

# FAITHFUL follower

FAITH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

OPEN & AFFIRMING



## March 2016

The Faithful Follower is published monthly by Faith United Church of Christ. **Editor:** Faith Quici

### IN THIS ISSUE

- o From Your Moderator pg 1
- o Pastor's Desk pg 2
- o Crop Walk pg 3
- o Social Action and Mission pg 4
- o Preschool Carnival pg 4
- o Council Mtg. Minutes pg 5
- o Church Contacts pg 6
- o March Calendar pg 7

### PER CAPITA 2016

Per Capita is an obligation we owe yearly to the conference. The cost is \$14.50 per member. Our goal is 100% paid this year. Thank you for your prompt attention to this conference responsibility. Your statement will show if you have paid for this year.  
**Judy, Financial Secretary**

## From Your Moderator

The beginning of 2016 has been busy. I would like to thank everyone who has hosted an activity or helped in any way to make each one of them a success.

We still have two openings on the Church Council if anyone would be interested in serving the church. The Faith Care Team has an opening to lead their group, and we need to have someone in charge of Church Events and Fellowship Team. If you are only here part of the year and you would like to help while you are here, maybe we could get someone else to do the other part of the year.

Please check the Bulletin Board in the narthex so you don't miss any of the activities in the month of March. Our Fat Tuesday Pancake Supper was a huge success. We filled the room we had reserved and had another group of people at a few other tables outside the room. We had a great time!

Friday, March 4, Church Women United will meet at Community of Christ Church, 5817 33rd St. East, Bradenton, Fl. 34203. We begin by having a Buffet Breakfast at 9:30 A.M.

The Dinner & Dessert for February was cancelled because we did not have anyone to host it.

Our Adult Study Groups are held on Sunday mornings at 9:00 A.M. in Pastor Judy's office.

The Tuesday evening class is held at 6:30 P.M. The March Potluck will be held on March 13 if we have some people to host it.

Dinner & Dessert will be hosted by Janis and Pete Groth. Details will be announced.

On Palm Sunday, March 20, we will have a special offering for "One Great Hour of Sharing".

Thursday, March 24, we will have a Maundy Thursday Service. Sunday, March 27 is Easter Sunday.

Thank you to everyone who has taken part in the Worship Services. It is wonderful to have our Choir back. Thank you to Anita for playing the music, Deb and Brandi for leading the music before the service, and thank you to Bruce for all the video boards with beautiful pictures and the words for our hymns each week. Our thanks also to scripture readers, ushers, and those who help with communion.

Last, but by no means least, a special thank you to both of our Pastors. We are blessed to have you and thank you for all the things we learn from both of you.

We ask God's blessing on our church, its members and all who worship with us.

Peace be with you!

**Marge Hooie, Moderator**

## EASTER LILIES

Easter Lily order forms will go into the Sunday bulletins on February 28. The amount will be \$8 per plant and again can be designated in memory or in honor of someone or an occasion. Payment must accompany the order form, and the last day to place an order will be Sunday, March 20 (Palm Sunday). Lilies may be taken home after the Easter Service.

## ONECO FLORIST /// 941.756.1556

When ordering flowers through the church, please sign up on the Flower Chart. Flowers orders are \$25 this year. You are encouraged to take your flowers home with you after service; but if you leave them, they will be taken to a shut-in. **If you want to purchase flowers on your own, Oneco Florist is offering Church members \$5 off their first arrangement. Just mention this article.**

# THE PASTOR'S DESK

Rev. Brian and Rev. Judy Bagley-Bonner

We had some good friends from Ohio visit recently. They are very active people, often participating in bike trips of many days and many miles. Because their home is blanketed with a couple feet of snow, they were anxious to get outside, so we biked and kayaked and played pickle-ball and hiked. We joked with them that next year we will have to go into training before they get here so we don't feel like our legs and arms are going to fall off! It was really good for us to be spurred on to be more active and exercise, and we thanked them for it. I hope we keep it up!

In some ways, Lent is like a spiritual spring training. It is an opportunity for us to step back and take stock of how we are doing. Some people give up something, so that they will not

just take it for granted or misuse it (I am giving up Coca-Cola for Lent). Part of giving up something means we look forward to having it again at Easter (and yes, Richard, on Sundays in Lent, too). Other people choose to add a spiritual exercise or mission (Some are studying Aging as a Spiritual Practice, others are volunteering at church or elsewhere). In our 24 hour/ 7 day a week fast - fast - fast culture, such an exercise as taking 40 days to reflect and not do something (or do something different) can be a real spiritual corrective.

Are you doing anything new for Lent? It is not too late! You may be surprised at what giving up something (or getting up and doing something new) will do for your spirit, your level of appreciation and your life.

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## FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT

We apologize that we have been in transition with the Treasurer position, and it will take some time to get the numbers.

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### Facebook and iPhone help at Faith UCC

The Manatee Public Library is going to hold classes on Social Media and iPhones in April here at church. Invite friends and neighbors for this opportunity to learn how to post pictures on Facebook and get the most out of your phone. Classes will be limited to 12 people. Tentative schedule is below:

<b>Tues</b>	<b>4/5</b>	<b>6:00 - 7:30</b>	<b>iPhone</b>
<b>Thurs</b>	<b>4/7</b>	<b>6:00 - 7:30</b>	<b>Social Media (Facebook, etc)</b>
<b>Tues</b>	<b>4/12</b>	<b>6:00 - 7:30</b>	<b>Social Media (Facebook, etc)</b>
<b>Thurs</b>	<b>4/14</b>	<b>6:00 - 7:30</b>	<b>iPhone</b>

## WORSHIP WITH US

2

### MARCH 6, 2016

Flowers: Available  
Greeters: Council  
Scripture: Marge Hooie  
Ushers: Council  
Communion: Council  
Nursery: Babs Brownell

### MARCH 13, 2016

Flowers: Available  
Greeters: Available  
Scripture: Available  
Ushers: Available  
Nursery: Linda Anderson

### MARCH 20, 2016

Flowers: Sheryl Overheidth-Smith  
Greeters: Janis Groth  
Scripture: Joan Sheehan  
Ushers: Available  
Nursery: Marge Hooie

### MARCH 27, 2016

Flowers: Available  
Greeters: Available  
Scripture: Available  
Ushers: Available  
Nursery: Babs Brownell

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## SUNDAY VOLUNTEERS

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.

# Mark Your Calendars

## MEN'S BREAKFAST

SAT. March 5  
We are meeting at Norma Rae's in Palmetto at 9am.

## FAITH WOMEN

SAT. March 5  
We are meeting at 9am at Bob Evans on 14<sup>th</sup> St. W and Cortez in Bradenton.

## POTLUCK

We need volunteers to sign up to host the potluck, which is held the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month after service. This month it will be Sunday, March 13,

## DINNER & DESSERT

FRI. March 18  
Thank you to Pete and Janis Groth for signing up to host Dinner and Dessert this month. We will meet at Outback Steakhouse for dinner at **5:30pm** and then head to the Groths' for dessert. Please sign up if you would like to attend.

## Children's Ministry Team

God has a purpose for you, and if you have a heart for children, then it could be to join the Children's Ministry Team. It's so easy to sign up for only a few Sundays out of the year. Contact Babs Brownell if you would like more information about this purposeful and rewarding ministry.

Call: 941.747.9643

# SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 28 at 2PM



### About the CROP Hunger Walk and CWS

CROP Hunger Walks are community-wide events sponsored by Church World Service and organized by local congregations or groups to raise funds to end hunger at home and around the world. Hunger Walks help to provide food and water, as well as resources that empower people to meet their own needs. From seeds and tools, to wells and water systems, to technical training, the key is people working together to identify their own development priorities,

### Background

With its inception in 1969, CROP Hunger Walks are "viewed by many as the granddaddy of charity walks," notes the Los Angeles Times (Oct. 26, 2009). On October 17, 1969, a thousand people in Bismarck, ND, walked in what may have been the start of the hunger walks related to CROP – and raised \$25,000 to help stop hunger. As far as we know, York County, PA., was the first walk officially called the CROP Walk for the Hungry – and that event has been continuous since 1970. Several other CROP Hunger Walks occurred soon thereafter, and before long there were hundreds of Walks each year in communities nationwide. Currently, well over 2,000 communities across the U.S. join in more than 1,300 CROP Hunger Walks each year.

### What does CROP stand for?

When CROP began in 1947 (under the wing of Church World Service, which was founded in 1946), CROP was an acronym for the Christian Rural Overseas Program. Its primary mission was to help Midwest farm families share their grain with hungry neighbors in post-World War II Europe and Asia. Today, we've outgrown the acronym, but we retain it as the historic name of the program. CROP Hunger Walks are interfaith hunger education and fundraising events sponsored by Church World Service and organized by CWS local offices across the U.S.

<https://www.crophungerwalk.org/>

## MARCH is : Baby formula/baby cereal/baby food

Happy March friends! Hard to believe that by this time next month, Easter will be over already. So we have lots to do!

Our Special offering for One Great Hour of Sharing will be the first Sunday in April, but I wanted to remind you now of why it's important that we contribute to this:

**The One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS)**, a special mission offering of the United Church of Christ, involves you in disaster, refugee/immigration, and development ministries throughout the world. When a disaster strikes or people are displaced or made refugees by violence or extreme poverty, you are part of the immediate response and of the long-term recovery. Through OGHS you engage in holistic development programs including health care, education, agriculture, food sustainability, micro-financing and women's empowerment. Because the UCC relates in mutual partnership to churches and organizations through Global Ministries and worldwide response & recovery networks, your contributions to One Great Hour of Sharing put you in the right place at the right time for the relief, accompaniment and recovery of the most vulnerable. You meet immediate

needs and you address the underlying causes that create those needs in the first place. Thank you for your generous contribution.

Once again, we'll be donating items to the Food Bank of Manatee this year by concentrating on one item per month. It's an easy way for us to provide needed items in the barrel in the Narthex each week for those in need. Hunger is curable and thank you for helping that become a reality!

### Here is our plan for the year-keep an eye out for BOGOs!

**March**-Baby formula/baby cereal/baby food

**April**-Macaroni & Cheese

**May**-Soups & Stews

**June**-Rice

**July**-beans-dry & canned

**Aug**-peanut butter

**Sept**-100% juice

**Oct**-low sugar cereal

**Nov**-sugar & flour

**Dec**-Canned tuna, chicken & other meats

Robin Wentz, **SAM Chairperson**

## A Preschool Note

Wendi Steinbach, Director

### COME AND JOIN US!

Faith Preschool's Annual Kid's Carnival & Silent Auction is scheduled on Saturday, March 12 from 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Activities include game booths for the children, party jumper, hayrides, food, and a silent auction full of items and services from the community. The silent auction will end promptly at 12:30. Come out and join us for a fun-filled family day and support Faith Preschool.

### A Partial List of Silent Auction Items

- \*Tickets to Florida Studio Theatre
- \*Starbuck's Gift Basket
- \*Gift Certificates to Gianni's, Casa Di Pizza, & Raven Pizza
- \*Passes to Ringling Museum
- \*Passes to South Florida Museum
- \*Tickets to the Asolo Theatre
- \*Gift Cards to Subway
- \*Gift Certificate to Sea Star Cafe
- \*Wine baskets, Italian basket, baking basket
- \*Gift Certificate to Luxury Nails
- \*Gardening Basket, Spice Basket
- \*Movie Theme Basket, Aww! Cocoa-Nuts Basket
- \*Homemade Easter Pillow Case Dress
- \*Money Tree, Arts & Craft Basket

And many more.....We hope to see you at the carnival!!



# CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Faith United Church of Christ /// February 8, 2016

Meeting called to order at 7:17 by council moderator, Marge Hooie. Opening prayer given by Pastor Brian.

Present: Jim Willard, Judy Wetter, Denny Wetter, Richard Dilts, Barbara Brownell, Faith Quicci, Marge Hooie, Pastors Brian and Jude, Robin Wentz and Linda Anderson.

**Financial Secretary's Report:** Judy reported that January's total deposits were \$12,197.07 to Bank of America operating fund, \$411.00 to Bank of the Ozarks building for the future, and \$515.95 to Bank of the Ozarks pass through account for a total of \$13,124.02.

**Treasurer's Report:** Jim Willard is getting up to speed and meeting with the consultant for quick books.

**Pastor's Report:** Pastor Brian –lent begins this week and there are a few people signed up for the pancake supper at IHOP. The pastors are getting more organized with themes and working with the choir and Christian ed. A few people have signed up for the book study. Pastor Brian has been thinking about what to do for the younger generation to entice them to stay. Music transition to choir season has worked well.

**Secretary's Report:** Faith reported that the preschool has thanked the congregation for the new playground. Judy also reported that we still owe them \$250.00 that we promised them. Wendy came to Faith reporting that the classrooms were not getting

cleaned properly and there was dirty mop water left in the bucket. Wendy would like a solution to this problem. Judy suggested that Faith resurrect a check list that she made previously. Faith also said she was looking into a new website provider due to the current company was bought out and is charging a \$200.00 hacking fee secondary to being hacked.

**Old Business:** There are still 3 openings available on the council. Pastor Brian was approached by the Cards because they wanted to put something together with the kids for an Easter event. Only 4 people have signed up for the crop walk which is February 28, 2016.

**New Business:** Volunteers needed for dinner and dessert for February and March. It was decided to forgo February since the woman's outing was the next day. Barbara Brownell volunteered for March. Marge Hooie would like to host Women United next year if possible. It would have to be arranged on a day that the preschool was out. Pastor Brian is considering a spring beach service for April 10<sup>th</sup> and is considering going to Emerson Point. There has been a complaint of strong smoke odor in the back room after NA meetings. An air cleaner was suggested and will be looked into.

**Departments and Committees:**

**Building and Grounds:** The men have been busy, and Denny

Wetter submitted their report, which you can read in detail in the follower.

**Pastoral Relations:** Will hold a meeting in the next couple of weeks.

**SAM:** OGHS in March and Strengthen the Church in June. February is peanut butter month.

**Worship Team:** March will be intinction. Linda and Jim will help with communion and offering and Denny will help with offering also. Will check on Easter lily forms for ordering.

Closing prayer was given by Pastor Jude.

Meeting adjourned at 8:46.

Respectfully submitted by  
Linda Anderson.

## K-Cups Wanted

Thank you, Marge Critelli, for donating a Keurig Coffee Maker to the church. If you have some K-cups you don't plan to use (especially **TEA** or other non-coffee drinks), we would love to offer them on Sunday mornings. You may drop them off at the church kitchen.



# Your Staff

## Pastors

Rev. Brian and  
Rev. Judy  
Bagley-Bonner  
Cell:  
941-718-3132



(with Janie)

## PASTORS' OFFICE HOURS

Monday 10 am - 1 pm  
Tuesday 9am - noon  
Wednesday 8:30 am - \*noon  
Thursday 8:30 am - 9:30 am

*Other times by appointment*

*\*3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday at UCC meetings*



**Office Hours**  
**MONDAY-FRIDAY**  
**9:00 AM - 12:00 PM**  
746-8890  
Fax 746-0670

## Secretary

Faith Quici

## Faith UCC Email:

faithchurchucc@verizon.net

## Faith Website:

faithchurchucc.com

# Prayer Team

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



**Janis Groth**  
941.779.6988

**Marge Hooie**  
941. 747.2734

**Helen Nutting**  
941. 747.2734

**Sheryl  
Overheidt-  
Smith**  
941.776.5589

**Donna Rusch**  
301.825.9611

**Joan  
Sheehan**  
941.748.2498

Members of the Prayer Team want to keep the prayer list current. Please advise us when you would like a name removed from the list.

## SUBMIT A PRAYER REQUEST

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)

## 2016 Church Council

**Moderator:**  
Marge Hooie 747-2734

**Building & Grounds:**  
Denny Wetter 755-4583

### OPEN POSITIONS:

**Deputy Moderator:**  
Barbara Brownell 747-9643

**Community Outreach:**  
Deb D'Angelo 610-704-4049

**Christian Education:** OPEN

**Secretary:**  
Linda Anderson 704-8772

**Social Action & Missions:**  
Robin Wentz 758-6575

**Fellowship & Events:** OPEN

**Treasurer:**  
Jim Williard 531-4559

**Worship Team Leader:**  
Richard Dilts 776-7293

**Faith Care Team:** OPEN

**Financial Secretary:**  
Judy Wetter 755-4583



Just search for: **"Faith United Church of Christ, Bradenton ,FL"**



[www.faithchurchucc.com](http://www.faithchurchucc.com)

# March 2016

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 6:30pm Adult Study	2 7:00pm BAC	3 7pm Choir 7:15pm NA 7:15pm Nar-Anon	4 Church Women United 7:15pm NA 7:30pm BAC	5 9am Men's Breakfast – Norma Rae's 9am Women's Breakfast- Bob Evans 10am NA & Nar-Anon
6 9am Adult Study 10:30am Service Communion 1:30pm BAC NA 7:15pm	7	8 Building and Grounds Work Day 4pm 6:30pm Adult Study	9 7:00pm BAC	10 7pm Choir 7:15pm NA 7:15pm Nar-Anon	11 7:15pm NA 7:30pm BAC	12 10am -1pm Preschool Annual Carnival  10am NA & Nar-Anon
13 9am Adult Study 10:30am Service Mission Moment Video Potluck 1:30pm BAC NA 7:15pm	14 7pm Church Council Mtg.	15 11:30am Prayer Mtg 6:30pm Adult Study	16 7:00pm BAC	17 St. Patrick's Day 7pm Choir 7:15pm NA 7:15pm Nar-Anon	18 5:30pm Dinner and Dessert – Groths' 7:15pm NA 7:30pm BAC Follower Reminder	19 10am NA & Nar-Anon
20 PALM SUNDAY 9am Adult Study One Great Hour of Sharing Offering 10:30am Service 1:30pm BAC NA 7:15pm	21 7pm BR HOA Follower Deadline	22 6:30pm Adult Study	23 7:00pm BAC	24 7pm Maundy Thursday Service  7:15pm NA 7:15pm Nar-Anon	25 Good Friday 7:30pm BAC 7:15pm NA	26 10am NA & Nar-Anon
27 EASTER SERVICE 10:30am Service 1:30pm BAC NA 7:15pm	28 7pm INT HOA	29	30 7:00pm BAC	31 7pm Choir 7:15pm NA 7:15pm Nar-Anon		

- **BAC:** Bradenton Apostolic Church – We church share with Pastor Ramon and his congregation.
- Monthly Prayer Meetings are held every 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday at Freedom Village at 11:30am.
- Our Monthly **Potluck** is every 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after service when someone has agreed to host. Subject to change on special occasions.
- **Dinner and Dessert** is every 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday at 6pm when someone signs up to host.

The host picks a local restaurant to meet and dessert is followed at their home or another gathering spot.

- There are **Narcotics Anonymous** (NA) meetings here each week, and **Nar-Anon**, which is a group of family members affected by those with drug addictions, also meets. If interested in these meetings, please call the NA hotline at 941.257.5055.
- We have several local neighborhood Home Owner Associations (**HOA's**) who meet here monthly.

- 3/5 Pat Osborne
- 3/10 Barbara Brownell
- 3/12 Dusty Stoll
- 3/18 Robin Wentz
- 3/24 Midge Barnes
- 3/29 Bree Cullington



**FAITHFUL FOLLOWER**  
Faith United Church of Christ  
4850 SR 64E  
Bradenton, FL 34208-5527

## The Vision of Faith United Church of Christ

- In our worship, we are an inclusive community, a family of faith, which through prayer, song, the sacraments and liturgy seeks to feel closer to God, to praise God, to give thanks to God, and to seek forgiveness from God in order to grow in discipleship.
- In our Christian Education, we seek to develop a community of people with a mature Christian faith; meaning a faith which leads us to care for others, that opens our hearts to service, an evolving faith that is the product of critical thinking and questioning. Our education is for all ages and is conducted in places inside the church and out.
- In our missions, we seek to share the excitement of our Christian faith without judging others. In our missions, we seek to take our faith and beliefs from the inside out, and know that our missions require that we must also bring the outside in. We take Christ's admonition—to go forth and share the good news—as our own, which we strive to do in word and deed both locally and globally.

Visit Faith's website at [www.faithchurchucc.com](http://www.faithchurchucc.com)