

September 2019
Faith UCC
Church Phone (830) 625-6761
970 N. Loop 337
New Braunfels, TX 78130

Glimpses of Faith Newsletter
www.faithuccnb.org
Rev. Scott B. Martin, Pastor
Cell Phone 830-515-2866
Pastoral Assistant, Janet Sherman, L.M.

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As Pastor Scott said in last month's newsletter, he anticipated it would take a village to "hold down the fort" so to speak while he's away on sabbatical. And, I want to thank everyone who has been so gracious in helping me to keep my feet on the ground while doing the tasks I have been charged with. Those of you have offered to help, but whom I have not asked any assistance from, we still have a couple of months to go. . . Your time may still come!

The intent of our time "Near" (here) while Pastor Scott is "Far" (there) is to continue the Theology of Place Journey we've all been on as a church. The pilgrimage continues for us all, "near" and "far"). Our monthly potluck on Aug. 25 helped to celebrate Peter Bauer's (our supply pastor that day) 66th birthday. We had lunch and then served a birthday cake for Rev. Bauer as part of the meal's desserts.

Following lunch, I introduced brothers Fisher and Hays Marlow, who shared with us their perceptions of a family vacation to the Grand Canyon this summer. There was some delightful interaction between the two while the other was speaking. Highlights of the trip included seeing Roswell, N.M., with all its "outer space/alien" memorabilia; Carlsbad Caverns and the bats, and bats, and bats, and bats. . . (etc.), which emerged in the evening, the white sands of White Sands, N.M.; and a mansion within (yes, inside) the Grand Canyon, rumored to have been inhabited at one time by actor Nicholas Cage.



Being flexible, we decided our planned program for August (Home) would be rescheduled. (Watch for plans about "Home" to be announced soon.) so that we could enjoy hearing from some of our young people tell of their travels. Unfortunately, the two other families which had taken vacations off the continent were unable to stay for the potluck event.

As Pastor Scott's sabbatical time winds down and we continue to be in fellowship/partnership with him, members will attend to taking care of home, particularly our financial well-being. Faith's treasurer, Sam Ward, brought our attention to our church's current budgetary shortfall recently during a Sunday morning Mission Moment. I believe we members at Faith would like to see and will work to make up the deficit by the end of our fiscal year in December.

During the rest of Pastor Scott's sabbatical, we'll continue with our spiritual journeys at Faith. There are a number of mission opportunities throughout the remaining months of the year – including but not limited to – staffing SOS Food Bank one Friday afternoon a month, the United Church of Christ's Neighbors in Need and Christmas Fund, and Salvation Army bell ringing. Watch for more information in upcoming newsletters.

Pastor Janet (Sherman, L.M.)

Pulpit Supply Schedule for Sabbatical

Thanks again to those guest ministers who are filling the pulpit during Pastor Scott's sabbatical. The remaining two months-plus include:

September 1 - Rev. Peter Bauer

September 8 - Revs. Ralph and Sandy Ludwig

September 15 - Revs. Ralph and Sandy Ludwig

September 22 Rev. Ron Krueger (potluck after church)

September 29 - Rev. Frank Dietz

October 6 - Rev. Sabrina Jennings

October 13 - Rev. Jeremy Albers

October 20 - Rev. Gerry Metzger

October 27 - Rev. Gerry Metzger

November 3 - Rev. Frank Dietz (potluck after church)

November 10 - Rev. Dr. Don Longbottom, Conference Minister, South Central Conference, UCC



Happy September Birthdays!

9-6 Kimberly Kramm

9-9 Irene Bartels

9-9 Jerry Jaroszewski

9-13 Joe Ward

9-14 Kate Bauer

9-15 Brady Storms

9-24 Mikki Ward

9-27 Quinn Perry

9-27 Cappy Felger Adams

9-28 Frank Dietz

If your birthday is not on here, let Janet Sherman know so we can add your name to the list for next year.

A thought to ponder:
Deuteronomy 16:17

¹⁷ all shall give as they are able, according to the blessing of the LORD your God that he has given you.

— New Revised Standard Version, The Bible



Faith bowling team to begin season

The newly formed bowling team representing Faith UCC takes to the lanes on Sept. 6 at 6:30 p.m. The league is set to run 14 weeks at a cost of \$14 per bowler, per week. Teams consist of four players. We have filled one team, but if we would have enough folks interested, another team could be formed.



If you don't bowl, you could be at the bowling alley to cheer on our team as it goes on its journey in the new church league at Fiesta Lanes at 1202 Huisache Ave., near Old Hwy. 81 (Elliott Knox Blvd.) and Walnut Road in New Braunfels.

If we don't have four you can still play by being on another team. Fiesta Lanes can help you find one. For further information, contact Carma Herndon with Fiesta Lanes at (830) 625-6263 or by e-mail at carmaherndon@fiestabowlinglanes.com



Women of Faith, mark your calendars: Fellowship Luncheon at Friedens UCC

This year the women's fellowship group at Friedens UCC has invited our Faith UCC women to join them at their Fall luncheon on **Thursday, Sept. 12, beginning at 11:30 a.m.** In a gracious change of plans, we have been told **not** to bring a salad this time, but to come as their guests for what is always a delicious time of fellowship. Please let Karen Dietz know if you would like a ride or to carpool from our church parking lot that morning.

We will leave Faith at 11 a.m.



Students, backpacks blessed

Children and young people ranging from 2-year-old twins to seniors in high school and college students joined in the Sunday morning worship service on Aug. 25 for the blessing of the backpacks.

The children and young adults listened to a brief scripture and story about Jesus having told his disciples to “Let the little children come to me” when the disciples tried to keep them away from Jesus when he was preaching.

The children appreciated taking part in the backpack blessing and seemed enthusiastic about the 2019-'20 school year.



September Calendar

Sept. 1 – Communion Sunday

Sept. 8 – 10:30 a.m. Sunday Worship

Sept. 12 – 11:30 a.m. Women’s Luncheon
at Friedens UCC, Geronimo
leave Faith at 11 a.m.

Sept. 17 – 4 p.m.-closing: Edenhill Spirit Night at Willie’s:
15% of all checks donated to Edenhill Communities

Sept. 20 – 1-4 p.m. SOS Food Bank: Volunteers needed

Sept. 22 – 10:30 a.m. Sunday Worship & Potluck

Sept. 27 – October newsletter deadline



Southern Women’s Retreat: Oct. 18-20, 2019

United Church of Christ 2019 Southern Region Women’s
Retreat at Blowing Rock Conference Center
in North Carolina.

This is the Official Invitation for the 2019 UCC Southern
Region Women’s Retreat (SRWR) – hosted by the
Southern Conference and planned by the 2019 SRWR
Planning Team.

Here is the link to more information to register:

<https://sccucc.org/7686-2/>

We packed 52 backpacks!



Even though our goal was 24, we put together 52 backpacks last Sunday. To everyone who brought the snacks, soap, coloring books, crayons, tooth brushes and tooth paste: Thank you very much. "We are a very generous church and continue to think of others who are in need," said Sheila Angerer, member of Faith Church and a participant in the backpack project. "We were glad to be able to join with the efforts of the Interfaith Welcome Coalition." As of late last Sunday afternoon, the backpacks were on their way to the San Antonio bus station. These bags are given to those immigrants who have a place to go for shelter -- have a chance to secure a family setting without fears of uncertainty. The Interfaith Welcome Coalition (IWC) are in need of volunteers at the bus station, especially for those who speak Spanish. The IWC has assisted an average of 200 people, per day, traveling through the San Antonio bus station. And the travelers arrive with very little. If you are interested in being at the bus station, Thursdays and Fridays tend to be the busiest days. For more information, please contact IWC via e-mail at sanantoniowelcome@gmail.com Again thank you for a successful "Moment for Mis-sion".



September Worship Assistants

9/1 Liturgist: Frank Dietz; Acolyte & Council Rep: Bob Manning; Nursery: TBA
AV: Joe Ward; Greeter: Shirley Manning; Hospitality: Mikki Ward; Communion: Kathy Leber;
Ushers: Bob Manning; Rick & Kathy Leber; Mikki Ward; Church School: Summer Break

9/8 Liturgists: Ralph & Sandy Ludwig; Acolyte & Council Rep: Mike Ziegler; Greeter: Jan Ziegler;
Ushers: Mike & Jan Ziegler, Bob & Shirley Manning; Hospitality: Shirley Manning; Church
School: Kickoff! Jenn Marlow; Nursery: TBA AV: David Reed

9/15 Liturgists: Ralph & Sandy Ludwig; Acolyte & Council Rep: Carol Sisco Martinez;
Greeter: Robynne Martinez; Hospitality: Tex Pantermuehl; Church School: To Be Determined;
Nursery: TBD; Ushers: Carol Sisco Martinez, Robynne Martinez, Jennifer Marlow, Kim
Beauchamp; AV: Cassidy Martinez.

9/22 Liturgist: Donna Myer; Acolyte & Council Rep: Jason Chapel; Greeter: Sofia Beauchamp;
Hospitality: (None) Pot Luck; Church School: To Be Determined; Nursery: TBD; Ushers: Jason
Chapel, Jim Gossett, Hays Marlow, Will Gossett; AV: Tim Marlow.

9/29 Liturgist: Kathy Leber; Acolyte & Council Rep: Sam Ward; Greeter: Karen Kramm;
Communion Assistant: Kathy Leber; Hospitality: Lana Spiess; Church School: To Be
Determined; Nursery: TBD; Ushers: Sam Ward, Richard Leber, Karen Kramm, Kathy Leber;
AV: Kyle Kramm.

10/6 Liturgist: Curt Leonhardt; Acolyte & Council Rep: Valerie Oates; Greeter: Kai Perry;
Hospitality: Jennifer Marlow; Church School: To Be Determined; Nursery: TBD; Ushers:
Valerie Oates, Curt Leonhardt, Michelle Perry, Nicolle Clark; AV: Quinn Perry.

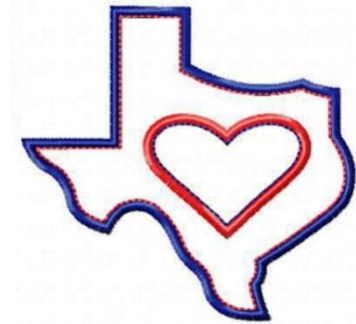
If you cannot serve on the date(s) shown, please try to find a sub. If that is not possible, please leave a message at the church (830-625-6761) as soon as possible. If you would like to be added or removed from all or part of the Worship Assistant List, please contact the church office.



Heart of Texas Association News

Our Association Executive Committee asked me to write this month about what this group does, who is included on it, and when we meet. We want as many people in our churches as possible to know how to be part of the work and connection among our churches in our Association. We have several churches that participate actively and several that we only see occasionally. We are here for everyone, and we want to be sure all of our churches know how to join our Association life.

Our Executive Committee meets quarterly on Saturdays for about 2 and a half hours, usually starting either at 10 am or 11 am, depending on where we meet. **Each church is invited to send a voting representative to these meetings,** and is entitled to do so according to our bylaws. We often rotate our meeting places to try to minimize the driving distance for our regular attendees. Recent meeting places have included Weimar UCC, St. Peter's Church of Coupland, Faith UCC in New Braunfels, and JW's Steakhouse in Carmine (between Giddings and Burton). Our Executive Committee sets the agenda for and plans the Fall and Spring Association Meetings, nominates people to serve on the Heart of Texas Association Committee on Ministry (which oversees our ministers, members in discernment for ministry, and church standing), nominates Association officers, nominates people to serve on our seminary and licensed ministry scholarship committee, makes budget decisions, coordinates the planning committee when it is our turn to host the South Central Conference Annual Meeting, stays as up to date as possible with the life of our churches, and tries to respond when churches ask in some way for our help. Plus, we enjoy being together, getting to know each other, and sharing about the ministry of our churches. Our budget decisions typically include the regular work of putting together an annual budget and overseeing spending. We also decide how to distribute youth scholarships for the UCC National Youth Event, fund scholarships for seminarians and those in licensed ministry training, fund psychological/spirituality testing for those preparing for ministry, and respond to other needs as these come up with the funds we have available. Our current officers are Linda Coats, Moderator; Carl Schwartz-King, Vice-Moderator; Joe Ward, Treasurer; and Arlene Turner, Secretary. If your church would like to designate a representative to the Executive Committee and/or find out when and where the upcoming meetings will be, get in touch with Linda Coats at linda_coats@msn.com or with me at lizknash@gmail.com, and we will add the contact you give us to our email list for meeting information.



Of course, all are invited to our **Heart of Texas Fall Association Meeting, to be held on Saturday, November 16th at Trinity Church of Austin at 11 a.m.** The meeting and lunch will be hosted by Congregational Church of Austin and Trinity. We anticipate having at least one Ecclesiastical Council for a candidate for ministry seeking ordination. Come join us as we make important decisions about ministry in this Council, as we connect and build community among our churches, as we do our Association business together, and as we seek to respond to the needs and ideas of our churches.

Blessings in Christ,

Liz Nash, Association Minister