

FAITHFUL follower

FAITH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

OPEN & AFFIRMING



November 2015

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

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From Your Moderator

In a few days it will be November and we look forward to our members who are in the north returning to Florida.

Remember that the Sunday, October 25, service will be on the beach at 10:30am. There will be a potluck following the service.

Sunday, November 1, we will "fall back" to Daylight Savings Time.

Please check the bulletin board in the Narthex for November activities and sign up if you plan to attend, host, or help.

Friday, November 6, will be a Church Women United Meeting. It will be World Communion Day and it will be at Longboat Island Chapel at 6200 Gulf of Mexico Drive, Longboat Key.

If you need any information, call the church office and Faith will help you, or call me at home at 941-747-2734.

Peace be with you!
Marge Hooie
Moderator

Clean up Day

We will have a fall clean up day on Saturday, November 14, from 9am to noon in preparation for the holiday season. We are looking for volunteers for window cleaning, shrub trimming, kitchen cleaning, fan cleaning, etc.

Thank you,
Denny

FALL BACK

Sunday, November 1 is Daylight Savings. Make sure you set your clocks back one hour the evening before church and you will be on time.



THE PASTOR'S DESK

Rev. Brian and Rev. Judy Bagley- Bonner

CATS & DOGS

At a recent church meeting we discussed the difference between cats and dogs. One person shared a great quote, "dogs have companions, Cats have staffs." We also heard a wonderful article about how, when children become teenagers, they switch from being dogs to cats. Here is a link to that story which any parents of teenagers will appreciate:

<http://www.sfgate.com/entertainment/article/ADAIR-LARA-When-Children-Turn-Into-Cats-2988639.php>

One of my favorite sections talked about the change you must make as a parent of a teenager, "you're dealing with a cat, so everything that worked before now produces exactly the opposite of the desired result. Call it, and it runs away. Tell it to sit, and it jumps on the counter. The more you go toward it, wringing your hands, the more it moves away.... (so we must) learn to behave like a cat owner. Put a dish of food near the door, and let it come to you."

As we talked more we realized that, in some ways, visitors who walk through our doors today are also more like cats than dogs. They want to look around a bit. They want to do what they want to do when they want to do it.



In the past, when church membership was an important part of being a member of the community, people were anxious to get involved - to put their names on the rolls in order to fit in. Now, because our culture is full of information-grabbing marketing, people are wary about jumping in and giving information quickly about where they live, what they do, even their names and contact information. Today's visitor wants to make sure a church fits their wants and needs, not vice versa. Is it a place where the worship lifts them up and the people share similar thoughts, values, and outlooks on life? Can they see their family becoming a part of the community?

As we start our new experiment in how we welcome people, we will continue to share meaningful worship, but we will change how/when we do some things to make sure our guests are not uncomfortable. We will move our time of greeting one another to the end of the service, and we will dispense with holding hands for the last song. It will take us some time to get used to the changes, but they make a lot of sense if we consider our visitors might be more like cats! This may also help us remember that our role is to serve our guests (remember cats have staffs), not seek to have them meet our needs or do our bidding.

Blessings,
Rev. Brian and Rev. Judy Bagley-
Bonner

WORSHIP WITH US

2

NOVEMBER 1, 2015

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

NOVEMBER 8, 2015

Flowers: Available
Greeters: Available
Scripture: Bruce Covey
Ushers: Donna Rusch
Nursery: Linda Anderson

NOVEMBER 15, 2015

Flowers: Available
Greeters: Available
Scripture: Blu Glavin
Ushers: Available
Nursery: Marge Hooie

NOVEMBER 22, 2015

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

NOVEMBER 29, 2015

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

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.

FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT

PER CAPITA 2015

The decision for individuals to pay their own Per Capita was made years ago. Per Capita is an obligation we owe yearly to the conference to pay for staff, help with pastor searches, programs, etc. If you have not paid your 2015 Per Capita please do so because it is money that will come from the church budget if not paid individually. The cost is \$14.50 per person. Thanks for your prompt attention to this conference obligation. Your statement will show if you have paid for this year.

Financial Secretary
Judy

ONECO FLORIST /// 941.756.1556

Oneco Florist is offering Church members \$5 off their first arrangement. Just mention this article.

SOCIAL ACTION & MISSIONS

NOVEMBER food collection is: **Sugar and Flour**

For the month of November, we will be collecting *Sugar and Flour for the Food Bank of Manatee*. Thank you for your faithful contributions for others. For December let's concentrate on baby cereal, baby formula and food which is essential yet expensive for those in need.

HABITAT SUNDAY

November 8 will be Habitat Sunday with a reminder of our annual offering to Habitat of Manatee, with whom we have a covenantal relationship and have had for many years. I am



reminded that our dear Betsy Biro was the instrumental person in our congregation to connect us with this organization. What a blessing she was to us and let us continue to be so to Habitat of Manatee County! We will have a representative from Habitat that Sunday to give us an update on what's happening in Manatee County with Habitat.

Thank you for generously giving of yourself and your gifts,

Robin Wentz

Mark Your Calendars

ANNUAL MIGRANT TEA

Church Women United of Manatee County is having an Annual Migrant Tea on **Friday, November 20**, at 9:30am at the Manatee United Methodist Church at 315 15th St. E., in Bradenton. There will be a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the Narthex, if you would like to form a group to attend this event.

POTLUCK

Will be Sunday, November 8, after our Worship.

DINNER & DESSERT

The November Dinner and Dessert is available to host.

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

CHURCH HAPPENINGS

Membership Class

After church on Sunday, November 8, we will have a meeting for those interested in finding out more about our church and the United Church of Christ. And those attending will be allowed to go through the Pot-luck lunch line first! The class usually takes about 45 minutes and there is no obligation to join afterwards. Those who do wish to join the church will do so during the service on November 15.

Advent Already!!

The season of awaiting Christ's coming begins on Sunday, November 29. To prepare for this season of reflection we will decorate the sanctuary on Saturday, November 28, starting at 10 am.

All Saints Remembrance

On Sunday, November 8, we will remember those who have died in the past year or before. We will have a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board where you can put the names of those to be remembered.

Road Trip to St Pete

The Barnes have invited us to see their new home at 125 56th Ave S, St. Pete on Saturday, November 7, for Lunch. This will replace our usual Monthly Men's and Women's breakfast. We will meet at church at 10:15 am to car-pool. Please sign up so we can give them an accurate RSVP!

A note from Jack and Midge

You are invited to share lunch with us at 11:30am on Saturday, November 7 at Westminster Shores in St. Pete.

DIRECTIONS: Take I-75 to I-275. You will cross the Skyway Bridge and some other bridges. Take the first exit after crossing, exit 16. There will be a slight jog to your left onto 62nd Ave. E. Follow to 4th Street and turn left to 56th St. Turn right. Follow a short distance to Westminster Bahama Shores on your left. Turn in. You may park on the street on your right or in the parking lot. Jack will be there to direct you. Take the elevator or stairs to 2nd floor. Go around to your right from the elevator and I will be there to greet you. After lunch we will go to our apartment for a visit. I will need an approximate count in advance. We are so excited you are coming. Should you get lost call our cell phones. Jack 941 524 0905. Midge 941 962 3717.

COMING SOON:

Faith Care Team: the next meeting is Nov. 18 at 7 pm

Poinsettias will be on sale starting November 29. They are \$8 this year and the order form will be in the bulletin starting on that Sunday.

December Dinner and Dessert will be hosted by Richard and Jimmy on Friday, December 18, at 6pm at their lovely home.

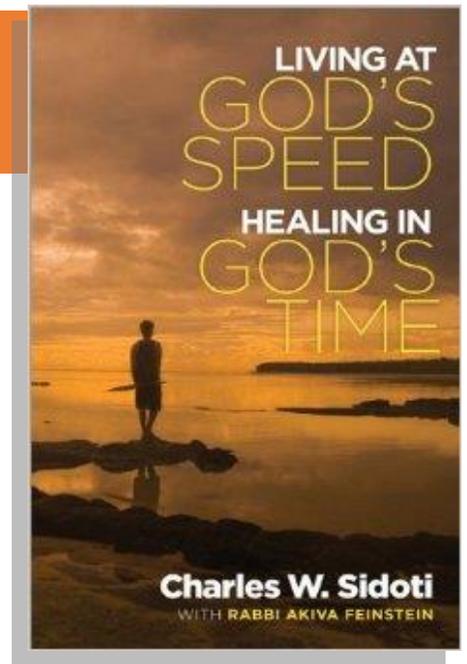
Autumn Book Study

Living at God's Speed, Healing in God's Time

Beginning November 1 and running through December, Jude Bagley-Bonner will lead a book study open to all. The book: Living at God's Speed, Healing in God's Time by Chaplain Charles W. Sidoti and Rabbi Akiva Feinstein is a book of sixty short devotionals (one or two pages each) which lend themselves to easy daily reading, and rich group discussion. The authors' contention is that God's time often differs from our time. The authors provide spiritual insights about how to cope with constant change and the worry about the future that comes with it.

You can sign up for either the Sunday Morning group (9-10:15 A.M.) or the Tuesday Evening Group (6:30-7:45 P.M.). Please do sign up in advance.

This is a wonderful companion book for all who seek a deeper relationship with God. The group book order is over, so if you would like a book, please check local bookstores or online like amazon.com.



A Preschool Note

Wendi Steinbach, Director

Greetings from Faith Preschool.....

Our school year is off to a great start! The fire department will be here on October 22 to teach the children about fire safety and at the end of the month, all of the classes will have their Fall Festivals. During the fall festival the MWF and VPK children come to school dressed up in costumes, play games, decorate cookies and go trunk or treating. The T/TH class plans to keep it simple. They will go trick or treating throughout the building and play some games in their classroom. It is always a fun-filled day for all of the children. On November 16, the VPK class is going to Florida Studio Theatre to see the play Rumpelstiltskin.

Happy Fall!

Wendi Steinbach,
Director



IN LOVING MEMORY

Harry B. Anderson

January 18, 1928 - October 4, 2015



Thank you to everyone for your support, cards, visits at the home and the beautiful service and food afterwards. It meant a lot to me and Evelyn that you were all supporting us through my dad's illness and in his death. We can't thank you all enough for what you all did. We are truly blessed to be a part of such a caring church.

Thank you,
Evelyn and Linda

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Faith United Church of Christ /// October 12, 2015

Present: Richard Dilts, Pastor Jude, Barbara Brownell, Marge Hooie, Pastor Brian, Judy Wetter, Linda Anderson, Faith Quici, Robin Wentz and Marge Critelli. The meeting was called to order at 7:16 with a prayer from Pastor Judy. A motion was made by Marge C to accept the minutes from the September meeting and second by Robin. The motion was carried with a unanimous vote.

Financial Secretary's report: Judy W. submitted her report of deposits which were a total of \$9,537.66 in the month of September. The break down was a total of \$8,903.66 to the Bank of America operating account, \$320.00 to the Bank of the Ozarks building for the future account and \$314.00 to the Bank of the Ozarks pass through account.

Treasurer's report: Marge C. reported a total income from Jan-Sept as \$127,321.53 and total expense \$136,546.65 and net other income \$110.88 with a total net income of -\$9,114.24.

Pastor's report: Pastor Brian reported that we are beginning to welcome back the northerners. Church on the beach will be 2 Sundays from now. They will begin advertising for the fall book study. Pastor Judy reported the book study "Living at God's Speed Healing in God's Time" will be on Sunday mornings and Tuesday evenings. She also reported that she talked with the PFLAG (parents & friends of lesbians and gays) group who said there was not a group in the area but they don't necessarily want to be affiliated with any religion.

Secretary's report: Faith submitted the October and November calendar and asked for any changes/ additions. She also said that Midge and Jack Barnes have asked that instead of breakfast on November 7th that they would like to host the women's and men's group

for lunch in St. Pete. NA and Nar-Anon would like the church for Thanksgiving and would like to add a Sunday evening meeting. Council agreed to the changes.

Old Business: The church growth committee would like to have a fund raiser to get new furniture for the Narthex. Richard said their clubhouse is getting new furniture and has a leather couch and love seat in good condition he may be able to obtain. He said he would look into it. The council gave approval for the fundraiser.

New Business: Barbara said we need to get a nominating committee together and asked anyone who is willing to serve on the council next year to let her know. Pastor Brian would like a new member class on November 8th with joining on November 15th.

Department and Committee reports:

Building and Grounds: Denny submitted a report which can be found in the follower. A motion was made by Barbara to give Dick Sluss' son-in-law a \$100 gift card for his help in the temporary repairs he did to the lift station. The motion was second by Richard and carried with a unanimous vote. Judy said it was time to get the carpet cleaned in the sanctuary. She will get some estimates.

Pastoral relations: the next meeting will be October 19th.

SAM: The neighbors in need offering was last week. November is sugar and flour collection and December is baby cereal, food and formula. Habitat Sunday is November 18th and Robin suggested we "adopt a family" for Christmas.

Faith Care Team: the next meeting is Nov. 18 at 7 pm. And they are doing a great job.

Worship Team: Richard submitted a list of things needed in the next few months including Sundays he would not be at church. He also requested to change the note on the inside of the friendship pads. He would like to decorate the church for advent on November 28 and the 29 for the poinsettias request slip to go into the bulletin.

A motion to adjourn was made by Barbara and second by Marge C. at 9:00 pm.

Closing prayer was given by Pastor Brian.

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 Morning. 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

**3rd 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

2015 Church Council

Moderator:
Marge Hooie 747-2734

Financial Secretary:
Judy Wetter 755-4583

Social Action & Missions:
Robin Wentz 758-6575

Deputy Moderator:
Barbara Brownell 747-9643

Building & Grounds:
Denny Wetter 755-4583

Faith Care Team:
M. R. Lembright 758-5716

Secretary:
Linda Anderson 704-8772

Christian Education: OPEN

Worship Team Leader:
Richard Dilts 776-7293

Treasurer:
Marge Critelli 685-3807

Fellowship & Events: OPEN

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



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



www.faithchurchucc.com

November 2015

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 Daylight Savings 9am Adult Study 10:30am Service 1:30 BAC NA 7:15pm	2	3 6:30pm Adult Study	4 7:00pm BAC	5 7:15pm NA	6 Church Women United Mtg. 7:15pm NA 7:30pm BAC	7 Lunch with the Barnes in St. Pete 10am NA & Nar-Anon
8 9am Adult Study 10:30am Service Habitat Offering New Members Class POTLUCK 1:30 BAC NA 7:15pm	9 7pm Church Council	10 6:30pm Adult Study	11 7:00pm BAC	12 7:15pm NA	13 7:15pm NA 7:30pm BAC	14 9am-12pm Fall Clean-up Day 10am NA & Nar-Anon
15 9am Adult Study 10:30am Service New Members Joining 1:30 BAC NA 7:15pm	16 7pm BR HOA Follower Deadline	17 6:30pm Adult Study 11:30am Prayer Mtg	18 7pm Faith Care Team 7:00pm BAC	19 7:15pm NA	20 9:30am CWU Migrant Tea 6pm Dinner and Dessert 7:15pm NA 7:30pm BAC	21 10am NA & Nar-Anon
22 9am Adult Study 10:30am Service 1:30 BAC NA 7:15pm	23 7pm INT HOA	24 6:30pm Adult Study	25 7:00pm BAC	26 Office Closed Thanksgiving NA / 8A-8P/ Marathon	27 Office Closed 7:15pm NA 7:30pm BAC	28 Decorate Church 10a 10am NA & Nar-Anon
29 9am Adult Study 10:30am Service 1:30 BAC NA 7:15pm	30					

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

HAPPY
Birthday

Scott Brownell 11/7
 Fred Damianos 11/9
 Margaret Gregory 11/20
 Deb D'Angelo 11/22
 Gary Rosenfeld 11/30