

Faith Lutheran Church

FAITHLINES

FROM THE PASTOR

Rev. Cody Blust, Pastor
 Pat Hoar, Secretary
 Rebecca Keck, Music Director
 Shelley Grubb, Bell Choir
 Steve Conrad, Grounds
 Randy Peck, Custodian



As of November 1st, I will have been the pastor at Faith Lutheran for a full year. The last year has seen many new opportunities as we have worked together in ministry. Over the last year we have continued to do the ministries that have been main stays at Faith like helping with Turn the Tide, Personal Care Kits, and Operation Christmas Child. We also tried some new events like First Fridays, rock painting at Blue, Brews, and BBQs, and most recently Trunk or Treat. The last year also saw the return of the Harvest Meal to Faith Lutheran. A multitude of things have happened over the last year and I am grateful to be here and to be a part of it all with you. We have also seen new people join our family and visitors come to see who we are. The last year has been a time of growth and change as we

faithfully follow God’s call for Faith Lutheran. You all have welcomed myself and my wife into your midst and made us feel like family. As I look back on the last year with a grateful heart, I look forward to what the next year will hold. We will continue to do some of the new things we tried this year like First Fridays and continue the Harvest Meal. What new things could we do in the future though? Are there new ideas of outreaches and ministries we could try? Are there ways we can work with other churches in our areas to serve our community? The future is full of possibilities and I am excited to see where the future will take us as we seek to share God’s love with the world. Thank you all for an amazing first year at Faith and I ask that you stick around to see where the Spirit takes us next.

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MOVE CLOCKS

Be sure to change your clocks on Saturday Nov. 2 before you go to bed as we “fall back”, so you will be on time for church on Sunday morning!!

JESUS CALLING

The Bible Study group will be studying the second chapter of “*The Story of Ruth*” by Joan Chittister. We will meet Monday, November 4th in Room 210 at 11 a.m. Bring your lunch for a time of fellowship following our study time. Karen West will be leading our study this month.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Dear Friends,

Thank you so much for your generous contributions to Operation Christmas Child (OCC). We asked and you gave so willingly! Something that always blesses us all, but never surprises us. You are the most giving congregation!

Thank you to all who were able to help us pack over 200 boxes! There's only one thing left to do and it is probably the most important part of this mission. Please pray that these 200 boxes will touch the lives and bless each child who receives one somewhere in the world. We don't know for sure what each child needs but God does and he will provide with the help of the people of Faith Lutheran Church. And thanks Art Schad for transporting them to the next stop on the way.

Thank you and bless you all!

Polly, Cheryl, Jenny and Kathy

EUCHRE

If you enjoy playing Euchre, come and join us Friday November 15 from 6-9 pm in the kitchen area and bring a friend. Always good food, good conversation and lots of good laughs! Bring a beverage/snack of your choice.

THANKOFFERING "IN KIND" DONATIONS

On Sunday, November 24th, the Faith Women will be collecting items to donate to the following four organizations. Please bring your donations on that Sunday to be blessed. If you would like to bring your donations before the 24th, please place them under the baskets in the Narthex.

New Directions:

New Directions provide resources for the safety, healing and freedom for individuals who have experienced domestic violence or sexual assault while also offering preventive education to create an informed and supportive community. They need NEW FULL SIZED sheets and pillowcases and NEW PILLOWS.

Winter Sanctuary Homeless Shelter:

Our mission is to provide a safe and warm place for those experiencing homelessness during the harsh winter months. We are a community-supported organization that relies on the generosity of volunteers and donors to provide shelter, food and support services to those in need. They need men's/women's underwear all sizes; men's/women's socks; women's T-shirts: S-M-L-XL; men's sweatpants - S-M. Men's/women's deodorant; women's- body wash/shampoo/conditioner; men's all-in-one body wash/shampoo, razors, shaving cream.

Place 4 Grace:

Our vision is to be a community of homes where unwed pregnancies are transformed into generations of Christ-centered families. Our Mission is to educate and minister Christ's love and grace to single, pregnant women and their children in a safe, secure, stable home environment and eliminate generational cycles of unwed pregnancy, poverty, abuse and addiction. Their request is for paper towels, toilet paper, and unscented laundry soap.

Faith Lutheran Preschool:

Our preschool is a Christian based preschool located right in our building. They would appreciate donations of regular or small sized paper plates, 5 ounce paper drinking cups, Kleenex, and Huggies unscented wipes.

THANK YOU, THANK YOU, EVERYONE FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!!

BIRTHDAYS

- 11/02 Kit Johns & Susan Miglin
- 11/09 Rick Keaton, Kaitlyn Blust, Marge Veith
- 11/10 Caroline Pletcher & Kim Rardin
- 11/12 Christina Yoe & Pam Gillett
- 11/16 Zachary Ballengee
- 11/17 Dave Keck
- 11/18 Dave Caldwell & Eric Weiler
- 11/20 Holly Fischer
- 11/21 Tim Williams
- 11/23 Erin (Mishey) Kerr
- 11/25 Dylan Pauley & Jason Ballengee
- 11/29 Carolyn Jacquet & Will Pletcher



ANNIVERSARIES

- 11/7 Kevin & Bette Mishey
- 11/11 Glenn & Lesley Fischer
- 11/14 Scott & Penny Daniels
- 11/24 Ray & Sharon Mooney
- 11/27 Jim Harder & Sally Berger
- 11/28 Andy & Jennifer Johns
- 11/29 Dave & Becky Keck
- 11/30 Dave & Kristina Caldwell



CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS



Can you believe that it is time to order those beautiful Christmas poinsettias??? We will be purchasing our poinsettias from Richardson's Greenhouse in Loudonville and their deadline is **SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 17TH!!** We will be getting the 6 1/2" pots of Red, White, Marble (white with pink center strip) or Novelties (assortment of two toned and speckled) at a cost of \$10.00 each. See insert for ordering and payment information.

ANNUAL MEETING

All members are invited to attend the fall annual meeting of the congregation, which will be held on Sunday, November 17th at 9:30 am in the Fellowship Hall with fellowship time following. The agenda will include elections, and action on the proposed 2025 Estimate of Spending for Mission and Ministry. The proposed estimate is included in this issue.

OFFERING ENVELOPES

Offering envelope booklets for each giving unit will be available on tables in the hallway from Sunday November 17 through December 22.

QUILT FOR SALE

In November the Quilters will again sell a quilt. It is a multicolored quilt, 60 by 80 inches, with a plain blue background. The sale will be by silent auction and we ask for a minimum bid of \$25. Look for the quilt in mid-November. All proceeds go to Lutheran World Relief for shipping expenses.

SOUTHERN OHIO SYNOD NEWS

Hurricane Helene Recovery

Lutheran Disaster Response is on the ground, beginning to serve communities that have been devastated by Hurricane Helene, and now Milton. 100% of donations designated as "Hurricane Relief" will go to communities that have been heavily impacted by these storms.

To donate, send donations to the Southern Ohio Synod (designate for Hurricane Relief) and we will forward on your behalf.

THE BOOK CORNER

Average Joe by Joe Kennedy

This review is actually about the just-released film Average Joe based on the autobiographical book by Joe Kennedy, a man who lived a troubled youth, went into the Marines, married his pre-Marine sweetheart after each had married others and divorced, and was asked to help train and coach a high school football team. Joe Kennedy bounced from family to family, suffered abuse, and eventually wound up in a home for wayward boys where the director taught Joe some things about faith and self control. A central theme of the film was that Joe had always been a fighter – his way of making his way through the world. The film is done in a narration style, with Joe and his wife telling the story from the comfort of their home in later years. It is a heartwarming story of perseverance, toughness, character, and, most of all, faith. As an assistant football coach, Joe taught his previously undisciplined adolescent football players the value of teamwork, self-discipline, and perseverance. He taught them something else about faith and Christian example. As his coaching went forward, he remembered what his mentor at the boys' home taught him about prayer, and, after one close game, was moved to go to the center of the field to kneel and pray, giving thanks to God. It was spontaneous, but something he continued every game, that is, until there was a complaint when many of the players asked if they could join him, to which he agreed. Eventually he was removed from his position when he refused to stop praying after games. A lawyer from a Christian organization took his court case pro bono, seeking restoration to his job, and being allowed to continue to pray as expression of his First Amendment freedom of religion. The case moved its way up the appeal process until it reached the Supreme Court, which eventually overturned the lower courts and ruled in Joe's favor. This is a true story about a man who was admittedly imperfect, but had the courage of his faith and belief in American freedoms that almost cost him his marriage, but in the end, caused changes in the trend against public displays of faith. The film has some moments not suitable for young children, but it is something that you can take your teenager to. It can spur family discussions about freedoms, having the courage of your faith, and the power of prayer. It has recently been in theaters in Mt. Vernon, Zanesville, Gahanna, and Ontario (Mansfield). I highly recommend it. Thanks to my wife, Becky, for calling it to my attention, and taking me to see it. DK

DEVOTIONS

Devotional books Christ in our Home and Portals of Prayer for the final quarter of the year are available in the rack by the parking lot entrance.

IN SYMPATHY

The sympathy of the congregation is shared with the Hall family on the passing of Arlene Hall on October 10th. The services were held on Friday, October 18th with Pastor Cody Blust officiating. We pray that God's strength, hope and encouragement will bring peace and comfort to Arlene's family.

ELCA NEWS

ELCA Conference of Bishops Analyzes Churchgoing Trends in Planning for Future

CHICAGO - The Conference of Bishops of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) met September. 24-28 at the Lutheran Center in Chicago. The conference, an advisory body of the ELCA, comprises 65 synod bishops, the presiding bishop and the secretary. In her report to the conference, ELCA Presiding Bishop Elizabeth A. Eaton described the work of the churchwide organization framed by God's Love Made Real. Eaton emphasized the vision guiding this work - a world experiencing the difference God's grace and love in Christ make for all people and creation - and its two distinct strategies, the church that is and the church that is becoming. "Some people might think that the wave of the future is no more buildings, no more congregations, but I don't think that's true," said Eaton. "We're going to work with our congregations, but at the same time - and we found this out during COVID - there are some people who will not set foot in one of our buildings or anything that is recognizable as church. Those people need to hear the liberating good news of the gospel." Eaton asked the assembled bishops, "How can we here at the churchwide expression walk alongside you as people start to realize that they are never out of God's sight and that God is at work with them, through them and in them?" To learn more about this work, the conference heard from the Vision team, led by the Rev. Louise Johnson, executive for Vision, and the Rev. Ernie Hinojosa, associate executive for Vision. In key business, the conference issued a statement stressing the need to speak the truth and refusing "to accept the ongoing normalization of lies and deceit. "We, the members of the Conference of Bishops of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, speak with one voice to condemn the hateful, deceptive, violent speech that has too readily found a place in our national discourse," the statement reads. "We recommit ourselves to speaking the truth and pointing to the one who is truth."

ALL SAINTS

On Sunday November.3 we will celebrate All Saints Sunday as a way of giving thanks to God for all who have witnessed in our lives and in our congregational life as faithful disciples of Jesus. We will remember in prayer members and friends of the church who have joined the church triumphant since last All Saints Day. We will particularly remember Ed Hall, Patty Naylor, Jim Legros, Mary Ann Stull, Walter Gunther, and Arlene Hall. May light eternal shine upon them.

DIRECTORY UPDATE

I received an email from Phyllis Bigler saying that she had moved closer to her family. Her new address is:

Phyllis Bigler, 4700 Williams Drive, Apt. 1142, Georgetown, TX 78633

"I enjoy getting the Faithlines and learning about all the activities. It doesn't seem possible, but it will soon be 8 years since I came to Texas. Other than getting around I am doing well, I use a walker most of the time. Glad to see so many of the people I remember are still there My best to all of you."Phyllis Bigler

VETERANS DAY BREAKFAST

The 4th annual Veterans Day Breakfast will be at the Mount Vernon Middle School on Tuesday November 12, 2024 with the program starting at 8:30 am and concluding around 10:00 am. The theme of the breakfast is, "Serving Those Who Have Served Us." Veterans and their family members are invited. **Please RSVP by calling 740-392-6867 by November 8, 2024.**

THE COMPOSER'S CRAFT

For the Beauty of the Earth

Last month one of our hymns in worship was the wonderfully written For the Beauty of the Earth. Hymn #879 in our cranberry Evangelical Lutheran Worship. The words were written by Folliott S. Pierpoint (1835-1917), who, like many other writers of music in this space, was born into the Anglican Church in England. He graduated from Cambridge and taught near his birthplace in Bath at Somersetshire College. The origins of the poem that became this hymn were simple. Wandering outside, he took in the beauty of the day, and later sat down and wrote this tribute to the beauty of God's creation, originally intended to be a communion hymn for Anglican worshippers, but when it traveled across the Atlantic, it was quickly adapted to and associated with Thanksgiving. Not much else is known about Pierpoint except he resigned his teaching position and thereafter moved from place to place – teaching here and there and writing poetry.



The composer of the music for this piece (and also hymn #302 in Evangelical Lutheran Worship) was Paul Kocher (1786-1872). Kocher was born in Ditzengen, Wurttemberg (the Black Forest), studied piano and composition in St. Petersburg, Russia, and trained as a teacher. He studied further in Rome and returned to Germany to take the position of organist and choirmaster at Stiftskirche in Stuttgart. This tune is commonly known as Dix, being associated with the writer of the same last name of the words to As With Gladness Men of Old, the Epiphany hymn #302 in our worship book aforementioned. To extend the reader's enjoyment of the focus hymn and the gifts of these two writers of hymns, I would highly recommend going on YouTube and searching For the Beauty of the Earth, only by John Rutter from his Be Thou My Vision album with The Cambridge Singers and the City of London Sinfonia with a different tune. You will be blessed, especially by the beautiful words, sung to Rutter's music, in the verse that starts "For the joy of human love..."
DK

CPR/AED CERTIFIED

Faith sponsored CPR/AED Certification classes to our Ushers this year to be prepared in case of an emergency. The following folks attended and are now certified:

Pastor Cody	Bob Atwell
Jenny Grinstead	Patty Keaton
Rick Keaton	Will Melick
Polly Norberg	Steve Norberg
Frank O'Hare	Stephen Volz

Others at Faith that are certified are:

Scott Baker	Pat Ferenbaugh
Shelley Grubb	Jon Howard
Kaitlyn Blust	Dan Werner

This list is also posted in the AED cabinet in the Narthex.

Thank you to all these folks for being there for Faith.

SANCTUARY RENOVATION "DESSERTS AND CHATS"

The Sanctuary Renovations Committee is having a "Dessert & Chat" evening to discuss the plans and timeline for the renovation of the sanctuary. The first discussion was held October 23rd, but there is still time to participate in the second "Desserts and Chats" on Wednesday, November 13th at 7:00 pm. The meeting will start in the sanctuary with discussion and questions, then go into Room 210/212 for desserts and fellowship. Hope to see you on the 13th!!"

Our Mission Is To Know and Share God's Love

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We're on the Web!
FLCMTV.org

Worship Sunday 8 & 10:30 am
Sunday School 9:15

TURN THE TIDE

Christmas is coming and that means Faith will be participating in the Turn the Tide program. We have asked for 10 to 12 children's names and their gift wishes. The Tree of Sharing will be in the narthex on December 1st through 8th, and we ask that you take a name and buy a gift. Thank you. This church has always been extremely generous. Questions? See Laurel Johnson

THANK YOU!

Dear Faith Family,
Steve is doing better physically - eating well (a clean-platter at most meals now!), building up strength to start using a walker for a few steps.
Thanks to the Helping Hands fund for the gift card received to help with gas expenses. It is ost appreciated.
Mostof all, thank you all for your loving support and prayers.
Many blessings to you!
Polly and Steve Norberg

GIVING UPDATE

Antic. Need to date 09/30: \$ 171,934.00
Receipts to date 09/30: \$ 184,871.67
Spent in Mission
and Ministry 09/30: \$ 165,434.11

Thank you for your generous faithfulness!

