

Faithful Follower

FAITH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

OPEN & AFFIRMING



Faith United Church of Christ 4850 SR 64 E, Bradenton, FL 34208

| 941-746-8890

| faithchurchucc.com

FEBRUARY 2022

THERE'S A NEW LOOK COMING TO FAITH UCC!!!

A very generous donation has made it possible for us to update all of the furnishings in the Narthex.

If you, or someone you know, can use any of these pieces please let Faith Quici know and we will make arrangements for you to pick them up.

Otherwise, we hope to find a non-profit group that can make good use of these furnishings.



JUST FOR LAUGHS

This morning I saw a neighbor Talking to her cat. It was obvious That she thought her cat understood Her....I came to my house and told My dog....we had a good laugh.

I asked my daughter to give me the Phone book. She laughed at me, called me a dinosaur and lent me her phone. So the spider is dead, the iPhone is broken and my daughter is furious.



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Love is Always in Season

When you glide through the aisles of your favorite retailer after Christmas, you quickly notice that the season of love is upon us. Cards, candies, flowers and stuffed animals beckon to be bought for loved ones. It's the season of love.

In our relationship with God, love isn't a seasonal thing. It's a way of life. Our life with God is based on love. Our relationship with others is based on love.

The most loving person who ever lived, Jesus, reminds us that the two greatest commandments are: "love God and love others." So simple, yet so difficult.

During our worship services in February, we are

celebrating love. As one of my favorite songs by my friend Skip Ewing says, "Love is something that we do." Not just in February, but all year.

It is also who we are as a church. If someone wants to know what love looks like, can they see it lived out among us?

We're looking at one of the greatest statements ever written about love, 1 Corinthians 13, in this month's sermon series, "All About Love."

I'd love to see you in worship in person or on Zoom this month!

Todd

Country singer **Clint Black** recorded it several years ago. Here is a link to the official video of Clint Black singing it. <https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=bQE3DIWblwY>



CHURCH HAPPENINGS

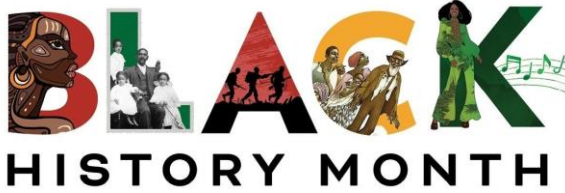
Valentines Reception and Birthday Celebration on Sunday, February 13 after the service. Please join us and **"share the love"**, invite a friend to church to join you in the fun!



February is:

[click here](#)

To be taken to the "Stories Page" of the *National Museum of African American History and Culture in DC*



Lenten Season Preview:

Tuesday, March 1 – Shrove Tuesday Pancake supper.

Wednesday, March 2- Ash Wednesday service

Sunday, April 10- Palm Sunday

Thursday, April 14- Maundy Thursday service

Friday, April 15- Good Friday

Sunday, April 17- Easter Sunday



FAITH PRESCHOOL

Wendi Steinbach-McKeithen, Director



A note from Faith Preschool...

The children are looking forward to having their dad's and/or grandpas join them for "Donuts with Dad". The T/Th and VPK class will have theirs on Thursday, February 10th from 8:30 – 9:00 AM and the MWF class will have theirs on Friday, February 11th from 8:45 – 9:15 AM. This is a special time when the children can enjoy quality time with their dad and/or grandpa and have donuts, orange juice and coffee out on the playground together.

We have started registration for the 2022-2023 preschool year. If you know of anyone looking for a quality, part time program, please have them call me at (941)746-7895 or email me at faithpreschool1@verizon.net for more information.

Wendi Steinbach-McKeithen
Faith Preschool Director



WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS for FEBRUARY

FEB 6, 2022

Scripture: PJ Widerman

FEB 13, 2022

Scripture: Donna Blakey

FEB 20, 2022

Scripture: Janis Groth

FEB 27, 2022

Scripture: Joan Sheehan

If you would like to read scripture, please let us know! You can sign up by emailing: faithchurchucc@verizon.net

Financial Snapshot

Dec 2021

2022-PER CAPITA

Per Capita is **\$15** per person donation for members which is sent to support the National and State Conference. It is a new year and we are committed to 100% paid membership. Thank you for your prompt attention to this conference responsibility.

FAITH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 17, 2022

PRESENT: Barbara Brownell, Peter Cohoon, Sharon Cohoon, Richard Dilts, Sylvia Hull, Dorathy Gallo, Faith Quici, Todd Weber, PJ Widerman, Amy Van Dell

ABSENT: Marge Kirchner

GUESTS: Donna Blakey, Janis Groth, Matt Lepinski

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m. and a quorum was established.

Todd Weber opened the meeting with a prayer.

A motion was made by Sylvia Hull to accept the December minutes, as published in the Follower, a second by Dorathy Gallo and the motion carried.

TREASURER REPORT: Dorathy Gallo said the year-end financials will be ready to include in the Annual Report to the Congregation.

CHURCH SECRETARY REPORT: Faith Quici presented the calendars for January, February, March and April. PJ Widerman asked if council would consider changing the meeting time to the second Monday of the month. After review and discussion regarding preparation of financial information it was decided to continue with holding the meeting on the third Monday.

PASTOR'S REPORT: Todd Weber suggested that we revisit our Mission Statement to more clearly define the purpose our church serves and the benefits it brings to its members and the community. Council agrees this is something we should do with the help of the congregation.

Pastor Weber inquired if we have a Profile Committee and where we are in that process. PJ Widerman said she has provided the committee with a Profile Report template that she received from the Florida Conference. At this time the committee has not met and we need to move forward with this. Pastor Weber said the Conference has updated the national profile to be less financial and data driven and more about who the church is trying to reach and serve.

Pastor Weber paid a visit to Peg O'Sullivan at the care facility where she resides and was subsequently informed that all visits to Peg must be requested first and approved by family.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Dorathy Gallo presented the final draft of the 2022

Proposed Budget. Barbara Brownell made a motion, second by Amy VanDell to approve the budget. ³

- Amy VanDell said the Jean Luc from the Justice Ministry will attend service on Sunday, January 23rd to deliver a message to the congregation about the issues the ministry members will be addressing with our local representatives.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Annual Meeting-Faith Quici will prepare the agenda, PJ Widerman will lead the discussion, officers for the new 2022 council year will be voted on and nominations accepted, Sharon Cohoon will be the recording secretary. There will be a shortened service to accommodate full participation by the congregation.

- Council voted to allow the pre-school director, Wendi Steinbach-McKeithen, to move her office into the old nursery space.

- Lenten service and activities were discussed and planned. Janis Groth suggested we think about starting the Pancake Supper again.

- PJ Widerman expressed concern about the cost of our liability insurance policy and the fact that we have not actively reviewed and pursued options for cost effectiveness for several years. She will research other options and report back to the council in February.

- Church security has been compromised on a few occasions when the front door has not been properly secured. The police have been summoned on 3 occasions and there is a fine attached for false alarms. Faith Quici will provide council with a list of those who currently have code entry access and/or keys to the building.

- Donna Blakey was nominated to the Faith Care council position.

- PJ Widerman asked for a definition of the Church Relations Committee as relates to council and the congregation. Barbara Brownell explained that the first year of an Interim Pastor's service, the search committee for the Interim Pastor acts as the CRC. Barbara also stated that when a settled pastor is called, the Search committee is typically in place for the first year as the CRC for the pastor.

NEXT MEETING: February 21st at 6:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT: Pete Cohoon made a motion, second by Richard Dilts and approved.

Barbara Brownell closed the meeting in prayer at 8:10 p.m.

Jean Luc Adrien, D.A.R.T. Justice Ministry Organizer for Manatee Updates Faith UCC Congregation

At the end of service on Sunday, Jean Luc Adrien shared with the congregation recent steps taken to raise awareness of the two pressing issues identified by the Manatee network members: lack of affordable housing and homelessness, and inequality in criminal justice. Research on both topics is being presented at meetings with community leaders. A heightened sense of urgency for needed change is the message being delivered as consensus is built and more people join the cause. The goal is an organized, informed group of people from fifteen different faith organization in Manatee County coming together, one-thousand strong at the Nehemiah Action on April 4th. At this event, actions that can bring positive changes on these critical issues are requested of County leaders as Nehemiah did as described in the Old Testament. Coincidentally, Pastor Todd Weber announced that he will be preaching on the book Nehemiah in the coming weeks. Faith UCC Network Team leaders and members met after the service with Jean Luc to make plans for the

Faith UCC Network meeting on February 8th at 4:30pm. At this meeting network members from Faith UCC will learn how they will play a critical role in the Nehemiah Action. If you would like to be a Faith UCC network member and take part in the Nehemiah Action contact one of the team leaders and plan to attend on Feb. 8th at 4:30pm. Your voice, your presence and your support will make a difference.



SAM (Social Action and Missions):

February is: Peanut Butter

Our local food pantries are critically low on food, and we still want to be a help in any way.



PICK UP

1. We will be happy to come to your home and pick up your items!

DROP OFF

2. You can deliver to church during office hours. (Call Faith for info on those hours (941-746-8890)

SHIPPED

3. You can purchase groceries online and have them delivered right to the food bank address. Call Meals on Wheels for more info at: 941-747-4655

MONETARY DONATIONS

4. You can send contributions directly to Meals On Wheels at 811 23rd Avenue East, Bradenton 34208. And through this link:



CRITICALLY NEEDED ITEMS

<input type="checkbox"/> CANNED VEGETABLES	<input type="checkbox"/> CANNED MEAT
<input type="checkbox"/> CANNED FRUITS	<input type="checkbox"/> 100% FRUIT JUICES
<input type="checkbox"/> MAC 'N' CHEESE	<input type="checkbox"/> BREAKFAST BARS
<input type="checkbox"/> PEANUT BUTTER	<input type="checkbox"/> OATMEAL
<input type="checkbox"/> JELLY	<input type="checkbox"/> POWDERED MILK
<input type="checkbox"/> BOXED RICE	<input type="checkbox"/> APPLESAUCE
<input type="checkbox"/> BOXED PASTA	<input type="checkbox"/> DRIED BEANS
<input type="checkbox"/> CANNED SOUPS	<input type="checkbox"/> TRAIL MIX

**Donations can be dropped off or shipped directly to:
Meals on Wheels PLUS of Manatee
811 23rd Avenue East, Bradenton, FL 34208**

<https://securepayment.link/mealsonwheelsplus/one-time-donation/>

FEBRUARY 2022

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	
		1	2	3 6:30pm-8:15pm NarAnon- in Sunday School Classroom 7:30pm NA- in multipurpose room	4	5 10:15am NA- in multipurpose room	
6 10:30am Service with Communion 2:30pm BAC	7	8 4:30pm Justice Ministry Meeting 7pm San Casciano Board Mtg.	9	10 Preschool Dad's Dessert - AM Memorial Service – BAC 5-8:30pm 6:30pm-8:15pm NarAnon- in Sunday School Classroom 7:30pm NA- in multipurpose room	11 5-9pm Apostolic Special Event	12 8am-8pm Apostolic Special Event 10:15am NA- in multipurpose room	
13 10:30am Service Valentines Reception and Birthday Celebration 2:30pm BAC	14 Valentine's Day	15	16	17 6:30pm-8:15pm NarAnon- in Sunday School Classroom 7:30pm NA- in multipurpose room	18	19 10:15am NA- in multipurpose room	
20 10:30am Service 2:30pm BAC	21 Presidents' Day No School 6:30pm Council Meeting	22	23	24 6:30pm-8:15pm NarAnon- in Sunday School Classroom 7:30pm NA- in multipurpose room	25	26 10:15am NA- in multipurpose room	
27 10:30am Service 2:30pm BAC	28	<h2>HAPPY BIRTHDAY</h2> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2/2 Richard Nutting 2/5 M.R. Lembright 2/8 Gayle Covey 2/10 Ray Crowell 2/12 Carol Carpenter 2/18 Mary West 2/20 Janis Groth 2/21 Veryl Carpenter 2/23 Rob West 2/25 Carol Knight 				<h2>Faith UCC Zoom FEBRUARY 2022</h2> <p>SUNDAYS- Same every Sunday Meeting ID: 845 3949 8165 Passcode: 587065</p> <p>You can join online or by Phone</p> <p>To join by phone: +1 646 558 8656 Enter the Meeting ID using the keypad: When asked, the Password: -- Then hit "#"</p>	