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## Faith in the Community

### TAKE STOCK IN CHILDREN

Jim and I are volunteer mentors for a program called Take Stock in Children.

Take Stock in Children is a volunteer opportunity which matches a volunteer mentor with a middle or high school student. The time component for the volunteer is so small and the reward for the student is HUGE. Volunteers mentor their students for just 30 minutes each week during the school year. The meetings take place at the student's school. Through these meetings, you are helping the student meet one of the three requirements which will result in the student earning a FULL ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIP FOR FOUR YEARS OF COLLEGE upon graduation from high school. It is quite the incentive for the student to stay in school, maintain the required grade point average, and stay drug-free and

crime-free. As a student's mentor, you become another person who cares about the student and is there to support the student's academic success.

The program hopes that the mentors stay with their students until high school graduation, but understands if only a one-year commitment can be made. Hundreds of students in this county applied to the program; but due to the funding necessary for the full scholarships, only 24 students were accepted for the next school year. Sad to say, it was difficult to find volunteers for this group of 24. But all 24 are now matched with mentors. Volunteers also have the chance to be part of the selection process. Reading the student applications and learning of the dreams they have for their futures and the odds some must overcome, even daily, will pull many a heart string.

To learn more, visit [takestockmanatee.org](http://takestockmanatee.org) or call 941-751-7376.

*Jim and Valerie Willard*

## LOVE OFFERING

We are going to do a love offering for Bob Cox. Bob volunteers as our Choir director during the winter season when he and his wife are here to worship with us.

Not only does he direct the choir, but he provides us with special music as well. The money that we collect will buy gift cards for him.

Please make your checks out to Faith UCC and in the memo section, mark it for the "love offering" for Bob Cox.

Donations may be mailed to the church or put in the offering on a Sunday morning. Judy Wetter will collect and manage the offering and get the gift cards to Bob Cox.

Thank you for your generosity.

Sincerely,  
Marge Hooie

## From Your Moderator

Dear members of Faith Church, it hardly seems possible that 2015 is almost half over. It seems like it just began. We have had six interesting months with some new programs, new people and two Pastors who are working hard to reach us with new ideas and interesting sermons.

This month we will continue our Adult Study of Malcolm at 9am on Sundays and 7pm on Tuesdays.

On July 11<sup>th</sup> we will have the Men's and Women's breakfast at Norma Rae's in Palmetto. Please sign the sheet on the bulletin board so we know how many will be attending. On July 18 we will have the Dinner and Dessert, Potluck and Pool Party Combo at the home of Richard and Jimmy. Please remember to check the bulletin board and sign up for anything you

plan to attend. Thank you to everyone who volunteers to help in the Sunday services or any of the weekly programs and activities. Here is to another successful month.

Yours in Christian Service,

Marge Hooie  
**Moderator**



## From the Pastor's Desk

*Rev Brian and Rev Judy  
Bagley- Bonner*

### A Small Change Can Make A Big Difference

Every Sunday in the Bradenton Herald, I came upon the Crime Stoppers page. Here I saw pictures of people who had been arrested with a slash through their face, much like the picture of me above. This troubled me greatly and on May 15th I sent my slashed picture with the following letter to the editor.

*Our culture is in trouble. Young men have died at the hands of law enforcement. The criminal justice system is geared up to incarcerate low income people, including some who battle mental illness or addiction, while "good" upper middle class white collar criminals run free on Wall Street and Main street. One reason this happens is we glorify the rich in our nation and we debase and dehumanize the poor "common" criminal. This division is unconstitutional, unethical and unsustainable. President Abraham Lincoln quoting Scripture said, "A house divided against itself will not stand." With this in mind, I ask the Bradenton Herald to cease printing pictures on the Crime Stoppers page of human beings with slashes through their faces when they have been arrested. This is the type of dehumanizing action which contributes to a culture where it is OK to be a "little rough" with the criminal element. Some of these individuals*

*have done awful things, but they have not stopped being human beings. Nor have they stopped being sons and daughters, mothers and fathers of people in the community who also suffer when they witness the literal defacing of their loved one. A simple check mark beside their name with the large "ARRESTED" above their picture is certainly enough. To adapt one of Jesus' sayings, "Let them who are without sin, make the first slash."*

They did not publish the letter, but I am happy to report that the Bradenton Herald did change their policy and a "thank you" was sent which they did publish. Now the page has no slashed- through pictures, but just the large word "ARRESTED" (see picture below) It is a small thing, but it is the small things which set the tone for our culture and our world. Hatred, resentment and dehumanization grow one teaspoon at a time. I need to write more such letters. They will not all change things, but if I don't write, then I guarantee change won't happen!

Thank you for your support! Faith UCC is a beacon of light to Bradenton!

Blessings to you all,

*Pastor Brian*



## WORSHIP WITH US Sunday Volunteers

### July 5, 2015

**Flowers:** Communion  
**Greeters:** Council  
**Scripture:** MR Lembright  
**Ushers:** Council  
**Communion:** Council  
**Nursery:** Linda Anderson

### July 12, 2015

**Flowers:** Available  
**Greeters:** Available  
**Scripture:** Available  
**Ushers:** Available  
**Nursery:** Marge Hooie

### July 19, 2015

**Flowers:** Judy & Denny W  
**Greeter:** Available  
**Scripture:** Available  
**Ushers:** Available  
**Nursery:** Babs Brownell

### July 26, 2015

**Flowers:** Available  
**Greeters:** Available  
**Scripture:** Joan Sheehan  
**Ushers:** Available  
**Nursery:** Linda Anderson

## SUNDAY VOLUNTEER SERVERS

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.

# Financial Snapshot

The Faithful Follower is published monthly by Faith United Church of Christ. Editor: Faith Quici

## PER CAPITA 2015



The Church Council would like to thank all who have paid their Per Capita. At this time we are at 60% participation. The decision for individuals to pay their own Per Capita was made years ago. Per Capita is an obligation we owe yearly to the conference to pay for staff, help with pastor searches, programs, etc. If you have not paid your 2015 Per Capita please do so because it is money that will come from the church budget if not paid individually. The cost is \$14.50 per person. Thanks for your prompt attention to this conference obligation. Your statement will show if you have paid for this year.

Financial Secretary  
Judy

## ONECO FLORIST

941.756.1556

Oneco Florist is offering Church members \$5 off their first arrangement. Just mention this article.



## Anonymous Donation

From time to time, you may see flowers at the altar on a Sunday morning and a note in the bulletin explaining their purpose. If you are interested in purchasing flowers to display on a Sunday morning, whether they are in honor of someone you love or in celebration of an occasion, you can simply sign up with your name and indicate their purpose so we can mention that in the bulletin. It's a \$20 charge for an arrangement.

We have an anonymous donor who will cover the cost of two flower orders this year. If you have always wanted to purchase flowers for the altar, but your finances wouldn't allow it, then please contact the church office at 941-746-8890 and let us know if you want to take advantage of one of these donations. We would like to thank our anonymous donor for your generosity.

## Mark Your Calendars

### Combo Breakfast

Everyone come join us for breakfast on Saturday, July 11 at 9am at Norma Rae's in Palmetto.

### Potluck and Dinner & Dessert

We will have a combined potluck and dinner and dessert plus a pool party, on Saturday July 18 at Richard and Jimmy's home in Parrish. Party starts at 2:30pm

## Children's Ministry Team

God has a mission for you, and if you have a heart for children, then it could be to join the Children's Ministry Team. It's so easy to sign up for only a few Sundays out of the year. Contact Babs Brownell if you would like more information about this purposeful and rewarding ministry: 747-9643.

## ★ SAVE THE DATE- Sat, July 18

Richard and Jimmy will once again host at their home in Parrish, the July Potluck and Dinner and Dessert, making them one combined event on Saturday, July 18 – with a pool party!

For the potluck, simply bring a side dish, such as potato salad, deviled eggs, baked beans, coleslaw or other. For the dinner and dessert, Richard and Jimmy will be supplying the hotdogs, hamburgers with all the fixin's, drinks and of course the dessert.

You are welcome to arrive in the afternoon (2:30) to enjoy the pool, where there will be snacks and drinks available and then stay for the combined "Potluck and Dinner & Dessert" which will begin at 6pm. Can't do both? Arriving to just enjoy the pool and socialize in the afternoon, would be fine, or just coming later for dinner is also fine. There will be a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board, so we can make sure we have a variety of side dishes and have a good count for the proper amount of hamburgers and hotdogs. If you have any questions, please feel free to give Richard and Jimmy a call at 941-776-7293.

## ★ Sermon Series for July and August *God's Game of Thrones*

In this series we will be following the lives of the Kings of Israel and their stories are as full of juicy drama and intrigue as the fictional series from which I borrowed the title. Kings David and Solomon are huge figures in the Hebrew Scriptures and their lives are rich with both inspiration and instructive failures! Come and invite your friends!

## Youth Events:

### ★ Bradenton Marauders Game for a \$1

On Sunday, June 28 after church we will head out for a 1:00 pm baseball game. All are invited to come to the ball game where we will buy lunch (\$1 hot dogs). After the game, all kids 12 and younger will get to run the bases during the Kids Fun Run. The Marauders will also have giant inflatable water slides for fans to cool off. Please Sign up on the Bulletin Board so we can order tickets and arrange rides! Minors will need permission slips.



### ★ Christian Skate Night

Another great youth activity is Christian Skate Night which is every Tuesday night, all summer long. It's just \$6 and that includes your skate rental. Christian Skate night is held at Astro Skate and Fun Center at 3611 3rd St W, Bradenton.





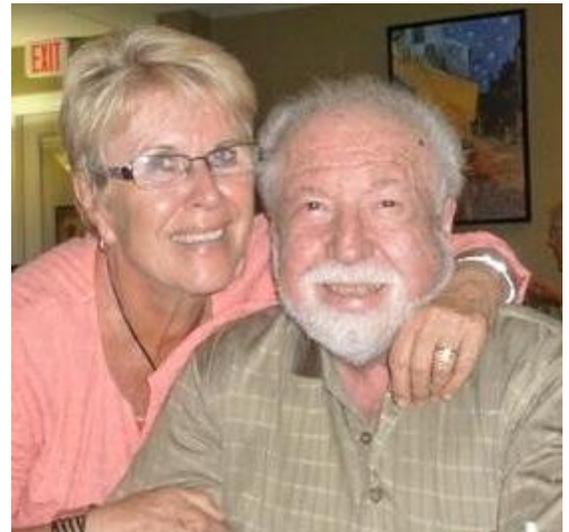
## Anita Porter

Anita and her husband moved here 2 years ago from Anchorage, Alaska. Anita retired from the Air Force after 21 years of service. She then worked for the State of Alaska, Department of Military and Veterans Affairs for 13 years and ended her time in Alaska with the Armed Services YMCA of Alaska, a nonprofit providing support to the military and veterans in Alaska. Anita's husband retired after 34 years in the Army and became a contractor working in Afghanistan then Korea. Anita liked "the friendly welcoming, the worship service" and Faith's "accepting of everyone." Anita's interests include cats! (her cat Hoover has been blessed, and she volunteers at Cat Depot), piano playing. Anita is the one playing every Sunday, reading and crocheting.



## Karin Sabine Rosenfeld and Dr. Gary Rosenfeld

Karin has lived in the Bradenton area on and off since 1998 when she moved from Sinsheim near Heidelberg, Germany. She returned to Germany in 2009 and then moved back to Bradenton in 2010, where she and Gary met. She and Gary lived in Israel for 1 1/2 years before coming back to Bradenton in June of 2014. Karin worked as the owner of a permitting company, Professional Engineering and Design of Bradenton, where she was also the bookkeeper and office manager. Gary was a practicing marriage and family therapist, and they are now both retired. She and Gary visited several churches before coming to Faith, where they liked the philosophy of the church and were very comfortable with the congregation. "We enjoyed Pastor Brian and his sermons." Karin enjoys gardening, decorating, walking their two dogs, singing (she joined the choir almost immediately) and classical music. Gary is volunteering his help to church members in crisis or with emotional need.



## Need Extra Support?

One of our newest members, Dr. Gary Rosenfeld, is offering his skills as a retired Marriage and Family Therapist to anyone at Faith who might need some extra support. Gary can offer help with family issues, grief, health, stress, depression, and aging concerns among others. He is able to meet with you in your home or at the church. There is no cost for Gary's support. Please feel free to contact him via email at [drgaryphd@verizon.net](mailto:drgaryphd@verizon.net) or call him at [941-251-9566](tel:941-251-9566).



# Seeds&Needs

## Have a need or something to give?

Pick up a Seeds & Needs form in the Narthex or bulletin board. It has all the instructions on it. Please return the completed form to Faith in the office by Mon, August 17.

Anything received later than the deadline will not make it into the Follower. Thanks for your cooperation!



## On The Lookout for

Garden Gnomes, all races and cultures. I have several living and working in my yard now. Always room for more!!

If they are talented, I will pay you for them. I will also provide transportation to my home.

Please contact Donna Rusch (301) 825-9611.



## BUILDING & GROUNDS

### Flood Update

On, Friday, May 29, we uncovered a flood in the back ("new") part of our building. It looks like the Well beneath the ground leaked onto the property and into the building. There was extensive water damage. We made an insurance claim and have called out professionals to get things cleaned up. The company did a great job at cleaning everything up. That part of the building is now open and groups are once again meeting in the rooms. Denny Wetter submitted a list of damages to the insurance company and they are being very good about fixing everything. Thank you Denny, Judy Wetter, Fred

Damianos, and all the others who acted so quickly to get this resolved as soon as possible.

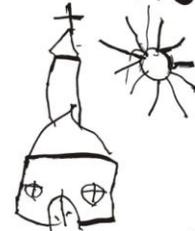


## 2015 Church Council

**Moderator:**  
Marge Hooie 747-2734  
**Deputy Moderator:**  
Barbara Brownell 747-9643  
**Secretary:**  
Linda Anderson 704-8772  
**Treasurer:**  
Marge Critelli 685-3807  
**Financial Secretary:**  
Judy Wetter 755-4583  
**Building & Grounds:**  
Denny Wetter 755-4583

**Christian Education:** OPEN  
**Fellowship & Events:** OPEN  
**Community Outreach:**  
Deb D'Angelo 610-704-4049  
**Social Action & Missions:**  
Robin Wentz 758-6575  
**Faith Care Team:**  
M. R. Lembright 758-5716  
**Worship Team Leader:**  
Richard Dilts 776-7293

FAITH PRESCHOOL



OF FAITH UNITED CHURCH  
OF CHRIST

## NEWS FROM FAITH PRESCHOOL

Hope everyone has a great summer!  
See you in September!

**PRESENT:** Marge Hooie, Marge Critelli, Robin Wentz, Denny Wetter, Judy Wetter, Richard Dilts, Linda Anderson, Pastor Brian, and M.R. Lembright.

Pastor Brian opened the meeting at 7:03 with a prayer.

A motion was made by Judy to accept the minutes as written in the follower. Marge C. seconds the motion and the motion was carried with a unanimous vote.

#### **FINANCIAL SECRETARY'S**

**REPORT:** Judy gave a report that showed a total deposit in May of \$16,218.79 which included; \$14,974.29 to the Bank of America operating account, \$330.00 to the Bank of the Ozarks building for the future account, and \$314.50 to the Bank of the Ozarks pass through account.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Marge Critelli showed the income and expenses statement for April and May combined (quick books was out of commission in April) with a profit of \$811.06 for the 2 months and a \$198.90 profit year to date.

**PASTOR'S REPORT:** Pastor Brian advised that Pastor Judy is now in Ohio. The Potts' daughter, along with her son, have moved here and been to church the past few Sundays. They are interested in having her parent's remains placed in the memorial garden. Facebook has had almost one thousand viewers and has had a few interested in the transgender study. The church growth committee met before Judy left. They are working on looking at the church like someone new coming in for the first time to see if changes need to be made. They are going to experiment with some comfortable furniture in the narthex to encourage people to socialize before and after church. The committee will be meeting again next week and work at making visitors more comfortable.

**SECRETARY'S REPORT:** Faith was unable to attend but gave the counsel a report on "office happenings". The new pens were ordered and have arrived. The flood was discovered on May 29<sup>th</sup> and our exterior sign was vandalized on June 3<sup>rd</sup>. Several sign companies were called to fix the problem however, there is no good solution at this time. June 4<sup>th</sup> it was noticed that the mailbox was knocked over and we're not sure if it was hit or the wood just rotted. Denny repaired the mailbox.

**OLD BUSINESS:** Life Touch photos update- proof #2 was sent back a month ago and we are waiting on proof #3 to be sent. Richard stated that he agreed about past discussions regarding the organ. He thinks it should be moved out of the church. Robin motioned to put the organ on Craig's list in order to get rid of it and any money made should be put in the music fund. M.R. seconded the motion which was carried with a unanimous vote. Pastor Brian will also contact our sister church in Tampa and Judy suggested asking Manatee Religious Services if they knew of anyone who needed an organ.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Denny Wetter submitted a list of building and contents damages. The insurance company is being very good about fixing everything. We still don't know if we're going to get new carpet. The company the insurance people sent to remove the water has done a very good job. Dinner and Dessert for June 26 will be hosted by Gary and Karin Rosenfeld at the Outback and for July 18<sup>th</sup> it will be hosted by Richard and Jimmy at their house for potluck and pool party. Marge Critelli reported that she is starting to attempt to learn Church Windows but is finding it difficult. After reading the instructions she has more questions than answers.

Judy suggested she and Marge C and Marge H get together and work on it and if needed, an accountant may need to set it up correctly so the church can go from there.

#### **DEPARTMENTS AND COMMITTEES:**

The next pastoral relations meeting will be July 22.

**SAM:** Robin reported that the Strengthen the Church offering will be June 28<sup>th</sup> and this month is rice month for food collection. Neighbors in Need offering will be in October.

**Faith Care Team:** M.R. reports that the team is doing great!

**Worship Team:** Richard reports that intinction will be the mode of communion for the next few months. He needed a scripture reader for July 5<sup>th</sup> which M.R. volunteered for and Richard will not be at church June 28<sup>th</sup>.

Closing prayer was given by Marge Hooie. Meeting adjourned at 8:53.

Respectfully submitted by

Linda Anderson.



facebook®

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

## 2015 Food Bank of Manatee Items

The Food Bank of Manatee continues to be blessed by your contributions every month. Thank you! As a reminder, **for the month of July we will be collecting non/low-sugar cereals!** Please see the list below so you can take advantage of upcoming sales/coupons. Check out the BOGOs! Thank you, thank you-as always, you continue to be so generous and we so appreciate it! Many thanks to Donna Rusch who continues to make the arrangements with the Food Bank to pick up!

Robin Wentz  
SAM Chairperson

**JULY IS:**  
Breakfast Cereals  
(non-sugar)

**Aug**-Macaroni & cheese  
**Sept**-Canned soups and stews  
**Oct** – Dry and canned beans  
**Nov**-Sugar and flour  
**Dec**-Baby cereal, baby food and formula



## Prayer Team

### Please Contact the Church

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](mailto:faithchurchucc@verizon.net)

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

**Janis Groth 941-779-6988**

**Marge Hooie 747-2734**

**Helen Nutting 792-3124**

**Sheryl Overheidt- Smith  
269-673-1546 (until Sept. 20)**

**Donna Rusch 301-825-9611**

**Joan Sheehan 748-2498**

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

## Your Staff

### Pastors

Rev. Brian and Rev. Judy  
Bagley-Bonner  
Cell: 941-718-3132

### PASTORS' HOURS:

Monday : Brian 10-1pm  
Tuesday: Judy 9:30- Noon  
Wednesday: Brian & Judy 9:30-Noon  
Thursday: Brian 5:00pm-6:00pm

### Secretary

Faith Quici

### Office Hours

**9:00 AM - 12:00 PM**  
746-8890  
Fax 746-0670

### Faith UCC Email:

[faithchurchucc@verizon.net](mailto:faithchurchucc@verizon.net)

### Faith Website:

[faithchurchucc.com](http://faithchurchucc.com)

# JULY 2015

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<p><i>Happy Birthday!</i></p> <p>7/5 Marjorie Steele 7/16 Earleen Nutting 7/18 Jessica Westenhouer 7/30 Marge Hooie</p>			1 7pm BAC	2 7:00 PM Narcotics Anonymous	3 Church office closed for Independence Day 7:15 PM Narcotics Anonymous 7:30pm BAC	4  Independence Day 10:00 AM NA & Nar-Anon
5 9am Adult Study- Malcolm 10:30 AM Worship Communion 1:30 BAC	6	7 11am Church Growth Mtg. 11am Music Rehearsal 7pm Adult Study "Malcolm"	8 7pm BAC	9 7:00 PM Narcotics Anonymous	10 7:15 PM Narcotics Anonymous 7:30pm BAC	11 9am Men's and Women's Breakfast at Norma Rae's in Palmetto 10:00 AM NA & Nar-Anon
12 9am Adult Study- Malcolm 10:30 AM Worship 1:30 BAC	13 7:00 PM Church Council	14 11am Music Rehearsal 7pm Adult Study "Malcolm"	15 7pm BAC	16 7:00 PM Narcotics Anonymous	17 Follower Reminder 7:15 PM Narcotics Anonymous 7:30pm BAC	18 10:00 AM NA & Nar-Anon Dinner & Dessert, Potluck Pool Party Combo at Richard & Jimmy's
19 9am Adult Study- Malcolm 10:30 AM Worship 1:30 BAC	20 7pm Braden River HOA Follower Deadline	21 11:30am Prayer Mtg. Freedom Vilg 11am Music Rehearsal 7pm Adult Study "Malcolm"	22 7pm Pastoral Relations Committee Mtg 7pm BAC	23 7:00 PM Narcotics Anonymous	24 7:15 PM Narcotics Anonymous 7:30pm BAC	25 10:00 AM NA & Nar-Anon
26 9am Adult Study- Malcolm 10:30 AM Worship 1:30 BAC	27 8:30AM Faith Care Team Meeting 7pm Inlets HOA	28 11am Music Rehearsal 7pm Adult Study "Malcolm"	29 7pm BAC	30 7:00 PM Narcotics Anonymous	1	2

BAC = Bradenton Apostolic Church  
Preschool Closed for the summer