

WELCOME TO:
FAITH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
711 Seventh Ave (at 8th Street Bridge), Altoona, PA 16602
Ph: 814-943-0713
Website: www.FaithUCCAltoona.com
Email: faithuccaltoona@verizon.net

11:15 AM Worship
12:00 PM Church Picnic

Rev. John Emig
Pastor
814-244-1602

“

*No matter who YOU are or where YOU are on life's journey,
YOU are welcome here.*

*“Never place a period where God has placed a comma” --
Gracie Allen*



Welcome, everyone! May God open our hearts so love can come forth – love for God and love for one another! Rejoice!

We're with the Lord Christ Jesus didn't reject anyone neither do we,
God Is Still Speaking!
Sunday, August 16, 2026
Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost



“No matter who you are, no matter where you are in life's journey, you are welcome at Faith United Church of Christ where God is still speaking.”

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

*Greeting

P: God knows us and our hungers. God loves us like a father and nurtures us like a mother. God draws us to each other and claims us as people of God. Knowing this, let us offer thanksgiving and praise as we worship God.

*Call to Worship

L: Young and old together

P: We are called to worship.

L: Men and women together

P: We are called to worship.

L: Strong and fragile together

P: We are called to worship.

L: Happy and sad together

P: We are called to worship.

L: Let us worship God our Maker,

P: Jesus our Redeemer,

All: And the Holy Spirit, our Comforter and Guide.

***Hymn of Adoration: “For the Beauty of the Earth” (See Insert)**

***Unison Prayer**

Loving God, we turn our thoughts and hearts to You in prayer. Thank You for being with us today and always. Thank You for ministering to our deepest needs in Jesus Christ, and help us to open our lives to the opportunities which He provides. We thank You that we can be together today in this relaxed setting for worship, for a picnic meal, and for fellowship with others in Your Spirit. Increase our praise! Cause us to know again and again the love that is at the heart and foundation of all of life, and enable us to abide in that love forever; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

***Words of Assurance**

L: In faith through Christ we are offered a new beginning every day.

P: No matter where we have been or what we have done, or failed to do, God empowers us to leave the past behind and to faithfully enter into the future.

L: Let us claim the new beginning right now.

P: Let us share that new beginning with others.

L: Let us open our hearts to that new beginning in Word and Sacrament.

P: And let us believe that God’s Spirit is right here to lead the way. Amen.

First Lesson: Genesis 45: 1 – 15

***Hymn of Preparation: “I Come to the Garden Alone” (See Insert)**

SERMON

***Affirmation of Faith (In Unison)**

I believe in the Lord, Father, Creator, who loves us all and shows us mercy. I believe in the Prince of Peace, Son, Christ our Savior. He is our door and our way to God. He is the human form, unselfish and gentle. I believe in the invisible and translucent Holy Spirit; it is the God which resides within us, reaching to all the people of earth and beyond. I believe that we, God’s creation, are blessed with the great compassion of all three persons, made in His image. We are truly children of God.

***Invitation to Prayer**

L: Offer prayers of supplication, intercession, and thanksgiving for all people.

P: Pray for those entrusted with authority and power so that peace may result.

L: Pray with hands made holy by absence of anger and argument.

P: Pray through the one Mediator between God and us – Jesus Christ.

L: O God, bend our hearts to Your inkling, clear our minds to heed Your call, teach us care for others’ needing, embolden us to neighbor love.

P: Let us pray.

Morning Prayer

The Lord’s Prayer

Offertory

***Doxology**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below.
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
One God, triune, whom we adore!**

***Dedicatory Prayer (In Unison)**

Holy God, thank You for giving us a joy for generosity and a genuine love for those who are in need. Pour out Your Spirit upon these gifts and upon our lives that together we may bring healing and hope to the world. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

***Hymn of Response: "Softly and Tenderly" (See Insert)**

***Benediction**

L: The grace of God,
P: deeper than our imagination;
L: The strength of Christ,
P: stronger than our need;
L: The communion of the Holy Spirit,
P: richer than our togetherness;
L: Guide and sustain us today
P: and in all our tomorrows.
All: Amen



Participating in Today's Service

YOU – the members and ministers in Christ's family

Music Director	Claire White
Lay Reader	Becky White
Church Secretary	Christina and Shane Schmitt
Minister	Rev. John Emig

Attendance: 8 – 9 – 26 Sunday School: 4 Worship: 18

OUR STEWARDSHIP FOR August 9, 2026

Current	\$565.00
Sunday School	\$ 2.00
Plate	\$ 6.00
TOTAL	\$573.00



Shane Schmitt 8/19

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday, August 23rd 9:30 AM Sunday School
 10:45 AM Worship

Thanks for being with us today at our Annual Picnic. Enjoy yourselves and get acquainted with someone new.

Thank you for your participation in the “Stuff the Bus” back to school program! Our next project is the Mt. Lion Back Pack Program, providing weekend lunches for needy children!

Dates Ahead

August 24 – Consistory

September 6 – Holy Communion

September 8 – Faith Fellowship

October 18 – 25th Anniversary Celebration of Faith UCC

The Flower Calendar for 2026 is available on the board above the water fountain.

Don’t forget to like us and follow us on Facebook.

(www.facebook.com/faithuccaltoona) and subscribe to our YouTube channel (@faithuccaltoona).

WE NEED YOUR HELP!!!! In an effort to keep our prayer list as up-to-date as possible, we request that you **personally notify the office** any time a name needs to be added or deleted from the list. If you have any questions, please contact the church office.

Friends and Neighbors needing our Prayers:

Janet Weyer
Cindy Edmiston
Phil Keith
Kevin Leiden’s Family (grieving)
Alesandro Bond Family (grieving)
Dave Zimmerman
Donald Imler
Jeff Cain
Richard Port
Gracie Raihl
Rick Plowman
Heather Guthrie
Nick Lonsinger
Baby Ridge
Dallas Webb
Peggy Mapes
Zach Lonsinger Family
Donna Skelley
Linda Hollen
Carol Marlett
Our sick and shut-ins



We offer up our prayers for any of our **church family** not listed here who may be in need

Please pray for our men and women in the military.

