

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.

Inside This Issue

Resources/Prayer-Ventures



his summer has gone by so quickly I find it hard to believe our fall schedule is about to begin. Yet, another year of church programming is beginning to unfold. And, with the

beginning of new schedules, additional meetings, new educational opportunities, and new activities, we will also experience the kick-off of our Stewardship Drive.

Stewardship is an important **daily** activity in the life of a disciple. Yes, it is a *daily* activity, a discipline that becomes an aspect of our way of life. Stewardship is an aspect of life we must regularly focus on because, as Jesus warned, our money and possessions have the power and ability to separate us from our relationship with God. They tend to get in the way of our relationship with God. Jesus spoke throughout the gospels about money and the power it tends to have over us as we go about our daily lives. He knew we tend to seek security in money and possessions, trusting in them and treating them as idols worthy of worship.

Therefore, in preparation for our Fall Stewardship Drive which begins on Sunday, September 27, I ask you to think about these questions:

- How do you care for all that God has blessed you with?
- How do you use those blessings to accomplish God's will for this world?
- How might you become a **better** steward of all that God has blessed you with?
- What would happen if each one of us were able to live into an "attitude of gratitude" on a daily basis?

Jesus calls us to put our trust in him. He invites us to place our trust in God's abundance, not in our wealth and possessions. Becoming a good steward of the gifts we have been given is a spiritual discipline and a **mark of discipleship**. (Continued on page 4)

Worship Schedule September 2015

* 9:30 a.m. on September 6

ACOLYTES

September 6

September 13

September 20

September 27

ALTAR CARE

Gwynne Kadrofske and Pam Williams

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

September 6

September 13

September 2

Schedules are still being finalized. Check your church mailbox for any September 2 spots you are scheduled for.

GREETERS

September 6 Harold Sollenberger

September 13 September 20 September 27

LAY ASSISTANTS

John McPhail September 6

September 13 September 20 September 27

READERS

Warren Heilman September 6

September 13 September 20

September 27

USHERS

Dingledine family

NURSERY

September 6 Guenther Nelson September 13 September 20 O'Brien September 27 Schultz

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 Tom Schrote Financial Secretary Diane Flatley Members-at-Large 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

Schedule of Recurring Events

SUND	AYS				
Every	9:00 a.m.	Sunday School (Sep-May)			
Every	10:00 a.m.	WORSHIP			
1^{st}	11:15 a.m.	Worship Committee meeting			
		(Jan-Jun, Aug [last Sun.] and Oct-Dec)			
2^{nd}	11:15 a.m.	Parish Education Committee meeting			
2^{nd}	4:00 p.m.	Worship service at			
		The Willows at Okemos			
3^{rd}	11:15 p.m.	Mutual Ministry Committee			
		Listening Post			
Last	11:15 a.m.	Social Justice Group			
		-			
<u>MONDAYS</u>					
3^{rd}	7:00 p.m.	Church Council meeting			
		Monthly Newsletter deadline			
4^{th}	2:00 p.m.	Women's study group			
TUESDAYS					
Every		Worship folder announcements deadline			
Every	12:00 p.m.	Lunch lectionary study group			
2 nd &	6:30 p.m.	Pub lectionary study group			
4^{th}	-	at Okemos Buddies			
WEDN	WEDNESDAYS				
Every	7:30 a.m.	Men's lectionary study group			
	9:30 a.m.	Quilting and LSSM ACTION			
3^{rd}	11:30 a.m.	Sixty Plus/Minus			
		•			
September to May					
Every	5:30 p.m.	Joyful Noise Choir			
	6:00 p.m.	Trinity and Confirmation			
	6:30 p.m.	Faith Bells			
	7:30 p.m.	Chancel Choir			
THUR	<u>THURSDAYS</u>				
2^{nd}	11:30 a.m.	Caregiver Support Group			
3^{rd}	7:00 a.m.	Mutual Ministry Committee			
4^{th}	6:30 p.m.	Evangelism/Outreach Committee			

Prayers for Health and Healing

- Members of the congregation: Lowell Barricklow, Dale and Mavis Halvorson, Susan Heft, Ken Kleimola, and Harry Nawrock.
- Friends and family: Analiese, Heather, Chris Cotter, and Dick and Lil Jennings.

Prayers of Intercession

- Our mission partner congregation: Lansing Redeemer Lutheran Church
- [⊕] Those in military service: John Schoepf, Adam and Melody Wright, and Lani Yearicks.
- Lutheran Social Services of Michigan children who seek adoption: Jeremiah, Amber, Kayla, and Shante

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.

New Helping Hands Ministry

The Helping Hands ministry at Faith Lutheran Church focuses on aiding local residents with household tasks or repairs that they have either financial or physical difficulty performing. Examples of potential work include fixing a broken window, repairing a deck or porch, fall cleanup, or simply helping to clean out a closet or change a light bulb.

We are currently looking for residents in the community who could benefit from our services; no request is too small. Please contact David Baker at davidabaker88@gmail.com for more information or if you know of a person in need or you would like to volunteer to help out.

(Continued from page 1)

Beginning on September 28 you will hear a series of Temple Talks in worship. You will also be receiving information from the Stewardship Committee. Our Stewardship Drive will then culminate with the following two events:

October 25 - Reformation Sunday, Quarterly Meeting, Stewardship information shared as we celebrate God's gifts to us with a Potluck Luncheon and Ministry Fair.

November 1 - All Saints Sunday, Pledge Sunday, we will receive pledges during the offering.

In grateful response for all that we have been given, I invite each of you to share out of your abundance.

In Christ,

– Pastor Ellen

Faith Event Highlights for September

Rally Day Sunday	September 13	3	Back-to-School Breakfast Bags food deadline
	_	9:00 a.m.	Sunday School
		10:00 a.m.	WORSHIP
		11:00 a.m.	Faith Family Picnic
		12:00 p.m.	High school youth and parent meeting
		1:00 p.m.	"God's work. Our hands."
			community service project
		4:00 p.m.	Community worship at The Willows at Okemos
Sunday	September 20		Deliver back-to-school breakfast bags
		9:00 a.m.	Sunday School
		9:00 a.m.	Conversation regarding racism
		11:15 a.m.	Listening post in the library
		6:00 a.m.	Loaves and Fishes Ministries
Monday	September 21	7:00 p.m.	Church Council meeting
			October newsletter deadline
Thursday	September 24	4 7:00 p.m.	Racism Community Forum

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

Rally Day - Time to Get the Year Going! Sunday, September 13

We hope you all have enjoyed your summer and now it is time again for our annual Rally Day activities to start a new school year at church! On Sunday, September 13, we'll have many activities for everyone - so check out the schedule and make plans to join us!

Please note the new times for Sunday School and Worship compared to other years. We are changing to one service during the school year. See the enclosed letter for more details.

9:00 a.m.	Sunday School
10:00 a.m.	Worship
11:00 a.m.	Faith Family Picnic (see article below)
1:00 p.m.	"God's Work. Our Hands." community
	service project (sign up in the narthex)
4:00 p.m.	Worship at The Willows at Okemos

We hope you will be able to join us for all these wonderful events as we start the school year! Let the church office know if you have any questions about any of these events.

Rally Day Picnic Sunday, September 13, 11:00 a.m.

You are invited to join Faith Family and Friends to kickoff our Church year at our annual Rally Day Picnic under the big tent. There will be games, great food, and fellowship. The main dish and beverages will be provided by the Membership Committee, please sign up in the narthex to bring a dish to pass and how many members from your family will be attending (this is greatly appreciated for food planning purposes). Feel free to bring any games you have that our children may enjoy. If you prefer to use a lawn chair bring that as well. In order to stay 'green' we ask each family to bring their own table setting however if you forget we will have some on hand. If you are interested in helping with this fun event please contact Michelle Ransom or Jean Lewis. We'll see you there!

Official Act

Funeral August 10, 2015 Rose Marie Nawrock

Fragrance Free Facility

We have family members, friends and guests who have sensitivities and/or allergic reactions to various fragrances. It is a complex issue with a variety of triggering agents and physical reactions. Therefore, we do not use highly fragrant flowers or products in our church building.

We kindly request that when you will be at church that you try to not use personal products (fragrances, colognes, lotions, powders, deodorants, shaving and hair products, and other similar items) that are perceptible to others that might cause an adverse reaction. Other fragrant products (scented candles, potpourri, incense and similar items) should also not be used in the church building.

Thank you for helping us provide a comfortable environment for our Faith family, friends, and guests with sensitivities and allergies in which to join us in worship and fellowship.

Films of Faith Grace Unplugged September 11, 7:00 p.m.

Join the Schultz's at their home at 2155 Butternut Drive, Okemos to watch *Grace Unplugged*.

Musically gifted, teenage Grace (AJ Michalka) wants to do more than perform in



her father's church band. She longs for pop stardom, but her father, a former music idol, warns her that fame often comes with a high price and that using her gift in the service of God is a loftier goal. When his former manager pays a visit, Grace decides to take his offer of a shot at the big time. But, the more successful she becomes, the more she feels pressure to compromise her religious values.

Tent Set-Up Assistance

We need assistance to set-up the tent for our Rally Day picnic. We will be setting it up on September 12 at 11:30 a.m. If we have a lot of hands, the set-up is quick and relatively painless.

60+ Begins a New Season Wednesday, September 16, 11:30 a.m. Fellowship Hall

Put a green circle around that date and get set for a rousing, joyous reunion of friends and newcomers. Also, bring your questions about Fall Yard Planning.

Our first program features Russell Thorn of R & D Landscaping, a graduate of MSU's Horticulture School (and just incidentally, a grandson of Mildred Thorn, one of our members). Are you wondering how to tell an annual from a perennial? Should one prune a tree/bush now or in the Spring? Fertilize now or later in the Fall? Move a bush now - and how should that be done? And many more areas of interest to you! To give Russell some idea of your questions, you will find 3 x 5 cards at the sign-up sheet on which you might give him one question that would indicate a sample of the range of those he might anticipate. There will be time allotted in his presentation for much give and take as you consider areas of Fall decisions and as you plan your Spring Garden. He and his crew are ready and equipped for a variety of help now or in the future.

An awesome Pot Luck will precede the program with prodigious amounts of mouth-watering dishes from the Fabulous Cooks of Faith! Let's have the most delicious potluck ever; bring friends with their treasured dishes too! Mark your calendar now! See you on September 16 in the Fellowship Hall!

Sunday School Snacks Needed

We are in need of snacks for the new school year for the children during their lessons. However, due to possible allergies, please do not bring in any nut products or products made in a factory that also manufactures nut products. Thank you for supporting the Sunday School program. Suggested items:

Animal Crackers Pretzels Goldfish Graham Crackers Popcorn Trail Mix

Crackers Mini-Muffins

Fruit Snacks (no roll-ups, gushers, etc. please)

Music Opportunities

There are many opportunities to join the Music Program at Faith - here are the highlights!

The **Chancel Choir** sings most Sundays during the program year. It is open to all interested singers, high-school age and older. We rehearse on Wednesday evenings from 7:30 - 8:45 p.m. We sing a variety of music, from classical to contemporary. It is directed by Deb Borton-McDonough.

Do you love to sing, but don't want the commitment of the Chancel Choir? The **Faith Chorale** sings in worship one Sunday each month. It is open to all singers, high-school age and older. We rehearse on the Saturday morning before the Sunday on which we sing in worship. The Chorale sings primarily contemporary music.

The **Faith Bells** enrich our worship one Sunday each month with their beautiful handbell music. The bell choir is open to ringers 8th grade and older. We rehearse on Wednesday evenings from 6:30 - 7:20 p.m. We are always looking for substitute ringers, as well - if you'd like to play, but can't commit to the every-week rehearsals, please consider joining us as a sub!

Children in grades 3 - 6 are invited to join the **Joyful Noise** choir this fall! We will meet on Wednesdays from 5:30 - 6:00 p.m. Trinity begins at 6:00 p.m., so Joyful Noise singers

will head right downstairs after rehearsal for a delicious dinner with their friends. We will sing during the Children's Sermon on the last Sunday of the month. Pastor Ellen will lead Joyful Noise, and Deb B-McD will assist her.

The **Flutes of Faith** meet on Wednesday evenings from 7:30 - 8:00 p.m. They play flute choir music in worship once a month, and are always looking for new members to join the fun. Please contact Linda Hirt if you're a flutist who would like to share your gift with the group!

One of the most appreciated parts of the worship service is **special music**, whether vocal or instrumental. Do you play an instrument? Are you a singer? Please contact Deb B-McD, and she will be delighted to help you choose and prepare special music (solo or small ensemble) to share with our congregation in worship. Questions?

For any questions or to get involved with the music program at Faith, email Deb Borton-McDonough at lalaladyB@comcast.net

Sing for joy to God our strength; shout joyfully to the God of Jacob. Raise a song, strike the timbrel, the sweet sounding lyre with the harp. – Psalms 81:1-2



Trinity and Confirmation Parent Meeting

On the first T&C night on September 16, there will be an informational meeting for parents and children regarding Calendars, Acolyting, and other important aspects of this program. Dinner will be offered from 6:00-6:30 for everyone, with the meeting beginning directly afterwards.

High School Youth Group Parent Meeting

On Rally Day, September 13, there will be an informational meeting for the High School parents and youth at 12:00 in the Large Fellowship room. We will be discussing Calendars, Mission Trip, Fundraising, etc.

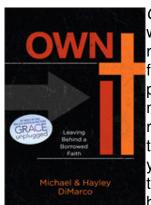
Dates in September

- 11 Films of Faith, Grace Unplugged
- 12 Tent-Set-up, 11:30 a.m.
- 13 Rally Day Youth Group Parent Meeting
- 16 First Trinity & Confirmation evening and Parent Meeting, 6:00 8:00 p.m.
- 23 *Own It*, book group, 7:00 8:00 p.m.

ELCA National Gathering Update

On July 15, eight youth attended the National Gathering in Detroit, Michigan accompanied by Melinda and Pastor Ellen. It was a wonderful event full of activities and fun. This was one of the oldest groups that have attended, so it was an interesting group dynamic. We had a day of bible study, a day of physical service work, and a day of fun activities, crafts, and more service projects. Our accommodations, transportation, food, night time activities, and absolutely everything we did was awesome!! The next gathering will be June 27 - July 1, 2018 in Houston, Texas.

September/October Book Group Every Wednesday, 7:00 - 8:00 p.m. September 23 - October 21



Own It challenges readers by asking what it means to really "own" your faith rather than just automatically or blindly following in the footsteps of friends, parents, or colleagues and will help you navigate what to do when faith meets real world challenges. Own It is all about the reality that when you take hold of your faith, it's really God's love that takes hold of you. Please let Rita know before September 13 if you would like

her to order the book for you. The cost is \$8.00. For ages 13 and above.

Parish Education Meetings

The Parish Education committee meetings will be held after church service on the second Sunday of each month.

If you have any questions about any of these programs, other Christen Education programs, or have ideas for other offerings, please contact Melinda Schultz, Director of Christian Education, mrsjas305@sbcglobal.net.

COMMUNITY FORUM ON RACE, ETHNICITY & CULTURE

Rev. Dr. John Schleicher, Moderator

WHEN September 24, 2015 7:00 PM

WHERE
Faith Lutheran
Church
4515 Dobie Road, Okemos

Phone: 517-349-0620

faithlutheranokemos.org

PANEL DISCUSSION FEATURING:

DR. RONALD E. HALL

MSU Professor of Social Science and International Lecturer on Skin Color

REV. LINDA GARDNER

Pastor at The Church of Elohim

SHASHI KARVE, MBA

lvy Ambitions & Bharatiya Temple of Lansing

KAREN KEYWORTH

Founder and CEO of the Islamic Schools League of America

September 2015 Faith Lutheran Church Monthly Planner

Go to faithlutheranokemos.org for current calendar updates

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30 Pentecost 14 World Hunger offering 9:30 AM WORSHIP 10:45 AM Social Justice Group meeting	31 2:00 PM Women's study group	12:00 PM Lunch lectionary study group	2 7:30 AM Men's study 9:30 AM Quilting and LSSM ACTION	က	4	S.
6 Pentecost 15 9:30 AM WORSHIP	7 Church office closed Labor Day	8 12:00 PM Lunch lectionary study group 6:30 PM Pub lectionary study group	9 7:30 AM Men's study 9:30 AM Quilting and LSSM ACTION 6:30 PM Faith Bells 7:30 PM Chancel Choir	11 30 AM Caregiver Support 7:00 PM Films of Faith: "GRACE unplugged" "GRACE unplugged"	11 7:00 PM Films of Faith: "GRACE unplugged"	12
Back-to-School Breakfast Bags food deadline God's work. Our hands. Sunday Pentecost 16 Rally Day 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM WORS-HIS Family & Friends picnic 11:00 AM Faith Family & Friends picnic 12:00 PM High School youth and parent meeting 1:00 PM Community service project 4:00 PM The Williows at Okemos worship service	14 7:00 PM Racism Community Forum planning meeting	15 12:00 PM Lunch lectionary study group	16 7:30 AM Men's study 9:30 AM Ouilting and LSSM ACTION ACTION 11:30 AM Sixty Plus/Minus Lunch and program 5:30 PM Joyful Noise Choir 6:30 PM Trinity and Confirmation 6:30 PM Trinity and Confirmation 6:30 PM Trinity and Confirmation 7:30 PM Chancel Choir	17	18	19
20 Deliver back-to-school breakfast bags Pentecost 17 9:00 AM Racial Justice presentation 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM WORSHIP 11:15 AM Listening Post in the library 6:00 PM Loaves and Fishes	21 October news letter deadline 7:00 PM Church Council meeting	12:00 PM Lunch lectionary study group 6:30 PM Pub lectionary study group	7:30 AM Men's study 9:30 AM Quilting and LSSM 4CTION 6:30 PM Joyful Noise Choir 6:30 PM Trinty and Confirmation 6:30 PM Faith Bells 7:30 PM Chancel Choir	24 7:00 PM Racism Community Forum	25	26
Lutheran World Relief kits deadline Pentecost 18 Temple Talk World Hunger offering 9:00 AM Open hearts. Open church. 9:00 AM WORSHIP 10:00 AM WORSHIP 11:15 AM Social Justice Group meeting	2.00 PM Women's study group	29 12:00 PM Lunch lectionary study group	7:30 AM Men's study 9:30 AM Quilting and LSSM ACTON 5:30 PM Joyful Noise Choir 6:00 PM Trinty and Confirmation 6:30 PM Faith Bells 7:30 PM Cown It book group 7:30 PM Chancel Choir		2 Women's retreat	က

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

September Special Days

SEPTEMBER	MARRIAGE	BAPTISM	BIRTHDAY
1	KAPP, MIKE & DENISE		
2			GRASSO, AMY
3		WENZEL, CLAYTON	
4			
5			
6	CUNNINGHAM, SCOTT & HEIDI		HEFT, SERA
			MYROM, HEATHER
7		DeGARMO, LOGAN	SANDEL, KRISTIN
8			ZUZULA, ISABELLA
9		McCRACKEN, GAYLE	BIETAU, NAOMI
		BOWERS, KADIN	
10			MIDGLEY, NICHOLAS
11		RASMUSSEN, CHARLOTTE	
12			HAREMSKI, CARTER
13		DURGA, JANIE	RICHARDSON, KATHY
			WILLIAMS, TARA
			KOPF, KATY
14			MAGYAR, TIM
15		GUENTHER, JENNIFER	STEINBART, DORY
			McCRACKEN, JOHN
16			BIETAU, CHUCK
17		MILNE, ELLEN	LEWIS, JULIANA
			BREUNINGER, DAVE
			GOODREAU, CHERYL
			GUENTHER, JONAS
18	GRASSO, JAY & AMY		
19	BASHORE, TODD & SUSAN	DeGARMO, ROBERT	
20			BELONGA, BETH
21		MARKSTROM, JULIA	
22		ROSENTHAL, LAUREN	MARKSTROM, KATIE
23			SCHEUERMAN, MARY ANN
24			PYSH, DEBORAH
			NELSON, CLAIRE
25	FRENGER, GREG & BERYL		GUENTHER, EZEKIEL
26		BELONGA, TAYLOR	HALM, JEAN
			MERLEY, CARSON
27		KADROFSKE, ELLIOT	PREVO, MELISSA
	WOLAY BUT TO THE TOTAL THE TOTAL TO THE TOTAL THE TOTAL TO THE TOTAL THE TOTAL TO T		WAWRZYNSKI, MATT
28	WOLAK, PHILIP & LINDA	KADROFSKE, GWYNNE	CUMMINGS, ALEC
	SMICK, RAYMOND & MELISSA		WEBB, ISAAC
29		NUSSDORFER, EMILEE	
30		B.477	
		DATE UNKNOWN	
		GUENTHER, MAIA	
		BREIER-HARTWICK, NIKKI	

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

Address Service Requested





September 2015



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Rally Day Sunday, September 13 See page 5 for details!