

PASTOR EMERITUS: Rev. Dr. Charles E. Colson

PASTOR EMERITUS: Rev. J. Earl Naegele

ORGANIST/DIRECTOR OF MUSIC: Eleanor Focht, SPC

CLOSER: Mike Yen

SECRETARY: Lynda Scheirer

CUSTODIAN: Sally Heimbach

WORSHIP ASSISTANT: Diane Perry

SOUND TECH: Hank Rath

DEACON GREETER: Debbie Lillegard

FELLOWSHIP DEACON: Peter Ferguson

FLOWER DEACON: Debbie Lillegard

CHILDCARE: Kelly O'Leary

HOST: Carolyn Baittinger

USHER/GREETER CAPTAIN: Beth Kunkle

USHERS: Mark Heimbach, Sally Heimbach, Pam Mongi, Jo Cheney

ALTAR FLOWERS: Poinsettias

ELDERS:

Class of 2009—John Baittinger, Lyda Byers, Ann Lowell, Sam Wilber

Class of 2010—Lynn Ingram, Dorothy Nicholas, Alicia Shussett, Joe Smits

Class of 2011—Ron Gingrich, Lynn Ingram, Tom Lawall, Jim Millick

DEACONS:

Class of 2009—Carolyn Baittinger, Sally Heimbach, John Stewart, Chuck Waters

Class of 2010—Peter Ferguson, Marie Heffner, Debbie Lillegard, Melanie Shimer

Class of 2011—Darlene Gorr, Don Piper

FAITH ON THE ROAD TEAM: Jack Decker (*Vision Team*), Sam Han (*Vision Team*), Diane Millick, Susan Moring (*Vision Team*), Diane Perry (*Vision Team*), Joanne Rath, Deanna Robinson, Louise Schaefer, Janie Slamon (*Vision Team*), Hallie Stewart, Darcy Trop, and Dave Weber.

OUR WINTER ICE AND SNOW POLICY;

Sunday worship will never be cancelled.

If it is not safe to travel from your sidewalk, driveway or road, let that be your guide.

**THE ORDER OF MORNING WORSHIP
THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS
10:30 AM
DECEMBER 28, 2008**

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

SILENT PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Amazing God, you have confounded the wisdom of this world by coming to us in the form of a human baby, frail and vulnerable. Help us to comprehend the great love with which you open yourself to our world, that we in turn may risk to open ourselves in love toward all your children, and that we may find the source of our lives in Jesus Christ. Amen.

OUR APPROACH TO GOD

THE PRELUDE: 10:15 AM

Seasonal Carol Sing

THE WELCOME

THE SONG FOR ASSEMBLY

"For Surely I Know the Plans"

G. S. OATEN

For surely I know the plans I have for your, says the Lord,
Plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope.

*THE DOXOLOGY: HYMN #592

*THE CALL TO WORSHIP

We asked only for a worldly king.

WE WERE GIVEN A HEAVENLY SOVEREIGN.

We asked only for triumph in this life.

WE WERE GIVEN GLORY IN ETERNAL LIFE.

**UNISON: IN THE REIGN OF CHRIST WE ARE NOT CONDEMNED, BUT
BLESSED. IN THE REALM OF GOD WE ARE NOT STRANGERS, BUT
HEIRS.**

* * * * *

*THE HYMN

"What Child Is This?"

GREENSLEEVES #53

THE PRAYER OF PRAISE AND ADORATION

THE LORD'S PRAYER (Please use "debts & debtors".)
PRESBYTERIAN HYMNAL – PG. 16

THE CALL TO CONFESSION AND SILENT CONFESSION

THE PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison)

**GRACIOUS GOD, WE HAVE SOUGHT YOU IN HIGH AND HOLY PLACES,
BUT WE ARE ILL PREPARED TO ACKNOWLEDGE YOUR PRESENCE
AMONG THE LOWLY AND POOR. WE BELIEVE YOU ARE PROFOUND BUT
WE OVERLOOK YOUR OBVIOUS TRUTHS. WE ARE ANXIOUS ABOUT THE
UNKNOWN BUT WE HARDLY CONSIDER THE REALITIES IMMEDIATELY IN
FRONT OF US.**

**O HOLY CHILD OF BETHLEHEM, DESCEND TO US WE PRAY. CAST OUT
OUR SIN AND ENTER IN, BE BORN IN US TODAY. WE HEAR THE
CHRISTMAS ANGELS, THE GREAT GLAD TIDINGS TELL. O COME TO US,
ABIDE with us, our Lord Emmanuel.**

THE KYRIE ELEISON: HYMN #572

THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*THE GLORIA PATRI : HYMN #579

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*THE PASSING OF THE PEACE
THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE
JOYS AND CONCERNS
INTERCESSIONS AND PETITIONS

THE WORD OF GOD

A WORD WITH THE CHILDREN

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: ISAIAH 52:7-10

⁷How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns." ⁸Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices, together they sing for joy; for in plain sight they see the return of the LORD to Zion. ⁹Break forth together into singing, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the LORD has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem. ¹⁰The LORD has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

THE PSALM: PSALM 98

(The leader will read the odd verses and the congregation will read the even verses. We will read Verse 9 in unison.)

¹O sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things. His right hand and his holy arm have gotten him victory.

²The LORD has made known his victory; he has revealed his vindication in the sight of the nations.

³He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel. All the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

⁴Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises.

⁵Sing praises to the LORD with the lyre, with the lyre and the sound of melody.

⁶With trumpets and the sound of the horn make a joyful noise before the King, the LORD.

⁷Let the sea roar, and all that fills it; the world and those who live in it.

⁸Let the floods clap their hands; let the hills sing together for joy

Unison: ⁹at the presence of the LORD, for he is coming to judge the earth. He will judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with equity.

*THE HYMN

"It Came Upon the Midnight Clear"

CAROL #38

THE NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: JOHN 1:1-14

¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴in him was life, and the life was the light of all people.

⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. ⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. ¹⁰He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹²But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. ¹⁴And 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.

THE SERMON

"Upon A Midnight Clear"

REV. HEIDI CLEVELAND

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD'S WORD

THE ORGAN OFFERTORY

"O Come, Little Children"

TRADITIONAL GERMAN

*THE DEDICATION HYMN

"Freely, Freely"

CAROL OWENS

Freely, freely, you have received.

Freely, freely give.

Go in my name and because you believe

Others will know that I live.

*THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: The APOSTLES' CREED

PRESBYTERIAN HYMNAL – PG. 14

*THE PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*THE CLOSING HYMN

"Joy to the World!"

ANTIOCH #40

*THE CHARGE

*THE BENEDICTION

*THE POSTLUDE

"From Heaven Above"

BASED ON 'VON HIMMEL HOCH'

*Those who are able are invited to stand.

vvvvvLatecomers may be seated.

The poinsettia plants beautifying the church today were placed by:

John & Carolyn Baittinger, in memory of John Earl Baittinger, Sr.
Bob & Ruth Bieler
Lyda & Andrew Byers, in memory of their parents
Jo Cheney, In memory of my sister & brother-in-law, Barbara & Jerry Freeman
Jim & Eleanor DePhillips, in memory of our parents
Bob & Brynn Durn, in memory of our parents
Terry & Sally Eck, In honor of our grandsons
The Ferguson, Greenough & Victor Families, in memory of Barbara Ferguson
Rev. David & Eleanor Focht, in memory of our parents; in memory of Allan Young, Jr.
Dick Garber, in memory of Judy
Ron & Sandy Gingrich, in memory of Snowy Doe
Darlene Gorr, in memory of Ann Dourney; in honor of Charles Dourney
Ann Greenwood, in honor of my grandchildren: Owen, Meredith & Emma
Betsy & Sam Han, in Praise and Thanksgiving
The Hembergers, in memory of loved ones
Sue & Tom Lawall, in memory of their parents
Jim & Debbie Lillegard, in honor of our family
Geoffrey & Ann Lowell, in memory of Patricia N. Lowell
Donna & Cliff Lucas, in honor of Norman & Blanche Taylor; Preston & Lucy Lucas
Robin Mathias, in memory of Ken Mathias; Larry & Marge Mathias; Robert & Dorothy
Guerry; Renee DuBois
The Millicks, in honor of those still displaced from their homes along the Gulf Coast
Dorothy Nicholas, in memory of Dr. Gary G. Nicholas
Shimer family, in memory of James Fehr, Ernest Shimer, Margaret Shimer
Janie Slamon, in memory of loved ones
Smits Family, in memory of Claire Brownbridge
John & Hallie Stewart, in memory of our parents
Sue & Bob Vitale, in memory of Bill, Isabel & Louise
Bruce & Jean Wagner, in memory of departed loved ones
Chuck, Amy, Archer & Cawley Waters, in honor of our parents
Anonymous Donor

Plants may be taken following worship this morning. Thank you for beautifying the church!

Announcements

In the pulpit...

We welcome Rev. Heidi Lucas Cleveland to our pulpit this morning. Heidi was raised a back door neighbor to Faith Presbyterian Church, her home church family. She earned a Masters degrees from Union Theological Seminary in Virginia and the Presbyterian School of Christian Education. After serving 15 years as a Church Educator and Minister of the Word and Sacrament, she is now a full time Mom, and an Assistant Kindergarten Teacher at Fuller Gifted and Talented Magnet Elementary School in Raleigh, North Carolina. She is a percussionist in the Alternative Worship Service at Western Boulevard Presbyterian Church. Heidi lives in Cary, North Carolina with her husband, Jeff, a Software Developer at SAS Institute, and her daughter, Taylor, an exuberant first-grader and ballet student. For pictures of Taylor, see proud grandparents Cliff and Donna Lucas!



Mission Yearbook

If you would like a copy of the 2008 Mission Yearbook, please take one from the pew today.



Have The Holidays Left Your Wallet Empty?

Are You Tired of Cooking?

Are You Tired of Seeing Christmas Decorations?

If you answered yes to any of these questions join us on **Sunday January 4**, following worship,

as we **UNHANG the GREENS**. A light lunch will be provided. Contact Sally Heimbach with any questions?

Many Hands Make the Job Quicker!



Ring In the New Year at Faith

Still trying to figure out how to bring in the New Year? Well, here's an idea. How about spending it with your church family?

Starting at 7:30 pm, with a special count down to midnight, the Parish Life Committee is sponsoring ***Ring In the New Year at Faith***. There will be games, movies, food, fun, friendship, & fellowship! Bring a snack or hors d'oeuvres, beverages (non alcoholic) to share.

This Parish Life activity is rated **E for everyone!** Come and have a great time! If you have small children, bring your portable cribs or sleeping bags, and they can sleep in the nursery while you enjoy the fun....

Come play Bunko, Guesstures, Scattergories, maybe a Wii will be set up, or watch a movie. Bring a game that you love to play... You can Dress up or Dress Down, just come and enjoy the fun! If you really didn't have any plans..... well now you do!

If you have any questions contact Dottie Nicholas (Parish Life Committee Chair) at 610.966.2928, or Diane Millick at 610-366-1261.



Flower Chart for 2009

Please sign up for altar flowers on the new poster located right outside Fellowship Hall. You will be billed directly from George's Florist. If you have any questions, please contact Melanie Shimer at 610-965-8764. Donors needed for the following dates: 1/11, 3/1, 3/8, 3/15 and 3/29.



W.O.F.

The Women of Faith wish to thank everyone who made their annual Boutique a success, from the making of the crafts to their purchase. Many items are still available. There are cards, ornaments, pepper jelly, and yes...cookbooks, in Fellowship Hall. Payment can be dropped in the box on the table or put in an envelope in the Women of Faith mailbox in the church office. Thanks again!



Stewardship at Faith Church

The Stewardship Committee is preparing pledge envelopes for 2009. To get yours, complete a pledge card today!

Offering envelopes for 2009 are in the Narthex for you to pick up. If you did not fill out a pledge card there will not be a box of envelopes there for you. To get a box of envelopes, please complete a pledge card today! Cards are available in your pew and are still being collected with the morning offering. As of December 21, 2008 we have received a total of **95** pledges in the amount of **\$209,281.84** toward an approximate budget of \$238,000.00.

How will you share your abundance?



2009 Pocket Directory

The proof copy of the directory (in a green notebook) can be found on a table in Fellowship Hall. Please review your information and make any necessary changes. The plan is to have the directory finalized and printed in time for distribution on the day of the Annual Congregational Meeting (January 25, 2009).



PASTORAL CARE during transition

If you have a concern that needs **PASTORAL CARE** during this time of transition for the church, you may contact one of the people mentioned below:

Moderator of Deacons: Carolyn Baittinger 610-967-2858

Secretary of Deacons: Sally Heimbach 610-965-2102(h) or 610-390-4602(cell)

Clerk of Session: Lynn Ingram 610-966-0897

Church Office: Lynda Scheirer 610-967-5600 (office hours M – TH 9am to 2pm)

A call will be made from the person contacted to the appropriate sources to address the concern or need (Prayer Chain, Deacon Care Group, Parish Nurses, etc). In the event of a more serious concern the **Pastor on call** will be contacted immediately.

Birthday Wishes To:

December 28—Archer Waters

December 30—Amy Carney, Mathias Staack

January 1—Dan Hemberger, Ruth MacHose, Theodore Rogal



Do you have a question...

...about Faith Presbyterian Church?

...or about the Christian Faith?

Please see our representative from the Membership Committee, who will be standing in the narthex by the Guest Book, both before worship and immediately following the service, and will be glad to speak with you



Season up your Thursday mornings!

Pepper is a devotional time on Thursday mornings from 6:30–7:00 am in the church parlor. We meet for meditation, discussion and prayer. Tune in to God before your day carries you away!



Noon Bible Exploration

Noon Bible Exploration meets Wednesdays in Room 7. We will not meet on December 31st, but will resume on January 7th. All are welcome! Speak with Ellen Bender for more information. (610 987-3552)



Annual Reports due December 31st!

Adult Sunday School

January 4-New Year's Resolutions; John Gill, Leader

January 11-The Shack – Book discussion; Jack Decker, Leader

January 18-The Shack – Book discussion; Jack Decker, Leader

January 25-Classic Christian Literature; Dave Webb, Leader



Joys & Concerns

Keep these people in your prayers!

Janie Slamon & family, on the death of Janie's father .

Bruce Luff & family, on the death of Bruce's father .

Dianne Macdonald, recovering from surgery.

Ellie DePhillips, recovering from surgery.

Scott Smickley, recovering from surgery.

John Stewart, undergoing treatment for cancer.

Peggy Barabas, undergoing treatment for cancer.

Emma Takacs, in her daily walk with cerebral palsy

Blanche Ring, mother of **Debbie Lillegard**, undergoing treatment for cancer.

Joanne Rath's mother, undergoing treatment for cancer.

Dave Weber, undergoing treatment for cancer.

All **church members** & their families who are experiencing job loss.

In MILITARY SERVICE

Keep these people in your prayers!

Kyle Zimmerman, friend of the **Lillegard** family, serving a second tour in Iraq.

Doug Durn, son of **Bob & Brynn Durn**.

Doland J. Miller, son-in-law of **George J. Smits**

Amanda and **Jeremy Miller**, grandchildren of **George J. Smits**.

Charles VanHeest, grandson of **Dave & Kay Weber**, serving in Iraq.

Lucas Whittington, grandnephew of **Cliff & Donna Lucas**.

Lehigh Presbytery Churches

Please remember to pray for your brothers and sisters of the Lehigh Presbytery.

First United Methodist/Presbyterian Church, Ashland

Presbyterian Parish of Bangor-Roseto

Debbie Lillegard

Deacon of the Month—Care Group # 4

Carolyn Baittinger

Joanna Baittinger

John Baittinger

Clifford Cole

Emily Cole

Brynn Durn

Robert Durn

Ronald Gingrich

Sandra Gingrich

Frances Gledhill

Daria Greb

Scott Greb

Joshua Hillanbrand

Laurie Hillanbrand

Sarah Hillanbrand

Clinton Leinweber

Wanda Leinweber

Thelma Rogal

Theodore Rogal

Sally Showalter

Hallie Stewart

John Stewart

Donna Thompson

Laura Warner

Two Weeks of Faith

Room Numbers, indicating where meetings will be held (when known), are shown in parenthesis following the listing.

This Week

Sunday, December 28

9:15 am—Sunday School

10:15 am—Carol Sing (S)

10:30 am—Worship Service

Monday, December 29

Tuesday, December 30

Wednesday, December 31 New Year's Eve

Church Office Closed

Thursday, January 1 New Year's Day

Church Office Closed

7-10 pm—Narcotics Anonymous (FH)

Friday, January 2

Saturday, January 3

Next Week

Sunday, January 4 Communion

9:15 am—Sunday School

10:30 am—Worship Service; (following worship)—UN-hang the Greens

Monday, January 5

7:00 pm—Christian Ed

7:30 pm—Worship

Tuesday, January 6 Epiphany

7:30 pm—Administration

Wednesday, January 7

Noon—Bible Exploration (7)

7:00 pm—Senior Choir Christmas Party @ Joe Smits' home

Thursday, January 8

6:30 am—Pepper (P)

7-10 pm—Narcotics Anonymous (FH)

Friday, January 9

Saturday, January 10