



A Newsletter of Polo Faith United Methodist Church

Words of Faith

Loving, Growing, Serving in Faith

MAY 2017

*In the leaving,
in the letting go,
let there be this
to hold onto
at the last:
the enduring of love
the persisting of hope,
the remembering of joy,
the offering of gratitude,
the receiving of grace,
the blessing of peace.*

Dear Friends:

This will be my last newsletter writing. As I prepare to leave for something different, but beautiful, I have thought a lot about the final sermons I will ever preach.

Since I have always been a lover of the act of communal worship and action, I have decided to preach between now and the end of May on what I have found are the important elements of worship for a community of faith today. As a pastor, I have come to understand that worship must change, sanctuaries must be used differently, words must be more relevant, how we do worship needs to be less rigid, and even more from the heart - or the church no longer **speaks to or for or with anyone. But that is also what many people in the church do not want.** So let's spend some time with that as you prepare to enter a time of transition.

Change always needs to come from within, not from the outside so that healing and transformation can occur. And to that end, I offer this prayer in our respective times of transition: *O Faithful God, We ask you to guide us in our time of transition. We need your wisdom, that we might be receptive to change, conversion and growth. We need your grace to redirect our hearts so we may be willing to offer ourselves in joyful service. Do not allow fear, ignorance or pride to limit the work of your Spirit. Amen.*

I am thankful for my time here. I have had some tender and challenging and beautiful conversations with some of you. Please know that I honor your journeys and the decisions you make in the future – and I will carry you in my heart.

I am also thankful for the opportunity to do something new. It was a difficult decision to make such a big change at this time in my life, but I go with joy and confidence that I am firm in God's love and care. The mountains are calling...

Blessings to all of you.
Pastor Karen

Growing in Faith

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

CHOIR NOTES from JEAN FREY

THANK YOU, CHOIR!

May 29 is the last Sunday for the Choir to sing this Spring. I want to thank them for their hours of rehearsal, their ability to adapt to changes, and for their desire to serve God through Music Ministry.

I say a huge "Thank You" to Diana Maginnis, Jan Bates, Barb Sims, Robin Jefford, Julia Hammer, Marla Buskohl, Tena Terry, Megan Strickler, Beverly Wiemken, Karen Scholl, Randy Hayes, Mark Maginnis, Randy Ocken, Ron Hammer, and Phil Frey. Carol Brown is our accompanist.

We will begin singing again Rally Day Sunday in September. I'm already looking forward to it!

SUMMER MUSIC

For as long as I can remember, our tradition has been to enjoy "Special Music" during June, July and August while the choir is taking time off.

If anyone has suggestions for persons or groups to sing or play an instrument during our worship services, please talk to any choir member or me; we will make the phone call and the arrangements.

We appreciate your help! Thank you!

Jean Frey



JUNE WORSHIP



At
10 AM

Preaching Schedule	
June 4	Randy Hayes
June 11	Randy Hayes
June 18	Rev. Young-Mee Park
June 25	Randy Hayes

POLO FAITH UMC FINANCIAL INFORMATION

March 2017 Polo Faith UMC Financial Information

Monthly Income (General Fund)	\$ 7,992.00
Monthly Expenses Paid	\$ 12,689.64
Balance Current Fund	\$ (8,527.64)

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.

Attendees: Nancy Ocken, Marla Buskohl, Judy Norris, Ron Hammer , Phil Frey, Randy Hayes, Mark Maginnis, Marilyn Sura

Phil Frey opened the meeting and led devotions. March minutes were approved.

Finance: Ron reported we are behind \$8,527.17 not including the \$5,000 we borrowed from Memorials. Unfortunately weekly giving is decreasing.

Staff Parish: No meeting in April. Randy and committee will start planning a welcome event for Pastor Brian LeBaron. We will keep the summer service at 10:00 am.

Trustees: Rummage sale is set for 4/28 & 29. Mark still needs people to help. Boiler passed inspection for another two years. Parsonage work will begin the first of June. The dishwasher and washing machine are not working.

Loving: Tonight's Our Table supper served over 80 people. A list honoring our graduates will go in the newsletter. Since there will not be church on the farm anymore, church in the park was suggested for sometime in July or August. Kidz Café will be starting June 5 and Marla needs more volunteers who could work from 9-1.

Serving: Mission focus for May is Kidz Café and for June it is Rockford Work Camps. A work day is being planned for July 20. The Fifth Sunday luncheons are well attended and are creating community amongst the residents at the Prairie State Apartments as well as with members of FUMC.

The PCHS Alumni Banquet committee asked us to serve the catered meal on June 3. It was decided to do this and Judy will set a price with them.

Judy will continue to provide the beautiful flower pots at both entrances this summer.

Ad Council will meet May 15 and June 19. The future of the elevator project needs to be discussed.

THANK YOU NOTE

I would like to thank Faith United Methodist Church for the love and prayers for my dear, sweet Mom, Totsie Dykema, these past years during her struggle with Alzheimer's. She dearly loved her church family and her church. Thank you Pastor Karen and Carol Brown for the music at her funeral. Also thank you to Marla Buskohl for organizing the dessert served in Fellowship Hall. Thank you to those who made desserts & to Donna Deets, Karen Scholl and Robin Jefford for serving. There were possibly others that I didn't see, if so I apologize, but thank you.

Considering it was Easter week, it was a lot to ask of everyone. Again, my family's heartfelt thank you to our beloved Polo church.

In Christian Love,
Debbie (Dykema) Gassman & family



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.

MAY MISSION FOCUS - POLO LIFELINE FOOD PANTRY

Kathy Wragg and Darlene Shafer and their team of volunteers serve over 85 families in the Polo area. Our church has a commitment to the work of the Polo Lifeline Food Pantry. Phil Frey takes his truck and trailer once every month to Bloomington to pick up food. Ockens and Mark Maginnis help pick up food at the Northern Illinois Food Pantry pick-up site at the Oregon Fairgrounds. At least once a year we clean the shelves and mop the floor. In November we support the Thanksgiving Basket fundraiser. *Thanks for your ongoing support of this vital community service.*

Money collected this month will go to help purchase needed supplies. The list for May is Coffee, Spaghetti sauce, Mac & cheese, Tea bags, Juice, Canned Fruit (NO peaches), Canned peas, Canned tomatoes, Canned chicken, Peanut butter, Toilet Paper, Child's large diapers, wipes. Let's fill the tubs!

SAVE THE DATE: July 20, 2017 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 five youth. Groups of volunteers from 5 to 80 people are welcome. For more information about RWC go to rockfordworkcamps.org. More information to come in June newsletter.



SECOND HAND ROSE



ADDITIONAL VOLUNTEERS NEEDED
for May 23-27, 2017
and for June 27-July 2, 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. 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.

May needs for the Polo Lifeline are these:

Coffee	Canned peas
Spaghetti sauce	Canned tomatoes
Mac & cheese	Canned chicken
Tea bags	Peanut butter
Juice	Toilet Paper
Canned Fruit (NO peaches)	Child's large diapers, wipes

Also they have a need for clean egg cartons

STRENGTHEN COMMUNITY



Our Table
Community
Meal

5:30—7pm

What: Free home-cooked meal
When: May 22, 2017

Where: Faith UMC, 702 E. Dixon,
Polo, IL

We hope you will join us for this opportunity to get to know our neighbors better. Bring your friends.

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	Kenneth Miller	
Lenora Bakener	Annabelle Muench	Our need for thoughtful political discourse
Kay Dillard	Viola Myers	
Bill Ehmen	Eldon Ports	
Jean Frey	Arvilla Siddens	
Faith Glaman	National and World Leaders	
Betty Good		
Gladys Haring	Our struggles to love our neighbors	
Harlan Long		
Nancy Mackey		



WE CELEBRATE WITH

May Birthdays

May Anniversaries

01 Robert Glaman	19 Steve Bartelt	14 Larry & Edie White
01 Margret Siddens	20 Jenna Handel	15 Tim & Jodi Merrell
06 Ellie Merrell	20 Darlene Shafer	20 Chuck & Sue Long
08 Harold Woodin	20 Drew Terry	27 Mike & Melissa Collins
09 Tena Terry	24 Jillian Gorzny	
09 Gerald Woodin	25 Evelyn Mackey	
12 Lorna Keefer	25 Cody Buskohl	
13 Julie McGuire	27 Caleb Aguilar	
14 Diane Saunders	27 Tristan Aguilar	
15 Tim Merrell	27 Scott Gardner	
17 Shirley Gentry	28 Cory Folk	
17 Kinsley Folk	30 Jarin Palmer	
18 Aaron Miller	30 Benjamin Hammer	
18 Aspen Grenoble	31 Mackenzie Pilling	
19 Mark Maginnis		



MAY 2017 WORSHIP SERVANTS

MAY UMW MEETING

<u>Greeters:</u>	
5-07-17	Judy Norris, Nancy Ocken Tim & Jodi Merrell
5-14-17	Dan & Laura McKean Tom & Marla Buskohl
5-21-17	Toby & Becky Handel Mark & Diana Maginnis
5-28-17	Roger & Jane Palmer Barb Sims, Ginny Snodgrass

	May 18, 2017
	Scout Room 1:30 pm
Hostesses:	Ginny Snodgrass
Program:	From Program book
Presenter:	Dorothy Kjolsing & Barb Sims
Devotions:	Gladys Typer



2017
Graduates
of
Faith UMC

There are seven young people who are making big steps in their lives this Spring! It is our pleasure to recognize them and give them a “pat on the back” for their hard work and enthusiasm that has brought them to this important time in their lives.

Emily Ditzler, daughter of David and Annette Ditzler, graduates from Sauk Valley Community College May 12. She has distinguished herself through her God-given talents of scholarship, personality, and volunteerism. Her honors include Outstanding Student Leader of the Year for 2016-2017, membership in Phi Theta Kappa (an academic sorority for community colleges), Student Government Treasurer, the Student Government Association Service Award, member of the Future Educators of America, and a member of the Curriculum Committee. *Emily will be the Student Commencement speaker at graduation May 12.*

Emily will pursue a Bachelor's Degree and teaching certificate in Elementary Education at Illinois State University this fall, after moving in June to ISU to work in the government documents section of the library.

Congratulations from your church family, Emily, and Best Wishes on your graduation and future successes at ISU as you cheer on the Redbirds! God Bless You in your new adventures!

Zach Henson, son of Bob and Julie Merdian, will graduate with the Class of 2017 from PCHS in May. He has been involved in golf, Future Farmers of America, where he served as an officer, and a member of the Pine Creek Valley 4-H Club. After graduation, he will be working and has plans to attend either a technical college in Monroe, WI, or Sauk Valley Community College. In his free time, you'll find him fishing!

Congratulations, Zack, from your church family on your graduation! Best Wishes on your future plans! God Bless You as you consider all the opportunities that come your way!

Jenna Handel, daughter of Toby and Becky Handel is another PCHS Senior who is in the Class of 2017.

Jenna has been a football cheerleader, a member of Spanish Club, Varsity Club, Student Council and took photos for the yearbook. She has taken dance lessons at DeKalb At Whiteside Area Vocational School (WAVS), Sterling, she loved her class with CW Publications. She has been on the President's List at Sauk Valley Community College for the past two years that she has been in the digital Media Arts program at WAVC.

Her future plans focus on attending Sauk Valley Community College, then finishing her schooling at a four-year university. At this time, her major is undecided.

Congratulations from your church family, Jenna, on your honors and activities while you have been at PCHS! We send our love and prayers with you as you meet new friends and have new experiences. You are in our prayers for God's Blessings and His leading throughout your life!

(continued on page 8)

Tristan Aguilar, son of Toby (Colcord) Aguilar, has played football and was the Class President for four years. He will be attending Illinois State University (ISU) in the fall, majoring in Business.

Congratulation, Tristan, on your graduation! Your church family sends their prayers and Best Wishes as you move to Bloomington late this summer to begin your college work. We pray God's Blessings for you as you make your way into the new experiences you'll have at ISU!

Caleb Aguilar, son of Toby (Colcord) Aguilar, played football and basketball while at PCHS. He will be entering the work force after high school and will be pursuing a career in building trades.

We congratulate you, as well, Caleb, on your graduation from PCHS. Your church family recognizes your accomplishment and sends their prayers with you as you enter the building trades profession. May you feel the Lord's leading!

Justine Gorzny is the daughter of Jamie and Angie Gorzny. She has been a three-sport athlete (volleyball, basketball, and track) during her four years at PCHS. Other interests include Spanish Club, FCCLA, Student Council and National Honor Society. She has been named October Student of the Month, an Illinois State Scholar, and a member of the Academic All-Conference Team.

Justine plans to attend Augustana College this fall to study business/finance/accounting.

Congratulations from your church family, Justine, on your graduation! You have enjoyed many successes both academically and athletically. We offer our prayers and encouragement as you graduate! We pray God's Blessings on you as you begin your college years at Augustana!

Abby (Abigail) Gorzny, daughter of Jamie and Angie Gorzny, is graduating from Aplington Middle School.

~From The Loving Committee

Marla Buskohl (Chairperson), Karen Scholl, Jean Deuth, Donna Gillingham, John Deuth, Jan Bates, Jean Frey, Barb Sims

NEW ADDRESS

Rev. Kay Dillard
1413 W. Broadway
Maryville TN 37801

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.

June Newsletter Deadline is May 17

STAY IN TOUCH

Faith United Methodist Church
Pastor Karen Hundrieser

COME SEE US

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