



Life in Faith

*Faith Immanuel Presbyterian Church is a welcoming community
committed to worshipping God,
growing in Christ, and, emboldened by the Holy Spirit,
extending Christ's love, grace and mercy to all.*

August 2017

**WORSHIP at
10:30 am**

*“And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory,
the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. From his fullness we
have all received, grace upon grace.”*

John 1:14, 16

Church Staff

**Reverend Allison
Spooner**

Roz Presby
Pastoral Associate

Caleb Flick
Director of Music
Ministries

Wanda Beaver
Associate of Music
Ministries

Debbie Kissinger
Office Administrator

Carolyn Frischkorn
Financial Secretary

Virginia Henning
Treasurer

Joe Sponaugle
Custodian

**Faith Immanuel
Presbyterian Church**
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This past month we celebrated our union as Faith Immanuel Presbyterian Church with a worship service on July 30th that demonstrated the love and commitment of this united congregation. Planning worship is a major part of my job as your pastor, but I am often amazed and humbled when I realize that although I write up the liturgy and plan a sermon our worship service comes together through many different people, with many different gifts coming together in such a way that I can only understand as a “God moment”.

The worship service on July 30 was a wonderful example of the grace upon grace that we have received as we witness to that Word become flesh.

Each part of the service is enriched by the unique gifts of the congregation. Together the choir, the members of the Vintage Brass, and the congregation we lifted hymns of praise and joy, we celebrated communion, we were moved to contemplation and reflection with the music of our wonderful musicians Caleb, Wanda and Dianna Plack, and we commemorated our union with a beautiful procession. None of these things could have happened without the many different moving parts of our congregation coming together to create that special and sacred moment.

We have much work ahead of us as we move in together, begin envisioning who we are as Faith Immanuel, and continue growing spiritually together. But, if July 30th's service is any indication, it is clear that God has equipped us for the journey and empowered us for service. In the next days and weeks I encourage you to note those little moments of grace, when it is clear God is working through our community- through our interactions, our commonalities and our diversity. From what I can see *grace abounds!*

Yours in Christ,

Rev. Allison Spooner

SESSION

Class of 2018

Linda Graham
Bub Manning
Joe Stimmel

Class of 2019

Shirley Cleaver
Terry Hack
George Hope

Class of 2020

Bill Hawk
Rose Jewell-Jordan
Jackie Webb

Clerk of Session
Norm Diefenderfer

DEACONS

Class of 2018

Carol Gangwish
Ken Shatto
SuAnn Tucci

Class of 2019

Bonnie Hack
Wendell Jordan
Sherri Linn

Class of 2020

Bob Dash
Barb Hablett
Anita Klaboe

MUSIC NOTES *Caleb Flick*

There are several big stories in the music department and our July 30 Union Service offered some previews. Faith Immanuel will enjoy a larger choir roster than either of our parent congregations have for a number of years. Associate of Musical Ministries, Wanda Beaver, and I will be dividing keyboard responsibilities and other duties going forward. You can learn more about Wanda in her article in this newsletter.

For those of you who are not familiar with me, I served Faith Presbyterian Church from April 2013 as Director of Musical Ministries and I will retain this title going forward. I am employed full-time by Nationwide Insurance Company and reside nearby in Lower Paxton Township. I grew up surrounded by Mennonites and Amish in rural Southeastern Lebanon County and became involved in church music from an early age. I later graduated from Lebanon Valley College, with a degree in music, and have now been involved with sacred music for over fifteen years. In addition to my work as an Organist or Music Director, I have often found myself involved in a variety of situations as a pianist.

As we look ahead to 2017 – 2018, I would like to draw our singers' attention to the first choir rehearsal to be held on Wednesday, August 30 at 7:00 pm. I ask that any interested ringers avail themselves of the sign-up sheets to be placed in the gathering area this week. They will remain up for a few weeks to allow me to get a sense of interest. We will not start rehearsals until the first or second week of September and will likely target a Wednesday evening rehearsal time as well once we know what to expect.

Report

Through the generous support of the Personnel Committee, Session and Congregation of our congregation, I am thankful to have been able to attend the Montreal International Organ Festival presented by the American Guild of Organists in conjunction with the Royal College of Organists. After a very long drive Friday, June 30, I attend organized pre-conference events scheduled for Saturday, July 1, before enjoying the more structured convention programming Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday, and returning home Wednesday, July 5.

The three major emphases of the Festival were Worship, Education, and Concerts. Morning Worship on Monday was held at an English language Presbyterian Church of Canada (PCC) with a real Scottish Minister (!) who delivered a thought-provoking sermon on the importance of the unifying powers of music in worship. The congregational singing was outstanding and featured a brass ensemble not unlike our Vintage Brass which was used to similar great effect. The balance of Monday was rounded out with workshops and lectures on a variety of topics. I chose to attend a choral reading session focusing on the challenges of finding good choral repertoire for church choirs with fewer than 25 people. John Ferguson's setting of "Lord of the Dance", presented by the Faith Immanuel Singers, at the Union Service on July 30 was one such recommendation from this workshop. I look forward to performing more of the repertoire discussed in worship in 2017-2018.

Another memorable educational experience was a lecture on hymn playing by David Enlow who is a professor at Juilliard. He has also been the organist at the Church of the Resurrection in NYC for many years where he was hired by and worked alongside dear friends of mine I met while working in Reading. I was struck again and again throughout my few days at the convention what a small world the sacred music world really is. One Canadian from Ontario man did not even need me to explain the location of Faith Immanuel as his sister lives somewhere nearby here in Harrisburg! Further rounding out the educational component, I enjoyed additional tailor-made personalized instruction in a series of lessons with a teacher in the suburbs of Montreal as well.

Finally, I was thrilled and inspired by the number of wonderful concert offerings at outstanding churches and cathedrals throughout Montreal. Here the French influence was strongly felt as the programs were almost entirely French Romantic and 20th Century French repertoire or Bach. Nevertheless there were some outliers! Quebec turned 375 this year and Montreal apparently had their own Baroque era of organ music at the very beginning of Québécois history. The "Organ Book of Montreal" provided good food for musical and spiritual thought and some of these little pieces might appear during Advent. On the other end of the historical spectrum, McGill professor Hans-Ola Ericsson presented a thought provoking recital that went a long way to recharge my musical batteries. It featured German Baroque music interspersed with his ultra-modern compositions before ending with a Rock and Roll styled organ piece.

The trip was busy, yet also very restful, spiritually and musically, and I am thankful for the support and efforts of all who made it possible for me to attend.

Respectfully Submitted, Caleb Flick

I'm excited to be a part of the music program at Faith Immanuel Presbyterian Church, and to be starting a new chapter in my life.

My husband Wayne and I reside in Mechanicsburg, Hampden Township, where I give private piano lessons. We moved from our hometown Millerstown, in Perry County, where I served as Music Director/Organist at Highland Presbyterian Church in Newport for a number of years. In 2016 I took the position of Organist at Progress Immanuel Presbyterian Church, and in January 2017 I assumed the position of Music Director/Organist.

I have been the accompanist for the Lions Community Theater of New Bloomfield, for their annual musical productions, for more than a decade. I also performed as accompanist for the Good News Singers in Perry County from 1981-1990 and for numerous years since then.

I truly believe music sets the mood for the worship service, whether it is joyful or prayerful. As Caleb and I join our efforts and musical talents, it is my hope that our music will be an inspiration to all, and most importantly, done for the glory of God.

Musical blessings, Wanda

**Music
At
Faith
Immanuel
Church**



COFFEE HOUR

AUGUST

13—Deacons
20—Properties
27—Mission

WORSHIP SCHEDULES

LAY LEADERS FOR AUGUST

13—Carolyn Souders
20—Marjorie Key
27—Randy Knapp

USHERS FOR AUGUST

13—Anita Klaboe and Shirley Cleaver
20—Randy Knapp and SuAnn Tucci
27—Fred and Jean Muncert

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY FOR ADULTS

Anyone who is interested in a 10 week study of Philip Yancey's book What's So Amazing About Grace, please contact Shirley McLaren at 526-4777 or Rev. Spooner at 545-4631.

FAITH IMMANUEL BOOK CLUB

AUGUST 23 AT 6:30 PM IN THE PARLOR

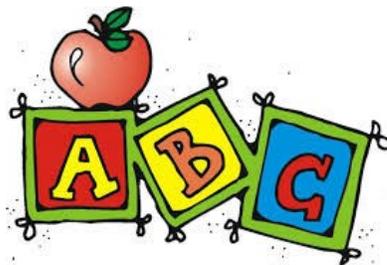
Modoc by Ralph Helfer
The story of the greatest elephant that ever lived.

Questions, contact the church office at 545-4631.



Faithful Stitchers
led by Jackie Webb
meets the 2nd and 4th
Tuesdays of each
month at 1:00 pm in
the library.

NORTHWOOD NURSERY SCHOOL of Faith Presbyterian Church



50 Years of ABCs,
123s and TLC

OUR SUMMER OFFICE HOURS ARE:

Tuesday & Thursday
9:00-12:00
717-657-0715

See you in September!
Deb Mercurio, Northwood Director
www.northwoodnurseryschool.com

A NEW THING *Roz Presby*

Commencement speakers are usually boring and forgettable. When I graduated from college my class had the good fortune to have a speaker who was neither – the science fiction author, Isaac Asimov. The gist of his speech was that the purpose of our education was not to give us a particular skill set, train us for a specific occupation, or get us into the right grad school, but to give us the ability to understand the world and deal with change. That has stuck with me ever since; we can always count on things changing, and the changes may be good, bad, or neutral. We've been on the road to change for the past year and we hit our high point of the process on July 30. What a great day!

We did it! We're official and merged. For the next few months we'll all be figuring out what that means and how it will work. As I write this I am at my desk in my new office. I just moved a load of boxes, and there are lots more to come. In terms of logistics, the merger is a lot like two fifty-year-olds getting married and they each have a house full of stuff. What do we need? What will be useful for who we're going to be? What should we pass on to someone else who can make better use of it?

At PIPC I planned worship and preached. My role with Faith Immanuel will be focused on pastoral care. If somebody needs an ear, I will have two available. I will also be helping with the process of blending two congregations into one. It's sort of like playing matchmaker. I expect to be in touch with people to find out their interests, passions, and areas where they want to serve the church and the community. If people don't find each other first, I will point them in each other's direction. As we get to know each other we may find that we are called to do new things that none of us contemplated before. I'm looking forward to seeing where the adventure takes us.

Blessings

FAITH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH MORTGAGE

We finished the first half of 2017 with our church mortgage sitting just over \$75,000. If you haven't contributed anything recently toward the mortgage, you are encouraged to do so now to whatever extent you are able. There is a space on your offering envelopes where you can designate Building Fund. We've come a long way in reducing our debt, but your help is still needed. Thank you for your consideration.

A NEW BEGINNING

Stewardship

C A L E N D A R



CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR AUGUST

Thursday, August 3

Worship Committee 12 Noon in the Library

Sunday, August 6—Outdoor Worship and Summer Picnic

Monday, August 7

Session 7:00 pm in the Library

Tuesday, August 8

Downtown Daily Bread Meet at Church at 11:30 am

Faithful Stitches 1:00 pm in the Library

Sunday, August 13—Worship Communion

Educational Opportunity 6:00 pm in Shaffer Hall

Tuesday, August 15

Downtown Daily Bread Meet at Church at 11:30 am

Sunday, August 20—Worship

Tuesday, August 22

Downtown Daily Bread Meet at Church at 11:30 am

Faithful Stitches 1:00 pm in the Library

Wednesday, August 23

Faith Immanuel Book Club—Time TBD

Thursday, August 24

Cub Pack 256 Ice Cream Social 6:30 pm in Shaffer Hall

Sunday, August 27—Worship

Tuesday, August 29

Downtown Daily Bread Meet at Church at 11:30 am

Wednesday, August 30

Choir Practice 7:00 pm

August Birthdays

Aug. 2 Bonnie Hack
Susan Bertsch

Aug. 5 Ken Shatto

Aug. 7 Renton Graham

Aug. 12 Randy Knapp

Aug. 14 Cathy Hartwick

Aug. 15 Amanda Rorick (Knapp)

Aug. 16 Lorraine Englander

Aug. 17 Jeffrey Allen

Aug. 20 Amya Meisenbach

Aug. 21 Eleanor Boyer
Ryan Fenstermacher
George Kegerreis, Jr.
Jean Muncert

Aug. 23 Robin Kurtz
Dorothy Weaver

Aug 24 Amanda Deiter
Delores Smith
Mary Sweigard

Aug. 25 Holly Dash
Jennifer Kopp (Knapp)

Aug. 26 Katie Marotte (Luckenbaugh)

Aug. 27 Debra Leader

Aug. 29 Stephanie Jordan
Alyssa Jordan

Aug. 30 Sue Dinges
Lester Folk
Valerie McCaffrey

September Birthdays

Sept. 2	Mildred Martin	Sept 26	Mary Knapp
Sept. 3	Karen Shallcross	Sept 27	Elena Germaine (Stimmel)
Sept. 4	Dominick Christeleit	Sept 29	Sandy Kever
	Howard Snyder	Sept 30	Amy Christeleit
Sept 10	Virginia Henning		Anita Klaboe
Sept 11	Susan Ricci		William Marshall
Sept. 15	Janet Elam		
Sept. 16	Charles Kannegieser		
	Michael Legg		
Sept 17	Bob Dash		
	Shirley McLaren		
Sept. 19	Peggy Keiser		
Sept. 21	Carol Becker		
Sept 24	Brad Phillips		



**We're sorry if
we missed your
birthday.**

**Please notify
the office at
717-545-4631.**