

Faith Family News

Faith Lutheran Church

October 2015

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.

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As October breaks into our lives, I am reminded of Martin Luther and his teachings. On Reformation Sunday, October 25, we will again remember Luther's work and the roots of our tradition. While five centuries have passed, we still celebrate and hold dear the basic principles of Luther's theological understanding. "Grace Alone", "Faith Alone", and "Scripture Alone" are three phrases that summarize Luther's thinking and theology. These three - grace, faith, and scripture - comprise the very essence of Lutheranism.

- † We are saved by the **grace of God alone** – not by anything we do; it is all gift
- † Our salvation is through **faith alone** – a confident trust in God, who in Christ promises us forgiveness, life and salvation; and faith is all gift
- † **Scripture is the norm** for faith and life – God's word to us is gift

Martin Luther viewed God's grace as an invasion of God's love in our daily lives. As Luther grew in his understanding of grace, his life was changed. He came to understand that we are accepted unconditionally by a loving God. He realized the gift of grace is not dependent upon anything we do, it is all gift showered upon us by a loving God.

Martin Luther believed that holy actions would spring up in our lives, not as premeditated works designed to please God but rather as a response to the overwhelming grace of God that is so very present in life.

According to Luther, a life of faith is one in which we recognize that, while sin never departs, grace always invades to draw us closer to Jesus. The truth of our lives is

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Worship Schedule

October 2015

10:00 a.m.

ACOLYTES

October 4	Emilee Nussdorfer
October 11	Haley Towl
October 18	Juliana Lewis
October 25	Emilee Nussdorfer

ALTAR CARE

Kay Showers and Rich Weingartner

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

October 4	Harold Sollenberger Natalie Dingleline Emilee Nussdorfer
October 11	Bob Shorman Jon Harrison Haley Towl
October 18	Rich Weingartner Karen Whitmyer Juliana Lewis
October 25	Jim Crum Susan Heft Emilee Nussdorfer

GREETERS

October 4	Harold Sollenberger
October 11	Jeff and Melinda Schultz
October 18	Ken and Karen Whitmyer
October 25	Rich Weingartner

LAY ASSISTANTS

October 4	Harold Sollenberger
October 11	Bob Shorman
October 18	Rich Weingartner
October 25	Jim Crum

READERS

October 4	Natalie Dingleline
October 11	Jon Harrison
October 18	Karen Whitmyer
October 25	Susan Heft

USHERS

Doug and Linda Hirt

NURSERY

October 4
October 11
October 18
October 25

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 Dingleline

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

SUNDAYS

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 a.m.	Mutual Ministry Committee Listening Post
Last	11:15 a.m.	Social Justice Group

MONDAYS

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 (resumes October 20)
2 nd & 4 th	6:30 p.m.	Pub lectionary study group at Okemos Buddies (resumes October 27)

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

THURSDAYS

2 nd	11:30 a.m.	Caregiver Support Group
3 rd	7:00 p.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,
Ellen Milne, 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: Antonio, Azaria,
Brendan, and Keven

*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

(Continued from page 1)

that, when we look deep into ourselves with searching eyes and longing hearts, we find both sin and grace. We are at the same time both saint and sinner. Sin and grace abound within us in all of life. However, in Christ, we have been freed to live a joyous, grace filled life. And, as Paul Tillich - one of my favorite theologians - said, "May grace more abound within us!"

So, as our Faith community continues to celebrate new beginnings and a future filled with hope, may it be grace that abounds within us, between us and around us. And, may the healing balm of grace flow out through us as God uses us to bring healing and wholeness in this needy, hurting world.
Pastor Ellen

In Christ, Pastor Ellen

Event Filled Sunday

Sunday, October 25, is a big day in the Lutheran Church. As Lutherans, we always celebrate the Reformation on the last Sunday of this month. This year, not only will we celebrate Reformation Sunday. The following things will also be taking place:

- ▶ We will be giving **Bibles to all 3rd grade children**
- ▶ We will be holding a **Potluck** after worship
- ▶ We will be holding our **Quarterly Meeting** downstairs following the potluck
- ▶ We will be focusing on **Stewardship of our Time & Talents** (everyone will have an opportunity to fill out a Time & Talent sheet)
- ▶ We will experience a **Ministry Fair** - All committees will have a table display and you will have the opportunity to see what members of each of these committees are working on

We do hope you will plan to join us for the festivities. This experience will truly be an example of the church at work as we celebrate the Reformation!



Faith Event Highlights for October

Monday	October 19	7:00 p.m.	Church Council meeting with Committee Chairs November newsletter deadline
Sunday	October 25	11:15 a.m.	Faith Family potluck Quarterly congregational meeting Stewardship Ministry Fair
		5:30 p.m.	Chili Chow Down
		7:30 p.m.	Youth Group fun night

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

Sixty Plus or Minus October Program

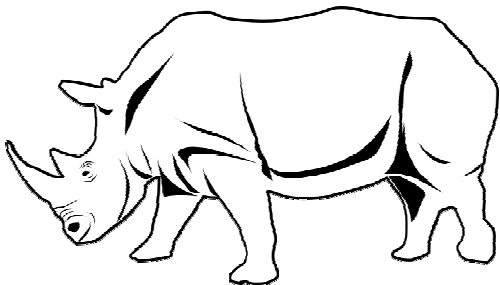
The Sixty Plus or Minus folks invite everyone to join them for their October program. There is no minimum or maximum age!

They are hosting a brown bag lunch and program on Thursday, October 29, 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall. The program will be presented by Mark Marquardt and is called "The Plight of Rhinos."

Trick question of the day: "What has a greater market value, ounce for ounce, than gold?" Answer: "An ounce of rhino horn!" No wonder poaching is prolific in Africa! Mark Marquardt, our resident zoologist, is eager to share information and pictures brought back from Africa by a colleague who visited there recently. Join us for this program that will give us much food for thought about poaching, endangered species, and threatened extinction in God's beautiful world.

Speaking of food, bring your own brown bag or box lunch. The committee will furnish beverages and dessert.

Make sure you note that we are meeting on the 4th Thursday instead of our typical 3rd Wednesday. We're exploring how our attendance might be affected - perhaps improved! - by meeting on Thursday instead of Wednesday. Schedule conflicts among speaker and leaders give us a chance to check this out. So, join us on the 4th Thursday of October, instead of the usual 3rd Wednesday!



Please sign-up and pay a \$50 deposit by Sunday, October 18. The total cost will be \$150 for transportation, lodging, food, wine tasting, and discussion. Openings for 10 women only!

Official Act

Memorial Service

September 25, 2015

Kenneth Mathew Kleimola

2015 Women's Retreat

Grace Alone (Sola Gratia)

November 20 - 22

A weekend stay in beautiful South Haven, Michigan, at a Blue Water Resort Home, where we will have fellowship, fun, fine wine, and our focus will be on the effects of "Grace Alone."

We will visit 12 Corners Tasting Room, the 29th Annual Mistletoe Market, and Pastor Ellen will lead our discussion about Grace, one of the hallmarks of Lutheran Theology. When Martin Luther began to fully understand the concept of grace, it changed his life. Perhaps this weekend will change your life!

The Faith Family

Community Forum on Race, Ethnicity, and Culture a Success

For several months a group of dedicated people have been planning a community forum to discuss the topic of racism and other related issues in our community. The hard work of the group and many others at Faith came together with a successful forum at Faith on September 24.

Almost 100 people from all around the community came and had a lively and informative discussion about topics that too often are not talked about, but are very important to our society.

This was a great example of how Jesus Christ calls us to be active in our community and make a difference. One person at the forum indicated that she is going through some tough times at work and that the forum was exactly what she needed, to see people gathered to openly talk about race and be supportive of everyone.

Many thanks were shared with Faith for hosting the forum, one example came on a comment card: "Forum so appreciated. I felt the warmth when I pulled into the parking lot and walked into the church."

The planning group will be meeting to review the survey results from this forum and will start making plans for our next community forum. In the meantime, please look for the Racism book study after church for the 1st 3 Sundays in October.

God's Work. Our Hands. Service Project a Quick Success

For the 3rd year, Faith Lutheran has participated in the ELCA nationwide day of service called "God's Work. Our Hands. Day of Service." As in past years, we partnered with the Meridian Township Parks department to work in local parks, this year in the North Meridian park on Sunday, September 13.

This year we made the park more beautiful for everyone as they visit the park. We planted mums and a variety of bulbs so that the beauty will continue next spring! There was a small area we planted flowers in and with many hands, the work was quick. A great time was had by everyone who showed up to help out.

If you missed out on the fun, you can catch a glimpse of what we did in these pictures on this page and the next. We are looking forward to participating again next year!



The Faith Family



Parish Education News

Fall Mission Project

We will be making hand-tied fleece blankets with the classes to donate to needy families in November. If you have fleece material that you can donate to the cause, we would greatly appreciate your help. Please drop it off in the Parish Ed office. Thanks!



Parish Ed Meetings

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

Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Collection begins October 4



Collections for our annual Operation Christmas Child Shoebox will start on October 4 and will be ongoing through November 15. At that time we will have the boxes blessed during the church service. If you are available to help deliver the shoeboxes the week of November 17-21, please let Melinda Schultz know at mrsjas305@sbcglobal.net.

Youth Group Dinner Fundraiser (partnering with Membership Development)

"Chili Chowdown"

October 25, 5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

On Sunday, October 25, the youth group will be offering a Chili meal (vegetarian choices as well), cornbread, cider, dessert, as well as some fun games and activities for the children. Since it is so close to Halloween, Membership Development will also have pumpkin carving assistance if you bring in your own pumpkins with your family. It will be a great time! Cost for the meal is \$5 each or \$15 per family. Please make checks payable to Faith Lutheran Church. Money will be collected the evening of the event.

Important Dates in October

- 4 Operation Shoebox Begins
11:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. – Confirmation Review
(Bring your lunch.)
- 21 T&C Activity - College Care Packages
- 25 3rd Grade Bibles given out at worship.
5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. . "Chili Chowdown"
Youth Group Dinner Fundraiser
7:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. – Youth Group Outing



PUZZLE

Meeting needs

The Bible emphasizes the importance of giving to people in need. In Matthew 6:1-4, Jesus describes the proper attitude for giving.

*Directions: Starting at the *B and going counterclockwise, write every other letter on the lines below. Continue until you've completed Matthew 6:3, NIV.*



"B _____

_____ ,

_____ g."

MATTHEW 6:3, NIV

Answer: "But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing." Matthew 6:3, NIV

BLESSING BAGS



Make these practical gifts to share blessings with homeless people and others in need.

What you need:

- Gallon-size zippered baggies
- Clothing (socks, mittens, scarves, rain ponchos)
- Travel-size toiletries (toothpaste, toothbrush, deodorant, sunscreen, lip balm, lotion, tissues, bandages)
- Snacks
- Water bottles
- Paper
- Pencil

What you do:

1. Pack baggies with supplies listed above (and more, if desired).
2. Write encouraging notes (including Bible verses), and add them to the baggies.
3. Keep the gifts in your car, and give them to people who are homeless or asking for help.

October 2015

Faith Lutheran Church Monthly Planner

Go to faithlutheranokemos.org for current calendar updates

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27 Lutheran World Relief kits deadline Pentecost 18 Temple Talk World Hunger offering 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM WORSHIP 11:15 AM Social Justice Group meeting	28	29	30 Men's study 7:30 AM Quilting and LSSM ACTION 9:30 AM Joyful Noise Choir 5:30 PM Trinity and Confirmation 6:00 PM Faith Bells 7:30 PM Chancel Choir	1 7:00 AM Mutual Ministry Committee meeting	2	3
4 Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes SS mission begins Pentecost 19 Temple Talk 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM WORSHIP 11:15 AM Lunch & Learn (Racism book study) 11:15 AM Worship Committee meeting 11:30 AM Confirmation review class	5	6	7 Men's study 7:30 AM Quilting and LSSM ACTION 9:30 AM Joyful Noise Choir 5:30 PM Trinity and Confirmation 6:00 PM Faith Bells 7:30 PM Chancel Choir	8 11:30 AM Caregiver Support Group	9	10
11 Pentecost 20 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM WORSHIP 11:15 AM Lunch & Learn (Racism book study) meeting 11:15 AM Parish Education Committee meeting 3:00 PM The Willows at Okemos worship	12	13	14 Men's study 7:30 AM Quilting and LSSM ACTION 9:30 AM Joyful Noise Choir 5:30 PM Trinity and Confirmation 6:00 PM Faith Bells 7:00 PM 60th Anniversary Committee meeting 7:30 PM Chancel Choir	15	16	17
18 Bread for the World Sunday Pentecost 21 9:00 AM Adult Study: The Bible Makes Sense 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM WORSHIP 11:15 AM Listening Post 11:15 AM Lunch & Learn (Racism book study) 6:00 PM Loaves and Fishes Ministries	19 November newsletter deadline 7:00 PM Church Council meeting with Committee Chairs	20 12:00 PM Lunch lectionary study group	21 Men's study 7:30 AM Quilting and LSSM ACTION 9:30 AM Joyful Noise Choir 5:30 PM Trinity and Confirmation 6:00 PM Faith Bells 7:30 PM Chancel Choir	22 7:00 PM Mutual Ministry Committee	23	24
25 Ministry Fair Reformation Sunday Third grade Bibles World Hunger offering 9:00 AM Adult Study: The Bible Makes Sense 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM WORSHIP 11:15 AM Faith Family potluck, quarterly congregational meeting and stewardship ministry fair 5:30 PM Chili Chowdown 7:30 PM Youth Group fun night	26 2:00 PM Women's study group	27 12:00 PM Lunch lectionary study group 6:30 PM Pub lectionary study group	28 Men's study 7:30 AM Quilting and LSSM ACTION 9:30 AM Joyful Noise Choir 5:30 PM Trinity and Confirmation 6:00 PM Faith Bells 7:30 PM Chancel Choir	29 11:30 AM Sixty Plus/Minus	30	31

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

October Special Days

OCTOBER	MARRIAGE	BAPTISM	BIRTHDAY
1			NUSSDORFER, MIKE
2	HARTWICK, ED & NICOLE		DINGLEDINE, JACK
3		NELSON, PAUL	
4		McPHAIL, JOHN	CRUM, PEGGY
5			
6	DURGA, RON & JANIE		SCHROTE, NINA
7			THORN, MILDRED
8	WAWRZYNSKI, MATT & KORINE	RICHARDSON, KATHY	
9			LUOMA, MARK
10		HEILMAN, MADDIE	
11	MARQUARDT, MARK & JODY	WRIGHT, KATIE	SMITH, SHEILA
			NUSSDORFER, RYAN
			LEWIS, JEAN
12	BOOKER, BOB & PATRICE	SMITH, MICHELLE	
		BOWERS, BRIELLE	
13			BICKERSTAFF, JANE
			BARRICKLOW, LOWELL
14		DINGLEDINE, OWEN	NAWROCK, HARRY
			FLATLEY, DIANE
15		ROSENTHAL, RACHEL	PIERCE, JILL
16		WILLIAMS, TARA	
17			JOHNSON, PAULA
18			
19			BELONGA, KEITH
20			
21			
22			
23		TOWL, HALEY	
24			
25			
26			
27			HEFT, SUSAN
			HALVORSON, MAVIS
28			BORTON, JOHN
29			COTTER, KELLI
30			
31			SCHULTZ, LAUREN
		DATE UNKNOWN	
		BREIER, ANDREW	

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

Sola Gratia

Grace Alone

Sola Fide

Faith Alone

Sola Scriptura

Scripture Alone

October 2015

Reformation Sunday

Sunday, October 25, 2015

See Page 4 for Details of Events