

A Newsletter of Polo Faith United Methodist Church

Words of Faith

Loving, Growing, Serving in Faith

September 2016

Dear Friends –

Sunday, September 11th is Rally Day – the first day of Sunday School for the new school year. Our theme for Rally Day is “Come to the Water”. *(See more about Rally Day and Sunday School on the next page)*

There are times in our lives when we realize that something is missing, or lacking, or perhaps it's too much – we feel overwhelmed and over-loaded. Here are the words to a song/invitation, based on the text from the Old Testament book of Isaiah, chapter 55, called “Come to the Water” by Matt Maher. *(We will hear this song in worship on Sept. 11)*

O let all who thirst,
Let them come to the water.
And let all who have nothing,
Let them come to the Lord:
Without money, without price.
Why should you pay the price,
Except for the Lord?

O let all who seek,
Let them come to the water.
And let all who have nothing,
Let them come to the Lord:
Without money, without strife.
Why should you spend your life,
Except for the Lord.

And let all who toil,
Let them come to the water.
And let all who are weary,
Let them come to the Lord:
All who labor, without rest.
How can your soul find rest,
Except for the Lord?

And let all the poor,
Let them come to the water,
Bring the ones who are laden,
Bring them all to the Lord:
Bring the children without might
Easy the load and light,
Come to the Lord.

It is not unusual for us to hear people say at different times in life, “Is that all there is?” In fact, songs have been written about this very question. There is a good chance that you have asked this question! God offers those life-giving, hole-filling, emptying out experiences that we seek. And we experience them through relationships with other people, helping others, belonging to a community that is not afraid of the deep waters, having meaningful conversations, sharing our questions, frustrations and joys, through growth – emotional, intellectual and spiritual growth, and by being filled with that mystery that is God and the Holy Spirit - the winds of courage, change and discernment.

Come to the water – be refreshed, restored, thirst-quenched, nourished, sustained – come to the water as a place where you can say ‘I belong to this place and these people.’

Let us grow together to create that beloved community where everyone is welcome, where everyone is nurtured with life-giving love and care, where everyone can offer and receive questions, and where all of our experiences of God at work in the world are shared and celebrated.

See you Sunday! Blessings.

Pastor Karen

#kidpanda

We will now include young people from grades 4 to 7. This group is growing with our students. We have had much fun this summer and will resume our twice/month meetings on Tuesday, September 13th (after school) from 3:30 to 5:30. We will again meet the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month. Bring your friends!!!

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.

Rally Day – September 11th at 9 am.

Come to the Water! Jesus has invited us to drink, to be baptized, to live our faith. And in Sunday School we teach the stories of our heritage, we share our questions and experiences, and we are creative with our learnings!

This year we will have a one-room Sunday School (in Fellowship Hall) for all children and youth. We will share story time (led by different parents and others) and then break into age groups for activities and deeper learning.

We also offer three different adult classes at this time.

Join us at 9 am on September 11th to learn about all these classes and to see our new space for the year and to celebrate the past and the future! (Any questions, be in touch with Melissa Frey.)

From Committee on Nominations and Lay Leadership

As we are busy preparing a new slate of committees for the coming year, we wanted to share information about the committees (and teams) so you can be aware of the structure we are working with – the structure that guides our Administrative Council and that our Administrative Council, in turn, guides to fulfill the ministry of the church: *to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world through loving, serving and growing in Christ.*

The Administrative Council is made of committee chairs and team leaders and a Chair.

Committees: *persons on committees generally serve a three-year term*

The Board of Trustees functions as Christian stewards of property God has entrusted to the congregation.

This includes supervising and maintaining both the physical property of the congregation and gifts made to the congregation so that the ministries of the congregation can be effective and all legal requirements related to the property are satisfied..

The Pastor-Parish Relations Committee builds a strong positive relationship between staff and congregation so that the congregation makes disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. This committee will work with the pastor and other staff to fulfill legal and ethical responsibilities related to staff.

The Finance Committee proposes a budget; then raises, manages, and distributes the financial resources of the congregation to support and strengthen the mission and ministry of the congregation.

The Committee on Nominations and Lay Leadership identifies, develops, deploys, evaluates, and monitors Christian spiritual leadership so that the congregation carries out the ministries for transformation of the community.

Our structure also includes Planning Teams: *Team members are invited by the leader of the team and are made up of people who choose their timeframe for service. So that we have continuity in the work of each team, it is optimal when members can serve at least 2 years. Teams should not be more than 8 people. If you are interested in any of these teams, speak to the team leader.*

The Loving team is charged with strategically planning and implementing a culture of hospitality and care for members and all people. (Team leader: Marla Buskohl)

The Growing team is charged with strategically planning and implementing a culture of discipleship and study for children through adults. (Team leader: Melissa Frey)

The Serving team is charged with strategically planning and implementing a culture of mission and service for the community and world. (Team leader: Nancy Ocken)

The Worship team leads the congregation in providing opportunities for worship celebrations that focus on God, help people of all ages grow in their understanding of the Gospel, and become better equipped for daily living as faithful disciples. (Team leader: Ron Hammer)

Pastor Karen

Chair, Nominations and Lay Leadership

CHOIR REHEARSAL on WEDNESDAYS



Wednesday evenings there's music in the air in the sanctuary as the Choir begins their fall anthem for worship! If you are a singer and would like to join us, we begin at 7:00 and rehearse until 8:00. Our first Sunday to sing is Sept. 11, so now is the time to make your move on Wednesday evenings to the friendly, uplifting, inspiring Faith UMC Choir. *YOU ARE WELCOME TO SING WITH US!!* Let me know if you are coming and I'll have a folder and music ready for you!

Jean Frey (815.946.3179)



Bell Choir rehearsal
begins Wednesday September 14 at 6:00 pm

DeKALB DISTRICT UMW FALL MEETING SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2016

Please join us for the DeKalb District UMW Fall Annual Meeting on 9/24/2016 beginning at 9:00 am at the Community United Methodist Church on 73 N. Main Street, LaMoille, IL 61330 Tel: 815.638.2348

Program: "Protect Our Community, Protect our Waters, Protect our Future"

Program speakers: Janice Wamhoff (Bureau County Coroner); and a Board Member of CPASA & Dawn Conerton, Director of CPASA

Registration Fee (made payable to Community UMW): \$8.00

Days activities: pledge service, memorial service, business meeting, offering, installation of 2017 Leadership Team, communion & lunch

Mission Project: Christmas wrapping paper, ornament bows, and tape for Red Bird Mission. Please bring items to this meeting along with any unused medications. (Leave medications in containers for disposal).

For more information and directions see flyer on bulletin board by church office.

UMW



September 15

Time: 12:00 pm Potluck
Fellowship Hall

Bring a dish to share and your own table setting.
Beverage will be provided.

Program: Mission Report

Presenter: Pastor Karen

Hostess: Barb DuBois

Devotions: Jean Frey

UMW OUTING



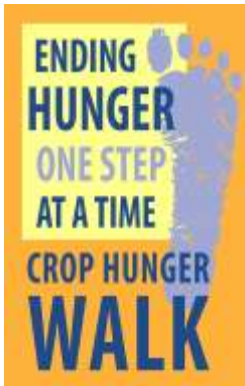
With the help of Wheels of Faith driver, Mark Maginnis, these ladies met for lunch at Maxson Manor, Oregon, for their August meeting. The weather was warm, but sitting by the river in the air-conditioned dining room was just what we needed for a good afternoon!

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

CROP WALK OCTOBER 9



Crop Walk October 9, 2016
At Brookville UM Church
Registration: 1:30 pm
Walk: 2:00 pm

We will be walking in the country this year! There will be a 5 mile as well as a 1 mile walk. They will be mapped out for you and you will get one the day of the walk.

There will be someone to bring water and quick pickup snack for you on the routes. But there also will be refreshments at the church after your walk.

We will try to get your shirt to you before the walk. This is why we need shirt sizes ASAP. Any and all walkers will get a shirt. Also the sponsors, if they choose to get one.

Let's try to make this Crop Walk the best ever. You can collect money donations or set-up an online donation site in your own name or as a group. The online website is: <https://youtu.be/YQdigmTw6Tk>. Follow the directions they give and GOOD LUCK to all walkers!

Margie Shore-Crop/Walk-Chairperson

COMBAT HUNGER



September needs for the Polo Lifeline are these:

- Canned Carrots
- Canned fruit
- Soup
- Coffee
- Canned chicken
- Cheese
- Juice

Monetary donations are always welcome, too.

Thank you !!!

STRENGTHEN COMMUNITY



Our Table
Community
Meal

5:30—7pm

What: Free home-cooked meal with dinner music.

When: The last Monday of the Month

September 26, October 31
November 30, December 28.

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.

ENRICH CHILDREN

KIDZ CAFÉ
2016



Thank you to all the individuals, businesses and organizations that donated to make the 2016 Kidz Café a success. We served over 1200 healthy meals this summer, three days a week. Our goal to foster a loving community of volunteers and donations was achieved with the help of many generous people. A big thank you to Janice Deets and Mark Maginnis for their service to this cause.

We hope to continue this worthwhile service for the families of Polo for many years to come.

PADS

Public Action to Deliver Shelter

PADS provides temporary emergency shelter for the night from 7:00 pm to 7:00 am from October 1 to April 30. It is a 4 bedroom Lee County Housing unit under the direction of the Dixon Area Church Council, There's room for 8 people and food is provided. The guests are visited by volunteers from the local churches two hours a night and provided information about the area resources. The shelter is run by volunteers, with the exception of one paid staff to spend the night in the unit. The shelter is funded by donations as it costs approximately \$8,000 dollars a year to keep it open.

Africa University Event

Africa University Missionaries Speak at Faith UMC

Larry and Jane Keis, missionaries assigned to Africa University in Zimbabwe, were hosted by the United Methodist Women Tuesday, Aug. 9 in the Library. There were 11 in attendance, with 3 of those being members of other churches in the area.

They had brought along a slide presentation which showed the campus of the university, classroom situations, graduates, family photos, and outlying areas of the farm. Larry is a Technical Advisor working with the farm manager in developing the agricultural program at the university, while Jane teaches intensive English to student from non-English speaking countries in Africa. They also had several art pieces made by the AU students for display.

There are 29 African countries represented at the university, with a total of 1200+ from all over Africa. All students must take English classes upon admittance. Courses of study include agriculture and natural resources, education, health sciences, humanities and social science, management and administration, peace leadership and governance, and theology.

Africa University is a consequence of the growth of United Methodism in Africa, and the UMC donated 1542 acres of land in the Nyagambu River valley, across the road from the Old Mutare United Methodist Church Mission Centre as the university site in 1987. The official ground breaking ceremony was held at the site in Zimbabwe in 1991. In 1992, Africa University Charter was issued by official proclamation, making the institution the first recognized university in Africa. AU is the only higher education university in Africa: it offers both bachelor's and masters' degrees. Many of their students have come to the United States to earn further degrees and return to their country to make a difference in all areas of life. There are some pastors from Africa University who are now in the U.S. serving UM churches here. 2017 marks the 25th Anniversary of Africa University.



We found the Keis to be very personable and were inspired by their witness to Christ and his work at the university. It is a pleasure to know that the Northern Illinois Conference has set aside \$15,563 for Africa University in their 2016 budget. Our apportionment dollars are at work in Africa! Thanks be to God!

Jean Frey, UMW Secretary

WE CELEBRATE WITH

September Birthdays

September Anniversaries

05 Mylo & Jackson Willis	20 Toby Handel	04 Richard & Cathryn Styczynski
07 Bev Sarber	21 Lora Ackeberg	07 Tristan & Megan Strickler
07 Donna Deets	23 Augie Forster	10 Ben & Katie Hammer
08 Paul Gillingham	23 Danette Wiggins	14 Tom & Marla Buskohl
08 Andy Bates	24 Matthew Handel	15 Erin & Cory Folk
09 Karli Fitzsimmons	25 Marla Dennis	20 Harold & Rae Diehl
09 Jake Stauffer	26 Sandra Rackow	25 Sarah & Jeff Siler
10 Jeff Frey	26 Karen Scholl	29 David & Lora Ackeberg
10 Pam Faber	26 Paul Wiemken	
11 Morgan Lawler	28 Sheri Linker	
12 Dawn M. Foster	30 Shayann (Bartelt) Lance	
14 Linda Grossnickle		
15 Carol Brown		
17 Emily Ditzler		
18 Cathryn Styczynski		
20 Jane Palmer		



We welcome Jisoo Lim to the area. She is a foreign exchange student from Korea living with the Morhardts for one year. More about Jisoo next month.

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENTS



Samuel Richard Rieber, 8 lbs., 7 oz, 19 1/2 inches born 8/ 10/16 to Ashley & Mike Rieber. (Address 664 Winding Bluff Way, Clarksville TN 37040. Samuel is Betty Miller's new grandchild.

Bristol Noelle Siler, 7 lbs., 5 oz born on 7/15/16 to Jeff & Sarah (Rackow) Siler. She was welcomed by 2 furry siblings, Abby & Bentley, and proud grandparents, Ron and Sandy Rackow.



SECOND HAND ROSE



ADDITIONAL VOLUNTEERS NEEDED for September 20-24
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

This is an urgent plea because we lost 6 workers in 2015. 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.
THANK YOU!!!

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

Ongoing Prayers:

Verla Attig
Lenora Bakener
Kay Dillard
Marian Ditzler
Totsie Dykema
Bill Ehmen
Faith Glaman
Betty Good
Gladys Haring
Avis Hayes

Harland Long
Nancy Mackey
Wallace Mackey
Kenneth Miller
Annabelle Muench
Viola Myers
Eldon Ports
Arvilla Siddens
Lois Voss
Betty White
Situation in Israel/Palestine

National and World Leaders
Military and Law Enforcement Personnel
Immigration Crisis
Our struggles to love our neighbors.



SEPTEMBER 2016 WORSHIP SERVANTS

NEW LOOK for WHEELS OF FAITH BUS

Child Care Assistants SEPT 2016

SEPTEMBER

9-04-16 Donna Deets
9-11-16 Jodi Merrell
9-18-16 Ginger Morhardt
9-25-16 Tiffany Willis

Greeters:

9-04-16 Mark & Diana Maginnis
Harold & Lucille Woodin
9-11-16 Shirley Gentry & Jan Bates
Rebecca Jacobs & Karla Merdian
9-18-16 Matt & Margie Shore
Toby & Becky Handel
9-25-16 Roger & Jane Palmer
Matt & Kate Messer

Communion Elements
Sept Donna Deets



WHEELS OF FAITH
Faith UMC, Polo, Illinois

Call: 815 677 1059

This service is free to any Polo Illinois resident who needs a ride to a local doctor, pharmacy or grocery store in Polo, Dixon, Sterling, Forreston, Mt. Morris or Oregon. Free service is sponsored by the Polo Faith United Methodist Church.

We are also available to take you to O'Hare, Midway, Rockford or the Quad Cities for a donation for gas and tolls.

Please call for availability.

RAMP NEEDS A NEW HOME

The temporary ramp from east side of church needs a new home. If anyone knows of anyone or an organization that is local that could use it, please call Mark Maginnis at 815.677.8194. He will remove it and is able to deliver it.

THANK YOU NOTES

Dear pastor Karen & Polo Faith UMC -

Thank you so much for your help with You're Not Alone Camp! We really enjoyed having your kids join our group, and we hope that it continues to grow each year! We appreciate the prayerful support of your congregation. These kids are truly the future of our churches, and I believe they are up to the challenge of becoming loving and Christ-like leaders. Their laughter, smiles, thoughtful questions, and kind hearts were a true blessing for the program. Our prayers are with your kids as they begin school soon, and we look forward to seeing them all again next summer!

Thanks Again,
Talisa & the You're Not Alone Camp Committee



Heartfelt thanks to my friends at Faith UMC for the many cards, calls, flowers and all the birthday wishes.

May God bless each and everyone of you.

Dorothy Kjolsing

THANK YOU FOR YOUR FAITHFUL GIVING OVER THE SUMMER FOR THE ELEVATOR PROJECT!!

As of Aug. 21, 2016, \$176,164 has been given for Phase 2 of our project, either in pledges or in outright giving.

Your continued gifts and prayers regarding the elevator are greatly appreciated, as we look forward to Phase 2 and the construction of the elevator.

Phil Frey



Fall Worship
begins at 10:00 am
on September 4

Sunday School begins
September 11 at 9:00 am

Mark your Calendar

Church Conference
for Polo Faith UMC
will be
October 23 at 3:00 pm

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

October Newsletter Deadline is September 19.

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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