



Open & Affirming

# FAITHFUL FOLLOWER

## FAITH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Rev. Fred Rhines, Interim Pastor

February 2012

- Inside
- Volunteer Schedule.....2
- From the Pastor's Desk.3
- Board of Gov. Minutes.....4
- Financial Snapshot.....5
- News & Notes..6
- Youth Doings.....7
- Preschool Carnival.....7
- Kid's Page.....8
- February Calendar.....9
- February Birthdays.....9

### IT'S A GO!!!

The 2012 Rummage Sale will be held on March 23rd and 24th. Set up will begin on March 18th with the transformation (?) of the sanctuary, (build clothes rack, move all chairs to the side and set up tables). We need all **able bodied men** for this huge task.

You know we can not get along without your help. The next four days will be spent sorting and pricing. All **able bodied women** are needed. Begin collecting your treasures now. Watch for further details.

*Pat Osborne & Mary Lou Williams, Chairmen*



## Mark Your Calendar



### Pancake Supper

You are invited to the annual pancake feast brought to you by Jack Williams and crew. Mark your calendar for Tuesday, February 21, 2012 at 5:30 PM. The donation for as many pancakes as you can eat is \$4.00 per person, and \$3.00 for children under 12.

### Called Congregational Meeting

February 19, 2012  
Immediately Following  
Worship.

*Quorum required*

The purpose of this meeting is to discuss and vote on the sale of church property.

### Ash Wednesday Service

Join us for the beginning of Lent with the Ash Wednesday Service to be held on Wednesday, February 22 at 7:00 PM.



“Our mission is to **affirm** all people as we grow together in the **light** and **love** of Christ.”

# Worship With Us

**February 5, 2012**

Message: The Rev. Fred Rhines  
Flowers: Available:  
Greeter: Don & Dee Brown  
Guest Book: Betsy Biro  
Hospitality: Margy Stewart  
Scripture: Jean Cox  
Usher: Marge Hooie & Jack Williams

**February 12, 2012**

Message: The Rev. Fred Rhines  
Flowers: Ina Bingham in celebration of her son's 9th year cancer free  
Greeter: Don & Dee Brown  
Guest Book: Betsy Biro  
Hospitality: Jack & Mary Lou Williams  
Scripture: Janis Groth  
Ushers: Marge Hooie & Jack Williams

**February 19, 2012**

Message: The Rev. Fred Rhines  
Flowers: Available  
Greeter: Pat Osborne & Berneta Harper  
Guest Book: Betsy Biro  
Hospitality: Harry, Evelyn & Linda Anderson  
Scripture: Kaye McGregor  
Ushers: Fred & Hatti Damianos

**February 26, 2012**

Message: The Rev. Fred Rhines  
Flowers: Available  
Greeters: Pat Osborne & Berneta Harper  
Guest Book: Betsy Biro  
Hospitality: Available  
Scripture: Joan Sheehan  
Ushers: Fred & Hatti Damianos

## Sunday Volunteer Servers

If you are serving for the first time and have questions regarding your duties, please look on the bulletin board. Detailed duties for each assignment are printed for you, please take a copy if you wish. Thank you for volunteering.



YOUR  
STAFF

**Pastor**

The Rev. Fred Rhines

**Secretary**

Judy Wetter

**Office Hours 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM**

746-8890

Fax 746-0670

**Faith UCC Email:**

faithchurchucc@verizon.net

**Faith Website:**

faithchurchucc.com

## The Follower

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**Proof Reader:** Betty McGowan

## 2011 Board of Governors

**President**, Mark Sulloway 350-3355

**1st. Vice President**, M.R. Lembright 776-9004

**Vice President**, Fred Damianos 747-3182

**Vice President**, Janis Groth 779-6988

**Secretary**, Kaye McGregor 776-2796

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**Christian Education**, Debra Barnard 545-8689

**Department of Congregational Involvement**

M.R. Lembright 776-9004

**Department of Ministry,**

Bruce Covey 741-8566

Kaye McGregor 776-2796

**Stewardship**, Mark Sulloway 350-3355

**SAM**, Barbara Brownell 747-9643

## Faith UCC Food Bank

**Next collection day  
Sunday, February 5**

## From the Pastor's Desk.....

We are into the New Year 2012 with a Bang! Even with uncertainties in church leadership and finances, we are plowing ahead. Our Annual Meeting on Sunday, January 29 will send us into February, hopefully, with renewed energy and a sense of direction. Please prayerfully assess your own leadership skills and be here to participate in any way you can on January 29. Your Voice, Vote and Vision are Vital!!

As we move into our new church year with new church leadership, one of the first things we need to do is to form a Search Committee and began the process of looking for a new settled pastor (most likely on a part-time basis). After an interim period of about 10 months, it is time to get started. A committee of five people should do. We Need Volunteers! Please prayerfully consider being a part of this all-important process. The good news is that we can get a running head start by quickly revising the last church profile prepared in 2009-2010.

Early in February brings us to Souper Bowl Sunday (February 5) where the youth plan to work in a local soup kitchen and the Valentine's Day fundraiser on February 12. Lent begins this month with our Ash Wednesday worship at 7:00 PM on February 22. Be here the night before for our Fat Tuesday pancake-eating supper (Feb. 21). Come and see if Bridget Sessions can break her pancake-eating record!!

Our first Sunday in Lent (February 26) will begin a theme of Lost and Found, the parables of the Lost Sheep and the Lost Coin (Luke 15:1-10). We will continue with this theme later in March, as we will be on vacation for two weeks beginning, Tuesday, February 28. More details on this later

With Christ's Blessings

*Pastor Fred*



### **FAITH WOMEN'S VALENTINE BRUNCH**

**February 11, 2012 10AM at Faith UCC.  
Hosted by: Ina Bingham and Eleonore Sullo-  
way. Watch for announcements and sign-up  
sheets that will be in the narthex.**

We are sorry to report the passing of long time Faith UCC member Nancy Potts on January 7, 2012. Nancy's daughter's address is:

Amy Testa  
84 Wintermute Rd.  
Newton, NJ 07860

### **Dinner and Dessert**



The February Dinner & Dessert will be at 6:00 Friday, February 17, at the Anna Maria Oyster Bar in Ellenton. Dessert will be at the home of Mary Lou and Jack Williams, 185 Nightingale Circle, Ellenton. Please call Janis Groth at 779-6988 for more information.

### **Please Contact the Church**

If you, a member of your family, or someone you know is ill or hospitalized please let the office know, as soon as possible. A member of Faith Church would like to make a visit to bring God's word of comfort. The church office telephone number is 746-8890 or email at [faithchurchucc@verizon.net](mailto:faithchurchucc@verizon.net).

**FAITH UCC**  
**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS**  
**JANUARY 9, 2012**

Present: Mark Sulloway, Pastor Fred Rhines, Marge Hooie, Dick Sluss, Barbara Brownell, M.R. Lembright, Pete Groth, Janis Groth, Bruce Covey, Heather Reardon, Ina Bingham, Fred Damianos, Robin Wentz, John Wentz, Dean Hunter and Kaye McGregor.

The meeting was opened at 7:00 PM with a prayer by Pastor Fred.

The Minutes for the December meeting were approved.

John and Robin Wentz with Dean Hunter, representing Keller William Real Estate, answered questions and discussed sales strategies for exploring the possibility of listing part of the church property. The team will get back with Board of Governor's representatives prior to the January 29 Annual Meeting.

**Financial Secretary Report:** Marge reported that collections for the Operating Fund for December 2011 had gone down by \$1,044. So far in January the Operating Fund is down \$663. The Building Fund was down \$4,297 for December, however it is up by \$221 so far in January.

**Upcoming events include:** Amplify Faith Service on January 14, Saving Faith interviews on January 18, Dinner and Dessert on January 20, Rev. Dr. Jean Simpson speaks at the worship service and in the afternoon the Bowlathon on January 22, Amplify Faith Service on January 28, and the Youth Led Service and Annual Meeting on January 29.

**Pastor's Report:** In the past month Pastor Fred has made 24 visits, 9 were in person. He feels the Search Committee should be started. He suggests 5 on the committee, as our profile can be easily updated as it is not that old. Pastor Fred's contract is up on April 1, 2012 and the contract should be extended for a specific amount of time. The ROC committee should continue for the purpose of updating the By Laws for the new Church Council concept. Pastor Fred will be on vacation from February 28 thru March 13. Pastor Ken Briggs will fill in and handle any pastoral care emergencies. Finally he asked that everyone try to get information to Judy in a timely manner.

**Secretary's Report:** Judy was not able to attend the meeting but she requested that everyone make sure their event is on her calendar. Judy wanted all to be aware that due to health department regulations, we are only supposed to sell food to members, not the general public. We will check to see if we ask for a "donation" will that be OK.

**Committee Reports**

**Ministry:** We had great participation for the Christmas events: 68 on Christmas Eve, 28 on Christmas day and 48 on New Year's Day.

**Christian Education:** Amplify Faith is the second and fourth Saturday of each month. The first service had 35 attendees. The youth will be taking orders for Valentine candy and balloons. Upcoming events include: The Crop Walk on February 20, a car wash on March 13 and a Spaghetti Dinner on March 31.

**Buildings and Grounds:** The carpet in the sanctuary will be cleaned on January 21.

**SAM:** Barb Brownell said \$249 was collected for the Christmas Fund.

**Congregational Involvement:** M.R. said there are three openings on the Church Council.

**Stewardship:** Income and expense reports are prepared for the Annual Meeting.

**Endowment:** Fred will have another article in the Follower.

The meeting closed at 9:45 PM with a prayer by Pastor Fred.

The next regular meeting will be on Monday, February 13 at 7:00 PM

Respectfully submitted,  
Kaye McGregor, Secretary

**Invite a Friend to Church**

# News & Notes.....

**Missionary Moment** by Midge Barnes  
(I thought you might enjoy occasional emails from the Barnes, while they are on their mission trip. Judy)

**January 13, 2012**

What an exhausting trip! We left Sarasota at 12:45 noon on Tues, Jan 10 to Atlanta. Atlanta to Jo'burg S. Africa was over 15 hours. Our seats were pinned in and very little leg room. Jack started diarrhea on Jo'burg layover. In Jo'burg were treated royally. I was offered a wheel chair and said yes. Quick trip through airport and to head of lines. Had a truck lift to airplane both on and off. We arrive in Harare Z. at 9:30pm Wed. for overnite. We were driven to Mt. Selinda on Thurs. It was a terrible trip, fast driver, bad roads. Stopped to deliver child sponsorship uniforms and school supplies. Global Ministries has child sponsorship program if you are interested.

Jack is very sick with diarrhea. He was up a little while but back in bed and asleep this afternoon. It is now Friday. We have been in Mt. Selinda one night. We are staying with UCC missionaries Don and Maryjane Westra as our 2 room house is not ready. They put in a toilet today but there is no water to house as yet. We will probably move in Monday. The Westras are very gracious and welcoming.

With a prayer...

Midge



**January 16, 2012**

Matazuma's revenge has come and gone. Jack is well and energized. Praise God.

We were thrilled with church yesterday. There were over 500 Mt. Selinda residential high school children there, also a lot of little children, many women and some men. All 10 preaching points came together to welcome us. We could not understand a word but the spirit was there. We loved the singing and dancing with drums, etc. we even recognized some tunes. They moved the church pews outside and the high schoolers carried their own desks. Everyone walked including us.

On the grounds are a high school, hospital, children's home, maternity house and ward, a lawn where waiting relatives sleep, a tiny tuck store with a few essentials, and a nursing school. There is also a farm which Don Westra supervises. There a number of homes and huts as well. Most work

here. The weather is warm. We had a much needed rain last night.

Once we get to work I will struggle to send out these messages but will try to keep up.

We rely on your prayers.

With a prayer...

Jack and Midge

## With Heartfelt Thanks

### A SPECIAL THANK YOU!!!

M. R. Lembright for your gift of the 'Still Speaking' stress balls.

As always, you are such thoughtful person.....



Many thanks to Richard Nutting for all of the "bush trimming". The property looks much improved.

### Needed Now More Than Ever! Duffle Bags or Totes New or Slightly Used

As you know – so many youth & young adults arrive at MCS with all of their worldly goods in a garbage bag. Some even arrive with JUST the clothes on their backs.



FAITH UCC Young Adult & Youth Groups have made it our mission to provide for as many as possible, at least a - duffle bag!!

These go to MCS for their 'STREET OUT-REACH' program for the young people who live on the streets due to no fault of their own. Please HELP us with this mission....

NO AMOUNT is too SMALL!! We are accepting new or slightly used bags. Questions contact Ina Bingham at 725-1092 or [ina8667@aol.com](mailto:ina8667@aol.com).

**MAY GOD CONTINUE TO BLESS!!**

## Youth Doings.....

Sandwiches for Congregational meeting 1/29/12.  
Y/YA will be taking orders on 1/22/12.

Y/YA led service Jan 29th. The theme is "You are...Beautiful".

The Youth will be delivering valentines, balloons, and candy on Feb 12, 2012. Place your order in the narthex starting Jan 29th.

Souperbowll This year the youth and young adults have opted to perform a community service at the local soup kitchen in lieu of collecting money.

Crop Hunger Walk Feb 26. Ending Hunger one Step at a Time.

Amplify Faith 1/25/12. Come and enjoy great music discussion, and fellowship.

National Youth event is July 10-13 at Purdue University in Indiana. The youth will be doing some fundraising for this event and any help is appreciated. This is an awesome experience for young people.

*Heather Reardon, Youth Leader*

## YOUNG ADULT GROUP

**YOUNG ADULT CLASS: 9 AM -10 PM**  
**Young Adult Sunday Class**  
**Leader/Teacher Ina M. Bingham**  
**Ages 19-30**

Anyone between the above ages is more than welcome to attend.

Please contact Ina with any questions at:

[ina8667@aol.com](mailto:ina8667@aol.com) 941-725-1092

The classes are structured, have lesson plans and yet relaxed.

Some may be offsite as we explore and grow.

**Young Adult Class is still small, but very dedicated and determined.**  
**Watch for news/announcements of upcoming events and happenings..**

## Church Women United



Church Women United will meet on Friday, February 3, 2012, at the Westminister Presbyterian Church, 3011 19th Avenue West, Bradenton. The program will be our annual HUMAN RIGHTS DAY observance. Coffee and fellowship at 9:30 AM Program at 10.

## A note from Faith Preschool.....

### IT'S CARNIVAL TIME AGAIN!

Faith Preschool has begun preparing for its 13th Annual Kid's Carnival! Mark your calendars NOW to join us on Saturday, March 3<sup>rd</sup> from 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM. This is a fun-filled day full of good food, games, a yard sale and a Silent Auction. This is our fundraiser to raise money for new supplies and to provide funding for continued training for our teachers. So come on out and join us and help support Faith UCC's preschool.

We need items to be placed in our Silent Auction. Can you or someone you know donate goods or services from their business to be placed in our Silent Auction? Do you know someone in the food industry that may be able to donate food or drink items for this event? Any help, no matter how big or small, is greatly appreciated. Thank you.

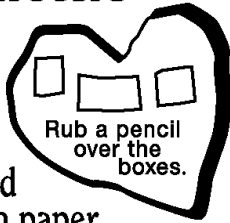
*Wendi Steinbach, Director*

# God is still speaking,

# Make a Valentine for Someone Special

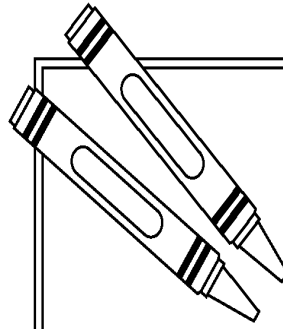
You will need:

- ♥ a sheet of red construction paper
- ♥ a sheet of white copier paper
- ♥ glue or a glue stick
- ♥ scissors
- ♥ pencil
- ♥ red marker
- ♥ fine-point black marker



How to make it:

1. Cut a large heart out of the red paper.
2. Using the leftover scraps, cut out letters (about 1 inch high) to spell "I LOVE YOU" or "GOD LOVES YOU." Glue the letters in the center of the heart.
3. Cut a heart out of the white paper. Make it about 1 inch smaller than the red one.
4. Glue the white heart on top of the red one so that a 1 inch red border shows and the letters are covered.
5. Feel where the red letters are under the white paper and draw a box around each word using the red marker. Below the last box write: Rub a pencil over the boxes to find a special message!
6. Sign your name.



## Just for KIDS

### A Message of Love



Luke 10:27 has a wonderful message to live by.

Find the message by writing the opposite words next to the ones given. Then transfer the letters to the numbered lines they match below.

cool	<u>1</u> <u>2</u> <u>3</u> <u>4</u>	soft	<u>20</u> <u>21</u> <u>22</u> <u>23</u>
under	<u>5</u> <u>6</u> <u>7</u> <u>8</u>	old	<u>24</u> <u>25</u> <u>26</u> <u>27</u> <u>28</u>
out	<u>9</u> <u>10</u>	after	<u>29</u> <u>30</u> <u>31</u> <u>32</u> <u>33</u> <u>34</u>
large	<u>11</u> <u>12</u> <u>13</u> <u>14</u> <u>15</u>	false	<u>35</u> <u>36</u> <u>37</u> <u>38</u>
quiet	<u>16</u> <u>17</u> <u>18</u> <u>19</u>		

"  
14 5 6 7   35 20 7   15 17 36 23   24 5 18 8   28 17 23  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
1 9 35 20   2 16 14   24 5 18 3   20 7 13 8 35   2 10 23  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
1 9 35 20   13 14 16   24 17 37 36   11 5 18 14   2 27 19  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
1 9 35 20   21 15 16   24 17 18 36   11 35 3 30 10 28 35 20  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
2 10 23   1 9 35 20   21 14 15   24 5 37 8   4 9 10 23   ;"  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
21 27 23   ,   16 32 6 7   24 5 18 22   10 34 9 28 20 29 17 33  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
13 11   24 25 26 22 11 7 14 31   ."



Answer:  
 warm; over; in; small; loud; hard; young; before; true; "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind;" and, "love your neighbor as yourself."

# February 2012

**Please Note....**  
 The office will be closed February 17, 20, 21, 22. Judy will be on vacation.  
 Pastor Fred will be out of the office March 1-March 15



## February Birthdays

- 2/1 Richard Nutting
- 2/2 John Uher
- 2/3 Jack Williams
- 2/8 Gayle Covey
- 2/9 Ina Bingham
- 2/20 Janis Groth

“Jesus Didn’t Reject People. Neither Do We.”

## PRAYER TEAM

If you or someone you know is in need of prayer call one of the following:

- Betsy Biro** 798-8472
- Janis Groth** 779-6988
- Marge Hooie** 747-2734
- Helen Nutting** 792-3124
- Joan Sheehan** 748-2498
- Evelyn Anderson** 792-6991
- Mary Lou Williams** 723-3332



Members of the Prayer Group are anxious to keep the prayer list current. Please advise us when you would like a name removed.

- 1 7:00 PM Choir
- 2 6:00 PM Narcotics Anonymous
- 3 9:30 AM Church Women United
- SUNDAY** 5 **9:00 AM Young Adult S.S.**  
**10:30 AM Service of Worship**
- 6 7:00 PM Building & Grounds
- 8 7:00 PM Choir
- 9 6:30 PM Narcotics Anonymous
- 10 6:30 PM Narcotics Anonymous
- 11 10:00 AM Faith Women  
6:30 PM Amplify Faith
- SUNDAY** 12 **9:00 AM Young Adult S.S.**  
**10:30 AM Service of Worship**  
**Youth Valentine Fundraiser**
- 13 7:00 PM Board of Governors
- 15 11:30 AM Prayer Team  
7:00 PM Choir
- 16 6:30 PM Narcotics Anonymous
- 17 6:30 PM Narcotics Anonymous
- SUNDAY** 19 **9:00 AM Young Adult S.S.**  
**10:30 AM Service of Worship**  
**Congregational Meeting**
- 20 7:00 PM Braden River
- 21 5:30 Fat Tuesday Pancake Supper
- 22 7:00 PM Ash Wednesday Service
- 23 FOLLOWER deadline (change)  
6:30 PM Narcotics Anonymous
- 24 6:30 PM Narcotics Anonymous
- 25 6:30 PM Amplify Faith
- Sunday** 26 **9:00 AM Young Adult S.S.**  
**10:30 AM Service of Worship**  
**Crop Walk**
- 27 7:00 PM Preschool Staff Mtg.  
7:00 PM Inlets HOA
- 29 FOLLOWER emailed  
7:00 Choir