

I can do
all things
through
CHRIST
who strengthens me.
Philippians 4:13

Voices of Faith

May 2018



"Many hands make light work!"

Join us **Saturday, May 5th** from 9:30-2pm as we give Faith a Spring Cleaning. We are looking for 2-4 "Champions" to direct cleaning of different rooms/areas inside. They will have a complete list of hopeful tasks to complete. They will each need at least 1-3 "Helpers". We also need 2-5 "Champions" to direct yard work of different "zones" outside. They will also need at least 1-3 "Helpers" for each area. We also have a list of yard tools/supplies needed.

The amount of work we can accomplish is dependent on how many members are available to help. Youth/friends are welcome. The date is earlier than we'd prefer due to other events scheduled previously. With the recent storm, we hope that the outside will be ready for our efforts. We're sure we can tackle the inside tasks and hopefully at least some of the outside tasks. Let's see how much we can get done to make our property warm and welcoming!! There is a sign up list in the hallway or contact Jodee at (414) 412-4996 or jodee.plazek@gmail.com with questions or to help.

Sunday, May 13th is going to be a busy day! Our youth will be taking charge of worship and presenting:

"The Original Top 10!"

Teacher Appreciation- "Teachers Should Be Committed"

and

Mother's Day- "A MOM-umental Effort" :)



Pentecost Celebration!

Faith will celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit (and the official birth of the Christian Church) on **Sunday, May 20th**. The official color of the day is **RED**, so wear as much RED as you've got! We'll also have a special RED potluck luncheon. Look for sign-ups soon and bring your RED food to share. We'll also be welcoming new members to the Faith community, and have a special update on our Holy Cow report. So much life to celebrate! Come, Holy Spirit, Come!





Did you know? You're welcome to attend Presbytery gatherings! You won't be able to vote during the business meeting, but you are welcome to attend workshops, dinner, and worship. The next Presbytery gathering will be held on Tuesday, May 22 at Crossroads (6031 W Chapel Hill Rd, Mequon). The schedule for the gathering is below. Please RSVP online at: <https://www.pbymilwaukee.org/> or call the Presbytery office at: 414-292-2740

The schedule:

3 pm - Pre-Presbytery Gathering-"Yours are the Hands of Christ"- learn about opportunities to serve, tailored to your availability and skills. This presentation will be given by Jim Kirk, Associate for Disaster Response (US) for Presbyterian Disaster Assistance.

3:15 pm - First time orientation

4 pm - Business meeting

5 pm - Workshops (see below)

6 pm - Dinner

6:15- Joint Choir Rehearsal for Shelter worship service

7 pm - Worship by Heritage Presbyterian Church

- Resilience Training For Caregivers
- Stephen Ministry / Caring for the Congregation in Times of Crisis
- A Culture of Generosity
- Reconnecting with our Communities
- What does it mean to be a Church Members?
- "When did we see you in prison?" Ministry to and on behalf of the Incarcerated

Good News from Heritage Presbyterian Church!

As you might recall, Heritage Presbyterian Church (one of our Fab 4 sister congregations), visited Faith in February with a worshipful mission project dedicated to helping The Ezekiel Project in Milwaukee. Connie Fellows recently wrote to us with some great news! From Connie- "I am happy to say that between our Tudor Oaks, Faith Presbyterian, and Faith Springs donations, we have raised over \$2,600! Our anonymous donor is matching this for over \$5,300! We are so excited to be able to provide basic tool kits, Apprentice Tool Kits, and Welcome Home baskets to first time homebuyers! These will be donated to Ezekiel Development Corporation for use as they train unemployed workers in the trades giving them the ability to earn family-sustaining wages."

Heritage will be offering their Shelter Worship Service at the May 22nd Presbytery Gathering and invite you to come and to even sing along! Let's continue to support Heritage in their amazing work!





... via the desk of Brandon Ward, who penned the following devotional for last month's Session meeting. It was too wonderful not to share. Thank you so much, Brandon!

Genesis 2:1-3

2 Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all their multitude. 2 And on the seventh day God finished the work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all the work that he had done. 3 So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation.

This past Sunday, I sat typing this devotional as a snowstorm blew outside my window. It was a relaxing day – my errands for the weekend had already been completed – and church service had been cancelled for the first time in years due to the weather. I was a little melancholy, as I look forward to worshipping our Lord on Sundays with friends and family. Then I started to think about the events from the prior week that led up to this day.

Immediately after worship on April 8th which was led by Jan Litscher, many members of the congregation were able to quickly transform the sanctuary into a show room for our upcoming spring rummage sale. Members worked together to complete the heavy lifting involved and I was amazed at how fast the transformation occurred. Immediately following this, I led a meeting of the Mission & Outreach Committee with 10 members present. Much was discussed and plans were made for the following month.

I stopped back at the church on Monday to take the garbage to the road and saw a group of members, led by Ellie Birch, organizing items for the rummage sale. It didn't seem like a lot and I'll admit I was a bit nervous about how the event would turn out. (Ellie would admit to me later on that she was nervous as well.)

Well, Judy Behnke, Marilyn Schiesser, Phyllis Losey and Marlene from Harbour Village spent much of the week preparing their jewelry sale, members continued bringing in donations and our Deacons spent time preparing for and staffing their bake sale. On Thursday night I stopped by the church to pick up all of the empty pill bottles and other medical supplies to deliver to the Bread of Healing Clinic the following morning. I was amazed at how many items there were for the rummage sale. Everyone involved worked very hard for the two-day event and the results were great. Many hands came for the cleanup on Saturday and the church was completely reset an hour after the sale officially ended.

If this sounds a bit exhausting to you – it was. We hold two rummage sales each year and I know that by the time each sale is over all involved are in need of some rest. Why do we hold rummage sales? To help financially support our church and provide some community outreach. This sounds to me like the work of God. We were blessed that, although the weather on Friday and Saturday wasn't warm and sunny, it was nice enough for members of the community to come and support the rummage sale.

While we weren't able to worship God together this past Sunday, we had been doing worship all week long. Our church does a great job at worshipping "between the Sundays." We can list all of the activities we do in the name of Faith each week – but that list gets pretty long. Yes, it's important to keep holy the Sabbath day, but having an opportunity to rest this past Sunday may have been a gift to those who needed it. Heck, even God rested on the seventh day.

Let us pray, Lord thank you for providing us with a variety of ways of worshipping you. Let our time here together tonight be yet another way of worshipping between the Sundays. May the work we do, the decisions we make, and the outcome of those decisions be pleasing to You. In the name of our Lord the creator, redeemer and sustainer.

Amen

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FAITH IN ACTION! Our next Faith in Action Sunday will begin at 9am on Sunday June 3rd with worship continuing through our work. A Cousin's fundraiser lunch will follow!