The FAITH FLYER

Let's come together as a community to celebrate the many blessings that enrich our lives.

Faith PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Living and sharing the miracle of God's grace.

Contact Us!

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

from the PASTOR



Rev. Rebecca Mallozzi

Chances are, no matter what sanctuary you look into during the Advent season, you will see a similar tableau. The nativity sets may all look different, but most Christian sanctuaries will have their nativity scene on display somewhere near the front. There is probably an Advent wreath. The paraments are purple (or blue) for the season, and somewhere, there are most likely some battery-operated candles. During the traditional "Hanging of the Greens," someone will be the "bow fluffer." Someone will make sure the Advent candles all have wicks (sorry about that one year when we forgot to check!).

And of course, there will be a tree. On many of the sanctuary trees, you will see special ornaments that we call Christmons. Each year, a handful of people put up the sanctuary tree with the Christmons, and this year I've been wondering how much we really pay attention to those symbols on our tree. Can you name them all? Do you know what the cross on a ball symbolizes? The fish? The solo cross? The crown?

This Advent season, we're going to think about the symbols of our faith that we see in the Christmons. Each week, I'll highlight a different Christmon in worship.



(Continued on page 3.)

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Music Director
John Shilanskas

Youth Director
Rev. Joanne Marchetto

Administrative Assistant
Bookkeeper, Flyer Editor
Lynda Scheirer

Custodian
Brian Dunton

Officers

Elders
Tim Bagnull, Terry Eck,
Ann Greenwood, Pam Martin,
and Janie Slamon
Melanie Shimer, Clerk

Deacons
Carolyn Benner, Beth Folio,
Anita Krause, Anne Laubach,
Pam Mongi, and Elaine Smits.
Doug Boyd, Eleanor DePhillips,
Co-Moderators

Faith Presbyterian Church
3002 N. Second Street
P.O. Box 507
Emmaus, PA 18049

Find us on Facebook at
Faith Presbyterian Church Emmaus

Sunday Worship: 10:00 a.m.

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

Church Summer Office Hours
Tuesday-Thursday: 9 a.m. to noon. Closed Monday & Friday.
Ending the week after Labor Day.

Pastoral Care Needs
For urgent pastoral care related to a serious illness, hospitalization, or death, contact

- Pastor Becki at revmallozzi@faithchurchemmaus.org
- Deacon Moderators: Doug Boyd, Eleanor DePhillips (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, 2027 @ 9 a.m.

Personal Contact Information
To protect privacy and personal information, personal phone numbers and email addresses are not published online.

Zoom Links
Please note that links to Zoom meetings are not included in church publications to prevent outside interference.

We Value Our Sunday Morning Volunteers
Help us make Sunday mornings beautiful. When we serve together, every hand—big or small—creates a more welcoming worship experience. Join the rhythm of our community!

Help us make our services happen! We are looking for Worship Assistants, Fellowship Hosts, Nursery Caregivers, and Ushers to help guide our worship and foster community. Please sign up on the whiteboard or sign-up sheet in the narthex; easy instructions are provided for every role.

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

But what is a Christmon? What's the point?

Christmons are storytelling tools. In the 1950s, a woman named Frances Kipps Spencer looked at her church Christmas tree in Virginia. She wondered if there was a way for the tree's decorations to more intentionally reflect the Christian faith. She started thinking about how Mary, the mother of Jesus, would celebrate Jesus' birthday. She imagined a cake with Jesus' initials and thus was born the Christmon – a portmanteau of Christ and Monogram. She started simple and over time branched out with a variety of symbols. The symbols themselves are not new; the way Mrs. Spencer used them on the Christmas tree was the new thing. We do not have every Christmon symbol (like Mrs. Spencer's Christmon series on the Beatitudes that she created based on her husband's recommendation) on our tree, but the ones we do have can help us think about what we mean by "the reason for the season."

Then, in January and February, we'll continue to look for symbols that help tell the story of our faith. Christmons aren't just for Christmas! In the 1970s, for example, Mrs. Spencer wrote about other Christmon symbols that have even been used as wedding cake toppers.

My hope is that you will truly see our Christmons and other symbols of faith and perhaps wonder which symbol moves you the most. Sometimes we need a visual aid (or two or three) throughout the year to help us better understand what God is like so we can lean into who God is.

May God bless you in this season of Advent and give you hope for the coming new year.

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Becki Mallozzi

Faith Presbyterian Church, Emmaus

Staying Connected...From a Distance

Online Publications
- Weekly bulletins
- Quarterly newsletters

Facebook
- Public Page
- Private Group

Instagram
- Public Page

Online Sermons

Online Worship Services

Online Calendar

Prayer Chain

Email Announcements
- Weekly bulletins
- Quarterly newsletters

Giving Methods
- Mail
- Online Banking
- Online Giving

If you need support—or just want to have a conversation—please reach out to Pastor Becki, your Deacon, or someone in our church family. Staying connected helps us care for one another and keeps isolation at bay.

Worship at Faith Church

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

Winter Worship Plans

Advent: Reflecting with the Christmons

November 29: "Lord of All, Coming Soon"
(Mark 13:24-27)

December 6: "IYKYK (If You Know You Know)"
(Mark 1:1-8)

December 13: Christmas Cantata

December 20: "Gabriel's Spoilers"
(Luke 1:26-38)

December 24: "Christmas Storytellers"
(Luke 2:1-20)

December 27: Carol Sing



January 3: "Where the Star Leads"
(Matthew 2:13-23)

January 10: "Up from the Water"
(Matthew 3:1-17)

January 17: "The Devil Made Me Do It"
(Matthew 4:1-17)

January 24: "#Blessed"
(Matthew 5:1-20)

January 31: "Treasure in Heaven"
(Matthew 6:19-34

February 7: Transfiguration Sunday
"Where the Star Leads"
(Matthew 2:13-23)

February 10: Ash Wednesday Soup Supper
@ 6:30 p.m.

Lenten Series: TBD

February 14

February 21

February 28

LIVE STREAM

Our worship services are live-streamed on YouTube, so you can join us from anywhere with an internet connection. Find the link on our website under Media—Live Stream or visit https://bit.ly/FPClive. Past services are archived under Media—Sermons & Bulletins.

Joyful Noise



- The Faithful Harmonizers will perform ***“Hope is Dawning”*** on December 13.
- Children and the young at heart are invited to sing ***"Now Every Child that Dwells on Earth"*** during the Offering at the family Christmas Eve service. A video and Canva will be put out in late November for those with children who are not able to worship in person regularly, but will be at the 5:00 p.m. service. John Shilanskas will be available after worship in December to run through the song. Anyone with questions can contact John.
- Prelude music for the 7:30 p.m. Christmas Eve service will begin at 7:15 p.m..
- The service on December 27 will be a hymn sing. Requests/suggestions for hymns can be placed in the box on the table in the Narthex until December 13.
- The Talent Show is February 7. This year's themes are "Sights, Sounds, and Spaghetti!" Sign-ups to offer a Sight or Sound will start on December 27. The last day to sign up is 1/31. We look forward to all the Sights and Sounds.



Faithful Musical Moments will continue throughout the year, and 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.

Congregational Meeting

December 13

Purpose:

To hear and vote on the report of the Nominating Committee as well as the Pastor’s Terms of Call.

Congregational Meeting

January 10, 2027

Purpose:

To vote on the updated church bylaws.

Annual Congregational Meeting

January 31, 2027

To celebrate the ministries we were able to offer in 2026, and hear the presentation of the annual budget.

the CLERK'S CORNER

by Melanie Shimer

We here at Faith Church do a wonderful job in supporting mission ministries. Some mission ministries that come to mind are Ripple, Daybreak, The Angel Network, and East Penn Neighbors Helping Neighbors. However, I think my favorite mission is the Teachers' Closet.

As many of you know, I was an elementary school teacher for 31 years. Something I didn't realize early in my career was the lack of certain supplies that were provided to me to do my job. I shudder to think, in my long career, how much money out of pocket that I spent on my classroom and my students. It was easily hundreds of dollars every year. Honestly, I don't think that the general public is aware of this. District and school budgets continue to be very tight, and teachers spend their own money rather than having their students do without.

This is why the Teachers' Closet is so wonderful! I had the pleasure of working at the opening of the season in August. We had over 40 teachers from many school districts! They were all appreciative of our church's efforts to lighten their financial load of purchasing supplies.

If I may, I would like to rank my "top 5" supplies that I would request as a teacher if I were still working.

1. Pencils! Teachers can never have enough pencils. I swear that my students ate them. Specifically, teachers love Ticonderoga #2 pencils. They are the best and write well.

2. Dry Erase Markers. Gone are the days of teachers using chalkboards (thank goodness). However, dry erase markers are expensive and don't always last long. The best brand is Expo. Teachers will appreciate both black and colored markers.

3. Dry Erase Spray. Whiteboards can be difficult to keep clean. Unlike chalkboards, they can't simply be washed away with water and a sponge. The spray (again, Expo) cleans the whiteboards quite well.

4. Glue Sticks. Elementary teachers cannot ever have enough glue sticks. Again, when I taught kindergarten and first grade, some students could not resist tasting them. And don't even get me started on finding dried-out glue sticks on the floor because the lid had been lost! Elmer's is the best brand, but please avoid any scented ones.

5. Tissues/Hand Sanitizer/Antibacterial Wipes. I lumped these three items together because they are that important. I love kids, but kids are gross. During cold and flu season, these items are at a premium. During COVID, I got into the habit of wiping down my students' desks with wipes every day. In my opinion, any brand will be greatly appreciated.

Of course, there are many other needed items that can be found on the Teachers' Closet Amazon wish list. On behalf of all the teachers who visit our closet, THANK YOU!

"A generous person will prosper; whoever refreshes others will be refreshed."
Proverbs 11:25

SESSION Highlights November 2026

- We will be preparing our Sanctuary for Advent during Sunday Morning Together on November 22.
- The Elders completed Boundary Training as required by the Book of Order.
- The Holiday Craft Fair will be held on Saturday, Dec. 5. Signs are available for people to display in their yards.
- There are three Christmas Eve services scheduled: 5:00 p.m., 7:30 p.m., and 11:30 p.m. (on the Triangle).
- All committees are working on their budgets for 2027.

Ministry of Support

It is very important that you read this letter!

Dear Faith Family,

As we approach the end of the year, we want to thank you for your faithful generosity and continued support of Faith Presbyterian Church.

We are writing to inform you of an important change to our year-end giving procedures.

All contributions, both in person and online, intended to be processed as 2026 giving must be received in the church office or online no later than 9:00 am Monday, December 28, 2026. There will be no exceptions.

If your contributions are sent directly to the church through a financial institution, investment firm, or retirement account, please notify them of our new deadline. Be sure to arrange for your year-end contribution to be sent early enough to arrive at the church office prior to Christmas.

Because processing and mailing times can vary, we encourage you to contact your financial institution well in advance to avoid delays.

In previous years, we were able to process contributions received during the first week of January as part of the previous year's giving records. Beginning this year and continuing in future years, this practice will no longer be possible.

Our financial procedures now require that all contributions be received and entered into the church's financial software during the calendar year. The deadline each year will change to accommodate our counting schedule.

We appreciate your understanding and cooperation in helping us make this transition. Most importantly, we are grateful for your generosity and the many ways you support the life and ministries of Faith Presbyterian Church.

With gratitude,

Janie Slamon, Elder
Terry Eck, Elder
Ministry of Support Co-Chairs
Faith Presbyterian Church



Stewardship Update

Over several weeks in October and November, our church leadership groups shared how Faith Presbyterian Church is carrying out its mission through worship, ministry, fellowship, outreach, and service. These presentations highlighted the many ways God is working through our congregation.

If you have not yet made a pledge for 2027, please prayerfully consider doing so. Every commitment, regardless of size, supports the ministries that strengthen our church family and help us serve our community with faith, compassion, and love.

Although we will continue to receive pledges through the end of the year, receiving yours soon will help church leaders prepare a realistic budget and plan our ministries for 2027. Thank you to everyone who has already pledged and to all who support the life and work of our church.

Pledge cards are available in the pews, or you may submit your pledge online.

Operating Fund Financial Report

$	Jan.-Oct. 2026 Actual	2026 Annual Budget
Operating Revenue	$234,575.63	$274,716.00
Operating Expenses	$245,112.47	$303,201.00

Respectfully submitted,
Janie Slamon

joyful HIGHLIGHTS

The Membership Task Force of the Ministry of Support Committee joyfully shares the following highlights from our congregation.

- In September, Don and Helen Perry celebrated their 61st wedding anniversary.
- This summer Kris and Tim Melnick vacationed in London.
- Congratulations to Beth Mitchell. She and her horse Sinatra were crowned Reserve World Champion at the Grand National and World Championship Morgan Horse Show held in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.
- In September, Linda Kennington spent several days in Washington, D.C., along with young adult cancer survivors, helping child cancer survivors advocate with members of Congress for better treatments.
- Congratulations to Kamryn McWhinney for being chosen the 2026 Patriot Rookie of the Year in Women's Soccer. She was also named to the First Team Patriot League All-Star team. As a freshman, Kamryn scored 8 goals and had one assist for a total of 17 points.
- Janie Slamon and Bruce Luff just returned from a visit with their son Sam and family in Seattle, Washington.

If there is any news you would like to share, please advise Terry Eck, who will make sure it appears in the next Faith Flyer.



Your Offering Dollars at Work
(January through October)

Thank you!

The Session of Faith Presbyterian Church is deeply grateful for your generous financial support. Your gifts sustain our ministries and help us serve our neighbors with faith and compassion. The report below shows how your contributions are being put to work in our church and community.

Ministry to the Community	**$ 22,924**
Community Outreach	$ 7,861
International Mission	$ 2,500
PCUSA	$ 2,000
Lehigh Conference of Churches	$ 2,000
Theological Education	$ 1,000
Work Camp	$ 7,000
Mission-Other	$ 563
Ministry to the Congregation	**$ 137,940**
Staffing/Expenses (Pastor, Pulpit & Organist Supply, Music Director, Youth Director)	$ 135,244
Lunches & Kitchen Supplies	$ 633
Worship supplies/instrument maintenance	$ 1,902
Curriculum	$ 161
Ministry of Support	**$ 83,910**
Staffing (Administrative Asst., Custodian)	$ 22,617
Building Expenses	$ 14,001
Utilities	$ 11,843
Insurance	$ 13,717
Administration/Office Expenses	$ 7,682
Per Capita	$ 6,825
Bookkeeping/Payroll	$ 3,676
Communication/Membership/Stewardship/Session Expenses	$ 3,549

Giving to Faith Church is Easy!

You can give by credit card or direct bank transfer. Simply scan the QR code with your smartphone to visit our website, click **Give Now**, and complete the form. For more details, visit the Donate page: http://faithchurchemmaus.org/donate/

NOTE: This giving method cannot be used for flower purchases or other tangible items, such as T-shirts, etc.

Kitchen Request

We are throwing out quite a bit of leftover food from the refrigerator and freezer.

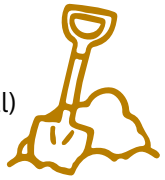
If you are a Fellowship Time host and have leftover food, please take note of these requests:

- Take leftovers home or offer them to someone who can use them.
- If food must remain at church, please wrap it securely before refrigerating or freezing it. Also label and date them.

Winter is coming whether we want it or not.

We have a company that plows and salts our parking lot, main entrance and the Cherokee Street pavement. They do not remove the snow from the following walkways:

- into the Fellowship Hall
- from the parking lot (back door)
- the 2nd Street entrance (garbage corral)
- the Slype entrance (emergency exit)



Volunteers will be needed to clear these walkways. There are shovels and salt available to use located at the exterior doors.

Please contact Jeff Krause or Sally Heimbach for additional information.

Church Office

- The draft of the **2027 Church Directory** will be available in December on the narthex table. Look for the green binder and review your information, noting any changes or corrections. Updates may also be emailed to the church office at office@faithchurchemmaus.org. The new directory is planned to be available the Sunday before the Annual Congregational Meeting.
- Please submit your **Annual Reports** by the firm year-end deadline of December 31, allowing ample time for preparation and printing. Reports will be available to the congregation one week before the Annual Congregational Meeting.
- Please submit meeting dates and times to the church office as soon as possible for inclusion on the church's online calendar for 2027. All schedules must be confirmed, even if they remain unchanged.
- When submitting weekly announcements or newsletter articles for publication, please consider that visitors and non-members may be unfamiliar with our church's programs and ministries. Include a brief explanation of the activity, whom it serves, and how readers can participate, along with any important dates, locations, and contact information.



Ministry to the Congregation

Upcoming Events

- December 13 - Work Camp Cookie Sale in Fellowship Hall following the Congregational meeting.
- December 27 - Worship will be scriptures and hymns.
- January 3 Potluck Lunch will be a “true” potluck. Bring whatever you’d like.
- Ash Wednesday, February 10, will be a soup supper and worship in Fellowship Hall at 6:30 p.m..
- March 7 Potluck lunch will be a potato bar.

Youth Group Needs You!

One of the gifts of a faith community is 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, Pastor Jo would love to talk to you! Please feel free to call or email her anytime. Her information is in the church directory.

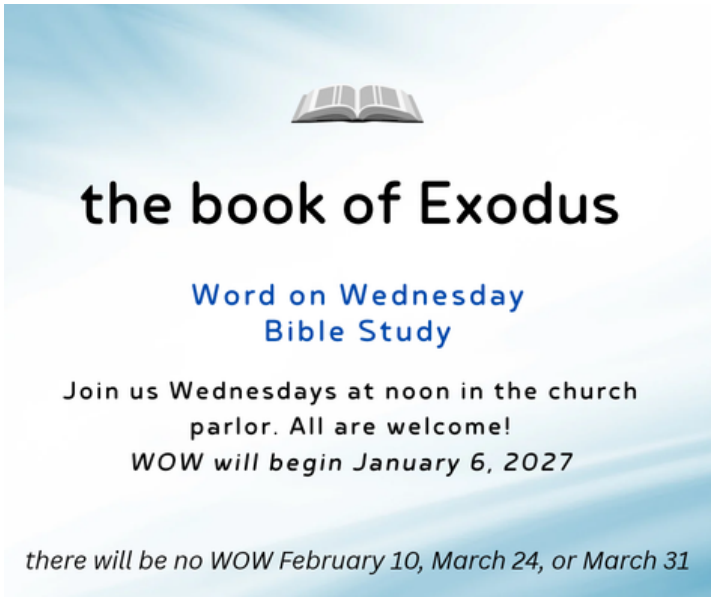
How Can You Support Our Youth?

Sponsoring a meal for our group is a simple way to support our youth. To schedule or sponsor a meal, scan the QR code, click on this link https://bit.ly/4aGzCq1, or call Pastor Jo. Thank you for supporting our youth!



Conversations

Conversations is on hiatus until the new year. If you have any questions about Conversations, speak to Anne Laubach or Donna Call.







Schedule

Sunday Morning Together is a welcoming, intergenerational gathering following worship. Through fellowship, monthly potluck luncheons, and meaningful outreach activities, we build relationships, serve others, and grow together in faith. Everyone is invited to stay, participate, and enjoy the fellowship!

- 12/6: Potluck luncheon (Diane Policelli hosts)
- 12/13: Congregational meeting – report of the Nominating Committee and pastor's terms of call, Work Camp Cookie Sale, Fellowship
- 12/20: Christmas song fest – join us for a spirited sing-along, Fellowship
- 12/27: Fellowship
- 1/3: Potluck luncheon (Sally Heimbach)
- 1/10: Congregational Meeting, Fellowship
- 1/17: Decorate and Fill Daybreak bags – fill the bags with winter supplies, Fellowship
- 1/24: Prepare Ripple utensils – wrap utensils in a napkin for the next Ripple meal, Fellowship
- 1/31: Annual Congregational Meeting – receive the annual report, Fellowship
- 2/7: Sights, Sounds and Spaghetti! (Ministry to the Congregation hosts) Share your talents of music or crafts.
- 2/14: Lenten Bible Study – Pastor Becki will lead this time of study, Fellowship
- 2/21: Lenten Bible Study – Pastor Becki will lead this time of study, Fellowship
- 2/28: Lenten Bible Study – Pastor Becki will lead this time of study, Fellowship
- 3/7: Potluck luncheon (Potato Bar)
- 3/14: Lenten Bible Study – Pastor Becki will lead this time of study, Fellowship
- 3/21: Easter Breakfast placemats – decorate placemats for the Easter breakfast, Fellowship
- 3/28: Easter Breakfast



Serve. Support. Strengthen Worship.

Our worship depends on our faithful volunteers, for whom we are very grateful — and **right now, we need more hands to serve**. In a small congregation, every person truly matters. Easy instructions are provided in advance so you will feel prepared and supported.

Please prayerfully consider stepping into one of our volunteer roles:

- **Worship Assistant** – Help lead portions of worship alongside the pastor. Script and instructions provided. Sign up on the whiteboard in the narthex or contact Sally Heimbach.
- **Audio Tech** – Run the sound during worship. We have four trained volunteers, but need one more. Training will be provided by Sally Heimbach.
- **Video Tech** – Advance worship slides during the service. Two people (from the same family) currently serve, with one occasional stand-in; we urgently need two additional volunteers. Andy Ingram will provide the necessary training.
- **Fellowship Hosts** – Offer simple hospitality following worship. Guidelines are provided. Sign up on the whiteboard in the narthex or contact Sally Heimbach.
- **Ushers/Greeters** – Welcome worshipers and help the morning flow smoothly. Sign up in the narthex or speak with Anne Laubach.
- **Nursery Volunteers** – Care for our youngest during worship. No clearances yet? We'll guide you through the process. Sign up on the whiteboard or reach out to Sally Heimbach.

Your presence strengthens our worship.
Your service blesses our church family.
If you've been waiting for the right moment to step forward, this is it.



Joanne Marchetto, Dir.

Youth Group Update

We had a great start to youth group this year! In September, we started our regular youth group meetings. We meet every Sunday evening at 5:00 p.m. We have one senior high youth group, and we have big plans for this year. With an older youth group, I am hoping we can do a day trip this spring to New York City, including some mission/outreach work. Stay tuned for more details! If you would like to be a part of this trip, please send me an email.

We had our first community service packing Joymaker Bags. This is a local non-profit that supports other non-profits with essential items that look and feel like gifts. It helps build relationships within our community by spreading joy. Then, we spent a morning at Luther Crest to help with yard work. We have more community service opportunities in the winter and spring designed to help us connect with our neighbors in ways that build up our community. We will have a day in New York City as well as supporting the East Penn Neighbors Helping Neighbors Spaghetti Dinner.

We also have a lot of fun at youth group. We are planning some fun outings this winter: snowtubing (or maybe snowboarding), our movie marathon, Christmas baking, and our Christmas party. We are looking forward to a fun-filled winter!

One way you can support the youth is by sponsoring dinner. We have dinner each week, and we would love for you to sponsor a dinner (it could be pizza or home-cooked), and we would love for you to join us for dinner to meet the youth. This is a good way to meet them and build relationships. Please email or text me if you have any questions!

If you would like to receive my weekly youth group email, please email me at: joanne@thebarnlv.org

Work Camp Update

We have also begun planning for the 2027 work camp! Our first planning meeting will be November 29 at 5 p.m. in person and on Zoom. We will start planning for fundraisers, share important dates, and begin planning for the trip. Work camp is for all youth who are rising ninth graders and older. If you know a youth who might be interested, please let me know. I would be happy to reach out to them and their parents to share more information.

Summer 2027, we will go to Imperial, PA, June 19-27, planning to have Work Camp Sunday at Faith Church on June 27. This year's theme is "Unfiltered." In a world shaped by filters and filled with AI, it can be difficult for teens to know what's real. Social feeds are curated, photos are edited, and life is often presented at its very best, not always as it truly is. This year's theme, Unfiltered, invites students to step away from the pressure to present a perfect version of themselves and discover the freedom of living honestly before God.

Rooted in Psalm 139:23–24, this theme encourages students to be fully known by God, not just the version they show to others. Through Scripture, service, and meaningful relationships, they'll begin to see that following Jesus is not about appearances; it's about truth.









Joymaker Bags











Youth Group Fun
&
Crop Walk



Ministry to the Community



Advent Mission Project

Takeout Bags for Daybreak Clients

This Advent, the Ministry to the Community committee invites you to help fill takeout bags for Daybreak clients. We offered these bags earlier this year, and they were very well received.

Daybreak, a program of the Lehigh Conference of Churches in Allentown, provides meals, support, and companionship for adults facing challenges such as homelessness, poverty, mental illness, and addiction.

While clients receive warm meals at the center, some may have limited access to food and shelter at other times. These bags will provide food and warmth beyond their time at Daybreak.

Our goal is to pack and deliver 100 bags in January.

We have already received a donation of 100 lip balms!

We still need 100 of each of the following items:

- Hand warmers
- Individual servings of applesauce
- Individual servings of pudding
- Granola bars
- Individually packaged peanut butter crackers

Donations may be placed on the collection table in the Sanctuary from November 29 until January 10.

Thank you for helping us share Christ's love with our Daybreak neighbors this winter!



2026 Holiday Craft Fair

It's right around the corner!
The Holiday Craft Fair will be held on **Saturday, December 5**, from 9:00 am to 2:00 p.m.. There are many ways to help with this important community event!

Vendor Support
Sally Heimbach is co-coordinating the vendor portion of the fair. Outside vendors will set up on Friday, December 4, from 6:00–8:00 p.m.. Sally could use assistance that evening, as well as one or two volunteers to help with vendor raffle prizes around 1:00 p.m. on Saturday. Please contact Sally if you are available.

Setup, Cleanup, and Event Support
Tim Bagnull is coordinating setup on Sunday, November 29, following worship, volunteer support during the fair, and cleanup at 2:00 p.m. on December 5. Please contact Tim if you can help.

Kitchen Help
Diane Policelli is coordinating the kitchen. Please contact Diane if you can lend a hand.

Crafts, Bake Sale, and Basket Raffle
The Women of Faith will offer crafts, a bake sale, and the extremely popular Basket Raffle! Contact Zona Farmer or Sue Lawall if you have crafts to donate or if you plan to bake.

Please consider how you can help make this year's Holiday Craft Fair a success!

Don't forget to spread the word!

Teachers' Closet
Supporting Educators

Faith Church's Teachers' Closet provides local educators with a welcoming place to pick up free classroom supplies—items many would otherwise purchase with their own money.

As of November 7, we have held five shopping days during the 2026–27 school year, welcoming an average of 12 teachers each day and educators from 10 school districts. Teachers frequently express their gratitude for this support.

The Ministry to the Community team also thanks the congregation for its continued generosity through donations of supplies and financial gifts. Your support helps keep the closet stocked and ready to welcome teachers.

With 11 shopping days remaining this school year, donations are still needed. Please visit our Amazon wish list at https://bit.ly/46Pjb7l for requested supplies. Tissues, hand sanitizer, and wipes are always appreciated.

Scan me

Supply donations may be dropped off at the church office or in the Teachers' Closet room. Financial gifts may be mailed to the church office.

A volunteer is needed to host the shopping day on April 21, 2027. Hosts help by greeting the teachers, signing them in, and offering assistance. Please contact Sally Heimbach if you can help or would like to learn more.



Daybreak Outreach
A Simple Way to Make a Difference

December 14, 2026

Looking for a meaningful way to give back? Daybreak is a drop-in center in Allentown that serves individuals living with mental illness, many who are also homeless.

On the second Monday of each month, Faith prepares and serves a meal at Daybreak (1:30–4:30 p.m.). You can be part of this outreach in a simple but impactful way—by baking!

We're looking for cookies or other baked goods (individually wrapped) to share with our guests. Please be sure to label any items that contain nuts. Sugar-free options are also appreciated. Donations can be dropped off in the church kitchen by noon on the Monday we are serving.

To help or learn more, contact Carolyn Baittinger or Zona Farmer.

Your generosity brings comfort, connection, and care—and makes a real difference. Thank you!



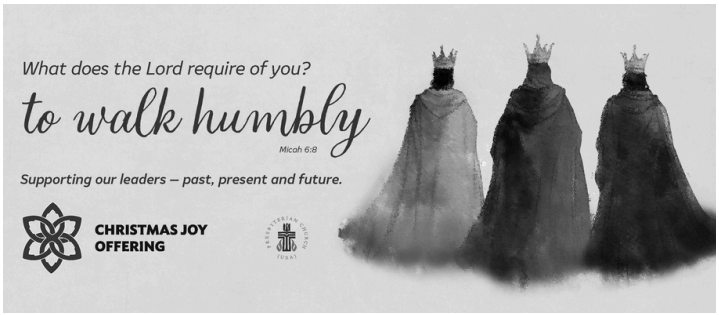
Christmas Joy Offering

Supporting Our Leaders - Past, Present and Future

During Advent we prepare our hearts and minds to receive the perfect gift from God, Jesus Christ. It's a time for remembering that we belong to one another, that we are all connected through Christ. And a time for recognizing that every person is worthy of dignity, support, encouragement and love. Through the **Christmas Joy Offering** we share in an act of generosity and hope. Every gift, large and small, becomes part of a larger witness to God's love in action. The Christmas Joy Offering is used to support:

- The Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions - to help current and retired church workers in need.
- The three Presbyterian Related Schools and Colleges Equipping Communities of Color: Menaul School in Albuquerque, NM; Presbyterian Pan American School in Kingsville, TX; Stillman College in Tuscaloosa, AL.
- Leadership Develop.m.ent for People of Color and Women
- Children at Risk - through the Educate A Child, Transform the World Initiative.
- Youth - through the Presbyterian Youth Triennium for high school students and young adults.
- Young Adults - through the Young Adult Volunteer (YAV) program (ages 19-30)

This year we will receive and dedicate the Christmas Joy Offering on Sunday, December 20. Twenty-five percent of the offering will go to the local Kindness Project. Please prayerfully consider making a donation in support of our past, present and future leaders and this local ministry. When we all do a little, it adds up to a lot.



In 2025,the Christmas Joy Offering came to $3,670, which was $355 over what was given in 2024.

The Souper Bowl of Caring to Tackle Hunger arrives on February 14. While we celebrate our Valentines and our NFL Sweeties, let's also take some time to make a donation and show our love and compassion for our hungry neighbors. This year the committee will match up to $500 of donations. The Emmaus Rotary Food Bank will be the recipient again this year.

Mark your calendars now and let loose your inner cupid!

World Communion Offering Update

A big heartfelt THANK YOU to everyone who contributed to the **World Communion Special Offering**. Your combined abundant financial support of $4,100 allowed our church to donate $1,025 to East Penn Neighbors Helping Neighbors and send $3,075 to PCUSA for church missions in justice, peacemaking, global witness and interfaith relations.

YOU are AMAZING, GENEROUS and FAITHFUL GIVERS!

Don't forget to do good and to share what you have with those in need, for such sacrifices are very pleasing to God. Hebrews 13:16

Miss out on buying a Faith Shirt?

Grab one now during our Winter Sale!



We are taking orders for shirts now through Sunday, December 6th. Sign up in the foyer after church or call/text/email Pam Martin or Ann Greenwood to place your order. Both shirts are available in unisex sizes Small, Medium, Large, XL, 2 XL, and 3XL.

T-Shirts are **$15** and Polo Shirts are **$20.**

Crop Walk Success in October

THANK YOU to all the faithful walkers, sponsors, and donors who participated in the October 18, 2026, Greater Allentown CROP Hunger Walk!

Through your generous financial commitment to this year's CROP campaign, together with the $1,000 donation from our Ministry To The Community, we raised more than $2,500 to support the Lehigh Conference of Churches' kitchen, the Allentown Area Ecumenical Food Bank and the missions of Church World Service.

A special thank you goes out to our dedicated CROP Walkers:
Ginnie Tietjens, Sally Heimbach, Art Horst, Mary Horst, Mimi Gilbert, Doug Boyd, Erin Gill, John Gill.

And CONGRATULATIONS to all who received awards at the Opening Ceremony!

- **2025 Golden Sneaker – Faith Presbyterian Church, Emmaus**
  (Given to the group with the greatest donation increase from the previous year.)
- **2025 Silver Sandal** – Christ Lutheran Church, Allentown
- **2025 Bronze Bootie** – St. Timothy Lutheran Church, Allentown





A 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. And congratulations on your well-deserved 2025 Golden Sneaker award for achieving the highest percentage increase in funds raised over what you raised for 2024!

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.

Thought you would appreciate the photos below.

Blessings on you and your ministry,
Dianne Kareha



Ripple
Christ-centered /Community-focused

Ripple News

Thank you to Jack and Sherry Krissinger, Donna Call, Cindy Stull, Mimi Gilbert, Penny Pantano, Anita Krause, Melanie Shimer, Ann Greenwood, Kevin Greenwood, Phil Martin and Pam Martin for helping to host the Ripple Community Meal on November 15. It was a cold day, but it brought warmth to the hearts, bodies and souls of those we served. We ended the day together with joint prayers and fellowship.

The needs of this community are great. If you feel led to support this organization, you may visit their Amazon Wish List at: https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/1RQGH9KPB9NUG?ref_=wl_share

Among the items most needed are:

Women's Underwear, Men's Underwear, Razors, Hand Warmers, Toilet Paper, Paper Towels, Paper Plates, Paper Cups, Coffee, Creamer, Sugar, Bottled Water, StarKist Chicken and Tuna Pouches, Cup O'Noodles

Bundles of Personal Care Items:

Mouthwash (in small individual Travel Sizes)
Shampoo
Body Wash
Soap
Toothbrushes
Toothpaste

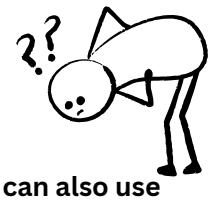
The Ripple Community works in collaboration with the YMCA Warming Station. After spending the night at the warming station, the clients must leave after an early morning breakfast. Many drop by the Ripple Community at some time during the day for a meal, to get warm, or for help with a need. The items listed above help Ripple meet the many needs of our unhoused neighbors.

GROCERIES PLUS
Prayer, Love, Understanding, and Support
EMMAUS FOOD BANK

Groceries PLUS

Current items on their wish list are:

- Chocolate Cake Mix
- Vanilla Cake Mix
- Pancake Syrup
- Cereal
- Applesauce
- Disinfecting Wipes
- Canned Pineapple Chunks
- Canned Mandarin Oranges



With the holidays coming up, they can also use some grocery store gift cards and turkeys. If you have a certificate for a turkey, or have picked up a free one that you aren't going to use, please consider donating it to Groceries PLUS at Bethel Bible Fellowship Church, 418 Elm Street, Emmaus.

St. Matthew's Clothes Closet

St. Matthew's Clothes Closet, located at 5th and Ridge in Emmaus, is open year-round. Donations may be placed anytime in the wooden collection box beside the office door. They gladly accept seasonal men's, women's, and children's clothing, along with shoes, linens, and small toys. Donations are delivered to St. Matthew's twice each month.

If you're not yet familiar with this wonderful community resource, the Clothes Closet is open for shopping on the first and third Saturdays of each month from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. There is no charge to shop, though cash donations are appreciated. Parking is available in the small lot behind the church. Please enter through the door closest to the alley and take the elevator to the second floor, where items are neatly organized by category.

Thank you very much for your continued generosity and ongoing support!

Deacons

Let's Talk Deacons

Hello again as we approach the winter season! As always, we greet our homebound members: Barbara Newman, Betsy Han, Ellen Bender, Dorothy Smickley, Ruth Bieler, and Dick Garber. A card, call, or visit is always welcome and appreciated.

What have your deacons been doing? We provided a reception for Peter Ferguson's Celebration of Life service in September and continue greeting card "showers" for church members. In July, we enjoyed breakfast together to strengthen relationships among Board members. We also participated in August's Laity worship service and joined our church's three Ministries in October to present a Minute for Mission on "compassion" for the Stewardship campaign.

Communication with our Care Groups continues. Have you visited with your deacon recently? Check the church directory for your care group and deacon.

We welcome Terry Eck and Mary Ellen Jackson as new deacons in January, along with Eleanor DePhillips, who will serve another term. Carolyn Benner and Doug Boyd will be retiring from the Board.

Next spring, we will join three other church congregations to sponsor dementia training conducted by Dementia Friendly Lehigh Valley. A caregiving presentation is also planned for next year. More details will follow.

Wishing you a Happy Thanksgiving and a Merry Christmas.

Board of Deacons

Goodie Boxes

The Deacons will be collecting items for the "goodie boxes" to be sent to our Faith Church college students in February. A collection box will be set up outside Fellowship Hall, and updates will be provided in the church bulletins for when that box has been put in place.

Some examples of items include granola bars, breakfast bars, pretzels, snack packs, hot cocoa mix, packs of chewing gum, cookie packs, and tea. We will be packing the boxes on February 7.

Please inform the church office or your Deacon of any updates or changes to the current address listed in the church directory for your college student.

Thank you! Our college students appreciate your thoughtfulness and support.





Give Thanks in All Circumstances

I Thessalonians 5:18

We are delighted to share summaries of these notes of appreciation, celebrating the positive impact of individual contributions within our church and the broader community. These heartfelt messages strengthen our shared connections, and we invite you to embrace this spirit of gratitude. The complete notes are displayed on the bulletin board near Fellowship Hall—you are invited to come read them.

- A note of thanks was received from **Bethel Church** and **Groceries PLUS**. The recipients of the vegetables from the Faith Feeds Garden were thrilled to receive such a variety of veggies!

- A note of thanks was received from T**urning Point of Lehigh Valley** for our in-kind gift. They are grateful for our support and partnership.

The **Ripple Church** sent an email:

- Thank you so much for your continued support and prayers for Ripple Church. We appreciate you.

Signed by: Jeremiah, Misty, Shelly, Mary, Juliana, Amy, Jade, Jack, Karen, Kait and Bear, Roy, and Pastor Hollis.

- A note of gratitude was received from Growing in Grace for the church's kindness and for getting to know the daytime staff.

- A lovely note was received from a community member regarding the Teachers' Closet. Please take the time to read this one!





You'll find original notes posted on the bulletin board outside Fellowship Hall. Please take a moment to check them out.



Dates in this issue, and more!

Keeping track of important dates can be a challenge! This handy list brings everything together in one place—perfect for your calendar, the fridge, or wherever you keep life organized.

2026

- **November 26**: Thanksgiving
- **November 29:** Craft Fair Set-up
- **December 4:** Vendor Set-up for Craft Fair
- **December 5**: Holiday Craft Fair
- **December 13**: Cantata, Congregational Meeting, Work Camp Cookie Sale
- **December 20:** Christmas Joy Offering, Christmas song fest following
- **December 24:** Christmas Eve
- **December 25**: Christmas
- **December 27:** Christmas Carol Sing
- **December 28:** 2026 year-end giving due @ 9 am

2027

- **January 10:** Congregational Meeting
- **January 31:** Annual Congregational Meeting
- **February 7:** Talent Show, packing goodie boxes
- **February 10:** Ash Wednesday Soup Supper
- **February 14:** Souper Bowl of Caring
- **February 15:** Spring Newsletter deadline
- **March 28:** Easter Breakfast
- **April 11**: Cleanup Day w/light lunch
- **May 23**: SMT wrap-up
- **June 5:** Yard Sale
- **June 19-27:** Work Camp





December Birthdays

Dennis Arndt
Brynn Durn
Terry Eck
Thomas Eck
Henry Gilpatrick
Christina Godiska
Cameron Godiska
Scott Greb
Michelle Halpin
Elizabeth Han
Mark Heimbach
Beth Kunkle
Sue Lawall
Samuel Luff
Dianne Macdonald
William MacHose
Bonnie Osterwald
Matthias Staack
Helen Mary Underwood
Erik Walker
Cathy Wiese

January Birthdays

Erin Gill
Carson Halpin
Colin Halpin
Daniel Hemberger
Lynn Ingram
Julia Luff
Laurie Murray
Heather Nicholas
James Pantano
Mary Roberts
Lynda Scheirer
Matthew Somishka
Suzanne Vitale
Ella Wiese

February Birthdays

Heather Davis
James DePhillips
Jonathan DePhillips
John Dolin
John Gill
Quinn Jackson
Samuel Kennedy
Anne Laubach
Elizabeth Luff
Megan Luff
Thomas Luff
Donald MacDonald
Abigail Masenheimer
Katrina Piper
Michael Pipines
Beth Walker
Barbara Webb
Benjamin Wiese

Faith Presbyterian Church
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P.O. Box 507
Emmaus, PA 18049
Address Services Requested



The Faith Flyer

Winter 2026/2027

Here's What You'll Find Inside

- **What do Advent and Christmas look like at Faith Church?:** Discover the meaning behind the Christmons on our Advent tree, enjoy the Christmas cantata, and find details about our Christmas Eve services and December 27 Carol Sing. **Pg.**
- **Ministry to the Community:** See how Faith Church serves our neighbors through meals at Daybreak and Ripple, classroom supplies for local teachers, and the CROP Hunger Walk. **Pg.**
- **Ministry to the Congregation:** Find ways to gather and grow together this winter, from Sunday Morning Together and shared meals to music, Youth Group, and Work Camp. **Pg.**
- **Ministry of Support:** Please read the important year-end giving letter on page 7. Learn how your offerings support the church's work, and celebrate milestones from our church family. **Pg.**
- **Deacons:** See how the Deacons stay connected with our church family through Care Groups, cards, and visits, and find out how you can help fill February care packages for our college students. **Pg.**

Stay connected to church with the Faith Flyer, our quarterly newsletter. Each issue highlights ministry moments, mission updates, and upcoming events—keeping you informed, inspired, and engaged in the life of Faith Church.