



Faith Friends & Family Announcements and News for December 16-December 29

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

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Please lift up in prayer this week:

- † Members—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 16: As Jesus calls us to be one, even as he and the Father are one, please include Rev. Lee Welker and the congregation of Gethsemane Lutheran Church of Wyoming, Michigan in your prayers of intercession this week.

December 23: As Jesus calls us to be one, even as he and the Father are one, please include the congregation of Sudanese Christ Lutheran Church of Wyoming, Michigan in your prayers of intercession this week.

NEXT TWO WEEK'S CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS

Sunday, December 16th

Advent 3

Stuff the Stocking Delivery following worship

Sharing Tree continues

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

10:00 a.m. Worship/Christmas Program/Noisy Offering

11:30 a.m. Middle/High School Christmas Party

11:30 a.m. Mutual Ministry

3:00 p.m. Sanctuary Rental

6:00 p.m. Loaves & Fishes

6:30 p.m. Bar Theology

Monday, December 17th

10:00 a.m. Meridian Township Playgroup

7:00 p.m. Church Council Meeting

Tuesday, December 18th

Noon Study in Pastor Ellen's office

Wednesday, December 19th

7:30 a.m. Men's Study

9:30 a.m. Quilters

6:30 p.m. Faith Bells Rehearsal

7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir rehearsal

Thursday, December 20th

Friday, December 21st

Saturday, December 22nd

Sunday, December 23rd

Advent 4

No Sunday School

10:00 a.m. Worship

Monday, December 24th

Church Office Closed

4:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service

10:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service

Tuesday, December 25th

Church Office Closed

Wednesday, December 26th

Church Office Closed

Thursday, December 27th

Friday, December 28th

Saturday, December 29th



Faith Lutheran will be welcoming new members on Sunday, January 20th. If you would like to become a member please contact Pastor Ellen or Katie Love

prellen@faithluthernokemos.org

klove@faithlutheranokemos.org

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



ANNUAL MEETING

FINANCIAL UPDATE

December 2, 2018

Year to Date as of 10/31/2018

Loose Cash	\$ 56.00
Loose Checks	\$ 75.00
World Hunger	\$ 30.00
Flowers	\$ 130.00
Food Drive	\$ 25.00
Facility Rental	\$ 50.00
MRH	\$ 75.33
Book Study	\$ 12.00
General Fund	\$5660.00
Parish House Project	<u>\$1900.00</u>
Subtotal	\$8013.33

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

Simply Giving \$2156.00

Total **\$10169.33****December 8, 2018**

Loose Cash	\$ 51.00
Staff Gifts	\$ 190.00
Flowers	\$ 120.00
Facility Rental	\$ 150.00
General Fund	\$3400.00
Parish House Project	<u>\$ 97.00</u>
Subtotal	\$4008.00

Total **\$4008.00**



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

Stuff the Stocking Food Drive

Thank you, Faith Family, for helping those in the community that have a need. Our delivery date for the food will be Sunday, December 16. If you are able to help please stop in the Narthex following worship.



Christmas Eve Service Times



Christmas Eve Services

4:00 p.m.

10:00 p.m.

Ways you can help!

**February Mission Trip to New Bern,
North Carolina**



**HURRICANE
Recovery
Efforts**

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.



**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.

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.

December:

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!**

Middle/High School Christmas Party

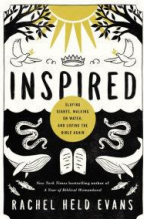
The Middle School and High School Christmas Party is Sunday, December 16th immediately following worship. Come ready for food, fun, cookie decorating, gift exchange and lots of Christmas Cheer. Please bring a gift to exchange valued at \$5-10. Contact Katie or Maddie with any questions.



Sunday School is finished for 2018.

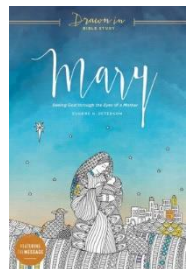
Join when we resume on Sunday, January 13th.

BOOK STUDIES STARTING SOON



Lois Neves will be leading a book study on the book "*Inspired*" by Rachel Held Evans. This book study will be held on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 p.m. The first meeting will be Wednesday, January 9th. Please use the sign-up sheet in the Narthex or call the church office. Books are available for \$12.00.

Join Pam Williams starting Sunday, January 13th at 9:00 a.m. for a 4-week study of Mary. Please use the sign-up sheet in the narthex or contact Katie if you would like to sign up. Books are available for \$7.00 Please put "*Mary Book Study*" on the memo line of your check.



UPCOMING EVENTS



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:

No Meeting on Tuesday, December 25

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

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**

Energy Audits

Energy Audit Progress 30 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.