

August 2016

Glimpses of Faith Newsletter

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Pastor's Page: As part of our 50th Anniversary we have been focusing on mission and service throughout July. As part of celebration I put together a slide show on various mission/service projects Faith Church has engaged in. I looked back at the last eleven years of church newsletters and talked to past pastors. It is by no means a comprehensive list but it is definitely an impressive list. I came up with about **30 different mission/service projects we have done**. Some were onetime events, others were ongoing. It involved everything from well projects and solar lights, to supporting agencies near and far, to walking in CROP Walks or ringing Salvation Army bells, to putting together hygiene kits and school kits, etc. The list is many and varied.



It may not be the best way to access our impact but in looking at the financial statistics we reported to the national church **between 1992 and 2015 we contributed \$120,259 to the denominational mission efforts and other agencies and projects!** This is just what we reported. I am sure we have done much more than this. Add to this the **over \$33,000 we have made in micro-lending loans through the Kiva program** in 76 different countries since November 2007. Add to this countless volunteer hours church members have put in through the years and you begin to catch a glimpse of the impact our small church has had through the years. Those who have gone before us and all of you have made all of this possible!

Bob Manning has been helping us get a glimpse of the impact our church members have throughout the month of July. Each Sunday in July those present in worship have been asked to fill out a form on what they have done the past week and "how many they served". As I look at this list each week I can't help but be impressed what everybody is doing! Again the list is many and varied: countless prayers for family, friends, and the world; helping neighbors with pet car, transportation, or just taking their garbage can out to the curb; volunteering at Dell's Children Home or Eden Hill, or Family Promise, etc; buying a dress for a young woman for a special occasion; etc. The list goes on and on and again this is only a partial list I'm sure. Multiply this by the 12 months in a year and multiply this time the 50 years this church has existed and you will begin to see what has been accomplished! Bob will assemble the data on what you have reported and let us know on August 7th what we learned from our July focus on mission/service. I can't wait to hear! Prepare to be amazed!

We truly have a lot to celebrate when it comes to mission and service over the last 50 years! I look forward to what the God has in store for this church in the years to come! Paul wrote to the Philippians **"I thank my God every time I remember you,....,because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ."**

(Philippians 1:3-6)

Rev Peter Bauer to Be Inducted as a NASW Social Work Pioneer

Congratulations to Rev. Peter Bauer, who will be inducted into the National Association of Social Workers Pioneer on October 29, 2016 in Washington, D.C.! The NASW describes Pioneers thusly,....



NASW Pioneers are social workers who have explored new territories and built outposts for human services on many frontiers. Some are well known; others less famous outside their immediate colleagues and the region where they live and work. But each has made an important contribution to the social work profession and to social policies through service, teaching, writing, research, program development, administration, or legislation.



All of these social workers are honored in the NASW Pioneer Room in our national office in Washington, DC. The pioneers have prepared the way for thousands of other social workers to make their contributions to the betterment of the human condition. They are all role models for future generations of social workers. Congratulations to Peter on this well deserved honor!

Letter from State Senator Donna Campbell Recognizing Faith UCC's 50th Anniversary



Dear Faith United Church of Christ,

It is my privilege to congratulate pastors, staff, and church members - both past and present - for helping Faith United Church of Christ become an outstanding place of worship as the church celebrates its 50th Anniversary. You have done a tremendous job of, as Phil. 4:9 says, taking 'whatever you have learned or received or heard from [God] and putting it into practice.' Thank you for your dedication to your faith and please keep up the good work! I pray for you continued success. Once again, congratulations on this extraordinary milestone.

Sincerely, Senator Donna Campbell, M.D., State Senate District 25

August Birthdays



8-1 Joshua Coble	8-2 Jan Ziegler
8-7 Donna Myer	
8-14 Karen Dietz	8-23 Nora Compton
8-25 Grace Perry-Clark	8-30 Kenneth Triesch

If your birthday is not listed here let Pastor Scott know so he can get it on there for next year.

August Worship Assistants

8-7 Liturgist: Charles Stark Acolyte: Dan Geisler Council Rep: Dan Geisler

Greeter: Joe Ward AV: Joe Ward Hospitality: Mikki Ward

Ushers: Dan & Vicky Geisler; Charles Stark; Mikki Ward

Nursery: TBA Children's Church: (on summer break)

8-14 Liturgist: Donna Myer Acolyte: Kim Beauchamp Council Rep: Kim Beauchamp

Greeter: David Myer AV: Jakob Beauchamp Hospitality: Nicolle Clark

Ushers: Kim Beauchamp; Nicolle Clark; Michelle Perry; David Myer

Nursery: TBA Children's Church: (on summer break)

8-21 Liturgist: Mikki Ward Acolyte: Joseph Guerrero Council Rep: Joseph Guerrero

Greeter: Sheila Angerer AV: Joe Ward Hospitality: Chrissy Gossett

Ushers: Joseph Guerrero; Jim Gossett; Sheila Angerer; Mikki Ward

Nursery: TBA Children's Church: (on summer break)

8-28 Liturgist: Joseph Guerrero Acolyte: Mikki Ward Council Rep: Mikki Ward

Greeter: Richard Leber AV: Joe Ward Hospitality: Kathy Leber

Ushers: Joseph Guerrero; Richard Leber; Mikki Ward; Kathy Leber

Nursery: TBA Children's Church: (on summer break)

If you cannot serve on the date(s) shown, please try to find a sub. If that is not possible, please leave a message at the church (830-625-6761) as soon as possible. If you would like to be added or removed from all or part of the Worship Assistant List, please contact the church office.



Rev. Lee Zillmann to Preach at the August 28th



50th Anniversary Celebration Event

Rev. Lee Zillmann was pastor of Faith UCC from 1988 to 2004. This makes him the longest serving pastor in Faith UCC's history. After leaving Faith UCC Rev. Zillmann became a chaplain at the local hospital and has been pastor at Redeemer UCC in Zuehl, Texas since 2010. We welcome Rev. Lee and Sharon Zillmann back to Faith UCC on August

28. We give thanks for his many years of service at Faith UCC and in the South Central Conference.

Thank You from a Family Promise Family

Everyone has been so kind. Thank you for remembering our birthdays. Have learned a lot being here.

Maria & Kids



Women's Luncheon at Friedens UCC September 18th



The women of Faith UCC are invited to a Fall Fellowship Salad Luncheon at Friedens UCC on Thursday, September 8 from 11:30 until 2:30. Rev. Dr. Helen Boursier will bring the program. Each of us will bring a favorite salad to share while we enjoy being together with our sister church members. Mark your calendars now and save this date!

New Confirmation Class to Begin September 11th

Confirmation

The confirmation class will meet after church from September 11 to May 28th. The students will have lunch after church and the class will go to 2 p.m. This class is for any youth grade 6-9. All those wishing to be confirmed upon completion of the class will be **confirmed on Pentecost Sunday, June 4, 2017**. Speak to the pastor if you would like to be part of this class.

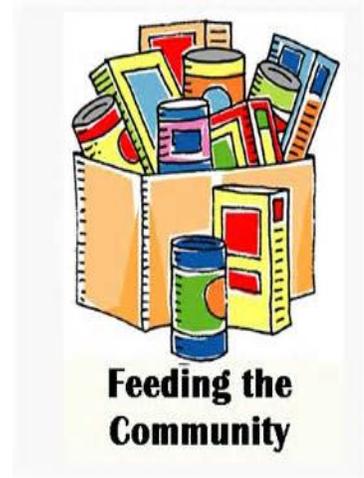
50th Anniversary Challenge:

50 Specialty Items for SOS Each Month Now - October

From the inception of the SOS Food Bank Faith Church members have generously donated food items and volunteers. We were reminded by founder Gladys Bartling that Faith Church has faithfully "shown up" each month to volunteer in this effort to help feed hungry members of our community.

Food basics are shared with clients each month and include cereal, flour, beans, canned goods and other essential items. However, there are extra items not included that can make welcome additions to the basic items provided for individuals and families. Often these "extras" are beyond the limited budgets of our clients.

We are being challenged to provide 50 of these extra items during each of the remaining 3 months of our 50th Anniversary Observance: August, September, and October. WE CAN MEET THIS CHALLENGE IF EACH OF OUR MEMBERS OR MEMBER FAMILIES BRING JUST ONE ITEM FROM THE FOLLOWING LIST EACH SUNDAY. Our volunteers will bring the 50 items each month on the 3rd Friday of the month, our day to work at SOS. There is a basket in the narthex for you to place your contribution.



Here is a list of suggested items:

Jell-O products, puddings and gelatins

Cake mixes and frostings, brownie mixes, corn bread mixes, etc. (Jiffy type)

Mayo, catsup, mustard, pickle relishes, jars of shelf stable dips

Coffee grounds or instant coffee. creamer, tea bags

Snack packs: fruit bits, raisin boxes, peanut butter crackers, granola bars

Cooking oils, salt, pepper, other seasonings

Dish soap, bath soaps, home cleaning items, shampoo

Heart of Texas Association News

As many of you know, **Charles Stark, who has served as the Director of Outdoor Ministries at Slumber Falls Camp for many years, will be retiring in the coming year.**

Charles's ministry at the camp has touched and changed many lives. His service to the wider church through our Association and Conference, as well as his ministry in several of our churches before moving to Slumber Falls, has uplifted many of us in ways too numerous to list. Right now, the South Central Conference has a search committee looking for an Interim Director of Outdoor Ministries in preparation for Charles's retirement. The camping ministry here and across the UCC is a significant part of the church's caring work that continues to nourish youth and adults. Let us lift up the search committee, the search process, and Charles and Bonnie Stark in our prayers at this time, giving thanks for this life-giving ministry and asking for wisdom as the ministry at Slumber Falls moves toward the future.



Our churches do so much to love our neighbors who are "other" from many of us, from hosting homeless families and youth to feeding the hungry to offering activities for seniors outside the church to lending a helping hand to those displaced by natural disasters -- an incomplete list by far. Several of our Association churches have added to this list by reaching out in friendship to stand with neighboring Muslim communities recently before and during the month of Ramadan. **Dan DeLeon, pastor of Friends Congregational Church in College Station, led a group of**

150 people who surrounded the Islamic Community Center of Bryan/College Station in early July in a show of support after someone fired shots through the Center window. In Austin, our UCC churches, beginning with the Congregational Church of Austin, have put up "We Stand with our Muslim Neighbors" banners and have been partnering with local Islamic groups in an effort to build understanding and friendship at this critical time. United Christian has continued its ongoing relationship with the Raindrop House Turkish Cultural Center. Both churches shared an Iftar dinner (breaking the fast during Ramadan) this year with other neighboring Christian and Muslim groups to learn more about our respective faith traditions.

Finally, I want to say personally that I rejoice in the summertime ministry of our churches, particularly for our children and youth. So many of you do a labor of love to put on Vacation Bible Schools that minister to your children and the wider community. You send kids to Slumber Falls Camp and provide financial support. A large group from our Association joins yearly in a youth mission trip, this year to work with Mission Waco. You raise money to send kids on life changing experiences like the UCC National Youth Event -- Redeemer UCC in Zuehl even raffled off a car! Thank you for these wonderful ministries.

And we hope you will plan to attend our fall Heart of Texas Association Meeting, Saturday, October 29, 10 am through lunch, at St. John's UCC in Burton.

Blessings in Christ, Liz Nash, Association Minister.

Kiva Micro Lending Update



In the last loan cycle **we were one of 121 individuals and organizations to back a loan for \$10,000 for 3 years to Dinora in Bayonne, New Jersey.** Dinora has started a business in this country to sell handmade cards from El Salvador. Here is her story.

My name is Dinora Arteaga and I am the creator of Nini Expressions. I was raised in El Salvador and studied Agricultural Engineering. As you may know, the people of El Salvador endured 17 years of civil war and, following this war, the country has been in the hands of gangs.

These gangs are killing the new generations and extorting people and if they don't pay the blackmail, they are killed. There is a shortage of jobs, while Salvadorans live in fear and desperation.

Four years ago, i received a birthday gift from a good friend. It was \$100. With these \$100, I decided to start Nini Expressions in order to create jobs and help to provide a livelihood for less fortunate families and single mothers in El Salvador.

It is very unusual to receive a thank you note from the person you lend to, especially since we are one of 121 who backed her loan. In fact I don't remember ever receiving a thank you note before! Dinora's note is below.

Hi Faith UCC!

I want to thank you to all the member of Faith UCC for your support. My name is Dinora Arteaga and the founder of Nini Expressions. I am so grateful to you and to God for this happiness that I am feeling now, because I was able to raise the loan.

These loan is going to help me and the 27 women that work in the project to keep working and open more resources to help more families in need.

God bless you, Dinora Arteaga

If you want to help Faith UCC help even more people like Dinora, both in this country and around the world you can contribute to our Kiva Fund. **We currently have about \$4,100 in our fund that is out in loans right now. We have made 899 loans in 76 countries totaling \$33,475! Each month we receive between \$300-400 in loan repayments to relend that month.** You can help us grow this fund by putting a check in the offering and designate it for Kiva on the memo line.

Home Repair Funds for Low Income Senior Citizens

The Comal County Senior Citizens Center is taking applications for grants to do minor home repairs for senior citizens who: own their own home; live in their house within the city limits, current on taxes, and meet income guidelines. These CDBG grants are intended to improve the quality of life for seniors and disabled person, to enable them to stay in their homes, make their home a safer environment and to provide upgrades to meet ADA standards. If you or someone you know can use these grants contact Marsha Putnam for further info 830-629-4547 ext 12 or go by the Senior Center at 655 Landa Street.

August Calendar

- 8-2 Book Study in Baese Hall at 6:30 p.m.
- 8-3 50th Anniversary Task Force meets in the narthex at 4:30 p.m.
- 8-6 Latch Event takes place in our sanctuary at 9:30-11:30
- 8-7 Worship 10:30 a.m. - Bob Manning reports on "How many served" in July
- 8-9 Clergy Jam & Bread in Burton (leave church at 8 a.m.) Book Study 6:30 p.m.
Church Council meeting at 7 p.m.

- 8-14 Worship 10:30 a.m. (Wil Brown Stewardship Moment)
- 8-16 Book Study in Baese Hall at 6:30 p.m.
- 8-18 PFLAG meets in Seguin at 7 p.m. (ask the pastor for the location)
- 8-19 **SOS** Food Bank 1-4 p.m. volunteers needed

- 8-21 Worship 10:30 a.m. Back Pack blessing during children's time
- 8-27 **Mission Statement Workshop in sanctuary 9:30-noon**

- 8-28 **Worship 10:30 Rev. Lee Zillmann preaches - 50th Anniversary**
- 8-31 September newsletter items due

CREATING FAITH CHURCH MISSION STATEMENT TOGETHER!

Faith Church is celebrating 50 years of ministry in this community and the wider world.

To guide Faith Church's ministry going forward, all members and friends are urged to attend a **"Create Faith's Mission Statement"** session on **Saturday, August 27, 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon.**

Rev. John Dorhauer, UCC General Minister, in his book BEYOND RESISTANCE, and in his many speaking engagements, highly urges each congregation to develop their unique mission statement to guide their ministry.

If you notice carefully, all organizations including service clubs, health care agencies, universities, local schools systems, community social organizations have a clear, concise, easy to articulate mission statement that guides their life and activity.

What is a mission statement? One time a navigation officer on a battle ship responded to his commanding officer: "if you don't know where you are going, it doesn't matter which direction you go." Mission statements state the direction the Church is going with its life and ministry. A Mission statement is short, dynamic, easily communicated and rallies commitment and activity. So the question is: where is the Spirit of God leading Faith Church?

Who creates the mission statement? This is where EVERYONE fits in. The mission statement is created from the collective faith stories, ideas and feels of each Faith Church member. We do it together.

Hope to see you Saturday, August 27 at 9:30 a.m. in the sanctuary. Coffee break and lunch included.