Faith Connection Story – St. Paul’s New Oxford

Laurene suggested trying "staircasing" events - when planning one event have another to invite people to. This past spring, we tried “staircasing" and scheduled one event (our traditional Easter Egg Hunt) on the Saturday prior to Palm Sunday. The next event scheduled was St. Paul's first Easter Vigil Service on the Saturday evening before Easter. (This was a replacement for the Easter Sunrise service.)

In 2016, 10 people came to the Sunrise service. This past Easter (2017), 40 attended the first Easter Vigil. The next event we scheduled was a Friday evening in May for children to make a potted plant for their moms for Mother's Day. We had 12-14 kids attend - 8 came from our first announcement on Face Book.

After these events, we contacted Pack Pals in the New Oxford Schools (similar to what some churches call Ruth's Harvest) and asked permission to do a fund raiser. We came up with the idea of hosting a Pig Roast on Friday, August 2st. The church paid all the costs so that all the proceeds could be given to Pack Pals. Advertising was key to this event. We placed a few ads in the Merchandizer but our primary ad was a 4 X 6 card that I have enclosed. For several weeks we stressed using the card to invite family, friends, and co-workers.

Handing people a card and issuing an invitation was the prelude for using a door hanger to invite people to the next event - a new worship service that will be launched October 11.

The Pig Roast was perfect: great weather, people volunteered to help and worked well together, 200 came to eat, and we raised $2179 for Pack Pals!