

FAITHFUL follower¹

FAITH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

OPEN & AFFIRMING



March 2017

The Faithful Follower is published monthly by Faith United Church of Christ.

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From Your Moderator

There is a lot going on at Faith this time of year. Thank you to Carol Knight, Scott and Don Duncan, and all of the chili and dessert makers as well as anyone else who helped with the recent Chili Cook-Off. It was a huge success. There were ten chili cooks, all different recipes, all delicious. A big congratulations to Bob D'Angelo for his first place win and to Richard Dilts for his second place finish. Great job!

In conjunction with Braden River HOA we will have a "**Junk in the Trunk**" sale on March 24 and 25. We will be providing space in the parking lot for you to park your car/truck and sell whatever treasures you are interested in parting with. The cost for renting space is \$10 for one day,

\$15 for both days. The fee must be paid when signing up. If you have questions, please contact Richard Dilts or Judy Wetter.

We would like to encourage you to get involved with the various activities at Faith Church. It is wonderful to work together, laugh together, pray together, and worship together. This is how we build a church family. There are lots of events to choose: Dinner & Dessert, Men's and Women's Breakfasts, Potlucks, singing in the Choir, serving on the Council, attending a Bible/book study, to name a few. Join in. You will be glad you did.

Judy

2017 PER CAPITA INCREASE

Per Capita is an obligation we owe yearly to the conference. The cost is now \$15 per member this year. Thank you to those who have already paid. Our goal is to be 100% paid this year. Thank you for your prompt attention to this conference responsibility.

ONECO FLORIST /// 941.756.1556

When ordering flowers through the church, please sign up on the Flower Chart. Flowers orders are \$25. 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.**

SOCIAL ACTION & MISSIONS

In March, we are collecting **Baby Food/ Cereal & formula** for the food bank.

THE PASTOR'S DESK

Rev. Brian and Judy Bagley - Bonner

New Tires, License Renewal and Lent

This month we put new tires and a new license tag on one of our cars. The expense and hassle of these actions are not my favorite things, but are necessary. These actions made me think that Lent is, in a way, a similar process. When we get our license we make sure the insurance is up to date, and we do what is necessary to keep the car on the road legally. Replacing tires keeps us and everyone else on the road safe. Such a review and renewal of your car's status is very similar to the Lenten time of self-reflection and confession. Lent is the time in the church year when we can get rid of the "old tires" of unhelpful or no longer useful habits and actions. We must also consider if we are also doing the things necessary to live as God's children in this world.

Self-reflection about ways we are being distracted from our

task and ways we have failed to be God's children - also not among my favorite things. I would prefer to just keep bumbling along and not think about it. But just like getting a license tag and new tires for the car, this wonderful vehicle of "life" that God has given me will perform much better on the journey if it gets a regular review, tune up and renewal.

I invite you to begin your tune-up at the Ash Wednesday Service at 7:00 pm on March 1st. The service will give you time to reflect on these questions and also to be reminded of God's love and grace! May God grant us clear eyes and open hearts as we begin the journey of Lent together.

Blessings,

Pastor Brian



Faith, our church secretary, took this photo on February 13 as she was at the traffic light in front of the church. "This truck was in front of me and I noticed the tag said "B Church." I thought it was a great reminder that we are the church wherever we go. We represent God's love."

WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

If you are interested in signing up to be a greeter, usher or scripture reader, please contact our Worship Team Leader, Richard Dilts, or simply sign up on the bulletin board. You can sign up as one-time help or on a part time basis. Or you can get regularly involved in our Sunday morning worship activities. It's easy and we have so much fun helping out.

JOIN US WEEKEND SCHEDULE

March 5, 2017

- Flowers: Council
- Greeters: Council
- Scripture: Marge Hooie
- Ushers: Council
- Nursery: Amy Testa
- Sunday school: Hatti Damianos

March 12, 2017

- Flowers: Available
- Greeters: Available
- Scripture: Blu Glavin
- Ushers: Available
- Nursery: Babs Brownell
- Sunday school: Hatti Damianos

March 19, 2017

- Flowers: Available
- Greeters: Available
- Scripture: Joan Sheehan
- Ushers: Available
- Nursery: Linda Anderson
- Sunday school: Hatti Damianos

March 26, 2017

- Flowers: Available
- Greeters: Available
- Scripture: Available
- Ushers: Available
- Nursery: Marge Hooie
- Sunday school: Hatti Damianos

Mark Your Calendars

Church Women United

10am, FRI. MARCH. 3
This meeting is in honor of World Day of Prayer. We are meeting at Mt. Raymond Full Gospel Baptist Church, 2410 4th Ave. E., Palmetto, FL 34221. See Marge Hooie or sign up on the bulletin board.

Men's Breakfast

9am SAT. MARCH. 4
Norma Rae's in Palmetto. Sign up on the bulletin board.

Women's Breakfast

9am FRI. MARCH. 4
We are meeting at Leon's House of Omelets located at 7246 55th Ave. E. Bradenton, FL 34203. Please sign up on the bulletin board.

Dinner and Dessert

6pm, FRI. MARCH. 24
Thank you to Linda Van Buskirk and Dorathy Gallo, for hosting our March Dinner and Dessert. We will meet for dinner at Carmen's Italian Café (A warm family owned trattoria offering pasta, pizza and traditional main courses) located at 515 27th St. E., #9-10, Bradenton, FL 34208. We will then gather at the community center at Encore RV Park for dessert. The address is: 800 Kay Rd. N.E., Bradenton, FL 34212. Directions are available on the bulletin board. Please sign up if you plan to attend.

CHURCH HAPPENINGS 3

CROP Walk Sunday, Feb 26

Faith UCC will again field an excellent team as we battle with other churches to show who is best!! Led by Coach Mad Marge the team includes: Jumpin' Jeff, PegOOOOOOO', So-Keen Earleen, Undaunted Donna, Serene Sheryl, and Bumbling Brian. We will be collecting right up until the day of the walk. AND You can contribute [on-line through our web page or Facebook page](#) and note it is for the CROP Walk!!

Fat Tuesday Pancake Supper, Feb 28

By popular demand, we are meeting back at the church for our traditional Pancake Supper from 5:30 pm - 7:00pm. We thank the Groths, Coxes, and Crowells for their talents and skills in cooking and serving. Donations accepted. **(Book Study will start at 7:00 that night)**

Ash Wednesday Service, Mar 1, at 7pm

A quiet service of reflection and the imposition of ashes to help us begin our Lenten Journey. Come and experience this ancient and powerful spiritual ritual.

Daylight Savings, Spring Ahead, Mar 12

Pastor Brian's least favorite Sunday of the year.... just saying



Manatee Pride, Saturday Mar 18, 12pm-5pm at Riverwalk

Faith UCC will again have a booth to celebrate the GLBTQ community. A new addition this year is an interfaith worship service at 1 pm. Our pastors are joining with many other clergy from the area to put it together!

Blessing of the Animals, Saturday April 1, at 11am

Get your furry and feathery friends ready for our spring-time blessing. A brief service of gratitude for God's gift of our animal companions is followed by individual prayer and photos.

Children's Ministry

If you have a heart for children, then consider joining the Children's Ministry Team. We need help in the nursery and Sunday school. Please contact Babs Brownell if you would like more information
Call: 941.747.9643

A ROOTIN', TOOTIN', TIME CHILI COOK - OFF



FAITH PRESCHOOL

Wendi Steinbach, Director

COME JOIN US!!

Faith Preschool is having a "School Wide Art Show & Silent Auction" on Tuesday, April 25, 2017 from 6:00 - 7:30 PM. We will have the children's art on display, finger foods and a silent auction fundraiser. Come out and be part of this wonderful evening and support Faith Preschool. If anyone would like to donate an item to our auction, please let me know. All donations are tax deductible. We appreciate everyone's help in making our fundraiser a success! We will be closed for Spring Break from March 17 - 24.



CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Faith United Church of Christ /// February 13, 2017

In Attendance: Judy Wetter, Richard Dilts, Robin Wentz, Donna Blakey, Marge Critelli, Barbara Brownell, Denny Wetter, Sheryl Overheid-Smith, Marge Hooie, Debra D'Angelo, Rev Brian Bagley-Bonner, Faith Quici. Absent: Rev Judy Bagley-Bonner

Moderator Judy Wetter brought the meeting to order at 7:01pm. Pastor Brian opened the meeting in prayer. Deb D'Angelo moved to accept the January Council Meeting Minutes as printed in the Follower; Denny Wetter seconded the motion; Minutes were accepted.

Financial Secretary: Donna Blakey reviewed the Financial Report and indicated that we reported \$700 more income than 2016 in January.

Treasurer's Report: Marge Critelli reported that we have a CD that will come due on 2/27 and will roll over at current interest rate if it remains as-is. After much discussion, it was decided that she'll pull out the money in CD and will be put into the money market until a better interest rate is available. She mentioned also that the Cornerstone balance is approximately \$30,000. \$400 is currently in the operating fund for the Memorial Garden and she will ask Arlene to add to the Memorial Garden Line fund.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Brian gave update on study groups and said that they are going very well

Secretary's Report: Faith obtained quotes from three companies for carpet cleaning. Babs Brownell moved that we hire Quality Counts for the task; Deb D'Angelo seconded the motion; motion carried.

Old Business:

-By law Committee-Judy Wetter will reconvene with MR soon

-Meeting with Pastor Ramon-we need to schedule meeting with Pastor Ramon to include a new contract with the Apostolic Church and Faith.

-Security camera-Denny stated that he got a quote of \$590 from Uprfront Technology to include new camera and installation same. Babs Brownell moved that we pay to spend the money to do so and Marge Hooie seconded; Voted unanimously to have done; Motion Carried.

-Pastoral Relations-Babs reported that Fred Damianos will chair the committee, that Judy Wetter or Richard Dilts will be the board representatives, and

nominated Carol Knight to serve as a new member on the committee. She made a motion to accept Carol as a committee member; Cheryl Overheid-Smith seconded the motion which was unanimously affirmatively voted. Motion carried.

-Weaver Bequests: Judy reported that the initial distribution from the Weaver Trust has been made to Faith UCC of \$52,500. We expect a total of \$186,716.59.

-Police Audit: March 20, 2017 there will be a safety audit done for us by the Bradenton Police Department. Richard Dilts, Fred Damianos, Denny Wetter, Pastor Brian will attend. Further information will follow the audit.

-Preschool check: Two (2) years ago the board voted to pay the preschool \$250 for playground equipment. Denny Wetter made a motion to pay the \$250 from the memorial garden fund. Deb D'Angelo seconded the motion. Motion carried.

New Business:

Pride Festival

In discussing Babs stated that she felt that we need a professional marketing brochure in order to draw interest to our church for this and other events. She made a motion for Faith UCC to rent a space at the Festival; Marge Hooie seconded the motion which was carried.

Per Capita

The rate has increased from \$14.50 per member to \$15.00. We didn't realize it until after the new year began. The good news is we only owe \$36.00 to the conference. Babs B offered to pay the \$36 in celebration of how great our members did this year in making payment.

Lent

Pancake Supper will be hosted by the Groths, Coxes, and Crowells on 2/28 @ 5:30. Our Ash Wed service will be held on 3/1 @ 7 pm. Maundy Thursday service will be held on April 13th at 7 pm. Richard D said he expected to have the Easter lilies delivered to the church on Good Friday and will be \$8 each (assuming the same cost as last year). Easter Service will be held at 10:30 am.

Pastor's Housing Allowance

Pastor Brian requested the Board adjust the salary and housing allocations (same dollars but with different percentages) as there is no income tax on the housing allowance. Babs Brownell moved that we change the Pastors' salary to \$39,600 and

housing dollars to \$14,440 for the same total as voted on at the annual meeting of \$54,040. Denny Wetter seconded the motion which was unanimously accepted. Motion carried.

Emerson Point Worship Service

This was tentatively scheduled for April 23rd. We will check with the county to see what dates are available and then determine the best Sunday to have it.

Blessing of the Animals

Will be held Sat. April 1st

Pastors' Vacation-They will be gone 4/26-5/3/17

Junk in the Trunk Sale

Any member who'd like to sell items normally sold in a yard sale could participate by placing those items in their car (trunk) and as a church we would charge a fee to those who would participate of \$10 for one day and \$15 for both days. This would be held the same weekend that Braden River Lakes holds their neighborhood yard sale which is 3/24 & 3/25.

Department & Committee/Team

Reports

Building & Grounds-Denny Wetter reported on what was accomplished during the month. Turns out that the Stove outlet was wired incorrectly which caused the stove not to work. This was discovered by a licensed electrician.

Church Events-Sheryl Overheid-Smith reported that the Gerlach Family sent a thank you for the food & help while they were here. The Chili Cook-Off was a success and made \$339! The March Dinner & Dessert will be held March 24th at Carmen's.

Community Outreach-Deb D'Angelo stated that we had most recently advertised the book study

Social Action & Missions- Babs told the board that she will talk with the Pastors about Blanket Sunday. She further stated that Donna R, Linda VanBuskirk and Carol Knight will serve on this committee.

Faith Care- Marge Hooie said that they have an opening in this team.

Worship - Richard stated that he'll be gone the first Sunday in March. Babs will be his back up that day.

Pastor Brian closed the meeting in prayer. Next meeting to be held Mon. March 13th.

Robin Wentz

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 9:30am - 12:30pm
(also available 6-6:30pm)
Wednesday 9:30am- 12:30pm
Thursday 6:00pm -7:00pm

Other times by appointment
*3rd Thursday at UCC meetings



Office Hours
MONDAY-FRIDAY
9 AM - 12 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. 447.4193	Helen Nutting 941. 747.2734	Sheryl Overheidt-Smith 941.776.5589 (winter) 269.673.6676 (summer)	Donna Rusch 301.825.9611	Joan Sheehan 941.748.2498
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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

2017 Church Council

Moderator: Judy Wetter

Faith Care Team: Marge Hooie

Deputy Moderator: Richard Dilts

Community Outreach: Deb D'Angelo

Secretary: Robin Wentz

Church Events & Fellowship: Sheryl Overheidt Smith

Financial Secretary: Donna Blakey

SAM: Babs Brownell

Treasurer: Marge Critelli

Building & Grounds: Denny Wetter

Worship Team: Richard Dilts

Christian Ed: OPEN



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



www.faithchurchucc.com

MARCH 2017

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 Ash Wednesday service 7pm	2 7pm Choir 7:15pm NA 7:15pm Nar-Anon	3 Church Women United Meeting 7:15pm NA 7:30pm BAC	4 9am Men's Breakfast- Norma Rae's 9am Women's Breakfast-Leon's House of Omelets 10am NA & Nar-Anon
5 9am Book Study 10:30am Service Communion 1:30pm BAC NA 7:15pm	6	7 6:30pm Book Study	8 10:30am Faith Care Team Meeting 7:00pm BAC	9 7pm Choir 7:15pm NA 7:15pm Nar-Anon	10 7:15pm NA 7:30pm BAC	11 10am NA & Nar-Anon
12 SPRING FORWARD Daylight Savings 9am Book Study 10:30am Service 1:30pm BAC NA 7:15pm	13 7pm Church Council Mtg 7pm BR HOA	14 6:30pm Book Study Building and Grounds Work Day 4pm	15 7:00pm BAC	16 7pm Choir 7:15pm NA 7:15pm Nar-Anon	17 St. Patrick's Day Preschool off 7:15pm NA 7:30pm BAC Follower Reminder	18 10am NA & Nar-Anon Pride Festival 12pm-5pm Riverwalk
19 10:30am Service 1:30pm BAC NA 7:15pm	20 Preschool Spring Break return March 27 Safety Mtg 1:30pm Follower Deadline 7pm INT HOA	21 11:30am Prayer Mtg	22 7:00pm BAC	23 7pm Choir 7:15pm NA 7:15pm Nar-Anon	24 6pm Dinner and Dessert at Carmen's Italian Cafe 7:15pm NA 7:30pm BAC Junk in Trunk Sale	25 10am NA & Nar-Anon Junk in Trunk Sale
26 10:30am Service 1:30pm BAC NA 7:15pm	27 <i>Preschool back in session</i>	28	29 7:00pm BAC	30 7:15pm NA 7:15pm Nar-Anon	31 7:15pm NA 7:30pm BAC	

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

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

BAC: Bradenton Apostolic Church

Narcotics Anonymous (NA) and Nar- Anon, NA hotline at 941.257.5055.

(HOA's) Home Owner Associations



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