

FAITH UNITED NEWS

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Issue 1

Faith United Church
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ANNOUNCEMENTS

C3 (Crafty Christian Chicks)

We are meeting on Thursday, Jan. 25th at 7:00 pm.
Please join us for fun, food, fellowship and some crafts.

Brotherhood

We are meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 16th at 7:00 pm.

Faith Circle

We will be meeting at 10:00 am at the church to in the kitchen & sanctuary.

OWLS

We will be meeting at 11:30 at LaPeep's

Unhanging of the Greens

We will be taking down all the Christmas decorations immediately following the service on Jan. 7th followed by a meal in the Fellowship Hall.

Annual Congregational Meeting

We will be holding our annual congregational meeting and potluck meal on Sunday Jan. 28th immediately following the service. All commission & committee chairs please have your annual reports into the office by Sunday, Jan. 7th, so we have time to put the report together.

Yard Signs

We have Faith United yard signs still available in the Lobby. Please feel free to stop by and pick one up for your yard.

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Recharge: A Midweek Music Service

Please join us for Recharge on Wednesday Jan. 24th at 6:30 pm.

"In Context" Chronological Bible Study

We will resume our Bible study on Wednesday, Jan. 10th at 6:30 pm.

Thank You's

I would like to thank everyone for the cards and prayers I received while I have been recovering from surgery on my arm and hand. I appreciate all the wonderful things you have done for us too! Thanks especially to Leonard and Dan for all the cooking and care they have given me! God Bless you all!

Mina McCall

Thank you for the prayers and words of comfort at the loss of Scotty's Dad. The support of loving friends was greatly appreciated.

In Faith,

Scotty, Ruth, Merry, Katherine & Matthew Sharp.

From The Pastor's Desk

“HAVE FAITH IN GOD!”

I was looking back at last year's newsletter for this time of the year and I was remarking at how God had shown himself to us by helping us drop from \$11,000 in the red to ending up in the black. This year we didn't fall that deep in the red but we are making our way back to the black again and it looks like that it will happen.

The song I mentioned in the article is the same one that is our theme for 2018, “No Longer Slaves.” I had talked about fear and all the things that we had faced during 2016...well guess what, those same things occurred again this year. We had horrible shootings take place in Las Vegas and at a church in Texas. We saw the aftermath of what hurricanes can do in Texas and Florida, and we are seeing the devastation left by the wildfires in California, and earlier in Oregon. We have also had to face the threats of a madman in North Korea who is lobbing missiles into the Sea of Japan like they are fireworks. But all of those things are things we can't control. We also can't let them guide us into living in fear. We have a God who came in the form of a baby and he was labeled the “Prince of Peace.” We saw his power over creation when he walked on the Sea of Galilee during a horrific storm and calmed another one by just the sound of his voice. We saw his calmness during the times the Pharisees were trying to trick him or his own town wanted to stone him.

One weapon we need to remember we keep in our arsenal is faith. Faith opens the door to miracles. If you study the Bible and history, you find that every time God moves on Earth and does a miracle, it's because somebody believed. In Mark 11: 22-24 Jesus said, ***“Have faith in God! If you have faith in God and don't doubt, you can tell this mountain to get up and jump into the sea, and it will. Everything you ask for in prayer will be yours, if you only have faith”*** (CEV). Do you hear that, **Faith can move mountains!**

Does God still perform miracles today? Of course he does. Every time you stretch your faith, God does miracles — *every single time*. My question for you is this: What's the mountain in your life that needs

to be moved? What's the thing you've already decided will never change?

Do not doubt or underestimate what he wants to do in your life. Why? The Bible tells us in Matthew 13: 58 that when the town of Nazareth failed to believe who Jesus claimed to be, ***“And so he did only a few miracles there because of their unbelief.”*** If you are telling yourself, “I don't see many miracles in my life,” then how would you answer this question: Are you seeing with eyes of fear, or are you seeing with eyes of faith? Faith opens the door to miracles.

Remember that our theme for 2018 is, “Be of Good Courage.” Don't let the things that you see, and will continue to see, in our world dictate how you live! Choose instead to increase your faith in God! We are seeing God's hand move in our church day in and day out. We have had 16 people join our church this year! We have had three baby dedications! We had incredible attendance at our Easter Egg hunt, VBS, Miracle Hills Camp and Harvest Party! We had an awesome Christmas Eve service! I have been told that our pledges for the 2018 budget are now at 94%...that's unheard of...but not for those who trust in God! Remember, **HAVE FAITH IN GOD!**

My family and I would like to wish all of you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!
Be God's!

Pastor Jim, Julie, Jill, Jenna and Josh

P.S. I want to thank the church for all of the individual gifts that my family and I have received over the holiday, as well as for the monetary gift on Christmas Eve! We are truly humbled and blessed to be here at Faith! Thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve you this past year!

Calendar of Events

- Jan. 1st - New Year's Day Offices Closed
- Jan. 2nd - Visitation Committee 11:15 am
- Jan. 7th - Communion Sunday 10:15 am
- Jan. 9th - Food Kitchen Team #3 5:00 pm
- Jan. 10th - "In Context" Bible Study Starts up 6:30 p
- Jan. 11th - Faith Circle @ Church 10:00 am
- Jan 16th - Brotherhood 7:00 pm
- Jan. 18th - Leader's Night 7:00 pm
- Jan. 19th - OWLS @ LaPeep's 11:30 am
- Jan. 24th - **Recharge 6:30 pm**
- Jan. 25th - C3 Meeting 7:00 pm
- Jan. 28th - Annual congregational Meeting 11:30 am

Communion Assistants

- Jan. 7th - Debbie Demuth & Carolyn Sagaser

Acolytes

- Jan. 7th - Brodie DeSchepper & Josh Oswald
- Jan. 14th - Montana Frakes & Jordan Hill
- Jan. 21st - Josh Oswald & Rawlins Brant
- Jan. 28th - Rawlins Brant & Brodie DeSchepper

Van Drivers

- Jan. 7th - Corey
- Jan. 14th - Brent
- Jan. 21st - Corey
- Jan. 28th - Roy

Report	Current Fund	Building Fund
Nov. 26 th -	\$1,490.00	\$185.00
Dec. 3 rd -	\$7,114.01	\$640.00
Dec. 10 th -	\$3,679.00	\$30.00
Dec. 17 th -	\$3,439.63	\$205.00
Dec. 24 th -	\$1,619.75	\$45.00
Totals:	\$17,342.39	\$1,105.00

\$11,860.00 needed each month to meet current expenses.

Attendance	Service	Sunday School
Nov. 26 th -	72	20
Dec. 3 rd -	108	29
Dec. 10 th -	71	28
Dec. 17 th -	84	22
Dec. 24 th -	Day 83 Evening 98	No S.S.

ENCOURAGING VERSE FOR THE MONTH!

"But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint."

Isaiah 40:31

In Our Thoughts & Prayers

Praises: God's continued presence in the World & never absent; friendships formed through our relation to God and his Son, Jesus Christ; Jill Oswald's graduation from MWSU; Donna VanBiela's sister, Holly- finally getting relief from long suffering pain.

Cancer Patients: 13 year old Riley Whittington-chronic cancer; Paul Bridenstine (chronic leukemia); Andrew (5yr. old son of Central High teacher Mr. Hart)- inoperable brain tumor; Roy Nolan's cousin, Christie Amos (40) -breast cancer; Dale Arn's brother, David- cancer has returned; Garren's Aunt Lupe- Pancreatic cancer; Sonya & Tony Tannheimer - (she- breast cancer) (he- recent diagnosis-stage 4 Melanoma)- (Johnson's.)

Other: Continued prays for Glenn Spitzer - family unity & health & friends & his son, Brett, is being deployed for a year in Kuwait; Donita Sunderland- chronic health issues; Heidi DeSchepper- chronic health issues; Donna brooks-chronic health issues; Tom Vanlone- home with home health; Coleman Collins (Linda Trapp's great-nephew)- 12 yr. old- prayers for serious heart problems; All suffering from severe depression; The Catron Family; Elizabeth Schoenlaub; individual & family- blood transfusions; Brothers of Joanie Shaw - Ronny with diabetes & Jim with congestive heart failure; Andrew Poweres (a K-State grad) - spending 3 years teaching in India (2020); Gordon Wilds (Leonard McCall's brother-in-law) - to have biopsy on Dec. 4th for elevated PSA; Debi Haskey's mother, Hazel Johnson- pancreatitis; Baby Emerson- surgery at children's Mercy; Baby Chloe- friends of Darren & Amanda Wood; Teresa Kidwell's sister- gall bladder surgery; Craig McCauley- upcoming surgery due to a mountain bike accident; All flue suffers.

Traveling Mercies: Ashley West in England; all those traveling for the holidays (students, family members, etc.); Katie Woods; The Brent Hill family.

Sympathy: The family and friends of Jackie Ritter in her passing.

Finally: all our people & programs; Recharge Worship Service & Portions Worship series; attitudes- may we live as Jesus told us- "love one another as I have loved you"; our music director, Steve Haskey; our youth Director, Alex King; Our Pastor Jim Oswald and their families; be **of good Courage!** - No opportunity is too small!