

# A Newsletter of Polo Faith United Methodist Church

## Words of Faith

Loving, Growing, Serving in Faith

JUNE 2017

Please join us on July 2, 2017 at morning worship, 10:00 AM to receive and welcome new pastor, Brian LeBaron and his wife, Kathy. Pastor Brian and wife Kathy will be moving into the parsonage on June 22. Meet and Greets are being planned for July and August so that everyone can have a chance to meet Pastor Brian and Kathy. A detailed schedule of these meetings will be available in July. We encourage everyone to plan on welcoming Pastor Brian on his first Sunday at Faith and providing Pastor Brian and Kathy their support and prayers as they begin their ministry in Polo.

Randy Hayes, Chair-SPRC

Bishop Sally Dyck and the Northern Illinois Conference Cabinet have prayerfully discerned Pastor Brian LeBaron to serve as the pastor of Faith UMC of Polo for the following missional reasons:

Maturity in ministry with gifts in pastoral care and counseling  
Strengths in community engagement  
**Demonstrated ability to develop children's ministry**  
Affinity for small rural town context



Pastor Brian LeBaron and his wife Kathy hail from Freeport where they graduated as Pretzels at the Freeport High School and later as Cougars at Highland Community College. They met as colleagues at the former Jane Addams Community Health Center in Freeport where Brian served as a Mental Health Counselor and Kathy as a Registered Nurse and they married in 2001. They have seven adult children between them living in northern Illinois and southern Wisconsin and have eight grandchildren, Pastor Brian's mother, Joann, lives in Freeport.

Pastor Brian LeBaron was reared in the Lutheran tradition migrated into the Pentecostal and Evangelical churches, formerly being ordained with the Assembly of God church. He has been credentialed with the United Methodist Church since 1996 serving in Florence and Van Brocklin, Rock City and Davis, Winslow and McConnell and most recently Lena, all in rural Stephenson County. He holds a Bachelor's degree in Bible from Open Bible College; a Master's in Ministry from Bethel College and a Master's in Counseling from National Louis University. Additionally he is an active Licensed Clinical Professional Counselor. He is a recent graduate of Highland's College's Leadership Institute.

Pastor's wife Kathy is active as a volunteer parish nurse at Lena UMC and works as a substitute school nurse in Freeport School District. Together they enjoy home renovation and property management, travel, taking rides on their bikes and of course visiting grandkids. Pastor Brian is an active member in the Lion's Club, the Masonic Lodge, Freeport Area Chamber of Commerce and the local Ministerial Association of which he has been the President. In ministry Pastor enjoys preaching, guiding for congregational health, and collaboration with other community churches, agencies and community stakeholders in bringing God's grace to the soul and to society.

# Growing in Faith

We are committed to growing as disciples of Jesus Christ.  
Some of the ways we live this out are through

## JUNE WORSHIP SCHEDULE



At  
10 AM

Come & Join Us  
Sunday School at 9:00 am

SPRC chair Randy Hayes will be leading the worship services and preaching in June with District Superintendent Young-Mee Park, bringing the message on June 18. Worship service will continue to be at 10:00 AM. The Choir will be singing on June 4<sup>th</sup> for the celebration of Pentecost and we will have special music on the other Sunday mornings.

### Sermon Titles and Scriptures:

June 4	Pentecost: The Birthday Party of the Church – Acts 2: 1-21
June 11	The Trinity – What Does It All Mean? Math 28: 16-20
June 18	District Superintendent Young-Mee Park preaching
June 25	That Grace May Abound Romans 6: 1b-11

## POLO FAITH FINANCIAL INFORMATION

April 2017 Polo Faith UMC Financial Information

Monthly Income (General Fund)	11,368.00
Monthly Expenses Paid	11,596.38
Balance Current Fund	(8,756.02)

Expense amount does not include elevator or our outreach projects.

Thank you for your generosity throughout the year. If you are able to give a little extra now to support the basic costs of running the church, it will be greatly appreciated.



## EASTER SUNDAY BAPTISM



Karlea Frey was baptized by Pastor Karen on April 16. She is pictured with her parents Jeff & Melissa. Karlea will be a sixth grader at Aplington Middle School this fall. Our love and prayers surround her as she continues her faith discoveries.

### AD COUNCIL MINUTES May 15, 2017

Attendees: Pastor Karen, Laura McKean, Marla Buskohl, Judy Norris, Margie Shore, Ron Hammer, Phil Frey, Marilyn Sura

Phil Frey opened the meeting and Judy Norris led devotions. April minutes were approved.

Finance: Good news is that the April offerings equaled April expenses. We are still behind \$8,765.02.

**Staff Parish:** The last meeting was spent planning Pastor Karen's farewell and a welcome for Pastor Brian and his wife Kathy. Randy will be preaching 3 Sundays in June and Rev. Young- Mee Park will preach on June 18.

Worship: No meeting held.

**Loving:** No meeting held. Pastor Karen mentioned how wonderful it has been to see Our Table's attendance grow to 80. It is a wonderful way for people to gather and to connect.

Serving: No meeting held.

UMW: Regular meeting on May 18 at 1:30 pm.

Pastor Karen wondered if the church was still collecting books to send overseas and Phil said that we still do that.

Pastor Karen mentioned #kidpanda will have their last meeting at the Pines on 5/23/17. She asked for prayers for them as they have formed a wonderful group and she hopes that they will be able to continue as a group.

Alumni Banquet: Judy Norris reported they will pay us \$100.00 to serve 100 people. It is a good thing to do to keep our church's name in front of the community. She will need help to work between 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm.

PCCC: Marla and Pastor Karen will attend the meeting on May 23.

Elevator Project: The architect has been paid for all of his work up to now. There is enough money in the elevator fund to reimburse Randy Ocken for the last contractor bill that he paid himself. As we don't have the money for the second phase now, we will revisit this project in September after the elevator committee has a meeting prior to the September Ad Council meeting.

It was decided to cancel the June 19, 2017 Ad Council meeting and instead hold the next meeting on July 24, 2016.

Meeting adjourned by repeating the Lord's Prayer.

# Serving in Faith

We are committed to serving the people of Polo and the world.

Some of the ways we live this out are through our giving of time, talents, and financial gifts.

## JUNE MISSION FOCUS - ROCKFORD WORK CAMPS

An Opportunity to Serve

Rockford Work Camps (RWC)

Thursday, July 20, 2017



In June, our serving emphasis will be Rockford Work Camps. Donations this month will go to help fund our volunteers.

The Serving Team has reserved Thursday, July 20 for an opportunity to serve through Rockford Work Camps (RWC). We are hoping to put together a team of 5-10 people for a one day work experience. Team members will volunteer at the Northern Illinois Food Pantry for part of the day and then do site clean-up for the rest of the day. Please leave a message in the church office if you are able to attend.

Volunteers should be age 13 + and have the ability to work 5 to 7 hours per day at physically demanding jobs in any weather. Each group must provide one adult leader (over 18) for every 5 youth. Groups of volunteers from 5 to 80 people are welcome.

RWC is a program of Rockford Urban Ministries, (RUM), in Rockford, IL. Their mission statement is: *To transform lives by ministries of social justice. RWC is a faith-based, non-profit ministry providing volunteer labor to help better our city's low-income neighborhoods, food pantries, homeless shelters, parks and environmental protection areas.* RWC offers service programs with Rockford Rescue Missions, Northern Illinois Food Bank, Rockford Park District, Shelter Care Ministries, and Belvidere Boone County Food pantry as well as others. For more information about RWC go to [rockfordworkcamps.org](http://rockfordworkcamps.org).

Nancy Ocken, Serving Team

## SECOND HAND ROSE



### ADDITIONAL VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

And for June 27-July 1, 2017



Faith UMC provides workers for the Tuesday-Saturday weekly schedule every 5 weeks.

The schedule is:

Tuesday & Wednesday	11 am-2 pm & 2-5pm
Thursday & Friday	1 -5 pm, (or you can work 1-3 or 3-5 if 4 hours is too much)
Saturday	9-12 noon

If you are willing to learn this fairly easy but important job, we will have you work with someone who has more experience.

If you would like to join our team, please call Ginny Snodgrass at 779.770.6393 or the church office.

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## KIDZ CAFÉ



Kidz Café will begin on Monday, June 5, 2017

Meals are served every Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 11am to 12:30pm. Over 1,126 meals were served in the Summer of 2016. Kidz Café is funded through donations from churches, area businesses, and individuals. Donations of paper products and drink mixes would be appreciated. Thank you for helping us make this ministry happen with your time and resources.

If you know of someone or you would like to volunteer your time and talents, please contact Marla Buskohl at 815.622.6162.

## WHEELS OF FAITH



DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO NEEDS A RIDE?  
WHEELS OF FAITH  
815.677.8194

*Our Wheels of Faith bus is making 3-5 trips a week taking people shopping and to the doctor. If you know of anyone who could use this wonderful service, please share the new flyer with them or the new number. The newest bus has a wheel chair lift and is air conditioned and will be comfortable for everyone.*

## COMBAT HUNGER



Polo Lifeline numbers have increased substantially since October. They appreciate any additional help we may give. Monetary donations are always welcome.

June needs for the Polo Lifeline are these:

Coffee	Canned carrots
Spaghetti & Spaghetti sauce	Canned tomato products
Mac & cheese	Chesseburger Hamburger Helper
Fruit	Canned chicken
Cheese	Tea bags
Cake mixes	Toilet Paper
Pain Relievers	

Kathy asks that as you plant your vegetable garden that you add extra seeds and donated vegetables to the pantry this Season.

## STRENGTHEN COMMUNITY



Our Table  
Community  
Meal

5:30—7pm

THANK YOU  
to everyone who helped  
make this year's Our Table a  
success. Attendance kept  
growing all year long as more  
people came together from  
our community.

**PASTOR KAREN'S FAREWELL COFFEE**



Pastor Karen, we wish you all the best as you travel to your new home. May God's blessings surround you always!




# Loving in Faith

We are committed to loving God and all people.

Some of the ways we live this out are through our praise, prayers, and fellowship.


## WE LIFT UP IN PRAYER

<u>Ongoing Prayers:</u>	Wallace Mackey	Growing tensions and divisions in our country
Verla Attig	Annabelle Muench	Our need for thoughtful political discourse
Lenora Bakener	Viola Myers	
Kay Dillard	Eldon Ports	
Bill Ehmen	Arvilla Siddens	
Jean Frey	National and World Leaders	
Faith Glaman	Our struggles to love our neighbors	
Betty Good		
Gladys Haring		
Harlan Long		
Nancy Mackey		



### June Birthdays

### June Anniversaries

- |                        |                       |                            |
|------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| 03 Tracey Velez        | 19 Ed Dyer            | 03 Jim & Robin Jefford     |
| 04 Laura Ford          | 19 Christopher Miller | 05 Keith & Katie Chesnut   |
| 04 Gladys Haring       | 20 Maverik Good       | 08 Randy & Nancy Ocken     |
| 04 Kellen Kyker        | 20 Tiffany Willis     | 09 Brett & Pam Farber      |
| 05 Matt Pace           | 21 Greg Cross         | 19 Butch & Sandy Hummel    |
| 07 Larry White         | 22 Annette Ditzler    | 19 Brian & Marci Kenney    |
| 12 Jena Pilling        | 22 Naomi Miller       | 20 Kendall & Jeannie Kyker |
| 13 Meghan Collins      | 23 Gatlin Good        |                            |
| 13 Marci Kenney        | 24 Kathy Johnston     |                            |
| 14 Kyle Ditzler        | 26 Marla Buskohl      |                            |
| 14 <b>Donna O'Hara</b> | 26 Bill Ehmen         |                            |
| 14 Nancy Parke         | 26 Melissa Frey       |                            |
| 14 Ron Rackow          | 30 Lucas Hammond      |                            |
| 16 Jacob Morse         |                       |                            |
| 18 Katie Chesnut       |                       |                            |
- 

## JUNE 2017 WORSHIP SERVANTS

### Greeters:

- 6-04-17 Matt & Margie Shore  
Karla Merdian, Marilyn Sura
- 6-11-17 Bud & Lucille Woodin  
Rebecca Jacobs, Dorothy Kjolsing
- 6-18-17 Shawn & Tiffany Willis  
Megan & Tristan Strickler
- 6-25-17 John & Jean Deuth  
Mike & Karen Scholl

## JUNE UMW MEETING



June 15  
Scout Room  
1:30 pm

- Hostesses: Margie Shore
- Program: Jan Bates
- Presenter: Jan Bates
- Devotions: Rosemary Troxel

## MORE PHOTOS of PASTOR KAREN'S FAREWELL COFFEE



*Watch calendar, website  
and bulletins for upcoming  
committee meetings*

*July Newsletter Deadline is June 15*

Copies of the Ad Council minutes and financial reports are available in the green folder on the table outside the office.

This newsletter is created by human hands directing Technology. If you notice any errors, kindly let us know. We will be happy to make any corrections. We reserve the right to change the wording of any articles submitted to reflect kindness, consideration, and the best intentions of all.

### STAY IN TOUCH

Faith United Methodist Church  
Pastor Karen Hundrieser

**COME SEE US**  
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