



Open & Affirming

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FAITHFUL FOLLOWER

FAITH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Rev. Fred Rhines, Interim Pastor

October 2011

Update on Congregational Survey Report

The Board of Governors has now had several meetings to address the thoughts you—the members and friends of Faith—shared with us when you completed the Congregational Survey. These BOG meetings and conversations will continue until we feel we have dealt thoroughly with your concerns. We are also working on creating positive and constructive avenues to improve not only the effectiveness of the BOG but of other areas of church life. There will be more concrete information to share with you in the November Follower.

THANK YOU to each of you who had positive things to say about the BOG leadership and other aspects of your experience at Faith Church. That is always nice to hear and we are very grateful that you are appreciative of the hours and hours of effort your fellow members and friends at Faith contribute to the life of Faith Church. THANK YOU also to those of you who suggested improvements to the BOG. We take your comments seriously in our efforts to address needed changes.

For the Board of Governors: M.R. Lembright and Barbara Brownell

Annual Young Adult & Youth Thanksgiving Pie Sale Just in time for THANKSGIVING!!

Pie tasting - Sunday, November 6th, 2011

Start placing orders on October 30th

Last date to place orders is Nov. 16th

Delivery date - Sunday, November 20th.

Watch for type of pie list – it will be posted soon!!!

Special request: if you have a special request or requirement, please just let us know and we will try to accommodate it.



If you wish to donate pies, you set the limit and we will state that on the order forms. If you would like to donate pies, ingredients, or a monetary donation just contact either Debra Barnard debra.toomanybooks@gmail.com 941-545-8689, Heather Reardon h_morrell@hotmail.com 941-592-4836, Ina Bingham ina8667@aol.com. 941-725-1092

**Proceeds will go to the Young Adult & Youth Funds,
and is DEEPLY APPRECIATED!**

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

Worship With Us

October 2, 2011

Message: The Rev. Fred Rhines
Flowers: Larry & Marie Taylor in celebration of their 41st wedding anniversary
Greeters: Joan & Bob Schiller
Guest Book: Betsy Biro
Hospitality: Carole Sluss
Scripture: Bruce Covey
Usher: Marjorie Steele & Marge Hooie

October 9, 2011

Message: The Rev. Fred Rhines
Flowers: Leon Barnard in memory of Louise Barnard
Greeters: Joan & Bob Schiller
Guest Book: Betsy Biro
Hospitality: Margy Stewart & Marjorie Steele
Scripture: Marge Hooie
Ushers: Marjorie Steele & Linda Theiss

October 16, 2011, 2011

Message: The Rev. Fred Rhines
Flowers: Pat Osborne in memory of Mac Osborne
Greeter: M. R. Lembright
Guest Book: Betsy Biro
Hospitality: Harry & Evelyn Anderson
Scripture: Linda Anderson
Ushers: Linda Theiss & Pat Osborne

October 23, 2011

Message: The Rev. Fred Rhines
Flowers: Bud & Marjorie Hooie in celebration of their 56th wedding anniversary
Greeter: Pat Osborne & Berneta Harper
Guest Book: Betsy Biro
Hospitality: Marge Hooie
Scripture: Joan Sheehan
Ushers: Jack Williams & Dick Sluss

October 30, 2011

Message: Youth Led Worship
Flowers: Judy Wetter in loving memory of her step-father Russ Johnson
Greeter: Pat Osborne & Berneta Harper
Guest Book: Betsy Biro
Hospitality: Eleonore Sulloway
Scripture: Youth
Ushers: Jack Williams & Dick Sluss

Invite a Friend to Church



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
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Christian Education, Debra Barnard 545-8689
Department of Congregational Involvement
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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, October 2

From the Pastor's Desk.....

As we get our fall church season underway entering the month of October, I wanted to reflect , not so much on the 10th anniversary of 9 -11, but on the 10th anniversary of 9 -11 plus one month. That was the first time Norma Lee and I were ever in Bradenton, Florida and the Manatee-Sarasota County area. It was a time I will never forget. We landed in Orlando, spent a few days there and then rented a condo on Anna Maria Island for about a week. I remember it was a very quiet October – not many people around. There were hand-written signs everywhere on the streets, saying, “thank you for flying; thank you for coming here.”

The welcome was warm and obvious. We spent a lot of time on the Bradenton beach and driving to see friends in Sarasota. We passed Faith UCC on Rte. 64, but I must say I did not notice the church as we went by. I was reminded of this on our Rally day and Fellowship Fling Sunday, September 18, while we were outside grilling hot dogs and listening to Michelle, Kaitlin and Kirt play music and sing. We enjoyed seeing Debra and Bruce lead our youngsters in games, showing their exercising skills and how to avoid getting doused by a wet balloon. Yes, as a church we were outside of our four walls – outside to be seen by those passing by on Rte. 64. I really hope this leads us outside more to show the kind of active church we are and allows us to reach beyond our property even more, to be a presence in our community of Bradenton and Manatee county.

I was reminded, too, of our need to be here as a church when I saw this particular story in California last month in a local newspaper. Late on the Wednesday before September 11, 2001, there was a terrible traffic accident in the mountain town of Visalia, Calif. A big car had had a head-on collision with a gravel truck right in the center of town. In the car was a newlywed couple from New York on their way to Sequoia National Park for their honeymoon. The husband died and the wife was seriously injured, but able to recover. On the Tuesday of 9 -11, her dad and uncle were flying out to be with her and were on one of the planes that hit the World Trade Center Towers.

Such tragedy as this calls for the presence of God and Jesus Christ and the church. Hopefully, this young bride had such a church. And we have such a church right here at Faith United Church of Christ. Let us realize how vital our church is and can be.

Shalom,

Pastor Fred



Neighbors in Need

As a church that is 5 for 5 in mission giving, please help us make the October 2nd Neighbors in Need fund raising mission a successful one.

Neighbors in Need stands for Justice and Witness Ministries that try to make another world possible, one with true social justice. Faith UCC has helped make this possible by hosting the farm workers from Immokalee who were bicycling to Lakeland to speak with Mr. Crenshaw, President of Publix.

This is only one aspect of Neighbors in Need. Please help us continue the work.

FAITH UCC
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS
SEPTEMBER 12, 2011

Present: Mark Sulloway, Marge Hooie, Bruce Covey, Judy Wetter, Dick Sluss, Barbara Brownell, M.R. Lembright, Ina Bingham, Heather Reardon, Fred Damianos and Kaye McGregor.

The meeting was opened at 7:10 PM with a prayer by Mark.

The Minutes for August 8th meeting were approved.

Financial Secretary Report: Marge reported that collections for the Operating Fund for August 2011 had gone down by \$2839.50 over August 2010. So far in September the Operating fund is down \$2857. Collections for the Building Fund in August 2011 are up \$1551. So far in September giving is up \$968 over September 2010.

Treasurers Report: Pete Groth reported that we had to cash the last CD for \$11,000. Currently the balance in the Bank of America account is \$10,411 and Bank of the Ozarks is \$6,373. We will decide when the safe deposit box renews if we need to keep it. The fee is \$54 per year.

Upcoming events were reviewed including: Faith Fellowship Fling Picnic and Rally Day on September 18. There is a ROC meeting after the worship service on September 25.

Secretary's Report: Judy provided a letter from the Manatee Sail and Power Squadron asking to use the church on November 19 for a boating safety class. It was approved by the BOG. Judy thanked Dick for his work to get the building ready for the fire inspection.

Committee Reports

Dept of Ministry: Communion will be passed in October. The choir may start in October, too.

CE and Young Adult: Plans are being made for a 3 day Halloween event October 29-31. It would be for youth and young people over 13.

SAM: The Diaper Drive continues in September. We will be collecting items and dollars to put together Clean Up Bucket Kits and Hygiene Kits for those hit with several natural disasters. We will also be a collection point for these kits.

Buildings and Grounds: We will be paying for the \$347.76 of updates required by the Fire Marshall. We will have a fall yard clean up when the weather gets cooler.

Endowment: Will continue to have articles in the Follower.

Faith Women: Met September 10th for brunch and a speaker from the migrant community.

Congregational Involvement: The Survey and responses were discussed.

ROC: Board members were asked to look over the new Church Council plan. November 6th will be the called congregation meeting where the congregation will decide if they want to suspend the by-laws for one year to try this new plan.

Old Business: It was moved and supported by the BOG to accept the Manatee County HRC.

New Business: We will have a table at the Sarasota Pride Festival on October 22nd. Member of the BOG were encouraged to be available before and after the worship service for any questions by members. Mark will talk with Pastor Fred about when we should start our pastoral search.

The meeting closed at 9:30 PM with a prayer by Mark.

The next regular meeting will be on Monday, October 10 at 7:00 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Kaye McGregor



Food Pantry

. We need your help! Please continue to support our food pantry. Monetary donations are always welcome.

Suggested items might include:

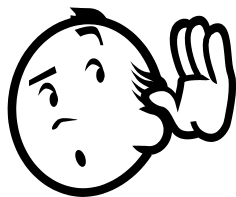
Hearty soup, canned vegetables and fruit, cereal, paper products, laundry products, hand soap, shampoo, etc.



News & Notes.....

WE ARE LISTENING!!

Your Board of Governors wants to hear from you. We encourage you to share your ideas, thoughts, questions, concerns and anything else you feel we ought to know or consider. The more input we have from you, the better we can respond to your needs and interests as we work together to make Faith Church an alive and “happening place”...a place where God is in the midst of all that is going on.



The Board of Governors' names and phone numbers are always in the Sunday worship bulletin, the Follower and are on the bulletin board in the narthex. You can call us, email us or find one of us before or after the Sunday worship service. Thanks for keeping us in the loop of what is going on with you!

Your Board of Governors

ROC (Renewing Our Church)



The ROC Group has been busy developing a streamlined church organization. We have developed a church council organization that

we believe can meet the needs of our church with as few people as possible. We will have a completed proposal for your review at our next meeting on Sunday, September 25th after church service.

Your ROC Committee

FLOWER CHART 2011

There are only November 20 & 27. Please pick your special date by adding your name and if the flowers are in memory of or in celebration of a person or event. The cost for flowers is still \$20, payable to Faith Church. If you would like to reserve a date you can also contact the church office at 746-8890.

Judy

With Heartfelt Thanks

The Department of Ministry wants to thank all those who helped and attended the Fellowship Fling, including those who brought or prepared food, performed music, helped set up or tear down. Thank you we couldn't have done it without your help.



Thank you for all of your prayers and cards regarding the loss of our daughter, Linda Langley. It was such a great comfort to know that there are so many caring people at UCC. I am planning to be back in October.

Evie and Ralph Garcia



SPECIAL THANKS:

To the B.O.G. for believing in us – supporting our events and projects. For your OPEN HEARTS & MINDS regarding what we are trying to do. Your support is truly appreciated..

Young Adults

God is still speaking,

YOUNG ADULT GROUP

YOUNG ADULT CLASS 9 AM -10 AM
Young Adult Sunday Class
Leader/Teacher Ina M. Bingham
Ages 18-30

Please contact Ina with any questions at:
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..



UPCOMING EVENTS:

YOUNG ADULT & YOUTH LED SERVICE
Sunday October 30th, 2011

Come and join us in fun, friendship and faith. We may be a SMALLER GROUP, but we are no LESS MIGHTY in our Love of God.



MISSION 1

NOVEMBER 1-11, 2011

Young Adults and Youth will be participating in UCC'S 'Mission: 1' challenge. Each of them will ask 11 people to donate \$11. This will be going to: NEIGHBORS in NEED. This event is throughout ALL UCC'S and on 11/6/11 we will go to St. Pete Beach to have a HUGE group picture.. To learn more go to www.ucc.org and click on Mission 1.



ONE CHURCH – ONE MISSION – ONE WORLD – ONE GOD!



HONORING OUR MILITARY
Sunday November 6th, 2011



The Young Adults wish to pay a special tribute to our veterans..

Those who served in the past - those currently serving - those who gave their all ... PLEASE bring any memorabilia, photos, etc. that you would like to share. If you would like to write a story, share a memory or thoughts, please do. We will display it for all to read and view. The DEADLINE for us to receive items for display is Nov. 4th. Please contact Ina with any questions.. ina8667@aol.com or 941-725-1092.

WHAT'S NEW??

We're SO Excited!!



'WELCOME'

Michelle Morrell to the Young Adult Class...
Kaitlin- Kirt and Ina

Faith Women Brunch

The October meeting of Faith Women will be a brunch at the church on Saturday, October 8. Mark those calendars.

Joan Schiller & Pat Osborne



Habitat Sunday
September 25, 2011

The third Sunday in September has always been celebrated in our church as Habitat Sunday. Because of Rally Day & the Faith Fellowship Fling, Habitat Sunday was rescheduled for Sunday, September 25. We are privileged to have Ms. Kathy Herbst visit our church and bring special greetings from Habitat.

Habitat Workday
October 29, 2011

We will be serving refreshments to the Habitat workers on October 29 at HOPE LANDING. Look for a sign up sheet for food donations and your willingness to spend a couple hours to serve. Hours 8:45 AM to 10.00 AM

CHURCH WOMEN UNITED MEETING
OCTOBER 7, 2011

The October meeting of Church Women United of Manatee will be held on Friday, October 7, at 9:30 AM at the Community of Christ Church, 5817 33rd Street East, Bradenton 34208. Coffee and fellowship at 9:30, program at 10. Everyone is welcome to attend.

From Social Action & Mission (SAM)



Social Action and Mission remind everyone that for the next two months we will be collecting diapers for migrant children living locally and working in local fields. Please think about purchasing a box of diapers (any size) or contributing to a group bulk purchase. Marge Hooie will take checks for that purpose. Please put "diaper drive" in the memo line on your check.

Faith Women had a lovely brunch on Saturday Sept 10 and welcomed Maria Matos from the School Board Migrant Services as our guest speaker. Maria spoke passionately about the struggles of migrant families and was delighted with our gift of THREE SHOPPING BAGS of children's underwear and socks--- the results of our church last drive! The next Faith Women gathering will be October 8. Watch the bulletin board for more information.

Faith Church will be having a booth at the Gay Pride parade in Sarasota on October 22, from noon-6 PM. It is our hope that we will be able to meet and greet many people and share our church's message of love, acceptance and welcome. We will be handing out information about our ONA commitment, Faith UCC and worship times. If you are interested in helping with this outreach effort, please contact Babs Brownell, at 747-9643.



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 and for you may take a copy if you wish. Thank you for volunteering.

A note from Faith Preschool.....

Preschool is off to a great start! On September 6th, Faith Preschool started their 15th school year! We welcomed 26 new and returning families to our center. We also welcomed one new teacher, Jessica Hanna. Be prepared to see the children's beautiful works of art decorating their classrooms and the sounds of sweet voices.



Our first upcoming event will be our annual Dad's Dessert. All of the classes will join together on Tuesday, October 11th from 6:30 - 7:30 PM.



This is a special evening when the children can bring dad and/or grandpa to visit their classroom, work on a special project and enjoy dessert together. This is always a special evening for the children.

We look forward to another great school year! Thank you for your continued support for Faith Preschool.

Wendi Steinbach, Director

Faith Choir

Faith's choir will be starting soon. Everyone is welcome to participate. If you are interested in joining this important part of the worship service please contact Mark Sulloway at 350-3355 or Bruce Covey at 741-8566.



Give, give, give!

A clergyman wrote to a wealthy and influential businessman to request a contribution for a worthy charity. The pastor promptly received a curt refusal which ended by saying, "As far as I can see, this Christian business is just one continuous give, give, give!"

The pastor responded with a short note: "Thanks for the best definition of the Christian life I have ever heard."

October 2011

October Birthdays



10/18 Ralph Garcia
10/28 John Potts
10/31 Beth Hooie

SUNDAY 2 9:00 AM Young Adult S. S.
10:30 AM Service of Worship
Communion/Food Bank
3 7:00 PM Building & Grounds
5 Preschool Picture Day
7:00 PM Choir
6 6:00 PM Narcotics Anonymous
7 9:30 AM Church Women United
6:00 PM Narcotics Anonymous
8 10:00 AM Faith Women

SUNDAY 9 9:00 AM Young Adult S.S.
10:30 AM Service of Worship
10 6:00 PM Christian Education
7:00 PM BOG
11 6:30 PM Preschool Dad's Dessert
12 7:00 PM Choir
13 6:30 PM Narcotics Anonymous
14 6:30 PM Narcotics Anonymous

SUNDAY 16 9:00 AM Young Adult S.S.
10:30 AM Service of Worship
Dept. of Ministry
17 FOLLOWER deadline
7:00 PM Preschool Staff Mtg.
7:00 PM Braden River HOA
19 7:00 PM Choir
20 7:00 PM Narcotics Anonymous
21 FOLLOWER emailed
7:00 PM Narcotics Anonymous

SUNDAY 23 9:00 AM Young Adult S.S.
10:30 AM Service of Worship
24 7:00 PM Inlets HOA
26 7:00 PM Choir
27 7:00 PM Narcotics Anonymous
28 7:00 PM Narcotics Anonymous
29 8:45 AM Habitat Workday

SUNDAY 30 9:00 AM Young Adult S.S.
10:30 AM Youth Led Service

“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.

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.