

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

9:30 AM Adult Christian Education
10:45 AM Worship
Fellowship Hour Following Worship

Rev. John L. 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*



We are brothers and sisters in Christ so welcome one another with sincerity, kindness, and love.

Christ Jesus didn't reject anyone neither do we. God Is Still Speaking!

Sunday, July 26, 2026

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost



***Those who are able are invited to stand.**
BOLD print – congregation participates.
Hymns are in the New Century Hymnal unless otherwise indicated.

Generous God, You give us what we need and satisfy our desires in due season. Grant that our inner beings may be strengthened through Your Spirit, and that Christ may dwell in our hearts through faith, that You may accomplish within us far more than all we ask or can imagine. Amen.

Organ Chimes

Joys, Concerns, and Announcements

Greeting:

L: No matter who **YOU** are or where **YOU** are on life's journey,

P: **YOU** are welcome here!

Prelude

Lighting the Altar Candles

Call to Worship: “I Was Glad When They Said Unto Me” #741

Gospel Lesson: Matthew 13: 31 – 33, 44 – 52

Response: “Praise be to you, O Christ.”

***Hymn of Adoration “Sing Praise to God, Our Highest Good” #6 (vs 1-2, 5-6)**

***CALL TO CONFESSION**

Sisters and brothers,
God never forgets God’s promises;
God’s covenant endures in each new generation.
We are free to speak the truth about our lives
because God’s faithfulness embraces us as we
examine our hearts.

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**God of mystery, God of life,
we imagine that we are capable judges
of power and wisdom and goodness.
We trust our own standards;
we separate and categorize;
we mark the performance of others.
We fail to trust your power, hidden in all things.
We fail to watch for you, working out your purposes.
Gracious God, hidden and manifest,
transform our withered imaginations
until we yield the judgements we trust
to a love we cannot control. Amen.**

***DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS**

What then are we to say about these things?
If God is for us, who is against us?
Sisters and brothers, nothing we have done,
nothing we will ever do,
is enough to separate us from the love of God
made known in Jesus Christ.
Your sins are forgiven;
be at peace,
for all things work together for good
for those who love God.

***Gloria Patri**

First Lesson: Romans 8: 26 – 39

***Hymn of Preparation “O Love That Will Not Let Me Go” #485**

SERMON

***Affirmation of Faith: “UCC Statement of Faith” #885**

***Call to Prayer**

L: The Lord be with you

P: And also with you.

L: Let us pray: Create in me a clean heart, O God,

P: And renew a right spirit within me.

L: Cast us not away from Your presence

P: And take not Your Holy Spirit from us.
(Please Be Seated)

Morning Prayer: The Lord's Prayer

Offertory

Doxology

Praise God that we are called to care.

Praise God that we have gifts to share.

Praise God Who guides us on our way

To live our lives in Christ today. Amen.

(Please Be Seated)

***Dedicatory Prayer (In Unison)**

We rejoice with thanksgiving for all we have received.

**Multiply these gifts that we give so that the world may more deeply
know fullness of life in You. AMEN.**

***Hymn of Response "Forward through the Ages" # 377**

***Benediction**

***Masithi Page 760**

Postlude



Participating in Today's Service

YOU – the members and ministers in Christ's family

Music Director

Claire White

Lay Reader

Jerry Paul

Church Secretary

Christina and Shane Schmitt

Minister

Rev. John Emig

Attendance: 7 – 19 – 26

Sunday School: 6

Worship: 15

OUR STEWARDSHIP FOR July 19, 2026

Current	\$ 325.00
Sunday School	\$ 2.00
Altar Flowers	\$ 40.00
TOTAL	\$367.00



Debbie Glunt

7/30

Donna Skelley

8/1

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday, August 2nd

9:30 AM Sunday School

10:45 AM Worship

We practice “extravagant” welcome here at Faith UCC, just as Jesus would invite and encourage us to do. So **WELCOME** to each and every one!

Next Sunday is the Celebration of Holy Communion. Please make every effort to be with us, and please remind our friends and fellow church members to be with us as well. God bless you.

On Wednesday we will be hosting a group of German Exchange students for a brief visit late in the afternoon. Please come by and greet them and welcome them to our community (ETA – 3:30pm).

“Stuff the Bus” is gearing up for the new school year. Our deadline is August 13th. The following is the list of items that are needed.

Big Pencils & Pencils

Pens

Construction Paper

Crayons

Erasers

Folders

Glue Sticks

Notebook Paper

Kid’s Scissors

Markers

Notebooks

Pencil Boxes

Rulers

Scissors

Back Packs

Clear Back Packs



Remember! Our annual all-church picnic will be held on Sunday, August 16th at Highland Park, Pavilion #2, beginning with a worship service at 11:15 AM (Please note the change of time). The meal will begin around Noon. Please sign up on the sheet in the Fellowship Room as to what you intend to bring. Thank you. **EVERYONE IS WELCOME!!**

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.

Please pray for our men and women in the military.

Friends and Neighbors needing our Prayers:

Janet Weyer
Cindy Edmiston
Phil Keith
Kevin Leiden's Family (grieving)
Lettie Allen 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.

