

FAITHFUL follower

FAITH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

OPEN & AFFIRMING



August 2016

The Faithful Follower is published monthly by Faith United Church of Christ. **Editor:** Faith Quici, Donna Rusch created our feature page 4 of this issue

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PER CAPITA 2016

Per Capita is a yearly commitment to the conference. The cost is \$14.50 per member.

Our goal is to be 100% paid up this year. Thank you for your prompt attention to this conference responsibility. Your statement will show if you have paid for this year.

Judy, Financial Secretary

From Your Moderator

I would like to thank Richard and Jimmy for having the annual "All in One Party." We had a wonderful time, and everyone enjoyed themselves.

A special thank you to the Melody Choir for singing this summer. We have had a lot of fun singing together. Please come and join us if you like to sing.

Please check the bulletin board in the Narthex and sign up if you are planning to attend the events.

We need someone to host the potluck on Sunday, August 14, and to host the dinner and dessert on Friday, August 26.

Please sign up to host or call the church office if you are interested. We can also answer any questions you may have about hosting.

It is so good to have both of our Pastors back with us. We enjoy their sermons and the services they prepare.

I hope you enjoy the events scheduled for August. It is a pleasure to serve as your moderator.

*~ Peace be with you!
Marge Hooie*

Opportunity

Pastor Jude has a wonderful opportunity with Tidewell Hospice to grow the ministry of Christ. Starting in mid August, she will be working part time for Tidewell Hospice, ministering to their patients and families. (She is available those hours because she and Brian share one full time position.) For the next 4 weeks she is engaged in full time training. During

her training, Brian is covering our Pastor position entirely. When her training is complete, she and Brian will resume their usual division of duty.

The Pastoral Relations Committee supports Pastor Judy in this opportunity, as does the Church Council. We think it is a great opportunity for Jude to do some wonderful work and, possibly, outreach for our church into the community. We know she will represent God's love and our church beautifully.

ONECO FLORIST /// 941.756.1556

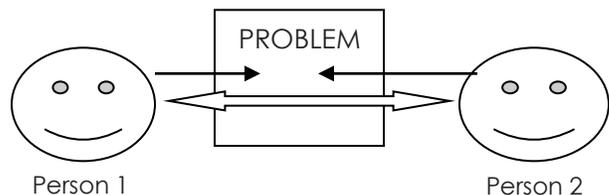
When ordering flowers through the church, please sign up on the Flower Chart. Flowers orders are \$25 this year. You are encouraged to take your flowers home with you after service; but if you leave them, they will be taken to a shut-in. **If you want to purchase flowers on your own, Oneco Florist is offering Church members \$5 off their first arrangement. Just mention this article.**

SOCIAL ACTION & MISSIONS

In August, we are collecting **peanut butter** for the food bank

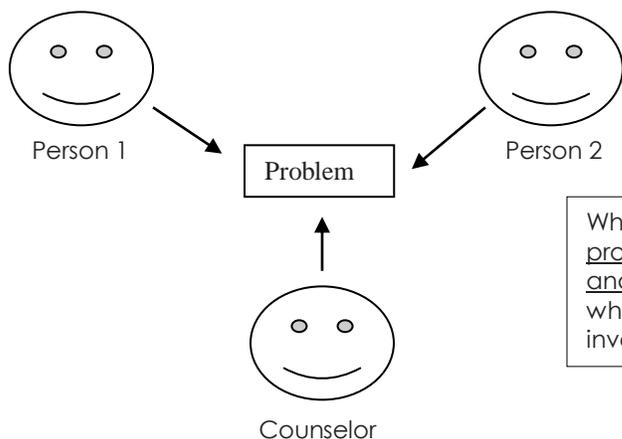
THE PASTOR'S DESK

When I do premarital counseling, I encourage couples that they sometime may need to seek help from a counselor in their life together. I mention that Jude and I have benefitted greatly from this in our own marriage and that there is no shame in needing help because marriage is not always easy. I also explain this can help separate issues or problems from the person. I usually explain with this drawing:



When it is just two people looking at an issue, you see the other person behind the problem and sometimes you begin to think it is the other person who is the problem.

I then draw a second diagram adding a counselor,



Which illustrates how the problem can be pulled out and seen more clearly when a third person gets involved.

As I consider the violence in our world of late, I think much of it is rooted in the inherent problem of the upper diagram. There are real political, economic, racial, and religious issues that separate us, but those who perpetrate violence believe the untruth that the other person is the problem. They think that killing police officers or westerners or African-American men will solve all our problems. It won't! Others talk of banning or kicking out immigrants or Muslims or building walls, thinking that will solve our problems. It won't. Until we begin to separate problems and issues and stop confusing them with those on the other side(s), we will never make progress.

May the God of Peace give us wisdom to share Good News in these troubled times.

Blessings, Friends.

Pastor Brian

WORSHIP WITH US

August 7, 2016

Flowers: Communion Flowers
Greeters: Council
Scripture: Marge Hooie
Ushers: Council
Nursery: Babs Brownell
Sunday School: Carol Knight

August 14, 2016

Flowers: Marge Hooie
Greeters: Available
Scripture: Available
Ushers: Available
Nursery: Babs Brownell
Sunday School: Hatti Damianos

August 21, 2016

Flowers: Available
Greeters: Available
Scripture: Joan Sheehan
Ushers: Available
Nursery: Linda Anderson
Sunday School: Earleen Nutting

August 24, 2016

Flowers: Available
Greeters: Available
Scripture: Available
Ushers: Available
Nursery: Marge Hooie
Sunday School: Hatti Damianos

SUNDAY VOLUNTEERS

If you are serving for the first time and have questions regarding your duties, please look on the bulletin board. Detailed duties for each assignment are printed for you. Please take a copy if you wish. Thank you for volunteering.

Mark Your Calendars

BREAKFAST BUNCH

(men and women combined)
SAT. August 6
Meeting at 9am at Paul & Frankie's Country Kitchen (5227 Manatee Ave W, Bradenton, FL 34209)

POTLUCK

Sun. August 14
after service
We are looking for a host. If you want to host, please call the office by Monday, August 1. Information on how to host a potluck is located on the bulletin board.

DINNER AND DESSERT

Fri. August 26
at 6pm
We are looking for a host for this event. If you want to host, it's easy! Please call the office by Monday, August 1, if you decide to be our host.

Children's Ministry Team

If you have a heart for children, then consider joining the Children's Ministry Team. It's so easy to sign up. We have room for you in the nursery with the little ones or in Sunday school with the older ones. Please contact Babs Brownell if you would like more information about this purposeful and rewarding ministry.

Call: 941.747.9643



Thank you Richard and Jimmy for hosting the annual pool party combo!!

WE WILL REMEMBER

In memory of Helen Weaver. We will miss you dearly and we thank all those who showed their love and comforted each other during this great loss of our great friend.

HAPPY 50TH!

Happy 50th Anniversary to Denny and Judy Wetter!

Poem:

*We missed your flower request for your big day,
So we used this Follower space just to say,
Happy 50th anniversary!
Hooray!*



FAITH PRESCHOOL

Wendi Steinbach, Director

The teachers and I are starting to prepare for the upcoming 2016/2017 preschool year. On Thursday, August 18, we will have staff training from 9:00 am to 12:30 pm. We will have a guest speaker from the Early Learning Coalition to teach us about sensory processing disorders. On Tuesday, August 23, the VPK class will have a "Meet and Greet" get together at the preschool from 9:00 - 10:00 and on Wednesday, August 24, the MWF class will have theirs. On Tuesday, August 30, we will have Parent Night from 6:30 - 8:00. During Parent Night the parents will get a chance to meet their child's teacher, spend some time in their child's classroom and ask any questions that they may have about the upcoming preschool year. The first day of preschool is Tuesday, September 6. We are all looking forward to another wonderful year! We hope everyone is having a great summer!

Faith Chat Room

Share your family photos, stories and comments with us: faithchurchucc@verizon.net

Kid's Thoughts About God

"Noah's wife was called Joan of Ark."

"The first commandment was when Eve told Adam to eat the apple"

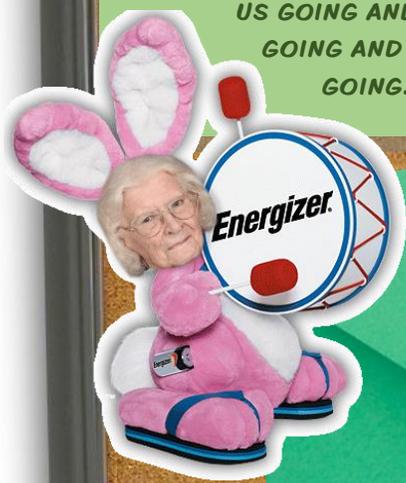
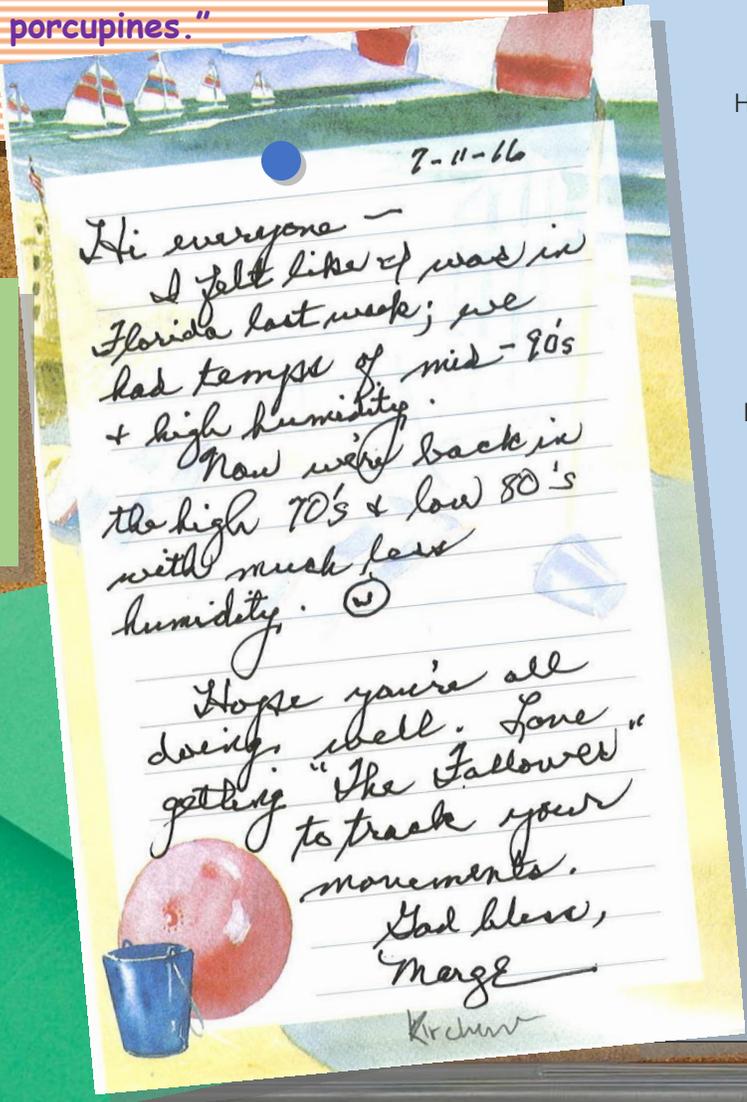
"Moses died before he ever reached Texas."

"Solomon, one of David's sons, had 300 wives, and 700 porcupines."

We just wanted to say "hello." You may be out of sight but you are always in our prayers:

- Amy & David
- Sherry L.
- Mary Lou
- Robin
- Bob & Monie
- Jim & Valerie
- Barbara W.
- Marvin
- Evelyn A.
- Sherry A.
- Ina B.
- Jack & Midge
- Rich & Janet
- Hartnell & Nancy
- Bruce & Donna
- Dick & Sue
- Don and Dee
- Veryl & Carol
- Carol C.
- Barbara C.
- Bob & Jean
- Marge & Jack
- Ray & Pat
- Linda & Dorothy
- Bree
- Charlotte
- Doris
- Margaret G.
- Pete & Janis
- Jennifer H.
- Beth H.
- Deb & Cindy
- Sheryl
- Herb
- Peg
- Steve & Nancy
- Grace R.
- Richard S.
- Margy S.
- Ray & Dusty
- Brandy
- Bridget
- Nicole

OUR INSPIRATION
 MISS HELEN KEEPS
 US GOING AND
 GOING AND
 GOING...



Spiritual Exercise

From Donna Rusch

Salutations my brothers and sisters of faith,

Welcome to a poor woman's internet: With this page you can "follow me" and I can say I "like" you. (Haha, I could make a million with this.) Anyway, so this month I will discuss my new favorite topic, CHILDREN. That includes kids, teens, babies, adolescents, young people, toddlers, and rug rats. Yup, those heaven sent little miracles that, with proper feeding and handling, will one day grow up into—US (yikes!!).

Admit it, kids are contagious. I'll be honest, "**TIME FOR CHILDREN**" is my favorite part of Sunday service. The message is simple and animated. I giggle at how precious the children are (uh, not so much Pastor Brian, he's too large). Our kids make my heart dance. I am reminded that I too was once young and innocent. (Of course, I'm not *really* old now but kids think anyone over 30 is prehistoric; hence, I am a dinosaur).

Recently, I have been missing the company of our little people at Sunday service. What can I do bring them back? I can exercise my spirit! I can strengthen

my heart muscle and not so much my tongue muscle. I can keep an open mind, remembering that we're all children of God, each a unique work-in-progress. Finally, I will ask God to immediately give us back our kids, and send us more. What? You think that's a little too pushy ... and maybe a little selfish? Uggghh ---

Honestly, sometimes it's hard to be a 'good Christian soldier'. In my past career, I was much better at giving orders than following them. However, since arriving at Faith, I have come to realize that I too have some growing up to do. My spiritual self is still immature; my soul infantile; I am a dinosaur in diapers. Actually, I think I'm referred to as a "baby Christian." Whatever you call me, every day I thank God for His continuing patience with me as I strive to keep growing in His light and love.

Last, I wish to submit this open letter to all children of faith (everywhere):



Dear young people of faith,

Please come back to your church home.

You are missed terribly.

You are loved here.

Your honesty and energy gives others hope.

You help adults grow into better people.

You are beautiful.

You are a creation of God, and He doesn't make junk.

You ARE the young generation, and you have something to teach this world.

Please come back and we will grow together.

Love & Hugs,
Old people of faith

Riley, Brandie, Peyton (others not shown here).



Grandchildren of Rose and Elwin Smith

God bless everyone.
IN PEACE,

Branson's grandma, Donna Rusch

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Faith United Church of Christ /// June 27, 2016

Present: Deb D'Angelo, Pastors Brian and Jude, Denny and Judy Wetter, Barbara Brownell, Marge Hooie, Jim Willard, Robin Wentz, Richard Dilts, Faith Quici and Linda Anderson.

Meeting was called to order at 7:05 by Marge Hooie and with an opening prayer given by Pastor Brian.

A motion was made by Judy Wetter to accept the minutes as written for the May 2016 meeting and second by Deb D'Angelo. The motion was carried with a unanimous vote.

Financial Report: Judy Wetter reported the total deposits for May were \$22,936.59 with \$14,157.13 being deposited in the Bank of America operating account, \$8,450.46 deposited in the Bank of the Ozarks building for the future account and \$300.00 deposited in the Bank of the Ozarks pass through account.

Treasurer's Report: Jim Willard reports having to have to request money from Judy on a regular basis to meet payroll and expenses.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Jude will be starting July 5th part-time with hospice. The first 6 weeks will be full-time training then she will need to be available for 64 hours a month. Pastor Brian discussed the start of LGBTQ-101 study beginning July 10th at 9:00 am. Gary Rosenfeld class on relationship communication skills will be starting. Carol Knight has expressed an interest in teaching Sunday school. Also to avoid any

further mix-ups, if there is no Sunday school teacher for some reason Richard Dilts will grab the nursery person for that week. The melody choir is doing well and people seem to be enjoying it. Pastor Brian will be gone July 24th for his class reunion.

Secretary's Report: Faith reported that on May 29th some children from the apostolic church destroyed some playground houses. Marge will tell Pastor Ramon to get them fixed. Pastor Ramon asked if they could be on our insurance. The answer is no; they need their own insurance. Faith submitted information on two new copy machines. A committee will review the information and make a recommendation to the council.

Old Business:

Crop walk- in 2015 there were 8 walkers and in 2016 there were 7 walkers from our church. In 2015 a total of \$25,691.51 was raised and 2016 it was \$23,142.16, a difference of -\$2549.35. Finances: as stated earlier in the minutes, we are dipping into the savings on a regular basis to pay bills. It was suggested that the council needs to make the congregation aware of this so the finance committee will draft a letter to be sent out to request a special offering - possibly "affirming faith" with a goal of thanksgiving for funds to be raised.

New Business:

July dinner and dessert will be on July 16th at Richard's and

Jimmy's. A combined men and women breakfast will be July 2nd at First Street Café.

Departments and Committees:

Building and Grounds – Denny has updated the memorial garden to allow for more spaces for interment. The projector is scheduled to be put back up Wednesday.

PRC – nothing to report.

Community Outreach - Debra has sent notice for the relationship class and the Windows 10 class to all the neighborhood papers and the Herald and Tribune.

SAM – Robin asked if we wanted to do backpacks or something, it was suggested we might "adopt a school" to provide things needed. She will look into that.

Worship: July 3rd is communion Sunday. Richard suggested we do passing then because he wasn't anticipating a large crowd. Debra D'Angelo and Richard will serve and we will return to intinction on August 7th. Closing prayer was given by Pastor Jude.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:05.

Respectfully submitted by
Linda Anderson.

Your Staff

Pastors

Rev. Brian and
Rev. Judy
Bagley-Bonner

Cell:
941-718-3132



(with Janie)

PASTORS' OFFICE HOURS

Monday 10 am - 1 pm
Tuesday 9am - noon
Wednesday 8:30 am - *noon
Thursday 8:30 am - 9:30 am

Other times by appointment

**3rd Thursday at UCC meetings*



Office Hours
MONDAY-FRIDAY
9:00 AM - 12:00 PM
746-8890
Fax 746-0670

Secretary

Faith Quici

Faith UCC Email:

faithchurchucc@verizon.net

Faith Website:

faithchurchucc.com

Prayer Team

If you or someone you know is in need of prayer, call one of the following:



Janis Groth
941.779.6988

Marge Hooie
941. 447.4193

Helen Nutting
941. 747.2734

**Sheryl
Overheidt-
Smith**
941.776.5589
(winter)
269.673.6676
(summer)

Donna Rusch
301.825.9611

**Joan
Sheehan**
941.748.2498

Members of the Prayer Team want to keep the prayer list current.
Please advise us when you would like a name removed from the list.

SUBMIT A PRAYER REQUEST

If you, a member of your family, or someone you know is ill or hospitalized, please let the office know as soon as possible. A member of Faith Church would like to make a visit to bring God's word of comfort. The church office telephone number is 746-8890 or email at faithchurchucc@verizon.net

2016 Church Council

Moderator:
Marge Hooie 447-4193

Deputy Moderator:
Barbara Brownell 747-9643

Secretary:
Linda Anderson 704-8772

Treasurer:
Jim Williard 531-4559

Financial Secretary:
Judy Wetter 755-4583

Building & Grounds:
Denny Wetter 755-4583

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

Social Action & Missions:
Robin Wentz 758-6575

Worship Team Leader:
Richard Dilts 776-7293

OPEN POSITIONS:

Christian Education: OPEN

Fellowship & Events: OPEN

Faith Care Team: OPEN



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



www.faithchurchucc.com

August 2016

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2 7pm Choir	3 7:00pm BAC	4 7:15pm NA 7:15pm Nar-Anon	5 7:15pm NA 7:30pm BAC	6 9am Breakfast Bunch 10am NA & Nar-Anon
7 10:30am Service Communion 1:30pm BAC NA 7:15pm	8 7pm Church Council Mtg	9 Building and Grounds Work Day 4pm 7pm Choir	10 7:00pm BAC	11 7:15pm NA 7:15pm Nar-Anon	12 7:15pm NA 7:30pm BAC Follower Reminder	13 10am NA & Nar-Anon
14 10:30am Service Potluck 1:30pm BAC NA 7:15pm	15 Follower Deadline	16 11:30am Prayer Mtg 7pm Choir	17 7:00pm BAC	18 7:15pm NA 7:15pm Nar-Anon	19 7:15pm NA 7:30pm BAC	20 10am NA & Nar-Anon
21 9am Adult Study 10:30am Service 1:30pm BAC NA 7:15pm	22 7pm BR HOA	23 9am Preschool Meet and Greet 7pm Choir	24 9am Preschool Meet and Greet 7:00pm BAC	25 7:15pm NA 7:15pm Nar-Anon	26 6pm Dinner and Dessert 7:30pm BAC 7:15pm NA	27 10am NA & Nar-Anon
28 9am Adult Study 10:30am Service 1:30pm BAC NA 7:15pm	29 7pm INT HOA	30 6:30pm Preschool Parent Night 7pm Choir	31 7:00pm BAC			



- **BAC:** Bradenton Apostolic Church – We church share with Pastor Ramon and his congregation.
- Monthly Prayer Meetings are held every 3rd Tuesday at Freedom Village at 11:30am.
- Our Monthly **Potluck** is every 2nd Sunday after service when someone has agreed to host. Subject to change on special occasions.
- **Dinner and Dessert** is every 3rd Friday at 6pm when someone signs up to host.
- The host picks a local restaurant to meet and dessert is followed at their home or another gathering spot.
- There are **Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** meetings here each week, and **Nar-Anon**, which is a group of family members affected by those with drug addictions, also meets. If interested in these meetings, please call the NA hotline at 941.257.5055.
- We have several local neighborhood Home Owner Associations (**HOA's**) who meet here monthly.

Lowell Petereson	8/1
Helen Nutting	8/1
Cindy Purvis	8/6
Shirley Rampart	8/14
Deborah Peters	8/23
Pat Crowell	8/25
Jack Barnes	8/30



FAITHFUL FOLLOWER
Faith United Church of Christ
4850 SR 64E
Bradenton, FL 34208-5527

The Vision of Faith United Church of Christ

- In our worship, we are an inclusive community, a family of faith, which through prayer, song, the sacraments and liturgy seeks to feel closer to God, to praise God, to give thanks to God, and to seek forgiveness from God in order to grow in discipleship.
- In our Christian Education, we seek to develop a community of people with a mature Christian faith; meaning a faith which leads us to care for others, that opens our hearts to service, an evolving faith that is the product of critical thinking and questioning. Our education is for all ages and is conducted in places inside the church and out.
- In our missions, we seek to share the excitement of our Christian faith without judging others. In our missions, we seek to take our faith and beliefs from the inside out, and know that our missions require that we must also bring the outside in. We take Christ's admonition—to go forth and share the good news—as our own, which we strive to do in word and deed both locally and globally.

Visit Faith's website at www.faithchurchucc.com