



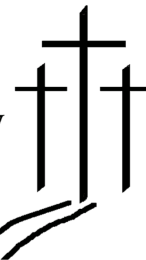
The Community View

Faith Community United Methodist Church
Riverview United Methodist Church

Faith on Jefferson,
Faith on 68, Riverview UMC

April- May- June 2021

Riverview
United Methodist
Church



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OFFICE HOURS

Jefferson-9:00 to 12 PM
Mon.-Wed- Thur.

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Websites

www.faithcommunitychurch.org
www.riverviewumchurchBF.org

Offices:

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Rochester PA 15074

1099 Darlington Rd.
Beaver Falls PA 15010

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

God Continues To Bless Us!

Rachel Whipple will
Bring Mother's Day Message



A Mother
is a blessing
from God
May 9, 2021

See No Evil, Hear No Evil,
Speak No Evil!
See page 4

Youth Meeting
Reach Center in Beaver
see page 7

And Uses Us

To Bless Others!



WORDS FROM Pastor Luke

Hope Is a Determined Step

"Faith is Christians faith when it is Easter faith" - Jürgen Moltmann

Dear church,

This edition of the newsletter is coming to you as we enter into the Easter season. I say "enter" the Easter season because the Church celebrates its holidays in reverse of the society. Our culture likes to cut the celebration off as soon as you reach the day. The day after Easter, Walmart and other retailers will discount all their Easter candy and decorations because Easter day means the end of the holiday. In the Church, however, we like to let things linger. Easter Sunday is just the beginning of the celebration. In our church we will continue to rejoice over the promises of Easter, the good news of the resurrection, and the hope found through Jesus for many weeks that follow. .

It's good for us to dwell on Easter for that long. The quote at the top of this letter, from German theologian Jürgen Moltmann, reminds us that the core of the Christian faith is "Easter Faith." What Moltmann means is that Easter is not just an event of the past, but a promise of the future. True Christian faith is always looking **FORWARD** to what Easter brings. We look forward because Jesus' resurrection points us in that direction.

As Christians we are going somewhere. The events of the past are propelling us forward. We are bound for a certain destiny that God is preparing for us. This is something special and peculiar about Christianity. No other religion in the world is as forward looking and forward grasping as ours. Our songs and scriptures look forward to things God is going to do in the world and through God's people - ending at that great moment when heaven and earth are one!

I am eager, as a pastor, to further live out our "Easter faith." I am eager to move forward as a church, to lean in the direction that Jesus is calling us into. I have been praying that in the months ahead we can take thoughtful and daring steps as a church. These are steps to reach people with the Gospel, to renew and revitalize ministries in our church, to recapture a vision for our church that has us moving forward.

Do you want to come along? That is the unanswered question. So I ask: Do you have an eagerness to move forward? Do you have hopes for this church and its future? If so, I would love to see you bring your gifts to the work of the church-body. I would love for you to offer your insight, passion, and wisdom in following the path God puts in front of us.

As your pastor, I am eager to move into the exciting things that God can and will do in our church. And I am thrilled to be preparing for those things now. The reality is that we are still limited in what we can do because of Covid19, but in the months ahead that will be less of an obstacle. As the restrictions drop, let's be ready to move! But, even right now can be a season of prayer, of vision, and of effective planning. This is my hope. I have learned that as Christians we live out our hope by making determined and deliberate steps forward.

So let's move together!

Rev. Luke a. Whipple



Holy Week Has Begun!



Holy Week & Easter Events

The **beginning of Lent** is marked by many with ashes, hence the name Ash Wednesday. Ash Wednesday (**Feb 17 this year**) is the first day of Lent, and Ash Wednesday is always 46 days before Easter Sunday, which is Sunday, April 4 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.

Service times Below:

- ⇒ **Palm Sunday**, March 28 Begins Holy Week (regular times)
- ⇒ **Maundy Thursday** – April 1, communion– 7 pm- Faith on Jefferson St
- ⇒ **Good Friday**-April 2, 6:30 pm (commemorates crucifixion) “Walk with Jesus” Retrace the steps of Jesus' journey to Golgotha. Join us at Patterson Twp. Volunteer Fire Dept.
- ⇒ **Easter Sunday**, April 4, Sunrise Service– Riverview 6:30 am (Outside) & 9 am Celebrates the resurrection of Jesus from the dead and his victory over sin and death.
- ⇒ **Easter Day Services**- All locations at regular times.

Are you a member of Faith Community? Would you like to Be?

Membership is the formal way we recognize your commitment to our church community. Pastor Luke will be leading membership classes in the near future. In those classes, he will guide you in obtaining a better understanding of belonging to the church, what is Methodism, and what is your role in the church. **If you are interested in finding out where you fit, email Pastor Luke, call the church office to reach him or leave a message. Classes will be scheduled determined by interest indicated.**

Present members may also attend as a refresher course.

Office Phone: 724-775-3447

pastorluke@faithcomumchurch.org



We Will Miss You Susan Shane!!

How lucky I
am to have
something
that makes
saying goodbye
so hard.



Winnie the Pooh told his friends, "How lucky I am to have something that makes saying goodbye so hard". I agree with Winnie the Pooh.

Our friend and sister in Christ, Susan Shane is relocating to Romney, WV, April 1st to be close to son Patrick and family. It is a bittersweet farewell; we are so happy for Susan, but sad also as we will miss our dear friend.

Susan was *literally*, born into our Faith Community in Rochester. She has been devoted to building, serving, sharing her faith, making, praying, working, teaching, praising and growing at Faith Community Church. Over the decades, Susan has served on most committees. She has been an active participant of Jefferson Passion Team, Divine Sisterhood and Certified Lay Servant Ministry classes.

Susan has touched all of us in some way through her service to God, the church and community. Susan's leadership and passion for Christian child care was instrumental in transforming the educational wing into a Child Care Center. She has been a key player in the office volunteer team. She was eager to serve as a grandmotherly presence for the reading program at the school.

The phrase, "No, I can't..." does not exist in Susan's vocabulary. She is a founding volunteer for Nu-2-U clothing ministry, she helps with community dinners and pot-luck dinners and brunches during non-covid times. Her sewing and quilting finesse have blessed the church with beautiful banners. Have you ever wondered who decorated the window sills in the sanctuary or HeBrew's Café tables or door wreaths for the changing seasons? Once again, that would be Susan! Gifts for shut-ins, teaching Sunday School, adult choir and bell choir, providing organ melodies, VBS, kitchen aprons, Bible studies, Women's retreats, and being a master organizer were just a few examples of her dedication and service for the Lord. . The list of Susan's contributions to our church family goes on and on.



"Well done, good and faithful servant" - Matthew 25:21. Susan, you have been a blessing and mentor to many. We **THANK YOU** from the depths of our hearts. We will miss you more than you can imagine. We wish you Godspeed on this new chapter and journey in your life!

Susan's new address will be: 416 Hannas Road Romney, WV 26757
Can You find 5 Pictures of Susan in this Issue?

Written by Jodee Kirchner

April Sermon Series



In the latter half of April, a new sermon series will begin on “**listening to God.**” This is an important part of living a Christian life. Being in a relationship with God means conversing with God.

We know how to pray to God by speaking to God, but do we know what it is like to listen back? What is the experience of hearing from God?

In the series we will look at what the scriptures teach us as well as experience the wisdom from many Christians who have listened attentively to the voice of the Almighty. It is our hope that this series will enrich your prayer life, and your ability to discern when God speaks to you.

**online
GIVING**
easy. fast. effective.



Can you be an e-Giver? Yes You Can! It just takes a few clicks on your device!

“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 2021 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 and click a few times!

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

Never Miss A Church Service!



Remember– All Sunday Services Can Be Watched On-line, or TV
Depending on Your Device! Just use the Links Below:

<https://www.facebook.com/Faithonjefferson/videos>

<https://www.facebook.com/FaithOn68/videos/>

<https://www.facebook.com/RiverviewUnitedMC/videos>

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 and newsletters, 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!)



Tuesday Community Dinners Have Resumed

April 27, May 25, June 29

Dinners resume as part of our outreach to the people of Rochester. Until restrictions are lifted dinners will be take-out/drop-off only. Help is needed. If you are interested in helping, contact Pastor Luke or Michael Beightley msbeightle@gmail.com or pastorluke@faithcomumchurch.org

Volunteers are needed to help with preparing the meals, and distributing the meals at the church or around the neighborhood. Dinners will continue every last Tues of each month.



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 Luke*



Beaver County Combined Youth Meetings.

Several churches are starting to gather together their youth once a month on the fourth Saturday of the month. In February, we were at REACH Center in Beaver Falls where we

played games, ate pizza, had a dance-off competition, and heard a powerful message about God's great love for us. **March 27th** we are at Northway Beaver (Old KMart store in Rochester). On **June 26th**, the youth are gathering at **Faith on 68**! If you have children, grandchildren, or neighbors who are youth (5-12 grade) we encourage you to invite them. **Pastor Luke** is participating in this youth group and would love to see more **Faith Community** youth come. Watch bulletins, Facebook, and web site for April date and place.

Van Riding Ministry:

NEED A RIDE ON SUNDAY FROM A CHURCH VAN?



LET US KNOW!

Our church has an opportunity to partner with another ministry to lease passenger vans to use for our Sunday services. We are trying to determine need and the availability of volunteers.

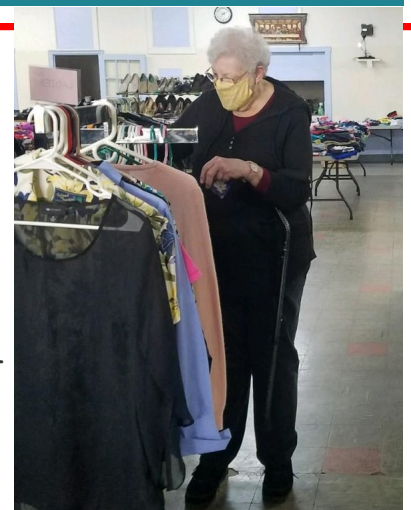
If you attend Faith on Jefferson St. or Faith on 68 and could benefit from being given a ride to and from church please contact the office.

Likewise, if you have a driver's license and would be willing to donate your time to drive a van once or twice a month, please contact the office. Email Pastor Luke pastorluke@faithcomumchurch.org or call 724-775-3447

NU 2U

**NU2U will set up on
Friday April 9 at 1PM.
Clothing Giveaway is Sat.
April 10, 10 AM to 1PM.**

Volunteers are needed to sort clothing, see picture. Help is needed Friday afternoons at 1PM to prepare leftover clothing for the Saturday giveaway. Much clothing has been donated and there is a great need for volunteers to help sort it. **May dates are the 7th and 8th at the same times and June is 11 & 12. Contact pastor or church office for more details.**



Other Opportunities

The next meeting will be set for Wednesday April 28 and will be held in the Hebrews Cafe. Everyone will chip in to purchase a Sandwich Ring for refreshments. The April book is "The Love Story of Missy Charmichael" by Beth Morrey. Please RSVP by text or call Carol Campbell at 724-987-2652. Meetings begin at 6:30 pm. Note e-news or bulletins for any changes and for locations of May 26 and June 30 meeting.

INSPIRATIONS



"The Open Door Sunday School Class"

is continuing to sell candy bars to cover the cost of the Good Samaritan shoe boxes at Christmas.



Candy bars are \$1 & are sold at both Faith campuses. Just take one and place a dollar in the basket. YUM



Church Office

Office Coordinator is needed at Jefferson St 2 days a week (12 hours) Contact Pastor Luke



Please Contact Pastor, or Tracy Wilson at 724-494-7579 or tracywilson1103@gmail.com

to make requests or to become a part of this Prayer Warrior Group right from your own home.

Baptism and More



Meet Nolyn Neely!

What a memorable and joyous day Sunday March 7 was for the Neely family and the congregation of Faith on 68. Precious baby Nolan was baptized and dedicated to the Lord during that service. Pastor Luke officiated and Pastor Bay joined in with an additional blessing for the family via U-Tube. We will all pray for this family and support them as they nurture and grow in Christ for years to come.



Passion Teams continue to meet monthly and look forward to fellowship opportunities, in-person gatherings, and planning shared dinners by the Spring or summer. **We are still hopeful!**

As we journey through Holy Week, we anticipate lifted restrictions and a return to some normalcy.

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

DONATION OPPORTUNITY

Children's Ministry Room
CARPET

We are looking forward to relaunching our children's ministry on Sundays. To prepare for that, we are in need of recarpeting the children's ministry rooms at FAITH ON 68. We currently have \$1100 in donations. We need an additional \$450 to fully fund the project. If it is put on your heart to give, you can make a special donation marked '68 CARPET' either online or in a marked giving envelope at the church.



Grief Share is held in the Wesley Room on Thursday evenings from 6:00 pm to 7:30pm. Grief Share is a group counseling program to help those that have lost someone dear to them. For more information, please call the church office at **724-775-3447**.

GRIEF SHARE

*A Journey from
Mourning to Joy*

APRIL – MAY – JUNE MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Divine Sisterhood	no meetings due to covid—Check Bulletins for info	
Monday's	Prayer at 3 PM	Faith on Jefferson
Third Tuesdays	UMC Women meet @ Noon (no July & Aug)	Hebrews Cafe
UMW Rummage Sales	April 30 & May 1 see page 11	Faith on Jefferson
Wed. Every week	Mid-Week Worship w/Communion	Riverview UMC
Wed Apr 14, May 12,	June 9– Admin Meeting 6pm	Riverview UMC
Every Thursday	Grief Share—6-7:30 pm– Wesley Room	Faith on Jefferson
Every Last Tue– Pick up	Free Community Dinner— 4:30 pm– Help needed	Faith on Jefferson
1st Monday each month	Passion Teams—(combined every other month)	Faith on Jefferson & 68
Last Wednesdays Apr 28	Inspirations– see page 8 for locations May, June	Hebrews Cafe
Fri April 9	Nu-2-U Clothing Closet Setup Day—1:00 pm	Faith on Jefferson
Sat April 10	Nu-2-U Clothing Closet Sale—10:00 –1:00 pm	Faith on Jefferson
Fri May 7	Nu-2-U Clothing Closet Setup Day—1:00 pm	Faith on Jefferson
Sat May 8	Nu-2-U Clothing Closet Sale—10:00 –1:00 pm	Faith on Jefferson
Fri June 11	Nu-2-U Clothing Closet Setup Day—1:00 pm	Faith on Jefferson
Sat June 12	Nu-2-U Clothing Closet—10:00 –1:00 pm	Faith on Jefferson

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



The next issue of Faith Community covers July, August, and September. To prepare the newsletter, print, fold, label, mail, etc., **please** start sending me information on events planned as soon as they are decided.

Deadline for all submissions is June 15, 2021. Please plan early especially for Bible School, retreats, Rummage sales, Battle loaves, fund raisers, Apple Dumplings, etc.

Please don't wait until the last minute as I also have other obligations. Others who graciously volunteer to print, fold, label, etc have other obligations as well. **It is our desire to get the newsletter out to every one before July 1. May God Bless You for your Help!!!** *Betty Allen*

If you have not received a digital issue in the past and would like one please send me your email or text me to request it. (757-328-7344)

baballen123@gmail.com



MEMORIALS

January 10, 2021 to March, 2021

MEMORIAL CONTRIBUTIONS MADE TO THE FAITH COMMUNITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

MEMORIAL ACCOUNT:

Clifford Zahn Dave & Mary Haney, Charles & Nancy Homan,
George Pettibon, Diana Bowden

MEMORIAL ACCOUNT:

Robert Stuck Diana Bowden

In Loving Memory



United
Methodist
Women

FAITH • HOPE • LOVE IN ACTION

Celebrating 152 Years

All women of the church are considered members of the United Methodist Women's group and are welcome to attend any of our meetings.

We meet on the third Tuesday of the month at Noon in the Hebrews Cafe. Meeting dates are: April 20th, May 18th, September 21, October 19th, and November 16th.

The rummage sale is our main source of income to give to both local and world wide missions. The rummage sale is held on the first weekend in May and in October. We accept donations of household items, clothing, small furniture and toys. We do not accept bowling balls, TV's, computers, or electronics of any kind. Drop off donations during office hours. We also do a Rada Cutlery Fundraiser.

We appreciate any help from members or friends of the congregation who can give some time to set-up, work the sale days or clean up.

In 2020 after paying our pledge to the United Methodist Women's Butler District, we were able to donate to over 11 charities that helped many people. **For more information call Karen Miller 724-775-7729 or Susan Boehm 724-728-3352 home (dpb482@yahoo.com)**

RADA Fundraiser Has Begun!

If anyone would like to order RADA Cutlery please call Susan Boehm at 724-728-3352,



Orders will be taken until May 2nd. Books and order forms will be available at the churches. You may also look on line and call Susan Boehm with your order.

www.radakitchenstore.com



UM Women's Meetings
April 20, May 18
Wear Masks
Hebrews Cafe
Bring Thank Offering
All Women Welcome

UM Women's
Rummage Sale
Frid April 30 &
Sat May 1
9 am - 2 pm
Jefferson St.
Day 1- \$5 bag
Day 2- \$2 bag

Set Up
Wed April 28
Thurs April 29
9 am to Noon
Help Needed
Call Susan
724-728-3352
Masks Required

News to Use From Faith Community



341 Jefferson St., Rochester PA 15074

Address Correction Requested

NON-PROFIT ORG.
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New Worship Times:

Faith on Jefferson UMC

Traditional Service Sundays @ 10 AM

Riverview: 9:00 AM Sunday,

Mid-week Communion Wed @ 11 AM

Faith on 68: Contemporary Service

Sunday @ 11 am

Office Hours: see page 1

TITHE AND OFFERINGS ONLINE

For your convenience, we have online giving

www.faithcr.org/give



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