

# FAITH UNITED NEWS

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Faith United Church  
3025 Karnes Rd.  
St. Joseph, MO 64506

816-232-5679  
[faithchurchstjoe@gmail.com](mailto:faithchurchstjoe@gmail.com)  
[www.faithstjoe.com](http://www.faithstjoe.com)



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Stewardship Report

Nov. 20<sup>th</sup> was Stewardship Sunday. Our theme for 2017 is "Do Something". There are so many ways we can help our church and community by using our spiritual gifts. Yesterday our focus was on using our treasure to support our church in its mission to serve God's kingdom in the world.

At the current time, people have pledged to meet 77% of the budget needs for next year. We hope to see this figure increase as more pledge cards are turned in. There is still time to turn in your pledge since the budget will not be officially adopted until the annual meeting in January. Your card can be mailed to the church, "attention Debbie Demuth" or given to her at church.

Thank you for your support in helping us meet our budget goals for next year.

The stewardship Committee

### Current Fund update

Thank you for giving to the current fund these past two months. Your financial gifts helped us move closer to meeting the budget for this year. We gained around \$4,000, putting us at a \$6,860 deficit at the end of October. Although this is still a large amount, we are hopeful that we will be able to meet our goal since we still have November and December left to catch up on pledges and giving.

Thank you for your continued support,

The Board of stewards

### Quilt Raffle

Drawing to be held December 6<sup>th</sup> at the Women's Fellowship Meeting followed by a tour of the Catron's Home.



The quilt is 9' X 7', a long queen. The birds & flowers are from each state and in the order received into the union.

Tickets for the raffle are \$2.00 each or 3 for \$5.00. Proceeds will go to a local charity.

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### All Church Christmas Potluck Dinner and White Elephant Gift Exchange

Please join us Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6:00 pm.

Bring a dish for the dinner and an exchange gift

### Family Fun Night

This month we will meet on Wednesday December 14<sup>th</sup> from 5:30-7:00 pm in the Fellowship hall. Please join us for a great meal and lots of family fun!

### Brotherhood

Join us for dinner at the Ground Round on Dec. 20<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm. If you plan to attend let Ronnie McCauley or George Fischer now

### C3 (Crafty Christian Chicks)

Please join us for fun, food, fellowship and some crafts.

This month we will be meeting in the fellowship hall on Dec. 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm, hosted by Diane Pulley and Dec. 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7:00 pm, hosted by Joed Hill

### New Members Class

If you are interested in becoming a member of Faith United Church, please let Pastor Jim know. A new member's class will begin Jan. 8<sup>th</sup> from 9:15-9:45am in the pastor's office for 3 weeks.

### Faith Circle

Our Christmas party at the McCauley's on December 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm

### Holiday Services

Join us for Christmas Eve Service at 7:00 pm.

On Christmas Day and New Year's Day there will be No Sunday School, but we will have still our Sunday services as normal, at 10:15 am.

### Annual Report

Everyone who has an annual report due, **Please** have them turned into the church office by Sunday Dec. 18<sup>th</sup>. You can email them to the church at [faithchurchstjoe@gmail.com](mailto:faithchurchstjoe@gmail.com) or drop them off at the office.

## From The Pastor's Desk

### “SEALED ORDERS”

“Sealed Orders” is defined as orders that are not to be opened before a specified time. This term is used mainly during times of war so that the enemy won't know what the plan is for a particular group of soldiers. A unit is never given their next objective until they have completed their prior assignment.

During the course of our lives, we move from “sealed order” to “sealed order.” Sometimes we have more than one task before us, but we usually don't have two major events going on at the same time...if we do...it limits our ability to accomplish them both with our full focus and best effort.

In our Christian lives we often ask the question, “*Why won't God reveal to me the next “sealed order?”*” God answers us by reminding us that we already know a lot of things that He wants us to do, but we aren't doing them? God is not obligated to give us step 2 when we have never completed step 1. So let's look at some of the basics. Are you reading your Bible on a daily basis? Are you involved in any small groups or Bible studies? Are you tithing? Are you praying? Are you currently attending church on a regular basis? And if you are, have you made the commitment to join that church and become an active member? These are just a few of the areas of life that we all need to be participating in on a regular basis as followers of Jesus Christ! Ecclesiastes 5: 4 says, “*When you make a promise to God, don't delay in following through, for God takes no pleasure in fools.*” Are you going to make it to the end of another week, or another year, without doing what God has already told you to do?

Don't delay. Do what you already know to do?

Beginning January 8<sup>th</sup>, we will be starting a new member's class for anyone interested in joining Faith United. We will meet in my office during the 9 o'clock Sunday school hour for about three weeks.

If you haven't gotten plugged into a Bible Study yet, our Chronological Bible study will start up again after the New Year. Please come and join us as we explore all that God has for us in His Word!

So stop sitting on your hands and waiting for God to deliver you your next “sealed order!” Get involved! **Do Something!** And God will richly bless you and move you forward in His will for your life!

Be God's!

Pastor Jim

### Pictures of the new construction





**Unless you have already contacted us,  
This will be the last newsletter you receive in the mail:**

We are looking at ways to cut expenses where we can. One such way is with the newsletter. We will be offering several ways to receive your copy of the newsletter in the future. Please fill out the form below and return it to the church by dropping it off, mailing it back to us, or by emailing your choice to us at [faithchurchstjoe@gmail.com](mailto:faithchurchstjoe@gmail.com).

If you've already contacted us about your preference, thank you!

**My choice for receiving our Newsletter**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Continue to have it mailed to you \_\_\_\_\_

Receive in an email \_\_\_\_\_

Pick up your copy monthly in the Narthex \_\_\_\_\_

**Calendar of Events**

- Dec. 1<sup>st</sup> - Last day for scholarship applications
- Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup> - All Church Christmas Potluck and White elephant gift exchange 6:00pm
- Dec. 4<sup>th</sup> - The Cobb Family Advent Wreath Lighters
- Dec. 6<sup>th</sup> - Quilt Raffle and Catron home tour 6:30pm
- Dec. 8<sup>th</sup> - C3 Night. Host Diane 7:00 pm
- Dec. 9<sup>th</sup> - B.I.G. going to the Plaza 4:30 pm
- Dec. 11<sup>th</sup> - Berten Family & Bev Miller  
Advent Wreath Lighters
- Dec. 12<sup>th</sup> - Faith Circle Christmas Party  
@ McCauley's 7:00 pm
- Dec. 13<sup>th</sup> - Food Kitchen Team #2
- Dec. 14<sup>th</sup> - Family fun Night 5:30 pm
- Dec. 15<sup>th</sup> - Leader's Night 7:00 pm
- Dec. 16<sup>th</sup> - Parents night out 5-7 pm
- Dec. 18<sup>th</sup> - Vulgamott Family Advent Wreath Lighters  
Annual reports due today
- Dec. 20<sup>th</sup> - Brotherhood Dinner @ Ground Round 6pm
- Dec. 21<sup>st</sup> - Handbell practice 6:30 pm
- Dec. 22<sup>nd</sup> - C3 Night. Host Joed 7:00 pm
- Dec. 24<sup>th</sup> - Christmas Eve Service 7:00 pm  
Hill Family Advent Wreath Lighters
- Dec. 25<sup>th</sup> - NO Sunday School. Service @ 10:15 am
- Dec. 31<sup>st</sup> - New Year's Eve

**Communion Assistants**

- Dec. 4<sup>th</sup> - Carolyn Sagaser & Debbie Demuth
- Dec. 24<sup>th</sup> - Ruth Sharp & Teresa Kidwell

**Acolytes**

- Dec. 4<sup>th</sup> - Rawlins Brant & Jordan Hill
- Dec. 11<sup>th</sup> - Montana Frakes & Brodie DeSchepper
- Dec. 18<sup>th</sup> - Joshua Oswald & Rawlins Brant
- Dec. 24<sup>th</sup> - Jordan Hill & Brodie DeSchepper
- Dec. 25<sup>th</sup> - Montana Frakes & Josh Oswald

**Van Drivers**

- Dec. 4<sup>th</sup> - Corey
- Dec. 11<sup>th</sup> - Roy
- Dec. 18<sup>th</sup> - Brent
- Dec. 25<sup>th</sup> - Corey

Financial Report	Current Fund	Building Fund
Oct. 30 <sup>th</sup> -	\$945.00	\$155.00
Nov. 6 <sup>th</sup> -	\$ 7,362.00	\$710.00
Nov. 13 <sup>th</sup> -	\$1,846.00	\$460.00
Nov. 20 <sup>th</sup> -	\$ 5,999.10	\$2,675.00
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>\$16,152.10</b>	<b>\$4,000.00</b>

**\$12,726.00** needed each month to meet current expenses.

Attendance	Service	Sunday School
Oct. 30 <sup>th</sup> -	64	27
Nov. 6 <sup>th</sup> -	83	32
Nov. 13 <sup>th</sup> -	65	23
Nov. 20 <sup>th</sup> -	70	30

**In Our Thoughts & Prayers**

**Praises:** God's continued presence in the World & never absent; Roy & Carol Woods 58<sup>th</sup> Anniversary; Safe Travels for our college students for the holidays.

**Cancer Patients:** Rob Gregory; Rita Hughes (friend of Trudy Lewis)-diagnosed Melanoma; co-worker of Janis Arn's 3 yr. old granddaughter-brain cancer; 13 year old Riley Whittington-chronic cancer; Travis Owens (local firefighter) stage 4 liver; Paul Bridenstine (chronic leukemia); Glen Spitzer's friends- Janelle, Ethal, Jack Faulkner, Keith & Frieda Shuell; Mary Lou (friend of mina's); 2 of Donna Wood's friends sons in their 50's have been diagnosed; Angie Hernandez's friend, Doug- possible Leukemia & sleep apnea; Eric has colon cancer & has 2 young children at home; Jill Cobb's cousin- Eric Woolley- colon cancer.

**Other:** Continued prays for Glenn Spitzer – family unity & health & friends; Wilk Catron; Elizabeth Shoenlaub- on Hospice; Donna Brooks- health issues; Donita Sutherland-chronic health issues; Heidi DeSchepper- chronic health issues; June Book broken hip, at home recovering; Mark Torres recovering at home after surgery; Tom Vanlone- infection in calf, at home with home health coming Coleman Collins (Linda Trapp's great-nephew)- 12 yr. old- prayers for serious heart problems; Lenard McCall's cousin- Barb Swank; Ramona Allen (Linda Trapp's neighbor)- Lupus complications & needs hip replacement; Connie Newton (friend of Karen McClellan's)- heart problems; Debbie Hart- heart attack; Dianne Venable (Debbie Demuth's sister) dementia; Jim wood's friend- Larry Culver- serious illness; Carole McClellan's brother- Gary Battelle & cousins (husband & wife)- suffering from dementia; Pastor John Middleton- Hope church, Cosby, MO- health issues; Vera Johnson; David Hamilton; The family of Linda Trapp.

**Traveling Mercies:** Jim & Donna Wood going to VA & PA to visit children and anyone traveling for Thanksgiving.

**Sympathy:** The family of Carol Woods who's sister passed away in California on Friday.

**Finally:** prayers for our city, our country and the world; Faith United church- all our people; Safety during construction on new addition to our building; our church staff & their families; attitudes- may we live as Jesus told us- "love one another as I have loved you"; be open to compromise and **DO Something!**

Church friends,  
Thank you so much for all the cards, phone calls, and good thoughts during my recovery after knee surgery.  
Dorothy Smith

**ENCOURAGING VERSE FOR THE MONTH!**

*"I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."*