



~ Walking in Faith ~

February 2022

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## ~ Spiritual Gifts – Encouraging Each Other ~

When it comes to the idea of spiritual gifts the majority of people remain somewhat confused and guilty. They may have heard the statement that everyone has a gift (1 Cor. 12:7) and are vaguely curious what their gift might be. Looking through the lists in 1 Corinthians 12 and Romans 12 they don't find any that apply to them since many of the gifts in these list sound like traditional church jargon. As a result people often end up filling a slot on a church roster since the most general gift is that of serving. In the end people become disillusioned about the whole notion of gifts. What is intended to be a life-giving grace from God is seen as irrelevant or worse.

It's time we heard afresh Paul's exhortation to "strive for" spiritual gifts (1 Cor. 14:1). The word used here has the same root as the word for zealot. Think about what you are passionate and enthusiastic about, what you are willing to share with the world. For example, some people have the desire and talent to welcome people into their homes for meals, while others quietly share their prayer life with others. Some among us love to teach the Bible, while others have the gift of mentoring and tutoring children, and still others have the gift to visit those in nursing homes to bring life and light.

What are you passionate and enthusiastic about? What, if you couldn't share it, would make you sad? I invite you to ponder this.

Because we are a community, we can help each other discover and hone our spiritual gifts. Peter Mallen, director of discipleship education for the Centre for Theology and Ministry for the Uniting Church in Australia, offers these ways we can help each other nurture gifts of ministry for the world:

**Recognize giftedness** Open your eyes to see the gifts in the people God has placed in your midst. This requires discernment, just as it did to see God's purposes in an apparently ordinary man from Nazareth. While many turn to systematic tests to help with this process, intentional awareness is probably the most necessary ingredient for discernment.

**Offer encouragement** Speak or write words of encouragement to those around you. This simple act is powerful and may be the catalyst for a person to seriously consider their calling. It can be as simple as writing a thank you note to another member of the congregation for the gifts they offer – for or beyond the church's ministry.

**Think beyond the church** Encourage those around you to think not only about roles within the church but also about how their gift might be used to share God's love in the world. Find ways to affirm all gifts, perhaps even going with someone who is doing good work in the community so you understand it better yourself.

Friends, we are called to share – and it can be life-giving to do so. Let us identify, share and encourage one another!

Blessings and light, Renée

Starting with this early February issue, Faith will be going back to monthly newsletters.

If you have any news to share during the month, please email the articles to the church office at [faithsecsv@gmail.com](mailto:faithsecsv@gmail.com). Please mark the subject "newsletter."

Thank you for your patience in this transition from weekly to monthly.



## *Happy February Birthday to ....*

<i>Erin Law</i>	02
<i>Kay McCleary</i>	04
<i>Nancy Slater</i>	04
<i>Cathy Rockwell</i>	06
<i>Lakshmi Garcia</i>	15
<i>Dori Richard</i>	16
<i>Sonny Smith</i>	17
<i>Jim Louzy</i>	18
<i>Sonny Coble</i>	22
<i>Ruth Van Otten</i>	24

## *Happy February Anniversary to..*

<i>Phil &amp; Kathy Crawford</i>	12
<i>Mike &amp; Diane Day</i>	14



Faith is saddened to learn about the passing of Joe Banducci in December. Joe's baptism is now complete and he is with the "Great Cloud of Witnesses."

Condolences may be sent to:

Yvonne Banducci  
2800 W. Rose Canyon Cr. Apt. 201  
Anthem, AZ 85086





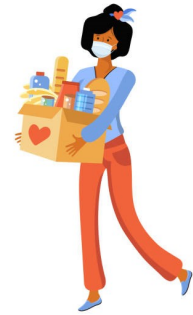
January 30th  
following service

Faith's Annual  
"Congregational Meeting"  
Sunday, January 30  
following worship  
in the Sanctuary

~ Faith's Meals ~

It is a new year and time to update our list of volunteers willing to make or purchase a meal and deliver to a church member who has had an illness, surgery, death in the family, etc. The Deacons are informed of a need and then call from the list. There are also people who help by sharing extra meals and putting them in the Stevenson Hall freezer to be used as needed.

Please sign the sheet in the narthex if you would be willing to help with the ministry. If you have questions or know of a need, please call Pam Winters 419-707-2908 or Diane Derr 520-378-7022.

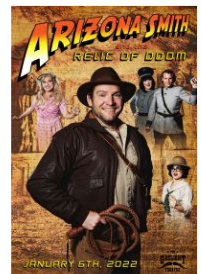


**SAVE THE DATE!**

Faith Presbyterian is once again planning to go to the Gaslight Theater. Don't miss this chance for some great fun and laughs.

**"ARIZONA SMITH AND THE RELIC OF DOOM"**

Sunday, 27 February 2022, 3:00 PM  
56 Seats have been reserved.



The last day for registration and payment for the show is February 6.



Bring soup for  
St. Vincent de Paul  
Food Bank

February 6, 2022

Let's show others that Faith cares!





*~ Congratulations Rev. Joy Church ~*

*Joy was ordained as a Minister of Word and Sacrament on January 9th. She has received her call and is now the new minister at:*

*Fullerton Community Church  
305 Germand Street  
P.O Box 832  
Fullerton, NE 68638*

