

October/November/December 2020

The Community View

Faith Community United Methodist Church Riverview United Methodist Church

Faith on Jefferson, Faith on 68, Riverview UMC



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

Inside this issue:

Back to School Bash
Faith 68 Outside Worship

Stained Glass Windows

Words from Pastor Luke

Faith Live Steaming & Website

Letter From Butler District

Three T's from 68 Passion 5

Ministry Opportunities 6

Combined Services, Decorate 7

World Communion Offering

Teachers and Assistants Need 7

Calendar of Events

Memorials

Grief Share, Election Day 9

Comfort & Joy at Riverview

Inspirations, Prayer Chain 10

Community Dinners Resume 10

Adult Sun School- Jefferson 10

10

Prayer Walk Changed

Operation Shoebox 10

Winter Coat Drive, Rummage 11

Memorials, Grief Share, NU2U 11

OFFICE HOURS
Jefferson-9:00 to 4 PM
Mon.—Tue.— Thur.

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Websites

www.faithcomumchurch.org www.riverviewumcBF.org

> Offices: 341 Jefferson Street Rochester PA 15074

1099 Darlington Rd. Beaver Falls PA 15010 Over 60 kids were Blessed Aug 23rd with backpacks, and over 50 with Free haircuts!

Special thanks to Viva la Diva, Garrett Bacha Michelle Defenbaugh, and Keeks Barbershop for donating their valuable time to the Rochester community. Thank you also to Hopewell Windmill for donating water and ice cream sandwiches, and Whiskey Rhythm for sponsoring the backpacks and supplies.

We are blessed with an amazing congregation, community, and amazing leadership!



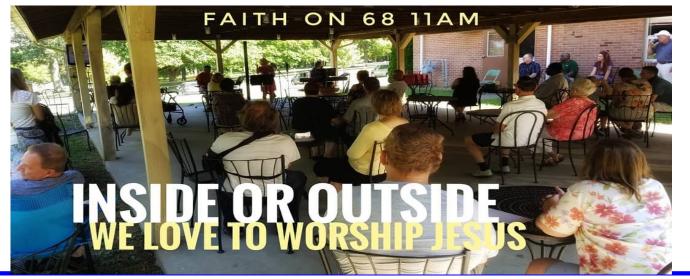


You can find us on Facebook at "Riverview United Methodist Church," "Faith on 68," or "Faith on Jefferson UMC." Don't forget to like, share, and follow us! Want to stay clued-in to everything that's happening in our churches? Go to Faithcomumchurch.org or riverviewumchurchbf.org.?

Covid 19 Will Not Stop Us From Worship

Outside Patio Worship at Faith on 68

We Praise the Lord for Blessing us with so many clear days all summer! Jefferson and Riverview were able to continue inside following CDC restrictions. This also gave time for the 68 sanctuary to be remodeled. 68 sanctuary reopens following CDC guidelines Oct 4.



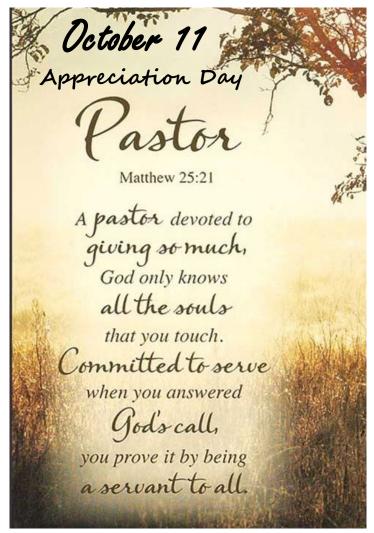
Faith on Jefferson Cards For Any Occasion- Order Now as Supply is Limited

How about sharing some church history and helping our churches at the same time? These note cards are unique and great for Christmas, birthdays, get well, thinking of you, missing you, holiday cards and just for getting in touch with old friends. Mugs are also available. These will bring great joy to our members who are shut ins.

Our new "note card" fundraiser cards are all packaged and ready for you to purchase. The $4" \times 5-1/2"$ note

cards available that are blank on the inside, and have only the recognition of our church sanctuary on the back. They will be sold in packs of 6 with envelopes for \$10 each.

Cards can be ordered by calling the church office at 724-775-3447.



WORDS FROM PASTOR LUKE

"And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him..."

Romans 8:28

The verse above is one of my wife's favorite scripture verses (**she can even quote it from memory in Spanish!).** But I appreciate that within these

sacred words are the promise

that God is always working. So often we apply this verse to difficult situations, **as we should**, as a reminder that God is a redeeming and rescuing God. All things, even the worst of them, work through God's grace towards something good. That is such a reassuring thought.

For me, however, I am drawn to this verse in a very positive time in my life. I have so much to be grateful for in the start of my first few months as your new pastor. You, as a church, have been extremely kind and loving to me and my family as we have come to you. Things have been very good. And yet, Romans 8:28 is reminding me that my first words of thanks needs to go to God. In "ALL THINGS" (even very warm welcomes) we must recognize that it is God who has been at work. So as you have sent us cards, reminded us of your names, allowed us to get to know you and pray for you - we realize that all of this is happening because God is at work in this community. So thanks be to God for the ways the Lord is moving in your hearts, and your willingness to embrace a new pastor and his family.

I continue to trust that it will be God who works in our hearts as we move forward in the weeks and months ahead. I continue to pray that God would stir up new things in our midst - that we would witness the dramatic, awe-inspiring work of the Holy Spirit - where broken hearts are mended, broken lives are made new, broken bodies are healed—because this is the way that God "works for the good."

So thanks be to God for His holy and infinite grace, thanks to God for you and your incredible kindness and generosity, and thanks be to God for all that is in store for us as we move forward into the future.

Love,

Your pastor

Rev. Luke a. Whipple

New Church Website to be Published Oct 1

Please log on to our website to see the new look, materials, and information that it provides. www.faithcomumchurch.org



"We are now live streaming our service from Faith 68 each week. Please take a moment to share a service through Facebook with your friends and family, stretching our social networking also allows us to reach more people for Christ reach week. Even those who are not physically able to attend.



That being said, this is the perfect time to start giving online! With new people experiencing our ministry in an online forum, it is great that we have an option for giving that can meet online congregants wherever they may be.

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 our own backyard!

WORDS FROM UMC Bulter District



A Declaration of Our Convictions, Priorities, and Commitments

Offered by The Butler District Dismantling Racism Team

Grace and peace be with you.

We, the members of the Butler District Dismantling Racism Team, come to you with a sense of divine urgency.

We emphatically state that all people are made in the image of God and are of sacred worth.

Tragically, various individuals, groups, and movements throughout our country's history, even to this day, have not always acknowledged this truth for everyone. Therefore, we believe it is necessary to say unequivocally that black lives matter.

Saying this does not mean that only black lives matter, or that black lives matter more than other lives. But it does mean that, in a world in which persons of color have often been mistreated, undervalued, and dehumanized under the weight of racism and injustice, we recognize the urgency of naming and emphasizing the sacred worth of black and brown lives. We confess that racism is sin, toxic to the human community and counter to the reign of God.

We acknowledge the unfair presuppositions, hurtful biases, distorted assumptions, and systematized inequities to which persons of color are regularly subjected and from which white persons are regularly exempted. This race-based exemption is often described as white privilege.

We repent of the roles that we have played, both individually and as a church, in furthering and fortifying racism in all of its forms. We also repent of our frequent silence in the face of racism, which is a form of complicity.

We affirm that the work of dismantling racism is an essential part of our discipleship to Jesus Christ, since God desires justice for God's creation and since the Way of Jesus envisions the release of those who are held captive and the setting free of those who are oppressed (as Luke 4:18 makes clear).

We commit ourselves to the work of dismantling racism and building a society in which justice and equity are the norm. We will strive to amplify diverse voices, especially those who have been marginalized. We will participate in actions designed to foster anti-racism, including, but not limited to, book studies, trainings, vital conversations, community action, and peaceful protests. We will work for the dismantling of racism in all of its forms as we follow the mandate of Jesus Christ to love one another.

We invite you to join us in holding these convictions, priorities, and commitments as we become more fully who God created us to be.

The Members of the Butler District Dismantling Racism Team:

Sarah Adkins, Angelique O. Bradford, Valerie Conway, Debra A. Flint (LCSW), B.T. Gilligan, Jodee Kirchner Dan Miller, Doug Myers, Eric Park, Amy Puryear, Jerry Rectenwald

WORDS FROM Passion Team- Faith on 68

Jeff Gray, Passion Team Leader at Faith on 68, recently shared this article with the rest of our team. The author of this piece, Steve Patterson, blogs under the title "Courageous Christian Father." He makes some simple yet profound points in his commentary about the "Three T's of Giving," – "Tithe, Time, and Talents."

He reminds us that we are to give God our best. He asks us to give to others and even Him. The three "T's" are part of what we need to give back to God.

TITHE - GIVING T

God asks us to give our first fruits to Him. We are to give back to him a small portion (10%) of what He has blessed us with. I know it can be hard. I have been there too. This is one thing I will admit I lack on at times. I am trying to work on this. But, I do know God provides and will take care of us. If we give back to Him what is His, things seem to stretch further then when we don't give back. After all everything we have, everything we do, etc. belongs to God. He is the creator. Tithing helps your local church and/or ministries so they can help do more for the Kingdom of God.

TIME - GIVING T

Giving your time can be another way you can give to other people. Giving your time can help show love, encouragement and more for other people. Any time you have free time do you use it to benefit the Kingdom of God? God gives us free time, we should use it wisely. Do we go and bring food to the elderly or the shut ins? Do we go visiting those in our church who cannot get out or haven't attended in a while? We can even use our time to use our God given talents, see below. There are many ways you can give your time to help benefit the Kingdom of God. Meals on Wheels is a good example as well. Giving your time enables you help someone in need.

TALENT - GIVING T

When we use our talent to benefit the kingdom of God this talent becomes a gift. God gives us a special gift so we can use it to give our talent to other people. Like I can do graphic design. I have helped my church with flyers. Plus, I don't charge my church for this because I am giving my time to use my talent. I also do some graphic design work to help out a few ministries that benefit the Kingdom of God. Are you using what God talented you with to benefit His Kingdom? Not to mention, are you getting paid to do that or are you giving your time freely with that talent? As you can see time and talent can go hand and hand. I encourage you to give your free time talent freely to help the Ministry of the Kingdom of God. He is the one that blessed you with the talent so make it useful and give back to others. You don't always have to give money, you can give your talent.

By using any of these three forms of giving you are not only blessing other people, but when you bless others doesn't it bless you too? What are ways you give your time and/or talent to benefit the Kingdom of God?

You can read more from Steve Patterson at https://www.courageouschristianfather.com/the-three-ts-of-giving-tithe-time-talent/

Dismantling Racism

is not a project that has a beginning and an end. The work of dismantling racism is ongoing and essential to Jesus' teachings, Love One Another. Let's talk about it. Join us for important conversation and discussion on Thursday, 10/15/20 at 6:00 in Hebrews Cafe at Jefferson Street.

Contact Free Plate on Entrance Table
Or Online Giving Available
https://www.faithcomumchurch.org/giving

Weekly

Offering





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 **ALSO** looking for people to help with the following...

<u>WORSHIP</u> (not the band...this is the nuts and bolts such as scheduling communion stewards, folding bulletins, ushers & greeters, getting communion and baptism stuff ready, 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!)

Contact Pastor Luke or Jeff Gray.

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, or Tom Perkins because this opportunity/need is just for you!







Assistant Media Switcher also is needed as back up for Betty Allen (in case of illness etc.). Please contact Betty if you are interested in being trained for this essential position. Basic computer skills are needed. (baballen123@gmail.com) or 757-328-7344 cell

GOT AN OLD IPAD or TABLET NOT BEING USED?

Help give it new life by donating it to our worship team! we are accepting donations of iPads so that our worship team can organize their music electronically, which will also cut back on our carbon footprint (care for our environment by not going through tons of paper copies) and will help declutter the stage area in the long run. Thanks for considering it. Contact Tom Perkins 724-480-5187

*if you need a receipt for tax purposes, we can supply you with that for this donation, if desired!



Special Combined Services

In the upcoming months we will have two special "combined services" where worship will be held at one of our locations. We wanted to offer this as a special way to come together in worship as one church and family in Christ.. The dates are as followed:

November 1st - ALL SAINTS WORSHIP - Faith on 68 campus (10am and 11am).

December 24th - Combined Christmas Eve - Faith on Jefferson St. Time TBA

For the November 1st service, we want to honor those saints who have gone onto glory. If you would like to have a family member, friend, or church member who passed away in the last year recognized as part of our "All-Saints Worship Service."

Please contact Pastor Luke with that person's name: email: pastorluke@faithcomumchurch.org or by phone 724-622-7763

Oct. 4- Lend a Helping Hand World Communion Sunday

Please bring a special marked offering which will benefit ethnic minorities by providing scholarships

for higher education/speci special skills training. You will certainly be Blessed!



"6 These commandments that I give you today

are to be on your hearts. ⁷ Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and



when you get up."

Deut. 6:6-7 (NIV)

Jefferson and Faith on 68 Church Decorating Nov 22 -



Plan on sticking around after church on November 22 as we get God's house ready for Advent! We'll be decorating and praying God's Blessing upon Advent (1st day of Advent starts Nov 29), and upon all of those who join us in worship!

Many joyful hands are needed!



Date	Events	Where
Oct 1-Dec	Anderson Candy Bar Sale for Operation Child Shoe Box	All churches
Oct 1	New Site www.faithcommunchurch.org	Faith Community
Oct 1– Nov	Warm Coat Drive see page 11	Jefferson
Oct -Dec Every Sunday	Open Door Adult Class at 9AM	Jefferson– Hebrews Cafe
Sept 29, 30, & Oct 1	9AM-Noon Rummage Sale Set Up and Donations Accepted	Jefferson– Social Hall
Oct 2 & 3 9AM-1PM	Rummage Sale in Social Hall	Jefferson
Oct 4– Sunday	68 Reopens Sanctuary (Special offering for World Communion all)	Faith 68
Oct 5 & 1st Mon monthly	Passion Team Meets at 6:30 PM	Faith 68
Oct 7-Dec. 23–Every Wed.	Mid-Week Worship w/Communion 11:00—Noon	Riverview UMC
Oct 8– Every Thur @ noon	Prayer Walk moves inside for devotion and prayer (page 10)	Jefferson
Oct 10– Nov 14– Dec 12	NU2U Clothing Distribution—Help Needed Friday before-see p. 11	Jefferson
Oct 11– Sunday	Pastor Appreciation Day and all of Oct-Show your appreciation	All churches
Oct 14, Nov 11, Dec 9	6 PM Riverview Administrative Board Meets	Riverview
Oct 15– Thursday, 6PM	Dismantling Racism Project-Hebrews Café— see page 4 & 5	Faith on Jefferson
Oct 20-Tue Noon	UM Women meet, bring Thank Offering- page 11	Jefferson– Hebrews Cafe
Oct 27 & Nov 24 Tuesday	Community Dinner every last Tue except Dec- see page 10	Faith on Jefferson
Oct 28, Nov 25, Dec 30	Inspirations Book Club 6:30 PM- see page 10- must RSVP	Grand Valley
Oct 31-Nov 1– 12 AM	Daylight Saving Ends—Turn Clocks Back Before Bed Oct 31	All Churches
Nov 1, Sunday	All Saints Service 9 AM	Riverview
Nov 1, Sunday	All Saints Service 2 combined @ 10 AM & 11 AM Jefferson and 68	Faith on 68
Nov 3, Tues	Election Day Prayer 9-4 with Pastor Luke	Jefferson Sanctuary
Frid. Nov. 8	Administrative Council Meeting— 6:30 PM	Riverview
Nov 22– Sunday	Hanging of Greens after service	All Churches
Nov 29– Sunday	1st Sunday of Advent and Blessing of the Greens	All churches
Nov. 28-Thursday	Have a Happy and Blessed Thanksgiving!!!!	Everyone
Mon. Dec 7, 6 PM	Comfort and Joy- Dinner & Christmas music 6 PM see page 9	Riverview
Thur. Dec. 24– 7 PM	Christmas Eve Services— Jefferson & Faith 68 joint, Time TBA	Faith on Jefferson
Thur. Dec. 24– 7 PM	Christmas Eve Service 7 PM	Riverview
Sun. Dec. 27	Regular Services at each church— No Joint services	All churches



Next Issue Of Community View will be for Jan, Feb, March Please submit news to Betty Allen ASAP (baballen123@gmail.com) Don't wait for Deadline for submissions Tue. Dec 22- Thanks

Memory Thanks for Your Kindness and Generosity

Of Harry Heyslerman From Pat Burns and Kathleen A. Meszaros

Of Josephine Pettibon From - Diana Bowden & Francis & Melva Petcovic

Of Ralph Cable From-Diana Bowden, Robert & Pam Gill, Skip & Nancy Homan

Of Judy Hogue From - Diana Bowden

Of John Fink From - Diana Bowden

Of Louise Blinn From - Donald Blinn

To Trustees Fund-Ralph Cable From-William & Sandy Hannan, Frances Boyde, Francis & Melva Jean Petcovie, Sue Ellen Hogue, Janet McDonald, Karen Culley, Thhomas & Susan Moran, Barbara Fink, Donald Hairhoger, Gutermuth Family, Maurice & Teresa Smith, Vastano Family, Carmen & Judith Barbaro, David & Mary Haney

Every Thursday 6 pm to 7:30 pm Wesley Room at Jefferson

Each session is "self-contained" & you can start and stop at any time. If interested please call the church office @ 724-775-3447. Leave your name and number and your call will be returned as quickly as possible.







MORE **OPPORTUNITIES**



Community Dinners Resume On Tuesday, October 27th

Dinners resume as part of our outreach to the people of Rochester. These first dinners back will be take-out/drop-off only due to the Covid 19. 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. except Dec.

9:00 AM Open Door Adult Sunday School Class Resumes at Jefferson St

The Open Door adult Sunday School has returned to Faith on Jefferson St.

Pam & Bob Gill are once again leading the weekly group. All are welcome to join from week to week as able. Meetings take place in the Hebrews Café from 9 AM to 9:45. Church starts @ 10





Please Call Pastor Luke @ 724-622-7763 or Tracy Wilson @ 724-333-2643, or tracywilson1103@gmail.com for all prayer requests.

Inspirations Book Club Has Resumed!

The Book Club meets the last Wednesday of each month beginning Oct 28 at 6:30 pm at the Grand Valley Inn. Reservations need to be made with Carolyn Campbell by the Monday before. For current information, call Carol at 724-987-2652, or email at Carolyn560@yahoo.com



WALKING BALLH CONTRACTOR OF THE PARTY OF THE

Prayer Walks Moving Indoors Oct 8 @ Noon

As the weather changes, so must our plans. Pastor Luke has really appreciated the chance to walk, talk, and pray with members of the church each Thursday. So starting October 8, our prayer walks will be changing to a time of prayer and worship each Thursday from noon to 12:45. We will sing a few songs (hymns and contemporary) and will take time to pray together. Come to Jefferson St. to join us. We will meet in the sanctuary.





UM Women of Jefferson St. will sponsor a rummage sale in the Social Hall - on October 2nd and 3rd from 9am-1pm. Volunteers are needed for set up Sept 29th, 30th, and Oct 1 from 9am to Noon. Donations will be accepted at those times or call Susan at 724-728-3352 to make other arrangements. Masks are required for volunteers as well as customers.

The next UM Women's meeting is noon October 20th, in the Hebrews Cafe at Jefferson St. (All women are welcome). Please wear masks and bring your Thank offering. (Riverview Rummage Sale to be in spring)

NU2U Clothing distribution will be from 10am to 1pm On Oct 10, Nov 14, and Dec 12. Masks must be worn and capacity is 30 people at a time. Help is needed with Set Up on Fridays the day before from 1—? We can always use help on each day, Please notify Karen Miller 724-544-2468 if you are able to help



or dandk106@comcast.net

A Prayer for Thanksgiving

Loving God,

We turn our hearts to you on this day for giving thanks, mindful of your many gifts.

For each one, we are grateful.

For each one, we are blessed.

For each one we are opened to the

abundance of your love. May this Thanksgiving Day offer a reminder to be generous with others,

as you are with us.

We praise you.

We rejoice in you.

We give you thanks.

Amen.



Combined/Joint Christmas Eve Service Dec 24 @ Jefferson St.

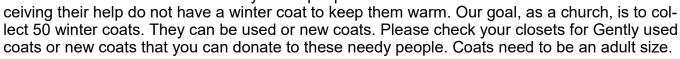
This Christmas Eve we will have a joint service at our Jefferson Street campus, time to be announced. Plan on

attending for something old, something new, something family, something blue. There will be carols, special music, a family message that will warm your heart, candle-lighting, and more! This is a Blessing you don't want to miss!

Winter Coat Drive

Faith Community has had a long-standing partnership with the Mental Health Association (headquartered here in Rochester, PA). With the organization, we have provided a Christmas Party, Spring Prom, and various other events to help and encourage those who are provided with services from the Mental Health Association.

MHA has asked for our help with collecting winter coats. MHA has found that many of the people re-



Donated coats can be brought to Faith on 68 or Faith on Jefferson St. Donations will be accepted throughout the fall.





341 Jefferson St., Rochester PA 15074

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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









LIEVE

Before Bedtime Saturday October 31



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

comumchurch.org