
FAITHNews

The Newsletter of Faith United Church of God

www.faithunitedcog.org

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October 2011

Faith Promise Sunday, October 2



On Sunday, October 2, our congregation will celebrate **Faith Promise Sunday**. Our guest speaker for the day will be the Rev. Borman Roy Sohkhia from Meghalaya, India. Along with Rev. Sohkhia, we will be privileged to have with us “retired” missionaries Sidney and Jean Johnson. The Johnsons continue to travel domestically and internationally, sharing about and promoting funding for the worldwide missionary outreach of the Church of God. See [Pastor Steve’s article](#) for more information, and join us on October 2!

Senior Event: The Shack, October 9

Sunday, October 9, the Seniors will be going to The Shack in Jugville, MI for lunch following the Sunday School hour. It should be a beautiful fall ride up there and back, and we always have a great lunch and fun time of sharing together there. We'd love to have you join us. Please let Marilyn Pullen or Connie Evans know if you'd like to join the group on this outing.

Feeding America, October 11

Please put the following dates on your calendar for 2011: October 11, November 8, and December 13. The Service Board 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.

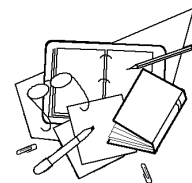


Blood Drive, October 14

The Walker Community Donor Center sponsors blood drives on the second Friday of every month. We invite you to donate blood on Friday, October 14, 2011, 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.

Readers Anonymous, October 17

Faith United Ladies Readers Anonymous will be meeting at the home of Erika Irving on Monday, October 17, 2011 at 7:00 PM. Next month's meeting will be held on Monday, November 21, 2011 at 7:00 PM at the same location. You're welcome to join us!



Jim Wallis – October 19

Jim Wallis is a bestselling author, public theologian, speaker, and international commentator on ethics and public life. He is president and CEO of Sojourners, where he is editor-in-chief of *Sojourners* magazine, whose combined print and electronic media have a readership of more than 250,000 people.

Jim Wallis will be speaking at Fountain Street Church on Wednesday, October 19 at 7:30 pm. His lecture will focus on the challenge of budgets and social responsibility. Tickets are \$15 and are available at Fountain Street Church or online at www.greatspeakersgr.org. Pastor Steve will be attending and invites you to come along.

Kids Hope USA



The Kids Hope ministry will be starting up in October and we're looking for new mentors! This is a very rewarding experience and it provides you an opportunity to change the life of a young child. If this sounds like a ministry you want to be part of, please contact Karen Pokora for additional information.

Our Mission Statement

“Love God, grow together in Christ, serve others”

5th Sunday Fellowship, October 30

Four times each year our calendar gives us an extra Sunday to worship together with a 5th Sunday in that month.

On Sunday, October 30

we will celebrate that special occurrence by gathering in the narthex immediately following the morning service for a time of refreshments and fellowship.

It's a great opportunity to get to know your friends at Faith better.

Join us in this fun event!

*There is no Sunday School on this day
so parents are encouraged to bring
their children upstairs to join in the fun!*

Christmas Musical

Information will be coming soon about the exciting Christmas Musical that we will be doing at Faith United this year. It will involve kids, youth and adults so please let Tonya Mashue know if you are interested in acting or singing in a choir. Let's all work together to make this year's production the best one ever. We will be starting practices at the beginning of October and the performance service is December 18, 2011.

Health News

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 "Walking Works Wonders." 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

Boy Scout News Troop #197

Tyler Plants has completed his Eagle Project by power washing the deck and picnic tables and sealing them with wood sealer. He also put wood chips under the trees in the front yard. He still has to get his paper work turned into Scout Headquarters, along with Robby Stevens. Gabe DeGood should have his Eagle project completed by the end of September. Adam and Drew Hickerty are waiting for their eagle project to be approved.

The Scouts had fun at Warner Camp August 19-21, and of course a trip to Sherman's Dairy had to be made.

The Scouts also have plans to go to Sleeping Bear Dunes on October 15th.

Scoutmaster, Michele Hickerty

A.S.M. Herm Gast

A.S.M. Josh Plummer

Northwest Food Pantry

From The Northwest Food Pantry - September 2011

We were able to give 70 backpacks away to families in need this year. Thank you for your donations to this project.

In October and November we will be signing up families for a Holiday Basket and Toys for Tots. We are looking for a volunteer who would be willing to head this program and supervise the sign ups. This would be every Thursday 10:00 AM to 12:30 PM. If you are interested call Sarah at 451-4036.

We are in need of some new faces as volunteers. If you would like to volunteer please call the pantry (451-4036) and ask for Waverly.

Food items needed: variety of canned meats.

Desperate need: cereal and green beans

Reminder: for the month of October, Faith United is collecting: **spaghetti sauce and pasta, pizza sauce and dough. Many other food items and non food items are needed as well.** Thank you for your continued support of the NWFP!

Newly Adopted Bylaws / Revised Governing Structure

On August 21, we voted to adopt the latest revision to our church Bylaws. This revision emphasizes ministry and attempts to align our activities more closely to our Mission/Vision statement. You can get better acquainted with the Bylaws and Governing Structure of the church by going to our church website.

<http://www.faithunitedcog.org/governingstructure.html>.

If you would like a copy of Faith United's revised bylaws, please contact the church office.

October Children's Church

Time: 10:30 - 11:00 AM

Ages: 4 thru completion of the 2nd 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!

October 2011 Children's Church Volunteers:

October 2, 2011 = No Children's Church

October 9, 2011 = Kathy & Katie Van Dyke

October 16, 2011 = Lisa McDaniel & Abbey Irving

October 23, 2011 = Velvet Lerch & Esther Hickerty

October 30, 2011 = Lisa McDaniel &
Heather Bessinger

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

Youth News

Youth Group – October 6, 13, 20, 27, 7:00 - 8:00 PM

Attention all Youth! Come and join us every Thursday night (at the church) from 7:00 to 8:00 PM for Youth Group.

Thursday night youth has gotten off to a slow start this fall, but we are very thrilled to be a part of this exciting program. We are looking forward to getting to know our youth better and to helping our youth become a group focused on friendship and missions.

Don and Tonya Mashue

Amazing Corn Maze & Hayride, October 9, 12:15-5:00PM

After lunch at church, we will go to Fruit Ridge Hayrides in Kent City. Hayrides cost \$6 and are 40 minutes long. The corn maze (you've got to see this! <http://fruitridgehayrides.com>) is 10 ACRES and also costs \$6. If you want to do the Corn Maze & Hayride, the cost is \$10 (\$2 savings). Hot dogs, \$2.50-3.50; Cider, \$1; Donuts, \$.50.

Youth Parent Meeting, October 16, 12:15 PM

Meeting in Fellowship Hall to discuss IYC, Denver, July 4-7.

Youth Pop Can Drive, October 22, 1 – 3:00 PM

Come and participate in this fund raiser and put some coin in your youth account. Your parents will love you for it!

Looking Ahead

Leaf Raking Fund Raiser & Griffins Hockey Night, November 5

Mel Trotter Ministries, "A Walk in Their Shoes," November 19

Youth Christmas Party, December 10

Pando, January 2012

State Youth Convention, May 18-20

International Youth Convention, Denver, Colorado, July 4-7

Parents: Adult Helpers and Drivers Needed!

We will need drivers and helpers for upcoming youth events! If you are available to help with an event or transportation, please contact the church office. Thanks so much!

October Nursery Workers

Infant

2 – Connie & Jessie Evans

9 – Brittany Lerch & Lisa McDaniel

16 – Tonya & Jamie Mashue

23 – Dana Pechumer & Emily Plants

30 – Rhonda Plants & Janice Ertle

Toddler

2 – Carol Cutter & Trevor Grayeb

9 – Jeni & Ethan Grayeb

16 – Erika Irving & Jodi Stanton

23 – Dave & Roxanne Eady

30 – Vicki Skutt & Katie Van Dyke

Please contact Brittany Lerch if you are unable to serve on your scheduled Sunday.

Newsletter Deadline

Deadline for articles to be turned into the church office for the November 2011 edition of FAITHNews is Saturday, October 15, 2011. Thank you!

Sunday School, Youth and Adult Classes



CHILDREN

- **Infant** (Newborn up to 2 year olds)
Teachers: Connie Evans, Ellie Evans, and Janice Ertle
- **Toddlers** (2 - 3 year olds)
Teacher: Erika Irving and Sue Athanon
- **Pre-K & Kindergarten** (4 yrs - kindergarten)
Teacher: Karen Stevens and Carol Cutter
Class meets in room #1 on the lower level
- **Primary** (1st - 2nd grade)
Teachers: Kim and Ted Evans
Class meets in room #2 on the lower level
- **Middler/Junior** (3rd - 5th grade)
Teachers: Mary Irving and Esther Hickerty
Class meets in room #3 on the lower level

YOUTH

- **Jr. High** (6th - 7th grade)
Teacher: Cindy Irving
Class meets in the Fellowship Hall
- **Sr. High** (8th - 12th grade)
Teacher: 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: *When Christ Comes* by Max Lucado
Class meets in the Sanctuary

Faith United Church of God

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

Church Staff

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

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

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

Custodian: Karen Stevens

Parish Nursing Program

Judy Hewett Kerwin, R.N. (judyhewett@comcast.net)

Joan Kowalczyk Lundberg, R.N. (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



Faith Promise Sunday, October 2, is quickly headed our way! Our theme is “**Trusting God – Touching Lives,**” and our guest speaker will be the Rev. Borman Roy Sohkhia from Meghalaya, India. Brother Sohkhia is the President of the Church of God Business Association (Ministries) in Meghalaya. He will be preaching in the morning service as well as sharing about his life and ministry during our Sunday School time. We will be combining the adult and youth classes to take advantage of this opportunity.

Faith Promise is an opportunity for us to “promise” or pledge to give dollars above and beyond our tithes and offerings to support local, state, and international ministries. It is a tremendous way for our congregation to extend our ministry beyond what we can sustain through our regular giving, which goes towards meeting our General Budget.

How will God provide these additional funds for Faith Promise? Here are three ways to consider.

- 1) Money unusually attained! A pay raise, promotion, bonus, overtime pay, a hobby, an inheritance, a gift.
- 2) Money deliberately re-aimed! Changed priorities, denying a luxury, delaying a purchase, fasting a meal.
- 3) Money surprisingly regained! Tax refund, investment return, insurance refund, repaid debt, coupons, rebates.

In our worship folders on October 2, we will have pledge cards for you to use if you feel God leading you to do so. At the conclusion of the service there will be an offering plate at the back of the Sanctuary in which you can place your card. The **ONLY** person who will see your card and the dollar amount you enter will be our Recording Secretary. Also, no one will ever contact you about your pledge to Faith Promise, whether you are able to meet your pledge or not. This is a ministry of faith that is between you and God. Following the worship service we will tally the cards and share the amount with the group that is gathered in the Fellowship Hall to listen to Rev. Sohkhia.

This is an exciting time in the life of our congregation as we hear of God’s work in another part of the world and as we respond to God’s leading here in Grand Rapids. I trust that you will make every effort to join us on Sunday, October 2, to hear our guest. I am completely confident that you will be inspired by his sermon and testimony and will count yourself fortunate to have been here. And *please be in prayer* regarding how God would have you respond to Faith Promise. Blessings!

Pastor Steve