visit to Bethlehem. The program ended outside with a live Nativity.

## **Church Library Report 2012**

Do you know that Faith United Church has a library meant to be used by all? We have materials available for all ages. The Library Committee welcomes suggestions from the congregation on titles and/or materials that you would like to see added to our inventory. Also, gifts in honor of birthdays, anniversaries, etc. are an excellent way to help the library grow.

We welcome more members to this committee. Contact me if you wish to work to make our library more useable. It would be helpful if everyone would try to keep the area in front on the shelves in Fellowship Hall open so those who wishes to look for a book to check out may do so.

We also have library books in the Narthex that are some of our newest additions and available for checkout. This year one of our members made a donation of a number of "Chicken Soup for the Soul" books. They are on the Narthex shelves and are to be taken and enjoyed on the "Honor System" Just be sure to return them when you are through, so others may enjoy them.

Please acquaint yourself with what is available and use our library regularly. Two audio sets of the Bible are available for checkout upstairs on the shelves across from Pastor Jim's office. Some of these are still missing or being used. If you know where these missing tapes are, we would appreciate you helping by letting us know. If you have them, just return them to the Narthex shelves and they will be put in the proper places. Thank you.

Respectfully submitted Penny Johnson

## Music Committee Report 2011

This past year all three of the church's pianos have been tuned. The organ was repaired, however the problem with one key still exists and will be examined by the organ repair company.

Ann Slaybaugh continued to provide excellent support for our worship services by serving as the organist, pianist, choir director and bell choir director.

The Choir does its best to provide special music for each service, but suffers from a lack of members. We know there are many in our membership who would be welcome additions to our Chancel Choir and/or Bell Choir. Please consider this as something you want to be a part of in 2012. The Chancel Choir rehearses on Wednesday evenings at 7:00. Bell Choir rehearsals are announced weekly – they generally perform during the special season of the church year. **This is an invitation for you to give your talents to the church. If you enjoy music, please consider being a part of this ministry.**

Penny Johnson, Chairman

## Women's Fellowship 2011

The purpose of Women's Fellowship is to increase, develop and coordinate the activities and participation of women of the church as a means of witnessing for Jesus Christ. We meet quarterly on the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of March, June, September and December. All women who are members of Faith Church are members of Women's Fellowship and are welcome to attend our meetings.

Our fund raising event for the year is a bazaar and bake sale which is held in conjunction with the Brotherhood Ham and Bean Dinner in November. The money is used for various projects around the church and donations to charitable causes.

This year we purchased a pop machine as a money-making project. We appreciate the work of Tom and Penny Johnson to obtain the machine, set it up and keep it filled.

We also produced a 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary cookbook for the church anniversary in October. It was well received and has many great recipes from current and former members. Many thanks to everyone who submitted a recipe and to the cookbook committee, Debbie Demuth, Dianne Pulley and Kara Tolbert for their work to get it published.

We had some very interesting programs again this year. In March, Mr. Marshall White presented a program on "Postcards of the Past". We enjoyed seeing scenes of St. Joseph from long ago. June provided us the opportunity to try our hand at pastel painting. Local artist Evelyn Jordan Isaacs shared with us "The History of Pastel Painting" and we were able to experiment using the supplies she provided. In September Annie Mires shared with us "A Mission Trip to Malawi". She showed pictures and explained her work there. For the December meeting we invited all to attend a program presented by Mr. John Rotterman on "Our Civil War". This was a very interesting look at the Civil War in our area.

We would like to thank everyone who helped as an officer or on a committee this past year. There are many opportunities to get involved and help with the work of the church.

We welcome all ladies of the church who would like to attend our meetings and get involved in Women's Fellowship.

Thank you, Debbie Demuth, President 2010-2011, Eilean McCauley, President 2011-2012



## **Sunday School 2011**

Attendance in Sunday School has been between 40 and 50 each Sunday. Thank you to our dedicated teachers:

Pre-school – Miss Karen McClellan, Mrs. Sharon Rumpf  
Kindergarten – Mrs. Joed Hill, Mrs. Mina McCall  
1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> grade – Mrs. Tammy Hoecker, Mrs. Julie Oswald  
3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> grade – Mrs. Devera Lambing  
5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> grade – Mrs. Michelle Nolan  
Junior High – Mrs. Jean Vulgamott  
Senior High – Mr. David Stroud  
College Age – Mrs. Jenni Butcher  
Adult classes – Mr. Brent Hill, Mrs. Jill Brant, Mrs. Penny Johnson

Thank you: To Mrs. Ruth Sharp who resigned due to family obligations. She taught 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> grade. To Mrs. Joan Taylor for her many years as teacher for the Senior Highs. To Mrs. Missy West for stepping in to help where needed. To Devera Lambing who helps in teaching other classes when needed. To the Christian Education Commission for all they do for our children.

Sunday School classes are from 9 to 10 am. This is a very important part of our Church.

God Bless each of you. Ms. Linda Trapp, Sunday School Supt.

## **Dorcas Circle - 2011**

Dorcas Circle, a group affiliated with the Women's Fellowship of Faith United Church, meets the second Thursday of each month from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. ALL WOMEN of the church are invited to this fellowship and new members are needed and wanted!

Offerings are collected for Dorcas project's support – Tools of Hope, Blankets, the Pastor's Discretionary Fund and the Least Coin Offering. Cards are sent to our shut-ins and members.

Every spring the group looks forward to filling eggs for the annual Easter Egg Hunt for the children of the church. The ladies check the sanctuary pew racks and replace pencils and envelopes as needed, and do light cleaning of the kitchen area periodically. Our members try to see what needs to be done around the church building, and do those things we are able to do.

A new project for our group has been the making of Prayer Shawls. The Lydia Circle is making Prayers Blankets. These have been blessed and are given to members of our congregation who are experiencing illness or other difficulties, be they short or long term situations, and shut-ins. This is a continuing ministry. We also worked on a project for the Annual Bazaar.

Our December meeting is our annual holiday luncheon and party. This year we will have our celebration and lunch at a local restaurant. We invited our husbands, our church secretary and the Pastor to be our guests.

Each meeting we bring our sack lunches and fellowship during our meal. Occasionally we share desserts, celebrate birthdays, have part of the meal catered, or eat at a local restaurant. A short devotional or Bible study presented by the members begin the business portion of our meeting. Occasionally the group will take a "field trip".

Respectfully submitted, Penny Johnson & Uva Milbourne, Co-Chairmen

## **The Furnishings Committee**

The Furnishings Committee has continued to work within the church. This year we have done the following things:

- Choose window coverings for the west side of the sanctuary working with Paul Bridenstine
- Moved things around in the narthex, grocery cart, tables etc, to make it more attractive and usable
- General cleaning and straightening up within the building, closets, Charlie Brown's Corner, etc.

Many thanks are given to the members of the Committee: Eilean McCauley, Carole McClellan, Joed Hill, Sharon Rumpf, and Scotty Sharp.

Respectfully submitted, Karen McClellan, Chair

## **The Lydia Circle**

The Lydia Circle has met regularly throughout the year. The ladies of this group spend time together in fellowship and service. We have continued to make prayer shawls and prayer blankets for those who are shut-in and/or in the hospital. We organized the Garage Sale in May, and made things for the Bazaar/Bake Sale in November. Our community service project is providing needed items for the Women's Abuse Shelter and for this we keep a box in the Narthex for anyone within the Church to make donations. The group cleans the kitchen several times a year. All women of the church are invited to join us for fellowship, friendship, and usually food.

Respectfully submitted, Karen McClellan, President

## **Financial / Scholarship Committee**

This committee oversees the Hilda Rumpf Scholarship fund and the Iffert trust monies. They also prepare the budget for the church each year.

The Rumpf fund permits interest free loans for students entering the ministry and also other students with priority given to those who will be teaching.

Faith Church was left a portion of the Herb and Peggy Iffert Estate. The guidelines of the trust dictate that a least half the funds be used for Youth Education and Scholarship purposes. The scholarships are grants and do not have to be repaid.

The Hilda Rumpf fund balance as of November 30, 2011 is \$24,525.03. There were three loans made in 2011 of \$1500.00 each. We have one loan that was paid off, but still have loans of \$7,670 outstanding. There are four loans, which the persons are making regular payments.

There were two Iffert grants of \$1,000 each were given this year.

We have reviewed the youth trips and other expenditures for the church. We have given our recommendations to the Board.

Blessings, Trudy Lewis and Regina VanLone co-chairs

## The Building Fund Report

We continue to add to our building fund with memorials and regular giving. Our giving and interest as of November 30th this year was \$9,960.90. Making our total \$254,628.55. Thank you to each of you who have contributed financially and otherwise help us achieve our goal. Below is a chart that show giving by month and the interest.

Trudy Lewis

### C. Ross McClellan Building Fund - Contribution Details

<i>Date</i>	<i>Promise Giving</i>	<i>Fund Raising Projects</i>	<i>Other Giving</i>	<i>Interest</i>	<i>Expenses</i>	<i>Balance</i>
<b>12/31/06</b>	<b>Beginning Fund Balance:</b>					37,078.34
2007 Totals	78209.10	1513.00	9606.18	1133.08	1250.10	126,289.60
2008 Totals	46666.00	2796.00	14250.00	258.97	727.39	189,533.18
2009 Totals	29803.75	5.00	2473.00	5844.28	0.00	227,659.21
2010 Totals	8985.00	0.00	2498.94	5524.50	0.00	244,667.65
1/31/11	780.00		50.00	504.14		246,001.79
2/28/11	835.00			48.60		246,885.39
3/31/11	710.00		60.00	39.51		247,694.90
4/30/11	600.00		80.00	480.08		248,854.98
5/31/11	475.00		895.00	334.48		250,559.46
6/30/11	500.00		20.00	35.89		251,115.35
7/31/11	505.00			314.14		251,934.49
8/31/11	170.00		150.00	37.11		252,291.60
9/30/11	185.00		235.00	310.45		253,022.05
10/31/11	430.00		50.00	374.34		253,876.39
11/30/11	345.00		370.00	37.16		254,628.55
12/31/11	75.00		10,650.00			265,353.55

### The Rev. C. Ross McClellan Memorial Building Fund

A "memorial building fund" has been in existence for a few years and named to honor the memory of our Pastor Emeritus, the late Rev. C. Ross McClellan. This fund has been combined with the older Building Fund and is now titled the Rev. C. Ross McClellan Memorial Building Fund. We, as a congregation, have recently committed to a new building addition program. This dream will need all the work and commitment every member can give. We ask the Lord to continue to bless us in our work for Him.

## The Living Memorial Fund

The Living Memorial Fund is a part of the history of Faith United Church for the purpose of recording memorials given to the church. The items and names are listed in the "Memorial Book" kept in the "Memorial Cabinet" in the Narthex. This encourages all gifts to be a part of the church as a whole honoring God instead of individuals.

Anytime a donor wishes to give toward a certain item it should be discussed with the Furnishing Committee as to the need and appropriateness of the gift or to get suggestions.

Money given to the Living Memorial Fund is used for appropriate items to enhance the beauty and worshipful atmosphere of the church building. Gifts can also be used to purchase equipment or special programming materials.

The fund is also an important financial "cushion" that may be borrowed from when necessary. These funds must be repaid as soon as possible.

The funds have been used to purchase new paraments, artwork, equipment, hymnals, choir robes, worship symbols, bell chimes, etc.

This year some of the Funds were used to help purchase the new playground equipment.

All members and friends are invited and urged to use the Living Memorial Fund when you wish to give a memorial or to honor someone at an anniversary or other special time.

**When donating a gift in memory or honor of someone, please note on the gift which fund you want credited.**

Penny Johnson

## The Stewardship Committee

This year's Stewardship theme is *"Until the Whole World Hears."* Many may recognize this as a song from the band Casting Crowns. The words from the song are really inspiring and dynamic. We must "ready ourselves" so we can be Christ's hands and feet. We must sing till the whole hears! As Christians we are called to reach out to others and shine the light of Jesus. We are called to reach out to the "unchurched" or to people who have not yet heard of Christ. I know the world sounds so massive or beyond our reach. The world is your co-worker, a friend from school, a neighbor, or the loved one you have been praying about for years. We can influence or affect the people by our connections. When we serve at the food kitchen, visit the people who are in the hospital, or when we are reaching out to the neighborhood children in Vacation Bible School, or when we ask a child to attend our Children's Ministry called KFC (Kid's For Christ); we are connecting to the world so they may know about Christ.

The Bible verse that applies to our stewardship theme is Acts 1: 8 (NLT)

***"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere--in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."***

As the body of Christ we represent Christ in the community. We must be the representation of Christ in our work, school, community, and home. We have to be the hands and feet of Christ. God calls us to use the gifts and talents that **He** blessed us with. We use our time and energy, money, and talents to give back to God.

1 Peter 4:10 (NLT) ***“God has given gifts to each of you from his great variety of spiritual gifts. Manage them well that God’s generosity can flow through you.”***

While using our gifts that God has blessed us with, we must be good stewards. As a church we have a budget so we can best plan how God can use Faith United as a vehicle to reach out to others and so we can continue to grow spiritually ourselves. God has called each of us to fill a role in his plan. When we allow God to use us we can be used to reach out to others. We can play a part in the theme “Until the Whole World Hears.”

Our goals budget for 2012 was \$143,667.00. Our pledges as of this date December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2011, total \$105,922.00 that is 73.7% of our budget. May we glorify God with these blessings!

In Christ, Jill Brant

### Historian Report 2011

2011 was a milestone year for Faith Church. Our theme for the year was taken from Psalm 66: 5 *“Come and See What Our God Has Done”*. As a congregation this year, we continued to praise and worship our Lord and spread His love in all of our works and activities.

We have many groups and organizations in our church that meet weekly or monthly including: Women's Fellowship, Dorcas Circle, Lydia Circle, OWLS (Older, Wiser, Loving Souls), Brotherhood, Prayer Group, B.I.G., K.F.C., Choir, Bible Study, Visitation, and Food Kitchen workers. Joining one or more of these groups is a wonderful opportunity for fun and fellowship. All are welcome.

Early in the year the Joy Group made and delivered valentines to our Shut-Ins. Also in February we enjoyed the first of three dinner theater presentations, *The Case of the Mysterious Benefactor*. Pastor Jim challenged us to not get caught up in how the world is treating us, but to concentrate on how we should be treating the world and making an impact on others' lives.



Joy Group - Abby, Josh, Rawlins



The Cast of *The Mysterious Benefactor*

We welcomed sixteen new members who joined our congregation this year. Faith Church also lost five members who passed away in 2011. We know that Donald Schultz, Elden Langemach, J.R. Woody, Violet Gilmore, and Anna Perry are now with our Lord in Heaven. Several of our members also reached milestones during the year. Special Anniversaries were celebrated by Jim & Ila Freeman (50), Carolyn & Jack Holt (50), Mina & Leonard McCall (50), Jackie & Roy Ritter (60), and Donald & Mary Root (68). Anna Perry celebrated a special 90th Birthday during the year.



Jim & Ila



Carolyn & Jack



Leonard & MIna



Jackie & Roy



Anna Perry

During Lent, for F.U.N. (Family United Night) there was another Dinner Theater presentation of *Beneath the Upper Room*. Other happenings in the spring included an All-Church-Garage Sale sponsored by the Lydia Circle at the end of April. Four Faith Church members graduated from High School/College in May: Ashley West from Central H.S., Kaylin Nolan and Cameron Vulgamott from Savannah H.S., and Brian Kidwell from Missouri Western State University.



Ashley West



Brian Kidwell



Cameron Vulgamott



Kaylin Nolan

The Youth participated in money-making activities for the Relay-For-Life Event. They held a car wash and sponsored a hypnotist show that was held at Central High School. At the event which took place in early June, they sold t-shirts, sponsored a Dunk Tank, and walked laps around the track from 6 pm to 6 am. Our Youth won awards for *Most Laps Completed* and *Most Spirited*. They raised \$1,700 for the American Cancer Society.

The summer was a busy time, especially for our youth and children. Our 2011 VBS program took us to *Nazareth* during the time when Jesus was a boy. 30 children and 50 adults participated in grinding corn at the farm, attending Synagogue School, visiting Mary's house, playing Nazareth games, making crafts, and singing and praising God.



Our H.O.P.E. and B.I.G. youth groups, along with their sponsors, filled three vans and traveled again to Orange Beach, Alabama to attend a week-long conference at Student Life Camp. The theme was "Devoted". They gave very moving reports along with a video presentation during the worship service when they returned. They used the leadership skills they learned to mentor the younger children who went to Miracle Hills Camp later in the summer.



The Youth also attended *Heartfest* at Worlds of Fun and a *Rock the Light* Concert in Lacyne, KS to hear Christian Band concerts. They also enjoyed weekend outings at the Catron's river house and the Neumann's farm.



During July, our children grades K – 6 attended an overnight camp at Miracle Hills Camp in Bethany, MO. Their theme was *And If Our God Is For Us*. The children, as well as the parents and older youth who attended as sponsors, enjoyed Bible Study, games, swimming, and singing. It was an amazing success.



Also in June, the Anniversary Committee began meeting weekly to plan for the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Event to be held in October. The Women's Fellowship 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Cookbook began to take form. The Prayer Shawl project began with women from several church organizations participating as well.

Due to heavy rains, spring thaws, and failed levees, our neighbors in Northwest Missouri were in trouble. Many were displaced from their homes, and lost their source of income due to flooded farmland. Faith church members donated food, clothes, and money to help meet some of their needs.

In August a delegation of church members attended the Willow Creek Global Leadership Conference in Chicago and also by telecast in St. Joseph. They gave inspiring reports during the worship service when they returned.

In late summer, the HOPE Group participated in the *Stuff The Bus* campaign sponsored by United Way. They spent the day at Wal-Mart collecting donated school supplies from customers. They were placed in a school bus to be given to students who needed them.



Activities during the Fall include a trip to Hunt's Orchard, preparing Christmas Shoe Boxes for the Samaritan's Purse program. The Brotherhood held their 19th Annual Ham and Bean Supper in coordination with the Women's Fellowship Bazaar. The men donated the leftover food to the Food Kitchen and the proceeds were given to the efforts to help the flood victims in Northwest Missouri. We held the Fall Congregational Meeting the last Sunday of October to approve a preliminary budget for 2012. We also had our Stewardship Pledge campaign in the Fall

The Christian Education Commission reviewed FUN night, JOY, and HOPE groups and out of those three programs K.F.C. (Kids For Christ) was created. This new program for Pre-K through 6th Grade children is held on Wednesday evenings at 6 pm allowing some parents to participate in Adult Bible Study if they choose. The children participate in games, music, and Bible study. To kick off the KFC program a bonfire and wiener roast was held near the volleyball courts. The KFC Program has been a big success.



On October 16, 2011 Faith Church celebrated the 50th Anniversary of its formation by the merger of three churches in 1961. A special showing of a video of the construction of our church building was presented in the sanctuary at 9 am. Many former members traveled to celebrate with us at Faith Church that day and over 200 people were in attendance at our 10:15 Worship Service. Afterwards, a pot-luck meal was served. We filled the Fellowship Hall and also a 30' x 30' tent on the parking lot which was rented for the day. In both the Fellowship Hall and the tent a continuous slide show was presented with memories of 50 years of Faith Church history. A Commemorative Memorial booklet of Faith Church and a brass Commemorative Christmas ornament was presented to everyone along with a souvenir cup. It was a wonderful day with great weather, lots of good food, amazing video and slide show, meaningful worship service, fellowship and sharing with old friends, and LOTS of smiles.



The Advent Season began with the Hanging of the Greens. Our third dinner theater presentation was *The Bethlehem Experience* which was performed in the Sanctuary. It was a participatory play for the children as they toured the Bethlehem Market place on the night that Jesus was born. The children were eager to dress up in period costumes. The evening ended with the live manger scene outside which included real live sheep. The final K.F.C. meeting for the year was a birthday party for Jesus that the children had. They also filled Christmas baskets for our Shut-Ins which were delivered by the B.I.G. Youth Group. Our Candlelight Christmas Eve Service was well-attended and a beautiful finish for the Christmas Season of 2011.



In the last **50 years**, Faith Church members have worked hard to make our church what it is today and to keep things running smoothly. Many tasks are done behind the scenes without fanfare nor recognition. A few of the individuals who worked "behind the scenes" in **2011** are:

Greeters, Worship Assistants, & Acolytes - Members of our congregation serve in these positions every Sunday. Penny Johnson, Eilean McCauley, and Teresa Kidwell ask for volunteers and maintain these lists.

Play Director - Devera Lambing has directed plays for Faith church for several years now. They are very popular entertainment events for our church. The dinner theater presentations for 2011 included, *The Mysterious Benefactor*, *Beneath the Upper Room*, and *Experiencing Bethlehem*

Lilies and Poinsettias - Tom & Penny Johnson and Leonard & Mina McCall make the purchases and deliver them to the church during Lent and Advent season.

Financial Secretary – Trudy Lewis and her assistant, Carolyn Sagaser, collect, count, record, and deposit the offering each week.

Visitation Committee - These individuals (Penny Johnson, Mina McCall, Jill Brant, Eilean McCauley, Linda Trapp, Carole McClellan, and Steve Pulley) call and visit our Shut-Ins regularly. They meet once a month to provide updates.

Communion - These ladies (Gina VanLone, Trudy Lewis, Sharon Rumpf, Carolyn Holt, Carole McClellan, Rose Mary Seuell, Debbie Demuth, Carolyn Sagaser, Teresa Kidwell, Ruth and Merry Sharp) prepare the wine and wafers when we have Communion on the first Sunday of each month and for special occasions.

Prayer Shawls - These ladies (Mina McCall, Devera Lambing, Loretta Prussman, Dorothea Wilson, Donna Wood, Dianne Pulley, and Dorothy Smith) have made Prayer Shawls that have been blessed and then given to Shut-Ins and others who are grieving a loss.

Pop Machine - Tom and Penny Johnson maintain and refill the pop machine located in the hallway outside the kitchen.

Labels & Bottles - Dorothy Smith delivers labels to Church Women United. They are turned in for cash to benefit various charities. She also delivers empty prescription bottles to the Welfare Board to be sterilized and reused.

Installation of new sound system - Paul Bridenstine, Denny Cobb, and Drew King installed a new sound system in the sanctuary. They had to stand on scaffolding to attach a speaker to the high arched struts of the ceiling..

Projection and Sound System - The Bridenstine/King family, the West family, and Michelle Nolan take turns running the sound system and projecting slides for the Worship Service every Sunday.

Cookbook - Debbie Demuth coordinated the creation of the 50th Anniversary Cookbook and Dianne Pulley and Kara Tolbert helped to type in all of the recipes.

Van Drivers - Corey Vulgamott, Brent Hill, Reggie West, and Tony Demuth have driven the church vans to pick up members who need a ride to church on Sundays. They also make sure that the vans are maintained.

Picnic Tables - Tony Demuth constructed picnic tables that are on the church lawn near the volleyball courts and new playground equipment.

Relay for Life - Sharon Catron coordinated the money-making events that the B.I.G Youth held in order to support the American Cancer Society.

Anniversary Committee - These individuals (Dale Arn, Eilean McCauley, Ruth Sharp, Teresa Kidwell, Joed Hill, Linda Trapp and Sharon Bannon) met weekly from June to October to plan for the 50th Anniversary Celebration.

Anniversary Donations - Roy Nolan donated a plaque for a new tree to be planted in the spring. Bart Brant donated a yard banner announcing the celebration.

Anniversary DVDs - Gary Langemach prepared three DVDs of the Construction of Faith Church (filmed by Dale Smith), 50 Years of Memories, and the photos from Anniversary Celebration. They were shown during the celebration and copies were made for those who wanted them.

Bible Study - Jill Brant, Trudy Lewis, and Penny Johnson have facilitated the Bible Study on Wednesday evenings.

Food Kitchen - Many families and youth have volunteered once a month at the Valley Food Kitchen on a rotating basis. Steve Pulley and Trudy Lewis have taken on leadership roles in this service project.

Office Work - When Sharon Bannon was hospitalized and recuperating from pneumonia, Penny Johnson, Eilean McCauley, and Mina McCall volunteered to keep the office going. Darline Langemach always helps Sharon fold, seal, and label the newsletters for mailing and helped assemble the Annual Report. (Thanks Mom!)

Memorial Book - Penny Johnson records donations to the Living Memorial Fund and sends acknowledgement notes.

Weddings - We have had an increase in non-members who want to hold their wedding in our beautiful sanctuary. Trudy Lewis is the contact person for making all of the arrangements.

Library - Dorothy Smith and Penny Johnson maintain our church library.

B.I.G. Youth Outings - Thank you to the Catron family for letting our youth group spend time at their river house North of St. Joseph. Also thanks to the Neumann family for letting the youth spend time at their farm.

Sermon Sacks - These are available in the narthex every Sunday for families with children. They contain activities for children to work on during the worship service. Julie Oswald and Janis Arn have kept these sacks replenished on a weekly basis.

Stewardship Committee - Jill Brant and Trudy Lewis have worked with Pastor Jim to develop a meaningful Stewardship Campaign for our congregation in the fall. Trudy and her helpers prepare a fine dinner for the congregation on Stewardship Sunday

Women's Fellowship, Circles, and Committees - The ladies keep all kinds of things going in our church. They are always in the kitchen before and after pot-luck dinners. They make crafts for their annual bazaar. They replenish items in the pews as needed, and clean the kitchen periodically. They organize storage spaces and sponsor an all-church Garage Sale. They sponsor interesting programs and invite all to attend.

Brotherhood - For almost 20 years, the men have sponsored their Annual Ham and Bean Supper in November. They also participate in other service projects around the church. This fall they undertook the big task of cleaning out the garage.

Prayer Group - A number of individuals meets every Tuesday at noon in the sanctuary to offer up prayer requests to God. They are a faithful group who ask for strength, healing, comfort, and peace for those who need it. The group is open to anyone who is available Tuesdays at noon.

Ushers - This is a faithful group who performs tasks on Sunday morning. They also take up the Sunday offering and serve Communion the first Sunday of each month.

Sunday School - Sunday School teachers and assistants (names are listed in the Sunday School Report) are dedicated and deserve our thanks.

Choir and Bell Choir - This group of individuals is dedicated and faithful in attending practices every Wednesday and their beautiful performances on Sunday mornings. They welcome anyone who enjoys singing. You don't have to be able to read music to join this fine group of people.

VBS - In recent years we have had Bible-based, inter-generational VBS programs. Many dedicated volunteers participate to make VBS a great experience. In 2011, VBS went to Nazareth when Jesus was a boy. We had a group of 30 children and 50 adults singing and praising the Lord for five evenings in June.

Leaders Night - All of our church officers and commission & board members have accepted leadership responsibilities to keep our church activities going smoothly. They meet once a month to plan and carry out the business of Faith Church. We thank them for this service.

Donations - We have very loving and giving members at Faith Church who always respond when asked to make donations. Over and above their pledges, members have donated extra money to purchase new playground equipment for our children. They have made donations to fill Easter Eggs for children and Christmas baskets for the elderly. Other donations by members have gone to the flood victims in Northwest Missouri, St. Joseph School District, various food pantries in our area, the women's abuse shelter, and baby Hamilton's family.

Our Friendly Church - One of the comments that we hear most often from newcomers is that we have a very friendly and welcoming congregation. Our greeters at the door and other individuals always reach out when we see someone new, welcoming them to worship with us in God's House.

Thank you to all of these individuals who are part of our wonderful Church Family. I know that I have probably forgotten to mention someone and I ask forgiveness for errors and omissions.

Respectfully submitted: Sharon Bannon, Historian