

Faith's Leadership Team

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Dear Friends,

As this newsletter reaches your mailbox, it will have been four weeks since we gathered on that glorious Easter morning to rejoice in the good news of Jesus' resurrection from the dead. Our Easter celebration was wonderful with incredible music at both our Sunrise and our Traditional service with an enthusiastic congregation joining in the refrain: **"Christ is risen! Christ is risen indeed!"** Though nearly a month has passed since our Easter celebration, let me remind you that Easter is not over. We are called to continue our celebration of the good news of Easter during this season of Eastertide. Eastertide calls us to not only rejoice in the good news of Christ's resurrection, but more importantly, it calls us to live our lives in light of our Easter proclamation. Of course, that is not all that easy to do as the first disciples discovered.

According to the gospel of John, following his resurrection from the dead, the risen Christ appeared to Mary, and to his disciples on at least two occasions. But as time passed, it seemed that Jesus' disciples lost their Easter excitement, so much so, that Simon Peter announced, **"I'm going fishing!"** to which his colleagues responded, **"We'll go with you."** And off they went. Wow! It sure didn't take long for their Easter enthusiasm to fade, did it? It is as if Peter and his fellow disciples decided that while Easter was great, it was time to get back to normal, to return to something they could control and understand. So, they decided to go back to their fishing nets. Yet, as they soon discovered, a return to their pre-Easter normal was not possible. They fished all night and caught nothing. As morning was breaking, they looked toward the shore and heard the Risen Christ calling out to them. He instructed them to cast their nets on the other side of the boat. When they did, their catch was so great they could not pull the net into the boat. As Easter people, their previous understanding of normal was no longer valid as Jesus introduced them to the wonder and glory of a post-Easter life, a life which would be filled with new opportunities for ministry in his name.

As May begins, I am looking forward to resuming our "pre-COVID" Sunday worship schedule with our Interactive Service beginning at 8:30 am and our Traditional service beginning at 10:30 am. While this is a welcome step in what we might consider a return to "normal," let me remind you that returning to our "pre-COVID" ways of worship and doing Christ's ministry is no more possible for us than returning to fishing was for Peter and the rest of the disciples. If we try to do what we've always done, our nets, so to speak, will remain empty. But if we dare to listen to the call of Christ upon us and adapt to the changing environment in which we are now living, I am confident that Christ will use us and bless us in ways that we cannot even begin to imagine.

I have no idea what those blessings will be, but I am confident that if we enter this "Post-COVID" season of the life and ministry of our church with open minds and hearts, God has some incredible plans for us. Our task is to be willing to listen to the call of Christ and be willing to adapt our preconceived notions of normal and cast our "church net" on the other side of our "church boat;" I am confident that we will be provided all that we need to move forward in Christ's ministry. So, as we enter what I hope will soon be the "Post-COVID" era, let us do so with open minds and hearts and listen to what Christ calls us to be and do.

Grace & Peace,

Tom

Sundays in May



- 8:30 am** Interactive Worship in the Fellowship Hall
9:30 am Informal gathering and discussion in the Fellowship Hall
 (We will begin the process of discerning what our Sunday School hour will look like in the coming months.)
10:30 am Traditional Worship in the Sanctuary

A nursery will be available for pre-school children throughout the morning.

Note: COVID protocols will continue to be in place for the foreseeable future.

Please remember to wear your face-covering at all times, maintain safe social distance, and use the hand sanitizer provided.

May 23 is Pentecost Sunday

Many worshipers choose to wear the colors of flames— red, yellow, or orange—on Pentecost in acknowledgment and celebration of this day, often recognized as the “Birthday of the Church.”



FINANCIALLY \$PEAKING

INCOME/EXPENSES		
	March	Year-To-Date
INCOME	\$44,124	\$132,695
EXPENSES	33,307	102,545
	\$10,817	\$30,150

PLEDGES & NON-PLEDGED		
	March	Year-To-Date
ACTUAL	\$40,965	\$122,891
BUDGET	36,167	108,500
	\$4,798	\$14,391

In Memoriam ...

*In Celebration of the Life of
 Richard Oscar Wornat*

February 21, 1926-March 26, 2021

We extend our Christian sympathy to Sheryl Shelton and her family as they mourn the recent loss of Sheryl's mother, Brenda Kennane.

Don't forget that Faith's Preschool is accepting registrations for the 2021-2022 school year.

Classes for infants through pre K will be offered, and anyone interest may pick up a registration form in the church office. Registration forms are also available by contacting the preschool via e-mail at preschool@presby.org.

The preschool would love your help in advertising by letting neighbors, family, or friends who have young children know about our school!





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LifeSaver Clinics

Many remote areas in Africa and Haiti are grossly underserved by existing healthcare networks. In order to provide quality care in these regions, MBF is setting up LifeSaver Clinics to expand the current infrastructure for those living in villages well beyond the areas now served by hospitals.

LifeSaver Clinics operate with fewer staff, but they provide essential acute, curative, chronic and preventive care to those who would otherwise go without the medical services they desperately need. MBF has equipped and staffed more than 20 LifeSaver Clinics in Africa and Haiti to date. In the coming months, MBF will establish new LifeSaver Clinics in regions of critical need throughout Africa and Haiti to expand the existing networks, bringing quality medical care and hope to those who currently have no reliable source for even the most basic healthcare needs.

Kinshasa Health Clinic • DR Congo

The Presbyterian Community of Kinshasa (CPK) is a Presbyterian partner church in the metropolitan area of Kinshasa, DR Congo. Originally, the CPK focus was toward education, but they expanded into healthcare services and now operate seven health centers in the populous city of Kinshasa, mainly serving the urban poor population.

Faith has partnered with MBF since 2014 with a medical mission trip to Haiti and financial assistance in 2020 to Malawi with neonatal equipment.

THIS YEAR, Faith is honored to present MBF as our Mother's Day Offering. "Be The Light," to provide neonatal equipment to the DR Congo. Check out the special flyer insert for more

WHO WE ARE

And if anyone forces you to go one mile, go also the second mile. – Matthew 5:41

WHY WE SERVE

Our vision is to transform underserved communities by empowering people to meet their own needs. We encourage people to take charge of their own lives and break the mentality of dependency by honoring these core values:

- Respect all people as having worth, value and importance.
- Love people as they are and don't label them.
- Preserve people's pride and dignity by offering a helping hand, not a handout.
- Let God's Word be the standard and make grace our message.

Our mission is to bring people together by sharing the love of Christ while helping them provide for their families, educate their children and strengthen their communities. We do this by adhering to three guiding principles: we are relational in our programs; we do not give anything away for free; and we do only what our neighbors ask us to do. Using these principles, we established what we refer to as the three 'R's of community development – Relationships, Resources and Reconciliation

- **Relationships** – Build relationships with people to understand their needs.
- **Resources** – Connect people to resources and opportunities that enable them to provide for their families.
- **Reconciliation** – Reconcile people from all walks of life to each other and to the love of Jesus Christ.

Faith has partnered with Second Mile Development since 1993 with financial support and through a partnership with The 29:11 Story.



*A story of
two babies.....*



A story from the Robinson family.

At birth, our son was diagnosed with Hyperbilirubinemia, otherwise known as Infant Jaundice.

Left untreated, this common illness in infants can lead to neurological impairments and, worst

case, death. Our son is one of the 18% of children born yearly with this condition that can be healed using Phototherapy treatment. After a few hours under the calm, blue lights to break up his elevated Bilirubin levels, he was released to go home with no further implications.

Our family has chosen to **Be The Light** to infants in other countries by providing medical equipment, like a Phototherapy machine, to doctors and hospitals around the world. Our first donation came in 2020 with a gift to a hospital in Malawi. Now we are ready to **Be The Light** to the next hospital through the help of Faith Presbyterian Church and the Medical Benevolence Foundation.

A story from Haiti

Baby Hope was born at the Hôpital Sainte Croix (HSC) in Léogâne, Haiti. At birth, she weighed only three pounds and was suffering from severe jaundice. Neonatal jaundice occurs when a newborn has elevated levels of bilirubin in the blood.

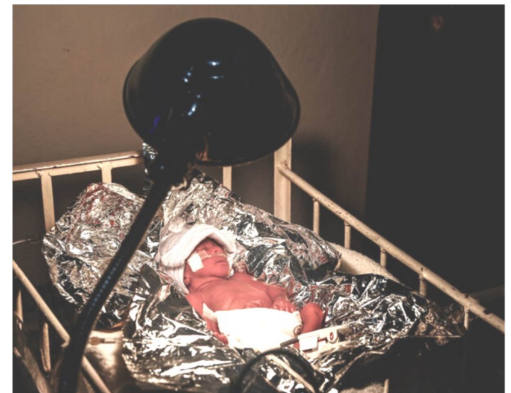


Baby Hope's parents did not know where to turn and their pediatrician sought answers from the other Lifesaver Clinics in the area. Bilirubin lights are easily accessible in the US, but many hospitals and clinics around the world lack the funds to provide this life-saving equipment to their newest community members.

Baby Hope was wrapped in aluminum blankets and placed under a desk light in hopes that her levels would normalize on their own. Doctors and nurses in underserved countries have learned to improvise to save patients lives, but many times, their efforts fail due to the lack of adequate equipment.



*Under-resourced countries,
around the world,
lack the equipment they need
to help babies
have a healthy start to life.*





LifeSaver Clinics

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Hôpital Sainte Croix in Léogâne, Haiti, is located twenty miles west of Port-au-Prince. Started as a small outpatient clinic in 1968, the hospital grew to be the regional medical center serving the peninsula of Haiti. A

mission team from Faith had the honor of working at this hospital a few years ago, delivering medical supplies and helping build a covering for their nearby maternity clinic.



Kinshasa Health Clinic in the DR Congo

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focus was toward education, but they expanded into healthcare services and now operate seven health centers in the populous city of Kinshasa, mainly serving the urban poor population.

Providing a Neonatal Unit for Hôpital Sainte Croix Léogâne, Haiti

Phototherapy Unit.....	\$ 1,265
Infant CPAP Machine	\$ 1,727
Total Cost.....	\$ 2,992

Providing a Neonatal Unit for DR Congo

Phototherapy Unit.....	\$ 1,242
Infant Radiant Warmer.....	\$1,012
Oxygen Concentrator.....	\$1,481
Infant CPAP Machine	\$ 1,727
Total Cost.....	\$ 5,462



2021 Mother's Day Offering

You are invited to **"Be The Light"** this Mother's Day by making a donation to a the MBF Neonatal units in the DR Congo and Haiti.

In 2020, Faith was blessed to provide a Phototherapy Unit for Nkhoma, Malawi, and this year, we'd like to provide a Neonatal Unit for a LifeSaver Clinic in the DR Congo and the St. Croix Hospital in Léogâne, Haiti.

Honor your mother while providing care for another mother.

Make checks payable to Faith with #2871 MBF in the memo line.

Worship Themes for May

May 2	The Fifth Sunday of Easter <i>Abiding in Love"</i> John 15:1-11; I John 4:7-21	Communion Sunday
May 9	The Sixth Sunday of Easter <i>"Good News for All"</i> Acts 10 & 11 Selected verses Mother's Day	
May 16	The Seventh Sunday of Easter <i>"Jesus' Final Instructions"</i> Matthew 28:16-20; Acts 1:6-11	
May 23	Pentecost Sunday <i>"Embracing the Holy Spirit"</i> Joel 2:27-29; Acts 2 selected verses	
May 30	Trinity Sunday <i>"The Fullness of God"</i> Genesis 1:1-4; John 3:16-17; 14:25-27	

In-person Interactive Worship at 8:30 in the Fellowship Hall

In-person and Livestream Worship at 10:30 am in the Sanctuary

Thank you for remembering that wearing face coverings and maintaining social distance are still the policy for in-person worship services at Faith

Watch live-streamed service on Faith's Facebook page or on the Church website (www.presby.org)

Also available on YouTube each week after Tuesday



May Birthdays

Chris Karigan 05/03
Kathy Hedgepeth 05/06
Beth Woody 05/13
Joanna Caldwell 05/14
Colleen Story 05/14
Mac Morrison 05/15
Olive Dineen (6) 05/20
Brian Caldwell 05/21

Emily Lott 05/22
Jan Stairhime 05/22
Daphne Treece 05/24
Erin Cobb 05/26
Doug Franklin 05/26
Jan Miller 05/29
Cheryl Adams 05/30
Charlotte Miller 05/31

