

A Newsletter of Polo Faith United Methodist Church

Words of Faith

Loving, Growing, Serving in Faith

NOVEMBER 2017

Dear Members and Friends of Faith United Methodist Church,

Seasons change and time rolls ever forward in the cycles of life and yes, death. As I write I am keenly aware of the gnawing tension of having a loved one undergo the grueling journey known as cancer as well as the many sundry afflictions that beset us and those we know in this life. Some survive yet some are taken and there is most often no clear or explainable reason for these fates. Yet the same destiny ultimately awaits all of us.

The essence of life is fleeting as James says in the fourth chapter, ¹³ Come now, you who say, “Today or tomorrow we will go to such and such a town and spend a year there, doing business and making money.” ¹⁴ Yet you do not even know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes. ¹⁵ Instead you ought to say, “If the Lord wishes, we will live and do this or that.”

We recite in the Apostles Creed that we believe in the communion of the saints. “Saints” in the New Testament refers to baptized believers in a local congregation, such as the saints at Corinth, or Ephesus, or Colossae. Some of these believers were far from saintly in their behavior, but they were holy by virtue of their participation (*communio*) in Christ. The New Testament also recognizes “a great cloud of witnesses” made up of men and women of faith who surround us as we walk the path of faith. Each community within the Christian tradition has its own “saints” in this sense.

This coming Sunday we celebrate “All Saint’s Sunday” were we will commemorate these “saints” s well as others brought to attention by participants in the service. Maxine Kriebel, Lois Voss, John Siddens, Terry L. Colcord, Marion Ditzler, Viola “Totsie” Dykema, Kenneth Miller, Gladys Haring, Patricia Conkrite, Alice Rebuck, Ruth Snodgrass, Bernard Goeking, and Terry Naylor. We will light a candle in remembrance of each of these person as well as any others that audience members may wish to bring forward for remembrance. Many people find this service another step in remembering and healing from their loved one’s death. For all of us we have the opportunity to once again remember those that walked among us and give thanks for them and their influence upon us.

Furthermore next Sunday November 5th we will also remember Jesus Christ who said “Do this in remembrance of me” as we come together to share in the Lord’s Supper. Come and find the grace of God in this celebration of Christ. “*The Lord’s Supper* reminds us that Jesus Christ is the host and that we participate at Christ’s invitation.” Jesus invites us to take part in the special meal he ate with his disciples the night before his crucifixion, and other meals he shared in homes and on hillsides. “The term *Holy Communion* invites us to focus on the self-giving of the Holy God which makes the sacrament an occasion of grace, and on the holiness of our communion with God and one another.”

Pastor Brian LeBaron

Growing in Faith

We are committed to growing as disciples of Jesus Christ.

Some of the ways we live this out are through our personal devotion, small groups, and worship.



OCTOBER 15th LAITY SUNDAY



LAITY SUNDAY OBSERVED OCTOBER 15, 2017

It was as wonderful celebration of leadership, gifts and graces, and discipleship as many lay persons participated in the worship service Sunday, October 15.

Shawn Willis, Jan Bates, Ron Hammer, Marla Buskohl, Margie Shore, Nancy Ocken, the Choir, Ginny Snodgrass, Jean Frey, Barb Sims, Karen Scholl, Linda Colcord, Julie Bowers, Randy Hayes, Rosemary Troxel, Dorothy Kjolsing, Ron Rackow, David Ford, Mark Maginnis, Carol Brown, and all the persons in our pews who were supportive and attended that day! What a joy for so many persons to be available for service to the Lord!

An added plus for the day was Pastor Brian and Kathy back from vacation sharing stories of their trip out east and celebrating Communion with us as we were gathered as family at the Table.

IT WAS A GREAT DAY!

2017 POLO COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS CANTATA



“We're Glad You Came”

Christmas Cantata

December 10, 2017

2:00 pm

Besides the music that we generate on Sunday mornings in our sanctuary, the cantata choir that meets at 3:30 in the sanctuary is also generating music-and it is good!

There are 22 persons singing in the choir this year so far, and it will be an exciting afternoon of Christmas music, carols and original music from the writers of the cantata, Joel Lindsey and Jeff Bumgardner.

In addition to the cantata, our keyboard musicians, bell choir and cantata choir will do their best to bring the joyous celebration that is Christmas into the hearts and minds of those who attend.

Plan now to attend and invite a friend or two to share the holiday experience of the Christmas story in song. The prelude begins at 1:45. The bell choir will ring at 2:00 pm, and “We're Glad You Came” will begin right after that.

You WILL BE glad you came!

Jean Frey



POLO FAITH UMC FINANCIAL INFORMATION

September 2017 Polo Faith UMC Financial Information

Monthly Income (General Fund)	\$	11,721
Monthly Expenses Paid	\$	9,447
Balance Current Fund	\$	858



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.

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.

NOVEMBER MISSION FOCUS

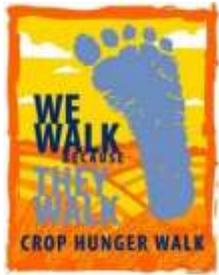
Polo Lifeline Thanksgiving Baskets is November Serving Focus

Kathy Wragg at Polo Lifeline Food Pantry has ordered 105 Thanksgiving Baskets. *Only \$16* can provide a family with a 12 pound turkey and all the trimmings. Last year, through your generosity, we were able to support this project with a donation of 40 baskets. **Impressive!!** Let's match that generous donation this year.

Faith UMC Serving Team



CROP WALK



Crop/Walk was well attended with 10 walkers from Faith United Methodist Church. The weather was beautiful- warm and sunshine!

Overall- the attendance and giving were down- from previous years. Our goal for Ogle County was 125 walkers and \$15,000.

Faith United Methodist of Polo raised over \$1300. for the event. This was down from last year.

Bev W. and myself want to thank the walkers from our church for participating and supporting the Ogle County Crop/Walk. We can make a difference!

Co-Chairs for Crop/Walk- Bev Wiemken and Margie Shore



Ginny Snodgrass, Margie Shore, Beverly Wiemken, Robin Jefford, Nancy Ocken, Carol Brown, Phil Frey, Jim Jefford, Jean Frey.

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WHEELS OF FAITH



DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO NEEDS A RIDE?
CALL 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.

PCCC CHRISTMAS BASKETS

Help Feed Polo Families



Faith UMC's contribution will be 200 cans of peaches.

We are also in charge of the collecting, packing and delivering of the baskets.

Save the dates of Dec.14, 15, 16 to work with other members of the community at Faith Discovery Church at 801 West Oregon Street, Polo.

COMBAT HUNGER



November needs for the Polo Lifeline are these:

Coffee	Cream of Chicken Soup
Tea bags	Bread
Cereal	Cheese
Spaghetti & sauce	Canned fruits
Canned tomato products	Canned chicken
Mac & cheese	Canned carrots
Ketchup	Cake mix
Any boxed potatoes	Pancake mix
Peanut butter	Deodorant, pain reliever
French Style Green Beans	Toilet Paper, wipes
	Deodorant

Monetary donations are always welcome. Thank you for supporting our local food pantry!

STRENGTHENING COMMUNITY

Mentoring Makes a Difference

The after-school study programs has been improved in several ways. We are initiating this program at Aplington Middle School to meet during the last period of Tuesday's, Wednesday's, and Thursday's at 2:15pm. The first day we had 5 students with some involved mothers. These kids were doing their homework. We need additional volunteers. Please consider meeting with these young people 1 day a week, every 2 weeks, one week a month, or whatever fits your schedule.

WE WANT ADULTS TO BECOME INVOLVED TO SHOW THESE YOUNG PEOPLE THAT WE CARE ABOUT THEIR FUTURES.

Please email Margaret Tyne at matyne511@yahoo.com or call [815.288.5351](tel:815.288.5351).

Special Membership Recognition

October 15, 2017

Faith United Methodist Women



It is a pleasure for our United Methodist Women's unit to award the Special Membership Pin this year to honor a lovely, gentle, gracious, hard-working, and dedicated Christian woman, Virginia Snodgrass.

From the time that Ginny moved to Polo, she has been an active member of Faith UMC, United Methodist Women, and a supportive helper in a variety of projects here. You'll see her at Kids' Cafe, walking the CROP Walk route, organizing workers for Second Hand Rose, attending Our Table meals, in the kitchen for funeral luncheons, babysitting her great nieces and nephew, attending United Methodist Women's meetings, and Sunday School class and worship on Sunday mornings.

She is also a member of the Staff Parish committee and is the president elect of United Methodist Women for 2018 & 2019.

She joins Robin Jefford, Marla Buskohl, and John Deuth as a recipient of the award that celebrates work with women, children and youth.

With love and God's blessings for you, Ginny, and our thanks for your gifts of service to God and His church,

Faith United Methodist Women

SECOND HAND ROSE



ADDITIONAL VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

November 14-18, 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.

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



NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

- | | | |
|---------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| 2 Arvilla Siddens | 12 Dorothy Springer | 27 Ramsie Grenoble |
| 3 Linda Colcord | 12 Sebastian Arreola | 27 Dan Hartman |
| 3 Jonathan Cross | 14 Ron Kalas | 27 Renee Livingston |
| 5 Scott Meyer | 14 Colleen Stauffer | 27 Nancy McGuire |
| 6 Matt Shore | 14 Michael Deuth | 27 Rachel Ports |
| 7 Madison Merdian | 15 Becky Handel | |
| 7 Jim Rogers | 16 Lola Jeanne Brantner | 13 Karen & Mike Scholl |
| 8 Marvin Van Oosten | 17 Justin Young | 16 Margie & Matt Shore |
| 9 Darla Turner | 19 Erin Deets | |
| 8 Sheila Montross | 20 Phil Fossler | |
| 8 Carla Wagner | 20 Roger Gassman | |
| 9 Melissa Collins | 21 Anita Ford | |
| 10 Gladys Typer | 21 Simber Bartelt | |
| 11 Emily Kenney | 22 Cassidy Terry | |
| 11 Aiden Messer | 23 Peggy Bucher | |
| 12 Brian Kenney | 23 Sarah Hird | |
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NOVEMBER WORSHIP SERVANTS

NOVEMBER UMW MEETING

Greeters:

- 11-05-17 Mark & Diana Maginnis
 Roger & Jane Palmer
- 11-12-17 Barb Sims, Ginny Snodgrass
 Matt & Margie Shore
- 11-19-17 Karla Merdian, Marilyn Sura
 Harold & Lucille Woodin
- 11-26-17 Shawn & Tiffany Willis
 John & Jean Deuth



November 16
 1:30 pm
 Scout Room

- Hostess: Donna Deets
 Program: World Thank Offering
 Presenters: Rosemary Troxel
 Devotions: Chris Printz

AD COUNCIL MINUTES OCTOBER 16, 2017

Attendees: Nancy Ocken, Laura McKean, Ron Hammer, Margie Shore, Randy Hayes, Marla Buskohl, Mark Maginnis and Marilyn Sura

Randy Hayes opened the meeting.

September 18, 2017 minutes were amended to show UMW needs more young members and then approved.

Finance: Balance current fund \$858. Ron passed out revised estimated expenses budget for 2018 for review. The amount changed slightly due to increase in apportionments and for health insurance. Ron made a motion we adopt this revised budget to take to charge conference and the motion carried.

Serving: Pennies from Heaven balance is \$585.00. \$488 rent was paid for one Polo family to avoid eviction. Polo FUMC raised \$1,335 for the Crop Walk and over \$7,600 was raised for Ogle County. October 29 is "bring a pillow to church" Sunday to help the Dixon PADS homeless shelter and October 29 there will be a 5th Sunday meal at Prairie State Apartments. November's mission focus is Thanksgiving baskets for the Polo food pantry at a cost of \$16.00 each. We'd like to raise funds for 40 baskets. December's mission focus is the Heifer Project and will go for Biogas stoves and two water buffalos.

Loving: They will have a meeting next Monday October 22. They are coordinating the Christmas baskets for the Polo Council of Churches. FUMC will need to collect 200 cans of peaches. December 13 donations will be delivered to Faith Discovery Church, Dec. 14 boxes will be packed, Dec. 15 boxes will be delivered.

The Funeral Luncheon Committee will meet on 10/18 to discuss new policies. Cookie boxes will be packed for students on 10/22.

Trustees: They are looking into a pest control service for our church building. They also will be removing two large pews in the sanctuary. A motion was made to donate or give them away. Motion carried. New LED entrance lights have been order for all entrances. They will come on at dusk and go off at dawn and will cost approximately \$300. Mark is still trying to fix the outside light by the east parking lot and the chair lift. The next meeting is Nov. 7 at 7 pm.

UMW: Last month Gene and Sue Klock gave an interesting talk about the Midwest Distribution Center. New officers are President – Ginny Snodgrass, VP – Margie Shore, Secretary – Donna Gillingham, Treasurer – Donna Deets.

The Christmas Eve service will be at 8:00 pm this year.

Meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Mark your calendar
Church Conference
for Polo Faith UMC
will be
November 26 at 11 AM



ON
NOV 4

Watch calendar, website
and bulletins for upcoming
committee meetings

November Newsletter Deadline is November 16

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 Brian LeBaron
Cell: 815.541.4207

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KEAGY TOWN AND RURAL FESTIVAL



November 4, 2017
FAITH UMC
8:30 a.m. – 2:00p.m.



Each year in November, the Keagy Town and Rural Festival is held at Faith UMC. Its purpose is to celebrate Town and Rural churches and the wonderful persons who worship in them each week. This is an event of the Northern Illinois Conference, and it offers persons the time to tell the stories about what is happening in their churches.

There are two grants that are awarded from the Town & Rural Committee. The Keagy Grant is managed by an endowment fund established by Martin Keagy. It is for churches wanting to reach out into the community with a new ministry, or to strengthen a ministry that has already begun. A Keagy grant is given in the amount of \$500 - \$3,000.

The P.A.C.K. Grants are for smaller amounts of money, from \$100 - \$500. Churches are encouraged to reach out and bless the lives of their community neighbors—to purchase water bottles to hand out at summer parades, to provide batteries for smoke alarms, or to give away hot chocolate or coffee during the holiday season. They are Planned Acts of Christian Kindness.

As these churches come together for the festival there is enthusiasm that accompanies the power point presentations. The grants are the focus of the morning's program in the sanctuary. Lunch is provided at no cost at noon. Our United Methodist Women prepare and serve the meal. There will be time for questions and answers directed to the grant-receiving churches at lunch in Fellowship Hall.

At 1:00, there are three optional workshops being offered: “Company's Coming” (hospitality readiness); “Renewing Your “Spirit;” and “Make No Assumptions!” (about what people know about you).

Registration begins at 8:30. Worship begins at 9:00 in the sanctuary.

YOU are invited to attend this event, and learn about DeKalb and Rockford District churches “doing church.” Their enthusiasm is catching, so please come! Perhaps we'll get some ideas for Faith UMC to try!!

Jean Frey



Friday October 20th after the last home football game between Polo Marco's and the Eastland Pearl City Wildcats we hosted junior and senior high students in fellowship hall for a "5th quarter" food, fun, and witness event. Marla Buskohl met with the student council to help organize and promote the event. Students wanted to enjoy board games, pizza and pop around the tables. 57 students were our guests and ate up 8 pizza's, drank 5 cases of soda. Junior high and high school students came including some football players, cheerleaders, and fans of the game. Several parents also joined in for the festivities. Pastor presented a brief welcome and gospel presentation about God's love and handed out 50 student editions of the Gospel of John provided by the Gideon Bible society. The students overwhelmingly endorsed the event and asked for us to continue into the basketball season. Coach Dan Deuth and his wife Ashley were instrumental in having the vision for the event and hosting along with Marla and her most helpful husband Tom. We will be setting some events to follow in the basketball season.

