

Faith United Methodist Church

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**Faith United
Methodist Church**



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Dear Friends,

Have you ever tried to hurry on ice? What about running up a sand dune? Neither is easy. In fact, hurrying on ice often results in falling and the shifting sand of a dune causes your feet to sink in and is incredibly laborious. Both images have come to my mind lately. There are certain things in life that cannot be hurried – or rushed. Christmas, birthdays, winter storms, and recovering from illness or injury are recent examples from my own life. There is a timing and rhythm to life that is part of the Great Mystery that is beyond us. We cannot control certain things and will do best when we learn to accept them. In some ways, it is like waiting in the doctor's office. When I had cancer 25+ years ago, my young age meant going to see several specialists that were in high demand. I learned to take work or other things I needed to do along with me. By doing that, I was less frustrated when I had to wait for an hour to see someone or get a test. There are times it does us no good to hurry. Instead, we need to simply be where we are.

As we look ahead to February, we will celebrate Valentine's Day, remembering that it was named after a Saint who

understood the greatness of God's love. And we will enter the season of Lent, with Ash Wednesday being February 22nd. I'd like to invite you to join us on the Sundays leading up to Lent as we focus our worship around fighting 'the blahs' this winter with our series about "SAD: Spiritual Affective Disorder". This is a series about being and staying positive! God's desire for each of us is to engage our spirituality in a way that encourages us during the every season of life.

The season of Lent, which is to prepare us for Holy Week and our Easter Celebration, will have the theme of "Looking for Love in All the Wrong Places". The description explains:

The Christian scriptures offer many images of where love, grace, forgiveness, righteousness, and healing can REALLY be found. And it is not in the "usual" places. Isn't it as true of us today as it was of the scriptural authors? Don't we often look for wholeness and happiness in places that offer only temporary "good feelings" and satisfaction? Lent is a wonderfully reflective time to reassess where we are searching for meaning and purpose. We'll move through stories of Jesus to find out who offers the "real deal."

To amplify this focus, we will meet as a small group again on Wednesday afternoons at 1pm, beginning on March 1, to discuss [Things That Matter: Overcoming Distraction to Pursue a More Meaningful Life](#) by Joshua Becker. "Life is full of distractions. It's never been harder to focus on what really matters. Joshua Becker's book invites us to discern our highest priorities and to resist letting our lives get derailed by the things that compete for our attention."

Remember, if the weather is bad or if you are unable to attend worship in person, we are still live online - or can be watched afterwards on Face Book. See you soon!

Blessings,

PRAYER REQUESTS

Baby Christian & Family

Bernice Osborne

Bev Wolford

Betty Miller

Bradley Adams

Brenda Shepherd

David Inman

Dennis Cebulsky

Diana Bohn Family

Doug Adams

Ed McAuley

Ellen Kelton

Fred Cubbison

Heidi

Jane Thorne

Janice Moore

Jill Shrock

Jim Tignor

JoAnne Peadon

Juanita Mohler

Karen Bay

Karen Norman

Karen Wilson

Kevin Bushong

Laura Peck

Marilyn Inman

Marlene Farley

Pastor Joy Wigal

Sandra Boyd

Steve DeGarmo Family

Steve Inman

Suzanne Collins

Terry Pickens

Thea & Mark Crawmer

Tim & Sherry Dickerson

Veronica

Vicky Wolfe

Zola Duncan & Family

Medical Faith Shut-in:

Kathleen McCutcheon



✽JANUARY & FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS✽

January 2—Nick Howard

January 11—Larisa Harper

January 26—Don Covert

February 3—Cassie Donovan

February 3—Reese Donovan

February 3—Pat Tolle

February 15—Orlen Bates

February 22—Thea Crawmer

February 24—Don Wolfe

✽JANUARY ANNIVERSARY✽

January 10—Don & Vicky Wolfe

✽FEBRUARY LITURGISTS & GREETERS✽

Date	Liturgist	Greeters
Feb. 5	Marsha K.	Don & Roberta C. & Susie D.
Feb. 12	Nick H.	Chris & Heather D.
Feb. 19	Marsha K.	Mark & Thea C. & Vickie F.
Feb. 26	Gail M.	Floyd & Pat T.

✽LEADERSHIP MEETING✽

Leadership Board will meet 6:00 pm, February 21st.

✽MESSAGE FROM DON & VICKY WOLFE✽

To My Faith Family,

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

We Hope that you and your family are doing well as the time has come to celebrate Jesus' birth. This morning's devotional from Max Lucado was specially interesting to me and it led me to the theme of our yearly Christmas letter.

He started with scripture from Matthew 6:34 "When the time comes" God will help you deal with whatever hard times come up.

We have had struggles and victories this year and have witnessed the healing hand of God for "When the time comes".

His message was, "Meet today's problems with today's strength. Don't start tackling tomorrow's problems until tomorrow. You don't have tomorrow's strength yet. You simply have enough for today.

I know as a young father I've told the kids "Not now, but when the time comes," and told Vicky, "Honey, I'll get to it "when the time comes", you don't have to remind me every three months, and also to myself "Donald, what are you doing up at four in the morning worrying about that. Deal with it "When the time comes."

Now that the time has come to celebrate the birth of our savior, Jesus, let us remember that whatever time comes in our lives ahead, He will be the constant, loving, forgiving, grace-giving and our power and strength to guide us into, "when the time comes".

All praise, honor, and glory is His

Don & Vicky



PHONE IN WORSHIP

Sunday Worship occurs every Sunday
from 10:15 to 11:45 AM
Join by phone: 1-408-418-9388
Access code: 132 203 0362

EVENTIDE CIRCLE

The next Eventide meeting will be
February 2, 2023 at 1:00 at the church.
Program: Marsha Kelly
Devotions: Vickie Finlay
Response Moment: Pat Tolle



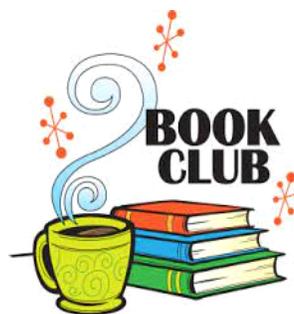
HEAD START

Head Start has moved back into the classroom at Faith! As soon as all licensing is approved, we will once again be graced with the presence of 15 little children 4 days a week. Please consider joining us in gathering donations of shelf stable food items to provide to families at our location. Amanda will provide a list of items that can be donated once we know the start date of the students.



Please contact Amanda at
740-453-7988 or fumcza@gmail.com
if you are interested in helping to fill
the bags on Fridays.

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH READING PROGRAM



We are ready to begin our 2023 UWF Book Club! We have chosen the books that meet the program requirements and guidelines. Below are the book titles, authors, and meeting dates. All dates are subject to change. The times of the meetings will vary and will be announced as we approach that date.

Threading My Prayer Rug - *One Woman's Journey from Pakistani Muslim to American Muslim* by Sabeeha Rehman. *Mission Emphasis: Education for Mission.* We will meet Monday, February 27, 2023, at 1:00 p.m. in the church lounge. You may acquire the book as you wish (Library, Amazon, Kindle) or see Barb Wolfe to borrow the book, provided by the UWF.

The other books and dates are:

Fresh Expressions - *A New kind of Methodist Church for People Not in Church* by Kenneth H. Carter and Audrey Warren. *Mission Emphasis: Leadership Development.* We will meet on Monday, April 24, 2023. Time and location TBA.

She Came to Slay - *The Life and Times of Harriet Tubman* by Erica Armstrong Dunbar. *Mission Emphasis: Nurturing for Community.* We will meet on Monday, June 26, 2023. Time and location TBA.

Cousins - *Connected Through Slavery, A Black Woman and a White Woman Discover Their Past - And Each Other* by Betty Kilby Baldwin and Phoebe Kilby. *Mission Emphasis: Social Action.* We will meet on Monday, August 28, 2023. Time and location TBA.

Adamant - *Finding Truth In A Universe of Opinions* by Lisa Bevere. *Mission Emphasis: Spiritual Growth.* We will meet on Monday, October 30, 2023. Time and location TBA.