

Welcome to Faith Lutheran

Sunday, August 20



Pastor Ellen Schoepf
prellen@faithlutheranokemos.org

4515 Dobie Road
Okemos, MI 48864
517-349-0620



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.



To make disciples for Jesus Christ. . .
.. **we Gather** in faith for worship, prayer,
study and fellowship
.. **we Equip** the people of God with a faith
that works in real life
.. **we Serve** the world in the name of Jesus Christ



Faith Lutheran Church's Welcoming Statement:

We, at Faith Lutheran Church, welcome you as a child of God. As Paul said in his letter to the Galatians, “for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith.” (Galatians 3:26) We strive to be a place where everyone is welcomed and affirmed.

No matter your age, gender identity, sexual orientation, race, ethnicity, marital status, faith background, political leanings, or mental or physical ability - you are welcome as you are. As children of God, we are all one in Christ Jesus and rely on the unconditional nature of God’s love and grace to be our help and guide.

Email address

faith@faithlutheranokemos.org

Websites

Faith Lutheran Church ≈ www.faithlutheranokemos.org
North/West Lower Michigan Synod ≈ www.mittensynod.org
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America ≈ www.elca.org

Facebook

facebook.com/faithlutheranokemos

You also can find the audio available on Faith’s website under worship
Sermons

<http://faithlutheranokemos.org/sermons/>
Special music <http://faithlutheranokemos.org/category/special>

The Persistent Advocate

The Canaanite woman comes before Jesus with an urgent need. Her daughter is being tormented by a demon. She doesn't just ask for help; she shouts for it. Disconcertingly, despite her outcries, Jesus at first remains silent. Yet she doesn't give up. She kneels before him and pleads her case. Not even being likened to a dog shuts her up. "Even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table," she insists (Matt. 15:27). Finally, Jesus rewards her faith and persistence by healing her child.

We, too, may find ourselves the advocate for a desperate or unpopular cause in our workplace or community. We may find ourselves pleading on behalf of the disenfranchised. We may feel driven to relieve suffering or right an injustice. Urgently, we cry out to those we hope will help us. We shout and demand. We write letters, attend vigils, and carry placards. Perhaps at first, those in power will meet us with scorn or indifference. They might condemn us for who we are. Yet we must not give up. The Canaanite woman does not stop trying, nor should we.

Even though Jesus' disciples encourage him to send the Canaanite woman away, he stops to hear her. He speaks with this vulnerable outsider and allows her words to touch his heart. Compassionately, he reevaluates and reaches out.

We never know how long it will take for our case to be heard. It may take weeks, months, or years. However, when we advocate for the good of another, we must not stop trying. God sees beyond social status, outward appearance, and group affiliation. This is good news for all of us. We can trust that someday we also will hear the words: "Great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish."

Sunday, August 20, 2017
11th Sunday after Pentecost

Introduction to the day

In Isaiah we hear that God's house shall be a house of prayer for all people and that God will gather the outcasts of Israel. The Canaanite woman in today's gospel is a Gentile, an outsider, who is unflinching in her request that Jesus heal her daughter. As Jesus commends her bold faith, how might our church extend its mission to those on the margins of society? In our gathering around word and meal we receive strength to be signs of comfort, healing, and justice for those in need.

If hearing assistance is needed, please ask an usher for a personal PA receiver.

The ushers also have large print copies of today's worship folder available.

If it will be difficult for you to stand along with the congregation during any part of the worship service, please feel free to remain seated.

There is a nursery available during the worship service for those who wish to use it. It is located at the end of the hall beyond the coat racks.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*We cordially greet all who have come to worship today.
Please register your attendance and join us in fellowship after the service.*

Prayer Requests

PRELUDE

“What a Friend We Have in Jesus”

arr. Dale Wood

The pre-service music signals the beginning of the worship service. Silence during the pre-service music enables worshipers to prepare for worship through quiet meditation.

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Gracious God, we thank you for making one human family of all the peoples of the earth and for creating all the wonderful diversity of cultures.

Enrich our lives by ever-widening circles of fellowship and show us your presence in those who differ most from us.

From the bondage of racism that denies the humanity of every human being and the prejudices within us that deny the dignity of those who are oppressed, Lord set us free: **Lord, have mercy.**

From racism that blinds oppressors to the destruction caused by the spirit and practice of racial injustice, Christ set us free: **Christ, have mercy.**

From the racism that will not recognize the work of your Spirit in other cultures: Lord set us free: **Lord, have mercy.**

Forgive those of us who have been silent and apathetic in the face of racial intolerance and bigotry, both overt and subtle, public and private.

And take away the arrogance and hatred that infect our hearts.

Break down the walls that separate us.

And help us to find that unity that is the fruit of righteousness and will enable us to become your beloved community.

Empower us to speak boldly for justice and truth and help us to deal with one another without hatred or bitterness, working together with mutual forbearance and respect.

And work through our struggles and confusion to accomplish your purposes.

O God of unconditional love, you who show no partiality in respect to people or nations, we have heard your good news of great joy for all the people. We hear that good news, and in hearing, believe. We know that your sanctuary is a house of worship for all people, with no regard for the color of our skin. As we worship you, knit us into a people, a seamless garment of many colors. May we celebrate our unity, made whole in our diversity. Forgive us for our inability to let our “old selves” die to the world.

We acknowledge that we participate in structures that are inherently racist, and yet we so often do nothing to remedy it. Show us we fail when we judge others according to the color of their flesh.

God, who is rich in mercy, loves us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of +Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

Amen.

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GATHERING SONG

Gather Us In

ELW #532

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE



- 1 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth.
- 2 Glo-ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
- 3 Ho - ly One we now ac-claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:
Son of God and gra-cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;
Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.
Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.
Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.
For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

God of all peoples, your arms reach out to embrace all those who call upon you. Teach us as disciples of your Son to love the world with compassion and constancy, that your name may be known throughout the earth, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

The assembly is seated.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 56:1, 6-8

The prophet calls upon Israel to do justice in view of God's imminent intervention to save. Righteousness and obedience define who belongs to the Israelite community—not race, nationality, or any other category.

A reading from Isaiah.

¹Thus says the LORD:

Maintain justice, and do what is right,
for soon my salvation will come,
and my deliverance be revealed.

⁶And the foreigners who join themselves to the LORD,
to minister to him, to love the name of the LORD,
and to be his servants,
all who keep the sabbath, and do not profane it,
and hold fast my covenant—

⁷these I will bring to my holy mountain,
and make them joyful in my house of prayer;
their burnt offerings and their sacrifices
will be accepted on my altar;
for my house shall be called a house of prayer
for all peoples.

⁸Thus says the Lord GOD,
who gathers the outcasts of Israel,
I will gather others to them
besides those already gathered.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING: Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32

God has not rejected Israel. Rather, the call and gifts of God are irrevocable, so that while all have been disobedient, God has mercy upon all.

A reading from Romans.

[Paul writes:] ¹I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. ^{2a}God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew.

²⁹For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. ³⁰Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, ³¹so they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they too may now receive mercy. ³²For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL: Matthew 15:[10-20] 21-28

Jesus teaches his disciples that true purity is a matter of the heart rather than outward religious observances. Almost immediately, this teaching is tested when a woman considered to be pagan and unclean approaches him for help.

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[¹⁰[Jesus] called the crowd to him and said to them, “Listen and understand:¹¹it is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, but it is what comes out of the mouth that defiles.”¹²Then the disciples approached and said to him, “Do you know that the Pharisees took offense when they heard what you said?”¹³He answered, “Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted.¹⁴Let them alone; they are blind guides of the blind. And if one blind person guides another, both will fall into a pit.”¹⁵But Peter said to him, “Explain this parable to us.”¹⁶Then he said, “Are you also still without understanding?¹⁷Do you not see that whatever goes into the mouth enters the stomach, and goes out into the sewer?¹⁸But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this is what defiles.¹⁹For out of the heart come evil intentions, murder, adultery, fornication, theft, false witness, slander.²⁰These are what defile a person, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile.”]

²¹Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon.²²Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, “Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon.”²³But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, “Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us.”²⁴He answered, “I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.”²⁵But she came and knelt before him, saying, “Lord, help me.”²⁶He answered, “It is not fair to take the children’s food and throw it to the dogs.”²⁷She said, “Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters’ table.”²⁸Then Jesus answered her, “Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish.” And her daughter was healed instantly.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

The assembly is seated.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON

The assembly stands to proclaim the word of God in song.

HYMN OF THE DAY

Oh, Praise the Gracious Power

ELW #651

CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Generous, compassionate God, we gather before you to pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

*Prayers of intercession are prayed.
To each petition, the assembly responds:*

Lord, in your mercy,
receive our prayer.

The presiding minister concludes the prayers, and the assembly responds:

Into your hands we place all our prayers, spoken and unspoken, trusting in the mercy of Christ Jesus.
Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say, "Peace be with you," or similar words.

The assembly is seated.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING

"I've Got Peace Like a River"

(arr. Hapson)
Faith Family Choir
Gwynne Kadrofske, flute

OFFERING RESPONSE

Give Thanks



Give thanks with a grate - ful heart, give thanks to the Ho - ly One,



give thanks be - cause he's giv - en Je - sus Christ, his Son.



Give thanks with a grate - ful heart, give thanks to the Ho - ly One,



give thanks be - cause he's giv - en Je - sus Christ, his Son.



And now let the weak say, "I am strong," let the poor say, "I am



rich," be - cause of what the Lord has done for us. And



now let the weak say, "I am strong," let the poor say, "I am



rich," be - cause of what the Lord has done for us. Give thanks!

Last time



Text: Henry Smith
Music: GIVE THANKS. Henry Smith

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OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.
Merciful God,
you open wide your hand
and satisfy the need of every living thing.
You have set this feast before us.
Open our hands to receive it.
Open our hearts to embrace it.
Open our lives to live it.
We pray this through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ;
who on this day overcame death and the grave,
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of
everlasting life.
And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -



san-na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

God of our weary years, God of our silent tears, you have brought us this far along the way. In times of bitterness you did not abandon us, but guided us into the path of love and light. In every age you sent prophets to make known your loving will for all humanity. The cry of the poor has become your own cry; our hunger and thirst for justice is your own desire.

In the fullness of time, you sent your chosen servant to preach good news to the afflicted, to break bread with the outcast and despised, and to ransom those in bondage to prejudice and sin.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood,

shed for you and all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Remembering, therefore, his death and resurrection, we await the day when Jesus shall return to free all the earth from the bonds of slavery and death. Come, Lord Jesus! And let the church say, Amen. **Amen.**

Send your Holy Spirit, our advocate, to fill the hearts of all who share this bread and cup with courage and wisdom to pursue love and justice in all the world. Come, Spirit of freedom! And let the church say, Amen.

Amen.

Join our prayers and praise with your prophets and martyrs of every age, that, rejoicing in the hope of the resurrection, we might live in the freedom and hope of your Son.

Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread.
Our Lord's body let us take together.

COMMUNION

The body of Christ, given for you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you.

Amen.

COMMUNION SONG



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

CONGREGATIONAL SONG

What a Friend We Have in Jesus

ELW #742

CONGREGATIONAL SONG

In Christ There Is No East or West

ELW #650

The assembly stands

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ
strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Amen

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

Jesus Christ, host of this meal,
you have given us not only this bread and cup,
but your very self, that we may feast on your great love.

Filled again by these signs of your grace,
may we hunger for your reign of justice,
may we thirst for your way of peace,
for you are Lord forevermore.

Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

BLESSING

May God, whose power working in us
can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine,
grant you the gifts of faith and hope.

Almighty God, Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING SONG

Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

ELW #886

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. The Spirit sends us forth to serve.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

"O For a Thousand Tongues"

arr. Alec Wyton

From sundaysandseasons.com.

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Sisters and brothers in Christ, we welcome you to worship and Christian Fellowship. May you find blessing and strength in your participation here this morning.

Pastor	Ellen Schoepf	prellen@faithlutheranokemos.org
Secretary	Katie Love	kllove@faithlutheranokemos.org
Director of Christian Education		Katie Love
Director of Music		Debra Borton-McDonough
Organist/Pianist		Bruce Williams

August 13, 2017 Attendance: 82

Serving Faith	August 20	August 27
Acolyte		
Altar Care		Gretchen Bills
Communion Assistants	Deb Borton-McDonough	Kim O'Brien
	Harold Sollenberger	Ken Schoepf
Greeters	Ken & Ellen Milne	Brian & Michelle Ransom
Lay Assistants	Deb Borton-McDonough	Kim O'Brien
Readers	Harold Sollenberger	Ken Schoepf
Ushers	Schultz Family	Schultz Family
Nursery	Jennifer & Maia Guenther	O'Brien's

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Faith Family & Friends

August 20, 2017

Log onto Faith's website www.faithlutheranokemos.org 24/7 for updates

DEADLINES

Sunday worship folder announcements—Tuesday of each week
Submit to Katie at klove@faithlutheranokemos.org

September Faith Family News newsletter—
Please submit by Monday August 21
Submit to Katie at klove@faithlutheranokemos.org

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Please lift up in prayer this week:

- ✠ Members—Max Ambs, Lowell Barricklow, Ellen Milne, and Harry Nawrock
- ✠ Friends and family—
Harriet, Pat Belonga, Todd Barricklow, Greg Beckwith, Carol Coyer, Kay Coker, Chris Cotter, Terrie Becker, Allyson, Heather, Erin, Al, Sai, Jeanne Hicks, Eshwar Lingamgunta, Robert Bordt, Jenn Leitch, Brian Johnson, Meredith, Jeanne and Leonard, Susan Heft, John Joseph Lanzetta, Manitta family, Loretta Milne, Bethany Robison, Jean Smith, Scott Seeley, “Little Zee” (3 yr. old daughter of a friend of Brenda Kopf’s), Max Whitmyer and the White family. Please keep Rich Weingartners mother, Sally Weingartner and his sister Lani Yearicks in your prayers.
- ✠ Our mission partner congregation—Lansing Redeemer Lutheran Church
- ✠ Those in military service—Jon Schoepf, Lani Yearicks,
Melody and Adam Wright and Joe Galvin.
- ✠ Samaritas children who seek adoption— Giovanni, Jessica, LeeAnn and Valerie. Pray for each to be adopted and for Jesus to be their lifelong friends

NORTH/WEST LOWER MICHIGAN SYNOD PRAYER PARTNER

As Jesus calls us to be one, even as he and the Father are one, please include Pastor Paul Krupinski and the congregation of Bread of Life Lutheran Church of Hudsonville, Michigan in your prayers of intercession this week.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Weekly Offering	08/13/17	Year-to-date as of 06/30/2017	
Loose Cash	\$ 36.00	Income	\$125,282.19
Loose Checks	\$ 80.00	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>\$149,363.44</u>
Flowers	\$ 25.00	Net Income	-24,081.25
General Fund	<u>\$2320.00</u>		
Subtotal	\$2461.00		
Total	<u>\$2461.00</u>		

ALTAR FLOWER DEDICATIONS

Today's altar flowers are given to the glory of God by...

Vase 1: Lowell and Gail Barricklow in celebration of their families.

Vase 2: Mike Eschelbach in celebration of Molly and Philip's first anniversary.

THIS WEEK'S CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS

Today *Tanzania Water Offering*
10:00 a.m. Worship: Family Choir Sunday
Following Tent Rising for Community Picnic: Help Needed!
11:30 a.m. Worship Committee
11:30 a.m. Mutual Ministry
6:00 p.m. Loaves & Fishes

Monday, August 21st

9:30 a.m. Meridian Township Playgroup

7:00 p.m. Council Meeting

Tuesday, August 22nd

Noon: **No Study** in Pastor's Office this week.

Wednesday, August 23rd

7:30 a.m. Men's Study

9:30 a.m. Quilting and Samaritas ACTION

7:00 p.m. Walk for Water "How To" Youth Meeting

Thursday, August 24th

11:00 a.m. Worship at Dobie Road

6:30 p.m. Continuing the Conversation around 13 Documentary

7:00 p.m. ELCA Social Statement Meeting (final meeting)

Friday, August 25th

Saturday, August 26th

4:00 -7:00 p.m. Community Picnic

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Sign-up to help at the **Community Picnic!** Please see the table in the narthex and consider signing up for one or more opportunities to serve.



First Day of Sunday School Celebrate & Serve



Everyone is invited to the NEW Sunday School Wing on Sunday, September 10th at 9:00 a.m. Children PK-6th grade will be creating “Jared Boxes” for children in the hospital.

We need your help!

**Can you provide some items for the boxes?
Please use the Sign-Up link below or contact
Katie Love for ways you can help!**

**This is sure to be a great celebration and
kick-off!**

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/508094caaa623a3f49-rally>

A Jared Box is a plastic storage box filled with small gifts, toys, games, and fun activities. Each box contains items selected for a specific age and gender. The boxes are delivered to hospitals. Jared Boxes provide a special diversion for young patients in emergency rooms, patient rooms, surgical centers, and clinics as they receive chemotherapy and other medical treatments. Jared Boxes bring smiles and laughter and lift the spirits of children in the hospital.

Join us for

**“God’s work. Our hands.” Sunday
September 10, 2017**

A dedicated day of
service in our community.



Faith Lutheran is the place to be on Sept 10th

**9:00 AM: Sunday School Service Project
All are welcome**

10:00 AM: Worship

**11:30 AM Potluck luncheon with vision 2020
campaign launch**

1:00 - 4:00 p.m. God’s Work Our Hands.

**We will be doing God’s Work, Our Hands project
at Arrowtree Apartments. Please sign up in the
Narthex or on-line at:**

www.SignUpGenius.com/go/508094CAA623A3F49-gods

WAYS YOU CAN HELP

What are those Laundry Baskets for?? ARROW TREE FOOD PANTRY

Thank you so much for being so generous over the past few months! Arrow Tree apartments are very thankful for your donations. Residents there are very appreciative. Suggested items needed:

SOUP, MAC & CHEESE, CEREAL, OATMEAL, PASTA, PEANUT BUTTER, HEALTHY SNACK BARS, TUNA, CANNED FRUITS AND VEGETABLES ETC. Personal need items are also helpful. Toilet paper, toothbrushes/paste, feminine products etc.



NOTECARDS BY SAMARITAS

As we continue to support the work of Samaritas, we are selling notecards. The covers of these notecards display artwork done by refugees who have come to the United States through the work of Samaritas. Notecards are available for \$5.00 per bundle of 6. If you are interested in purchasing a bundle of notecards, please place your \$5 in the box next to the display in the Narthex. If you write a check, please make the check out to **Samaritas**



WAYS YOU CAN HELP

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 before the October shipping date.



Each Kit will contain these items

- 1 Bath Size Towel in dark color (medium weight is best)
- 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 will be in the Fellowship Area. Thank you for your help in this project. Contact Charlotte Rasmussen if you have any questions

WAYS YOU CAN HELP

CARING COMMITTEE NEWS

In one month children in our community will be 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 September. With cash donations we will purchase milk, bread and eggs. There will also be a sign-up sheet hanging on the Committee Information board.

Thank you Faith Family for your care, concern and desire to help others in our community in HIS name.

Wednesday Night Live!

Starting on Wednesday, September 13,

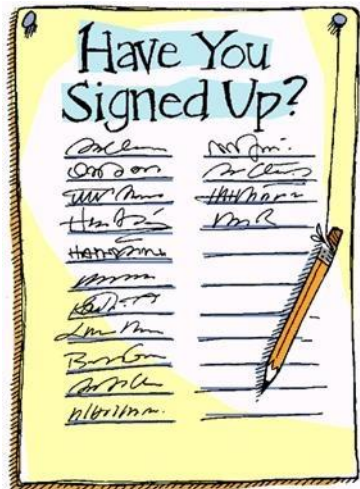
Faith Lutheran Church is the place to be!

We will be offering a meal for anyone in the congregation who wishes to come to church to eat (meals much like the Lenten suppers). The meal will be served from 5:45 – 7:00. We will be offering activities for all ages! Wednesday will be family night at Faith! The evening schedule will include:

- 5:30 – 6:00 Joyful Noise choir rehearsal
- 5:45 – 7:00 Meal served
- 6:30 – 7:30 Trinity, Confirmation, and *activities for younger children!*
- 6:30 – 7:30 Bell Choir rehearsal
- 7:00 – 8:00 Book study for adults (*Harold Sollenberger will be leading the 1st study based on the book **Falling Upward** by Richard Rohr: Sign up in the narthex*)
- 6:30 – 8:00 Movies of interest for adults and older youth
- 7:30 – 8:00 Additional activities for kids
- 7:30 – 9:00 Chancel Choir

Our **Wednesday Night Meals** will be provided by different committees and groups within the congregation. A freewill offering will be taken at each meal. This money can then be used by the committee to further enhance their ministry work within the life of the congregation.

Please sign up your group or committee in the narthex.



WALK FOR WATER



The Youth at Faith will be putting together and leading people through the “Walk for Water” simulation at the Community Picnic on Saturday, August 26th.

All 9-12th graders who would like to help please email Katie at klove@faithlutheranokemos.org and plan to attend a “how to” meeting on Wednesday, August 23rd at 7:00 p.m. If you can’t attend the meeting please let Katie know! This is going to be an exciting and fun way to raise money for the Tanzania Water Project and help participants learn of the struggles of those who must walk for their water.

If you can help with the Walk for Water please sign up using the link below.

www.SignUpGenius.com/go/508094CAA623A3F49-walk

RALLY DAY



The “FALL KICK OFF” for Sunday School is Sunday, September 10th. Exciting activities and service projects are being planned and we can’t wait to kick off Sunday School with you!! Please see more detailed information in the “Important Announcement” section of the announcements.

Upcoming Caregiving Meeting

September 14th – An afternoon of sharing and caring

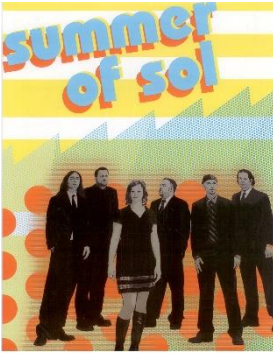
October 12th- An afternoon of sharing and caring



Beer & Hymns

We have started a new venture, Beer & Hymns. We are hosting an evening of food, beverage and hymn singing upstairs at *Williamston Pub & Grill*. This event will take place on the 1st Sunday evening of every month, beginning at 5:30 p.m. Come and join us for fun, fellowship and singing! You purchase your own meal and beverage and we supply the music and lead everyone in song! And, feel free to invite friends!

****Handouts to invite your friends and neighbors are available in the narthex****



COMMUNITY PICNIC & CONCERT

FEATURING:

SUMMER OF SOL

FAJITAS CATERED BY

WILLIAMSTON PUB & GRILL

SATURDAY, AUGUST 26

4:00 – 7:00 PM

**Enjoy Free Food & Live Music on
the front lawn of the church**

Games and Activities for Kids

**Walk for Water Simulation Experience
from 4-6 p.m.**

Circle of Protection - Prayer, Advocacy, Community
7 - 8:30 PM, Thursday, September 7th
Central Free Methodist Church
828 N Washington Ave., Lansing

All people of faith who are concerned for the common good are invited to participate in a time of prayer and advocacy. We will gather in the Sanctuary and following a time of welcome and introduction, there will be quiet prayer (lasting about 30-40 minutes). Then participants who wish will move to the Parish Hall for light refreshments and caring conversations.

With the start of school and Labor Day, the highlighted concerns for the September Circle of Protection are:

- Students, teachers and school administrators
- Workers and employers
- Voters and public servants