



Faith United Methodist Church
432 59th Street
Downers Grove, IL 60516



May 14, 2017

SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

9 AM	Sunday School for All Ages
10 AM	Worship Service
10 AM	Children's Church
11 AM	Fellowship



June 4, 2017

Wear RED

MAY/JUNE

ECHOES OF FAITH

Faith United Methodist Church

432 59th St., Downers Grove, IL 60516

Rev. Dr. Charles I. Yoon

office@faithchurchdg.org

www.faithchurchdg.org

(630) 968-0442

Fax: (630) 968-1962

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The Church as an Organism

We live in a moment of history when the ministry is potentially being returned to the people of God. We are in the midst of a paradigm shift from the church as an institution to the church as an organism. The church as an organism means “a life-pulsating people who are animated by the indwelling presence of Jesus Christ” (Greg Ogden, *The New Reformation*, p. 29). In the New Testament the church is described as the household of God, the people of God, the bride of Christ, and a fellowship of the Holy Spirit.

Paul uses the analogy of the human body to apply the concept of the church as an organism. 1 Corinthians 12:12, “For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ.” For Paul “the body of Christ” is not just a metaphor or helpful word picture, but points to the reality that Jesus dwells among his people and gives his life to them.

The understanding of the church as an organism was experientially true for Paul from the moment of his initial encounter with Christ. Saul, the firebrand and self-righteous protector of the Hebrew law against the perverters of Judaism called Christians, was on his way to Damascus, having received authority to arrest and bring them bound to Jerusalem. His plans were dramatically altered. A blinding light filled the sky and completely engulfed his field of vision. Thrown to the ground, he heard a voice, “Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?” Saul replied, “Who are you, Lord?” The heavenly voice responded, “I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting” (Acts 9:5-6).

In fact, Saul was not persecuting Jesus, but those who claimed to be his followers. What is the relationship between Jesus and his followers? Jesus dwells in them; the church is the aggregate body to whom Jesus has given his life. Christians are a sacramental people. A sacrament is a means of grace; it is a symbol that mysteriously bears the presence of Christ and through which believers encounter Christ. Therefore, the church is a sacramental people who are corporately and individually the conduit of Christ. Paul concludes with a flourish: “and he [God] has put all things under his [Jesus’] feet and has made him [Jesus] the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all” (Eph. 1:22-23).

Thomas C. Oden who was one of my professors at Drew University Graduate School wrote the following: Christianity is distinctive as a religious faith in that it understands itself to be living as a continuing community through the living Christ. ... Its uniqueness lies in its particular relationship with its founder. ... It is the resurrected presence of the living Lord that continues to be the sole basis of the present reality of the church. Jesus is not merely the one who is present to the community now and in each historical period as the vital essence of the church (p. 117. *Agenda for Theology*, 1979).

Our church becomes an organism when we gather together to pray for those who need it, to reflect the Word of God in a small group, and to invite our neighbors and friends to the worship service for the purpose of leading others to Jesus Christ. Our Wednesday prayer group prays for those who are in need, especially those on the prayer list, for most members by name, and for several ministries. I hope this prayer ministry will bring a vital and spiritual atmosphere in our church as an organism and that more people would join this group. Our Bible study continually challenges our state of soul and helps our spiritual growth by encouraging and praying for each other, reflecting the word of God and applying it to an individual's life, and having fellowship together. During our worship we experience God's presence in various ways by praising God with our songs, celebrating our ministry, participating in the Holy Communion, and sharing our joys, concerns, and food in fellowship.

Our prayers, time, gifts, and presence make our church an organism, making it more vital and healthy and helping it to grow. As Jesus was raised from death, our church will stay alive when it remains attached to its life source and is directly under His authority. Jesus reflects His presence to the world through an inter-reliant people. We are a people who remain connected and receive direct signals from Jesus Christ; and we are a people through whom divine life is transmitted to one another.

Let us make our church a vital, dynamic, healthy and growing community. Let us remember, our church is not a building, but an organism which is a place for gathering people of God, growing in love, faith and hope, and outreaching to those who need our help, care and prayer. Keeping our church a vital organism is what the risen Christ wants us to do today.

Your brother in Christ,

Pastor Charles



New Sermon Series: The Joy of Christian Living:

Philippians (11 weeks) beginning May 14, 2017

1. Abundant Joyful Life (1:1-11)
2. Pioneer Wanted (1:12-26)
3. Battle Stations! (1:27-30)
4. Following His Example (2:1-11)
5. Whine or Shine (2:12-18)
6. Kindred Spirit (2:19-30)
7. Learning How to Count (3:1-11)
8. Let's Win the Race (3:12-16)
9. Living in the Future Tense (3:17-21)
10. A Word for the Worrier (4:1-9)
11. Contentment in All Circumstances (4:10-23)

New Director of Children and Youth Ministry

The Staff Parish Relations Committee is happy to announce that **Brandy Francisco** is the new Director of Children and Youth Ministry. Brandy has been a member of Faith United Methodist Church since 2009. Prior to that she was a member of New Life Lutheran Church in Bolingbrook. She has served on the Faith UMC Education Committee and has taught Sunday School and Vacation Bible School here. She has assisted with Summer Camp and has been working as a youth leader since 2015. Brandy has many exciting plans for our children and youth. It takes many volunteers to have a successful program. Please keep Brandy in your prayers and pray about how you can help.



New ABF Class

What: ABF Class: The Mission of Jesus video tour of the Holy Lands

Where: Library

When: 5/14/2017 – 6/18/2017

Time: 9AM

Facilitators: Nancy and Mel Gehrs

Description: Come join us for a 6 week ABF video study of the Mission of Jesus narrated by Pastor Ray Vander Laan. Pastor Vander Lann will tour the Holy Lands for us and relate the events of Jesus' life and the experiences of the Disciples in the actual locations (Sea of Galilee, Capernaum, Rome, Jerusalem,..) where they occurred.



Vacation Bible School

Save the Date

Faith United Methodist Church

432 59th St., Downers Grove

July 17-21, 2017

9 am to 12 pm



Donations would be greatly appreciated!
Please place the items in the VBS collection container.

VBS Items Needed

Toilet paper/Paper towel tubes
Refrigerator box
Boxes – all shapes/sizes
Poly-fill stuffing
Tape
Plates
Cups
Napkins

Black plastic table cloths
Pretzel sticks
Rice Krispie treats
White frosting
Goldfish
Cheerios
Rasins
Mini marshmallows
Cheeze-it crackers

FRIDAY LUNCH

Hot dogs
Buns
Condiments
Chips
Cookies
Lemonade mix
**(Perishable food items
can be purchased
week of VBS)**

**Volunteers are needed to make the decorations ahead of time
and then help to decorate the church the day before VBS.**



Youth Summer Camp will be held at Green Lake Conference Center (Quest Camp), Green Lake, WI from **June 18 (Sun.) to 24 (Sat.)** If you are interested in this camp, please contact Brandy Francisco or the church office.

What is Quest? Quest is a remarkable, ridiculously fun, re-imagined way for youth groups and youth leaders to experience God, encounter Christ, grow closer as a group, and refocus!

It is completely different than any other youth group experience. With Bible study and worship, an expansive high ropes course, climbing tower and zip line, amazing lakefront activities, and refreshing food and lodging, Quest is more than your average church camp.

One of the greatest things about Quest is that your entire youth group can come. The program is designed to include anyone who has completed 6th – 12th grade



We are getting ready to create a new photo directory and we need you to help make it complete! Our directory will showcase our families, provide contact information, and become a useful resource to keep us connected. By participating, you will receive a printed and electronic version of the new directory. Sign up today for your professional photography session on May 11, 12, or 13.

1. Schedule your appointment online at our website www.faithchurchdg.org
2. Look for sign-up tables on weekends, located in the narthex.
3. Or call Elsie Alagano at 815-293-0667 for assistance.

**Our directory won't be complete without you.
Sign up today!**

From our friends...

The Youth Group would like to thank everyone that supported their bake sale fundraiser. Enough money was collected to completely cover the registration costs for camp for each participant and chaperone! We are overwhelmed with your generosity and appreciate your support so very much! We are honored to be part of this amazing Faith family! Thank you... Brandy Francisco

Annual Conference – Pastor Charles Yoon and Lay Delegate, Donald Hayward, Jr., will be attending the 178th Annual Conference of the Northern Illinois Conference (NIC) to be held Sunday through Tuesday, June 4-11, at the Pheasant Run Resort, St. Charles, IL. Bishop Sally Dyck will be presiding. Please pray for all involved.

This year's Mission Challenge is to collect 50 hand towels and 50 wash cloths for Dignity Kits for the UMC Midwest Mission Distribution Center. Items are available at the Dollar Tree.

Your servant in Christ,
Don Hayward

Hello Seniors 55 and older,
This spring has been a strange one. We would have a few nice warm days and then winter would still let us know it was not going away just yet.

It's time to think about our lunch dates.



Golden Bowl

May 11th at 11:30 a.m.

6313 Fairview, Downers Grove

This is on the corner of Fairview and 63rd St.
(in the small shopping area).

Bohemian Crystal

June 8th at 11:30 a.m.

639 Blackhawk Dr., Westmont

If you plan on going, please call Bonnie Gentile at 630-969-3419 so she can include you in the reservation. If you need a ride, please call and she will be happy to arrange for someone to pick you up.

In God's Grace,
Bonnie Gentile



BLANKET SUNDAY - Faith Church will sponsor Blanket Sunday in conjunction with Mother's Day on May 14th. You can help support Church World Service by purchasing a blanket for the unfortunate victims of war, floods and other disasters – and, at the same time, honor the mothers in your life. Cards for mothers will be available for \$10 in the narthex on **April 30th and May 7th** which inform your mother that a blanket has been sent to a needy person somewhere in the world in her name – or you can donate \$10 in memory of your mother.

Tools of Hope

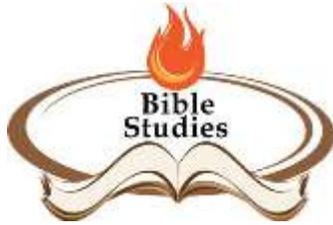
You can be part of the TOOLS OF HOPE PROGRAM and at the same time honor the fathers in your family.

For each \$10.00 you donate, tools will be given in honor of or in memory of your father. On Father's Day, June 18th a special bulletin insert will contain the names of all fathers so honored.



Donations will be collected on June 4th and 11th. A special Father's Day card will be available for mailing to fathers you wish to honor. Please contact the Church Office at 630- 968-0442 with any questions.

BLANKET SUNDAY & TOOLS OF HOPE PROGRAM is a ministry of Church World Service, a cooperative ministry of 36 Protestant, Orthodox, and Anglican denominations, providing sustainable self-help and development, disaster relief, and refugee assistance in more than 80 countries. www.churchworldservice.org



Men - Tuesdays from 6-7AM at Omega Restaurant on Ogden Ave. Study of "Hebrews" led by Bill Miller.

Men - Saturdays from 7-8AM in the Fireside Room. A study of the "Gospel of John" led by Bill Miller. Breakfast \$2 each.

Women – Wednesdays from 10-11 am in the church library. A study of "Twelve Women of the Bible" led by Pastor Charles.

Ushers and Greeters are needed - Faith Church is looking for new people to step up and usher over the summer. Many of the regular parishioners who would be normally available go on vacation. This is a good time to recruit and train volunteers. Ushering is a good way to serve the church while getting to know the members.

Faith Church is also looking for individuals who would like to be greeters. This is a very important role to meet people coming in and assist people getting out of their car under the portico.

Please contact Don Hayward (630-968-4193) or leave a message in the church office if you are interested in ushering or greeting.

Prison Ministry

Cort Wilson is collecting 2017 calendars for prison ministry. Maximum size is 8x10. Collection box is located on the narthex shelf outside Fellowship Hall.

2017



FELLOWSHIP SERVERS ARE NEEDED!

Please sign up on the new Fellowship poster in the narthex. If you have questions or need help, please call Rose Alcantara (815) 372-9956 or Emma Deguia (630) 759-7292.

MAY BIRTHDAYS

01	Eleanor Pagulayan
05	Wes Diener
06	Willard Skaer
	Peachy Octava
07	Tim Kim
09	Jorge Gonzalez
10	Rick Schaefer
11	Lucas Depante
12	Jeff Lin
13	Doris Larsh
	Stephanie Necker
16	Chelsea Octava
21	Janet Dellongo
23	Nathalie Gonzalez
	Eric Denby
25	Lois Pence
	Ken Mayuga
27	Rose Mills
30	Bill Fox
31	Willy Octava



JUNE BIRTHDAYS

02	Ray Veselsky
07	Aubrey Carlquist
08	Ignacio Alagano
	Bob Mitchell
11	Elaine Lin
	Raymond Musni
13	Linda Denby
15	Eva Gutierrez
17	Bill Miller
18	Brooke Denby
19	Bob Phillips
21	Kristen Bair
24	Jacklyn Cannon
27	Rita Bair



Graduation Sunday

Please let us know who is graduating in your family this year so they can be recognized in the Sunday bulletin on Graduation Sunday, June 11th. Please send in the following information or call the church office: (630) 968-0442

Student Name _____

Your relationship to student _____

School _____

Grade/Degree _____

Which school or college will you be attending in the fall?

What are your plans after graduation?

" Easter Day "

**When I was just a tyke
Back when the world seemed so alive
I could hardly sleep at night
Waiting for Easter morning to arrive**

**With its colored eggs and jellybeans
And baskets filled with grass
It was a day of celebration
To every lad and lass**

**I loved this day of fun and games
I never thought it strange
But as the years began to pass
Within myself I found a change**

**For I learned that long ago
Long before my birth
The son of God himself
Had once walked upon this earth**

**He traveled here and there
Preaching to the masses along the way
And the things he did and said
Are still talked about today**

**But some feared this man of peace
They saw him as a threat
They mocked him at his trial
Then sentenced him the worst of any debt**

**Yet he forgave the sins of all
Upon the cross where he was crucified
Then Jesus rose up from the dead
The third day after he had died**

**And it's Jesus resurrection
I now celebrate on Easter Day
As well as all his teachings
And the gentleness of his way**

**As for that other Easter Tradition
I doubt Jesus would be even slightly riled
For there was nothing that he loved more
Than to find joy within a child.**

-Submitted by Bonnie Russell



Mission and Vision Trip to South Korea



Everyone is invited Summer 2019

Faith Church students and young adults are planning to visit South Korea in the summer of 2019. Young adults, 7th graders and up as of 2019 (now 5th graders) and the entire congregation are invited to go on this trip. We want to know how many people will join this trip. If you or your children are interested, please contact Pastor Charles or the church office for more information.

