

# FAITHFUL follower

FAITH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

OPEN & AFFIRMING



## November 2016

Faithful Follower is published monthly by Faith United Church of Christ.  
**Editor:** Faith Quici, and Donna Rusch created our feature page 4 of this issue.



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## From Your Moderator

In a few days it will be November and we will be getting ready to celebrate Thanksgiving and planning for the Christmas holidays and another new year. It is hard to believe that we are almost at the end of 2016. Some of our members are beginning to return from the north. It is so good to have them back to worship with us.

A special thank you to everyone who volunteered to help with the activities in October.

One of our first activities in November will be the Church Women United Meeting on November 4 at Community of Christ Church at 5817 33<sup>rd</sup> St. E., Bradenton. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board if you would like to attend. If you don't have a way to get there, please call the church office and we will try to find you a ride.

The Migrant Tea is on November 18 at

Manatee United Methodist Church at 315 15<sup>th</sup> St. E., Bradenton. Please remember to check the bulletin board for all activities in November. If you would like to host an activity please sign up or call the church office.

A special thank you to everyone who helped with the Sunday services or with the special activities. If you want to be involved as a volunteer, contact me, and I will put you in touch with the right person.

Our prayers go with you if you are traveling for a safe trip and we look forward to your return.

A special thank you for our Pastors, the church council members, and anyone who has volunteered this year.

May the peace of Christ be with you!

Marge Hooie  
Moderator

## Special Thanks

My Dear family of Faith Church, I am overwhelmed by the generosity, support and love I received at this difficult time. The organization and the detail given to Jimmy's service and the repast were top-notch. I do want to give acknowledgment to Don Duncan,

Anita Porter, Bruce Covey and Judy Wetter.

I am honored to be among and part of such a great group of people, thank you.

Love,  
Richard Dilts

## Deck the Halls

Saturday, November 26, at 10am is our annual get together to decorate the church for the Christmas holidays. Please sign up and join us for this great time of fellowship. Let us remember Jimmy Veverka at this time as he and Richard headed this as a couple several years ago. A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board.

## 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 **November**, we are collecting **Flour & Sugar** for the food bank.

# THE PASTOR'S DESK

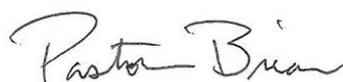
## What A November!

The world will be changed this November in many, many ways: a long, long denied baseball team will win the World Series (Chicago Cubs or Cleveland); a unique person will be elected to lead our country (the first woman or the first reality TV star); we hope and pray that the areas of conflict and oppression in the world will find greater peace and justice; on a personal note, Jude and I will be celebrating Thanksgiving in a house owned by our son instead of the past 26 years when the opposite was true!

The change this November can be a bit stressful and so it is good that November is also a time of

gratitude. We remember to give thanks for all that God has given us and that helps us stay calm and carry on no matter what we face. Being steeped in gratitude is a good way for Faith UCC to plan for the coming of a new year. To help guide our Council in our budgeting for 2017, we have our Stewardship Campaign and Celebration in November. This year's theme is Give Me Five. Watch for a letter/email soon that will explain what it is all about!

May God be with us all in this Season of Change and Gratitude!



## Mark Your Calendars

### Men's BREAKFAST

9am SAT. Nov. 5  
Norma Rae's in Palmetto

### Women's BREAKFAST

9am SAT. Nov. 5  
Take a Break Cafe  
521 7th ST W, Palmetto

### Pastor's Discretionary Fund

Faith UCC has a benevolence fund which we use to help the homeless and other weary travelers who are temporarily down and out. Pastor Brian purchases food and gas cards to help others in an emergency one time situation. We have helped almost 50 people in the last three years. Those who receive help are often desperate for food and it gives someone a certain dignity to be able to make a food purchase of choice, rather than sift through a food bin in desperation. This is something we will expand on more in our next Follower as well as share some inspiring stories of how this fund has changed lives.

# 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, on a part time basis or get regularly involved in our Sunday morning worship activities. It's easy and we have so much fun helping out.

## JOIN US WEEKEND SCHEDULE

### November 6, 2016

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

### November 13, 2016

Flowers:	Available
Greeters:	Available
Scripture:	M.R. Lembright
Ushers:	Available
Nursery:	Babs Brownell
Sunday school:	Hatti Damianos

### November 20, 2016

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

### November 27, 2016

Flowers:	Deb D'Angelo
Greeters:	Available
Scripture:	Available
Ushers:	Available
Nursery:	Marge Hooie
Sunday school:	Hatti Damianos

# CHURCH HAPPENINGS

## ★ **World Series Potluck - 11/13 - after service**

Some in our congregation will be carefully watching the World Series. Since both teams have waited a long time we will honor them both (no matter who wins!) So put together your best tail-gating recipes for a sports themed November Pot-luck. Peanuts, Crackerjacks and Hot Dogs will be provided. Celebrate the World Series and your favorite team/sport.

## ★ **Membership Information Class - 11/13 - after service**

Anyone interested in finding out more about Faith United Church of Christ and our denomination (the U.C.C.) please come to a 1 hour session on Sunday 11/13, after service. The good news is you get to go through the potluck line first. We will also explore what it means to become a member of the Church. If there are those who do wish to join, they will be received into membership the following Sunday, 11/20. Talk to one of the Pastors if you are interested.

## ★ **Apostolic Church Thanksgiving - 11/20 at 1:30 pm**

The Apostolic Assembly of Bradenton, with whom we share our building, has again invited us for their traditional Thanksgiving Service and Feast on Sunday 11/20. We begin with a 1:30pm Bi-Lingual Service (Pastor Brian preaching) and then join in an amazing meal. Faith UCC folks are invited to bring desserts. Come and enjoy this chance to talk with our wonderful Sisters and Brothers in Christ. This even will be in place of our monthly Dinner and Dessert.

## ★ **Hanging of the Greens - Sat 11/26 - 10 am**

Come join in preparing the sanctuary for the Advent and Christmas season as we decorate on the Saturday after Thanksgiving. This is a wonderful way to start the season (and helpful in burning off pumpkin pie calories - really...)

## ★ **First Sunday of Advent - 11/27**

The Season of Advent begins the Sunday after Thanksgiving. Come as we prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ. Rev. Ellen King, who has just started attending Faith, will be leading the worship.

## ★ **Messiah Study**

In our December Adult Study we will look at Handel's Messiah using the Kerygma Bible Study Program. This great study looks at the words and music of this powerful piece and helps us understand Christmas on a much deeper level. We will do part of the Study in Advent, and pick it up again in Lent to prepare us for Easter. No book to buy, but materials will be passed out each week. The 3 week study will be Sunday Mornings at 9 am starting December 4 and Tuesday Evening at 7:00 pm starting Dec 6<sup>th</sup>.

## ★ **Thanksgiving in Oregon**

Brian and Judy will be spending Thanksgiving with their son in Oregon, helping him work on a newly purchased house in Junction City. Marge Hooie will have the Pastoral Phone in case of any emergency.

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## **Children's Ministry Team**

If you have a heart for children, then consider joining the Children's Ministry Team. It's so easy to sign up. We have room for you in the nursery with the little ones or in Sunday school with the older ones. Please contact Babs Brownell if you would like more information about this purposeful and rewarding ministry.

**Call: 941.747.9643**

# Faith Chat Room

Share your family photos, stories and comments with us: [faithchurchucc@verizon.net](mailto:faithchurchucc@verizon.net)

## Miscellaneous Thoughts

- 1. Why can't you take a turkey to church? They use fowl language.
- 2. What sound does a turkey's phone make? Wing, Wing



### Facts:

- 1. The first Thanksgiving celebration lasted 3 days!
- 2. The heaviest turkey on record was 86 pounds (according to Guinness World Book of Records). The average turkey served at thanksgiving weighs 15 lbs.

### Etc.

- 1. It's all about attitude: "I saw an angel in the marble, and I carved until I set it free."  
~ Michelangelo



Congrats on your successful breakfast and Yard Sale fundraisers!



Right: Some of the preschool staff: Gina, Wendi, Terri and Tina

**Welcome Back!**  
Let's make room for our returning winter friends



**Audio/Video Expert!**  
Thanks for all you do. You keep us on scrolling along!

# Wished You Were There



Sadie



Langston



Chewy and Solo



Layla



Hoover



Donna's Duck



Missy

## HISPANIC Heritage Festival

**Top Left:** Joan Sheehan and Floy Peterson

**Bottom Left:** Authentic Hispanic Cuisine

**Top Right:** Custom Dress

**Bottom Right:** Hispanic cultural entertainer



# Sarasota PRIDE



**Top Left:** Pastor Brian, M.R. and Jeff



**Bottom Left:** Donna, Jeff and Pastor Brian with the best booth



**Top Right:** Richard and Jimmy, they were with us in spirit.

**Bottom Right:** Faith UCC Booth, voted most colorful

## Spiritual Exercise

### We Are Family.



Greetings! I have returned from California after a joyous trip to visit family. It was my first visit with my new grandson, Branson (now 6 months). Seems we have a lot in common: We smile often, cry occasionally, poop regular, eat little, and sleep a lot. I miss him terribly. I wonder if he's shaving?

Anyway, since my return to FL, I have felt a surge of pride at being a member of Faith Church. I have been exercising my outreach muscles by participating in several events that serve the community, support a people and/or celebrate life. Although each of these events were separate, I noticed a common thread running through: The desire to be treated with respect, to be heard, and to be recognized as children of God. Profiles in courage.

At the first event, I posed as picture-taker during Faith's Blessing of the Animals ceremony. Armed with my cell phone, I captured photos of unconditional love. Also, I met a cat on a leash, and I have learned to accept

that dogs can be a joy (as long as they belong to someone else). There we were all God's creatures (hairy & smooth, 2 feet & 4) together peacefully. What a concept.

At the second event, along with the "usual suspects" (minus Richard who was with us in spirit), we represented Faith at the Sarasota Pride Festival. Of course, we were the BEST booth among a UCC delegation along with our sister churches, Saint Andrew and United Congregational of Sarasota. It was a liberating time, filled with laughs and way too much candy. There were no judgements made or anger flashed. For me, it can be scary to schmooze with people different than me. But when I do, I always find we are NOT so different. The fact is, I am not special (don't tell my grandson). I guess none of us are. We are all brothers and sisters: We are family.

At the last event, our church-mate, the Bradenton Apostolic Church, had invited Faith folks to their Hispanic Heritage celebration. Honestly, I hadn't intended to go (I don't speak Spanish). However, a wise senior Faith member gently reminded me that we are EACH

an extension of Faith church, and everyone has something to share. Besides she said, "It's just the right thing to do." I never thought of it like that: It's just being respectful. So I went. I understood absolutely nothing anyone said but it was a miracle to see how smiles, food, and music were able to communicate caring and respect. We are brothers and sisters, regardless of race, ethnicity or language. I think Our Father was pleased to see all His children playing together.

In closing, I will admit I'm very tired from all these activities. I marvel at our senior Faith members; it's hard for me to keep up with them. Time for me to nap.

Peace and Blessings to all,  
DONNA RUSCH (Branson's Grandma)



# “Seasons of Love”

J. Larson, 1960 - 1996

Five hundred twenty-five thousand six hundred minutes.  
Five hundred twenty-five thousand moments so dear.  
Five hundred twenty-five thousand journeys to plan.  
How do you measure a year in the life?

How do you measure the life of a woman or a man?  
How do you measure love?

In daylights - in sunsets.  
In midnight - in cups of coffee.  
In inches - in miles.  
In laughter - in strife.  
In truths that she learned or in times that he cried.  
In bridges he burned or the way that she died.

It's time now to sing out,  
Though the story never ends  
Let's celebrate  
Remember a year in the life of friends.  
Remember the love. Measure your life in love.



## Let's Celebrate!

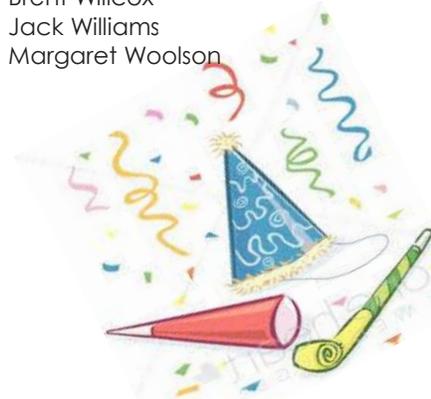
We remember the seasons of love they lived:

Bob Allen  
Harry Anderson  
Joyce Anderson  
Richard Bachman  
Leon & Louise  
Barnard  
Alice Bennides  
George & Betsy Biro  
Mayme Brainerd  
Katherine Brosius  
Stan Brumby  
Allen Bull  
Beverly Cass  
Don Chamberlain  
Eugene Critelli  
Delight DeWitt  
Frances Freeman  
Barbara Frederick

Jerry & Doris Gerlach  
Dick Garrard  
Joseph Gregory  
Ralph Hall  
Gloria Hamilton  
Berneta Harper  
Tom Hay  
Susanna Hill  
Bud Hooie  
Eleanor Houghton  
Roger Howard  
Suzanne Hundley  
Richard & Betty  
Kendrick  
Harold Kloke  
Katie Leonard  
Ed & Edith Lister  
Ruth Linsley  
Isabelle Lohr

Wes McGowan  
Dorothy & Jay Miller  
Ken Nutting  
Robert & Elsie Newman  
Allen Nienast  
Mac Osborne  
Peter & Laura Petti  
John & Nancy Potts  
Debra Rivera  
Grace Rodgers  
Joan Schiller  
Art Schneider  
Thelma Setser  
Peggy Shanbarker  
Frank Sheehan  
Ruth Sizelove  
Jerry Smith  
Ray Stewart  
Bertha Stipek

Carole Sluss  
Pat Strickland  
Barry & Colette Stipp  
Lynn & Lillian Timmons  
Ruth Underhill  
Jimmy Veverka  
Rev. Wilbert Lesser  
Iva Werner  
Helen & Glen Weaver  
Brent Willcox  
Jack Williams  
Margaret Woolson



# CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Faith United Church of Christ /// October 10, 2016

*Present: Barbara Brownell, Marge Hooie, Faith Quici, Denny Wetter, Judy Wetter, Pastor Brian, Robin Wentz, Deb D'Angelo and Linda Anderson.*

The meeting was called to order at 7:07 by Marge Hooie and with a prayer from Pastor Brian.

A motion was made to accept the minutes from the September 12 meeting by Judy Wetter and seconded by Robin Wentz.

Financial Secretary's report: Judy reported that a total deposit of \$9,555.11 was made for the month of September to the operating account at Bank of America. Also to the Bank of the Ozark a total of \$495.00 was made to the building for the future fund and \$329.00 was made to the pass through account for a grand total of \$10,379.11 for the month of September.

Treasurer's report: Arlene submitted account reports for August and September and reports that all bills are paid and current with a checkbook balance of \$4,413.09 as of September 30.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Brian stated that 6 people have signed up to the Sunday book study and 7 for the Tuesday evening book study which will start at 6:30pm. Pastor Brian would like a new member's class in November likely on the 13<sup>th</sup> with joining on the 20<sup>th</sup>. He will check to see if anyone is interested. Pastors Brian and Jude will be leaving for Oregon on November 21<sup>st</sup> and returning on the 30<sup>th</sup>. They will not be here for Sunday the 27<sup>th</sup> and suggested maybe Blu Gavin or Ellen

King can substitute. A book study of the Hallelujah Chorus is potentially set to begin December 4<sup>th</sup> with part of it done in December and the second part during Lent. Judy Wetter asked if an IPAD would do a better job at recording the sermon live than an iPhone, and if so maybe someone has an old one they can donate.

Secretary's Report: Faith said we need new cameras and 2 have been donated so we only need to buy 2 for \$34.00. The new cleaning crew is working out well. They are coming Friday afternoons after the preschool is out. She also said that since the supply closet has been locked she does not have to shop as often. The new copier is also doing great and all the "bugs" have been worked out.

Old Business: The playground equipment issue has been handed over to Wendi to work with Pastor Ramon. The preschool raised almost \$1000.00 from the breakfast and has thanked the church for our support. Pastor's discretionary fund is low and could use a fund-raiser. Options suggested were chili cook-off, bake sale, "pennies for pastor", birthday cake bank to put donations in. It was suggested that the pastor put stories in the Follower about how this fund has helped people.

New Business: October potluck was canceled. Sheryl Smith will host the October 30<sup>th</sup> hospitality. The October dinner and dessert is

hosted by Deb D'Angelo on October 21<sup>st</sup> at the Wheat & Water. It was decided to cancel dinner and dessert for November and just have a potluck given how busy November becomes with Thanksgiving. It was suggested that next year we have potlucks only on the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday.

Departments and Committee Reports: Building and Grounds: Denny and his crew have been busy as usual fixing doors, cleaning a/c filters, repairing and/or replacing lights, etc. A full report can be found elsewhere in the Follower. PRC: next meeting November 2<sup>nd</sup>. Community Outreach: Deb has placed ads for the book study and for blessing of the animals. SAM: Neighbors in Need collection is complete. October food is low sugar cereal and sugar and flour are for November. Worship: In Richard's absence Barbara Brownell and Deb D'Angelo will assist with intinction communion November 6<sup>th</sup> and Marge will read the scripture. Christian ED: Barbara stated that the nursery and Sunday school room is always a mess. Pastor Brian will set up a meeting with Pastor Ramon.

Motion to adjourn was made by Deb D'Angelo and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Denny Wetter. Pastor Brian prayed us out.

Respectfully submitted by  
Linda Anderson.

## FAITH PRESCHOOL

**Wendi Steinbach, Director**

Thank you to everyone that came out to our "Back to School Breakfast" fundraiser at Applebee's! We appreciate your support for Faith Preschool!

This past week we had our fall festivals for each class! During the fall festival for the MWF and VPK classes the children came to school dressed up in costumes. They had activities on the playground and also went trunk or

treating. The T/TH class kept it simple. They went trick or treating throughout the building and played some games on the playground. It is always a fun-filled time for all of the children. On Wednesday, November 2, all of the classes will have a field trip to Hunsader Farm.

The preschool will be closed for Thanksgiving break from November 21 - 25.

**Faith Preschool wishes everyone a  
"Happy Thanksgiving"!**

# 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. 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

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**

## 2016 Church Council

**Moderator:**  
Marge Hooie 447-4193

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

**Secretary:**  
Linda Anderson 704-8772

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

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

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

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

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

### OPEN POSITIONS:

**Christian Education:** OPEN

**Fellowship & Events:** OPEN

**Faith Care Team:** OPEN



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



www.faithchurchucc.com

# November 2016

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 6:30pm Book Study  7pm HOA San Casciano	2 7:00pm BAC	3 7:15pm NA 7:15pm Nar-Anon  7pm Choir	4 Church Women United Meeting	5 9am Men's Breakfast 9am Women's Breakfast  10am NA & Nar-Anon
6 DAYLIGHT SAVINGS Fall back 9am Book Study 10:30am Service With Communion  1:30pm BAC NA 7:15pm	7	8 Building and Grounds Work Day 4pm  6:30pm Book Study	9 7:00pm BAC	10 7:15pm NA 7:15pm Nar-Anon  7pm Choir	11 7:15pm NA 7:30pm BAC	12 10am NA & Nar-Anon
13 9am Book Study 10:30am Service Potluck New Member Class  1:30pm BAC NA 7:15pm	14 7pm Church Council Mtg	15 11:30am Prayer Mtg 6:30pm Book Study	16 7:00pm BAC	17 7:15pm NA 7:15pm Nar-Anon  7pm Choir	18 Migrant Tea  7:15pm NA 7:30pm BAC  Follower Reminder	19 10am NA & Nar-Anon
20 10:30am Service Joining Members  1:30pm BAC THANKSGIVING DINNER NA 7:15pm	21 Follower Deadline  7pm BR HOA	22	23 7:00pm BAC	24 Office is closed  THANKSGIVING  7:15pm NA	25 Office is closed  7:30pm BAC 7:15pm NA	26 10am Decorating for Christmas  10am NA & Nar-Anon
27 10:30am Service 1:30pm BAC NA 7:15pm	28 7pm INT HOA	29	30 7:00pm BAC	<b>HAPPY BIRTHDAY</b> Fred Damianos 11/9 Margaret Gregory 11/20 Deb D'Angelo 11/22 Gary Rosenfeld 11/30		

- **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 different venue.
- 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.



**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)