

2018 Annual Report



COLOPHON

This report highlights activities of Faith Presbyterian Church during 2018.

It is submitted with input from Clerk of Session Gregg Noll and ministry leaders in connection with the 83rd annual meeting of the Congregation, January 27, 2019.

Prepared by Anna Bird. Designed by Ethan Dunham.

2018 Annual Report

THE FOLLOWING REPORT IS A...

© CELEBRATION OF GOD'S FAITHFULNESS

Know therefore that the Lord your God is God; he is the faithful God, keeping his covenant of love to a thousand generations of those who love him and keep his commandments. Deuteronomy 7:9

© CALL TO PARTICIPATE IN THE CHURCH'S MISSION

Sing to the Lord, all the earth; proclaim his salvation day after day. Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous deeds among all peoples. For great is the Lord and most worthy of praise; he is to be feared above all gods. 1 Chronicles 16:23-25

CHALLENGE TO REMAIN FAITHFUL

Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. Hebrews 10:23









Pastor's Introduction

Announcing the good news of salvation through Jesus is our mission as a church. We have the privilege of telling family, coworkers, classmates, and friends about Jesus. In this past year we have had the opportunity to see our mission at work. Our Youth Missions team partnered with Good Neighbors Home Repair to provide warmer, drier, and safer homes for our neighbors as they shared the gospel in word and deed. We were reminded at last year's congregational meeting of the impact of global missions when we celebrated Harry Marshall's 100th birthday. He offers us a powerful example of a life committed to sharing the good news of forgiveness through Jesus.

We said goodbye in the fall to the Harr family as Tom became the Senior Pastor of Calvary Presbyterian Church in NJ. While our goodbyes were mixed with tears, we have been confronted with the mission of the church to reach our neighbors with the hope of the gospel. Pastor Jim and Pat Brown also offered an example to us as they gave their summer to interim ministry in Sydney, Nova Scotia. They shepherded a small congregation in their ministry of revitalization. They equipped and encouraged the church in reaching that local community with the gospel.

Our gospel mission continues. Ministry leaders and staff equip us and shape the strategies to reach others with the gospel. We gather in worship. We learn in Sunday School. We grow in community groups. We serve in ministry. We go with the gospel into our neighborhoods and around the globe.

Levin

Evangelism & Outreach

FAITH EXPLORED

Faith Explored is a seven-week introduction to Christianity course offered twice a year. Every week starts with a meal prepared and served by volunteers which provides an informal setting for participants to feel comfortable asking their questions. After the meal, Pastor Kevin gives a topical talk based on the Gospel of Mark, followed by small group discussions, and a period of open questions and answers. Throughout the program, participants are encouraged to ask any question they have related to God, the Bible, faith, and life.

PARTICIPANTS	30-35 adults participated in our spring and fall Faith Explored in 2018
VOLUNTEERS	15-18 weekly

Faith Explored serves as an introduction to Jesus and the gospel. We answer honest questions. And it serves as a tool for you to invite friends, neighbors, coworkers, and classmates to join you. It's a direct but engaging question, "Will you join me to find answers to life's biggest questions?"



PRAY FOR:

Our neighbors to find this program who need to connect with a church, discuss their questions, and hear the gospel.

Faith Explored has been such a terrific opportunity to share the Gospel with those who are searching for answers of eternal significance right in our backyard. There can be some tough questions, and tough people sometimes, but the experience is both thrilling, and sometimes scary, but always worth it to see people's lives change—what more could you ask for? Jay Hettler

Faith Explored Leader

I don't want to ignore my questioning or doubt. I enjoyed Faith Explored very much—the people, the discussions. Very educational and I love being able to discuss things—philosophy and religion—without judgment. Faith Explored 2018 Participant



COMMUNITY EVENTS

We intentionally plan church-wide events designed to deliberately engage our community: Vacation Bible School, Pioneer Clubs, the Easter Egg Hunt, and Fall Fest. In the spring of 2018 we also sponsored a baseball team with four players and three coaches from Faith.

At least half of attendees at these events are not members of Faith, providing us opportunities to cultivate relationships with people from our surrounding community.

PRAY FOR:

Eyes to see opportunities to connect with our neighbors in Wilmington in friendship, love, and with the good news.

MARY CAMPBELL CENTER WORSHIP SERVICE

The Mary Campbell Center is a long-term residential care facility for adults with disabilities located less than two miles from Faith. We lead worship services regularly on Sunday afternoons for the residents.

PRAY FOR:

More residents to join us and more volunteers to come and participate!

PARTICIPANTS 22-30 residents attend each service.

VOLUNTEERS 3-10 adults two times each month.

We regularly minister to more than a third of the Mary Campbell Center's almost 70 residents. It is beautiful to look around that room and see so many faces as we sing praise to God together!

MISSIONS

In 2018 we were able to invest more than \$26,000 in missions efforts on top of the \$128,001 budgeted for the year from our designated fund.

The Missions Committee is an exciting committee to be involved with. We get to see firsthand, the ministry updates from our missionaries all around the world. It provides a window into different cultures, and also shows how God is working everywhere, all the time. We get to provide for their financial and prayer needs. As we give, we are able to see the fruits of the missionaries' labor in the mission field, through the Holy Spirit. For anyone interested in short term or long term missions, MTW has several opportunities in which to serve. If you go to www.mtw.org you will find weekly, monthly, and yearly trips.

PARTICIPANTS	Our entire congregation participates in missions through their giving to Faith. Almost 20% of our annual budget goes to missions annually!!! For missions conference events, we have 50-80 participants.
VOLUNTEERS	There are nine members of the missions committee including Pastor Kevin and Pastor Brown

The missions committee is always welcoming new members if you are member of Faith. Most of the work is behind the scenes so there is minimal public speaking or presenting.

"We believe the time has come for us to say 'good-bye' to Slovakia and our beloved team and friends and acquaintances and to say 'hello' to our grandchildren who have been steadily growing older without us around. So the time has come: • To break down our life

• 10 break down our life here in Slovakia and build up a new life in the US.

• To weep over the many good-byes to be said (tears have been shed already!), but to laugh in anticipation of spending more time with our precious children and grandchildren. • To mourn the distance that will be there between us and those we love here in Slovakia, but to dance with our beloved family." Jeff & Esther Talley MTW Missionaries, retiring April 2019 "We are relatively young to be retired, and God has blessed us with the time, health, and the RV that allows us to get to different places to serve. You get a bigger picture of what the Lord is doing. We like to travel, but we don't want travel to become all-consuming. We don't want to lose sight of serving the kingdom."

Gregg and Dee Noll, quoted in byFaith magazine, serving with MNA

PRAY FOR:

Mission to the World (MTW) is praying that each PCA church send 1% of their members to the mission field. We are praying for members of Faith to consider missions as a calling. If anyone has any questions regarding short or long term missions, please see one of the committee members.

"Bless your hearts! Thank you so very much. We are so blessed by our longtime relationship with FPC Wilmington. We know we are care for and prayed for—and that means a lot." John Freeman Harvest USA

"In 2018 we saw one of our own members, Greg Horsky, participate in a short term summer missions trip in Ukraine. The program, the Greenhouse Program, is run by Doug Shepherd who Faith has supported for over ten years. This was a great connection between a missionary we currently support and one of our own members who is interested in missions."

Missions Committee

YOUTH MISSIONS

In July 2018 we shared the gospel with our neighbors! We participated in a local missions trip with Good Neighbors Inc. repairing local homes. Our students showed love to local families because of the love Christ had shown to them.

PARTICIPANTS	15 students	place our trust in the Lord
		through our preparations
VOLUNTEERS	10 adults	and time there.

Many youth have expressed how mission trips are always significant times of growth in their faith.

PRAY FOR:

Our 2019 mission trip to serve with Happy Life Children's Home in Kenya. That we would rest and place our trust in the Lord through our preparations and time there.





COMMUNITY GROUPS

Community Groups are small groups of people who meet regularly to encourage a transforming relationship with Jesus, a nurturing relationship with one another and a welcoming connection for visitors. While the specific study topics for each group vary, the consistent goal is to practically apply the gospel to our individual lives by developing deep relationships with others.

How do you connect? Just show up! Each of our groups would love to have you. You can also contact one of the group leaders or the church office. We want to help you connect with a community group!

PRAY FOR:

Community Group members to bond with each other and bear fruit as they grow and learn more about God through his word.

"Our community group is a place where our family has found encouragement, accountability, friendship, and most importantly, spiritual growth. We eat together, study scripture together, pray together, and intentionally invest in each others lives, practically living out what "church" really is." CG Participants Joe & Deanna Manbeck "The best words to describe our community group are "we share". We share our love of God, and our thirst to know more about Him, his Son and his word. We share in praising God's goodness and in asking for prayer when times are difficult. We share good food and friendly, good-hearted competition during our fun social nights. Our community group is where we grow in our awareness that we are part of God's family, and reach out to others in our community with the good news." CG leaders

Jim & Joan Prorock



COMMUNICATIONS & MEDIA

WEBSITE USERS 9,200–a 20% increase from 2017.

WEBSITE VIEWS 40,500–a 13.3% increase from 2017.

ONLINE GIVING 185 unique online giving donors in 2018.

FACEBOOK LIKES +72 for a total of 534 at the end of 2018.

FACEBOOK VIEWS 215,000 Facebook post views in 2018.

Did you know Faith has a weekly sermon podcast you can download? Check it out on our website or in iTunes.

RADIO

Our church has a weekly 9:30 am Sunday radio broadcast that WDEL 101.7 FM and 1150 AM reports has very strong ratings and patronage. The station is broadcast regionally and globally via a web stream. Monthly visits to the station's website are averaging from 700k to more than a million a month which makes it an exciting place to have our sermons available weekly.

PRAY FOR:

Our social media and web platforms to reflect who we are as a church and engage visitors and those seeking to know more about God.

PRAY FOR:

This effort to continue to reach those who cannot join us on Sunday mornings who need to hear the gospel.



CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

Our Children's classes teach children the truth of Scripture in interactive ways with age-specific application. We desire the children to grow in their classes in loving, knowing, and seeing Jesus as God.

PARTICIPANTS	31 Children (Young Learners through 6th grade). 18 for youth SS.
VOLUNTEERS	15 weekly classroom teachers

Raising children in the church is a long 18-year process, but each year is so important. Having them in Sunday school every week of every year gives us the opportunity to point them to our Savior, Jesus Christ, who will have a lifelong impact on their lives.

PRAY FOR:

Energy and encouragement for our teachers. That children would have their hearts renewed by the Lord and that they would deepen their relationship with him.



ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

Adult Sunday school classes provide weekly instruction in the Scriptures that help each participant know and follow Christ. Classes are built around three tracks: 1) bible content; 2) theological instruction; and 3) practical application.

PARTICIPANTS	60-70 adults participating on a regular basis	
VOLUNTEERS	25+ adult members of our congregation took time to volunteer their time teaching Adult Sunday school in 2018!	

We believe that Sunday school is one of the 3 essential pieces to connecting and growing your faith, please come and join us!

ADULT CLASSES OFFERED IN 2018

Ezra/Nehemiah: Bill Troppman

Faith Connected: Kevin Koslowsky

The Order of Salvation: Chuck Hartzell

Raising Sexually Faithful Kids (HarvestUSA): Nate & Anna Bird, Jim & Joan Prorock

1 Corinthians (part 2): Sal Tremonte

Marks of a Healthy Church: various

Judges: Mark Robinson & Frank Barlow

Empowered, a Study in Personal Evangelism: Frank Barlow

The Christians' Creed, a Study of the Apostles Creed: Jason Hancock & David Wilkins

Acts: Harold Naylor

From Garden to Glory: various

Man of God: Harold Naylor

PRAY FOR:

Wisdom and excellence for our teachers and spiritual growth and maturity for all participants.

"Sunday school not only bridges the gap between worship services, allowing me to fellowship with those who may attend at different times, but knits us together as we learn how to practically apply the truths of Scripture into our daily lives."

Candice Kraus

"For me I like Sunday school because it gives me a chance to explore more of God's Word and it gives me a chance to get to know other members of Faith. I also like it because my wife and I can do classes together." Allan Kery

"Sunday school is a great time to dive deeper into everyday topics in a smaller, more casual setting and provides a valuable opportunity to discuss how the Bible teaches us to act and respond in our daily lives." Steve & Rhiannon Barlow



MUSIC MINISTRY

Our church loves music. Each Sunday we have two services in two different music styles that draw our attention and worship to God. We feature a formal Concert Series each year to give glory to God through musical excellence, reach our community with diverse, professional-caliber concerts with free-admission, and educate and edify our audiences.

PARTICIPANTS	100-200 Concert Series attendees
VOLUNTEERS	Over 50 volunteers contributed thousands of hours collectively to provide weekly and seasonal music to offer praise to God in 2018. This includes our Chancel Choir members, Contemporary band, Christmas Choir members, handbells, soloists, and special music groups.

Please join us, anyone can become involved at any time with the music ministries here at Faith. If you have ideas for our 2019-20 Concert Series, contact Chris Kraus!



PRAY FOR:

The music ministry to be a constant source of praising God and to bring beauty to our worship. Prav that the Lord calls musicians who don't mind waking up early to join the contemporary band. That we would continue to find Gospel-centered, Christian artists to fill the Concert Series with and that these events would reach more people in the DE valley and serve as a gateway for more people to feel welcomed by our church.

"We enjoy the fellowship of the choir very much. Even more than that, we are grateful to be able to use our voices in the worship of our Lord and Savior." Mark & Nancy Cowchok Choir Members

Men's & Women's Ministries

MEN'S MINISTRY

In 2018 Men's Ministry was comprised of 2 weekly studies plus the start of a new Sunday School class for the winter term. The men who participate throughout the year are a faithful group who enjoy being in fellowship with each other and serving our church.

PARTICIPANTS Weekly studies have 4-10 participants, Men's Sunday School has 25

Our weekly meetings are Tuesday mornings at 6am and Saturday mornings at 7am, join us!

We would love new meetings and new leaders to form up to discover what God desires for us as the leaders of the church, our families and the community.

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

The Women's Ministry is a great way to get connected and meet other women at Faith; join us for Coffee & Conversation nights, special Sunday school classes, fellowship opportunities, Bible studies, and conferences throughout the year.

PARTICIPANTS	30 - 40 women
VOLUNTEERS	6 committee members, 6 Bible Study/Sunday School leaders and over 300 volunteer hours in 2018.

All women, ages 16 and up, are a part of Women's Ministry and are encouraged to become involved and participate in Women's Ministry.

PRAY FOR:

Gospel growth in the hearts and minds of all men at Faith through their personal time with God and through our men's ministry studies and events.

PRAY FOR:

Volunteers to help with planning fellowship times, lead Bible Study and Sunday school in 2019.

"In a world that works to draw lines to separate humanity, women's ministry only has one line: that between men and women. Because of this and the mandate of Titus 2, I have deep relationships with women of all ages and stages that I may not otherwise have had." Meg Hanna

Youth & Children's Ministries

YOUTH MINISTRIES

Our programs serve students in 7th - 12th grade and provides access to worship, learning, and community. Students meet weekly for Sunday school, Sunday evening Youth Group gatherings, monthly activities, attend 2 annual retreats, and have the opportunity to participate in our annual mission trip.

Praise God for how our youth ministry has been used as a tool by God to shape the lives of our students:

- "I have come to understand that there is much more to just believing the gospel but to live for Christ."
- "Being in the youth group and learning and getting to know that strong group of Christians has really helped me to grow in my own faith."
- "I feel that Christ has become a bigger part of my life ever since I started youth group and especially since I went on the missions trips."
- "I started to understand God more and started to know him more through youth lessons and the mission trips. I realize now that I need to find love and hope in God first."

PARTICIPANTS	26 average
VOLUNTEERS	7 adults

Faith Youth Group's goal for the students is that they are able to say that they have an authentic relationship with Jesus Christ and because of that relationship live a transformed life.

PRAY FOR:

For students to begin or grow in their relationship with Christ. That he would be their sole foundation for life and that they would take their faith seriously.



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Vacation Bible School for children age 4 through those who completed fifth grade was hosted June 18-22, 2018, from 9 am–12 pm. The children learned about being rescued by Jesus.

PARTICIPANTS	166 children attended this year; over 50% did not indicate a church home on their registration form.
VOLUNTEERS	41 adults and teenagers volunteered countless hours for this week long ministry.

Please consider how you can help out during VBS 2019 or in preparation beforehand.

NURSERY

All of the children enjoy playing and being cared for in a nurturing and secure environment while their parents and caregivers can worship with peace of mind. We are very grateful for our faithful and diligent nursery volunteers.

PARTICIPANTS All children birth-age 4

VOLUNTEERS 8 unique volunteers each Sunday: 32-40 monthly volunteers.

PRAY FOR:

VBS 2019! Pray that the gospel will be clearly taught and for attending children and their families to come to saving faith.

"I saw a change in the way my daughter treated her younger sibling after being at VBS, what good lessons she learned. I'm so glad she could come."

Parent

PRAY FOR:

Our ongoing recruitment efforts in obtaining additional nursery volunteers.

"We are confident in our kids' care in both the infant and toddler nurseries at Faith. Our toddlers even love it so much that they ask to go and stay!" The Elliott Family

PIONEER CLUBS

On Wednesday evenings during the school year, children age 4 through 6th grade, meet at the church from 6:30 - 8 p.m. for an exciting evening of handson activities, Bible lessons, games, and fun. They learn to apply Christ to all areas of their lives while building relationships with other children and their leaders.

PARTICIPANTS	33 kids each Wednesday evening
VOLUNTEERS	24 adults and teens helping our children learn

We are always in need of more volunteers. If you are looking for an opportunity to do outreach this is it! 39 of our kids are from families outside of our church. 19 of those kids don't have a church to call home.

PRAY FOR:

For energy for the current volunteers being faithful to the work God has called them to and for new volunteers to come and help spread the gospel. For kids without a knowledge of the Lord to hear of his love.

"This year we have had children pray prayers of thankfulness to the Lord, learn that the Bible isn't a rulebook to be feared but God's Word of hope, and each week they have heard the gospel taught by our leaders." **Pastor Mike Yurik**



JUNIOR CHURCH

Each Sunday, during part of our worship service, children age 4 through 3rd grade attend Junior Church. In Junior Church, we train children in what worship is through interactive lessons focusing on the music of the church, the liturgical elements we use in worship, and Christ-centered Bible lessons.

PARTICIPANTS 12 children

VOLUNTEERS 18 teachers and helpers

Junior Church is an open door for new families to get to know church and their children to feel comfortable in a new environment.

FAITH PRESCHOOL, KINDERGARTEN & CHILDCARE

The purpose of Faith Preschool and Child Care is to provide programs that educate and care for the children entrusted to us within a loving and nurturing environment. We focus on the individual needs of each child while providing a variety of experiences that will help develop the whole child. Emphasis on foundational Biblical values is an integral part of all our programs.

PARTICIPANTSThere are 67 children currently enrolled in one of our programs.51 preschool and 16 before/after care.

We regularly fill up our classrooms and our Summer Camp program and have opportunities several times per year to share the gospel with parents, grandparents, and family members.

PRAY FOR:

That kids would grow up knowing what it means to worship the Lord and love coming to church to participate in that worship!

"I like learning sign language to go with our Bible stories every week and being with my friends." Jr. Church Student, 3rd Grade

PRAY FOR:

Bring the right staff to join our team and draw new families who need to hear the gospel in our classrooms.

YiH & FYA Ministries

YOUNG IN HEART

Our Young in Heart group is for those 55+ that seek to remain active in church and in fellowship with friends. Our group has a hunger for Biblical teaching and fellowship with other believers. We have prayer meetings, Bible studies, and regular fellowship events just about each quarter. We also plan occasional day trips in the Spring and Fall.

PARTICIPANTS	YiH Lunches: 7 lunches in 2018 had attendance of 35; YiH CG held 25 meetings in 2018 with regular attendance of 26
VOLUNTEERS	YiH Lunches: 5-7 volunteers and YiH CG: 4 volunteers

Our community is faithful and diligent in attendance for all our meetings, Sunday worship, and praying for one another, what a blessing!

FAITH YOUNG ADULTS

Faith Young Adults is a Community Group that seeks to provide young adults (single or married, 18-30s) with the opportunity to more deeply understand the grace of God through Jesus and to pursue lives of purpose in community with others.

"Our burning desire is to know God, know one another, and serve the world with the renewed dignity that comes from Christ." FYA purpose

PARTICIPANTS 8-12 meet together weekly

VOLUNTEERS 2 leaders coordinate and lead our Bible study

FYA provides community and sense of family/home to those who do not have their own family units yet. Singles, young married couples, and college students all find a place to belong on a weekly basis—through the studying of God's Word and praying for each other.

PRAY FOR:

Those attending our programs who do not appear to understand the grace of God in salvation.

"Young in Heart is a nice group to be part of. They make you feel welcome! The level of Biblical knowledge of many in the group is amazing. The fellowship and the luncheons provide the opportunity to get acquainted with church members and others. We have wonderful leaders." Marcla Ellison, Martha Gregg, Henry & Mary Lou Lynch, Craig & Ann Miller

PRAY FOR:

God will meet each one of our needs regarding leading and facilitating our study and service projects.

Deacons & Deaconesses

The diaconate is committed to the biblical mandate to care for those in our church community. The office of deacon is not one of rule but rather of service to both the physical and spiritual needs of the community. Faith's deacons also care for the facilities, handle the finances of the church, oversee the preschool, and support the weekly worship services. The deaconesses are women, appointed by elders, to serve along with the deacons in mercy ministry. They assist the elders and pastors to help people in need.

PRAY FOR:

As we move forward, we ask for prayer that our deacons and deaconesses would seek to serve our church community with humility and openness to the needs of our congregation.

MERCY	Over \$7,100 in direct financial assistance or counseling services was provided to those in need in our community from the Deacon's fund.
FACILITIES	Added security cameras for increased safety and added Wi-Fi so min- istries could be more effective throughout the building
FINANCES	Earned over \$7,500 through secure investments and updated our online giving to a low-cost solution that about 40% of giving comes in through

We hope to expand our visitation program and to involve more church members in 2019. We would wish to have both men and women participate on our visitation teams. It is a blessing to visit with all members and to learn from their experiences.





Faith Presbyterian Church 720 Marsh Road Wilmington, DE 19803 (302) 764-8615 http://www.faithwilmington.com

Rev. Kevin Koslowsky	Senior Pastor
Rev. Mike Yurik	Youth & Children's Ministries
Rev. Jim Brown	Assistant Pastor
Dr. David Giardiniere	Traditional Music Director
John Giardiniere	Contemporary Music Director
Christopher Kraus	Organist
Christie Negley	Office Administrator
Griselda DeLeo	Preschool Business Administrator
Emily Kirchner	Preschool Education Administrator