

Sunday Services
9:00 and 11:00

Sunday School P-5th: 9 and 11

6th – 8th Grade: 9 am
9th – 12th Grade: 11 am
Adult Class: 10 – 11

November 1
Capital Commission California
Election Eve Prayer Walk
See page 5

November 7
Commitment Sunday

November 7
Chancel Choir and Faith Brass
'Sing Praise'

November 13
Macy's Community Shopping Day
See page 5

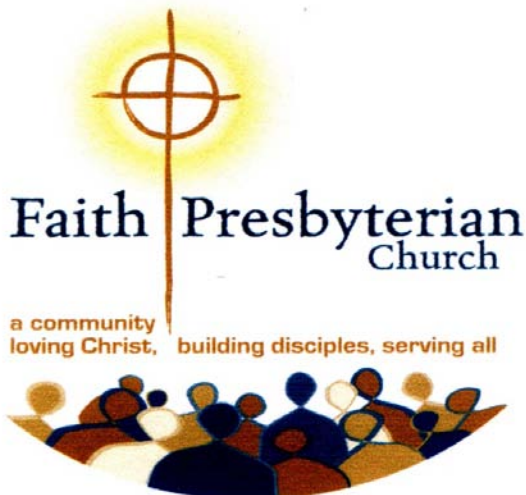
November 22
Hunger and Homelessness
Task Force Meets
See page 4

November 28th
Hanging of the Greens
Sunday Services, 9:00 and 11:00

November 28
Family Night
See page 7

*The PresbyNews is published monthly
by a team of volunteer writers.*

*Please send your submissions to Editor
Suzy Hughes at
suzan_hughes@synectics.net*



The Holidays are Here!
Celebrate with us at Faith!



Join us for

Hanging of the Greens

Our annual celebration of the beginning of the Advent Season
November 28th, 9 and 11 a.m.

November Music Highlights

Psalm 95.2: Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!

Faith Christmas Choir

Come join the Faith Chancel Choir this Advent season and sing the music of our faith. If you'd like to be a part of terrific group and enjoy singing, you are invited to join us for the next couple months. Rehearsals are Thursday evenings, from 7:00-7:45 p.m. in the Sanctuary. If interested, please contact the Church Office or Betsy Butler bbuter@faithpresby.org

PREMIER of "Sing Praise!" by Allan Petker

November 7th, the Chancel Choir and Faith Brass will premier Allan Petker's new anthem 'Sing Praise'. This anthem was commissioned by Dan and Kathy Pehrson to celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary, and also celebrates their more than 60 years of singing in various church choirs. Allan Petker is a well-known contemporary composer, conductor and clinician in California. This anthem is scheduled to be published early next year.

PresbyNews

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www.faithpresby.org

Pastor Jeff Chapman
Associate Pastors
Jim Zazzera,
Patrick Vaughn, Quinn
Vaughn

Next PresbyNews Deadline
November 22

Our Faith Family

Ben Patterson Fall Retreat Messages Available on the Web

Maybe you missed our Fall Retreat this September up at Tahoe but heard about the wonderful teaching we experienced from Ben Patterson. Or maybe you were there and would love to listen to some of those messages again. You're in luck! All of Ben's messages on learning to pray were recorded and are now available on our web page. Go to the "sermon/podcasts" page and click on the message you want to hear. Also, we have several copies of Bens' book, *God's Prayer Book* available here at church for only \$5 each. Stop by and pick one up.

For the podcasts, simply go to the Sermons tab on the home page (<http://www.faithpresby.org>) and you'll see all five sessions, in addition to a sample of the Faith Praise Band live from Dobbins Hall and the handout Ben distributed on how to Pray in small groups.



Thanks to our Webmaster DiAnne Brown and our Webhost Matt Huddleston for their hard work to get these on the site. Enjoy!

Pastor Joan Stock is Moving South

The day we have all been dreading is drawing near. Joan Stock, formally Associate Pastor at Faith and currently our Parish Associate, is moving to Southern California. Joan has been an important leader and friend here at Faith and will be deeply missed by so many of us. Be sure to join us on Sunday, November 7th, as we have an opportunity that morning to celebrate Joan's ministry here at Faith and wish her well in this next season of her life. When Joan moves in late November, her new address will be: 621 Mayflower Road #202, Claremont, Ca. 91711.

Interested in a Men's Evening Life Group?

We have some people interested in beginning an evening life group for men on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 p.m. If you are interested in joining such a group, please contact Pastor Jeff Chapman at jchapman@faithpresby.org or 428-3439.

Life Groups are small groups (4-12) of people who meet weekly for Bible study, prayer and community. These groups have been instrumental in spiritual growth and building friendships for many here at Faith. Not a part of a Life Group? We'd love to tell you more.

- **Adult Life Groups** -We have men's, women's and mixed groups which meet at a variety of times and places. For more info contact Pastor Jeff (428-3439).
- **Youth Life Groups** - These meet Sunday mornings after the Sermon. Junior high during both services. High school during both services.
- **College Life Group** - We meet on Thursdays from 7:30—9 p.m. Contact Pastor Quinn for more info.

From Miss Melinda

Dear Faith Children, Families, and Friends,

Thank you for making my time at Faith Presbyterian extra special. I will never find words to express how much your love and appreciation meant to me. My new job is keeping me extremely busy, but I think about you often.

Grace and peace,
Ms. Melinda



Pastor's Column



Wonders (will) never cease!

Pastor Quinn Vaughn

"To wonder" 1) speculate or be curious to know about something
2) be in a state of amazed admiration or awe

"Wonders (will) never cease!" Have you ever heard this phrase? Well, it is true. Being one who hangs with a baby a lot, I would say that we are all born **wonderers**:

"I wonder what that is (staring at the wind, moving the trees), I wonder what that creature is (our cat),
I wonder how to get that into my mouth, I wonder what this funny thing attached to my body is (a hand),
I wonder what that gurgle inside of me is..."

Wonders never cease! These wonderings are accompanied now by screeches, laughter, smiles, open-eyed bewilderment, grimacing concentration or intense wiggling...

*'From the lips of children and infants you have **ordained praise**'* Psalm 8:3

Jesus quoted this truth to the adults at the temple who were angry at the children for responding in jubilant wonder at the wonders he was performing in their midst. (Matthew 21:14-16)

Where did I lose my wonder? It's as if "growing up" means growing out of wonder. Donald Miller, the author of *'Blue Like Jazz'*, said it so well:

"Too much time is spent trying to chart God on a grid, and too little is spent allowing our hearts to feel awe. By reducing Christian spirituality to formula, we deprive our hearts of wonder. When I think about the complexity of the Trinity, the three-in-one God, my mind cannot understand, but my heart feels wonder in abundant satisfaction. It is as though my heart, in the midst of its euphoria, is saying to my mind, 'There are things you cannot understand, and you must learn to live with this. Not only must you learn to live with this, you must learn to enjoy this...'"¹

And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.

Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.¹

Maybe a part of growing up in Christ means to tenaciously hold onto wonder while the world around us tries so hard to chart, grid and explain. The dictionary's definition of wonder that I put at the top of this reflection scrapes the surface of what wonder really is. As a person who sees through the eyes of faith, I prefer this one:

"Wonder is that feeling we get when we let go of our silly answers, our mapped out rules that we want God to follow. I don't think there is any better worship than wonder."¹

I prefer this one, but I have a long ways to go.

Wonders (will) never cease!

- Quinn

¹ Donald Miller, *Blue Like Jazz*.

Hunger and Homelessness Task Force Meets

Faith's hunger and homelessness task force met again the 4th Monday of the month to discern how God is leading Faith to serve our brothers and sisters in Sacramento. We continued to read "*When Helping Hurts*" and discussed questions from the book. We are learning that, when serving those in Sacramento, we may spend more time "being" rather than "doing." Additionally, discussions will continue to center on how the congregation has served the community in the past, what agencies/organizations are already doing in Sacramento to address homelessness and hunger, and what gaps need to be filled. By early 2011 the task force will have specific recommendations to bring to the congregation. Questions? Contact DiAnne Brown at 395-6129.

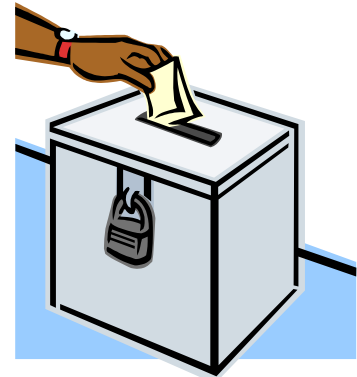
Conney Willis Memorial Scholarship

As the anniversary approaches of the loss of Conney Willis, we'd like to remind members of the Faith congregation that a scholarship was established in her memory and is available to members of the Faith community who are interested in pursuing God's call to mission. Conney was a much-loved member of Faith who served as a Mission elder and participated in numerous mission trips. She passed away in November 2008 at the age of 49. The scholarship was established by Dwayne, Kevin, and Kim Willis (Conney's husband and children) through donations given in Conney's name to Faith Church. The mission committee has earmarked an additional funding source to sustain the scholarship in the years ahead. Individuals interested in pursuing missions-related activities such as a service project, travel or study should contact Mission elder Rudy Buehler at 376-7079 or rudybuehler@hotmail.com.

Recommendations for Nomination of Church Officers—Class of 2014

Your Nominating Committee is interested in receiving recommendations for nominees to the offices of elder and deacon. Please pick up one or more nomination forms in the narthex.

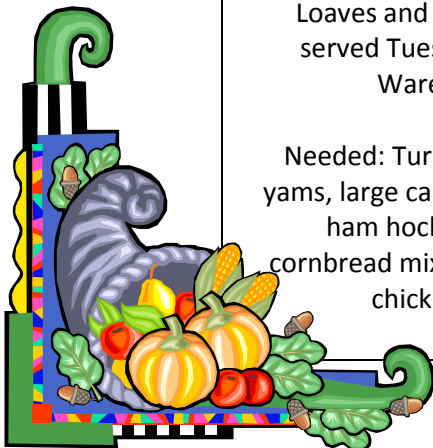
Please remember - all nominees must be active members of Faith Presbyterian Church.



Thanksgiving Food Donations Needed!

Loaves and Fishes is in need of the following items for their Thanksgiving meal that will be served Tuesday, November 23 at 11 a.m. Please take all donations to the Loaves & Fishes Warehouse by Monday, November 22. For more information, call 446-0874.

Needed: Turkeys (300) roasted and sliced with a jar of drippings; cranberry sauce, large can; yams, large can; pineapple, large cans, marshmallows, large or small; collard greens, large cans; ham hocks; assorted baked pies (400); whipping cream, cans; apple juice, gallon size; cornbread mix, boxes; stovetop dressing or dry dressing, large bags; onions, large bags; celery; chicken stock; sage seasoning. Also, socks – 2,000 new pairs (one size fits all).



Recent and Upcoming Events

Groundbreaking for the New Food Closet

Betty Park and Georgianne Becker are two of the 16 church representatives who conducted a symbolic ground breaking for the new Food Closet. Designed by Faith's own architects, Dave Anders and Krysia Falltrick, at no charge, the accompanying plan shows the spacious new Food Closet to be built at the back of Bethany Presbyterian's yard.



Election Eve Prayer Walk

Capital Commission California invites you to participate in its first Election Eve Prayer Walk!

When: Monday, November 1, 2010 - arrive anytime between 6 pm - 8 pm, rain or shine

Where: California State Capitol, Sacramento, California

Why: Our Government Leaders need our prayers & God's help

Prayer Stations

- Station 1: Pray for Judges
- Station 2: Pray for State Legislators
- Station 3: Pray for Governor
- Station 4: Pray for Washington, DC
- Station 5: Pray for Pastors, Churches & Capitol Commission

Please allow at least 30 minutes for the Prayer Walk. This is a non-partisan and non-political prayer event. Walkers start at the West steps of the State Capitol (Station 1) and then continue around the Capitol individually or in small groups, stopping to pray at each Prayer Station.

Parking is free along L Street or N Street - Free dinner for the first 100 Prayer Walkers compliments of Chick-Fil-A!

Please RSVP to:

Frank Erb, Capitol Commission California State Director, 916-412-7625 frank.erb@capitolcom.org www.capitolcom.org

Kings Tickets

Basketball season is upon us, and Faith families have three opportunities to attend a game this year as part of a group: Sunday, December 19 with the Houston Rockets; Saturday, February 12 with the Oklahoma City Thunder; and Friday, April 1 with the Denver Nuggets. Because it is a group, tickets are \$25.50 (normally \$40.50), and the seats are located at midcourt halfway up the second deck. Fewer tickets are available this year, and there is a group from outside the church that takes advantage of this offer every year Join the fun at ARCO and root for our Kings!

Macy's Annual Community Shopping Day

On November 13, the downtown Macys has its annual Community Shopping Day. If you shop at Macys, this is a big sale day anyway, but if you have a shopping pass, you receive \$10 off an item worth \$25 or more and 10-20% off anything else you purchase. You are also entered in a drawing to win a \$500 shopping spree. While you shop, you can also enjoy some entertainment and free food.

You get shopping passes for \$10 from participating non-profits, and Barbara Tracy has a stack that one, just let Barbara know, and she will get you one.

Call Barbara Tracy at (916) 428-0311 or e-mail her at bjtracy@comcast.net for tickets/passes to both these events!

Gathering for Prayer

Would You Consider Joining Us Wednesday Mornings?

Armin R. Gesswein, the founder and director of Revival Prayer Fellowships, once wrote, "The first church did not have a prayer meeting, *it was a prayer meeting.*" Acts 1:14 confirms this. Luke writes about the early Christian community, "They all joined together constantly in prayer."



It is not difficult to make the case that the most important thing the church does is pray. At the very least it is the *first* thing that the church does. The church, of course, does lots of other things. We teach, we serve, we worship, we disciple, we train, we build. But if we do not pray first, than everything else we do is done in vain because it is done by our own power. As the Psalmist writes, "Unless the Lord builds the house, its builders labor in vain." (Psalm 127:1)

This fall at Faith we have begun meeting on Wednesday mornings to pray together. We call this time *A Gathering for Prayer*. We have no other agenda other than to come together and seek God in prayer. In doing so we have two goals. First, we will pray for the renewal, the protection and the effectiveness of Faith Presbyterian Church. Second, we will pray for the spread of God's Kingdom to the entire world. As we pray, scripture will be our guide. We will learn to pray as God has instructed us to pray.

Perhaps you have never been to a prayer meeting and the thought of showing up intimidates you? Fear not! These gatherings are designed so that *all of us* can learn to pray together in groups together. Know that you will always be free to participate at your own comfort level.

Join us this and every Wednesday morning from 6:30-7:30 a.m. in the Faith Sanctuary for what may be the most important meeting of our whole week!

Update from the Finance Team

At the end of our third fiscal quarter, September 30, 2010, we had a net income of \$35,360. Both our expenses and income were below budget expectations.

Income was below budget by \$12,528. This was due most significantly to our budget expectations for "Givers of Records" being higher than our actual receipts. Givers of Record are people who contribute regularly to Faith Presbyterian Church but do not pledge. Pledged income is above budget. Thank you to all who continue to dedicate a portion of their resources to the mission and vision of our church.

Expenses were below budget \$37,659. Most significantly Personnel expenses are below budget due to several employee position changes (reduction of maintenance staff at the beginning of the year, maternity leave for Pastor Quinn, and vacancy of our Children's Ministry Director). Personnel expenses are \$11,123 below budget. Property Maintenance is \$8,339 below budget. Christian Education and Missions are both approximately \$5,000 below budget. If you would like to see a detailed version of our financial statements or if you have questions, please feel free to contact Maria Rodriguez, Finance Elder, at 421.6967 or mmrodrig@aol.com

Children's and Family Ministries

Family Ministry @ Faith Presbyterian Church

Christian Parenthood is the call to love your children like God loves you! This takes walking with and discipling our children in Christ day in and day out, living in the gospel story with them day in and day out, and teaching them how to trust and obey the Lord day in and day out. So, here at Faith we are - committed to walking along side one another, equipping one another, supporting one another and enjoying one another as we dare to live into this God given calling.

Family Nights

We all need friends and we all need help raising our children in faith in Jesus. That is what Faith Family Nights are all about. Come reconnect and make new connections with other families and the Lord! Faith Family Nights are for the whole family (with children 0 – 18.) You are invited to gather on the **4th Sunday of the month** (for the most part unless there is a special event or holiday (* see calendar bellow) from **4:00-6:15pm in Link Hall**. Each night we will start with an all-family game time, followed by break-out sessions (for all ages!) and finished with dinner together. Dinner is paid for by your donations at the door. You can contribute whatever you can afford.

2010—2011 Calendar

November 28th – Family Night
December 19th – Dinner and Caroling
January 30th – Family Night
February 27th – Family Night
March 25-27th – TBD “Stay-Treat”
April 17th – Palm Sunday Seder Dinner
May 29th – Family Night
June 26th – Family BBQ (Place TBD)

For parents we will have large group equipping session, followed by small group discussions, closed with prayer for each other's families. **For children and youth** there is child care for children under the age of 3, fellowship and craft time for children 4 years old - 5th grade and a Youth Café for Junior and Senior High (youth relevant videos and fellowship over coffee, tea and hot cocoa with our Youth Intern).

Meet Your Deacon: Gail Kinkennon, Parish 4

Tell us a little bit about yourself: I am a librarian at the Martin Luther King Jr. Library. I am mom to Megan, one of our child care workers at Faith. I am a native Californian, born in Oakland and grew up in the Sacramento area.

How long have you been part of the Faith family? Five and a half years.

How do you see Christ working through the deacon ministry? In each of us, and as a team. I am most excited about the communion ministry. It is a true blessing to visit our homebound friends and extend the Lord's Supper to them and their families. The joy and appreciation of those we serve is a great reward personally.

Memorable deacon moment: So far in my short time of service was the new home blessing for the Stewart family with Pastor Jim and friends. We went from room to room in the house offering a blessing, even the bathroom. It was very moving emotionally to the family and all of us present.

Hobbies/Interests: I love reading mysteries and inspirational fiction. I enjoy my walks in the Pocket after a day at work. I long to spend time with dear friends and family. Movies, live theater and concerts are a favorite of mine. When I retire I want to play golf and travel.

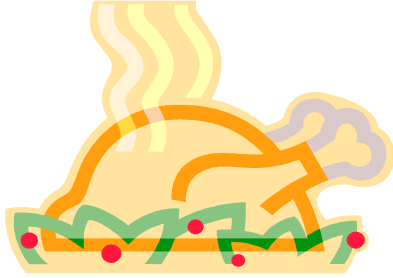


Thank you Gail!

Opportunities to Get Involved

Foodlink Volunteer Opportunities

The California Emergency Foodlink has volunteer opportunities throughout the holidays. They are located at 5800 Foodlink Street Sacramento, CA 95828 and can be reached at 916.387.9000 or Toll Free: 1.800.283.9000. Their website is www.cafoodlink.org. Call them today to schedule a time to volunteer! When participating, please wear closed toed shoes and long pants.



How do I Start a New Ministry?

Do you have an idea for a new ministry you want to begin? The way you go about that is to contact the Elder of the area of your new ministry (i.e. Mission, Children's or it may be the Deacons). They will ask you to come to their team meeting and discuss your idea for a new ministry with the team. It may be a ministry that the team is able to approve (such as Sponsoring World Vision children by Mission or Prayer Blankets by the Deacons). You could then start the ministry; the team could also give you some guidance about starting the ministry. If it was a ministry such as Family Promise or Compassion Weekend (ministries that involve many in our church community and use of the facilities of the church, you would with the Elder take it to Session and it would require Session approval.

GOT AN ITCH?

No--not a physical one! It's that thought, idea, or whatever that keeps popping up in your mind that tells you to do it, or at least continue to flesh it out in your everyday thoughts. It ties in (at least in your mind) with how you want to serve Christ and be a more giving disciple. Your Problem Is---What do I do about it? Where do I start?

The answer: Bring it to the attention of the Lay Ministry Team. Let them know, either by speaking or writing what you have in mind. It's that easy. They would love to hear about that "itch" that has been bothering you and to assist you in any way they can.

Questions To Ask Charities Before Donating

Recently a member of our congregation contacted DiAnne Brown regarding Faith's Local Mission Task Force. She wondered how we choose the organizations in the community with which we will partner and how we can determine if they are spending our money wisely. She also had a long list of organizations (local and national) to whom she makes a financial contribution. Did DiAnne know how to determine if her money was being spent wisely?

DiAnne directed her to a website I've used often in the past which rates charities in terms of the percentage of money they spend on program costs, administrative costs, and fundraising costs – www.charitynavigator.org. They provide great information and also include the several questions to consider. Check them out online – and next month's edition will include these questions!

November 2010

Saturday, Nov 13 & Saturday, Nov 20,
9am –12pm

December 2010:

Friday, Dec 3 & Saturday, Dec 4
4pm-7pm, 9am –12pm

Friday, Dec 10 & Saturday, Dec 11
4pm-7pm, 9am –12pm

Friday, Dec 17 & Saturday, Dec 18
4pm-7pm, 9am –12pm

January 2011:

Saturday, Jan 8
9am –12pm

Elders Report

What is Session? Session is the governing body of our congregation. Made up of 17 members (pastors and elders) who are called by God and elected by the congregation, the Session is charged by God to oversee the ministry and mission of Faith Presbyterian Church. By God's grace, Session works hard to make sure that we are becoming, day by day, the sort of church God wants us to become – *A community loving Christ, building disciples, serving all.*

What has Session been up to lately? The following are some of the decisions which were made this month at Session and some of the areas of ministry which were celebrated. We hope you share in the enthusiasm of Session in all that God is doing in our midst. As a reminder, Session meetings are held the 2nd Monday of each month at 7:00 here at church. Unless otherwise determined, they are open meetings and church members are always encouraged to come listen in. We'll even share our snacks!

- **New Pledge Secretaries appointed** – Doran McDaniel, our pledge secretary these past few years, has moved with her husband, Walt, to Arizona. This month Session accepted the recommendation of our finance team to appoint Maria Rodriguez and Barbara Brown as co-pledge secretaries.
- **Forum at Faith to discuss General Assembly Amendments** – This past summer at the General Assembly (the national gathering of the Presbyterian Church USA), several amendments to our constitution (The Book of Order) were approved. Those amendments now need to be ratified by a majority of our Presbyteries before they take effect. The Presbytery of Sacramento will vote on these amendments at our February meeting. The Session agreed to hold an open forum here at Faith in January to help inform the congregation of the nature of these amendments, and to pray for God's leading and protection over our denomination, its leaders, and these decisions.
- **Master building plan presented** – A task force led by elder Dave Williamson, presented to Session the results of many months of careful and thoughtful work. A revised master building plan is now being considered by Session and could be endorsed as early as November. If and when that happens, the plan will be shared with the wider congregation for feedback, ideas, and ultimately a vote of approval.
- **Pocket Community Thanksgiving service cancelled this year** – It was reported to Session that local Pocket churches are considering trying a new way to connect with one another this year. In years past, we have gathered to worship together Thanksgiving week. This year we are exploring of other ways to connect, particularly around service projects in and for our community.
- **Session approves use of memorial money** – The Session approved the use of money from our Memorial Fund for the following purchases:
 - o **New Flat-Screen Television for Narthex Welcome Center** – The Communications Team will install this as another venue to communicate with the congregation events and celebrations.
 - o **Re-funding of Stoking the Fires of Faith** – This long-standing fund was created to help fund opportunities for members of the Faith community to receive training (e.g. classes, retreats, seminars) for areas of ministry. \$5000 was given from the memorial fund to reestablish this fund.
 - o **New Computer for Media Center** – Funds were approved towards the purchase of a computer and software to support the visual portion of our A/V improvements.

If you ever have any questions for any of our elders, a complete list of names, areas of ministry, contact info, and even photos can be found on our web page at http://www.faithpresby.org/modules/fp_faith/?tac=3

You're Invited to the 3rd Annual Just Christmas SERRV Sale!

Your purchases of artisan crafts and foods at our SERRV Sale will help small-scale producers build better lives for themselves AND their families.

"Thanks to my knitting work, I now have a small house with a door, windows, and that is furnished on the inside."
— Ayde Riveros,
Bridge of Hope, Peru



Bring your holiday gift list and take advantage of this alternative shopping opportunity!

Cash or check accepted.

This sale is hosted by the College / 20's group of Faith. Thanks for your support!



WHEN

Nov 28th, Dec 5th & 12

WHERE

Faith Pres. Church Narthex after both services

SERRV is a nonprofit fair trade organization with 60 years of experience. Our mission is to eradicate poverty wherever it resides by providing opportunity and support to artisans and farmers worldwide.

www.serrv.org

SERRV