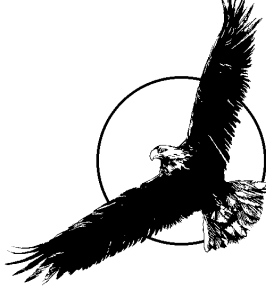


The VOICE of Faith



Speaking the truth in love
Faith Community Church
(an Evangelical Free church)

Volume 26 Number 11

NOVEMBER 2017

Let me introduce myself

by Pastor Kevin Dick



Pastor Kevin and Peggy Dick

In my first opportunity to write for "The Voice of Faith," I find it a great privilege to serve Faith Community Church as your interim pastor. Your church is my third interim pastorate while serving as a member of Interim Pastor Ministries. After a couple of busy weeks, I am getting to know the names of more people and learning more about the personality of the church as a corporate body. I have been impressed by the dedication many have shown to the church's ministries. But admittedly, this is only the beginning, and as we become better acquainted, we together want to not only maintain a strong ministry experience, but move it forward to next level of growth. My desire is not to just maintain the present ministry until the new senior pastor arrives, but to see Faith's ability to grow through this transition period.

No one can say with certainty how long it will take before a new senior pastor is called and able to begin his ministry. My role in the search process is not to select a new pastor, but to offer guidance if asked, and bring my pastoral viewpoint as to how a prospective new pastor might evaluate a new church setting. I have already joined in the Search Committee meetings. There is still much work to be completed before a candidate can be presented

to the church. So please pray for God's hand to be on each member of the committee.

In the meantime, I want to act in the role as the pastor for Faith Church. I will be preaching, visiting, counseling, and offering leadership in working with the Elders, Trustees, and Christian Education ministries. There is lay leadership in each these areas. I want to help by way of encouragement and guidance.

Faith Church exists to bring glory to God. Lifting up the attributes of God, such as His holiness, love, and sovereignty, should be part of all the activities of the church, including both the pastor and the congregation. As we do so we will worship our great God, disciple believers in their spiritual growth, and present the Gospel to those who have yet to receive Jesus Christ as personal Savior and Lord. In addition, two values that will keep us going in a proper direction will be a God-centered and Bible-saturated pathway. When we have this foundation, we will have a solid direction toward our God-intended existence.

Trust is always a key ingredient in building solid relationships, whether in marriage or friendships or with people in the church. Trust in a new pastor is also vital for the growth of a church. It must be earned over the course of time and maintained once it has been established. My desire for Faith Church is that we trust each other through all the various fluctuations that happen in the course of a transition for the church. May we serve each other with grace and humility so that God is honored during the up-coming days. Ultimately, we want to serve effectively and joyfully our Great and Awesome God in this time between permanent pastors.

Pastor's Office Schedule

| | |
|------------|------|
| Tuesdays | 10-4 |
| Wednesdays | 4-8 |
| Thursdays | 10-4 |





A big thank you to everyone who has volunteered to help with **Family Night** this year. We are off to a great start with many familiar faces but also some new children attending.

We will be packing shoe boxes for Operation Christmas Child at our annual packing party on November 15.

The donations for shoeboxes from the congregation has been wonderful. Thank you for your support. We will continue to collect clothing items, toys and money for the shipping of shoeboxes in November. Checks can be made out to Faith Community Church with a designation on your check for Operation Christmas Child or donations can be given to Jane Collins.

There will be no Family Night activities November 22 or 29.

You can follow us on our new Facebook page *Faith Church One Way Club and Bridge Group*

Our donation calendar:

November: \$9.00 donation to send one shoebox and commit to prayer.



Ladies!

You are invited to a baby shower for Heather Saylor and Eliza on Sunday, November 5, at noon in the church's Fellowship Hall. Heather is registered at Walmart.



A Thanksgiving Feast

Christ is not only a remedy for your weariness and trouble, but He will give you an abundance of the contrary - joy and delight. Those who come to Christ do not only come to a resting place after they have been wandering in a wilderness, but they come to a banqueting house where they may rest, and where they may feast. They may cease from their former troubles and toils, and they may enter upon a course of delights and spiritual joys.

~ Jonathan Edwards



“Because He lives, I can face tomorrow...” Remember this Gaither song? Does this thought permeate your daily thinking? ... and if it doesn't, can it become your theme song? Do you even want it to be? As I have said, multiple times, we live in a stressful world – it assails us on all sides! Do you forget when in the midst of what is attempting to claim your (fill in the blank) that you are made for an abundant life? How can we be engaged in our lives when so many ‘voices’ demand our attention. Is it even possible to de-stress? Can you face tomorrow... or even your next minute? Will you?

Obviously, I believe we can or I wouldn't be writing about our ‘condition’ of stress. It's difficult to remember stress-less times when everyone and everything is clamoring for attention. Referring to the song, it states: “... Because He lives, all fear is gone, Because I know He holds the future, And life is worth the living, Just because He lives!” Fear gone? He holds the future? Life worth living? Yes to all! But it will take you to turn it over. Never forget – Matthew 11:29.

Fear exists in the absence of faith. Without faith it is impossible to please God. Many of us pray – ‘I believe, I believe... help my unbelief!’ Remembering He holds the future and that He has made good plans for us (Jeremiah 29:11) has to underscore our faith... regardless of how wavering. Life IS worth living when we are in relationship with the One holding everything together. He is worth the price!

Be encouraged!

Editor's note: You can read more of Carolyn's thoughts at <http://yourthoughtsandbeliefs.blogspot.com/>



Thanksgiving

WORSHIP SERVICE

Wednesday, November 22, 7:00 p.m.

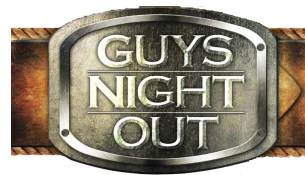


CONGRATULATIONS!

Cruz Nikayo, by the loving will of God, was born to **Justin and Anna Aspenson** on September 17. He joins his siblings at home: Chase, Livea, Carter, Christian, Sophia, Isabella, and Selah. His grandparents Daryl and Carolyn, his Uncle Brandon and Aunt Sarah, and cousins Priya, Aksel, and Halo also celebrate his arrival.

A long-awaited son, **Gavin Mathis**, was born to **Dean and Christine Goodman** on September 27 and joins his big brother Dylan at home.

Congratulations also to **Jeff Schon**, newly a grandfather of twin boys.



Saturday, November 18
5:30 - 8:30 at the church

What is it? A **Guys Night Out** is a monthly event for men who want to get together with other men and have a great time. The event will be broken up into four quarters:

1. **Eat** great food and lots of it.
2. **Play** corn hole games, card games, table games, ping pong, etc.
3. **Group:** Kingdom Agenda Lesson 5
4. **Overtime:** stay late, if you wish.

Cost: Free-will offering to help cover expenses

Sign-up: Please sign up so we can prepare enough food. You may sign up at the Information Center in the church lobby or call George Schneider to make a reservation.

Faith Evangelical Free Church

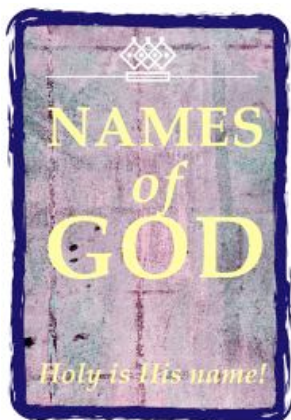
come pray eat

Women's Ministry Fellowship Breakfasts!

"For where two or three come together in my name, there am I with them." --Matthew 18:20

Ladies Brunch
Saturday, November 11
10:00 a.m.

Sign up at the Information Center.
Invite friends!



Hoseenu

The Lord our Maker

*"O come,
let us worship and bow down:
let us kneel before the Lord
our Maker."
Psalm 95:6*



by Dorothea Horsfall

Praise God from Heaven above
Praise God from Earth below
Praise God from the depths of the ocean
Praise God from the valley below
Praise God from the mountain top
Praise God from the pit of hopelessness
Praise God from the highs of joy
Praise God! Praise God! Praise God!
with all my heart and being



www.creation.com



Fall Back
Saturday,
November 4

Search Committee



report by Howard Slotman

I'd like to talk about a couple of things that the Pastoral Search Committee has been studying recently.

The first topic are some characteristics that a pastor of a church should have as the shepherd of a local flock of sheep. They are:

- Exemplary character: Titus 1:6-8
- Feed the flock with the Word of God: 2 Timothy 3:16-17 and 4:1-2.
- Desire to our church and community: John 10:10
- Sacrificially love our church: John 10:11
- Guard our flock from dangers: Acts 20:28-31
- Point our flock toward a Biblically positive vision: 1 Peter 1:3-9
- Cares for the lambs who stray: James 5:19-20

We have asked Paula to send these out on the prayer chain a couple at a time so you will get reminders to pray over these periodically over the next months.

The second topic is a vision statement for the church. We worked on this a year ago, but events intruded, and we never finished it. So we've been struggling with it again. The problem is how to be concise and expansive at the same time. How can we say enough without being wordy? So we would like to enlist your help again. Here is a list of the top 40 words/concepts that we have been using. Use them or others of your choosing to put together a statement that indicates who we are now and how God will lead us in the future. Sometimes I've listed one word instead of several similar words, such as align includes aligned, alignment, aligning, etc.

(The list is alphabetical, not in order of any priority.)

- | | |
|--------------------|------------------------|
| Align | Inspire |
| Ambassadors | Introducing |
| Authority | Joyfully |
| Bible | Kingdom |
| Cleanse | Lighthouse |
| Commit | Love |
| Control | Magnify God |
| Demonstrate | Obedience |
| Disciples | Powerful impact |
| Display | Prayer |
| Focus | Progressive revelation |
| Future generations | Relationships |
| Glorify God | Renew |
| Grace | Restore |
| Gratitude | Share |
| Guardrails | Transform |
| Guidance | Truth |
| Heal | Values |
| Heartland | Word of truth |
| Honor God | Worship |

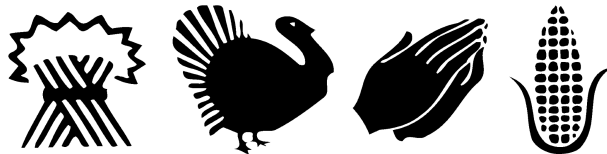
When you have a statement, please give it to one of the committee members or slide it into the Search Committee mail slot (top middle). Thank you! And keep praying for us!!



GIVE THANKS TO GOD

God gives us many blessings every day. How can we thank him?

Directions: To complete the Bible verse below, follow the code and fill in the blanks.



A=1, B=2, C=3, D=4, E=5, F=6, G=7, H=8, I=9, J=10,
K=11, L=12, M=13, N=14, O=15, P=16, Q=17, R=18,
S=19, T=20, U=21, V=22, W=23, X=24, Y=25, Z=26.

" _____ will _____
 _____ , _____ name in _____
 and _____ with
 _____"

Answer: "I will praise God's name in song and glorify him with thanksgiving." Psalm 69:30, NIV



NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

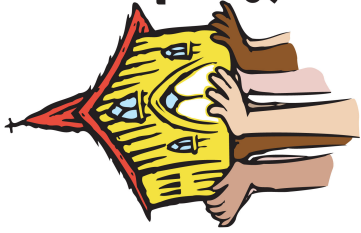
6 Sophie Hollenbeck
 27 Devynne Kruse



November 2017

Faith Community Church

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|---|--|--|--|-----------|--|
| <p>“...with thanksgiving, present your requests to God...” <i>Philippians 4:6</i></p> <p>5 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Needs Fund Communion 10:15 AM Worship Service 12:00 PM Baby Shower </p> | <p>6 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:30 PM Prayer Time 7:30 PM Elder Board meeting </p> | <p>7</p> | <p>1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bulletin Deadline 5:45 PM Meal served 5:45 PM Family Night 6:15 PM One Way Club & Bridge </p> | <p>2</p> | <p>3</p> | <p>4 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Turn Clocks Back!  </p> |
| <p>12 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10:15 AM Worship Service </p> | <p>13 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:30 PM Prayer Time </p> | <p>14 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:00 AM Fellowship Hall reserved until noon 6:30 PM Trustee Board Meeting </p> | <p>8 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bulletin Deadline 5:45 PM Meal served 5:45 PM Family Night 6:15 PM One Way Club & Bridge </p> | <p>9</p> | <p>10</p> | <p>11 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10:00 AM Ladies Brunch </p> |
| <p>19 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Newsletter Deadline 10:15 AM Worship Service </p> | <p>20 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:30 PM Prayer Time </p> | <p>21</p> | <p>22 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> NO CLUBS Bulletin Deadline 7:00 PM Thanksgiving Service </p> | <p>23 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> THANKSGIVING DAY  </p> | <p>24</p> | <p>25</p> |
| <p>26 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Food Pantry Sunday 10:15 AM Worship Service </p> | <p>27 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:30 PM Prayer Time </p> | <p>28</p> | <p>29 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bulletin Deadline NO CLUBS </p> | <p>30</p> | <p>1</p> | <p>2</p> |



Thanks
for Your
Support!

NOVEMBER VOLUNTEERS

| Date | Church Cleaning | Fellowship Time | Greeters | Ministry Highlight | Nursery | Trustee Duties | Ushers |
|------|--|-----------------------------------|------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------|--|
| 5 | Part one: Gruber Part two: Irish | Howard & Diane Slotman | Sue Mathre | None | Rachel Peak Sophie Hollenbeck | Don Hansen | John Goree Chad Gruber Jason Mathre Bob Meier |
| 12 | Part one: Meier Part two: | Chad & Shelly Gruber | Sue Mathre | Community Care Clinic | Diane Slotman Jacob Melgosa | Don Hansen | John Goree Chad Gruber Jason Mathre Bob Meier |
| 19 | Part one: Schneider Part two: Melgosa | Erv & Mary Jones | Sue Mathre | Prison | Allison Miller Emma Hollenbeck | Don Hansen | John Goree Chad Gruber Jason Mathre Bob Meier |
| 26 | Part one: Jones Part two: Mathre* | Sue Mathre & Heather Saylor | Sue Mathre | Prayer | Sandy Goree Allison Miller | Don Hansen | John Goree Chad Gruber Jason Mathre Bob Meier |



One in a Million

by Sharon Meier

Has anyone ever told you that you are “one in a million”? An inmate told me recently, “There are 7 billion people in this world, and you are the only one who comes to visit me.”

I literally didn’t know how to respond. I have been pondering this statement frequently since then...and I still don’t know how to respond to it. I keep thinking of the well-known verses in Matthew 25 where Jesus tells of the King who will have a conversation with His servants: They will ask Him, “When did we ever see you sick or in prison and visit you?” And the King will say, “I tell you the truth, when you did it to one of the least of these my brothers and sisters, you were doing it to Me!”

Can it be true that I could be the one person in the world who is representing the only One who will never abandon this person? YES! How mind-boggling! Could that be true of you? YES! Isn’t that an awesome thought!

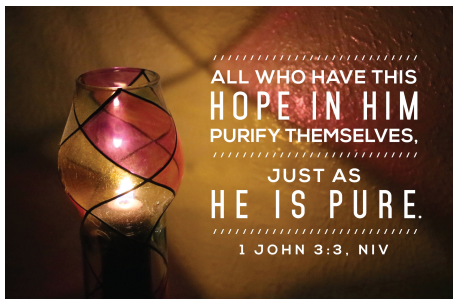
Every time I go through the prison gates, I pray, “Please empower me to represent You well today.” What unforeseen thing will happen? Where will our conversations go? What will be the need, expressed or unexpressed? How can God use me to help someone who is angry, hurting, grieving, bewildered, lonely, frustrated, confused, lost, blind, rebellious?

My dad told me, “I pray each time, ‘Lord, You know what these people need; I don’t. But please use me in some way to meet that need.’” I have since “borrowed” his prayer and find it to be so very interesting watching as the Lord answers.

I believe we need to be praying that God will allow us more and more opportunities to watch Him at work, bringing His grace, truth, peace, joy, comfort, and love to suffering individuals. Don’t we want to see it happen as we sit across a table or stand in a hallway or parking lot? Don’t we want to see it happen at the park or a concert or a restaurant? Don’t we feel time is running short? There are 7 billion people out there...surely there must be some who would love to know Jesus Christ, don’t you think? Could we, would we be a “one in 7,000,000,000” to someone this year, this month, this week, this day?

Keep up with the Wisconsin branch of Prison Fellowship by visiting the following site:

<https://www.facebook.com/PrisonFellowshipWisconsin>



What value is music?

“And his brother’s name was Jubal: he was the father of all such as handle the harp and organ.”
Genesis 4:1`

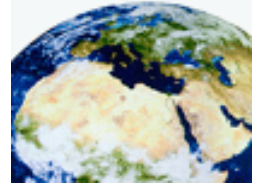
The Bible tells us that the earliest generations of human beings were making music. By the time the eighth generation of man came along, Jubal, a member of that generation was able to make his living providing musical instruments. On the evolutionary side of things, however, musical ability would seem to provide no survival advantage. Yet, the human brain devotes considerable resources to the processing of music. Our love of music is wired into our brain. Each of our sense organs is important to our enjoyment of music. And each of these organs is linked to its own part of the brain which is responsible for how we experience the music.

Parts of the brain are reserved for memory which stores the music. Other parts of the brain are dedicated to trying to understand the entire piece of music, referencing back to parts of the music stored in the memory. Even more interesting is that one need not hear music to activate the various parts of the brain devoted to music. Positron-emission tomography reveals that a person only needs to imagine music for these portions of the brain to become active. The ability to make or appreciate music offers us no apparent survival value, and therefore, according to evolutionary theory, should not have developed. Yet, our brains, and indeed, all our senses, are designed to make and appreciate music.

The obvious message here is that evolution had nothing to do with the formation of human beings. Rather, we were created by God Who loves music, and wants us to praise Him with music.

~ written by Pastor Paul Bartz
and taken from
www.creationmoments.com

Creator’s Corner



Missions Committee



Faith Community Church is looking for missions-minded, organized, responsible individuals and/or couples to reinstate our Missions Committee. This ministry involves being in touch with our supported missionaries, keeping the congregation aware of the importance of missions throughout the world, and directing a percentage of our church budget toward the support of the missionaries who represent us globally. “Each committee member must have been an active participant at Faith Community Church for at least a year and be a member of the church.”

Can you picture yourself serving the Lord this way?

Food for Thought

- ❖ Every now and then science may disagree with the Bible. Just give the scientists time, and maybe they will catch up. ~ Adrian Rogers
- ❖ Humanitarianism consists in never sacrificing a human being to a purpose. ~ Albert Schweitzer
- ❖ Gratitude is a duty which ought to be paid, but which none have a right to expect. ~ Rousseau
- ❖ I have learned to seek my happiness by limiting my desires rather than in attempting to satisfy them. ~ John Stuart Mill
- ❖ An optimist sees an opportunity in every calamity; a pessimist sees a calamity in every opportunity. ~ Anonymous
- ❖ God is most glorified when we are most satisfied in Him. ~ John Piper
- ❖ The Christian shoemaker does his duty not by putting little crosses on the shoes, but by making good shoes, because God is interested in good craftsmanship. ~ Martin Luther
- ❖ Worrying is arrogant because God knows what He's doing. ~ Barbara Cameron
- ❖ Concerned but not consumed! ~ Ron Sanders
- ❖ The greatest joy of a Christian is to give joy to Christ. ~ Charles Haddon Spurgeon
- ❖ Faith reminds us that change is always possible. ~ Jim Wallis

mission

**The mission of our church is to
glorify Christ,
proclaim the Gospel,
reach the lost,
and train and instruct
Christians in the faith
for service and daily living.**

The Voice of Faith newsletter is a publication of Faith Community Church (an Evangelical Free church). Editor is Sharon Meier. Sunday Worship is at 10:15 a.m. Website is www.faithchurchpdc.org
Visitors are very much welcome!



Faith Community Church
1110 E. Cass Street
Prairie du Chien, WI 53821

If you wish to mail this, fold it in half, tape the open sides, and place a postage stamp here.

IN



NOVEMBER 2017