

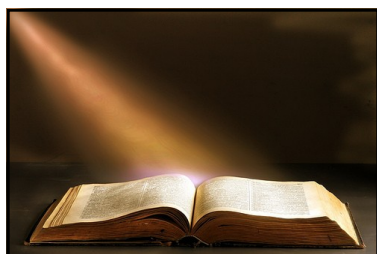


# FAITH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

**JANUARY  
2020**

**" When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze."**

**Isaiah 43 : 2**



*Opening the Book*

**SUNDAY**

**Fellowship**

10:30 am

Join us for coffee and refreshments in the Fellowship Hall

**WORSHIP**

**SERVICE**

**11:00 am**

Christian writer Kathleen Norris tells "the scariest story I know about the bible," in her book, *Amazing Grace: A Vocabulary of Faith*. Norris recalls a conversation she and her husband once had in a local steak house with one of their South Dakota neighbors, a grandson of "dirt-poor immigrants" who now owned several thousand acres and bought new cars for his family every year; a man who had now begun treatment for a probably terminal cancer. That night this man of few words who usually spoke about business when he did speak, began telling about receiving a wedding gift, many years before, from his devout grandfather. Norris says:

His wedding present to Arlo and his bride had been a bible, which he admitted he admired mostly because it was an expensive gift, bound in white leather, with their names and the date of their wedding set in gold lettering on the cover. *"I left it in its box and it ended up in our bedroom closet,"* Arlo told us. *"But,"* he said, *"for months afterward, every time we saw grandpa he would ask me how I liked that bible. The wife had written him a thank you note, and we'd thanked him in person, but somehow he couldn't let it lie, he'd always keep asking about it."* Finally, Arlo grew curious as to why the old man kept after him.

*"Well," he said, "the joke was on me. I finally took that Bible out of the closet and found that granddad had placed a twenty-dollar bill at the beginning of the Book of Genesis, and at the beginning of every book ... over thirteen hundred dollars in all. And he knew I'd never find it."*



I knew little about how to practice Christian faith when I first began attending church, in my early twenties. But I had heard the bible is The Book for Christians. So I started reading... It didn't take long to figure out the bible is a book made up of many shorter books, booklets, gospels, and letters, in all, 66 books-within-The-Book in Protestant bibles (more in Catholic and Orthodox bibles), written by many different authors over a range of times. And it almost goes without saying that I found some of the bible much easier to read than other parts.

Some of what I read in the bible made sense immediately. Other parts began to make sense with prayer and more thought. Still other parts made little sense even after quite a bit of prayer and pondering. But I don't usually mind pondering... And I was aware Christians have seldom if ever been entirely all of one-mind as to what the bible means... So I read the parts I liked often, the other parts less often... A few parts not at all...

Till one day, reading the liner notes of Duke Ellington's first *Sacred Music Concert* record, where Duke wrote saying he 'began to understand the bible a little, after reading it cover to cover, three times.' Equal parts shamed and inspired by Duke, I resolved to read through the bible three times – reading three or four chapters a day of the Old Testament along with daily readings of a few psalms, and a chapter each of the New Testament gospels and letters. (This got me through the Old Testament once and the New Testament several times in a year.)

Forty-some years later, I'm still reading the bible nearly every day, and still learning what life and the bible are about every day... There are still parts of life and the bible I don't understand well. I have been given gift bibles, and though I haven't found money stuck inside the pages of any of them, I have found in all of them the gift beyond price... (See Matthew 13:44-45...) I still don't understand all of the bible – but I have come to understand – reading the bible prayerfully and studying with other believers are two sides of one essential spiritual practice for Christians – and prayer, worship, witness, and works of mercy, justice, and love, our other most basic practices – all depend on listening to God through God's word.

*May God give us grace to open wide the scriptures – and find treasure far beyond price. The grace and peace of Jesus Christ our Savior be with you!*

Bournecataumetparish.org

# Prayer Requests

*"Peace I leave with you, my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid"*

JOHN 14:27

MARIANNE BALTROTSKY

TOM BAZAN

PATTY BLANK

BILLY BOWSER

RILEY BRANNAN

TRISH BRANNAN

CLARKE BURELL

BILL CLEM

BRYAN DINKLE

BRENDA DINKLE-WRIGHT

MARION DOUGHERTY

JOHN DREISONSTOK

ROGER FARBER

NOAH FINDLEY

BRADLEY FLOOK JR

ANGIE FORREST

SHARON GETZANDANNER

DOT GLASSCOCK

BOB GOEDERT

EMILIE GOEDERT

JERRY GOEDERT JR

MICK HARLEY

JERRY HAYES

LILLIE BELL HOBBS

GINNY HOUCK

ROBERT KALASKI SR

SARA KNIGHT

ANTHONY MAIN

MARY FRANCES MAIN

ROBERT MARSH

PEGGY MEEUWSEN

THE PALMISANO FAMILY

MARGARET PASLAWSKY

JERRY PENICK

DORIS PENROD

KATHY PETERS

MEHRL RAMSBURG

THELMA RAMSBURG

BOBBY REMSBERG

PATRICIA SCOTT

GARY SMITH JR

MELVIN SMITH

BARBARA SNOOTS

SANDY SPENCER

THE SUNDAY FAMILY

LINDA TROPE

PATRICK VASOLD

BOB WARNER

ROBERT WASTLER

CALLIE WATKINS

JOEL WILCOX

BILL WISSMAN

HEATHER ZIMMERMAN

## OUR IN-HOME MEMBERS

Margaret Sunday

Likes visitors call first  
301-304-0214

Brenda Dinkle-Wright

Call to say hello  
301-663-8341

Bob Warner

Call to say hello  
240-490-5343

To **ADD** or **REMOVE** names to :

- *Prayer Requests*
- *Newsletter Mailing*
- *Birthday/ Anniversary*

*Please contact Jennifer Stull*

*mychurch.js@gmail.com*

*301-788-1656*



GREETER

Donald Shook

ORGANIST

Mary Frances Bostian

ACOLYTES

Kevin Sunday/Ashlee Sunday/Jim Bostian

USHERS

Bill Houck / Doug Sunday / Jennifer Stull

ALTAR GUILD

Jim & Mary Frances Bostian

Weekly BULLETIN

Jennifer Stull

CHURCH TREASURERS

Jennifer Sunday / Shirley Bazan

Monthly NEWSLETTER & MAILING

Jennifer Stull

LABELS FOR HOFFMAN HOMES

Loberta Staley

HOMEWOOD Auxiliary Representative

Carole Houck / Loberta Staley

FELLOWSHIP MORNING

Jennifer Stull

CONSISTORY BOARD

Mary Catherine Martz, Carole Houck, Jim Bostian, Calvin Woodward, Jennifer Sunday, Jennifer Stull

PROPERTY COMMITTEE

Carole Houck, Jim Bostian, Doug Sunday, Bill Houck

CEMETERY COMMITTEE

Jim Bostian, Doug Sunday, Jennifer Stull



By  
Erma Grove

*A New Year bright and peaceful,  
The world would like to see;  
Help me, Lord, to understand,  
It must begin with me.*

*Take from my heart all envy,  
Replace it with Thy love;  
Sweep malice out of my thoughts,  
Fix them on things above.*

*Wipe from my eyes the darkness,  
Fill them with heavenly light;  
Lead my feet from the byways,  
Into the paths of light.*

*Open my spirit to truth,  
Deepen my faith in prayer;  
Speak through my lips Thy message,  
With others help me share.*

*These changes in my living,  
With patience let me see;  
That this year may be better,  
Beginning, Lord, with me.*





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E-mail

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Faith United Church of Christ



**SUNDAY  
JANUARY 19,  
2020**

The Annual Congregational Meeting is set for Sunday, January 19th. Whether you are a member or not, bring your concerns, ideas and questions for all of us to discuss. This is the most important meeting of the year as a church family! Following worship, we will enjoy a pot luck lunch so please bring a dish to share. We always have delicious variety of food and dessert! The meeting will follow lunch.

Any questions, please contact Consistory President Mary Catherine Martz. Snow date set for January 26, 2020.

NEXT CONSISTORY MEETING  
JANUARY 6 @ 7:00 PM



*"For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many"*

*Mark 10:45*

Thank you to **Faith Church Family** for volunteering this past year! Each of us do our part that makes this church run wonderfully. Thank you **ALL** for your time, energy, donations and love for this church. Jennifer Stull hopes you have enjoyed the monthly Newsletter with the stories, poems from Erma Grove and news to keep us informed. We have so many thanks for our church Family!

Thank you to ALL our **Pastors** for your dedication and providing us with inspiring and meaningful sermons. We are blessed to have everyone of you. Thank you to **Mary Catherine Martz** for planning the Supply Pastor schedule for the year.

Thank you to our Church Secretary **Carole Houck**, our Organist **Mary Frances Bostian**, our Treasurers **Jennifer Sunday** and **Shirley Bazan**, our Greeter **Donald Shook**, our Ushers **Bill Houck**, **Kevin Sunday** and **Jennifer Stull**.

Thank you to **Bill Houck** and **Jim Bostian** for keeping our church grounds so well kept and **Carole Houck** for keeping the gardens so beautiful. Thank you to **Carole Houck** and **Mary Catherine Martz** for stepping in when needed to pick up and or take home Donald Shook at Genesis in Walkersville. Thank you to the **Property Committee** for their dedication and hard work keeping our church and parsonage in great condition.

Thank you to the **Consistory Board** members for their dedication and productive year. Thank you to those who bring delicious items for the Fellowship Morning table. Thank you to **Jim and Mary Frances Bostian** for providing and preparing the Communion table. Thank you to **Carole Houck** for changing the Paraments and the flowers at the altar. Thank you to **Pat Harley** for being a back up organist when needed.



*We express our sympathy to the Sunday Family on the death of Stephen Sunday who passed away suddenly on December 10, 2019. He was the son of Margaret Sunday and brother to Doug Sunday.*



*Continued prayers for our two Marines, Sgt Kyle Stull and Cpl Corey Sunday. Both are doing great! We keep them in our prayers for safe New Year of travel, long days of duty they have to endure and being away from their family during the year.*

## SNOW POLICY

In the event of inclement weather or a power outage, cancellation of worship services may be necessary. Road conditions will be evaluated by two members that live close by. We will use the Call List we have that is divided up between the four members listed below to call all our church attendees. **However, do not attempt to come if you feel travel is unsafe in your area regardless.**

Mary Catherine Martz - 240-315-5855

Francia Stanley - 301-712-8519

Jennifer Sunday - 301-788-2427

Jennifer Stull - 301-788-1656

## CHRISTMAS CHEER!

We were happy to deliver our In-Home members their Christmas Cheer bags. Margaret Sunday, Donald Shook, Brenda Dinkle-Wright and Bob Warner received their goodies! We thank Faith Church for the contribution to provide these for them as they all are part of our church family and wish them a warm and beautiful holiday season!



Happy Birthday!



JAN 13

SGT KYLE STULL





# Thank you to ALL who lit the Advent Candles for 2019 Christmas Season!

FIRST ADVENT CANDLE - HOPE  
MARY CATHERINE MARTZ



SECOND ADVENT CANDLE - PEACE  
BOB HARTMAN



THIRD ADVENT CANDLE - JOY  
THE SUNDAY FAMILY



FOURTH ADVENT CANDLE - LOVE  
MEL AND CINDY SCHALL

CHRIST CANDLE  
JIM & MARY  
FRANCES  
BOSTIAN



# Bible Word Search

C Y U V M S S G I C E B S D P  
K K O U E R R I D Z V I R E R  
W R I T E R S E I E V B O R O  
J P C T B T S R T Z R L H I M  
K K T O R G O E C P O E T P I  
M E O U P M O A S E A T U S S  
L K T N E M A T S E T H A N E  
S H W M P A R A B L E S C I S  
G N I H C A E T E D I U G Y Q  
D A E R L E A R N Y R O T S Q

**AUTHORS  
BIBLE  
BOOKS  
CHAPTERS  
GUIDE  
INSPIRED  
LEARN  
LETTERS  
MEMORIZE  
PARABLES**

**PROMISES  
READ  
RED  
STORY  
TEACHING  
TESTAMENT  
TRUTH  
VERSES  
WRITERS**

