

The FAITH FLYER

Contact Us!

Phone: 610-967-5600
office@faithchurchemmaus.org
www.faithchurchemmaus.org

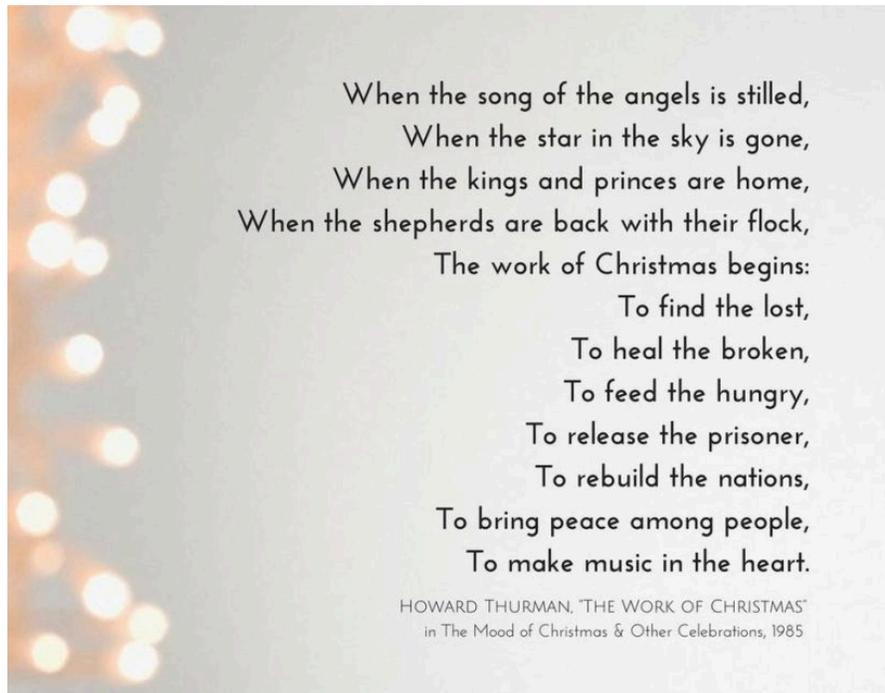
Let us gather as a community to celebrate the blessings that surround us.



When the Song of the Angels Is Stilled



Rev. Rebecca Mallozzi



As we move through the season of Advent, Christmas, and then into the Christmastide of a New Year and move towards the threshold of Lent, Jesus reminds us that the story isn't over—it's just beginning. The season keeps us moving, even as it invites us to slow down and spend some time in pondering and wonder.

(Continued on page 3.)

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Staff

Pastor

Rev. Rebecca Mallozzi

Music Director

John Shilanskas

Youth Director

Rev. Joanne Marchetto

Administrative Assistant

Bookkeeper, Flyer Editor

Lynda Scheirer

Custodian

Name

Officers

Elders

Tim Bagnull

Terry Eck

Sally Heimbach

Andy Ingram

Pam Martin

Janie Slamon

Melanie Shimer, Clerk

Deacons

Doug Boyd

Eleanor DePhillips

Beth Folio

Anne Laubach

Jana Masenheimer

Pam Mongi

Marlene Smith

Yvonne Stauffer, Moderator



Find us on Facebook at
Faith Presbyterian Church Emmaus

Sunday Worship: 10:00 a.m.



Church Office Hours

Monday-Thursday: 9 a.m. to noon. Closed Friday.

Pastoral Care Needs

For medical emergencies or deaths, contact one listed below:

- Pastor Becki at revmallozzi@faithchurchemmaus.org
- Deacon Moderator: Yvonne Stauffer (see your directory)

Prayer Chain Requests

Messages to be shared via the Prayer Chain may be emailed to prayers@faithchurchemmaus.org, or through a form on the Prayer Requests page of the church website.

Please visit us on the web!

For all the latest information, audio sermons, calendar highlights, and news, visit us at: www.faithchurchemmaus.org

Next Newsletter Deadline: February 15, 2026

Personal Contact Information

To protect privacy and personal information, phone numbers and email addresses are not included in any online publications.

Zoom Links

Links to Zoom meetings are not shared in church publications, to discourage outside interference.

Faith Presbyterian Church

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office@faithchurchemmaus.org

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(Pastor’s Message, continued from page 1.)

Thurman’s words pull us past sentiment and into purpose: the miracle of God’s grace doesn’t end at the manger; it moves through us into the world. This season, how will you engage in the work of Christmas?

Our newsletter is full of glimpses of how our church family is already doing this—through generosity, care, and hope.

Won’t you find a way to join us in our shared ministry to live and share the miracle of God’s grace?

Blessings,
Pastor Becki



Congregational Meeting

December 14, 2025
following worship

The purpose of the meeting is to act on the recommendations of the Nominating Committee and to vote on the Pastor’s Terms of Call.

Faith

Annual Congregational Meeting

January 25, 2026 following worship

To celebrate the ministries we were able to offer in 2025, and hear the presentation of the annual budget.

Annual Reports are due on December 31!

Those with reports to submit are asked to begin gathering their information now in order for their submission to be on time.



Worship at Faith Church

Sunday Mornings 10 a.m.
In-person & Online!

Scriptures and Sermons for Winter Worship

December 7

“Repeat the Sounding Joy”
Isaiah 11:1-10

December 14

Christmas Cantata

December 21

“Make the Nations Prove: Peaceful Joy”
Isaiah 7:10-16

December 24

“The Lord is Come: Incarnate Joy”

December 28

Pastor on Vacation
Hymn Sing for Worship

January 4

“Purveyors of Awe”
Ephesians 1:3-14

January 11

“Appreciating Beauty”
Psalm 27

January 18

“Meaning-Makers”
John 1:29-42

January 25

“Curious Children of God”
Matthew 4:12-23

February 1

“Delicious Delight”
Matthew 5:1-12

February 8

“Connection, Not Competition”
Matthew 5:13-20

February 15

“Paying it Forward”
Matthew 17:1-9

February 18

Ash Wednesday - 7:00 p.m.

February 22

First Sunday of Lent
Theme is TBD.



Our worship services are available for live viewing on YouTube, allowing you to join us from anywhere with an internet connection. You can find the link on our website under “*Media—Live Stream”, or simply visit <https://bit.ly/FPCLive>. Additionally, past services are archived and can be accessed under “Media—Sermons & Bulletins.”

We Value Our Sunday Morning Volunteers



Sunday mornings can run like clockwork when folks come together with ample volunteer support. Each role plays a vital part in creating a welcoming and seamless worship experience for everyone involved. When each volunteer fulfills their role, the entire morning becomes a harmonious symphony of service and community spirit.

- **Worship Assistants** help guide the congregation through the service, ensuring everything flows smoothly. Sign up on the whiteboard in the narthex. Easy instructions are provided.
- **Fellowship Time Preparers** set up a comfortable space for connection and conversation, fostering a sense of community. Sign up on the whiteboard in the narthex. Easy instructions are provided.
- **Nursery Caregivers** provide a safe and nurturing environment for the youngest members, allowing parents to engage fully in the service. Sign up on the whiteboard in the narthex.
- **Ushers** provide a warm welcome, assisting attendees with seating and any questions. There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex. Easy instructions provided.

advent[ure]

a journey through the Christmas story

Prepare Our Church for Advent!

If this reaches you in time, we hope you will join us for a **joyful day of fellowship** as we prepare our church home for the beautiful Season of Advent!

On **Sunday, November 23**, immediately following worship, we'll share a light lunch together. Then, we'll get busy:

- **Decorating the Sanctuary:** Transforming our worship space with the beauty of Advent.
- **Creating Luminaria:** Preparing these special candles for distribution at the Holiday Craft Fair and the Old-Fashioned Christmas in Emmaus.
- **Advent Devotionals** and **Advent Wreaths** will be available.

It's a wonderful opportunity to connect with one another and set the stage for this holy season!

If you missed out on the action, we hope you'll still take a moment to enjoy the great results this holiday season.




Virtual Advent Prayer Gathering

JOIN US ON ZOOM SUNDAYS AT 8:45-9 FOR A VIRTUAL ADVENT PRAYER GATHERING. WE WILL GATHER, PRAY, READ SCRIPTURE, AND SPEND TIME IN SILENCE FOR THIS SEASON. WE WILL MEET NOV 30 AND DEC 7, 14, AND 21.

<https://bit.ly/FPCadventprayers>



A CHILD, A KING
A Christmas Cantata

Performed by the
FAITHFUL HARMONIZERS

December 14
During Worship

Join Us! ✨
All Are Welcome.



WE ARE INVITING YOU TO:

Christmas Eve Services

5:00 pm - Traditional Family Service

7:30 pm - Candlelight Service

11:30 pm - Outdoor Service @
the Emmaus Triangle



I have been thinking about change lately. Change can certainly be a challenge! Anyone who has tried to travel through the streets of Emmaus in the last month or two has felt that challenge. It seems like no matter which way you go, there is another detour or closed road that forces you to go a different way.

However, change can be beautiful! As I write this, I can see the beautiful colors of South Mountain in all of their fall splendor. Raising children and retirement can also be beautiful changes. Our church has undergone some changes as well. Several years ago we pivoted to the Sunday Morning Together model when we didn't have enough children for a typical Sunday School program. Earlier in November, our church hosted the newly merged Mountain Laurel Presbytery which has been quite a significant change for not only our church but many churches.

How can we embrace, and even welcome change in our own lives? About a year ago, I kept seeing a colorful infographic from Pastor Becki in the Flyer and I believe Facebook. It had the title "What Does the Clerk of Session Do?" Some of the duties listed included keeping minutes from Session and Congregational meetings, serving communion periodically, helping out in special

events such as installing new officers and baptisms, and keeping church records up to date. After seeing this graphic several times, I got to thinking - this is something I can do! I spoke with Ann Lowell and Pastor Becki who provided me with encouragement to give the position of Clerk a try. Here we are nearly a year later, and I'm feeling fulfilled and happy with the decision that I made.

Our church needs you! Specifically, we are in need of Elders. You may be wondering, "What does an Elder do? What is expected? I'm not sure if I'm up to the task." The short answer is that Elders serve on Session and may co chair one of our Ministry teams. However, it is important to note that Elders do not work alone! Elders serve as the spiritual leaders of our church, engaging and empowering others in the life of the church. Elders help build our faith journeys and help us grow as disciples of Jesus Christ. Becoming an Elder is an act of stewardship, as you are sharing your resources of time and energy.

Could this be you? Could you welcome change and become a spiritual leader as an Elder? We would love to have you! If you would like to discuss the position of Elder in further detail, please feel free to contact any Session member or Pastor Becki. This could very well be a beautiful change that provides meaning in your life, as it has done in mine.

Blessings,

Melanie Shimer
Clerk of Session



November 2025

- The meeting of the newly forming Mountain Laurel Presbytery, held here at Faith on November 8, was a phenomenal success! We are grateful for the many church members who helped to set up, clean up, bake, host, and serve. Many of the attendees commented on the incredible hospitality of our church.
- The Holiday Craft Fair is quickly approaching and will be held on Saturday, December 6. We are looking forward to another successful event.
- Be on the lookout for church T-shirts! This is a project that is currently in the works.
- Session is still in need of two elders. We would love to have you!



Ministry to the Congregation

In addition to our robust Sunday Mornings Together (SMT) schedule (on the next page), Fellowship hosted another Zoo Trip to the Lehigh Valley Zoo in October before Halloween. This has proven to be a great time of year for visiting and will likely be repeated next year.



The ever so tasty potluck luncheons the first Sunday of each month are set to continue into the new year. Next up on December 7 is chicken pot pie, to be followed in January with the Italian alternative, pizza!

The Advent season kicks off this year with ADVENT[ure] on November 23. Dress casually for this joyful time of preparation and join in the heavy lifting as we decorate the sanctuary.

Our Christmas Eve services will again include 5:00pm and 7:30pm worship, as well as worship at the Emmaus Triangle at 11:30pm.

As you have doubtless noticed, the sanctuary chancel monitors have been replaced, following the irreparable damage to the left screen. After careful consideration, the Visual Projection Action Committee (VPAC) received approval for two 100" replacements. Both of these advanced design displays were purchased together for less than 1/2 the cost of just one of the original 80" monitors. Thank you VPAC !



The increased size of the monitors improves the quality of visual content and text readability, and draws attention away from the worship assistant, which makes volunteering in the role a breeze.

For all our volunteers in every role, we say, Thank You! And Merry Christmas!

SUNDAY Morning TOGETHER

2025-2026 Schedule

- Nov. 23—ADVENT[ure], light lunch, Children's music
- Nov. 30—Luminaria, Fellowship, Children's music
- Dec. 7—Potluck (Lynn Ingram & Diane Policelli)
- Dec. 14—Congregational meeting, Work Camp cookie sale, Fellowship, Children's music
- Dec. 21—Christmas songs, Fellowship, Children's music
- Dec. 28—Fellowship
- Jan. 4—Potluck (Ministry to the Congregation)
- Jan. 11—Listening Circle on Leadership, Fellowship, Children's music
- Jan. 18 —Decorate Daybreak snack bags, Fellowship
- Jan. 25—Annual Congregational Meeting, Fellowship, Children's music
- Feb. 1—Potluck (Pam & Phil Martin)
- Feb. 8 —Fill Daybreak snack bags, Fellowship, Children's music
- Feb. 15—Talent Show, Fellowship
- Feb. 22—Lenten Bible Study, Fellowship, Children's Music
- Mar. 1—Potluck (Ministry of Support), Lenten Bible Study
- Mar. 8 Lenten Bible Study, Fellowship, Children's Music
- Mar. 15 Lenten Bible Study, Fellowship
- Mar. 22 Lenten Bible Study, Fellowship
- Mar. 29 – Easter Egg Hunt, Fellowship
- Apr. 5—EASTER Breakfast
- Apr. 12 –Fellowship, Children's music
- Apr. 19—Clean-up day, light lunch
- Apr. 26 – Q & A with Pastor Becki, Fellowship, Children's music
- May 3—Potluck (Ministry to the Community)
- May 10 –Fellowship, Children's music
- May 17—SMT wrap up, Fellowship

Potluck Lunches!

One of the best reasons to attend a church potluck luncheon is the opportunity for deepening community and fellowship.

Sharing a meal is a fundamental human experience that builds bonds and connections. In the context of a church, a potluck serves as a powerful way to:

- Foster relationships: It moves interactions beyond quick greetings on a Sunday morning and provides extended, relaxed time to talk, laugh, and get to know people on a personal level—especially those you don't typically connect with.
- Encourage hospitality and shared responsibility: Everyone contributes their best dish, symbolizing a communal sharing of blessings and effort, which is a tangible expression of care and generosity.
- Break down barriers: Sitting around a table together can help people let down their guard, regardless of their background, age, or status, which reflects the inclusive spirit of a faith community.

In short, it's about far more than just the food; it's about intentionally building the "church family" through the simple, profound, act of eating together.



Joyful Noise



Upcoming Performances & Services

- The Faithful Harmonizers are set to perform “A Child, A King” on December 14.
- Children's Music has resumed, focusing on the song “Go Tell It on the Mountain” for the family Christmas Eve service. A video and Canva resource will be available in early December for families who cannot regularly attend in person but plan to join the 5:30 service. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to John Shilanskas.
- On December 28, we will hold a hymn sing service. You can submit your requests and suggestions for hymns in the box located on the table in the Narthex until December 14.



Rehearsals for our Faithful Harmonizers are held every Wednesday from 7:00-8:15 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Though weekly attendance is highly encouraged, all are welcome to participate as the spirit moves them. This ensemble is open to all regardless of age or musical ability. If you are interested in joining, please see John Shilanskas or speak with a member of the Faithful Harmonizers.

Rehearsals for our Faithful Ringers are held every Wednesday from 5:30- 6:45 p.m. in the Music Room. Though weekly attendance is highly encouraged, all are welcome to participate as the spirit moves them. This ensemble is open to all regardless of age or musical ability. If you are interested in joining, please see John or speak with a member of the Faithful Ringers.

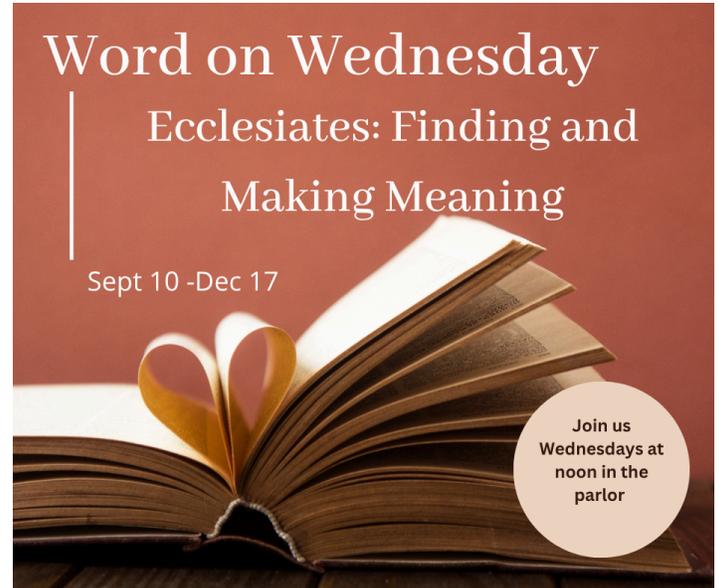
Faithful Musical Moments will continue throughout the year. These moments are for anyone interested in sharing their musical talents with the congregation on a Sunday morning by performing a solo, duet, etc. Please see John if you are interested and/or need help selecting repertoire, need an accompanist on piano, organ, or tenor saxophone, or have any other questions. We would love for you to share your talents with our congregation.



Conversations

Conversations is a gathering of women that meets on the second Tuesday of the month and all are welcome!

If you have any questions, please speak with Anne Laubach or Donna Call. Thank you!



WOW won't meet on these dates:

- November 26
- December 24 & 31





Joanne Marchetto, Dir.



We had a great kickoff to youth group this year! We have been doing a lot of community service this fall. We packed Joyful Giving bags which were donated to the Y Warming Station, as well as doing yard work for friends of Faith. We had a lot of fun cleaning up yards and getting them ready for winter.

This winter, we have a ton of fun activities planned: snow tubing, Christmas caroling, and our annual Christmas party! We also have community service planned to help at the EPNHN Spaghetti Dinner on February 7th.

Our next big event is “One Night Without a Home” where we will learn about housing insecurity in Lehigh County. We will sleep in the parking lot at Faith in tents, and we are raising money to support Lehigh Conference of Churches. If you would like to support the youth, you can visit our team’s website:
<https://secure.qgiv.com/event/onwah2025/team/1007634/>

Then, we will have our first big fundraiser for work camp: our cookie sale! We are looking to hold the cookie sale on December 14th. This year, we will have cookies at both Faith and The Barn.

This summer, we are planning to go to Lincoln, IL from June 20-28. The theme will be “Illuminate.” In a world filled with pressure from school, social media, and division, “Illuminate,” invites us to discover Jesus as the unstoppable Light (John 1:1-18). His Light brings clarity, purpose, and hope—shining through every challenge and never fading. As we explore what it means to carry that Light, we’ll see that faith isn’t just something we do—it’s who we are. Join us next summer to grow in faith, build real community, and shine Jesus’ brilliance in a world that needs it.

We are looking for volunteers to support youth group. If you have an idea for a program, or if you would like to join us for an activity, we would love to have you join us! One of the gifts of faith communities are the intergenerational relationships that form into mentorships. You all have the potential to be excellent mentors to our youth. If you would like to think this through or ask questions about mentoring, I would love to talk to you! Please feel free to call or email me anytime (joanne@thebarnlv.org).

Another great way to support our youth is with Sunday dinner. We would love for you to join us! You can sign up on our Sign-up Genius (<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090549A5AE2CAB9-58572508-youth#/>), or feel free to email or call me for more details. The youth love when you come for dinner!

Youth



Church Office

2026 Church Directory



We kindly ask that you inform the church office of any changes or updates to your details in the Church Directory, including those for your college students.

Throughout the month of December, there will be a 3-ring binder available on the table in the narthex displaying the current information we have for you. You may make any necessary corrections or additions there, or email them to the office.

In keeping with our established tradition, we will make every effort to ensure that the 2026 directory is completed and available on the day of the Annual Congregational Meeting. This approach reflects our commitment to providing up-to-date information and maintaining effective communication within our congregation.



Annual Report Submission Guidelines

All annual report submissions must be completed by **December 31**. Please note that extensions are available only for financial reports, so it is important to begin preparing your materials as soon as possible to ensure the deadline is met. The printed report must be available to the congregation the Sunday before the Annual Congregational Meeting, which is scheduled for January 24, 2026.

File Type

Word documents are preferred for submissions. Please refrain from submitting PDF files unless absolutely necessary.

Submission of Photos

When submitting your annual report, **do not embed photos within the document itself**. Instead, attach all photos separately to your submission to facilitate proper organization and processing.

Formatting Instructions

There is **no need to spend time formatting the layout of your submission**. The newsletter uses a pre-existing layout, and your content will be formatted accordingly during the production process.



December always kicks off a whirlwind winter for the office. There's a mountain of tasks at the onset of every new year just waiting, beyond just these two, so your teamwork would be a holiday miracle!





Ministry to the Community

Christmas Joy Offering: THE PERFECT GIFT

Leadership: Past, Present and Future
Prepare the Way
Isaiah 40

Each year during the Advent and Christmas season, we turn our eyes to Bethlehem and celebrate the wondrous gift of Jesus Christ, our Savior. By giving to the **Christmas Joy Offering**, you honor this gift by providing assistance to **current and retired church workers** in their time of need and developing our future leaders at **Presbyterian-related racial ethnic schools and colleges**.

The **Christmas Joy Offering** will be received and dedicated, **Sunday, December 21**.



Faith Presbyterian Church received **\$3,315.00** in 2024 for the Christmas Joy Offering.

Please consider making a donation to support this worthy cause with thoughtful prayer.

Peace & Global Witness Offering

BIG, BIG Thank You to MISSION SUPPORTERS

Faith Church collected **\$2,570.00** for the **Peace and Global Witness offering**.

This is an increase of \$500.00 over 2024.

East Penn Neighbors Helping Neighbors will receive **\$642.50**, with Ministry to the Community contributing from its budget to raise the total to **\$1,000.00**.

WAY to GO FAITH!
YOU are ROCK STARS

Save the Date, February 8, 2026

The Souper Bowl of Caring is coming, February 8, 2026! This year we will be collecting cash for a local food agency. The total collected will be matched by the Ministry to the Community to boost the total donation. Help us score big on game day by making a touchdown worthy celebration of giving to our neighbors in need.





Holiday Craft Fair

December 6, 2025
9 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Holiday Craft Fair Update

We need help with vendor coordination, setup, cleanup, and kitchen support. Please see the opportunities below and contact the appropriate coordinator if you can lend a hand!

Vendor Setup & Raffle Support

(Contact: Sally Heimbach)

- Friday Evening Setup (December 5th, 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM): A few standby helpers are needed for when the vendors set up their spaces.
- Saturday: Raffle Prizes (Around 1:00 PM): Help is needed with the vendor raffle prizes.

General Setup, Cleanup, & Day Support

(Contact: Tim Bagnull)

- Tim is coordinating all general support activities on Saturday, December 6th, including setup, cleanup, and providing assistance throughout the day.
- If you are able to help with any aspect of the Saturday event, please contact Tim!

Kitchen Operations

(Contact: Diane Policelli)

- Diane is in charge of the kitchen.
- If you can assist with prep or general kitchen help, please reach out to Diane.

Please consider how you can assist with this important community event!



Saturday 12/6 4-7:00 pm

We will be participating again in the Old-Fashioned Christmas event at the Emmaus Triangle, sharing the space with our Youth Group and folks from The BARN.

We will be distributing luminaria and will also have “scratch-off” Christmas ornaments.

The event culminates with the lighting of the Christmas tree in the Emmaus Triangle.

If you would like to participate, please reach out directly to Sally Heimbach.

Cookies, Cookies, Cookies ...

Coming December 14th!!

Who doesn't love cookies? Especially Christmas Cookies!! Come and satisfy those Christmas Cookie hankerings on Sunday, December 14, in Fellowship Hall. You can buy, you can bake, you can even bake and buy! Any which way helps support the Work Campers in their next adventure to Lincoln, Illinois. Thank you for your generous support of this life enriching experience to share God's love in tangible ways with those who need hope and help!!



Women of Faith

The following is a current summary of the financial giving of Women of Faith for this year-to-date. This list provides a transparent overview of their ongoing commitment to support and empower mission outreach in the community and support Faith Church through their donations and disbursements.



Faith Church Office Chairs.....	\$ 128.00
EPNHN.....	3,000
Turning Point.....	500
Kindness Project.....	250
Lincoln Elementary School.....	400
Lower Macungie Middle School.....	400
Jefferson Elementary School.....	400
Cedarbrook Auxiliary.....	250
Meals on Wheels.....	750
Meals on Wheels.....	1000
Faith Church's Teachers' Closet.....	586.00
Pastor's Discretionary Fund.....	<u>1,000</u>
	\$ 8,664



Goal: 200 Cans!

Donations of 46 more cans needed by December 7.

There is a table in the narthex.



Serving Our Local Community Daybreak Dinner - December 8

Faith Church prepares and serves a meal at Daybreak on the second Monday of each month, from 1:30-4:30 p.m.

Can you help?

- **Bake & Drop Off:** Bring cookies or other treats to the church kitchen by noon on the Monday prior. Please label anything with nuts, and sugar-free items are always welcome!
- **Helpers Needed:** Especially cooks! Meet at the church at 1:30 p.m. to carpool.

We typically serve 80-100 people, and the clients truly enjoy the variety of home-baked treats you provide.

Thank you for sharing your time and talents!

If you can help, or for more details, speak with Carolyn Baittinger or Zona Farmer.



Upcoming Mission Project

The Ministry to the Community committee plans to collect supplies for takeout bags benefiting Daybreak clients, who may lack food and shelter when not at the center. These bags will provide support outside mealtimes, and we aim to prepare them for Faith's February Daybreak meal.

We will need 100 of each item:

- Hand warmers
- Lip balm
- Applesauce (individual)
- Pudding (individual)
- Fruit cups (individual)
- Granola bars
- Peanut butter crackers (individual)



There will be a table in the Sanctuary for the collection of items.



Teachers' Closet

The Teachers' Closet is a free resource for teachers to stock up on supplies for their classrooms that otherwise would come out of their own pockets.

The local teachers, mostly elementary and middle school, have been very appreciative.

The Teachers' Closet, started in September 2024, with a grant from the Lehigh Presbytery and with the donations from members and other folks, has been self-sustaining. Our VBS program chose the Teachers' Closet as their mission program.

During the summer, the closet was reorganized and will "open" for business on August 20 from 3:00-6:00 pm. These are extended hours as the teachers prepare for the opening of the school year.

There is an Amazon wish list with items needed for the Teachers' Closet.



The Teachers' Closet is open on the 1st Saturday from 10:00-11:30 am and the 3rd Wednesday from 3:30-5 pm.

The dates for the 2025-26 school year are below:

- 12/6
- 1/21
- 2/7 & 2/18
- 3/7 & 3/18
- 4/15
- 5/2 & 5/20
- 6/6- If snow days are added to the end of the year

If you wish to help on one of the days the closet is open, there is a sign up sheet in the Narthex.

If you are interested in this mission project, please contact Sally Heimbach



Garden Report & Update

The Faith Feeds Garden experienced another successful year, yielding an impressive quantity of vegetables each week. Our produce was distributed to the Emmaus Food Bank at Bethel Bible Fellowship Church and the Emmaus Library, which further allocated items to several food banks including Casa Guadalupe in Allentown and the Zionsville Lutheran Food Bank. Owing to this year's abundant harvest, we were also able to provide produce to the food pantry at Grace Lutheran Church in Macungie.

This success is attributable to the commitment and hard work of our dedicated volunteers, who plant, water, weed, harvest, and deliver all garden produce.

A unique highlight this year was the cultivation of Simon, the Faith pumpkin, who grew to nearly 500 pounds before being relocated from Emmaus to the Lehigh Country Club. Proceeds from his sale have been contributed to the Emmaus Rotary food program.

We will be receiving a delivery of mushroom soil on 11/20 and will require assistance in spreading it on Saturday, 11/22 or Sunday, 11/23. Further details will be provided as the dates approach.

We are continually seeking additional volunteers. While primary activities occur on Monday mornings, there are opportunities to contribute at other times as well. Individuals interested in supporting the efforts of the Faith Feeds Garden are encouraged to contact Sally Heimbach.



Ministry of Support

Per Capita Update

The per capita payment has portions sent to the Lehigh/Mountain Laurel Presbytery, the Synod of the Trinity and the General Assembly to help pay for the operation expenses of those organizations.



We're nearing our goal! To date, we have raised **\$4,248.00** toward our 2025 yearly need of \$9,450.00.

The individual apportionment for 2025 is \$50.00 per member.

You still have time to contribute your per capita payment before the end of the year! Payments can be made:

- Online
- By check (made payable to Faith Presbyterian Church)

Every contribution helps us reach our total. Thank you for your support!



Giving to Faith Church is Easy!

You can donate via credit card or a direct transfer from your bank. Just scan this QR code with your smartphone's camera to bring up a link to our website, click the GIVE NOW button on the church website, and fill out the form. For more information about this option, please read the details about electronic giving on the [Donate](http://faithchurchemmaus.org/donate/) page of the church website: <http://faithchurchemmaus.org/donate/>



NOTE: This method of giving cannot be used for flower purchases or other tangible items.



Stewardship Update

There's still time to make your pledge! Though we'll continue to accept pledges through year's end, early responses would be greatly appreciated as we prepare the 2026 church budget. You'll find pledge cards in the pews, or you can pledge online through our website.

As of 11/17, the pledge amount is \$210,366.

Operating Fund Financial Report

\$	Year to Date October 30, 2025	Annual Budget
	Operating Revenue	\$222,981.71
Operating Expenses	\$236,085.69	\$295,892.00
Respectfully submitted, Janie Slamon		



Your Offering Dollars at Work (January thru October)

Thank you! The Session of Faith Presbyterian Church is deeply grateful for your financial support of our many ministries. We want to show you exactly how your generous contributions are being used.

Ministry to the Community	<u>\$ 22,546</u>
Work Camp.....	\$ 6,000
PC(USA) & Theological Education.....	\$ 3,500
Warming Station	\$ 1,949
Meals for Daybreak (serving over 80 folks each month)	\$ 1,654
International Mission.....	\$ 1,500
Rotary Food Program	\$ 1,479
CROP Walk/CWS.....	\$ 1,000
EPNHN.....	\$ 1,000
Presbyterian Disaster Relief.....	\$ 1,000
Lehigh Conference of Churches	\$ 1,000
Angel Network.....	\$ 970
LV Dementia Friendly Coalition	\$ 500
Ripple Church Meals (2 meal served over 80 each time)	\$ 500
Habitat for Humanity (She Nailed It).....	\$ 250
Community Events (Farewell to Summer & LV Pride2025).....	\$ 175
Teachers' Closet.....	\$ 51
Garden.....	\$ 18
Ministry to the Congregation	<u>\$ 134,535</u>
Staffing/Expenses (Pastor, Pulpit & Organist Supply, Music Director, Youth Director)	\$ 131,934
Worship supplies/instrument maintenance	\$ 1,982
Lunches & Kitchen Supplies	\$ 619
Ministry of Support	<u>\$ 78,897</u>
Staffing (Administrative Asst., Custodian)	\$ 20,556
Utilities	\$ 14,427
Insurance	\$ 12,464
Building Expenses	\$ 11,289
Administration/Office Expenses	\$ 7,939
Per Capita	\$ 7,088
Bookkeeping/Payroll	\$ 3,713
Communication/Membership/Stewardship/Session Expenses	\$ 1,421

We are incredibly grateful for your generous contributions. They are the foundation that allows our impactful ministries to continue and effectively serve our community. Thank you.

Building & Grounds Update

Custodian Transition

The new custodian was unable to meet our needs, so the search for a suitable replacement will continue. During this interim period, Pam Martin and Sally Heimbach have volunteered to do what they can to maintain cleanliness throughout the building on a weekly basis. Please contact one of them if you are able to lend a hand and to find out when and how you can help.

Church Family Support Needed

Your assistance is essential in keeping our shared spaces clean. If you are using any area of the building and notice something that needs attention, please take the initiative rather than waiting for someone else to address it. This includes tasks such as emptying the trash, wiping up spills, or removing cobwebs. Every small effort makes a difference in maintaining a pleasant environment for everyone.

Our church clean-up days, held in the spring and the fall, are a great way to maintain our church property. Everyone's help is appreciated. However, some tasks need to be done more frequently or are of a scope that takes longer than a few hours.

The Ministry of Support has generated a list of "jobs" that fit those criteria. It will be posted on the bulletin board outside the Fellowship Hall.

Please contact Sally Heimbach with your questions/concerns/availability.



Upcoming Building Project

The Fellowship Hall roof is scheduled to be replaced in April of 2026.

The roof is more than 20 years old and has "sprouted" several leaks.

Session has approved a contract with Paul Wright Roofing. This is the same company that replaced the Sanctuary roof in 2020.

Any questions please see Andy Ingram, Terry Eck or Sally Heimbach



A Purposeful New Year

The man who goes into the new year without some priorities governing his life and without some principles guiding his behavior, is prey to the tempting, unimportant and destructive things in life.

The new year is an opportunity to sort out the useless tasks and plan for the important; to review the failures and resolve to be successful; to take an inventory of causes and pledge life to purpose and service. These being done, the new will truly be new, different and better.

— C. Neil Strait

A Purposeful New Year

From the beginning of time, God's pattern has been to continually do new things and make things new. Though we can celebrate this every day, the New Year's season is especially fitting to pause and recognize God's work of renewal. Consider the following scriptures (all NIV) and how God is making them real in your own life right now.

- [God] has granted us new life to rebuild ... and repair (Ezra 9:9)
- If [a tree] is cut down, it will sprout again, and its new shoots will not fail. (Job 14:7)
- I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you. (Ezekiel 36:26)
- [Jesus] took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you." (Luke 22:20)
- Just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life. (Romans 6:4)
- Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here! (2 Corinthians 5:17)



Give Thanks in all Circumstances

I Thessalonians 5:18

We are delighted to share these heartfelt messages with our congregation. Each note of appreciation serves as a reminder of the positive influence we have on one another's lives. These expressions of gratitude not only acknowledge individual contributions but also reinforce the connections within our church community. We invite everyone to read the notes and embrace the warmth of our shared appreciation.

!Presbytery Meeting Thank you!

Thank you to all who baked, set up, cleaned up and helped serve for the Presbytery meeting on Saturday, November 8.

Everything was well received and greatly appreciated.



Dear Friends,

Thank you on behalf of The Lehigh Conference of Churches, for your recent contribution of \$472.40 pm 10/26/25, to support our neighbors in need.

For over 70 years, we have brought together faith organizations like yours to respond to the needs of the most vulnerable while building partnerships and fostering unity. With you, we can carry out the work of God well beyond our collective walls, providing housing, hope, and healing to those who need it most. This most generous gift allows us to continue our work with more than 14,000 individuals and families in the Lehigh Valley living in poverty.

The Conference is most grateful for your support. I look forward to continuing and deepening our partnership in ministry.

Blessings,
Christopher Moran, Director of Development

[Dear Faith Church],

Thank you for your generous donation to Dementia-Friendly Lehigh Valley (DFLV). We are grateful for your support of the DFLV mission and delighted to partner with your organization as we strive to foster understanding, support, and inclusion for people living with dementia within the Lehigh Valley. As a result of your meaningful financial support, we are happy to recognize your organization as a Community Partner to DFLV.

Thank you again for your generous support.

Sincerely,
Wendy Scott
President, Steering Committee
Dementia Friendly Lehigh Valley



Dear [Faith Presbyterian Church], (adapted/partial)

Thank you for bringing food to Groceries PLUS.

Please forgive me for falling behind on writing thank-you notes. For me, vegetable gardening and writing thank-you notes compete for my time in the summer. I write the notes on rainy days, and that usually keeps me current on both. However, this summer has been short on rain, so I'm stealing a sunny day away from my garden to catch up.

For yet another year, we come to September with a grateful heart, because the shelves have been full; thanks, in part, to donors at Faith Church. And we, at GP, are exceedingly grateful! We estimate that Faith Church dropped off about 36 pounds of food in July.

With heartfelt thanks,
Joy Paulsen, Community Relations Coordinator

Dear Partners in Presbyterian Ministry & Mission,

In his second letter to the church of Corinth, the Apostle Paul wrote, “The point is this: the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver” (2 Corinthians 9:6-7, NRSV).

Yours may be among the many congregations that are inviting members to make a financial pledge for 2026 during October. You may also include a Sunday (called Consecration, Dedication, or Stewardship), giving thanks for the generosity of their commitment. These tangible acts of generosity are both a response to and a reminder of God’s grace and gifts we receive, even in challenging and uncertain times.

On behalf of Presbyterian Stewardship and Funds Development, please convey our appreciation to your mission committee, finance committee, pastoral leadership, session, and congregation for your gracious and faithful support.

Thank you once again for your dedication and partnership in furthering God’s mission around the world. You are a valued partner in [mission efforts].

Yours in Christ,

Sy Hughes, Stewardship Officer
Office of Stewardship Funds & Development
Presbyterian Church (USA)

\$9,983.50.....One Great Hour of Sharing
\$1,000.00.....Theological Education Fund
\$3,315.00.....Christmas Joy
\$1,545.00.....Pentecost

Dear Faith Presbyterian Church,

Thank you once again for your generous donation of \$1,000 for our joint East Penn Food Program. Your support with funds and the space to pack our food each week is so much appreciated!

To date, we have now distributed over 22,000 bags of food! We couldn’t do it without you.

Looking forward to our continued working together.

Yours in Rotary,
Nelly Kabiru, President, Emmaus Rotary Club



Dear Partners in God’s Ministry,

Grace and peace to you through Jesus Christ, who makes us one. It’s hard to believe that we are halfway through the summer. On our liturgical calendars, this is “ordinary time.” I hope you and the leadership of your congregation can take time to catch your breath and give the choir, the committees, and the session a well-deserved break.

We give thanks for your faithful and extraordinary support of Presbyterian mission and ministry. The support of your congregation makes a difference in sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ, locally, nationally, and around the world. Thank you, once again, for your witness to the Great Commission and your support of Presbyterian ministry and mission beyond your congregation. You are a valued partner.

Yours in Christ,
Lynne Foreman, Ministry Engagement Advisor
Office of Ministry Engagement & Support
Presbyterian Church (USA)

WALK. GIVE. CHANGE THE WORLD.

2025 CROP HUNGER WALKS

ENDING HUNGER
ONE STEP AT A TIME

A BIG Crop Thank You!

Thanks so much to you and everyone from Faith Presbyterian Church for participating in and supporting the CROP Hunger Walk again this year.

We are grateful that, together, we can assist the Lehigh Conference of Churches and the Allentown Area Ecumenical Food Bank in their vital ministries with neighbors experiencing food insecurity in our area, as well as enabling Church World Service to help many more of our neighbors who are struggling in the aftermath of floods, fires, droughts, and other disasters throughout the United States and the world.

Blessings on you and your ministry,
Dianne

Many Thanks to Our Generous Sponsors!





Dates in this issue, and more!

There are always so many dates to remember. This list is intended to provide them all in one place for easy transfer to your calendar, or for hanging on a refrigerator...however you manage your schedule.

- November 23: Advent[ure]
- November 27: Thanksgiving
- November 30: Advent Begins
Virtual Advent Prayer Gathering
- December 6: Holiday Craft Fair
- December 7: Soup Collection Goal Date
Virtual Advent Prayer Gathering
- December 8: Daybreak Meal
- December 14: Christmas Cantata
Congregational Meeting
Work Camp Cookie Sale
Virtual Advent Prayer Gathering
- December 21: Virtual Advent Prayer Gathering
- December 25: Christmas
- December 25-Jan 4: Pastor's Vacation
- December 31 - New Year's Eve

2026

- January 1: Happy New Year!
- January 7: New WOW Study Begins
- January 19: Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- January 24: Annual Congregational Meeting
- February 8: Souper Bowl of Caring
- February 16: Presidents' Day
- February 18: Ash Wednesday
- February 22: Lent Begins
- March 29: Palm Sunday
- April 5: Easter
- June 20-28: Work Camp



Happy Birthday

December Birthdays

Dennis Arndt	Beth Kunkle
Brynn Durn	Sue Lawall
Terry Eck	Sam Luff
Henry Gilpatrick	Dianne Macdonald
Cameron Godiska	Bill MacHose
Christina Godiska	Bonnie Osterwald
Michelle Halpin	Matt Staack
Betsy Han	Helen Underwood
Mark Heimbach	Erik Walker
	Cathy Wiese

January Birthdays

MaryAnn Burke	Laurie Murray
Erin Gill	Heather Nicholas
Carson Halpin	Jim Pantano
Colin Halpin	Mary Roberts
Dan Hemberger	Lynda Scheirer
Lynn Ingram	Matt Somishka
Julia Luff	Ella Wiese

February Birthdays

Heather Davis	Don Macdonald
Jonathan DePhillips	Abby Masenheimer
Jim DePhillips	Sandy Missmer
John Gill	Katrina Piper
Quinn Jackson	Michael Pipines
Sam Kennedy	Beth Walker
Anne Laubach	Barb Webb
Tom Luff	Ben Wiese
Beth Luff	





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The Faith Flyer

Winter 2025/2026

Inside This Issue

- **Ministry to the Community:** The Giving Season is here! So much is happening! Inside, find your complete rundown of events—from raising money to collecting food—all dedicated to supporting those who need it most in our community.— **Pp 13-16**
- **Ministry to the Congregation:** The Festive Scoop is Inside! All our Advent/Christmas plans, the must-know dates for year-end meetings, the updated Sunday Morning Together schedule and a quick recap of what we've accomplished together!— **Pp 3, 5-12**
- **Ministry of Support:** What's the Latest? Everything you need to know about the state of our church is inside! We cover financial reports, stewardship and per capita updates, and crucial information on building maintenance—all in one place.— **Pp 17-19**

The Faith Flyer quarterly newsletter is a valuable resource packed with information that you won't want to miss. Each issue features articles from our ministry leaders, offering a glimpse into their latest projects, reflections, and initiatives. These articles serve as a bridge, connecting you to the heart of our church's mission and vision. Whether it's updates on upcoming events, inspiring stories of transformation, or practical advice, this newsletter is designed to inform, engage, and inspire you. We encourage you to explore each article and stay connected with the vibrant life of our Faith Church community.