



Faith Friends & Family Announcements and News for December 1-December 15

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

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Please lift up in prayer this week:

- † Members—Sally Knoll, Walter Kopf, Ellen Milne, Darrell Neves, Janice Taschner & Ken Whitmyer.
- † Friends and family—
Harriet, Michael Bennett, Todd Barriklow, Bill Baker, Carol Coyer, Kay Coker, Chris Cotter, Terrie Becker, Brian Fent, Allyson, Heather, Erin, Al, Sai, Jeanne Hicks, Emily, Rod Kaschner, Eshwar Lingamgunta, Jenn Leitch, Brian Johnson, Meredith, Jeanne and Leonard, Johnathon Manitta family, Kiersten, Loretta Milne, Vicki Monroe & family, Patricia Rinehart, Bethany Robison, Karen Smiley, Jean Smith, Scott & Lisa Seeley, and the White family.
- † Our mission partner congregation—Lansing Redeemer Lutheran Church
- † Those in military service—Jon Schoepf, Lani Yearicks, Landon Belanger Melody and Adam Wright and Joe Galvin.
- † Samaritas children who seek adoption. Pray for each to be adopted and for Jesus to be their lifelong friends

NORTH/WEST LOWER MICHIGAN SYNOD PRAYER PARTNER

December 2: As Jesus calls us to be one, even as he and the Father are one, please include Rev. Rebecca Ebb-Speese and the congregation of Zion Lutheran Church of Woodland, Michigan in your prayers of intercession this week.

December 9: As Jesus calls us to be one, even as he and the Father are one, please include Rev. Justin Walker and the congregation of Christ Lutheran Church of Wyoming, Michigan in your prayers of intercession this week.

NEXT TWO WEEK'S CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS

Sunday, December 2nd

Advent 1

Stuff the Stocking & Sharing Tree Continues

9:00 a.m. Sunday School PK-5th grade

10:00 a.m. Worship

11:30 a.m. Worship Committee

5:30 p.m. Beer & Hymns

Monday, December 3rd

10:00 a.m. Meridian Township Playgroup

Tuesday, December 4th

Noon Study in Pastor Ellen's office

Wednesday, December 5th

7:30 a.m. Men's Study

9:30 a.m. Quilters

5:30 p.m. Joyful Noise

5:45 p.m. Dinner is served

6:30 p.m. Faith Bells Rehearsal

6:30 p.m. Pre-K-2, Trinity and Confirmation classes

6:30 p.m. *Breathing Underwater* Book Study

7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir rehearsal

Thursday, December 6th

7:00 p.m. RIC Meeting

Friday, December 7th

Saturday, December 8th

Church Rented

Sunday, December 9th

Poinsettia Orders Due

Advent 2

9:00 a.m. Sunday School

10:00 a.m. Worship

Noon 60 +/- Christmas Lunch at Old Chicago

3:00 p.m. Worship at the Willows

6:00 p.m. High School Youth Group at Love's House

Monday, December 10th

10:00 a.m. Meridian Township Playgroup

Tuesday, December 11th

Noon Study in Pastor Ellen's office

7:30 p.m. Film Series on Faith & Race at St. Paul's

Wednesday, December 12-

Final Wednesday Night LIVE for 2018

7:30 a.m. Men's Study

9:30 a.m. Quilters

5:30 p.m. Joyful Noise

5:45 p.m. Dinner is served

6:30 p.m. Faith Bells Rehearsal

6:30 p.m. Pre-K-2, Trinity and Confirmation classes

6:30 p.m. *Breathing Underwater* Book Study

7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir rehearsal

Thursday, December 13th

Friday, December 14th

Saturday, December 15th

Large Fellowship Hall Rental

**The Annual Meeting will be held on
Sunday, January 27th following worship.**



ANNUAL MEETING

FINANCIAL UPDATE

November 18, 2018

Year to Date as of 10/31/2018

Loose Cash	\$ 22.00
Loose Checks	\$ 50.00
World Hunger	\$ 25.00
Flowers	\$ 55.00
Youth	
Wed. Meal	\$ 68.26
General Fund	\$4976.00
Michigan Refugee Hope	\$ 103.25
Parish House	\$ 103.25
Facility Rental	<u>\$ 100.00</u>
Subtotal	\$5472.76

Income	\$222,374
<u>Expenses</u>	<u>\$258,742</u>
Net	\$ (36,368)

Simply Giving \$3052.00

Total **\$8524.76****November 25, 2018**

Loose Cash	\$ 26.00
Loose Checks	\$ 30.00
World Hunger	\$ 55.00
Flowers	\$ 25.00
General Fund	\$2445.00
Parish House Project	\$ 150.00
Thanksgiving Eve	<u>\$ 115.00</u>
Subtotal	<u>\$2846.00</u>

Total **\$5729.74**



C H R I S T M A S S E A S O N

Poinsettia Orders

It's Poinsettia order time again!
Order forms are available in the
narthex at church. Please drop off
your form in the church office or in
Katie Love's mailbox.

Deadline Sunday, December 9th



Christmas Eve Service Times



Christmas
EVE

Christmas Eve Services

4:00 p.m.

10:00 p.m.

Ways you can help!



STUFF THE STOCKINGS FOOD DRIVE

The Faith Lutheran Caring Committee was asked by the Meridian Township Human Services Director if we could provide support to families during the Christmas/Winter school break. There is a need for food items during this two-week break from school because children are at home during this time and do not get their breakfasts

and/or lunches at school. Please look in the narthex for the grocery cart to appear and be ready to collect the donations for food items needed. **Needed items:**

peanut butter, jelly, snack bars, pop tarts, muffin mix, pancake mix, syrup, canned fruits, boxed cereals, oatmeal, macaroni & cheese, boxed meals- example hamburger helper, soup, boxed crackers, rice, pasta, spaghetti sauce

With your cash donations we will purchase one dozen eggs, one gallon of milk and a loaf of bread to be included with the food donations.

Thank you, Faith Family, for helping those in the community that have a need. Food collection for this project will begin in November and our delivery date will be Sunday, December 16.

Coming Soon...



Help Decorate the Sharing Tree
Not with Ornaments and Tinsel....
.....but with baby items!!!

Receiving items Sunday, December 2nd- Sunday, January 6th

Visit the Sharing Tree in the coffee fellowship area and select a paper "ornament" or two. On each ornament a specific layette item is indicated. Take the ornament home, so it can be a reminder of what to purchase. (*Only new baby items, please.*) Bring your unwrapped, layette items and tuck them into the Sharing Tree branches. Your gifts will be given to Shared Pregnancy of Lansing, an organization that offers emotional and spiritual support to new moms.

60 +/- Meeting



Christmas Dinner

Noon on Sunday, December 9th at Old Chicago

(corner of Marsh & Grand River)

Please sign up on the 60 +/- board in the Narthex.

Please contact Marla Holle at 517-349-5265 or the church office 517-349-0620 with any questions.

Parish House Updates/News

We will continue to collect Meijer gift cards and cash donation for the youth for groceries. Donations can be given at the regular offering time or in a separate envelope marked "groceries". Thank you for your amazing generosity, it is greatly appreciated!! Contact Kim O'Brien at corey_and_kim@yahoo.com with any questions.

Synod Council Lunch

HELP PROVIDE LUNCH FOR SYNOD COUNCIL

The North/West Lower Michigan Synod Council will have their next meeting here at Faith on Saturday, December 8. We will be providing them snacks and lunch for their meeting. There is a sign-up list in the Narthex of items we need to provide the snack and lunch. Most of the items are simple and can be brought to the church prior to December 8. There are a few sign up spots to help in the kitchen with serving and cleaning up on the Saturday. Thank you in advance for helping us be a good host and provide the meal. If you have any questions please contact Rich Weingartner or Elaine Harrison.

December:

- 2: 9:00 a.m. Sunday School (PK-5th grade)
- 5: 6:30 p.m. Classes for PK-2nd grade, Trinity (3-5th grade) and Confirmation (6th-8th grade)
- 9: 9:00 a.m. Sunday School (PK-5th grade) 6:00 p.m. High School Youth Group at Katie Love's House
- 12: **Last Wednesday Programming for 2018** 6:30 p.m. Classes for PK-2nd grade, Trinity (3-5th grade) and Confirmation (6th-8th grade)
- 16: 9:00 a.m. Sunday School (PK-5th grade) Christmas Pageant. Following worship Middle School and High School Christmas Party in the Large Fellowship Hall

**No Sunday School/Classes for the remainder of 2018.
Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!**



SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

The Sunday School Christmas Program will take place during worship on Sunday, December 16. Rehearsals will take place on Sunday, December 9, during the Sunday School hour, and Wednesday evening, December 12, from 6:30 - 7:30. If your child will be participating in the program, he/she will need to be here for both rehearsals. Please speak to Pastor Ellen if you have any questions.

Middle/High School Christmas Party

The Middle School and High School Christmas Party is Sunday, December 16th immediately following worship. Come ready for food, fun, cookie decorating, gift exchange and lots of Christmas Cheer. Please bring a gift to exchange valued at \$5-10. Contact Katie or Maddie with any questions.





Covenantal Restoration: A 12 session film series on faith and race
Faith Lutheran Church's RIC Team and St. Paul's Lutheran Church
join forces to learn about and address issues of race within our
culture.

Racism and oppression have a long and painful past and present, it is an open, aching human wound that reflects a fracture in our relationship with God. Understanding how it was promoted and is still alive and acting out in the construct of our beliefs and systems and structures is the beginning of caring for this wound.

In this series on faith and race we pray God would bring you hope, renew your mind, enliven your spirit, and gift you with the virtues of the Divine's own heart. May God strengthen your stand, inspire your movement towards God's dream for humanity, and increase Kingdom square footage with each step you make in Love.

This 12 session film series continues to be offered on the 2nd & 4th Tuesday throughout the coming year. Beginning at 7:30 on the 2nd Tuesday evening of each month, a film will be shown at St. Paul's, and on the 4th Tuesday evening of each month, another film will be shown at Faith Lutheran. This is a listing of the scheduled showings:

This is a listing of the next 2 scheduled showings:

12/11 – at St. Paul's – SESSION 5 //Holy Mischief with Simone Campbell

No Meeting on Tuesday, December 25

1/8- at St. Paul's - SESSION 6// Politics of Radical Difference with Dr. R Henderson-Espinoza



HURRICANE Recovery Efforts

February Mission Trip to New Bern, North Carolina

Members of Faith Lutheran Church in Okemos, First Lutheran Church in Muskegon, Trinity Lutheran Church in New Era, and any other interested persons will be heading to New Bern, North Carolina February 2 – 10. We will be partnering with the members of St. Andrew Lutheran Church (www.standrewnewbern.com) in New Bern and their Pastor, Ted Rust, as they work to rebuild following a devastating hit by Hurricane Florence. Several of the families from St. Andrew lost homes in the hurricane. The whole area was devastated.

We will be traveling by bus, the First Lutheran Bus. The cost of the trip is estimated to be \$150 per person. We will be staying at **Don Lee Camp and Retreat Center**. If you are interested in participating in this trip, please add your name to the sign-up sheet in the narthex. If you have further questions, please talk to Pastor Ellen.

Ways to Give



We have 3 convenient ways to Give to Faith Lutheran. Please contact Tom Schrote if you have any questions.

1. **Offering Plate/envelopes** on Sunday mornings. Envelopes are available to use for Sunday morning offering. Please contact Tom if you would like them ordered for your family.
2. **Simply Giving**, your contributions are debited automatically from your checking or savings account on a monthly or bi-monthly basis. It works the same convenient way as your mortgage, utility, cell phone, or any other reoccurring bills you pay electronically from your bank account. Please contact Tom or Katie in the church office for an enrollment form.
3. **Newest Way to Pay: GIVE+ App.**: Supporting your church's mission is as easy as 1-2-3. With GivePlus Mobile your members and guests can express their generosity in the moment — right from the palm of their hand.

1. **Download the app**
2. **Find your church: Faith Lutheran Church, Meridian Township**
3. **Give**

The logo for Consumers Energy features the company name in a blue, sans-serif font. A green swoosh underline starts under the 'C' and extends to the right, curving upwards. Below the swoosh, the slogan "Count on Us" is written in a blue, italicized, sans-serif font.

Consumers Energy

Count on Us

Energy Audit Progress

27 Homes have Signed up for the Energy Audit.

Have you set up your FREE Audit?? You must use code FAITHLU18 for it to be created to our account.

Consumers Energy encourages customers to have a Free Energy Audit done on their home. Faith Lutheran Church will get credit for all energy audits done using the Faith Lutheran code that has been provided for us (FAITHLU18).

If 50 homes, *anywhere in the state of Michigan*, have this done, Faith Lutheran Church will receive \$500 from Consumers. If we are able to get more homeowners to register and receive this free audit, we could receive up to \$2,000 from Consumers.

Consumers forms, and more information are available in the church Narthex.