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# FAITHNews

The Newsletter of Faith United Church of God

www.faithunitedcog.org

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June 2011

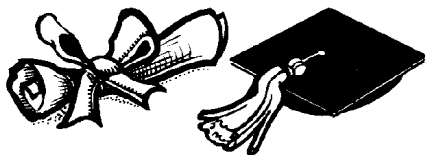
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## Congratulations 2011 Graduates

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We would like to congratulate:

**Tyler Bessinger**, who graduated from Wayland Union High School on Thursday, May 26th. Tyler's **open house** is on Sunday, May 29, 2011 from 3:00 to 6:00 PM at the Bessinger's home. Everyone is invited!



**Caleb McDaniel**, who graduated from Northview High School on Tuesday, May 24th. Caleb's **open house** is on Saturday, June 4, 2011 from 1:00 to 4:00 PM at the McDaniel's home. Everyone is invited.

**Andrew Stevens**, who graduated from Northview High School on Tuesday, May 24th. Andrew's **open house** is on Sunday, June 12, 2011 from 1:00 to 3:00 PM, and will be held in the Fellowship Hall at Faith United Church of God. Everyone is welcome to attend.

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## Children's Day Information

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**Children's Day is June 12th!** During the Children's Church and Sunday School hours we will be celebrating our children with games, a story, and a children's lunch. Plan to have your child attend and enjoy the fun!

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## Feeding America, June 14

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Please put the following dates on your calendar for 2011: June 14, July 12, August 9, September 13, October 11, November 8, and December 13. The Board of Outreach and Service has scheduled these dates for a food truck to be at Faith United. Volunteers are needed from 4:00 to 6:00 pm for the dates listed above. If you are not able to arrive at 4:00 pm, then come as soon as you can. The truck arrives at 4:30 pm and customers are here from 5:00 to 6:00 pm, or until the food is gone.

If you know of anyone that needs assistance with food, please share with them the dates and times above. A sign up sheet is available on the table in the narthex.

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## Blood Drive, June 10

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The Walker Community Donor Center sponsors blood drives on the second Friday of every month. We invite you to donate blood on Friday, June 10, from 12:00 to 6:00 PM at the City of Walker Fire Station #3 (Community Center), located at 1470 Three Mile Road. Walk-in when it is convenient for you.

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## Donuts for Dad, June 19

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In honor of Father's Day, the Board of Recreation & Fellowship will have donuts available following the morning worship service on Sunday, June 19th. Feel free to take your donuts to enjoy during Sunday School.

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## Readers Anonymous, June 20

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Faith United Ladies Readers Anonymous will be meeting at the Weltevrede's cottage Monday, June 20, 2011 at 7:00 PM. Next month's meeting will be held on Monday, July 18, 2011 at 7:00 PM at the same location. You're welcome to join us!

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## Christian Women Connection

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### Transformation Through Connection, June 25

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Join us during the North American Convention of the Church of God for a day of learning, fun and fellowship centered around the transformation that comes through connecting with each other and with God!

When: June 25, 2011 from 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Where: Madison Park Church of God, Anderson, IN

Registration: Only \$20

If you are interested in attending this event, forms are available on the bulletin board, in the upstairs hallway, or call us at 1-866-778-0804 to reserve your spot today!

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## Church Picnic, July 31

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Save the Date! The Board of Recreation & Fellowship is planning a **Church Picnic** for **Sunday, July 31** at Walker City Park. More details will be available soon!

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Our Mission Statement

*"Love God, grow together in Christ, serve others"*

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## North American Convention

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The 125th North American Convention of the Church of God will be held June 24–29 in Anderson, Indiana. We are beginning a new series on the five values of the Church of God. The theme this year is “Permeate.” We will be focusing on the Great Commandments: love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, and mind, and love your neighbor as yourself. We hope you will join us for inspiring worship, powerful preaching, a variety of insightful conferences, and unique programs over these six days. All services will be held on convention grounds, and most activities will occur within close proximity to the pedestrian mall, where you will find food vendors, places for fellowship, and the “Big Tent” for exhibits.

If you’ve never attended, this year is the perfect opportunity to start! Prepare for an unforgettable experience. Learn more about this year’s convention and register online by visiting [www.chog.org/NAC](http://www.chog.org/NAC) or calling 800-848-2464, ext. 2130.

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## The Voice of the Martyrs Regional Conference

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On Saturday, July 30, VOM will bring the "Bound With Them" Conference to Zeeland. Speakers will include:

- **Gracia Burnham**, co-author of *In the Presence of My Enemies* and *To Fly Again*. She and her late husband, Martin, were held captive in the Philippines for 376 days.
- **Bob Fu**, founder of China Aid Association (CAA). Bob works to draw international attention to the persecuted church in China.
- **Russell Stendal** is the author of *Rescue the Captors*. His work today in Colombia and surrounding countries includes radio stations, literature publishing and air drops (VOM parachute project) and support of underground churches deep in the jungles.
- **Eric and Mrs. Foley** founded **The Voice of the Martyrs Korea**, to support the work of the indigenous underground church in **North Korea**.
- **Robert Brock** has been on staff with The Voice of the Martyrs for over 15 years. He has met with and served our persecuted brothers and sisters in numerous countries.

**Conference is Saturday, July 30, 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM.**

The conference is free but registration is required. To register and receive more information, click on this link [MICHIGAN](#), [INDIANA](#), [OHIO](#) or visit [www.vommeetings.com](http://www.vommeetings.com). You can also register by e-mailing [conference@vom-usa.org](mailto:conference@vom-usa.org) your name, phone number, and the number attending.

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## Save the Date, July 15 - 22

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Mark your calendar for Warner Camp Meeting 2011. Kick-off will be on July 15th with Darren Streblov, Comedian. The Evangelist for the week will be Rev. Gary Ausbun. The Special Guest on Missionary Day will be Emily Clark. More information is posted on the bulletin board in the narthex.

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## Vacation Bible School, August 1-4

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MEGA SPORTS CAMP!! This year Vacation Bible School will have a sports theme. Bible School will run from August 1 - 4th from 6 - 8 pm at night. More information and registration details will soon be coming. Please plan to have your child (ages 5 year old—entering 6th grade next fall) attend and bring their friends and family. Hope to see you there!

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## Health News

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Because Faith United is a vital, active and growing congregation, the Health Corner articles for 2011 will focus on Faith and Fitness. Each month, you will see a different poster with ideas to make simple, positive choices that can improve your body and spirit. This month, please review “The Joy of Fitness from Morning 'til Night.” A poster with this information is available on the bulletin board in the downstairs hallway, next to elevator. Blessings to each of you.

Your Parish Nurses, Joan and Judy

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## Northwest Food Pantry

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Faith United continues to support the Northwest Food Pantry. For the month of June, we are collecting **spaghetti sauce and pasta, pizza sauce and dough. Other items needed: canned meats, cereal and juice.**

The pantry is in need of volunteers. If you are interested, please call the pantry (451-4036) and ask for Waverly. Thank you for your support of the NWFP!

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## Children's Church

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Time: 10:30 - 11:00 AM

Ages: 4 thru completion of the 2<sup>nd</sup> grade

Time for Children will be offered the first Sunday of the month in our worship service, and then each consecutive Sunday Children's Church will take place at 10:30 AM on our Lower Level. Each week the children do a craft, play a game or sing fun songs, so encourage your children to attend!

### June 2011 Children's Church Volunteers:

June 12, 2011 = Tim & Jodi Stanton

June 19, 2011 = Mary & Jean Irving

June 26, 2011 = Lisa McDaniel & Heather Bessinger

Volunteers, if you are unable to be here on the date that you are scheduled, please contact Lisa McDaniel.

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## Boy Scout News Troop #197

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If all goes as planned, Adam Hickerty and Robert Stevens should have their Eagle Project approved and be ready to start them. The next Eagle Project Review board meets May 18 and May 24th.

Scoutmaster, Michele Hickerty

A.S.M. Herm Gast

A.S.M. Josh Plummer

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## **Warner Youth Camp Information**

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We have received information from Warner Camp regarding 2011 Youth Camps. For more information, see the poster and application forms on the bulletin board in the upstairs hallway, or more information can be found at [www.warnercamp.com](http://www.warnercamp.com) or by calling 269-434-6844.

**\*Note:** If your child is interested in attending Warner Youth Camp this summer please let Pastor Steve or the Christian Education Board know. A \$50 scholarship is available for all children of Faith United attending camp this summer!

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## **Youth Events and News**

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### **Youth Group**

**7:00 - 9:00 PM - June 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd & 30th**

**Attention all Youth!** Come and join us every Thursday night, beginning June 2nd from 7:00 to 9:00 PM for Youth Group.

We will be having games, snacks and hanging out, and a discussion for the night. Meetings will be held at the church.

### **Summer Kick-Off / Youth All-Nighter**

**8:00 PM - June 10th** -What a better way to ring in three months of no school than to stay up all night and have fun! We will be meeting at the church at 8:00 PM, so plan on a full night of pizza, movies, and games! The cost will be \$5.00 per person. **Pick up time for Youth will be 10:00 AM on Saturday, June 11th.**

### **Walker Festival Fundraiser**

**8:00 AM - June 18th** - **We need all the help we can get for this!** We will be meeting at the church at 8:00 AM, and will be heading over to the festival to sell ice cream, water, and drinks to the people at the festival!

The Walker Festival will be going on from 9:00 AM to 9:00 PM on Saturday, June 18th. We will have two shifts: the lunch and dinner shifts, and both shifts will be dropped off and picked up at the church.

Food will be provided for both shifts, everyone who signs up will be assigned to one! A designated parent will be shuttling kids back from one shift and bring kids to the next shift. We need parents to help with this event, so please if you are willing to give up a Saturday, all of the profits will go to your kids!

### **Broomball at Georgetown Ice Arena**

**3:00 - 6:00 PM - June 25th** - We will be meeting at the church at 3:00 PM and going to the arena for some broomball (awesome). Cost will be determined by how many go, and we will be stopping for dinner on the way back.

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## **Parents: Adult Helpers and Drivers Needed!**

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We will need drivers and helpers throughout the summer for all of our youth events! If you are available to help with an event or transportation, please contact Cole McDaniel by email: [cole.mcdaniel@faithunitedcog.org](mailto:cole.mcdaniel@faithunitedcog.org). Thanks so much!

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## **Introduction of Constituents**

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**Mary Jonker** lives on the northwest side of Grand Rapids. She has three adult children—one daughter and two sons—and five grandchildren. She and her late husband, Jack, were married for 40 years. Mary helps a landlord clean apartments after individuals and families move out of them, and she really enjoys it! She retired from an office furniture showroom where she was a receptionist. Before that she was the manager of a Hallmark store in downtown Grand Rapids for ten years. Mary likes cooking, cleaning house, doing yard work, and babysitting her grandchildren.

**Millie Karwoski** lives here in the community of Walker. She has seven adult children—six boys and one girl—seventeen grandchildren, and nine great-grandchildren. Wow! Millie volunteers at the World Mission Thrift Store on Leonard and Garfield. She retired from serving as a Home Health Aid for twenty years. She enjoys miniature golf with her kids, walking, swimming, and family functions and activities.

**Chad and Jenny Morris and their son, Dylan** (soon to be two years old!) live in Caledonia. They also have a baby girl on the way, due July 10! And of course, there's also Teagan, their three-year-old and very energetic Golden Retriever. Chad and Jenny are both physical therapists. They met in college and began dating after their first year in PT school. Chad works for The Center for Physical Rehabilitation in Wyoming, and Jenny works for Helen Devos Children's Hospital as a pediatric physical therapist. Chad is a diehard Yankees fan, a runner, and a lover of all kinds of sports. Jenny enjoys watching sports (Tigers and Redwings) and reading. And both of them love playing with Dylan!

**We are thankful** for each of these persons and families. It is a blessing to be friends and to worship and serve together!



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## Sunday School, Youth and Adult Classes

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### CHILDREN

- **Infant** (Newborn up to 2 year olds)  
Teachers: Connie Evans and Ellie Evans
- **Toddlers** (2 - 3 year olds)  
Teachers: Erika Irving and Kim Evans
- **Pre-K & Kindergarten** (4 yrs - kindergarten)  
Teachers: Karen Stevens and Esther Hickerty  
Class meets in room #1 on the lower level
- **Primary** (1<sup>st</sup> - 2<sup>nd</sup> grade)  
Teachers: Tim & Jodi Stanton (for June)  
Class meets in room #2 on the lower level
- **Middler/Junior** (3<sup>rd</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> grade)  
Teacher: Mary Irving  
Class meets in room #3 on the lower level

### YOUTH

- **Jr. High** (6<sup>th</sup> - 7<sup>th</sup> grade)  
Teacher: Cindy Irving  
Class meets in the Fellowship Hall
- **Sr. High** (8<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> grade)  
Teachers: John Pokora  
Class meets in the Fellowship Hall

### ADULT

- **Bridges Class**  
Teachers: Lou Van Dyke, Barb Bleiler,  
and Millard Knapp  
Studying: Adult *Bridges* Curriculum  
Class meets in the Fellowship Hall
- **Elective Class I**  
Teachers: Steve McDaniel and Mark Peterson  
Studying: *The Jesus Creed* by Scot McKnight  
Class meets in the Girl Scout Building
- **Elective Class II**  
Teachers: Josh Irving and Michele Hickerty  
Studying: *A Man of Passion & Destiny: David*  
by Charles R. Swindoll  
Class meets in room #4 on the lower level
- **Elective Class III**  
Teachers: Marcia and Garrett Holleman  
Studying: *In the Eye of the Storm* by Max Lucado.  
Class meets in the sanctuary

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## Keeping Our Building Clean

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Because our facilities are designed to help us to do ministry, we're asking for everyone's assistance to keep things tidy and clean in all areas of our building. If drinks are spilled in any area of the building, it should be cleaned up very soon to avoid hard-to-remove stains on the carpet. If you can't take care of it yourself, please let someone in the church office know that it occurred so that another person can take care of it.

Thank you to each person for your support in this!  
The Board of Trustees

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## June Nursery Workers

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### Infant

5 – Mary Irving & Lydia Irving  
12 – Connie Evans & Jessie Evans  
19 – Lisa McDaniel & Rhonda Plants  
26 – Karen & Faith Pokora

### Toddler

5 – Jeni & Ethan Grayeb  
12 – Tim & Jodi Stanton  
19 – Emily Plants & Dana Pechumer  
26 – Heather Bessinger & Sue Athanon  
Please contact Brittany Lerch if you are unable to serve on your scheduled Sunday.

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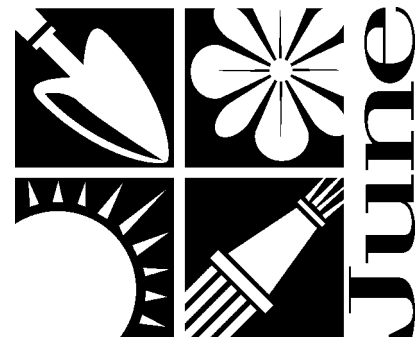
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## Newsletter Deadline

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Deadline for articles to be turned into the church office for the July 2011 edition of FAITHNews is Wednesday, June 15, 2011. Thank you!



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## Pastor Steve Away, May 24 - June 7

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Pastor Steve will be on vacation, May 24 through June 7. If you have an emergency, please contact Mark Peterson, our church chair. Thank you.

## **Faith United Church of God**

**3290 Walker Avenue NW**

**Grand Rapids, MI 49544-9431**

Phone (616) 784-5060 / Fax 784-9141

Church Website: <http://www.faithunitedcog.org>

### **Church Staff**

Pastor: Steven D. McDaniel ([sdmcdaniel@faithunitedcog.org](mailto:sdmcdaniel@faithunitedcog.org))

Office Secretary: Rhonda J. Plants ([secretary@faithunitedcog.org](mailto:secretary@faithunitedcog.org))

Kids Hope USA Director: Karen K. Pokora ([kpokora@tds.net](mailto:kpokora@tds.net))

Custodian: Karen Stevens

Small Group Coordinator: Erika Irving ([jeirv@comcast.net](mailto:jeirv@comcast.net))

### **Parish Nursing Program**

Judy Hewett Kerwin, R.N. ([judyhewett@comcast.net](mailto:judyhewett@comcast.net))

Joan Kowalczyk Lundberg, R.N. ([joanyko@juno.com](mailto:joanyko@juno.com))

### **Living Link Missionaries**

Ben & Kelli Shular (Tanzania)

Neville & Anne Tan (Singapore)

### **Sundays**

10:00 AM Celebration of Worship

11:15 AM Sunday School



FAMILY is always a driving theme here at Faith United during the month of June. We celebrate our children, our high school, college, and post-college graduates, our dads, and as is often the case, the bond of marriage. I look forward to our worship services and the opportunity to address these subjects in my sermons in the coming weeks.

June 12 will be a busy day, being both Children's and Grad Sunday. During the Children's Church and Sunday School hours, kids will hear a biblical story, play games, and have a special lunch prepared just for them. And during our worship service, we will highlight our three High School graduates, Tyler Bessinger, Caleb McDaniel, and Andrew Stevens. Everyone is invited to the Open Houses of these young men, and I hope that a great many of our Faith United community will be able to attend and celebrate with them and their families.

June 19 is also going to be a great day. We will give thanks for our dads on Father's Day, and give each of them a first shot at the donuts we'll have downstairs following our morning service. And during our morning service, we will dedicate our new baptistry and "break it in" through the ordinance of baptism as individuals follow Christ in this act of obedience and public commitment. What an exciting time for each of them and for our congregation!

And lastly, on June 26, we will think together about some of the meanings of marriage from the perspective of the Song of Songs in the Old Testament. The Song of Songs is a profound and passionate expression of physical, emotional, and romantic love between a man and a woman. This intensely written piece of wisdom literature finds its high point in chapter 8, verses 5-7, the text that we will focus on together. Join us as we listen to these verses and get a perspective of healthy marriage.

FAMILY AND RELATIONSHIPS. We will celebrate them in June!

Pastor Steve