

Faith Family News

Faith Lutheran Church

August 2015

Time sensitive
Worship
Committee
questionnaire
enclosed.
Return ASAP!

OUR MISSION ...

To make disciples for
Jesus Christ we

GATHER

in faith for worship,
prayer, study, and
fellowship

EQUIP

the people of God with a
faith that works in real life

SERVE

the world in the name of
Jesus Christ.



As followers of Jesus Christ, we are called to embody and share God's reconciling love and grace each and every day, wherever we are and with everyone we meet. Sharing of the

richness of God's grace means we cannot keep quiet when we see injustice in this world. We cannot keep quiet when we see hunger and poverty in our community, in our country, and the globe. Following Jesus and living into discipleship means we must raise our voices and advocate for justice. Advocacy is one aspect of the work we are called to do as Christians. Advocacy is an aspect of discipleship.

One way in which we can work for justice on behalf of the hungry is to participate in the work of Bread for the World. This organization, directed by David Beckmann, an ELCA pastor, provides a vehicle through which we can voice our concern for the hungry. This coming fall, we will be doing the Bread for the World Offering of Letters. Letters will be available for people to sign, if they so desire, and then we will forward them to policy makers.

Bread for the World offers nine biblical themes to help us understand why we should advocate for justice in this world. These themes are important to remember as we do the work of discipleship and they guide our work as we live into God's dream for the world. They are:

- † God loves us. Jesus greatest commandments are that we love God and each other.
- † Humankind was created out of God's love and in God's image, so we are to respect the dignity of every person.
- † God has a special concern for poor and vulnerable people.
- † God provides out of God's abundance.

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http://www.elca.org/en/ Resources/Prayer-Ventures	

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Worship Schedule

August 2015

9:30 a.m.

ACOLYTES

August 2
August 9
August 16
August 23
August 30

ALTAR CARE - Gretchen Bills and Becky Bills

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

August 2 Diane Wilke
Melinda Schultz
August 9 Bob Nelson
Harold Sollenberger
August 16 Mike Eschelbach
Natalie Dingledine
August 23 Bob Shorman
Karen Whitmyer
August 30 Rich Weingartner
Jim Johnson

GREETERS

August 2 John and Gayle McCracken
August 9 Bob and Phyllis Shorman
August 16 Mike Eschelbach
August 23 Jeff and Melinda Schultz
August 30 Jack and Natalie Dingledine

LAY ASSISTANTS

August 2 Diane Wilke
August 9 Bob Nelson
August 16 Mike Eschelbach
August 23 Bob Shorman
August 30 Rich Weingartner

READERS

August 2 Melinda Schultz
August 9 Harold Sollenberger
August 16 Natalie Dingledine
August 23 Karen Whitmyer
August 30 Jim Johnson

USHERS

John McCracken

NURSERY

August 2 Drew & Pam Williams
August 9 Connie Nelson
August 16 Becky Bills
August 23 Heidi Bowers
August 30 Lori Webb

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

4515 Dobie Road
Okemos, MI 48864-2203

Office Hours:

9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Monday-Friday

Phone: (517) 349-0620

Fax: (517) 349-5822

www.faithlutheranokemos.org

faith@faithlutheranokemos.org

Ministers

All Members of the Faith Family

Pastor

Ellen Schoepf

prellen@faithlutheranokemos.org

Director of Christian Education

Melinda Schultz

Director of Music

Deb Borton-McDonough

Instrumental Worship Leader

Bruce Williams

Church Secretary

Rita Barry

rbarry@faithlutheranokemos.org

Newsletter Editor

Rich Weingartner

faith@mathwhiz.org

Mission Partner Congregation

Redeemer Lutheran Church, Lansing

2015 PARISH OFFICERS

President Linda Hirt
Vice President Jim Crum
Secretary Molly DeHate
Treasurer Doug Hirt
Financial Secretary Tom Schrote
Members-at-Large Diane Flatley
Jack Dingledine

Past President Walter Kopf

Committee Chairs

Caring Ann Mayer

Evangelism/Outreach

Carol Towl and Gretchen Bills

Human Resources Lee Gerard

Long Range Planning Jim Crum

Media/Technology Mark DeHate

Membership Development

Jean Lewis and Michelle Ransom

Mission Endow. Brendan Guenther

Mutual Ministry John McPhail

Parish Education

Heidi Bowers and Nina Schrote

Property Mark Marquardt

Stewardship Mary Ann Scheuerman

Worship & Music Diane Wilke

Youth

(Continued from page 1)

- † All creation is reconciled with God through Jesus Christ, and we are to be agents of reconciliation.
- † God loves justice and requires us to do justice and love kindness.
- † Jesus said, "Whatever you do for the least, you do for me." We do Christ's work when we act with and for hungry and poor people.
- † We hear God's voice in scripture and respond with the faithful use of our own voices.
- † God has a role for government to play in the protection and development of people.

Through the vehicle of Bread for the World and the Offering of Letters we will be showing God's love as we honor the dignity and worth of all people throughout the world.

Grace and peace to all as we continue to travel this FAITH journey together.

– Pastor Ellen

LSSM and Caring Committee Thank You

Members of Faith Lutheran and our Vacation Bible School attendees are amazing!! Thank you all for your donations to the LSSM project "Stock the Kitchen." We delivered seven full baskets of kitchen items and a monetary donation of \$236 will be made to LSSM. You are making a difference in your community by the outreach services you support and the care you show for others.

Please continue to keep in your prayers LSSM and all those who work so hard to provide the programs for those in need.

Thank you so much - from your Caring Committee.

Prayers for Health and Healing

- † Members of the congregation: Lowell Barricklow, Dale and Mavis Halvorson, Susan Heft, Ken Kleimola, John McPhail, Ellen Milne, and Rose Marie Nawrock
- † Friends and family: Chris Cotter, Heather and Dick and Lil Jennings

Prayers of Intercession

- † Our mission partner congregation: Lansing Redeemer Lutheran Church
- † Those in military service: Jon Schoepf, Adam and Melody Wright, and Lani Yearicks.
- † Lutheran Social Services of Michigan children who seek adoption: Salomon, Shantaina, Karl, Terrell, Cameron, and Curtis

Please contact the church office at faith@faithlutheranokmeos.org or 349-0620 to update the prayer list.

The website for **Prayer Ventures** is <http://www.elca.org/en/Resources/Prayer-Ventures> *Prayer Ventures is a guide to daily prayer for the ministries of the church produced by ELCA Communication Services on behalf of the whole church.*

*You can download Prayer Ventures from the Web or **copies are available at church on the table near the elevator.***

The Faith Family

Back to School Breakfast Bags

It won't be long now before the children in our community go back to school. They will need to start their day with a healthy breakfast. You can help make sure that happens by joining the Caring Committee in the annual Back to School Breakfast Bag food drive. Individuals, families, and committees are encouraged to shop for any or all of the following items:

- ★ Oatmeal
- ★ Cold Cereal
- ★ Pancake Mix
- ★ Syrup
- ★ Canned Fruit
- ★ Muffin Mix
- ★ Juice
- ★ Jelly
- ★ Peanut Butter
- ★ Breakfast Bars
- ★ Instant Breakfast Drinks

Place your food donations in the grocery cart between now and Rally Day, September 13. With cash donations we will purchase milk, bread, and eggs. Sign up to help us deliver on Sunday, September 20.

God's Work. Our Hands. Sunday Sunday, September 13

“When one congregation or a group of congregations gather for service in their local communities, they are the church in that place, taking care of that part of God's vineyard. But this is all work that we do together. When one congregation works to feed people who are hungry, that is also the entire church coming together. 'God's work. Our Hands.' Sunday reminds us that we are church together for the sake of the world.”

– ELCA Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton.

Immediately following the Rally Day Picnic, on Sunday, September 13, members of our congregation will be participating in the ELCA God's Work, Our Hands effort. On this day we join ELCA congregations across the country to celebrate “one church, freed in Christ to serve and love our neighbor.” We will be putting our faith into action by doing a service project in Meridian Township parks. The details are being worked out and will be shared as soon as possible. The projects we have done in the past years have made a huge impact for our community and a great time was had by everyone!

This project will be one in which families can participate! Please add your names to the sign-up sheet in the Narthex if you will be participating. Also, please indicate if you wish to purchase a shirt. Shirts can be purchased for \$6.50 per shirt.

Faith Event Highlights for August

August Stewardship Emphasis: Meridian Township Community Resources Commission

Saturday	August 1	3:00 - 7:00 p.m.	Community picnic and concert
Monday	August 17	7:00 p.m.	Church Council meeting September newsletter deadline

See the calendar in the newsletter or online at www.faithlutheranokemos.org for all the events!

Stewardship Focus for August: Meridian Township Community Resources Commission

The **CRC Emergency Needs Fund** is used to help Meridian Township residents with emergency needs such as evictions, utility shutoffs, and prescriptions. Some of the other programs the CRC oversees include:

- ▶ **Ambulance Waiver Program** - Meridian Township residents meeting income guidelines may be eligible for a full or partial waiver of their ambulance bill.
- ▶ **Poverty Exemption** - Residents meeting income limits set by the Charter Township of Meridian may be eligible for a partial, or in some cases, full exemption of property taxes.
- ▶ **Emergency Services** - Assistance and referrals for residents facing financial crises.
- ▶ **MiCAFE** - If you are 60 or older and need help applying for food assistance, help is available.

The commission is located at 5151 Marsh Road and administrated by Human Services Specialist, Darla Jackson.

Personal Care Kits for Lutheran World Relief

With all the natural and man-made disasters around the globe, there is an ongoing need for the Personal Care Kits provided by Lutheran World Relief. The Women of Faith Stewardship Group has set a goal of putting together 40 kits during August and September so they are ready for the October shipping date. Each kit will contain these items:

- 1 Bath sized towel in a dark color
- 1 Adult toothbrush
- 1 Heavy duty comb
- 1 Pair of nail clippers
- 1 Pair of shoelaces
- 2 Bath size bars of Ivory soap

A display board and collection box are in the fellowship area. Thank you for your help in this project. Contact Charlotte Rasmussen if you have any questions.

Official Acts

Baptism

July 5, 2015

Aaron James Oesterle

Marriage

July 25, 2015

Kathleen Fagan

Michael Achtenberg

Summer Singing

Do you miss singing in a choir during the summer months? Don't worry - here are a few chances to join in and provide special music for our worship services!

August 9 - Women's Choir

Rehearse on August 5 at 7:00 p.m.

August 23 - Y'all Come Choir

Everyone come - Adults, youth, young, old, and everyone in between. We'll rehearse that morning at 8:30 a.m.

Special vocal or instrumental music

If you're interested in doing summer special music, email Deb

Borton-McDonough at

lalaladyB@comcast.net

Faith's Mutual Ministry Committee

Over the past few months, the Mutual Ministry Committee has been created. It assumes the duties of the previous Pastoral Support Committee, but with a somewhat broader mission. As members of Faith, we are called to care and pray for the leaders of our congregation. As such, we believe that God's power is meant to be shared with and for others. Working together and within ourselves we hope to strengthen this ministry for the sake of spreading the Gospel. The Committee, with Council's approval, sees its purpose as:

“to act with communal concerns for the pastoral leadership of the congregation. The primary functions of the committee are to keep the pastor advised about the conditions within the congregational family and to hear pastoral concerns. Together as a Mutual Ministry Committee, we commit ourselves to strengthen the life and mission of Faith Lutheran Church, a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.”

More specifically, the Committee, again with Council's and pastor's support, has defined its responsibilities as:

1. Opening communication concerning the attitudes and conditions within the congregation;
2. Listening for early warnings of misunderstanding within the congregation - being a "listening post" for the pastor and the congregation;
3. Assisting in conflict resolution;
4. Advising on the health of our pastoral ministry within the congregation;
5. Serving as a sounding board for the pastor in times of personal or professional stress;

6. Identifying continuing education or counseling that would assist our pastoral ministry in achieving the goals of the congregation; and
7. Addressing concerns for the spiritual, emotional, and physical needs of the pastor.

The complete statement of organization for the Mutual Ministry Committee is posted on the church bulletin board.

The Committee has had several organizing meetings and now is ready to begin its service. Our plan is hold an open session on the third Sunday of each month, probably in the library, for anyone to bring thoughts, issues, or concerns to the Committee's attention. And, the Committee will meet monthly on the following Thursday. Our first Sunday session will be after church service on August 16. At least one or more Committee members will be there to meet with you.

The members of the Mutual Ministry Committee are:

John McPhail, Chair
Gwynne Kadrofske
Connie Nelson
Harold Sollenberger
Bill Williams
Pastor Ellen Schoepf

Any committee member is available to hear your thoughts. All discussions are held in confidence within the Committee. The Committee does report to the Executive Committee of Council.

Caregiver Support Group

Our Caregiver Support Group meets from 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. on the 2nd Thursday of every month. We serve lunch to all participants. Anyone who is facing the challenges that arise when caring for a loved one is welcome to attend this gathering. We share information about our challenges and also hear from a speaker each month. At the present time, our monthly schedule is as follows:

August 13

Kristen Campbell from Medical Care Facility & Rehabilitation Services of Ingham County
Memory loss and assessments

September 10

Alzheimer Foundation representative
A Healthier You - Care of Body/Mind Connection

October 8

Attorney, Rosemary Howley Buhl
Specialist in Elder Law and Caregiving

November 12

Kathy Mrozinski (or representative) from Hospice of Lansing
Advanced Directives

December 10

Kathy Mrozinski from Hospice of Lansing
How to Get Through the Holidays

January 14

Kathleen Leslie, Memory Care Manager at Burcham Hills
Discussion on dementia

February 11

Cammy - Alzheimers Foundation
Legal & Financial Issues, Part 1

March 10

Cammy - Alzheimers Foundation
Legal & Financial Issues, Part 2

Adult Study Opportunities

Everyone

Each Tuesday

12:00 p.m. Lunch Lectionary study group. Pastor Ellen invites you to join her each Tuesday for a casual lunch and a preview of the upcoming Sunday's lectionary. Feel free to bring your own brown bag or carry-out lunch.

2nd and 4th Tuesdays

6:30 p.m. Pub lectionary study group at Okemos Buddies Pub & Grill. This is a gathering to look at, study, and have conversation about the coming Sunday's Bible readings.

Men

Each Wednesday

Men's study meets at 7:30 a.m. each Wednesday morning in the Faith library. They use the week's lectionary as the basis for their discussions.

Women

Women's studies are held monthly and use the study series from the Women of the ELCA *Gather* magazine. We meet in the Faith library. Check with the church office for the next date.

GLOW- IN-THE- DARK BOWLING



Make this fun summer game to play at the beach, a park or in your yard.

What you need:

- 10 empty plastic bottles (same size)
- 10 or more glow sticks
- Water (optional)
- Star stickers (optional)
- Hamster ball (or regular ball)
- Tape

What you do:

1. Place one or two activated glow sticks in each bottle. Fill bottles with water and decorate with star stickers, if desired. Screw on lids.
2. Put some glow sticks inside the hamster ball. Screw the halves together, and secure sides and lid with tape.
3. Challenge someone to a game of bowling. For the best glowing effect, play after dark.



Summer's gifts

Summer brings longer days, warmer nights and – for many people – time spent near water. Complete this puzzle to find out who's behind all those summertime joys.



Directions: Read Jeremiah 31:35 (NIV) below. Draw a around words describing God's actions. Draw an around words that describe day. Underline words that describe evening. Draw under words that describe the ocean.

He who appoints the sun to shine by day,
who decrees the moon and stars to shine by night,
who stirs up the sea so that its waves roar ...



Directions: Circle the capital letters. Then write them from left to right on the lines below to reveal God's name in this Bible verse.

i t T w H s p j E k e m a b L f g O h b c R d
e D q r s t c e a t o n a h f z z v u A w y L
a v n M q z l s k y z G u w H h m o T k j k Y





Answer: The LORD Almighty

August 2015

Faith Lutheran Church Monthly Planner

Go to faithlutheranokemos.org for current calendar updates

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26 Men's Choir Pentecost 9 Stewardship noisy offering for education World Hunger offering 9:30 AM WORSHIP 10:30 AM Quarterly Congregational meeting 11:30 AM Technology Group meeting	27 1:15 PM Safe Place vocal camp 2:00 PM Women's study group	28 12:00 PM Lunch lectionary study group 1:15 PM Safe Place vocal camp 6:30 PM Pub lectionary study group	29 7:30 AM Men's study 9:30 AM Quilting and LSSM ACTION 1:15 PM Safe Place vocal camp 7:00 PM Safe Place recital	30	31	1 3:00 PM Community picnic and concert
2 August Stewardship Focus: Meridian Community Resources Pentecost 10 9:30 AM WORSHIP	3	4 12:00 PM Lunch lectionary study group	5 7:30 AM Men's study 9:30 AM Quilting and LSSM ACTION 7:00 PM Women's Choir practice	6	7	8
9 Pentecost 11 Women's Choir 9:30 AM WORSHIP 4:00 PM The Willows at Okemos worship service	10	11 12:00 PM Lunch lectionary study group 6:30 PM Pub lectionary study group	12 7:30 AM Men's study 9:30 AM Quilting and LSSM ACTION	13 11:30 AM Caregivers Support Group lunch and speaker 7:00 PM Human Resources Committee meeting	14 6:00 PM Sip 'n Stitch	15
16 "Own It" sign up Pentecost 12 9:30 AM WORSHIP 10:30 AM Listening Post in the library 6:00 PM Loaves and Fishes	17 September newsletter deadline 7:00 PM Church Council meeting	18 12:00 PM Lunch lectionary study group 7:00 PM Racial Justice Community Forum planning meeting	19 7:30 AM Men's study 9:30 AM Quilting and LSSM ACTION 11:30 AM Sixty Plus/Minus	20 7:00 PM Mutual Ministry Committee meeting	21 7:00 PM Films of Faith	22
23 Pentecost 13 Y'all Come Choir 9:30 AM WORSHIP	24	25 12:00 PM Lunch lectionary study group 6:30 PM Evangelism/Outreach Committee meeting 6:30 PM Pub lectionary study group	26 7:30 AM Men's study 9:30 AM Quilting and LSSM ACTION 7:00 PM Sunday School orientation meeting	27	28	29
30 Pentecost 14 World Hunger offering 9:30 AM WORSHIP 10:30 AM Social Justice Group meeting 10:30 AM Worship Committee meeting in the library	31 2:00 PM Women's study group	1 September Stewardship focus: Pledge Drive 12:00 PM Lunch lectionary study group	2 7:30 AM Men's study 9:30 AM Quilting and LSSM ACTION	3	4	5

Report all meetings and events to the church office at 349-0620 or email faith@faithlutheranokemos.org

August Special Days

AUGUST	MARRIAGE	BAPTISM	BIRTHDAY
1		GRISCHKE, TODD	BORTON-McDONOUGH, DEBRA
			BAKER, DANIEL
			LUOMA, BILL
			BERGER, KARYN
2			DeGARMO, ROBERT
3			SWEET, KIM
4			NEWMAN, NICHOLAS
5	DINGLEDINE, JACK & NATALIE		
6	DRENTH, WALT & CARA		MAISNER, CHRISTINE
7			BICKERSTAFF, ERIC
8	TOWL, CHRIS & REGGIE	JONES, KEVIN	NUSSDORFER, EMILEE
			KOPF, WALTER
9		DRENTH, GERRIT	HAZEWINKEL, MALATI
		WILSON, TREVOR	
10		COTTER, KEITH	KAPP, WEIWEI
			GOULD, LILY
11			GOULD, TESSA
12	AMBS, MAX & LEDITH		
13		WEINGARTNER, RICH	SMITH, SARAH
14		McCRACKEN, COURTNEY	KADROFSKE, MARK
			RASMUSSEN, TOM
15			
16	BOWERS, LES & HEIDI		HEFT, VIRGINIA
	CRUM, JIM & PEGGY		
17			
18			
19			MIDGLEY, ANDREW
			TOWL, NICHOLAS
20		CRUM, BETSY	
21	SMITH, JOHN & SHEILA		PRESTON, ROXANNE
	SCHEUERMAN, BOB & MARY ANN		
22	BICKERSTAFF, DENNIS & JANE	SMITH, JOSEPH	KADROFSKE, OWEN
	SCHOEPP, KEN & PASTOR ELLEN	CUMMINGS, ALEC	MARQUARDT, MARK
23	NELSON, BOB & CONNIE		
24		ESCHELBACH, MOLLY	MAGYAR, ALYSSA
25	FAGAN, JAMES & PAT		ROSENTHAL, RACHEL
26	BARRICKLOW, LOWELL & GAIL		
27			SMITH, NOAH
			REWIAKO, PATRICK
28	SHOWERS, DOUG & KAY		GUENTHER, JENNIFER
29	HATCHER, RON & PAT		
30		ESCHELBACH, MIKE	
31	SOLLENBERGER, HAROLD & LOIS		WIGGINS, CLAIRE
	JONES, KEVIN & KELLY		
		DATE UNKNOWN	
		HAZEWINKEL, HANNAH	
		SMITH, JOSHUA	



COMMUNITY PICNIC & CONCERT

SATURDAY, AUGUST 1

Community Picnic and Concert

Join us for free picnic food and enjoy the music of Ruth & Max Bloomquist, folk music artists.

"...veritable folk music legends in Michigan, captivating audiences with their songs, their harmonies and their folk-infused charm." John Sinkevics, The Grand Rapids Press

Faith Lutheran Church

4515 Dobie Rd.,
Okemos

Enjoy free food
and live music on
front lawn of
church

3:00 – 7:00 PM

Games and
activities for kids

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

4515 Dobie Rd.
Okemos, MI

www.faithlutheranokemos.org

August 1
3:00-7:00 PM

Faith Lutheran Church
4515 Dobie Road
Okemos, MI 48864-2203
(517) 349-0620

Non-Profit

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Okemos, MI

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

OPEN NOW!
Time sensitive
Worship
Committee
questionnaire
enclosed



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**
God's work. Our hands.

August 2015



Community Picnic & Concert
Saturday, August 1, 3 - 7 p.m.
Free and Open to All!

See inside back cover for details!