



Open & Affirming

FAITHFUL FOLLOWER

FAITH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Rev. Fred Rhines, Interim Pastor

September 2011

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Are You “ROC”ing With US?

The group to Renew Our Church got underway on July 18 and to date we have had four meetings. We are moving the meetings around to different times so that we can include everyone for ideas and discussion

We began looking at our current organizational groups in a manner to determine whether they are working or not and open to new people and ideas or not. We used the “Joe-Harry” window as our tool. Then we discussed our church’s Core Values (which say who we are as a people of God); our Vision (which says what we want to be) and, then leading to our Mission (which says what we want to do.) These are all to get us thinking what we have (that is working or not) and what we need to change to make us function better as a church organization.

As a basis, we reviewed our April leadership training workshop conducted by Rev. Jeannette Sherill. This workshop set our basic goals of having a church organization that was simpler in structure and better working. We also recognized that the results of the church survey, conducted several months ago, would give us input to the process. Inputs, as well, have come from the model used at the Venice United Church of Christ and other church’s as we look at their operational processes.

We are now at a point of having a core group take a detailed look at our organization. They will come up with a workable proposal that can be discussed, modified, praised and cursed, to bring it to a final form. This will then be voted on at the Annual Meeting in January 2012, to be tried out for one year. The current By-laws would be suspended for this year and new ones written to support the new organization. This, the final form, would be voted on at the Annual Meeting in January 2013.

That is the plan. We promise continual communication and updates, as only with everyone’s involvement will this come about and work for Faith UCC.

The ROC Committee

Faith Women Brunch

The September meeting of Faith Women will be a brunch at the church on Saturday, September 10th. Mark those calendars. We will be having a speaker from the Migrant Center to talk about the services and families we are helping with our mission collections.

Robin Wentz & Barbara Brownell



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

Worship With Us

September 4, 2011

Message: The Rev. Dr. Jack Barnes
Flowers: Margaret & Joe Gregory in celebration of their 68th wedding anniversary
Greeters: Pat Osborne & Berneta Harper
Guest Book: Betsy Biro
Hospitality: Earleen & Helen Nuttng
Scripture: Hatti Damianos
Usher: Marjorie Steele & Marge Hooie

September 11, 2011

Message: The Rev. Donna L. Papenhausen
Flowers: Available
Greeters: Pat Osborne & Berneta Harper
Guest Book: Betsy Biro
Hospitality: Kaye McGregor
Scripture: Kaye McGregor
Ushers: Linda Anderson & Linda Theiss

September 18, 2011, 2011

Message: The Rev. Fred Rhines
Flowers: Mark & Eleonore Sulloway
Greeter: Fred & Hatti Damianos
Guest Book: Betsy Biro
Hospitality: Fellowship Fling
Scripture: Joan Sheehan
Ushers: Jack Williams & Pat Osborne

September 25, 2011

Message: The Rev. Fred Rhines
Flowers: Gayle & Bruce Covey & Dick Garrard in memory of loved ones
Greeter: Hatti & Fred Damianos
Guest Book: Betsy Biro
Hospitality: Jack & Mary Lou Williams
Scripture: Robin Wentz
Ushers: Jack Williams & Pat Osborne

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 listed and for you to take if you wish.

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

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The Follower

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2011 Board of Governors

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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, September 4

From the Pastor's Desk.....

As our summer sermon series on Old Testament Characters-of-the-Bible draws to a close, we turn our attention to the beginning of the Fall Season for our church which September represents. We will kick-off our season on September 18 with Rally and Recognition for our Sunday School teachers and students. This will be coupled with a "Fellowship Fling" opening picnic and fun time. The Christian Education Committee and the Department of Ministry will plan our program. Please give them your ideas and mark your calendars now so you don't miss these events. (Norma Lee and I will be on vacation in California the first two Sundays in September and Rev. Jack Barnes will cover for any pastoral emergencies that may arise. Rev. Barnes will conduct the worship service on September 4 and Rev. Donna Papenhausen on September 11. I am most grateful to them both.)

I continue to seek your opinions on using some more contemporary worship styles, ideas etc. in our Sunday services. Please let me know what you think of these. Our new church musician, Kirt Jones has begun introducing some more contemporary songs and utilizing the synthesizer as an instrument. I have tried to bring a "show-and-tell" element to the children's moment and even introduce a skit during sermon time. What do you think? We want to make our services relevant as well as meaningful.

Please see our lead article on the progress of the ROC (Renew our Church) group. We have been meeting since mid-July and have set the groundwork for what can be a real affirmation of who we are as a church and some exciting changes, too. We are looking at who we are and who we can be.

We are also giving attention to be more welcoming to visitors, not only by talking with them, but also by trying to obtain their addresses and keep in contact with them. As interim pastor this time, I am putting more time in getting to know people in the church and visit. Please contact me not only for a pastoral need, but just to meet for coffee and conversation.


In spite of all of our many methods of modern communications today we are reminded that Jesus got to know people best by talking face-to-face. We can always benefit by His example.


Shalom,

Pastor Fred



From Faith Preschool

The 2011/2012 preschool year is right around the corner. Staff training will be held Wednesday, August 24 and Thursday, August 25 from 9:00 - 1:00. All of the staff will be returning from last year, with the addition of Jessica  Hanna. She will be the Assistant Teacher in the MWF classroom. We will have a guest speaker from the Early Learning Coalition on Thursday, August 25. The topic will be "Building Relationships with Parents".

The first day of school for the T/TH and VPK classes will be Tuesday, September 6 and the MWF class will have their first day on Wednesday, September 7. We will welcome 27 new  and returning families to our center. Be prepared to see beautiful works of art decorating the church hallway and the sound of sweet voices of happy children.

We are all looking forward to another great school year!
Wendi Steinbach, Director

FAITH UCC
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS
August 8, 2011

Present: Pastor Fred Rhines, Mark Sulloway, Marge Hooie, Bruce Covey, Judy Wetter, Dick Sluss, Barbara Brownell, Fred Damianos and Kaye McGregor.

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

The Minutes for July 11 meeting were approved.

Financial Secretary Report: Marge reported that collections for the Operating Fund for July 2011 had increased by \$114.00 over July 2010. So far in August collections for the Building Fund are \$1003.34. We need to collect \$3246.55 to make the August mortgage payment. It was moved and supported that we use the \$710.00 check from Faith Camp to put toward the August Mortgage.

Treasurers Report: Pete Groth is receiving bills by e-mail from Judy. We are looking into purchasing the copier we are renting.

Upcoming events were reviewed including: Faith Women on August 13, Renew Our Church (ROC) meeting on July 14 and the Fall Fling Church Picnic on September 18.

Pastors Report: Pastor Fred made 15 visits including 3 in person and 12 phone calls in the past month. He thanked Faith Women for the \$100 donation to buy gas cards. Pastor Fred will be on vacation September 3-14. Pastor Jack Barnes will cover for September 4. Pastor Barnes will also provide pastoral care. Pastor Fred will also be on vacation October 26-November 2. October 30 is a Youth Led Service so no minister will be needed that day. Pastor Fred will leave for a Christmas vacation after the December 25 service and return on December 28.

Secretary's Report: Judy said Pastor Fred has been contacting members we haven't seen in a while. She thanked Dick Sluss for fixing the exit lights as the fire inspector will be here in the next few weeks. A Narcotics Anonymous group will meet at church on Friday nights. They will move their meeting when there is a conflict with church activities.

Committee Reports

Dept of Ministry: Will be planning the Fall Fling Church Picnic with Christian Education as September 18 is also Rally Day.

Music Committee: Kirt Jones is playing the keyboard and is willing to work with the choir. The date the choir returns in the fall, has yet to be determined.

SAM- We continue to collect children's socks and underwear.

Buildings and Grounds: Dick will check on moving the microphone to the lectern. The sprinkler system is working.

Endowment: to date there have been no responses to the articles in the Follower.

Faith Women: Next meeting is September 10.

Congregational Involvement: Dinner meeting is August 17 at 6 PM. The survey will be discussed.

New Business: November 6 is Bring a Friend to Church Sunday.

The meeting closed at 8:30 PM with a prayer by Pastor Fred.

The next regular meeting will be on Monday, September 12 at 7:00 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Kaye McGregor, Secretary



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.*



Mark Your Calendars

Sunday, September 18
Immediately Following Worship
Join us for food, fun and fellowship
at the Faith Fellowship Fling
and Picnic.



News & Notes.....

Social Action & Missions (SAM)

Social Actions and Missions is collecting undies and socks till the end of August.



These "staples" will go to migrant children attending schools in Manatee county. We have a significant amount of things collected so far. Lets do one final push in the next few weeks for these little ones, so they start school feeling clean and good at the most basic level! Bless you lots for doing this!

Barbara Brownell, SAM

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

Anyone between the above ages is more than welcome to attend. 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 will still participate in some of the events with the Youth Group..**

WAY to GO - KIRT!!! It is a joy to listen to your playing and music throughout the Sunday Morning Service...

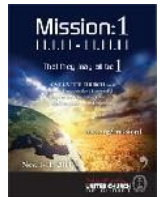
FLOWER CHART 2011



There are only three days left on the 2011 Flower Chart, September 11 and 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

MISSION 1 is coming! Stay tuned to your FOLLOWER for news of this exciting fall mission project for all UCC churches nationwide.



With Heartfelt Thanks

A BIG 'THANK YOU' to both **Linda Theiss** and **Earleen Nutting...**

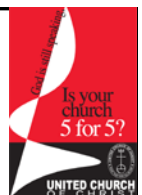
Once again, you both have graciously volunteered to be involved with the Primary/Elementary Sunday School. Linda has volunteered to be the full-time teacher, with Earleen filling in as needed. **May God Bless You Both!!**



Christian Education RALLY DAY
Sunday, September 18

Did You Know.....

This 5-for-5 church (contributes every year to the main 5 UCC missions) is already 3 for !!! So far we have generously given to Church World Service for Blankets on Blanket Sunday (\$409), One Great Hour of Sharing (\$472), and Strengthen the Church (\$171) Despite the tough times we as a church and many personally are facing, our generosity has not failed. The scriptures say this blesses us. We have two more missions (Neighbors in Need and Veterans of the Cross) and Habitat Sunday on Sept 18 left to go. Lets add to our blessings!



September 2011

September Birthdays



- 1 6:30 PM Narcotics Anonymous
- 2 9:30 AM Church Women United
6:30 PM Narcotics Anonymous
- SUNDAY** 4 **9:00 AM Young Adult S. S.**
10:30 AM Service of Worship
Communion/Food Bank
- 5 Office Closed
- 6 9:30 AM 1st Day Preschool
- 8 6:00 PM Narcotics Anonymous
- 9 6:00 PM Narcotics Anonymous
- 10 8:30 AM Faith Women Brunch
- SUNDAY** 11 **9:00 AM Young Adult S.S.**
10:30 AM Service of Worship
- 12 6:00 PM Christian Education
7:00 PM BOG
- 15 6:30 PM Narcotics Anonymous
- 16 6:30 PM Narcotics Anonymous
- SUNDAY** 18 **9:00 AM Young Adult S.S.**
10:30 AM Service of Worship
Habit Sunday
Rally Day/Fellowship Fling
- 19 FOLLOWER deadline
7:00 PM Preschool Staff Mtg.
7:00 PM Braden River HOA
- 22 7:00 PM Narcotics Anonymous
- 23 FOLLOWER emailed
7:00 PM Narcotics Anonymous
- SUNDAY** 25 **9:00 AM Young Adult S.S.**
10:30 AM Service of Worship
- 26 7:00 PM Inlets HOA
- 29 7:00 PM Narcotics Anonymous
- 30 7:00 PM Narcotics Anonymous

9/8 Bob Schiller
9/12 Marcia Saulo

“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.