



The Community View

Faith Community United Methodist Church

Riverview United Methodist Church

Faith on Jefferson, Faith on 68, Riverview UMC

January-February-March 2020



Growing in Faith . . . Growing in Service . . . Growing in Christ!

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Please Call Pastor Donna or Bay to make requests.



A Group of 10 Carolers from Faith on 68 spent Sunday Dec 15 after services Caroling to shut ins near our church as well as others at Passavant Retirement. We helped spread Christmas Cheer by singing loud for all to hear! What a Blessing to bring joy and smiles to

"Our Friends" Annual Christmas Party A Huge Success

"Our Friends" Christmas Party was as popular as ever this year and a huge success despite furnace problems at Jefferson! It was held on December 11th, but was relocated due to Jefferson's boiler/heat issue. Monaca United Methodist Church graciously provided The Carey Center for our event. Their support and help in putting this dinner party together and serving "Our Friends" is greatly appreciated. A shout out of appreciation also goes to all of



our church members and teenagers who cooked, served, and set-up, this Christmas Party. The Sheeley family from Sheeley's Furniture graciously provided a monetary gift that used to purchase the food for the meal. God has led Faith Community to be committed to sharing God's love to the Beaver County Mental Health Association and are pleased to be able to provide this annual event.

WORDS FROM Pastor Donna

A funny thing happened on the way to getting a new boiler at Faith on Jefferson...

Back in November, Faith on Jefferson faced the devastating news that a new boiler was required to supply heat to the sanctuary wing. We trembled at the prospect of what the financial implication would be for the church. Secondary to the cost was the inconvenience of not having heat.

Questions swirled! Hard winter weather was just around the corner. Would attendance suffer? Is this going to impact giving? Would our congregation be discouraged and disheartened with this event coming on the heels of our devastating roof leak that crumbled our sanctuary ceiling onto the seats below? Would our people give up and go elsewhere?

But...as it turned out...**God Always Makes A Way** and none of those fears were founded! Thanks to the diligent work of our Trustees, we discovered an insurance policy was in place for our boiler (**thanks be to God!**). A claim was filed and we held our breath to see what might happen; and yes, our Church Mutual insurance agreed to pay for replacement.

Next we were faced with how to continue worship with no central heat. Once again, God was with us as so many determined volunteers came together to create a comfortable place for us to worship. In just a few hours, the HeBrews Café was converted into a warm, fully-functioning chapel. We have everything we need, piano, sound, projection, seating, room for kids and babies, and of course, the popular coffee bar. But, the unfounded fear was still this among many...would anyone come?

God continues to be faithful to us and come they did, each person seeking out their seat comparable to where they would be in the big sanctuary. The best part of all was the joy with which the people came together. This up-close-and personal environment of the HeBrews Café produces a joy and camaraderie that is often not evident when we are all scattered here and there around the large sanctuary. There is a feeling that "we're all in this together." Yes, it's true, we're a little bit packed in at 11:00 service, but the joy of being together so closely, raising our voices in praise and prayer together creates palpable revival and rejuvenation to the worship experience.

Psalm 42:4 says, "These things I remember and pour out my soul within me. For I used to go along with the throng and lead them in procession to the house of God. With the voice of joy and thanksgiving, a multitude keeping festival."

By the time you all read this, the heat will be on, and we'll all be back in our "own" spaces in the big sanctuary. We thank you all for your continued support, patience, and faith.

So, a funny thing DID happen on the way to getting a new boiler. We have rediscovered the joy of being close to one another, the renewal a change of environment can bring, and the feeling that we're all in this together. We are the church.

O come let us sing for joy to the Lord! Psalm 95:1 -

Blessings for the New Year,

Pastor Donna

FROM PASTOR Bay

Friends of Faith Community UMC / Riverview UMC,

As we enter into this New Year, may God bring newness and a sense of refreshing to your spirit.

The year is already opening before us, and if we are to follow God fully I believe that there are some things that we may need to not only receive, but to *release* as well. Each New Year's, people habitually speak of resolutions, and things that they are going to begin to do, and that they promise to carry on doing in the months to come — but what does God want you to leave behind you as you enter in to 2020?

As your pastor, I want you to know that I am praying for you, that God will reveal to you those things that you need to release so that you may fully grab ahold of everything God has planned for you. I pray that you become open to the working of the Holy Spirit in this year that lies ahead. I pray that you are willing to get involved in ministry, through outreach and mission...creative ways to share the love of Christ with the world! I also pray that you go deeper in your personal spiritual formation; that you make it a priority to read your Bible daily; that you will pray for others as often as you are able; that you will get involved in a *Become Group* so that you may grow in the community with other believers who are also seeking God's great things for them in their lives.

I pray that God empowers you to lay down old habits and tendencies that hold you back, so that you may become the best version of you that God intends for you to be. I also pray, that where you find you are unable to lay these things down, lacking the power to do so, I pray that you will yield to the working of the Holy Spirit so that God's power may become the ultimate source from which you draw your strength, to see conquering these old habits become a reality.

May God's blessing rest upon you, grow in you, and extend from you — and may the love of Jesus Christ indwell as you continue to experience transformation in your faith journey in 2020.

Blessings & Peace,

Bay Allen

Pastor Bay Allen



"We are now live streaming our service from Faith on 68 each week. Please take a moment to share a service through Facebook with your friends and family, spreading our social networking also allows us to reach more

people for Christ each week... Even those who are not physically able to attend.

Again, please help share what your church is doing on the internet, and who knows, maybe we'll reach people for Christ that otherwise would not have heard what God is doing right here in their own backyard!



What's your Legacy?

This Is Your Life

The Rev. Melvin Amerson of the Methodist Foundation in Austin, Texas writes, "Recently, I thought about my deceased grandmother, of whom I have numerous fond memories. We affectionately called her "Granny." The thing I remember most is watching one of her favorite television programs with her—" This Is Your Life." Many of you probably remember that program. It was fascinating because it centered on the special guest's life and those persons to whom they were close. Behind a curtain, someone from the person's past would share interesting stories about the special guest, and later that person would come from behind the curtain.

For several minutes, I thought about how great my grandmother was: how she helped people, how she served in her church, how generous she was, and how cheerful. Then, I began to think about how I would be remembered. Would people say that I was stingy, tight, and selfish? Would they say I only attended church occasionally, and I never served in a ministry? Maybe they would say that I was a faithful and generous servant. What will be my legacy? That's a frightening and overwhelming question. Well, it's not too late. There is time to write the final chapters of your life. Placing your church in your will is a powerful way of leaving a legacy, while providing resources that will touch and impact lives for generations to come.

Cloughen Jr., Charles. One-Minute Stewardship: Creative Ways to Talk about Money in Church (Kindle Locations 3015-3024 Church Publishing Inc.. Kindle Edition.



Can you be an e-Giver? Yes You Can!

"Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." (2 Corinth. 9:7)

The new offering envelopes for 2020 should be in your hands by now. But there's a way you can make your offering to our Faith Community easier.

- No more writing checks.
- No more looking for stamps.
- No more leaving your envelope behind on the desk or kitchen table when you leave for church.

You can make it easy on yourself by setting up weekly, monthly, or annual giving electronically through our secure link from our website or even use texting.

If you prefer, you can make a single offering each week through the webpage also.

Do you need to make a special offering? Simply designate that in the "memo" line. All you have to do to give your tithes and offerings is visit the link below!

<https://www.faithcomumchurch.org/giving>



FRONT PORCH WOMEN'S RETREAT



You are invited to come away with us on our annual **Front Porch Women's Retreat at beautiful Olmsted Manor.**

This year's event will take place from Friday, May 29 - Monday, June 1. Total cost for all days will be \$152.00. A \$20 deposit is required to hold your reservation.

If you cannot stay all days, you may deduct \$36 for each night's lodging not used.

Transportation is usually provided by car-pooling from Faith Community on Friday morning.

Please see Pastor Donna if you need scholarship support for this event.

Deeply Rooted, Upward Reaching Campaign is Bearing Fruit!

The Deeply Rooted, Upward Reaching Campaign promoting the Western Pennsylvania Conference camps and retreats is bearing fruit from our Faith Community/ Riverview Charge. Together, the churches in our Charge have raised \$2,103.50 this year. What's truly amazing is that almost all of this was raised simply by contributing loose change.

The Conference is promoting this campaign to raise no less than \$2.5 million but with an upward goal of \$5 million. The Conference Camping and Retreat Ministries service over 20,000 people each year through camps, program retreats and other ministry opportunities. These ministries are divided between six unique locations: At the Lake Ministries, Camp Allegheny, Healthy Village Learning Institute, Jumonville, Wesley Woods, and the favorite of the women on our Charge, the lovely Olmsted Manor. All of these entities serve our faith development.



Olmsted Manor



You can find us on Facebook at "Riverview United Methodist Church," "Faith on 68," or "Faith Community United Methodist Church." Please don't forget to like, share, and follow us! Want to stay clued-in to everything that's happening in our churches? Go to Faithcomchurch.org or riverviewumchurchbf.org.

Ministry Opportunities

Don't just go to church. Be the church.

Faith on 68 Passion Team: Casting Call! - We are looking for some people that are passionate about the ministry and worship of our church! We are looking for people to help with the following...

WORSHIP *(not the band...this is the nuts and bolts such as scheduling communion stewards, folding bulletins, ushers & greeters, preparing for communion and baptism etc.)* and we are also looking for someone gifted with...

SOCIAL NETWORKING / INTERNET PRESENCE

(essentially, helping get a buzz out online by posting for us, helping get the word out with our live-streaming of the service, helping to be an admin on FB, twitter, instagram, or whatever happens to be trending these days...we don't know what that is...but if you do, you're perfect for this!)




Sound Operator Needed for Faith on 68 - Jeff Gray is seeking an assistant that he can train to run sound with the worship band; if you like music and have an ear for what sounds good, you've probably already got what it takes to learn how to get involved with this exciting





ministry! Please see Jeff Gray, Pastor Bay, or Tom Perkins because this opportunity/need is just for you! **Use those gifts and talents you've been Blessed with for the Lord!**

Sunday School Teachers needed @ Faith on 68

We are still looking for teachers to help lead our children in Sunday School. Requirements & Commitment would include child clearances *(we'll help you with that for free!)*. This volunteer position would also require discussing curriculum with the other teacher(s), making sure that things were ready for the start of class *(ie. glue, craft stuff, video, things like that...)* and a dedication to see our kids grow in love of Christ! If interested, please see *Pastor Bay*.





3rd Sundays- 6 pm to approx. 7:30 pm
for ages 11 and up!
Fun, Food, Formational Learning

Call Pastor Bay at 724-333-2643 for info

Gathering dates and locations are:

January 19 - Beaver UMC

February 16 - Youth Retreat *TBA*

March 15 - New Brighton UMC

April 12 - Easter with Your Church Family!

May 17 - Celebration! - *TBA*



Bible Studies for the New Year!

Begins Jan 6 @ 6 pm
743 Elk Ave, Rochester 15074
Led by Natasha

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Bible Study
This is a 5 week study
An unedited Bible Study



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WEDNESDAY
NIGHTS
6:30 PM
Jefferson

THE BOOK OF

REVELATION

join us!

BECOME A DISCIPLE

COUNT YOUR
BLESSINGS.
NAME THEM **ONE BY ONE.**
COUNT YOUR
MANY BLESSINGS
SEE WHAT **GOD** HAS DONE.

Pastor Donna will lead a new Bible Study, "Proverbs: Learning to Live Wisely" beginning January 9 at 10 am at Faith on Jefferson. Workbooks are \$8 each. Contact Pastor Donna if you are interested. We hope to see you there!

Inspirations

Next Meeting is Wed. Jan 29 at 6:30 at the Grand Valley Inn. The Current Book is "The Bride Test" by Helen Hoang. Contact Leah for more Information.



Our Blue

Christmas Service held at our Faith on 68 campus had ten in attendance representing all three worshipping sites on our charge. It was a wonderful evening of remembering those who had passed away, and the promise that God has for each of us in the birth of Jesus Christ.

Faith Community held a special Christmas Eve Candlelight Service at our Faith on Jefferson St.

campus. It was wonderful to be back in the sanctuary for the service, as the heat being on was a bit of a Christmas miracle having been turned on that very day! Another thing to make mention is the Communion Service that was also a part of the evening: it was great to break bread with one another as we celebrated Jesus' birth...from the manger to the cross!

Faith on 68's House Parties launched in early December. Our first party was at the Essey's where we shared traditional Syrian cuisine, great conversations, and even a sharing of meaningful scripture was all a part of the party! Keep your eyes out for the next party, and if you want to host a party at your place, just get a hold of Pastor Bay. Let's keep these gatherings going during all of 2020!



Skit Sunday
Every Last Sunday at
Faith on 68

We invite anyone who likes to perform or do anything else needed to help with performances to join our Faith 68 Skit/Drama Group.

First meeting is Jan 5 after the service. There are sign up sheets at the entrance and in pew books.

See Betty Allen for details.



Looking Ahead...

The beginning of Lent is marked by many with ashes, hence the name Ash Wednesday. Ash Wednesday (**Feb 26 this year**) is the first day of Lent, and Ash Wednesday is always 46 days before Easter Sunday, which is Sunday, April 12 this year. The observance of Lent spans 40 days, ending on the Saturday before Easter

The last week of Lent is called Holy Week and includes Palm Sunday or Passion Sunday (technically not a fasting day), Maundy Thursday or Holy Thursday, Good Friday or Holy Friday, and Holy Saturday or Black Saturday.

Unlike Advent, which is a time of celebration and excitement looking forward to an arrival, **Lent is observed in a more solemn way preparing for and reflecting on Jesus' sacrificial death.** But at the end of Lent is **Easter Sunday**, and that is the most joyous celebration because our Savior **Jesus Christ was resurrected and lives on.** Because of his death and resurrection, we are offered new life to live as covenant children in the kingdom of God forever.



Ash Wed is Feb 26 and begins Lent

Palm Sunday, April 5- Begins Holy Week

Maundy Thursday – April 9-commemorates the foot washing

Good Friday April 10, commemorates crucifixion-

Easter Sunday, April 12, Celebrates the resurrection of Jesus from the dead and his victory over sin and death.

Watch bulletins & e-news for more specific information.

Watch e-news, and all bulletins for information on more upcoming Events! You'll be glad you did so you won't miss out on Blessings that are in store for you!



You Can Bring Joy to Our Shut Ins All Year

Our Shut Ins (page 1) were so appreciative of our Christmas Caroling that we would like to invite you to bring them Joy all year long. If any of you would feel inclined to visit someone on our list, just ask us for names. We invite you to be a Christ-bearer to them. Just ask Pastor Bay or Donna for a current list. It's a wonderful opportunity to serve Christ and your church. We only ask that you drop us a note to let us know who you visited, so we can be sure each shut-in is called on.

If you can't visit we will be glad to share names and addresses so you can send cards to brighten their day. Contact Pastors Bay and Donna if you can help. Cards are easy to do if you can't visit. Phone calls would also brighten their days.


¹³ *If any of you are suffering, they should pray. If any of you are happy, they should sing.* ¹⁴ *If any of you are sick, they should call for the elders of the church, and the elders should pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord.* ¹⁵ *Prayer that comes from faith will heal the sick, for the Lord will restore them to health.* James 5:13-15 CEB

JANUARY – FEBRUARY MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Wed. Jan 8	Divine Sisterhood— 6pm	Faith on Jefferson
Wed. Jan. 8,15, 22, 29	Mid-Week Worship w/Communion	Riverview UMC
Wed. Jan 8,15, 22, 29	Weight Watchers—5:30 pm	Faith on Jefferson
Wed. Jan 8	Planning Meeting	Riverview UMC
Thurs. Jan. 9, 16, 23, 30	Grief Share—6:00 pm	Faith on Jefferson
Thurs. Jan. 9, 16, 23, 30	Proverbs Study with Pastor Donna—10 am	Faith on Jefferson
Sat. Jan. 11, 18, 25	N/A—noon	Faith on 68
Sat. Jan.11, 18, 25	Weight Watchers—8:30 am	Faith on Jefferson
Sun. Jan.12	Church Conference—112 noon	Faith on Jefferson
Sun. Jan.12, 19, 26	N/A—8:00 pm	Riverview UMC
Mon. Jan 13	Finance—6 pm	Faith on Jefferson
Mon. Jan 13, 20, 27, .	“Overcomer” Bible study with Natasha-	See page 7
Mon. Jan 13,	Pokemon Swap—4:30 pm	Riveview UMC
Wed Jan 15	Trustees—6:00 pm	Faith on Jefferson
Sun Jan 26	Skit Sunday	Faith on 68
Tue Jan 28	Free Community Dinner— 4:30 pm	Faith on Jefferson
Wed Jan. 29	Inspirations 6:30 pm	Grand Valley Inn
Sat. Feb. 1,8,15,22,29	Weight Watchers—8:30 am	Faith on Jefferson
Sat. Feb. 1,8,15,22,29	NA —Noon	Faith on 68
Wed Feb 5, 12, 19, 26	Weight Watchers—5:30 pm	Faith on Jefferson
Wed Feb 5,	S.E.N.I.O.R.S. 1st Wednesday Service, Lunch / Program	Riverview UMC
Thurs Feb 6, 13, 20, 27	Proverbs Study with Pastor Donna—10 am	Faith on Jefferson
Thurs Feb 6, 13, 20, 27	Grief Share—6:00 pm	Faith on Jefferson
Fri Feb 7	Nu-2-U Clothing Closet Setup Day—1:00 pm	Faith on Jefferson
Sat Feb 8	Nu-2-U Clothing Closet—10:00 –1:00 pm	Faith on Jefferson
Mon Feb 10	Pokemon Swap—4:30 pm	Riveview UMC
Wed 12, 19, 26	Mid-Week Worship w/Communion	Riveview UMC
Sun Feb 23	Cub Scouts— 1pm	Faith on Jefferson
Sun Feb 23	Skit Sunday-	Faith on 68
Tue Feb 25	Free Community Dinner—4:30—6:00 pm	Faith on Jefferson
Wed Feb 26	Ash Wed Service TBA	TBA
Wed Feb 26	Inspirations 6:30 pm	Grand Valley Inn
Sat Feb 29	Blue and Gold Dinner— 3 pm	Faith on Jefferson

MARK YOUR CALENDAR MARCH

Sun Mar 1, 8, 15, 22, 29	N/A—8:00 pm	Riverview UMC
Wed Mar 4, 11, 18, 25	Lenten Luncheon	TBA
Sat Mar 7, 14, 21, 28	Weight Watchers—8:30 am	Faith on Jefferson
Sat Mar 7, 14, 21, 28	N/A—noon	Faith on 68
Sun Mar 1, 8, 15, 22, 29	N/A—8:00 pm	Riverview
Wed Mar 4, 11, 18, 25	Weight Watchers—5:30 pm	Faith on Jefferson
Wed Mar 4	S.E.N.I.O.R.S. 1st Wednesday Service, lunch/program	Faith on Jefferson
Thur Mar 5, 12, 19, 26	Proverbs Study with Pastor Donna—10 am	Faith on Jefferson
Thur Mar 5, 12, 19, 26	Grief Share 6 pm	Faith on Jefferson
Mon Mar 9	Pokemon Swap—4:30 pm	Riverview UMC
Fri Mar 13	Nu-2-U Clothing Closet Setup Day—1:00 pm	Faith on Jefferson
Sat March 14	Nu-2-U Clothing Closet—10:00 –1:00 pm	Faith on Jefferson
Wed Mar 11, 18, 25	Mid-Week Service w/ Communion—11:00 am	Riverview UMC
Thur Mar 19	Battle of the Loaves	Faith on Jefferson
Wed Mar 25	Inspirations 6:30 pm	Grand Valley Inn
Tues Mar 31	Free Community Dinner	Faith on Jefferson



*A Prayer
for the
New Year*

God of the ages, you have blessed
us with another year.

Help us to make room for the blessings
that are in store for us in the coming months.

May we be open to learn the right lessons,
even if they hurt a little.


Help us to be patient so that we
won't miss divine opportunities.

Show us how to be fulfilled without
material possessions, so that we will not
miss what it means to be a blessed people.

Enable us to be a blessing so you will
recognize us as the ones who gave you bread
when you were hungry, drink when you were
thirsty, and clothes when you were naked.

In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

Adaptation of a prayer by the Rev. Kevin B. Smalls

 Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.
The people of The United Methodist Church*

News to Use From Faith Community

FAITH COMMUNITY UMC
RIVERVIEW UMC

341 Jefferson St.
Rochester PA 15074

Address Correction Requested

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We are a growing community of believers whose mission is to equip our community to *Believe* in Jesus, to *Belong* to a family, *Become* a disciple, and *Build* His kingdom.

Worship Times:

Faith on Jefferson: Traditional Service Sundays @

8:30 am & 11:00 am

Riverview: 9:00 am

Faith on 68: Contemporary Service Sunday @

10:30 am



BELIEVE



BELONG



BECOME



BUILD



Find us on Facebook at: Faith Community United Methodist Church, or FaithOn68, or Riverview United Methodist Church. Check out everything there is to know at faithcomumchurch.org or riverviewumchurchbf.org