

PASTOR: Rev. Dr. Charles E. Colson

PASTOR EMERITUS: Rev. J. Earl Naegele

ORGANIST/DIRECTOR OF MUSIC: Eleanor Focht, SPC

SECRETARY: Lynda Scheirer

CUSTODIAN: Sally Heimbach

WORSHIP ASSISTANT: George Smits

CLOSER: John Baittinger

DEACON GREETER: Marie Heffner

FELLOWSHIP DEACON: Sally Heimbach

FLOWER DEACON: Jack Decker

SOUND TECH: Harry Dennis

USHER/GREETER CAPTAIN: John Stewart

CHILDCARE: Abbie Olson

USHERS: Chuck Waters, Amy Water, Archer Waters, Cawley Waters

STEWARDSHIP REPRESENTATIVE: Robin Mathias

ALTAR FLOWERS:

Bruce & Beth Kunkle, in celebration of Mom's 93rd birthday.
Bruce & Beth Kunkle, in loving memory of Dad.

ELDERS:

Class of 2008—John Gill, Alicia Orbin, Sue Vitale, Mike Yen
Class of 2009—John Baittinger, Lyda Byers, Ann Lowell, Sam Wilber
Class of 2010—Dorothy Nicholas, Alicia Shussett

DEACONS:

Class of 2008—Jack Decker, Terry Eck, Andy Ingram, Diane Millick
Class of 2009—Carolyn Baittinger, Sally Heimbach, John Stewart, Chuck Waters
Class of 2010—Peter Ferguson, Marie Heffner, Debbie Lillegard, Melanie Shimer

FAITH ON THE ROAD TEAM: Diane Millick, Joanne Rath, Deanna Robinson, Louise Schaefer, Hallie Stewart, Dave Weber, and Chip Colson

***THE ORDER OF MORNING WORSHIP
SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME***

***9:15 AM
JULY 20, 2008***

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

SILENT PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Gracious God, as people whose lives have been broken by disaster come together to share stories, may they find in one another and in you healing, recovery, and affirmation in the life altogether to which you have called us, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

(To continue preparation for worship, read the rest of page 204 in the 2008 Mission Yearbook in the pew.)

OUR APPROACH TO GOD

THE WELCOME

THE PRELUDE

"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

ARR. JACK SCHRADER

THE SONG FOR ASSEMBLY

"For Surely I Know the Plans"

G. S. OATEN

*THE DOXOLOGY

HYMN #592

*THE CALL TO WORSHIP

Let us not be too quick to judge between wheat and weed.

Let us not be too concerned about who is good and who is bad.

Let us not close our doors or our hearts based on outward appearance.

Let us leave all judgment to God, and be quick to welcome, care, comfort and forgive.

*THE HYMN

"Come, Thou Almighty King"

ITALIAN HYMN #139

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)

May this day be the end of an age for us. God of Infinite Forgiveness, kneel beside us and help us weed out all the causes of sin in our own hearts, souls, minds, and bodies. Set us aflame so that all our broken words and deeds can be burned up and burned away in the fire of our repentance. Let your tears fall on us, giving life to the seeds of your love within us, so that we may blossom with good fruit and bear abundantly for you. Amen.

THE KYRIE ELEISON
HYMN #572

THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*THE GLORIA PATRI
HYMN #579

*THE PASSING OF THE PEACE
THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE
FAITH CHURCH LIFE
MINUTE FOR MISSION—Interfaith Food Drive—LYDA BYERS
JOYS AND CONCERNS
INTERCESSIONS AND PETITIONS

THE WORD OF GOD

VOCAL SOLO “*Let Joy Awaken*”
MARK PATTERSON
Gwendolyn Osterwald

A WORD WITH THE CHILDREN

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON—ISAIAH 45:9-12
OT – Pg. 690 in the gray Bible, Pg. 634 in the blue Bible

Woe to you who strive with your Maker, earthen vessels with the potter! Does the clay say to the one who fashions it, “What are you making”? or “Your work has no handles”? Woe to anyone who says to a father, “What are you begetting?” or to a woman, “With what are you in labor?”

Thus says the LORD, the Holy One of Israel, and its Maker: Will you question me about my children, or command me concerning the work of my hands? I made the earth, and created humankind upon it; it was my hands that stretched out the heavens, and I commanded all their host.

THE PSALM—PSALM 12
OT – Pg. 499 in the gray Bible, Pg. 468 in the blue Bible
(The leader will read the odd verses and the congregation will read the even verses.)

¹Help, O LORD, for there is no longer anyone who is godly; the faithful have disappeared from humankind.

²**They utter lies to each other; with flattering lips and a double heart they speak.**

³May the LORD cut off all flattering lips, the tongue that makes great boasts,

⁴**those who say, ‘With our tongues we will prevail; our lips are our own—who is our master?’**

⁵‘Because the poor are despoiled, because the needy groan, I will now rise up,’ says the LORD; ‘I will place them in the safety for which they long.’

⁶**The promises of the LORD are promises that are pure, silver refined in a furnace on the ground, purified seven times.**

⁷You, O LORD, will protect us; you will guard us from this generation for ever.

⁸**On every side the wicked prowl, as vileness is exalted among humankind.**

*THE HYMN
“*Song of Hope*”

ARGENTINA #432

THE NEW TESTAMENT LESSON—ROMANS 8:12-25
NT – Pg. 150 in the gray Bible, Pg. 147 in the blue Bible

12 So then, brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—¹³for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. ¹⁴For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. ¹⁵For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, ‘Abba! Father!’ ¹⁶it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

18 I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. ¹⁹For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; ²⁰for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope ²¹that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. ²²We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; ²³and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? ²⁵But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

THE SERMON

“Reign Means Hope”

REV. DR. CHARLES E. COLSON

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD’S WORD

THE OFFERTORY

“Psalm 12”

ARIANE OSTERWALD & GWENDOLYN OSTERWALD

Flutes: Bonnie & Ariane Osterwald

Vocal: Gwendolyn Osterwald

*THE DEDICATION HYMN

“Join Hearts and Voices”

DUKE STREET

*THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

THE APOSTLES’ CREED

PRESBYTERIAN HYMNAL – PG. 14

*THE PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*THE CLOSING HYMN

“Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

FAITHFULNESS #276

*THE CHARGE

*THE BENEDICTION

*THE POSTLUDE

"Come, Thou Almighty King"

ARR. MARTIN STELLHORN

This morning's special music is vocal by Gwendolyn Osterwald and flutes by Ariane and Bonnie Osterwald

Next Sunday's special music will be provided by the Kreider family, handbell ensemble, and a vocal ensemble.

Announcements

Special Congregational Meeting 10:15 am, following worship today

A special congregational meeting has been called by Session for today, immediately following worship, for the purpose of acting on the resignation and retirement of Pastor Colson.

The Vision Team

The Vision Team will be hosting a discussion following worship over the next four Sundays. The leader will be team member, Diane Perry. The topic will be the issues raised in the drama during worship on that day. Bring your coffee and come to the parlor! Also, the Vision Team is now making plans for a vision dialogue. It will be for the whole congregation to take part in. Dates, times and place will be announced shortly.

Interfaith Effort to help area's hungry.....

Leaders from Jewish, Christian and Muslim congregations have joined together with the Lehigh County Conference of Churches to reach out to hungry citizens.

Faith Church is joining this effort to address the reality of hunger in the Lehigh Valley. People living on fixed incomes are choosing between food and medicine. Children are having their one meal of the day at school. What happens in summer when school is out? What happens in winter when families may have to choose between food and heating their homes?

Every Spring and Fall, Faith Church sponsors a Food & Clothing Drive. This year we are sponsoring a continuous FOOD DRIVE (benefiting the Emmaus Food Bank), beginning now and continuing through Thanksgiving. If every member of the congregations brings just one item of food a week, think of the impact we can have.

It's difficult at times to remember to bring that item every week when the rush is on to get ready for church. How about putting a little note on your offering envelope as a reminder?

More information on this interfaith effort is available online at www.lcconfchurch.org

The Fall Clothing Drive will be held as usual in October. Details in next month's Flyer.

September 27....

Save the Date!!!

There will be a retirement party for Pastor Colson on Saturday, September 27. We are looking for people interested in being part of a committee to plan this **BIG** event. There is also a need for LOTS of worker bees. If you are interested in helping to send Chip off

with a **BANG**, please contact Sue Vitale at 610-967-4689, or Sally Heimbach at 610-965-2102.

Office Copier Angel

An anonymous donor has offered to make a matching gift to pay down the balance owed on our newly purchased copier. All gifts must be received by the church no later than August 3rd to meet the matching offer.

When contributions towards the copier reach a **minimum of \$750**, the anonymous donor will match them dollar for dollar up to a **maximum of \$1300**.

As many of our congregation are aware, the new copier has made a considerable improvement in office efficiency and has been exceptional help in publishing documents to benefit all of Faith Church's programs. Please consider adding your donation to this cause.

Update: We need only **\$185** to meet the minimum! However, **\$735** in additional donations will pay off the copier! Thank you to those who have donated!

***August 10—5:30 PM
Picnic, Vespers, Bonfire***

Menu:

BBQ Chicken
Pork BBQ/roll
Baked Beans
Potato Salad
Macaroni Salad
Fruit Punch, Iced Tea
Assorted Ices

\$10 per family

\$5 single

Come enjoy the warmth of Faith by the fire.

Sign-up sheet is in Fellowship Hall.

Payment is requested at that time.

(Dottie Nicholas will be in Fellowship Hall following worship.)

Parish Life Committee is requesting that whoever is able, please help underwrite the cost of this glorious event!

Thank you!

Please speak to Dottie Nicholas...610-966-2928

Do you have a question...

...about Faith Presbyterian Church?

...or about the Christian Faith?

Please see Doug Boyd from the Membership Committee. who will be standing in the narthex by the Guest Book, immediately following the service and will be glad to speak with you.

Parish Nurse Note

Beginning in September, the Parish Nurses will provide a monthly health tip in The Faith Flyer. Here is a sample of what you might read.

Escape the wrath & rash of poison ivy!

This summer take the time to learn how to identify poison ivy. Remember, "If leaves be three then let it be".

Build a barrier.

Wear long sleeves and long pants.

Use a preventative lotion (*generic bentoquatam*) to prevent plant oils from binding to skin. (*Not for children under age 6.*)

Wash immediately.

You have 15 to 30 minutes after exposure to use soap and water to remove plant oil.

Plant oils stick to clothing, so remove and launder.

Plant oils also adhere to pet fur, so wash pets before petting.

Ease the itch.

Itching begins 12-48 hours after exposure to plants.

Oatmeal or baking soda in bath water will ease the itch.

See your doctor if rash is extensive.

Steroids should only be used if a rash is severe.

Season up your Thursday mornings!

Pepper is a devotional time from 6:30 –7:00 am Thursday mornings in the church parlor.

We meet for meditation, discussion and prayer. Tune in to God before your day carries you away!

"For Surely I Know the Plans"

Our current Song for Assembly was written by a member of the Pen Argyl Presbyterian Church and inspired by the Jeremiah Initiative, which we are participating in as Faith on the Road.

Birthdays this Week

July 20

Lindsay Fernandez
Anthony McWhinney

July 23

Hallie Stewart

July 26

Jeffrey Fry
Marion Forrest
Liz Kenny

Joys & Concerns

Keep these people in your prayers!

Joanne Rath's mother, diagnosed with cancer.

Dave Weber, undergoing treatment for cancer.

Bob Gedney, undergoing treatment for cancer.

Annamarie Fehr, mother of **Melanie Shimer**, recovering from recent surgery.

Jack Ferlino, recovering at home from a fall.

Moring Family, on the recent hospitalization of Susan's father, **Hugh Moomaw**.

Stephanie Lillegard, continued health concerns while serving with the Peace Corps.

Peggy Barabas, undergoing treatment for leukemia.

Emma Takacs, **Ann Greenwood's** granddaughter, recuperating at home.

In MILITARY SERVICE

Keep these people in your prayers!

Mike Goodhart, grandson of **Harry & Betty Dennis**.

Daniel Bartos, friend of the **Bannister** family.

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

Bradley Ellison, great nephew of **Flo Bannister**, serving in the Marines.

Daniel Merritt, son of **Hobart Merritt, Jr.** and grandson of the late **Irene Merritt**.

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.

Shawnee Presbyterian Church—Shawnee on Delaware, PA

United Presbyterian Church—Slatington, PA

Please let the office know of any additions or deletions.

Marie Heffner

Deacon of the Month—Care Group # 9

Jill Bard
Laurel Bard
Carole Brewer
Eric Brewer
Lindsay Fernandez
Michael Fernandez
Nelson Fernandez
Toni Fernandez
Carol Fry
Jeffrey Fry
Liz Kenny
James Kenny
John Krissing
Katherine Krissing
Michelle Krissing
Sandra Krissing
Ann Lowell
Carter Lowell
Geoffrey Lowell
Graham Lowell
Abigail Masenheimer
Adam Masenheimer
David Masenheimer
Jana Masenheimer
Curtis McDowell
Phyllis McDowell
Barbara Newman
John Perella
Julia Perella
Nicholas Perella
Renee Perella
Laura Reider
Deanna Robinson
James Robinson
Yvonne Stauffer
Barbara Wisler
Isaac H. Yates

Two Weeks of Faith

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

This Week

Sunday, July 20

Workcampers return

9:15 am—Worship Service

Congregational Meeting following worship

Monday, July 21

Tuesday, July 22

7:00 pm—Calendar Planning (FH)

7:30 pm—Session (FH)

Wednesday, July 23

Church Office Closed

Thursday, July 24

6:30 am—Pepper (P)

7-10 pm—Narcotics Anonymous (FH)

Friday, July 25

7:00 pm—Handbell and Vocal Ensembles Rehearsal (S)

Saturday, July 26

Midnight—Narcotics Anonymous (FH)

Next Week

Sunday, July 27

8:45 am—Handbell and Vocal Ensembles Warm-up (S)

9:15 am—Worship Service

Monday, July 28

Tuesday, July 29

Wednesday, July 30

Church Office Closed

Thursday, July 31

Friday, August 1

Saturday, August 2

Midnight—Narcotics Anonymous (FH)

Insert:

Volume 2, Issue 7

July 2008

"How 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.'" Isaiah 52:7

Breathe In, Breathe Out

To all the Saints,

Grace to you and peace!

Some of you may have seen a story in the *Morning Call* several months ago about the Rev. Michael Pflieger, a Roman Catholic priest whose outspoken comments in support of a presidential candidate got him into hot water with his superiors. I write of Rev. Pflieger not because he got into trouble for taking a charged position on an issue of the day, but because of his ministry and the church he pastors. In the article Rev. Pflieger cites Martin Luther King, Jr. as his inspiration to become a priest, helping him to see that "religion can be transformative; it can be an agent of change." Importantly, King "did what he did," in Rev. Pflieger's eyes, "not because he was an activist, but because he was a preacher, a man of the Gospel."

Thus inspired, Rev. Pflieger entered the priesthood, only to be disappointed with his first- and only-call, St. Sabina. His was a congregation largely formed of people who had run from their previous church rather than running toward the congregation he served. A white priest, his congregation was predominantly African-American and full of people who sought "escape from gospel singing and fiery preaching." It didn't help that he ended a number of programs that people enjoyed, like bingo, and replaced them with the hard work of Christian discipleship in Bible study and responsible stewardship. It is estimated that the congregation shrank by 10% in light of these changes.

But those who left were eventually replaced by many others. The congregation began to reclaim its particular identity as an African American community. Members gave away Bibles on the street, and spoke out against violence in their neighborhood. And now over 2000 people know St. Sabina as their "spiritual home."

*Whose are we?
Where are we?
What is God doing?
How is God calling us?
How is God sending us?*

These questions have been before our Presbytery and congregations for some time now. St. Sabina is witness of what can happen when we take the risk of letting the Spirit answer them through us. The magnitude of growth is far less important than the means of that growth: spiritual disciplines and engagement with the world.

To be "inspired" is to be struck by a "sudden creative act or idea," as well as "the act of drawing in, especially the inhalation of air into the *lungs* (*American Heritage Dictionary*). While we've had the benefit of having these questions given to us, Rev. Pflieger and St. Sabina had to breathe into them, and discern how to then breathe them out. May their willingness to listen, to risk, to change, and to be instruments of Christ's peace be an inspiration to us.

God is all in all,

Steve Shussett
Teaching Presbyter

We Gather Together In Prayer

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

July 6, 2008

Pennside PC, Reading

Pleasant Valley PC, Brodheads ville

July 13, 2008

United PC, Pottsville

First PC, Reading

July 20, 2008

Shawnee PC

United PC, Slatington

July 27, 2008

First United PC, St. Clair

First PC, Stroudsburg

August 3, 2008

Hope of Christ PC, Summit Hill Washington PC, Reading

August 10, 2008

First United PC, Weatherly White Haven PC

August 17, 2008

Zion PC, Wind Gap

First PC, Allentown

August 24, 2008

First United Methodist!

Presbyterian, Ashland

Parish of Bangor /Rose to

August 31, 2008

The Barn

First PC Bethlehem

Olivet United Presbyterian Church of Easton

Who are we at Olivet? We are a church located in the west ward of Easton. We are visible to our neighbors, located on the busy intersection of 12th and Northampton Streets. We are a church that runs a Day Care Center, which has a reputation for outstanding care. We are the church, where twice a week, those seeking relief from the bane of alcohol addiction come to reflect and work to restore their lives.

Olivet is the church where bells send forth the glory of God through hymns several times during the day. We are the church where, twice a year, neighbors and friends come to stock up on clothes and other goods at our rummage sale at rock bottom prices. We are a church that, once a year, has bagpipers play inside and outside our church at our annual Scottish Communion Service. (FYI: scheduled this year for July 20 at 10:00 am)

Olivet is a church that celebrates God's grace with a vibrant worship service using music that is traditional and praiseful. Our talented choir has members as young as fourteen and some over seventy. Olivet is a church with an active Youth Group and Church school classes for all ages. We are a church committed to Mission within and beyond our walls, giving generously as a church and trusting that God will provide what we need to sustain our ministries.

Yet most importantly, Olivet is a church, Le., we are striving to be the embodiment of Jesus Christ in our community, a place where the gospel of Jesus Christ is proclaimed in all that we do in hope that all might come to embrace the blessings of faith we have received.

Community Presbyterian Church of Mt. Bethel

Community Presbyterian Church of Mt. Bethel and Portland had a very special Pentecost Sunday this year. Five of our young people were confirmed in Christ, becoming members of our church family.

Leading up to this special day was a thirty-week learning experience during which our youth deepened their understanding of their baptism, their faith commitment and their place in the church. To help deepen their understanding of how the church operates, they attended a Presbytery meeting on November 10, 2007 at Faith Presbyterian Church in Emmaus. Our youth were very surprised when they were asked to stand and then the whole Presbytery applauded their attendance. At this meeting the Rev. Dr. Harvey O. Johnson took a special interest in our youth. He later joined us for one of our confirmation classes, where he spoke with our youth and answered their questions.

Another part of the confirmation class was a community outreach project. Our youth volunteered twice at PUMP (Portland Upper Mt. Bethel Food Pantry). They lent a helping hand to those receiving their groceries and other products. Finally each of our students were asked to write their own personal Statement of Faith, which they presented to our Session prior to being confirmed.

We congratulate and welcome to our congregation Sara Llewellyn, Taylor Muffley, Ashley Potter, Cody Templeton and Vicky Thiel.

United Presbyterian Church of Pottsville

The United Presbyterian Church Pottsville, in its 175th year of ministry in Pottsville, is currently conducting a three-year "Share the Vision" Capital Campaign. Our "vision" includes replacing the original slate roof with 40-year fiberglass shingles, restoring the framework of our stain-glass windows, restoring deteriorating support pillars, replacing heat pipes in the basement, along with other needed repairs and refurbishing. The pillar work and heat pipes are completed; the roof will soon be completed. We hope to continue receiving pledges to complete the remaining work throughout the next two years.

We continue studying and praying about God's plan for us through the Jeremiah Initiative. With the prayerful call of the Rev. Manuela Kauer as our Interim Pastor, we look forward to her guidance in continuing on the path God is leading us.

Members of our congregation continue to participate in community activities; serving meals at the local "soup Kitchen", volunteer at the Ark House homeless shelter (winter only), and volunteer driving programs. Our church hosted Wednesday evening Lenten services preceded by a soup and bread supper, with three other Pottsville church congregations attending. On July 27, 2008, we along with five other Pottsville churches, are sponsoring a free "Rock the Square" block party for the community on Garfield Square, featuring "61 South" Blues Band, food, games, face-painting, etc.

Pray for good weather!

Upcoming Church Articles for August

- . Washington Presbyterian Church, Reading
- . Faith United Presbyterian Church, Pen Argyl
- . Shawnee Presbyterian Church, Shawnee on Delaware