

# A Newsletter of Polo Faith United Methodist Church

## Words of Faith

Loving, Growing, Serving in Faith

September 2017

September 2017 From the Pastor's Desk,



As we are settled in now here in Polo we continue to enjoy the hospitality and warmth of many people in the church and community. For example earlier today I had a flat tire at the church and a neighbor was driving by and stopped and helped me get back on the road.

Although preachers are most known for talking, having “Meet and Greet” events in church members homes was a great time for the preacher to listen to the hopes, celebrations and affirmations of the rich and diverse heritage and assets of our church.

Good news is for sharing, so I am listing some of the many comments we heard in our meetings about FUMC in Polo. THANK YOU for your part in being the church alive here at FUMC!

- Friendly congregation
- Strong music talent
- Compassionate
- Fun Christmas choir with community participation
- Generous givers
- Diverse congregation with many vocational and educational backgrounds
- Outreach into the community such as the Kid's Café that served over a 1000 meals this summer
- Sunday school classes for adults
- Prayer group
- Host facility for over 60 Cub/ Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts
- Host facility for Polo Preschool
- Supporting the Lifeline Food Pantry
- Multiple Choirs including a Bell Choir
- Remodeled approach and parking lot better accessibility
- Community meals hosted here – Our Table and provided at Prairie State 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday meals
- Support of the Conference through apportionment giving
- Bus Ministry with Wheels of Faith for transporting children and adults to events, doctors appt.'s and other needs

# 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.

## ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES

### BIBLE STUDY CLASS

9:00 AM in the BOY SCOUT ROOM

If you would like to join a Bible Study on Sunday mornings, plan to meet in the Scout Room (next to the Library), and dig into God's Word with your friends and a good cup of coffee!

Each Sunday, we discuss four passages—one from the Old Testament, one from the Psalms, one from Paul's letters, and, lastly, a Gospel reading from one of Gospels (Matthew, Mark Like or John). The workbook that we use has background notes for each Scripture. There are questions that are designed to clarify the passage, and you may read and study throughout the week to prepare for Sunday's discussion of the lesson.

Margie Shore and Phil Frey alternate the teaching duties, and there is room at the table for YOU! We will be glad to order a workbook for you! Please consider joining us!

### The WIRED WORD

9:00 AM in the Lounge Room on Main Floor with Teacher Randy Ocken

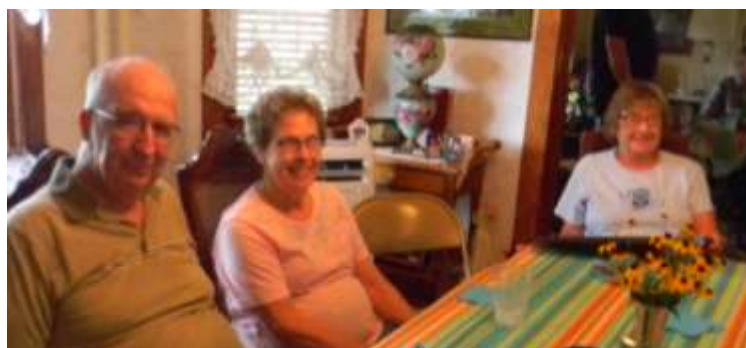
**Each weekly adult class includes relevant discussion to relate the messages contained in Scripture passages to current headlines ...**

- In the News discusses a current event to be analyzed in a biblical context each week.
- The Big Questions provide a framework for the discussion.
- Confronting the News with Scripture provides the substance of the lesson along with suggestions on how group members can apply Scripture passages covered that week to their daily lives.
- Discussion Questions help you encourage additional in-depth exploration of the topic at hand.
- Closing Prayer provides a meaningful conclusion to the week's discussion.

## MEET & GREET AT THE DEATH'S



## MEET & GREET AT THE FREY'S



### DeKalb District UMW Fall Annual Meeting



## DeKalb District UMW Fall Annual Meeting

Please join us on 9/23/2017

Registration is 8:30 am with the meeting beginning at 9:00 am  
at the Ashton United Methodist Church  
906 Richardson Avenue, Ashton IL Tel: 815.453.2328



Program speakers: Pastor Rosa Lee - Campus Minister at Northern University

Registration Fee (made payable to Ashton UMW): \$8.00 for morning snacks and noon lunch.

Days activities: pledge service, memorial service, business meeting, offering, installation of 2018 Leadership Team, communion & lunch.

Mission Project: is" Receiving blankets 28 x 28" to 32 x32"; 8" fabric scissors and 6" protractors with metric measurements. Please bring items to this meeting.

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

# SENIOR CHOIR REHEARSALS, FALL 2017

CHOIR REHEARSALS BEGIN SEPT. 6



**"Sing to the Lord a new song" we are told in the Psalms, and that is just what the choir will be doing as we begin rehearsals Wednesday, Sept. 6, at 7:00 in the sanctuary!**

We will be preparing for Sept, 24, our first Sunday to sing during worship, and be working on three weeks of anthems. Rehearsal time usually is 1 hour, but treats will follow rehearsal that night!

If you like to sing, we have a place in the choir for you! We offer good music, fellowship, songs of the faith to lift your hearts and voices to God, meaningful music ministry, and friendships that are out of this world!

Hope to see you then! Call me (946-3179) if you have any questions.

Jean Frey

## AUGUST WORSHIP PHOTOS



A big thank you to the *The String Alongs*



Explaining the history of the dulcimer to the children



*Nellie Winters*



SEPTEMBER 3, 2017 WORSHIP SERVICE

# Sermon in Magic



**SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 3RD**  
**10:00AM**  
**FAITH UNITED METHODIST CH**  
**POLO, IL 61064-1202**

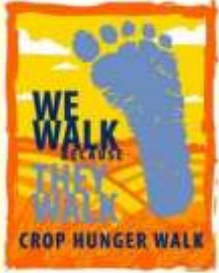
GREAT SERVICE FOR THE ENTIRE FAMILY!  
INSPIRING MESSAGE FOR CHILDREN, YOUTH AND ADULTS ALIKE  
FUN, RIVETING, SUSPENSEFUL, MEANINGFUL  
BRING A GUEST OR YOUR EXTENDED FAMILY  
YOU WILL NOT BE DISAPPOINTED!

# 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.

## SEPTEMBER MISSION FOCUS



Crop Hunger Walk October 1, 2017  
At Church of the Brethren - Mt. Morris  
Registration: 1:30 pm  
Walk:: 2:00 pm

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.

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://youtube/YQdigmTw6Tk> Follow the directions they give and GOOD LUCK to all walkers!

Margie Shore-Crop & Beverly Wiemken--Walk-Co-Chairpersons

## THANK YOU from ROCKFORD WORK CAMPS

Thank you for sharing your time and talents volunteering with Northern Illinois Food Bank on 07/20/2017. We appreciate you choosing to spend a few hours helping us feed our hungry neighbors. We hope you left with a greater understanding of not only what the food bank does, but also how you directly help neighbors at risk of hunger across 13 counties.

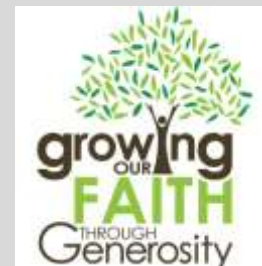


Thank you again for joining us in the fight against hunger. What you do makes a difference and we appreciate your time and support.

## POLO FAITH UMC FINANCIAL INFORMATION

July 2017 Polo Faith UMC Financial Information

Monthly Income (General Fund)	\$ 11,463.50
Monthly Expenses Paid	\$ 9,786.34
Balance Current Fund	\$ ( 213.12)



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.

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## STRENGTHEN COMMUNITY



Our Table  
Community  
Meal

5:30—7pm

What: Free home-cooked meal  
When: The last Monday of the Month

September 25, October 30, November 27

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.

## 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.*

## KIDZ CAFÉ



September needs for the Polo Lifeline are these:

Coffee	<b>Cheese</b>
Tea bags	<b>Canned fruits</b>
Cereal	<b>Canned chicken</b>
Spaghetti & sauce	Cake mix
Canned tomato Products	Toilet Paper
Mac & cheese	Deodorant
Ketchup	<b>Child's large diapers &amp; wipes</b>
Any boxed potatoes	Pain reliever
Soup	Wipes
Peanut butter	
Pork-n-beans	

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



Thank you to all the individuals, businesses and organizations that donated to make the 2017 Kidz Café a success. This summer we served 1147 hot, healthy meals, three days a week.

Our goal to foster a loving community of volunteers and donations was achieved with the help of many generous people. Thank you to Mark Maginnis for transporting children from our sites.

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

Thanks again,  
Marla Buskohl—Coordinator

## AUGUST UMW MEETING

### UNITED METHODIST WOMEN NEWS

The United Methodist Women met Thursday, Aug. 20, at the Candlelight Inn, Sterling for their annual summer Eat Out. Thirteen members and friends enjoyed good conversation and fellowship. Guests were Cathryn Styczynski, Mark and Diana Maginnis.

Jean Frey read devotions entitled "Grace" from L. B. Cowman's book, Streams in the Desert.

Marge Shore led the discussion about our next meeting Thursday, Sept. 21. We decided to have a salad luncheon, with everyone bringing their favorite salad. Drink and table service will be provided by the hostesses Donna Deets, Jan Bates and Jean Frey. We will meet in the Scout Room at 12:00 p.m. Guests are always welcome!

The program will be presented by Shirlene Lowe; Donna Deets will have devotions.

*Jean Frey*



### THANK YOU

### PULLED PORK SUPPER



**Thank you to our  
generous and dedicated volunteers!!!**



So many people helped to make this community wide fund raising supper such a huge success. Thank you to the kitchen and serving volunteers, the setup and cleanup volunteers and to the Boy Scouts. Thank you to everyone who donated time, food and/or money. Your joyful help was greatly appreciated as we served 150 people.

John Deuth reported the net proceeds were \$1,850.00.

### SECOND HAND ROSE



### ADDITIONAL VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Sept. 5-9, 2017, Oct. 10-14

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.

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

<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		

## 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	
14 Linda Grossnickle		
15 Carol Brown		
17 Emily Ditzler		
18 Cathryn Styczynski		
20 Jane Palmer		

## SEPTEMBER 2017 WORSHIP SERVANTS

## SEPTEMBER UMW MEETING

### Greeters:

- 9-03-17 Harold & Lucille Woodin  
Shawn & Tiffany Willis
- 9-10-17 Megan & Tristan Strickler  
John & Jean Death
- 9-17-17 Rebecca Jacobs, Linda Colcord  
Mike & Karen Scholl
- 9-24-17 Daniel and Ashley Death  
Ron & Julia Hammer



SEPTEMBER 21  
Salad Luncheon  
12:00 noon

- Hostesses: Donna Deets, Jan Bates & Jean Frey
- Program: Shirlene Lowe
- Location: Scout Room
- Devotions: Donna Deets

## AD COUNCIL MINUTES AUGUST 21, 2017

Attendees: Pastor Brian, Laura McKean, Marla Buskohl, Judy Norris, Margie Shore, Randy Hayes, Phil Frey, Nancy Ocken, Mark Maginnis, Marilyn Sura

Phil Frey opened the meeting and Pastor Brian led devotions. July 24, 2017 minutes were approved.

**Finance:** We are behind \$213.12 plus the \$5,000 borrowed from United Methodist Foundation. Judy reported she believes Ron Miller has satisfied his roof repayment debt. She will try to verify that. Also an Endowment fund 24 month CD matured on 8/19 (amount \$2,500). Phil explained only the interest from it could be used for education or youth activities. Faith UMC does not have written guidelines for the Endowment Fund.

**Elevator Pledges:** Pastor Brian will write a letter to the current list of people who have pledged. Laura will give him an update of the pledge list and what amounts are pledged but not yet collected.

**Serving:** Pennies balance \$973.59. \$245 was donated to Polo Lifeline. The congregation also donated \$115 to Rockford Work Camps along with \$200 collected from workers. The September Mission focus will be the CROP Walk for hunger and the October Mission focus will be the PADS homeless shelter in Dixon. Looking ahead Faith UMC will be in charge this year of the Christmas baskets. Marla will ask for background information from Karen Merlak to help us plan.

**Growing:** Pastor Brian and team are working on finding teachers for children's Sunday School and they hope to resume in October.

**Loving:** At their meeting they gave Pastor Brian an overview of the Loving Team's activities. They will be creating a funeral luncheons policy. Next meeting is September 18 at 6:00 pm

Kidz Café ended on July 31 after serving 1,147 meals at a cost of \$2.50/meal. They could use more help from other churches.

**SPRC:** Six meet and greet sessions were setup in August at member's homes to get acquainted with Pastor Brian and Kathy and were well attended. Pastor Brian will be compiling a list of observations that he heard during these informal times together. Jim Williams is doing a good job of mowing and trimming. Next SPRC meeting will be in September.

**Trustees:** No meeting this month - next one will be September 25 at 7:00 pm

**UMW:** Margie said their membership is getting older and not participating as much and would welcome new members. Pastor Brian is meeting with #kidpanda and is working on firming up a bi-monthly schedule.

The pulled Pork supper was well attended and cleared \$1,850. 150 people were served with a good attendance from the community. It helped pull together the congregation and it was suggested we could maybe do special breakfasts or dinners 2-3 times a year to do more fundraising. Pastor Brian mentioned tithing as a way to increase our income.

Other items of note: Mark and the Boy Scouts are working on a solution for storage of their items to get them out of the kitchen storage area. It was hot in the sanctuary on Sunday. Everyone agreed it is hard to please everyone. East Jordan UMC is serving breakfast and lunch on 8/26 and St. Mark's Lutheran Church is serving dinner on 8/26.

Next meeting will be September 18. Pastor Brian closed the meeting with a prayer.

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

*October Newsletter Deadline is September 18*

### STAY IN TOUCH

Faith United Methodist Church  
Pastor Brian LeBaron  
Cell: 815.541.4207

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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.