

# Welcome to Faith Lutheran

October 8, 2017



*The  
kingdom  
of God  
will be ... given  
to a people  
that produces  
the fruits  
of the kingdom.*

Matthew 21:43, NRSV

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# 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](http://www.faithlutheranokemos.org)  
North/West Lower Michigan Synod ≈ [www.mittensynod.org](http://www.mittensynod.org)  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America ≈ [www.elca.org](http://www.elca.org)

### Facebook

[facebook.com/faithlutheranokemos](https://facebook.com/faithlutheranokemos)

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

<http://faithlutheranokemos.org/sermons/>

## **This Is the Lord's Doing**

Open a newspaper, turn on the TV, read online—everywhere we look, the world is crumbling about us. War, violence, natural disasters, hateful words, anger, and hostility litter our cultural landscape like so much garbage along a highway. Even within our own homes, sin, death, and the devil seem to have the upper hand. Anger, betrayal, mistrust, and manipulation hang rotting on the vine, rather than the lush, sweet grapes of love, care, and forgiveness we expect and desire. And if we take but a moment for self-reflection, we notice that it is our own selfishness and hard-heartedness that contribute to this state of affairs. We are indeed “captive to sin and cannot free ourselves” as we confess in worship (*Evangelical Lutheran Worship*, p. 95).

The gospel today is related thematically to the first reading from Isaiah. We are invited to consider the “vineyard” as God’s dominion, and ourselves as the tenants. We belong to this dominion by virtue of our baptism, and the vineyard owner, God, has graciously placed us as steward-tenants. But we who are charged with tending the vines and producing fruit too often foster selfish and unloving thoughts, words, and deeds. We reject—even kill—the landowner’s messengers. This is our doing.

And yet the landowner has recycled even what we rejected. Captive to our poor stewardship of the vineyard, the world lying in shambles around us, we can do nothing but stand in amazement that God still loves us. Indeed, the wine of holy communion, blood shed by our sin and yet rich with our redemption, reminds us that the vineyard still stands. Our sins are forgiven, and the beloved Son is redeeming the creation, one rotten bunch of grapes at a time. This is the Lord’s doing, and it is amazing in our eyes.

**Sunday, October 8, 2017**  
18th Sunday after Pentecost

**Introduction to the day**

In today's gospel reading, Jesus tells a parable of the vineyard, an image of Israel, the prophets' mission, and Christ's death. For Christians, the vineyard also speaks of God's love poured out in the blood of Christ, given to us for the forgiveness of sin. Grafted onto Christ the vine at baptism, we are nourished with wine and bread, that we may share Christ's sufferings and know the power of his resurrection.

*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**

“Bunessan”

arranged Dale Wood

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## GATHERING

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

### QUILT DEDICATION

P: We give thanks for the variety of gifts that have enabled the creation of these quilts: donations of fabric, thread and sewing machines, the faithful people who cut the squares, design the patterns, sew the tops, iron the fabric, make backs and fillers, tie and stitch the bindings, donate boxes, and contribute money for the shipping of these items.

**C: We celebrate generosity.**

P: We give thanks for the fellowship of all who work together to make the quilts, the laughter, the shared stories, the joy of crafting something with one's hands and heart for another and the time to reflect and wonder about the recipient.

**C: We celebrate community.**

P: We send these quilts as a sign of God's love and blessing for each person who receives one, trusting that these gifts will be a source of comfort and hope in the midst of disaster and fear, a symbol of Christ's love to those who suffer, a reminder that each recipient is a beloved child of God.

We pray that these quilts will serve a useful purpose in the life of the recipient; that they will bring warmth in the cold, shelter from the sun and heat, a wall for a home, or a carrier for a few precious belongings. May it be a message of care from someone they may never meet.

**C: We celebrate hope in the midst of life's trials.**

P: We ask that you bless the fruits of our labor and the whole mission of Lutheran World Relief, that together we may minister to our neighbors in need. Bless all who give and all who receive, as we are sewn together in the unity of your Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen**

# GATHERING SONG

*Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty*


*ELW #533*

## 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.**

## KYRIE

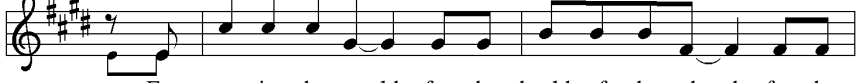
*Refrain*




Ky - ri - e e - lei - son, on our world and on our way.




Ky - ri - e e - lei - son, ev-'ry day.



1 For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the  
2 That we may live out your im - passioned re - sponse to the  
3 For peace in our hearts, . . . for peace in our homes, . . . for  
4 For your Spir - it to guide; that you cen - ter our lives in the



u - ni - ty of all; for  
hun - gry and the poor; that  
friends and fam - i - ly; for  
wa - ter and the word; that you



this ho - ly house, for all who wor-ship and praise,  
we may live out . . . . truth and jus - tice and grace,  
life and for love, . . . . for our work and our play,  
nour-ish our souls . . . with your bod - y and blood,

*Refrain*



let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

# CANTICLE OF PRAISE

## *Refrain*



This is the feast of vic-t'ry for our God, for the



Lamb who was slain has be-gun his reign. Al-le-lu-ia.



1 Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be



peo-ple of God. Pow-er, rich-es, wis-dom, and strength, and



hon-or, bless-ing, and glo-ry are his. This is the feast of

## *Refrain*



vic-t'ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has be-gun his reign. Al-



le-lu-ia. 2 Sing with all the peo-ple of God, and



join in the hymn of all cre-a-tion: Bless-ing, hon-or,



glo-ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for-ev-er. A-men.

## *Final refrain*



This is the feast of vic-t'ry for our God, for the



Lamb who was slain has be-gun his reign. Al-le-lu-ia.

# PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Beloved God, from you come all things that are good. Lead us by the inspiration of your Spirit to know those things that are right, and by your merciful guidance, help us to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

*The assembly is seated.*

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## WORD

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

### FIRST READING: Isaiah 5:1-7

*The prophet sings a sad, parable-like love song about the relationship between God and Israel. In this song Israel is compared to a promising vineyard. Despite God's loving care, the vineyard that is Israel has brought forth "wild grapes" of injustice and distress, when fine grapes of justice and righteousness were expected.*

A reading from Isaiah.

<sup>1</sup>Let me sing for my beloved  
my love-song concerning his vineyard:

My beloved had a vineyard  
on a very fertile hill.

<sup>2</sup>He dug it and cleared it of stones,  
and planted it with choice vines;  
he built a watchtower in the midst of it,  
and hewed out a wine vat in it;  
he expected it to yield grapes,  
but it yielded wild grapes.

<sup>3</sup>And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem  
and people of Judah,  
judge between me  
and my vineyard.

<sup>4</sup>What more was there to do for my vineyard  
that I have not done in it?



When I expected it to yield grapes,  
why did it yield wild grapes?

<sup>5</sup>And now I will tell you  
what I will do to my vineyard.

I will remove its hedge,  
and it shall be devoured;

I will break down its wall,  
and it shall be trampled down.

<sup>6</sup>I will make it a waste;  
it shall not be pruned or hoed,  
and it shall be overgrown with briars and thorns;

I will also command the clouds  
that they rain no rain upon it.

<sup>7</sup>For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts  
is the house of Israel,  
and the people of Judah  
are his pleasant planting;  
he expected justice,  
but saw bloodshed;  
righteousness,  
but heard a cry!

The word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## **SECOND READING: Philippians 3:4b-14**

*Paul reviews some of his supposed credentials, which no longer have any bearing in comparison to the right relationship he has been given through the death of Christ. The power of Christ's resurrection motivates him to press on toward the ultimate goal, eternal life with Christ.*

A reading from Philippians.

[Paul writes:] <sup>4b</sup>If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: <sup>5</sup>circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; <sup>6</sup>as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

<sup>7</sup>Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss

because of Christ. <sup>8</sup>More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ <sup>9</sup>and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. <sup>10</sup>I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, <sup>11</sup>if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

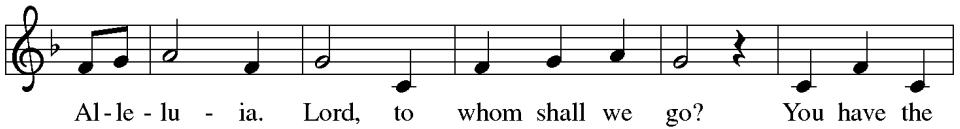
<sup>12</sup>Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. <sup>13</sup>Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, <sup>14</sup>I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.*



## **GOSPEL: Matthew 21:33-46**

*Jesus tells a parable to the religious leaders who are plotting his death, revealing that their plans will, ironically, bring about the fulfillment of scripture.*

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said to the people:] <sup>33</sup>“Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. <sup>34</sup>When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. <sup>35</sup>But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. <sup>36</sup>Again he sent other slaves, more than the first; and they treated them in the same way. <sup>37</sup>Finally he sent his son to them, saying, ‘They will respect my son.’ <sup>38</sup>But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, ‘This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.’ <sup>39</sup>So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. <sup>40</sup>Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?” <sup>41</sup>They said to him, “He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time.”

<sup>42</sup>Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the scriptures:  
‘The stone that the builders rejected  
has become the cornerstone;  
this was the Lord’s doing,  
and it is amazing in our eyes’?”

<sup>43</sup>Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom.

<sup>44</sup>The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone on whom it falls.”

<sup>45</sup>When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. <sup>46</sup>They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*The assembly is seated.*

## **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

### **SERMON**

### **HYMN OF THE DAY**

*There in God's Garden*

***ELW #342***



### **HOLY BAPTISM**

**Peyton Grace Williams**

Presentation

In baptism our gracious heavenly Father frees us from sin and death by joining us to the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. We are born children of a fallen humanity; by water and the Holy Spirit we are reborn children of God and made members of the church, the body of Christ. Living with Christ and in the communion of saints, we grow in faith, love and obedience to the will of God.

I present Peyton Grace Williams for baptism.

*To parents:*

Called by the Holy Spirit, trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to have Peyton baptized into Christ?

**I do.**

As you bring him to receive the gift of baptism, you are entrusted with responsibilities:

to live with him among God's faithful people,  
bring him to the word of God and the holy supper,  
teach him the Lord's Prayer, the Creed  
and the Ten Commandments,  
place in his hands the holy scriptures,  
and nurture him in faith and prayer,  
so that he may learn to trust God,  
proclaim Christ through word and deed,  
care for others and the world God made,  
and work for justice and peace.

Do you promise to help Peyton grow in the Christian faith and life?

**I do.**

*To sponsors:*

Sponsors, do you promise to nurture Peyton in the Christian faith as you are empowered by God's Spirit, and to help him live in the covenant of baptism and in communion with the church?

**I do.**

*To the assembly:*

People of God, do you promise to support Peyton and pray for him in his new life in Christ?

**We do.**

Profession of Faith

*To parents and sponsors:*

I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce the devil and all forces that defy God?

**I renounce them.**

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

**I renounce them.**

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

**I renounce them.**

*To parents, sponsors and the assembly:*

Do you believe in God the Father?

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

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**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.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**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.**

Thanksgiving at the Font

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight. Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family, and through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit.

By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you set us free from the power of sin and death and raise us up to live in you.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, the power of your living Word, that those who are washed in the waters of baptism may be given new life. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen**

Baptism

Peyton Grace Williams  
I baptize you in the name  
of the Father, and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen**

**You belong to Christ, in whom  
you have been baptized. Alleluia.**

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give your daughters and sons new birth, cleanse them from sin, and raise them to eternal life.

Sustain Peyton with the gift of your Holy Spirit; the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever.

**Amen**

Peyton Grace Williams, child of God,  
you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit  
and marked with the cross of Christ forever.

**Amen**

Welcome

Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

Let us welcome the newly baptized.

**We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share; join us in giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God’s creative and redeeming word to all the world.**

*Those gathered at the font may return to their seats.*

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Open to the gifts of the Holy Spirit, we pray for the church, the world, and all of God’s creation.

*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, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting the power of Christ and the gifts of the Spirit.

**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.*



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## MEAL

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*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

### OFFERING

“All My Days”

(Hayes)

Tammy Heilman, soloist

### OFFERING RESPONSE

#### Create in Me a Clean Heart

#### *Offering Song*

The musical score is written in G minor (one flat) and 4/4 time. It consists of six staves of music with lyrics underneath. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with some phrases repeated. The lyrics are: "Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your pres-ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the joy of your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it. Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right spir - it with - in me." The score ends with a double bar line.

Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right  
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your  
pres-ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me.  
Re - store to me the joy of your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me  
with your free Spir - it. Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God,  
and re - new a right spir - it with - in me.

## **OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray.

God of life,

you give us these gifts of the earth,

these resources of our life and our labor.

Take them, offered in great thanksgiving,

and use them to set a table that will heal the whole creation;

through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Light.

**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

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'Holy, Holy, Holy'. It consists of five staves of music in a treble clef with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff begins with 'Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,'. The second staff continues with 'heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho-'. The third staff has 'san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high -'. The fourth staff starts with 'est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-'. The fifth and final staff concludes with 'san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.'

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho-  
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high -  
est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-  
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

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

**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.**

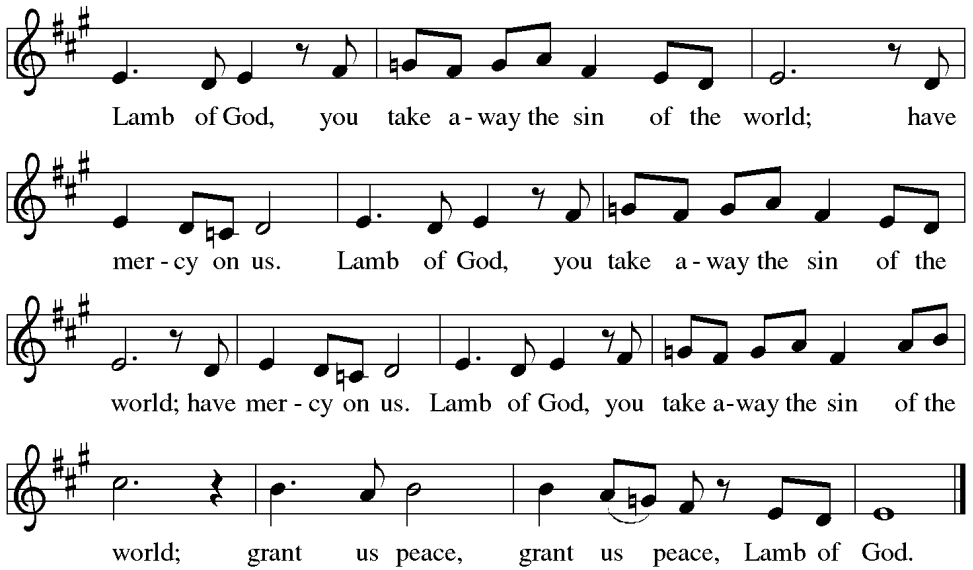
## **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

Speak to us, O Lord, in the breaking of the bread,  
and make us one with you.

## **COMMUNION**

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

## COMMUNION SONG



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the  
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the  
world; grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

## CONGREGATIONAL SONG

*Baptized in Water*

*ELW #456*

## CONGREGATIONAL SONG

*In Christ Called to Baptized*

*ELW #575*

*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.

Holy and compassionate God,  
in bread and wine you give us gifts  
that form us to be humble and courageous.  
May your words come to life  
in our serving and in our witness,  
that we might speak a living voice  
of healing and justice to all the world,  
through Jesus Christ, our rock and our redeemer.

**Amen.**

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## SENDING

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

### **BLESSING**

God, creator of all things, speaking reformation into being;  
Jesus Christ, savior of the world, raising the dead;  
Holy Spirit, living voice, calling and enlightening the church:  
Almighty God, Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit,  
bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**

### **SENDING SONG**

*Go, My Children, with My Blessing*

*ELW #543*

### **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Sound the good news.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **POSTLUDE**

“Fanfare”

Jacques-Nicolas Lemmens

From [sundaysandseasons.com](http://sundaysandseasons.com).

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“O LORD, you are my God; I will exalt you,  
I will praise your name; for you have done  
wonderful things” (Isaiah 25:1, NRSV).

Pastor	Ellen Schoepf	<a href="mailto:prellen@faithlutheranokemos.org">prellen@faithlutheranokemos.org</a>
Secretary	Katie Love	<a href="mailto:klove@faithlutheranokemos.org">klove@faithlutheranokemos.org</a>
Director of Christian Education		Katie Love
Director of Music		Debra Borton-McDonough
Organist/Pianist		Bruce Williams

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October 1, 2017 Attendance: 114

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Serving Faith	October 8	October 15
Acolyte	Austin Jones	Griffin Ransom
Altar Care	Rich Weingartner & Melinda Schultz	
Communion Assistants	Austin Jones Walter Kopf Gus Lulis	Griffin Ransom Katie Love Linda Hirt
Greeters	Harold Sollenberger	Brendan Guenther
Lay Assistants	Walter Kopf	Katie Love
Readers	Gus Lulis	Linda Hirt
Ushers	Hirt Family	Hirt Family
Nursery	Heidi Bowers	Lori Webb

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

# Faith Family & Friends

October 8, 2017

Log onto Faith's website [www.faithlutheranokemos.org](http://www.faithlutheranokemos.org) 24/7 for updates

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### DEADLINES

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Sunday worship folder announcements—Tuesday of each week  
Submit to Katie at [klove@faithlutheranokemos.org](mailto:klove@faithlutheranokemos.org)

*November Faith Family News newsletter—*

**Please submit by Monday, October 23**

Submit to Katie at [klove@faithlutheranokemos.org](mailto:klove@faithlutheranokemos.org)

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### PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

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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, George Bach, 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, Tammy Heilman, Susan Heft, John Joseph Lanzetta, Johnathon Manitta family, Loretta Milne, Bethany Robison, Jean Smith, Scott Seeley, “Little Zee” (3 yr. old daughter of a friend of Brenda Kopf’s), Virginia Tashner, Max Whitmyer and the White family.
- ✠ Our mission partner congregation—Lansing Redeemer Lutheran Church
- ✠ Those in military service—Jon Schoepf, Lani Yearicks,  
Melody and Adam Wright and Joe Galvin.
- ✠ Samaritan children who seek adoption. Pray for each to be adopted and for Jesus to be their lifelong friends

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### NORTH/WEST LOWER MICHIGAN SYNOD PRAYER PARTNER

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As Jesus calls us to be one, even as he and the Father are one, please include Pastor Timothy Smith and the congregation of Advent Lutheran Church of Lake Ann, Michigan in your prayers of intercession this week.



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**FINANCIAL UPDATE**

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<b>Weekly Offering</b>	<b>10/1/17</b>	<b>Year-to-date as of 08/31/2017</b>	
Loose Cash	\$ 87.00	Income	\$183,883
Loose Checks	\$ 5.00	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>\$199,882</u>
Arrow Tree Pantry	\$ 25.00	<b>Net Income</b>	<b>-\$15,999</b>
Choir	\$ 90.00		
Youth			
Conf. Mugs	\$ 45.00		
Vision 2020	\$10,000.00		
Falling Upward Study	\$ 20.00		
World Hunger	\$ 25.00		
General Fund	<u>\$ 4,685.00</u>		
Subtotal	\$14,982.00		
Simply Giving	\$ 2,101.00		
Total	<b>\$ 17,083.00</b>		

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**ALTAR FLOWER DEDICATIONS**

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

Vase 1: The Williams Family in celebration of Bruce & Marilyn Belanger's 40<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary and Peyton Grace Williams Baptism.

Vase 2: Matt & Korine Wawrzynski in celebration of their 11<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary.

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**THIS WEEK'S CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS**

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Today

- 9:00 a.m. Sunday School
- 10:00 a.m. Worship: Baptism & Quilt Dedication
- 3:00 p.m. Worship at the Willows
- 6:00 p.m. Teens (7-12 grade) Dinner and Study at Love's House

Monday, October 9<sup>th</sup>:

- 9:30 a.m. Ingham County Play Group
- 7:00 p.m. America Divided Series: The House Divided

Tuesday, October 10<sup>th</sup>

- Noon: Study in Pastor Ellen's Office: All are Welcome
- 6:30 p.m. Outlaw Christian Book Study at Coral Gables

Wednesday, October 11<sup>th</sup>

- 7:30 a.m. Men's Study
- 9:30 a.m. Quilting and Samaritas ACTION
- 9:00 a.m. Staff Meeting
- 5:30 p.m. Joyful Noise

5:45 p.m. Meal is Served: Provided by Trinity  
6:30 p.m. Faith Bells  
6:30 p.m. Trinity & Confirmation  
7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir

Thursday, October 12<sup>th</sup>

11:30 a.m. Caregivers Support Group

Friday, October 13<sup>th</sup>

Saturday, October 14<sup>th</sup>

Church Fellowship Hall Rented

6:00 p.m. F.G.H. Silent Auction at Spag' in Williamston

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION



## First Communion Classes

This year we will be offering two opportunities for children to participate in 1<sup>st</sup> Communion Classes. The first opportunity will take place this October with classes held on October 15<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>. For these children, their first communion will be during worship on Sunday, November 5.

The second opportunity will be in January with a series of four consecutive classes on Wednesday evenings, beginning January 10 at 6:30 PM. First communion in worship will then be on Sunday, February 4.

If your child is in 1<sup>st</sup> grade or older and has not participated in classes, we are inviting you and your child to come to one of these offerings. The classes are designed in such a way that parents participate in the training with their child.

Please let Pastor Ellen know if you wish to have your child participate in one of these class offerings.

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION

### **BREAD FOR THE WORLD SUNDAY - OCTOBER 15**

Bread for the World Bread is an organization that provides a collective Christian voice urging our nation's decision makers to end hunger at home and abroad. Moved by God's grace in Jesus Christ, Bread volunteers advocate for a world without hunger. Working with churches across the country, Bread's goal is to help end hunger by 2030. It believes that everyone must play a part in ending hunger, especially our federal government. Bread works to change the policies and conditions that allow hunger to persist. Bread seeks long-term solutions to hunger and advocates on legislation that addresses the root causes of hunger. On October 15, we will again sign letters that will be sent to congressional leaders asking them to work to end hunger at home and abroad.

### **ANNUAL STEWARDSHIP PLEDGE DRIVE**

On Sunday, October 22, we will again receive your annual Pledge Cards and Time & Talent Sheets during a special offering within the worship service. All that we have is gift. And, we are all called to share the gifts we have been given. We encourage you to prayerfully consider what you will give to the mission and ministry of this congregation over the next year. Your gift is important as we continue to participate in God's reconciling work in this community and the world.

### **QUARTERLY MEETING**

The next Quarterly Meeting will be on Sunday, October 29<sup>th</sup>.

## WAYS YOU CAN HELP



### Fall Garage and Grounds Clean-Up Day

Please join us for the annual fall cleanup on  
Sunday, Nov. 12, immediately following  
worship.

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## 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.



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## 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**



**WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE!**

**Wednesday Night Live!**

**Every Wednesday! Meal Starts at 5:45 p.m.**

**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 (*Falling Upward with Harold Sollenberger*)  
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

***Thank you to all the groups who signed up to provide the  
Wednesday Night Meals!***

- September 13<sup>th</sup>: Trinity & Confirmation  
September 20<sup>th</sup>: Church Council  
September 27<sup>th</sup>: Choir  
October 4<sup>th</sup>: Faith Bells  
October 11<sup>th</sup>: Trinity  
October 18<sup>th</sup>: Worship Committee  
October 25<sup>th</sup>: Confirmation  
November 1<sup>st</sup>: Pastor Ellen  
November 8<sup>th</sup>: Evangelism and Green Team  
November 15<sup>th</sup>: Youth  
November 22<sup>nd</sup>: Pie Fest/Thanksgiving Eve Service  
November 29<sup>th</sup>: Membership Development  
December 6<sup>th</sup>: OPEN  
December 13<sup>th</sup>: OPEN



**Tonight!** All 7<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> graders are invited for dinner and a study from 6-8 p.m. 4548 Seneca Drive (directly behind the church). Come for the whole time or stay as long as you can! Meetings take place every 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday.

This week...

**Wednesday, October 11<sup>th</sup>**

6:30-7:30: Trinity and Confirmation

6:30-7:30: Activities for younger children.

7:30-8:00 p.m. Additional Activities for Kids



**Looking Ahead October:**

8<sup>th</sup>: Sunday School (PK-6<sup>th</sup>), Teens Study (7-12 grade) at Katie Love's Home (6-8pm).

11<sup>th</sup>: Wednesday Night Live

**14<sup>th</sup>: F.G.H Auction 6-11 p.m.**

15<sup>th</sup>: Sunday School (Pk-6<sup>th</sup>)

18<sup>th</sup>: Wednesday Night Live

22<sup>nd</sup>: Sunday School (PK-6<sup>th</sup>), Teens Study (7-12 grade) at Katie Love's Home (6-8pm).

25<sup>th</sup>: T & C Halloween Fun Night

27<sup>th</sup>: Youth Group Activity (Haunted House 6-8 p.m.) More information will be provided at Teen Night.



2017 F.G.H.  
Auction (Faith  
Goes to Houston)  
SAVE THE DATE



It is NEXT WEEKEND WE NEED  
YOU!

The Youth of Faith are excited to announce that their F.G.H. Auction for their 2018 ELCA National Gathering trip will be held on **Saturday, October 14, 2017** from 6:00-11:00pm at Spag's in Williamston. The cost of the ticket is \$25 each, and we will be offering hearty hors d'oeuvres, soft drinks, and dessert. A cash bar will be available. Tickets will be on sale every Wednesday and Sunday before the event at the church, and will also be available at the door.

You can pay via Cash, Check, or Credit Card.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We need volunteers as we enter the final stretch. There are many ways to assist:

1. Making follow-up calls to vendors for donations.
2. Picking up donations.
3. Making Table Centerpieces.
4. Donating a full sheet cake for the dessert.
5. Transporting items to the venue on Saturday, October 14<sup>th</sup> in the morning.
6. Setting up at the venue on Saturday morning.
7. We need help at the auction with collection of bid sheets and checking out.
8. Clean-up the night of the auction.



## DONATIONS

**We have approximately 90 members, so if each member donated at least one item (physical or monetary), we would have an amazing auction!!!**

**1. Item Donations** – We need these from all of you so that we have many items to auction off. Here are some suggestions: Spa gift cards, movie gift cards, famous potluck recipes, car detailing, Handyman help, etc. Please take some of the donation forms located on the narthex board to any vendors that you use regularly and ask them to donate. Also, items can be personal services or talents that you can supply. We would really appreciate your support.

**2. Monetary Donations** – If you do not feel comfortable asking vendors to supply items, we would truly appreciate a cash donation to help defray the event costs so that all the auction proceeds go to the Youth. If you have any questions, please contact Melinda Schultz at [mrsjas305@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mrsjas305@sbcglobal.net) or put the completed donation forms, located in the Narthex, in the Schultz Family mailbox.

## F.G.H. Auction Booklet



Pay the evening of the auction by Cash,  
Check, or Credit Card

### **Live**

Four (4) Thomas Kinkade prints – Paula Johnson  
Harbor Springs Vacation Home Weekend – Schultz  
Family

### **Entertainment**

Gift Certificate - Riverwalk Theatre  
Gift Certificate – Art Unlimited

(2) Family Day Passes – R. E. Olds Transp. Museum



## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AND YOUTH ANNOUNCEMENTS

An evening of background piano music for a private party – Ellen Schoepf

Gift Certificate for 2 tickets to one of the first (3) shows of the 2017-18 season – Williamston Theatre

### **Services**

Certificate for a Reflexology session – Linda Gardner

Certificate for a manicure – Well Spa Nails

A weekend of Child/Dog/House Sitting (whatever you need) – Melinda Schultz

Bicycle tune-up and organized bike tour for up to four people – Kim O'Brien

(1) Custom Made Afghan – Emily Brown

Homemade pies (dates to be arranged) – Mike Eschelbach

A dessert a month for a year – Laurie Hereza

A dozen fresh, farm, free range eggs per week for (2) months – Magyar Girls

(4) half hour vocal lessons – Deb Borton-McDonough

Basket of Homemade Jams – Heidi Magyar

Gift Certificate for Services – Douglas J Salon

(2) dozen cookies at Christmas time – Deb Borton-McDonough

### **Home**

Lenox, cream colored, porcelain vase with floral design – Diane Wilke

Hand Stitched and Sewn Quilt – Faith Quilters

(3) Decorative Bird Houses – Diane Wilke

A pair of white decorative birds – Diane Wilke

Serving platter and matching gravy boats

Towl/Laramee Families

A pair of canvas, fall themed pictures – Diane Wilke

Hand Stitched Christmas Theme quilt - Front Room Faith Quilters

Monet print/Giverney Garden – Diane Wilke

Lia Sophia 'Confetti' ring, size 8 with adjustor included – Melinda Schultz

Beautiful, watercolor print of a Mission in a summer

setting – Doug and Kay Showers

**Children**

A set of handmade balsa wood doll furniture – Diane Wilke

Reserved Christmas Pageant seating – Parish Education

Hand Knit Baby Blanket – Mabel Anglin

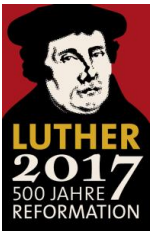
UPCOMING MEETINGS & STUDIES

**Upcoming Caregiving Meeting**

October 12<sup>th</sup>: An afternoon of sharing and caring

November 9<sup>th</sup>: Getting Through the Holidays (Grief Support Focus) with Kris Abbey, Chaplin/Spiritual Coordinator for Hospice of Lansing.

December 14<sup>th</sup>: Sharing and Caring



**Oktoberfest Luncheon !**

**60 PLUS OR MINUS**

**Program: A Visit to Luther's Germany Presented by John McPhail**

**Wednesday, October 25, 2017, 11:30 a.m.**  
**(Note that this is the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday**

John and Sue McPhail toured Germany, "Lutherland," this summer during the 500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Year of the Reformation. John will be sharing pictures and experiences from this history-rich trip.

Bratwurst and beverages will be provided, you sign up to bring the salads and desserts (German or American!).

Please sign up on the clipboard on the Faith @ Work display board in the narthex so we know how many brats to prepare and what dish you plan to share with us.

**Join us and Invite a friend!**



*Capitol Conference Lutheran Churches*

PRESENT

**REFORMATION**

**500**

**A FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS**

FEATURING A

*Conference-wide mass choir leading  
Hal Hopson's A Festival of Hymns*

FOOD  
ART GALLERY  
KID'S ACTIVITIES

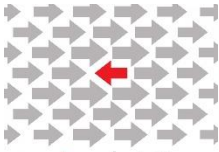
OCTOBER

**29**

3:00PM AT  
BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CHURCH  
549 EAST MOUNT HOPE AVENUE  
LANSING

The event is free; donations will be accepted for  
supper and an offering will be taken up for  
Samaritas

**Please sign up (in the narthex) for  
the FREE Lunch by October 15<sup>th</sup>**



*outlaw*christian  
Finding Authentic Faith by Breaking the "Rules"  
JACQUELINE A. BUSSIE

## Outlaw Christian: Finding Authentic Faith by Breaking the "Rules"

### Five Week Book Study Group Opportunity

Here are two terrific opportunities to read and discuss a book by Jacqueline A. Bussie, former professor at Capital University and now, Director of the **Forum on Faith and Life** and professor of religion at Concordia College in Moorhead, Minnesota. The book is entitled ***Outlaw Christian: Finding Authentic Faith by Breaking the "Rules."***

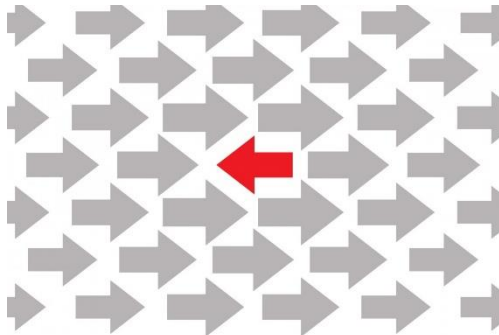
- **One book study will take place at Kim O'Brien's home on Thursday evenings at 7:00 PM.** This group will meet on: 10/19, 10/26, 11/2, 11/9, & 11/16. Plan to come and maybe bring along a friend. Kim says you are also welcome to bring your kids and they can play in the basement during the conversation.
- **A second opportunity to discuss this book will take place at Coral Gables Restaurant on Tuesday evenings at 6:30 PM.** This group will include members of various area ELCA churches. If you would like to be part of this conversation, the Coral Gables group will meet on: 10/10, 10/17, 10/24, 11/7 & 11/14.

In her book, *Outlaw Christian*, Bussie talks about the unwritten "rules" of modern Christianity. She goes into depth about her experience and these so called "rules" modern Christianity seems to place upon people. She says that a faith governed by these rules is stifling, unsustainable, and dishonest. In her life experience, she was unable to overlook the suffering she saw around her – suffering in her friends, her neighbors and in her own life. She discovered that the only way she could keep her faith in the God she loved was to start breaking the rules, rules like *"Never get mad or argue with God."* She calls this rule a "life-sucking narrative of the lie you should consider breaking without

shame or secrecy, especially if you are the kind of person who has already broken it a thousand tiny times within the recesses of your mind. Because hope is anger's mother, if you start breaking this law, I promise you will encounter hope along the road and she will never leave your side. Also, airing your authentic tears, concerns, and emotions in the sunlight rather than hiding them or apologizing for their existence will restore your humanity." (p.38)

Bussie draws from Scripture and her real-life experience and her book is a rallying cry to believers who care too much to not only let suffering go unquestioned but also care too much to let doubts go unanswered. Bussie calls for an authentic form of faith that laments, loves, laughs, longs, and lives, but never lies.

There are sign-up sheets in the Narthex for both book group opportunities. Please consider being a part of this educational opportunity. And, look for future information regarding Jacqueline Bussie's speaking engagement right here at Faith Lutheran Church on Saturday, February 17, 2018. She will be the featured speaker as we kick off the **Annual Holle Speaker Series**.



*outlaw*christian

Finding Authentic Faith by Breaking the "Rules"

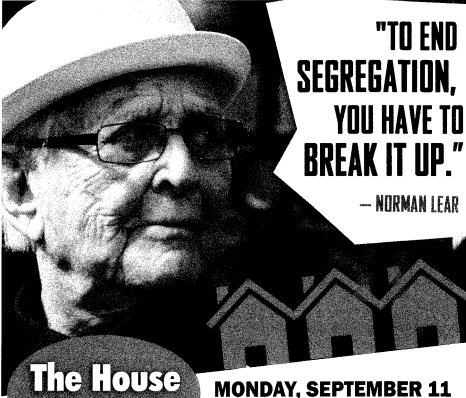
JACQUELINE A. BUSSIE

You are invited to a movie screening of National Geographic's *From the Ashes* at Faith Lutheran Church on Sunday, November 5<sup>th</sup>, after the 10 am service. About one-third of Michigan's electricity is generated from coal-fired power plants. *From the Ashes* puts a human face on the issues tied to the "war on

coal." The movie covers topics such as the future of the energy sector, risks to people's health and livelihood, and the environment. Please join us in a close examination and dialogue of the complicated issues tied to coal production from multiple perspectives.

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**"TO END  
SEGREGATION,  
YOU HAVE TO  
BREAK IT UP."**

—NORMAN LEAR

**The House  
Divided**

**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 11  
FREE SCREENING & DIALOGUE  
7-9 PM**

**FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH OF OKEMOS  
4515 Doble Rd, Okemos, MI 48864**

Questions: [angela@onealoveglobal.org](mailto:angela@onealoveglobal.org)

**AMERICA  
DIVIDED**

Produced by  
ep X

COGL



BLACK  
LIVES  
MATTER  
DANCING



# DATE CHANGE!

Now Showing "The House  
Divided" on Monday  
October 9<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m.

# **ELCA ADULT MISSION TRIP**

**JANUARY 20-28, 2018**

**WE WILL BE DOING SERVICE WORK IN FLORIDA, SPENDING THE WEEK ASSISTING IN CLEAN-UP, REPAIR AND REBUILDING**

**Several of our ELCA churches are working together to plan this Mission/Service Trip. We will be traveling to Florida by bus & van. There will be space for 30 participants. At this point in time, the plan is to leave on Saturday morning, January 20, get to Florida on Sunday evening, January 21, and begin doing service work on Monday morning. We will work through Friday, then begin our return home on Saturday, January 27.**

**The authorities in Florida are still working on assessing the destruction in various parts of the state, so we do not yet know where we will be assigned and where our help is most needed. We will have more information regarding this by mid-November. However, the hope is that the cost per person will be around \$1,000 or less.**

**If you want to participate in this Mission Trip, please speak to Pastor Ellen or add your name to this sign-up sheet in the Narthex.**