



FAITH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Faith Press

GREENSBORO, NORTH CAROLINA

Volume 7. No. 4 November 2017 – January 2018 Newsletter

Advent 2017 – “Do You Hear What I Hear?”

Join us this December for a series based on the beautiful Christmas carol "Do You Hear What I Hear?" Written in October 1962 by Noël Regney and Gloria Shayne Baker, the song began as a plea for peace during the Cuban Missile Crisis. Because emotions were so high during that time, neither composer could perform the whole song without breaking down into tears. These timeless words and music still evoke great feeling in us today.

*Said the night wind to the little lamb,
do you see what I see
Way up in the sky, little lamb,
do you see what I see
A star, a star, dancing in the night
With a tail as big as a kite
With a tail as big as a kite*

*Said the little lamb to the shepherd boy,
do you hear what I hear
Ringing through the sky, shepherd boy,
do you hear what I hear
A song, a song, high above the trees
With a voice as big as the sea
With a voice as big as the sea*

Join us as we see, hear, know, and listen to God speaking through this Advent season.

- Dec. 3 – *Do you see what I see?* Mark 13:24-37
- Dec. 10 – *Do you hear what I hear?* - Isaiah 40:1-11, Mark 1:1-8
- Dec. 17 – *Do you know what I know?* – Choral Cantata “Breath of Heaven”
- Dec. 24 – Candlelight Communion Service at 4pm - *Listen to what I say.* – Isaiah 9:2-7, Luke 2

*Said the shepherd boy to the mighty king,
do you know what I know
In your palace warm, mighty king,
do you know what I know
A Child, a Child shivers in the cold
Let us bring Him silver and gold
Let us bring Him silver and gold*

*Said the king to the people everywhere,
listen to what I say
Pray for peace, people everywhere!
listen to what I say
The Child, the Child, sleeping in the night
He will bring us goodness and light
He will bring us goodness and light*

Turn to pages 4-7 for content regarding our 60th Anniversary celebration!!!

Joys and Concerns

November Birthdays		December Birthdays		January Birthdays	
Rebecca Elliott	1-Nov	David Battle	6-Dec	Carlos D'Agostino	1-Jan
Justin Smith	4-Nov	Gail Gardner	14-Dec	Lorraine Holman	1-Jan
Ed Mack	5-Nov	Karen Ware		Benjamin Roberts	4-Jan
Harold Henderson	6-Nov	Jackson	23-Dec	Kelly Maher	12-Jan
Sara Kearns	20-Nov			Peggy McGuire	17-Jan
Dennis Atkinson	22-Nov			Bill Hamilton	24-Jan
Sabrina Gladstone	22-Nov			Peggy Pope	25-Jan
Laura Maher	22-Nov				
Marge Mack	24-Nov	December Anniversaries			
Garth Payne	24-Nov	Ralph & Lois Bazhaw	2-Dec		
Carolyn Huffine	27-Nov				
Larry Jones	28-Nov				
Arthur D'Agostino	29-Nov				
Christopher Gladstone	29-Nov				

Did we miss your birthday or anniversary? Please let us know so that we can update our records! You can find "Member Information Forms" outside of the church office. You can also e-mail, call, or leave a note in Beverly's mailbox with any updates.

Faith Presbyterian's Prayer List

Larry Avent and Family
 Rick Barreau
 Reginald Brooks
 Priscilla Christiansen
 Bertha Collins (Ralph Bazhaw's sister)
 Vicki Duncan
 The Family of Bonnie Evans
 Kem Gomo
 Pat Greeson
 Helen Hall
 Harold Henderson and Family
 Judy Herron and Family
 Sara Kearns

Tommy Knight (Betsy Rule's cousin)
 Marge Mack
 The Family of Andy Moye
 Garth and Inky Payne
 Georgia Renfrow
 The Sharon Family
 Patricia Shoffner (René's mother)
 Bill Summerlin (René's father-in-law)
 Karen Thomas (Helen Hall's daughter)
 Michelle Watkins
 Gary Williams
 Stuart Witt (Lois Bazhaw's cousin)
 Marge Zeliff

News and Announcements

Thank you note from Greensboro Urban Ministry and Partnership Village for the produce from our mission garden.

September 18, 2017

Dear Friends at Faith Presbyterian Church,

Thank you for sharing the harvest of your garden with us here at Partnership Village. The fresh vegetables are being used and enjoyed each week by residents at home and in their nutrition and cooking classes. We appreciate the faithful deliveries by Laura and Tim (Maher), and their special interest in and care for our community.

What a blessing your sharing is!

- Gin Reid Hall, director

Also signed by residents: Lonnie Stewart, Aaron Leon Lamar, Tonya Brown, and Stephanie who writes, “never thought I would love roasted okra, so thanks for them!”

Update from Missions on Giving!

GUM Food – 108Lbs

Pennies for Hunger – \$550.

Styrofoam Recycling – 7 loads taken to DART

Samaritan’s Purse Christmas Boxes – 27

In December, we will receive the PCUSA Christmas Joy Offering. “Each year during the Advent and Christmas season, we turn our eyes to Bethlehem and celebrate the wondrous gift of Jesus Christ, our Savior. By giving to the Christmas Joy Offering, you honor this gift by providing assistance to current and retired church workers in their time of need and developing our future leaders at Presbyterian-related racial ethnic schools and colleges.” – PCUSA Special Offerings. Look for donation envelopes in the pews starting in Advent, or send in your donation today with a note designating it to the “Christmas Joy Offering.”

Congregational Meeting!

We will have a congregational meeting on January 7, 2018 after worship to elect elders and approve pastoral terms of call.

Chic Lutz Scholarship!

Application packets for the Chic Lutz Scholarship are available in the mailbox outside of the office. **Completed applications are due by April 1, 2018.**

FAITH CELEBRATES 60 YEARS!

Faith's 60th Anniversary was celebrated October 28th-29th and we'd like to extend thanks to everyone who helped make it a success – from organization, construction, cleaning, grace and prayers, to your attendance, warmth, food, great conversation, and love. Thank you, everyone!

The following is a copy of Rev. Karen Ware Jackson's remarks at the 60th Anniversary Reception held on October 28th.

Maria Harris tells us that the gospel life is living, dying, and rising.

Faith church rose here on Friendly Avenue in 1957 and since then we've done a LOT of living:

- Living into Sunday school and fish fries,
- Living into mission trips and GUM food pantry donation drives,
- Living into preaching and Bible study and worship.

But we've also done our fair share of dying. How can we not? It's a package deal. According to Jesus, "If you want to live you've got to die" (Luke 9:24).

When I arrived in 2014 many of the faithful saints who had worshipped with us, prayed for us, taught Sunday school and served on Session, and did all of the myriad vital tasks of being part of the church - they died. We lost I.E. Martin, Virginia Cornet, Rosemary Battle, Bob Phillips, Kevin Cook, and more.

It was scary and sad. We started to wonder, "Are we going to survive this?" Is this the end of Faith Presbyterian?

At one point we had a funeral Friday and one on Monday - we needed to remove the first two pews near the front door so we could get the coffins in

and out. It didn't make sense to move them back in for Sunday worship, so we had a space, and you know what God likes to do with space... fill it!

Betty Rissmiller was the elder for worship and as we chatted and planned I shared a dream, in an off-hand sort of way. "What if we could create a space for children and their families to worship, right up front. So the kids could see and be close to the action."

She said, "Okay, let's do it." And she started walking to the sanctuary.

"Not now," I said. "I mean like, in a few years, maybe we'll get there."

But who knows what will happen in a few years? And we have the space now. So we decided to try it. Just for one Sunday. See how it goes.

Well my friends, we never looked back.

Our PrayGround is still going strong and is a model for others around the nation and across the world who want to welcome kids into worship. But what's so amazing about the PrayGround isn't what it does for the kids, it's what it does for us all. Welcoming children into worship has allowed us to connect with the child-of-God-self that lives within each of us. We tell stories in worship: God's stories, our stories, the stories that are timeless as well as timely. We play and laugh and interact with each other and with God's Word.

No, the kids are not perfectly silent or perfectly still. But they are learning the rhythms of worship and they are getting better and better at being quiet during the quiet times. They are listening and learning the stories.

When Grace was 4 years old, I decided it was time for her to learn the Lord's Prayer. We sat on her bed and I began, "Our Father..." When I looked at her to repeat she immediately replied, "who art in heaven." I was shocked. "Gracie wow! Where did you learn that? At preschool?" "No," she replied, "we say it in church." She was barely 4 and after just a few months in worship she knew almost every word.

Our children are listening. They are learning to love God and God's Word and CHURCH. They are learning to love worship with us.

There are not many churches who could do this. There aren't many groups of people who would have enough courage and faith to say, "let's try something new." And especially, "well, it's hard and there are some things we need to work on, but I love being with the kids in worship."

Y'all, this church is awesome. You are amazing. And flexible. And hopeful. And Spirit-led! When we worship together - young and old, silent and speaking, still and wiggly - our worship is more dynamic. There is a strong sense of the Spirit's presence.

And the Spirit is on the move!

My second year at Faith, I started to pray for our missions, "Lord, you've given us so much growth and life in worship, now can you give us somewhere to use that life? Where can we pour out this love?"

That year for advent, we talked about Peace, and as we talked about bringing peace to our community Lois Bazhaw came up to me and said, "I've been working with a lot of refugee families, and there are some women about to have babies and they need cribs and clothes and diapers and wipes and bottles and all the things you get at a baby shower. But they don't have family here to help them. Can we be their family?"

Yes we can.

Soon we were delivering supplies to Prince and Laurette and hearing about their church in Uganda. They quickly became part of our Faith family and in May of 2016 we started a worship service in Swahili and English that is now the El-Shaddai Vision Church.

Where is Faith church now? We are Rising!

- 20% of our worshippers on Sunday mornings are children.
- We worship with folks from a wide variety of backgrounds and we celebrate one another's gifts.
- We're working with a Presbyterian initiative called 1001 New Worshipping Communities to start a new church.

We are a vibrant, growing, mission-focused, inter-generational, diverse, Spirit-led family of faith.

We don't know where we will be in another 60 years. Most of us will no longer live on this earth. (If I'm still alive I'll be nearing 100.) But that's okay. In fact, it's good news. It's Gospel: living, dying, rising. God is the one who holds all our days and as a church we are looking into the future with hope and faith.

Faith Celebrates 60 Years!

1. Attendees gather in the Fellowship Hall



2. The Revs. Frank Dew, Rob Jackson, Jim Rissmiller, and Karen Ware Jackson pose together!



3. Betsy Rule gives her presentation.



4. Harold Henderson poses with family.



5. Prophet & Grace



6. Pastor Prince Mundeke, Aristote Kibebe, and Lois Bazhaw.



7. Betty Rissmiller and Rev. John Johnson



60th Anniversary Fundraising Campaign Update - \$7400* Raised!

Thank you to everyone who has donated, we are so thankful for your support as we celebrate 60 wonderful years of Faith Presbyterian's mission, community, fellowship, and spirit. We anticipate many more amazing years to follow!

Faith Presbyterian gratefully acknowledges gifts to the 60th Anniversary Fundraising Campaign from:

Larry Avent

Ralph and Lois Bazhaw
In Memory of Their Parents:
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Bazhaw
Mr. and Mrs. Walter Berkemeyer

Frederick and Sally Beck

Carl D'Agostino
In Memory of:
Jennie Fuca D'Agostino, 1924-2012

Kelman Gomo

Lorraine Holman
In Memory of:
Roland Holman

Rob and Karen Jackson

Jo Anne Jennings
In Memory of:
Ruth and Bob Sides
Roger Jennings

Ed Mack

Jim and Betty Rissmiller

David Vaughan

Dale Walker

*this list reflects donations received and recorded as of the time of printing. Our sincere apologies are tendered if your gift is not listed due to crossing the newsletter in the mail. We are grateful for every gift and instance of support that members, friends, and family provide – our church is strong because of you!



Memorial and Honor Gifts

Please return your form by December 17th

During this Advent season, we invite you to donate to the Pastor's Discretionary Fund In Memory or In Honor of those you love. The Pastor's Discretionary Fund helps individuals and families in need in our community and often provides much needed aid for rent and other bills for people connected to our congregation. Please fill out this form and place it in the Offering Plate along with your check by Sunday, December 17th. All donations will be honored in a special Christmas Bulletin.

Your name: _____

Pastor's Discretionary Fund Gift \$ _____

In Memory of: _____

In Honor of: _____

Please make all checks payable to Faith Presbyterian Church and designate Pastor's Discretionary Fund on the memo line.

Memorial and Honor Gift forms will also be available at Faith for your convenience.

*From the Music Director,
René Summerlin*



Autumn is one of my favorite seasons in North Carolina. We are fortunate to live in a state with such natural beauty from the mountains to the sea and all the piedmont in between! Another reason I look forward to the Fall is because it is a time to celebrate the “seasons of the heart.” On *All Saints Day*, we remember friends and family members that have passed on before us. In late November, we give thanks for our bounty. As December approaches, we prepare our hearts for the Advent of Christ.

Our church family is extremely blessed to have such faithful and dedicated choir members. Week after week, they gather to make music and enjoy fellowship with each other. We hope our music speaks to *your* heart as we celebrate and recognize the important seasons of the church.

Thank you for taking a moment to speak to me or a member of the choir after the services on any given Sunday. We really enjoy hearing your comments and especially, your compliments, when you have been touched by a particular piece of music or song. I am thankful for this church community and for every opportunity to share my love of music with you all!

René Summerlin,

Music Director

r.s.summerlin@bellsouth.net 336-706-0135 mobile 336-685-4508 home



December 2017 Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>
Notes: 1. Memorial & Honor gift forms due by Dec. 17 th 2. There will not be a morning worship service on Dec. 24 th					8:00 pm – Narcotics Anonymous	10 am- El-Shaddai Choir and Prayer
<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>9</i>
9:30am – Sunday School 11:00am –Worship and Communion 3 pm – El Shaddai’s Swahili-English Service			6:30 p.m. – English Choir practice	7 p.m. – Men’s Bible Study 8:00 pm – Narcotics Anonymous	8:00 pm – Narcotics Anonymous	10 am- El-Shaddai Choir and Prayer
<i>10</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>13</i>	<i>14</i>	<i>15</i>	<i>16</i>
9:30am – Sunday School 11:00am –Worship 3 pm – El Shaddai’s Swahili-English Service 4 pm - Session		11 am – Women’s Circle	6:30 p.m. – English Choir practice	7 p.m. – Men’s Bible Study 8:00 pm – Narcotics Anonymous	8:00 pm – Narcotics Anonymous	10 am- El-Shaddai Choir and Prayer
<i>17</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>19</i>	<i>20</i>	<i>21</i>	<i>22</i>	<i>23</i>
9:30 am – Sunday School 11:00 am – Worship 3 p.m. – El Shaddai’s Swahili-English Service			6:30 p.m. – English Choir practice	7 p.m. – Men’s Bible Study 8:00 pm – Narcotics Anonymous	8:00 pm – Narcotics Anonymous	10 am- El-Shaddai Choir and Prayer
<i>24</i>	<i>25</i>	<i>26</i>	<i>27</i>	<i>28</i>	<i>29</i>	<i>30</i>
3 p.m. – El Shaddai’s Swahili-English Service 4pm – Christmas Eve Service			6:30 p.m. – English Choir practice	7 p.m. – Men’s Bible Study 8:00 pm – Narcotics Anonymous		10 am- El-Shaddai Choir and Prayer
<i>31</i>						
9:30am – Sunday School 11:00 am –Worship 3 p.m. – El Shaddai’s Swahili-English Service						

January 2018 Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>6</i>
			6:30 p.m. – English Choir practice	7 p.m. – Men’s Bible Study 8:00 pm – Narcotics Anonymous	8:00 pm – Narcotics Anonymous	10 am - El- Shaddai’s Choir and Prayer
<i>7</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>13</i>
9:30 – Sunday School 11:00 –Worship, Communion 12:00 p.m. – Congregational Meeting 3 p.m. – El Shaddai’s Swahili-English Service		11:00 a.m.- Women’s Circle	6:30 p.m. – English Choir practice	7 p.m. – Men’s Bible Study 8:00 pm – Narcotics Anonymous	8:00 pm – Narcotics Anonymous	10 am- El-Shaddai’s Choir and Prayer
<i>14</i>	<i>15</i>	<i>16</i>	<i>17</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>19</i>	<i>20</i>
9:30 – Sunday School 11:00 –Worship 3 p.m. – El Shaddai’s Swahili-English Service 4 pm - Session			6:30 p.m. – English Choir practice	7 p.m. – Men’s Bible Study 8:00 pm – Narcotics Anonymous	8:00 pm – Narcotics Anonymous	10 am- El-Shaddai’s Choir and Prayer
<i>21</i>	<i>22</i>	<i>23</i>	<i>24</i>	<i>25</i>	<i>26</i>	<i>27</i>
9:30 – Sunday School 11:00 –Worship 3 p.m. – El Shaddai’s Swahili-English Service			6:30 p.m. – English Choir practice	7 p.m. – Men’s Bible Study 8:00 pm – Narcotics Anonymous	8:00 pm – Narcotics Anonymous	10 am- El-Shaddai’s Choir and Prayer
<i>28</i>	<i>29</i>	<i>30</i>	<i>31</i>			
9:30 – Sunday School 11:00 –Worship, Pen- nies for Hunger 12:00 p.m. –Fellowship Brunch 3 p.m. – El Shaddai’s Service						

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We are a loving faith family,
worshipping and serving God,
and testifying in word and deed
as disciples of Jesus Christ.