

FAITHNews

The Newsletter of Faith United Church of God

www.faithunitedcog.org

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March 2018

Kids Hope USA



Kids Hope has continued to progress, despite an especially rough winter and even rougher cold and flu season this year:

- Thanks to your generous donations, the “Warm Hands, Warm Hearts” has been a tremendous success by providing warm gloves and outerwear to many of the students at Alpine Elementary.
- Faith United also helped to close the gap on outstanding lunch costs that provide warm meals to so many of these children.
- And, of course, our faithful mentors have continued to build lasting relationships with students who can most benefit from a consistent, caring adult.

On every level, you demonstrate what can be accomplished when God’s people work together in His name. You have truly been “one in spirit and purpose.”

Judy Kerwin, Kids Hope Director

Children’s Church



Time: 10:30 - 11:00 AM

Ages: 4 thru completion of the 3rd grade

Children's Church will be offered at 10:30 AM on our Lower Level on the 2nd, 3rd and 4th Sundays of each month. Each week we will be doing hands-on worship where kids encounter God, so we always encourage your children to attend!

Children's Church Volunteers:

March 4 = No Children's Church

March 11 = Heather Bessinger & Carol Cutter

March 18 = Tim & Jodi Stanton

March 25 = Lisa McDaniel & Velvet Lerch

Volunteers, if you are unable to be here on the date that you are scheduled, please contact Carol Cutter or Wendy Shick.

Youth News!

Join us for
Wednesday Night



6:00 - 8:00 PM

Wednesday Evenings
(Grades: 6th - 12th)*

***Come and bring your friends!**

(Youth Schedule is available in narthex)

March 7 – Rosa Parks Ice Skating

March 14 – “The Talk”

March 21 – “Sledding”

March 28 – “Who Is Jesus to You?”

Questions? Please contact Daniel at (616) 914-5460, or danielprzybylski@students.kuyper.edu.

Faith United Church of God

“Love God, Grow together in Christ, Serve others”



Small Group Opportunity

Our groups will meet through the week of March 18 and go through Pastor Rick Warren’s new study called “40 Days of Prayer.” The experience is designed to help us pray with greater confidence and faith.

There’s still room for you, so contact Pastor Steve if you’re interested. Some of our best experiences of friendship and growth have come out of small groups!

Our Mission Statement

“Love God, Grow together in Christ, Serve others”

Youth Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser, March 4

Faith United's Youth Group invites you to a Spaghetti Dinner (Fundraiser) on **Sunday, March 4, 2018 at 11:15 am**. The menu includes: spaghetti with traditional meat sauce or Alfredo sauce, a tossed salad and garlic bread.

Lemonade, coffee, iced tea and water will be available for drinks.

Cost: \$5 per person with a \$20 maximum for families.

Additional donations would be greatly appreciated!! Any extra received will help off-set the costs of future youth events.

Thank you for your support of Faith United's Youth Ministry!



Men's & Women's Fellowship, March 5

It's that time again for the Men's and Women's Fellowship. It will be held on Monday, March 5, 2018 at Logan's Roadhouse on Alpine Avenue in Walker at 6:00 PM. Please RSVP to Herm or Sherry Gast. We hope to see you there!

360 Leadership Conference, March 10

"The Abundant Life" is the theme for this year's 360 Leadership Conference being held in Lansing. "360" represents 360 minutes or six hours, with the conference being from 9 am to 3 pm on March 10.

360 is offered by the Church of God in Michigan to help us grow in ministry skills. 30 sessions are planned from which each attendee will pick three. Go to this link to learn more. <https://micog.org/360lc.html>.

Faith United will pay for the lunch and registration fee of anyone attending from our congregation, so take advantage of this great opportunity. Several of us will carpool.

Pre-registration is due by Thursday, March 1, so be in touch with Amy Blauw, Discipleship Board Chair, or Pastor Steve, if you would like to attend.

Daylight Saving Time Begins, March 11

Remember to move your clocks ahead one hour on Sunday, March 11, as Daylight Savings Time begins!



Men's Retreat, March 16-18

Join us for the chance to get together, have a blast, eat very well, and maybe even learn something! Doors open at Noon on Friday with a March Madness viewing lounge (food provided). Lots of activities are being planned to keep a variety of interest levels moving and refreshed.

Cost: \$65 Friday-Saturday (one night)

\$80 Friday-Sunday (two nights)

Advance Pricing Deadline: March 4

Location: Lincoln Lake Camp, Gowen, MI

See poster and schedule on the hallway bulletin board.

Readers Anonymous, March 19



The women's Book Group meets the 3rd Monday of each month from **6:00 to 8:00 PM** at Erika Irving's for good reads and great conversation! Won't you join us?

The next meeting is **Monday, April 16**.

Health Corner

Since March is National Nutrition Month, I encourage you to do two things:

1. Take a look at the "Choose My Plate" poster on the Health Corner Board in the stairwell for good eating reminders, and,
2. Be sure to make a donation to the Northwest Food Pantry to help those less fortunate in our community.

That way, you can ensure good choices are being made both internally and externally!

And, as always, we wish good health to all!"

Your Parish Nurse, Judy

Northwest Food Pantry

We continue to collect items for the Northwest Food Pantry. For the month of March, Faith United is collecting **vegetables and fruit**. **Many other food items and non food items are also needed.** Thank you for your continued support.

Holy Week Services



Palm Sunday, March 25, 10 am – our children will welcome us to Holy Week through the waving of palm branches at the beginning of our service.

Maundy Thursday, March 29, 6:30 pm. Join us in the Fellowship Hall for worship that includes communion and foot washing.

Easter Sunday, April 1

- Easter Breakfast, 9-9:45 am in the Fellowship Hall
- Morning Service, 10 am in the Sanctuary

Nursery Coordinator and Workers Needed!

We are in need of a Nursery Coordinator and more nursery workers! If you are able to lend a helping hand, please contact Rhonda Plants or Amy Blauw. They would love to get you involved!



Thank you!

Members of Faith United,
Thank you for your cards, visits, prayers, and the plant. The roses on the plant are beautiful. I am doing better since I had surgery on my foot. Hope to be back in church soon.

Love, Beth DeKam

Cochren & Co. – April 21 & 22

April 21 – The group, Cochren & Co., will be in concert at Sunset Park Church of God at 7 pm.

Sunset Park Church of God
3450 Michael SW
Wyoming, MI 49509
616-532-3005

April 22 – Cochren & Co. will be in concert and leading worship here at **Faith United** on Sunday morning, April 22 at 10 am. This is a great opportunity to bring guests!

Bio



Michael Cochren is a twenty-four year old singer/songwriter and worship leader from southern Indiana. His music tells stories of hope, grace, and second chances. A large variety of artists such as Billy Joel, Needtobreathe, and Ray Charles have impacted his American piano rock-n-blues pop sound.

In the summer of 2011, Michael began writing and touring both solo and with a band of his musician friends. With the release of his first EP, and the help of some regional radio play in southern Indiana, Michael found himself performing across the Midwest; further developing his piano-driven soul sound. In 2014, Michael Cochren began touring with his band under the name Cochren & Company (stylized Cochren & Co.).

Michael and his band Cochren & Company have released 2 EPs and have opened for artists such as Newsboys, Crowder, Jeremy Camp, Tenth Avenue North, Sidewalk Prophets, City Harmonic, Chris August, NF, We Are Messengers and more. Current group members are: Michael Cochren, his beautiful wife Leah Cochren, Tanner Brooks, Jake Headley and Michael Mathis. Cochren & Co. is currently working on new music to be released in 2018.

<https://michaelcochren.com/>

Join us for these great worship experiences!

Children, Youth and Adult Classes



CHILDREN

- **Infant** (Newborn up to 2 year olds)
Teachers: Mary Irving and Jean Estebez
Substitute: Connie Evans
- **Toddlers** (2 - 3 year olds)
Teachers: Erika Irving and Velvet Lerch
- **Pre-K - 3rd Grade** (4 years - 3rd grade)
Teachers: Carol Cutter and Heather Bessinger
Class meets in room #2 on the lower level

YOUTH

- **Ted's Tweens** (4th - 7th grades)
Teacher: Ted Evans
Sub: Tonya Mashue
Class meets in room #3 on the lower level
- **Youth Class** (8th - 12th grades)
Teacher: Daniel Przybylski
Sub: Tonya Mashue
Class meets in room #4 on the lower level

ADULT

- **Foundations Class**
Teachers: Ryan and Becki Simpson,
Steve Shick and Steve McDaniel
Studying: *The Gratitude Diaries*
by Janice Kaplan
Class meets in the Narthex
- **Adult Pulpit Class**
Teachers: Marcia and Garrett Holleman
Sub: Janice Ertle
Studying: "*Old Testament Characters*"
By Peter Scazzero
Class meets on the Sanctuary Platform
- **Bridges Class**
Teachers: Lou Van Dyke and Millard Knapp
Studying: Adult *Bridges* Curriculum
Class meets in the west end of the Fellowship Hall
- **Elective Class I**
Teachers: Mark Peterson & Judy Kerwin
Studying: *Lies We Believe About God*
by William Paul Young
Class is meeting in the center of the Fellowship Hall
- **Elective Class II**
Teachers: Michele Paulin and Esther Hickerty
Studying: *NIV Standard Lesson Commentary*
2017-2018, edited by Ronald L. Nickelson
Class meets in the east end of the Fellowship Hall

March Nursery Volunteers



Infant

- 4 – Carol Cutter & Patti Cutter
- 11 – Becki Simpson & Karen Stevens
- 18 – Janice Ertle & Judy Kerwin
- 25 – Heather Bessinger & Amy Blauw

Toddler

- 4 – Connie Evans & Jolie Stanton
- 11 – Chad & Jenny Morris
- 18 – Erika Irving
- 28 – Tonya Mashue

Please contact Rhonda Plants if you are unable to serve on your scheduled Sunday.

Cancellation Guidelines

The winter months are upon us and there may be times when we have to cancel services or meetings due to weather conditions. In case of severe weather, please do the following:

- Call the church office. Our voicemail system will tell you if we are canceling.
- You may also tune to TV channels 8 & 13. We will attempt to have cancellation information available on their news bulletins.
- We will also attempt to communicate via our website and Facebook page.



Newsletter Deadline

Deadline for articles to be turned into the church office for the April 2018 edition of FAITH/News is Tuesday, March 13, 2018. 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: Steve McDaniel (sdmcdaniel@faithunitedcog.org)

Youth Director: Daniel Przybylski (danielprzybylski@students.kuyper.edu)

Administrative Assistant: Rhonda Plants (secretary@faithunitedcog.org)

Church Custodian: Karen Stevens

Kids Hope USA Director: Judy Hewett Kerwin (judyhewett@comcast.net)

Parish Nursing Program

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

Living Link Missionaries

Alfonso & Elizabeth Ayala (Belize)

Daniel & Christy Kihm (Netherlands)

Sundays

10:00 AM Celebration of Worship

11:15 AM Sunday School

Small Groups (through March 18)

Wednesdays

6:00 PM Wednesday Night Youth

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Follow us on Facebook!

