



# The Aaronsburg Charge United Church of Christ September, 2009

Rev. Faith McCausland  
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## The Pastor Writes:



Dear Friends,

It has been my honor and my privilege to serve St. John's, Salem and St. Peter's UCC. As some of you may have already heard, I have accepted a call to a church in Buffalo, NY. My last working day will be September 30.

I think we have done a great deal in a very short time and I hope that the good work you have begun will continue. Some of the things we have done in just 3+ years are:

\*The graceful and honorable closing of St. John's, with members joining our sister churches in equal number. While the process continues, we have secured ownership of the land and building (a lengthy process), repaired the sidewalk to the front of the building, and are beginning the process of clearing out the contents of the building. Hymnals (which contain the orders for worship) have been dedicated to Salem. We all owe a great deal of thanks to the leadership and dedicated work of Shane Royer and his father, Wendell Royer.

\*Created, installed and planted the "Comma Garden" in the front of St. Peter's with bricks from the interior chimney of the church, which had to be torn down. Many thanks, to all the volunteers who made this possible.

\*Begun the "Friends with a Mission" which has held a community wide Easter egg Hunt, held picnics and social get-togethers to build fellowship with new and current members.

\*Sunday school for children with the curriculum the "Whole People of God", bringing the Sunday school total to 14. Childcare has begun at Salem as we see our little ones grow.

\*Adult Bible study—one morning and one evening, with members of both churches attending regularly. The morning class has even seen attendance from members from other churches that do not have Bible study.

\*Support Group for Grandparents of Autistic Children began in 2008. In addition to providing support, they have also worked to become advocates.

\*Web page begun and maintained thanks to Don Hampton and Ginny Hosterman.

\*Pictorial Directory (in spite of fire) completed, with help from Doug Royer and committee.

\*Consistory retreats at Hartman Center—a time to relax, renew and refresh.

\*Provided your pastor with time and financial support for continuing education—classes at Gettysburg Seminary, PA Clergy Gathering in Harrisburg, Convocation at Hershey and PTSD training in Lancaster. I was also honored to be a Synod delegate this year.

\*Supported your pastor as she served the Northern Association Ministry Planning Committee, NA Church and Ministry Committee, Hartman Center Grand Camp, participated in Women in Rural Ministry, Ministerium and Northern Association Annual Conference in Selinsgrove.

\*Continued as a 5 for 5 church, and pledged your support for the Capital Campaign, 4 our Churches.

Beyond these tasks, we have grown with visitors and new members. Our Christmas Eve service was blessed with a solo performance by new member, Candace Lowe in 2007. Even though ice cancelled our 2008 service, it sure made us realize how important that service is to families, our friends and us!

Worship was blessed by a Suzuki violin performance by young attendee Huck Tricsch and our Black Panther Picnic was blessed by a recorder performance by young attendee Emmett Schafft

Yes, it has been a busy time, a growing time, and a time filled with many Holy Spirit "nudges"! I pray you continue in grace, leading the churches into the future you have already begun to envision. You are the leaders you have been waiting for!

Grace and peace,  
Rev. Faith

## **Joint Consistory Highlights**

Joint Consistory met on July 21 at St. Peter's for the annual summer meeting.

### **Committee Reports:**

Parsonage - Committee toured parsonage on July 14. Maintenance to be taken care of:

- > weather stripping above the door between the kitchen and secretary's office needs replaced
- > spouting needs cleaned out
- > trees in back yard need trimmed
- > plaster falling of the wall in the main part of basement
- > two floor joists are rotted in the southeast end of the basement.

Spiritual Life -

- > 60 Dakota school kits were delivered to Conference
- > Feet & Seat Covers will be dedicated Grange Fair Sunday
- > Hymn selection will be November 1 at St. Peter's at 1:30
- > Blessing of the Animals will be October 24.

Church & Ministry - Supplies used were:

- > May 17 - Rev. Bruce Druckenmiller
- > May 31 - Rev. Marge Holland
- > June 14 - Jack Smith
- > June 28 - Dan Shreckengast
- > July 19 - Dan Shreckengast

Pastoral Relations -

- > Next meeting scheduled for August 11
- > Everyone with email was urged to get their Newsletter that way to save postage.
- > Donna & Gary Auman donated a Dell flat screen, desktop monitor to the parsonage. Thank you, a storm took out the other one.
- > Ginny Hosterman paid the website bill and needs reimbursed.
- > Pam Royer and Kim Beebe worked very hard preparing for Vacation Bible School.
- > Pastor Faith was not present, but had left a written report. She would be doing Grandparent Camp at Hartman Center. Barbara & Dalton Fine along with Garrett & Gavin Hampton and Linda Long with Kalysta Long attended camp.

A special Joint Consistory meeting was held on August 11 at St. Peter's. The purpose of this meeting was Pastor Faith's resignation effective September 30, 2009. Pastor Faith has accepted the call for one church with a little more money. Committees are as follows:

Search Committee: Linda Musser, Brenda Stover, Marilyn Weaver, Ginny Hosterman, Wendell Royer, Janie Shook, Dave Sweeley and Ken Royer

Profile Committee: Dave Edwards, Doug Royer, Ginny Hosterman, Donna Auman, Gary Auman, Cindy Ross

Dave and Helen Sweeley volunteered to take care of getting supplies for the pulpit beginning October 4.

Pastoral Relations Committee will schedule an exit interview with Pastor Faith.

Area Conference Minister, Rev. Allen Fluent had not been able to be reached as of this meeting. President Royer finally got in touch with Rev. Fluent and a special Joint Consistory meeting has been scheduled for September 9 at Salem, 7:00 p.m. Rev. Fluent will be present to give us guidelines for the search process once again.

### **Dates to Remember:**

September 9 - Special Joint Consistory meeting 7:00 p.m. at Salem with Rev. Fluent

September 21 - Joint Budget meeting, St. Peter's, 7:00 p.m. All officers need to be present

October 20 - Joint Spiritual Life Committee meeting, 7:00; Joint Consistory, 7:30 p.m. - both at Salem

*Helen Sweeley,  
Secretary*

## Salem Happenings

*Salem's Mission Statement: Our mission goal is to service the community in a Christian way, to love one another and to worship God together seeking truth, justice and peace.*

Well, it's been quite a summer and a lot has happened, so here goes.

Dan Shreckengast was our guest speaker on June 28 while Pastor Faith was at General Synod. It was the first time for Dan leading our worship and I think he did a great job.

The Joint Outdoor Worship service was held at Black Panther Riding Club on July 12 with 27 attending for worship. We added so many folks to the Prayer Chain (people waiting for test results, hospitalized, recuperating, etc.) that Pastor Faith opened morning worship with a prayer. Emmet Schafft shared his talent on the recorder with us for special music, playing "Skateboard Ride" and "Ode to Joy". He also played a postlude. Thank you, Emmet, great job! Salem's Family Fellowship furnished the hot dogs, rolls and condiments. Dave Sweeley was hot dog chef again. While the dogs were grilling, everyone shared fellowship. Pastor Faith offered the blessing and 14 of us enjoyed a wonderful covered dish meal. Thank you to everyone who helped clean up. As always, the sun was shining, but it was a little chilly. Since there weren't very many to eat, Janie Shook bought the extra box of hot dogs for Salem Hill Haven.

I took a fruit basket to Jeff Stover on July 17 after his stay in the hospital. We had a very nice visit and Jeff is recuperating, so keep him in your prayers.

While Pastor Faith was on vacation, Dan Shreckengast led morning worship on July 19 and once again did a good job.

Jean Frankenberger went to be with our heavenly Father on July 21, 2009. Jean had joined St. John's United Church of Christ in Millheim in October of 1955 and then transferred her membership to Salem in January, 2008 after St. John's had closed. Jean had been married to Quentin on March 18, 1949 until his death on March 7, 1990. They had one daughter, Karen, married to Fred Boob living in Aaronsburg. The funeral services were held at Salem on July 25 with Pastor Faith officiating. Jean was laid to rest in Fairview Cemetery in Millheim. A lunch for family and friends was served at the Gregg Township Fire Hall. Jean was always a very soft spoken, gentle lady and we miss her greatly. Our heartfelt condolences to Karen and Fred and family.

We had another 4 Our Churches Campaign fundraiser on July 15 at Hoss's. This time we received a check from Hoss's for \$90.68 and received another \$90 in cash donations making a total of \$180.68. The next Hoss's night is scheduled for September 16. If you need a card, please see Donna Auman, Janie Shook or Helen Sweeley. Thank you to everyone who keeps supporting these fundraisers.

Speaking of fundraisers, don't forget the dish cloths. Due to an increase in postage, we have had to raise the price to \$1.25 each. There are dish cloths in the Narthex at Salem and Janie Shook always has some with her. We have not been selling very many lately and are considering discontinuing them. Let us know if you need some. The profits from these sales go to the Parking Lot Paving Fund.

Salem Family Fellowship hosted the birthday party at Salem Hill Haven on August 6 for the August birthdays. We gave little prizes to the winners of bingo, thank you to Elva Fetterolf for calling. We sang Happy Birthday to the residents whose birthdays were in August and then served refreshments. Elva & Barry Fetterolf, Betty & Dean Stover, Jean & Dean Rishel, Janie Shook and I represented Salem, furnishing the bingo prizes and refreshments and enjoyed fellowship with all the residents. Thank you, also, to Donna Auman for baking a cake.

Thank you to everyone who furnished snacks for Vacation Bible School. Salem furnished a gallon of punch, 100 8-oz. plastic cups, 2 lbs. of raisins, 1 lb. blueberries and 2 boxes of Cocoa Krispies cereal.

Rev. Joe Krabill did the honors on August 9 as supply minister while Pastor Faith was on vacation. It's always a pleasure to have Jo join us for morning worship.

Pastor Faith announced from the pulpit on August 16 that her last Sunday to preach for the Aaronsburg Charge will be September 27. She has given her notice of resignation effective the end of September. Pastor Faith feels it is time to move on and has accepted the call for one church with a little more money.

Women's Guild has their calendars for sale again this year. They are still only \$6 the price has not gone up. There are some in the Narthex at Salem along with an envelope for the money or give it to Helen Sweeley. These calendars make great Christmas gifts.

Salem Consistory had a special meeting on August 23 after morning worship. We have received 65 hymnals from St. John's. These hymnals are complete - we do not need to use the supplements. President Shook wondered what we should do with Salem's hymnals since people from the congregation purchased the hymnals in honor/memory of loved ones. It was decided by Consistory that anyone who purchased hymnals,

may take them home if they wish. The hymnals that people don't claim will be stored at the church and used when extras are needed. Salem's hymnals are all in the social room at the church, so if your name is on one and you want it, help yourself. A very special THANK YOU to St. John's for this most generous gift of music. St. John's hymnals were purchased by the Wendell Royer family in memory of Phyllis Royer.

**Salem's Dates to Remember:**

- September 9 - Special Joint Consistory meeting at Salem, 7:00 p.m.
- September 14 - Salem Consistory at the church 7:00 p.m.
- September 16 - Hoss's Night, fundraiser 4 Our Churches Campaign.
- September 21 - Joint Budget meeting at St. Peter's, 7:00 p.m. All officers from Salem, St. Peter's and Joint Consistory should be present.
- September 27 - Harvest Home Sunday. Casserole and Pie Lunch at Salem following morning worship. Either make a casserole for lunch or bake a pie or two for dessert. Program of your choice - Janet & Roy VanGilder and Ginny & Donny Boob.
- October 3 & 4 - Haines Township Fall Festival. As always, Women's Guild is asking everyone's help for baked goods and for man/lady power. If you can help us by donating 1 or 2 hours of your time on Saturday to give us a hand at our stand in front of St. Peter's, we sure would appreciate your kindness.
- October 17 - Hartman Center Family Festival 9:00 - 3:00. I'm sure it will be a good time. Salem has donated an Angel Kitchen Basket for their auction.
- October 20 - Joint Spiritual Life Committee meeting 7:00 p.m. followed by Joint Consistory at 7:30, both at Salem

As always, remember to pray for those on our Prayer Chain and even the ones not on the Prayer Chain. Send a card, make a phone call, give a hug, share a moment of silence, hold someone's hand and let them know you are there for them and always, always pray for them. God Bless.

*Helen Sweeley*



**Prayer Chain**

*All Service Personnel and their families. All Charge Shut-ins: Polly Crader, Julie Haines, Gladys Hartley, Tom Hazel, Ellen Huey, and Bernice Warntz.*

*Hurricane Katrina Victims, Dorothy Alters, Rev. Jack Archer, Loretta Auman, Emily Boob & Family, Randall Boob, Mike Braucht, Terry Bressler, Isabel Brindle, Bob Brown, John "Jack" Brown, Kay Brown, Carol & Nelson Cook, Alex Corman, T.J. Coursen, Janie Crater, Janet Devinnay, Michael Dimock, Dr. Lillian Earle, Karen Glasgow, Luke Haskell, Eric Henry Family, Benjamin Hosterman, Jonathan Huey, Pat Kelly, Jacob Kerstetter (deployed to Iraq), Dean Krape, Liz Krout Family, Bob Lingle, Sr., Dave Lingle, Marcia Lingle, Fred & Betty Mensch, Sam Moore, Teenie Musser Family, Carrie Neese, David E. Neese, Loretta Neff, Robert Neill, Dixie Ort, Amanda Rachau, The Ross Family, Maxine Ross, Brenda (Barb Rossman's sister), Shirley Rossman, Warren Royer, Tyler Shawver, Doris Z. Smith, Bernice Snyder, Shirley Snyder-Birth, Frank Stapleton, Dean Stover, Evelyn Stover, Jeff Stover, Randall Stover, Randolph Swartz, Barb Tobias, Roy VanGilder, Adam & Jess Weaver, Lester & Marilyn Weaver, and Mildred Wingard.*

*Please feel free to add/subtract from this list by calling your Consistory President. Please make the changes in your church's prayer chain board.*



**Worship Times - - - Worship Schedule for 2009**

St. Peter's: 9:30 a.m. (Sunday school following worship)  
Salem: 10:45 am

Communion, which is open to all who seek to know the Risen Christ, offered 7 times per year; please contact the Pastor if you would like to receive home communion/visitation. For more information, please call 349-5094 or email

[aaronsburgcharge@verizon.net](mailto:aaronsburgcharge@verizon.net)

## St. Peter's News

Dan Shreckengast was our guest speaker on June 28 while Pastor Faith was attending the General Synod meeting. Dan did a wonderful job leading our worship service.

Dan returned as guest speaker on July 19 while Pastor Faith was on vacation. Dan is very inspirational and we are fortunate to have him as a supply pastor for our Charge.

Thank you to everyone who purchased moons and stars in memory or in honor of loved ones. Sales of the moons and stars are for Relay For Life to benefit the American Cancer Society. Several of St. Peter's members were participants in the Relay For Life walks this summer.

The Joint Consistory met at St. Peter's on Tuesday, July 21 for their regular summer meeting.

Pastor Faith was a leader at "Grandparent Camp" held at Hartman Center July 29-31. This was fun for both Grandparents and grandchildren. Those attending from the Aaronsburg Charge were: Linda & Kalysta Long, Dalton & Barb Fine, and Garrett & Gavin Hampton.

"Camp Edge" Bible School was held at St. Luke's Lutheran Church in Millheim August 2-6. Thank you to the leaders from St. Peter's: Shane & Pam Royer, Tracy Ridenour and Nicole Wolfe. Dristen & Nolan Wolfe, Zachary & Jacob Royer, and Kalysta & Taylor Long attended "Camp Edge" from our Charge.

The lovely gladiola on the altar August 2<sup>nd</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> were given to the Glory of God by Ed & Barb Kerstetter. (It was Barb's birthday on August 9.) Thank you, Ed & Barb for sharing the flowers with the ladies in the congregation.

Rev. Joe Krabill was our guest Pastor on Sunday, August 9. It's always nice to have him speak for our worship services.

The Joint Consistory held a special meeting at St. Peter's on Tuesday evening, August 11. The purpose of the meeting was to be informed of the resignation of Rev. Faith McCausland as Pastor of the Aaronsburg Charge. Joint Consistory President Ken Royer then proceeded with appointing the new Search and Profile committees. Search Committee members are: Linda Musser, Wendell Royer, Ginny Hosterman, Marilyn Weaver, Dave Sweeley, Janie Shook, Brenda Stover and Ken Royer. Profile Committee members are: Donna Auman, David Edwards, Cindy Ross, Doug Royer, Gary Auman, and Ginny Hosterman. Please keep all of them in prayer during this transition period!

### September 2009 Calendar - St. Peter's Worship – 9:30 Sunday School - 10:45

<u>Sept</u>	<u>Reader</u>	<u>Flowers</u>	<u>Monthly Greeter</u>	<u>Monthly Offering Counters</u>
6	Ed Kerstetter	Dixie Ort	Shane Royer	Brenda Stover & Doug Royer
13	Brenda Stover	Fay & Frank Stapleton		
20	Bonnie DeBrasky	Fay & Frank Stapleton		
27	Bill Miles	Marilyn Weaver		

Consistory Meeting Devotions September 15<sup>th</sup>: Ed Kerstetter

#### September Dates to Remember:

- 9 - Joint Consistory at Salem - 7:00
- 13 - Sunday School begins *AND* "Rally Day" at St. Peter's
- 15 - St. Peter's Consistory 7:00
- 21 - Joint Budget meeting at St. Peter's - 7:00 (for ALL officers of the Consistory).
- 26 - Decorate for Harvest Home - 10:00
- 27 - Harvest Home Sunday

I hope everyone enjoys the Fair, and have a happy & safe Labor Day weekend.

Please keep Adam, Jess, Marilyn & Lester Weaver and family in your prayers during Adam's recovery from surgery.

-Lori Corman

## WE NEED YOU!



*Are your brownies the thickest, most chocolaty? Do your kids devour your Rice Krispie Treats? Is your pie crust the flakiest? Have your chocolate chip cookies won major awards??? It doesn't matter! The Women's Guild needs donations of baked (or not) goods for their booth at the Haines Township Fall Festival on October 3<sup>rd</sup>. If you don't bake but would like to help, you could donate an hour or two of your time to help staff the booth. Drop off baked goods at the stand in front of St. Peter's. See the sign-up sheets posted in each church to schedule a work time.*

*This is a good fundraiser for the Guild and all monies are given back to the community.*

*Thank you in advance for your help😊*

### Women's Guild

The Women's Guild met on Monday, August 10, 2009, at St. Peter's at 7:15 p.m. with 6 members present and Brenda Stover providing devotions. The secretary's report was read and approved. The treasurer reported a balance of \$681.57.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

Janie Shook distributed updates to Rolling Hills Manor list for birthday and holiday card sending. Janie also delivered 8 turbans to Lewisburg Cancer Center.

Thank you notes were read from Evangelical Hospital's Pediatric Unit for the gift of 18 Jared boxes and the American Cancer Society Relay for Life \$50 donation and \$15 donation for luminaries.

The PCC asked the churches to send one box of children's clothing to the Dakota Association before the start of school for ages 3-5 and sizes 4T to 7. We packed one bulging box for this purpose.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

We are sponsoring "Feet & Seat Covers" for children of Millheim Outreach during the month of August.

We did planning of the Fall Festival booth for October 3. Brenda will check on cups and sugar packets; Brenda and Janet--16 oz bottled water; Janie—hot chocolate, milk, tables; Helen—change, ice and stickers; Marilyn—coffee; Tracy—juice boxes. We will be ordering 1 case of calendars to sell that day and in the churches. **Baked goods are needed** and help to man the booth—a sign up sheet will be distributed in the churches.

The next meeting will be Tuesday, September 29 (there is no meeting on September 1 or October 6) with Helen Sweeley providing devotions. We will be planning the Christmas gift bags for Skills clients. We will continue with the Bible Study of Chapter 26 from Max Lucado's book.

Brenda Ream Stover  
Secretary

*In my days of recovering from my accident, many of you were thinking of me and sharing your time to furnish food, transportation, cards, grocery shopping, etc. I wish to thank each and everyone for your thoughtful deeds. It is very much appreciated.*

*God Bless,  
Frances Byers*

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*"On February 22, 1977, God gave Lester and me a very special gift. We named him Adam Robert Elmer Weaver. He has always been a very special child to us both, and we are amazed daily at the lives his life has touched and is touching. There are no words to thank all of you for the outpouring of thoughts and prayers you have been sending his way and our way. Please continue to keep him in prayer as he continues on his journey on the road to fight the cancer that has invaded his body. He has been an extraordinary patient so far. It amazes us how all the nurses want him to care for. He continues to improve daily and we are hopeful he will return to his home soon in Centre Hall. Our whole family and extended families (Lester, Jess, Adam, Jonathan - and me) are very grateful to God and to you for this outpouring of support and love."  
- Marilyn Weaver*

~~~~~  
*My son, Tyler Shawver, sustained some very serious injuries when a tree fell on him while we doing some work at Steve's oldest daughter's home in Delaware on August 15. His prognosis is good, but it will take several months for a full recovery. I want to thank everyone for keeping him in their thoughts & prayers. He has received some cards from Charge members whom he has never met and he questioned why people who don't know him would send him cards - I told him just because you don't know someone personally doesn't mean that you can't wish them well. That because I'm their secretary, they also care about my son . . . and that some people remember actually remember him portraying the Baby Jesus for the Christmas Eve Service in 1994!  
Thank you again for caring - Jackie Shawver, Charge Secretary*



**Our Homebound, Nursing Home or Health Care Residents:**

Pauline Crader  
50 N. 3<sup>rd</sup> Street  
Apt. 415  
Lewisburg, PA 17837

Gladys Hartley  
424 Heckman Cemetery Rd  
Salem Hill Haven  
Spring Mills, PA 16875

Tom Hazel  
120 E. Beaver Ave., Apt 709  
State College, PA 16801

Mrs. Ellen Huey  
168 Long Street  
PO Box 289  
Spring Mills, PA 16875

Mr. & Mrs. Fredrick Mensch  
PO Box 381  
Millheim, PA 16854

Randall Stover  
PO Box 153  
Aaronsburg, PA 16820

Mildred Wingard  
377 Paradise Road  
PO Box 46  
Spring Mills, PA 16875

Hazel Warntz  
167 Cemetery Road  
Aaronsburg, PA 16820

Mr. & Mrs. Guy Zerby  
4412 Penns Valley Road  
Spring Mills, PA 16875

Maxine Ross  
424 Heckman Cemetery  
Spring Mills, PA 16875

*(If you would like to add someone to the Shut-in list, please submit to [aaronsburgcharge@verizon.net](mailto:aaronsburgcharge@verizon.net) or drop a note in the milk box on the front porch of the parsonage at 232 W. Aaron Square, Aaronsburg.)*