

Faith Lutheran Church

June 24, 2019



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4515 Dobie Road
Okemos, MI 48864



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

In Her Eyes

Pentecost explodes in a rush of wind and flame. But sometimes the Spirit speaks without saying a word.

Take Fran, for example. Every Sunday she trundles up the center aisle of the worship space with Nancy or Eric or Horst or someone else holding her left arm, shuffling beside her, lest she fall on the way to receiving holy communion. Fran's ninety-two years weigh heavily on her frail body, but the playful sparkle in her eyes and her reverence for this holy moment are undimmed by the decades. She shines, full of life and hope, an inspiration to the rest of us.

She knows there will always be someone there to help her—and that the Spirit, the Helper, will renew her heart each day by reminding her of the great truth of her life—and ours. We are never abandoned, never desolate, never alone. This is Jesus' promise. The Spirit of truth will always be with us, in us, and for us. The Spirit will hold us up, telling us again and again of an everlasting love, an eternal promise, a hope that will never disappoint.

It's a promise kept. You can see it in the faces of those who hold Fran as she comes forward to receive. You hear it in the word of thanks she speaks to God as bread is broken and placed in her trembling hand. You taste it in the bread and wine that is the food of inexhaustible grace for pilgrims on their way. The Spirit shines so brightly in the sparkle in those old eyes. The Spirit of Jesus' resurrected life and love comes. It comes to us. It comes that we may be as alive as Fran.

Sunday, June 9, 2019

Pentecost

Reverend Darrell Neves

Graduation Sunday

Introduction to the day

Pentecost is a day of promises fulfilled. The promised Spirit of God is poured out. The baptized have become “children of God” and “joint heirs with Christ.” By the power of the Spirit we have seen the face of the Father in his only begotten Son and been saved by him. Bless the Lord, O my soul.

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

“Come, Holy Ghost, Our Souls Inspire”

arr. Wilbur Held

GATHERING

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

The assembly stands.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,
who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Gracious God,

have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

GATHERING SONG

God of Tempest, God of Whirlwind

ELW #400

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



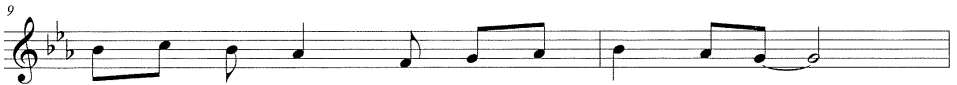
CANTICLE OF PRAISE



Glo - ry to God, we give you
Lord Je - sus Christ, the Fa - ther's
A - lone, O Christ, you on - ly



thanks and praise; of heav' - nly joy and earth - ly peace we sing.
on - ly Son, you bore for us the load of this world's sin. —
are the Lord, at God's right hand in ma - jes - ty most high:



We wor - ship you, to you our hearts we raise, —
O Lamb of God, your glo - rious vic - t'ry won, —
who, with the Spir - it wor - shiped and a - dored,



Lord God, al - migh - ty Fa - ther, heav'n - ly King.
re - ceive our pray'r, grant us your peace with - in. —
with all the heav'n - ly host we glo - ri - fy. —

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

God our creator, the resurrection of your Son offers life to all the peoples of earth. By your Holy Spirit, kindle in us the fire of your love, empowering our lives for service and our tongues for praise, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen. *The assembly is seated.*

WORD

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

FIRST READING: Acts 2:1-21

Before Jesus ascended into heaven, he told his disciples they would be filled with the Holy Spirit. Now, surrounded by signs of fire, wind, and a variety of languages in their midst, the people were amazed and astonished at Jesus' promise coming true.

A reading from Acts.

¹When the day of Pentecost had come, [the apostles] were all together in one place. ²And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. ³Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. ⁴All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

⁵Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. ⁶And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. ⁷Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans?" ⁸And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? ⁹Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, ¹⁰Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, ¹¹Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power." ¹²All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" ¹³But others sneered and said, "They are filled with new wine."

¹⁴But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, "Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. ¹⁵Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. ¹⁶No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

¹⁷'In the last days it will be, God declares,
that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh,
and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,
and your young men shall see visions,
and your old men shall dream dreams.

¹⁸Even upon my slaves, both men and women,
in those days I will pour out my Spirit;
and they shall prophesy.

¹⁹And I will show portents in the heaven above
and signs on the earth below,
blood, and fire, and smoky mist.

²⁰The sun shall be turned to darkness
and the moon to blood,
before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day.

²¹Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.' ”

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING: Romans 8:14-17

Here Paul speaks about the mystery of baptism: through the Holy Spirit we are claimed, gathered, and welcomed into Christ's body, the church. And we receive new names in our adoption: brother, sister, child of God.

A reading from Romans.

¹⁴For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. ¹⁵For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, “Abba! Father!”

¹⁶it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.

Al - le - lu - ia, Lord, to whom shall we go? Al - le - lu - ia,
4 you have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.
8 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. _____

GOSPEL: John 14:8-17 [25-27]

Though the disciples struggle with Jesus' nature and identity, they receive the promise that they too will be identified with God and God's mission. Though he must leave them now, Jesus promises the coming of the Advocate whom God will send to comfort and enlighten them.

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

⁸Philip said to [Jesus,] “Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.” ⁹Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? ¹⁰Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. ¹¹Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. ¹²Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. ¹³I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.

¹⁵“If you love me, you will keep my commandments. ¹⁶And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. ¹⁷This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you. [²⁵“I have said these things to you while I am still with you. ²⁶But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. ²⁷Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid.”]

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

Spirit of Gentleness

ELW #396

PRAYER FOR GRADUATES

May God who began this good work in you
carry it through to completion,
enabling you to use your talents to the fullest.

May God give you the grace to make wise choices
and to be faithful to your commitments,
always confident in the support of those who love you.

May God bless you with discomfort at easy answers,
half-truths, and superficial relationships,
so that you will live deep within your heart.

May God bless you with anger at injustice,
oppression, and exploitation of people,
so that you will work for justice, equality, and peace.

May God bless you with tears to shed for those who
suffer from pain, rejection, starvation, and war,
so that you will reach out your hand
to comfort them and change their pain into joy.

May God bless you with the foolishness to think
that you can make a difference in the world,
so that you will do the things
which others tell you cannot be done.

May your integrity be a gift to the world
and may the Spirit of God be with you always. Amen.

Prayer for Graduates by Fr. Michael Graham



PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Trusting God's promise of new life, we pray for the renewal of the church, the world, and all of 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:*

We commend these and all our prayers to you, O God. Come near to us with your saving help, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

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

“Like the Murmur of the Dove’s Song”

(Peter Cutts)

Bob Nelson, soloist

OFFERING RESPONSE

Let The Vineyards

Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful Lord, and
5 fill to the brim our cup of bles - sing. Gath - er the har -
10 - vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the
15 bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and dreams of all; u -
21 nite them in the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta -
26 - ble with your pres - ence, Lord, and give us a fore -
30 - taste of the feast to come.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Risen One,

**as you broke bread with the disciples on the shore,
meet us now in this meal.**

Nourish us to follow you,

**using our gifts to feed the hungry and tend the weary,
and all for your love's sake.**

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.

Fulfilling the promise of the resurrection,
you pour out the fire of your Spirit,

uniting in one body people of every nation and tongue.

And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of
the resurrection,

with earth and sea and all their creatures,

and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim,

we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might, heav - en and earth are

6 full of your glo - ry, Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the

11 name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est, Ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy God, Breath of life and Fire of love: with a mighty wind you brought creation into being, and by a pillar of fire you led your people into freedom. We praise you for the gift of your Son, who poured out your Spirit on his disciples of every race and nation.

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.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and the sending of the holy and life-giving Spirit, we await his coming again to renew the face of the earth. Send now your Holy Spirit upon us and upon this meal: anoint us with your gifts of faith, hope, and love, that, with thankful hearts, we may be witnesses to your Son.

Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both 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.**

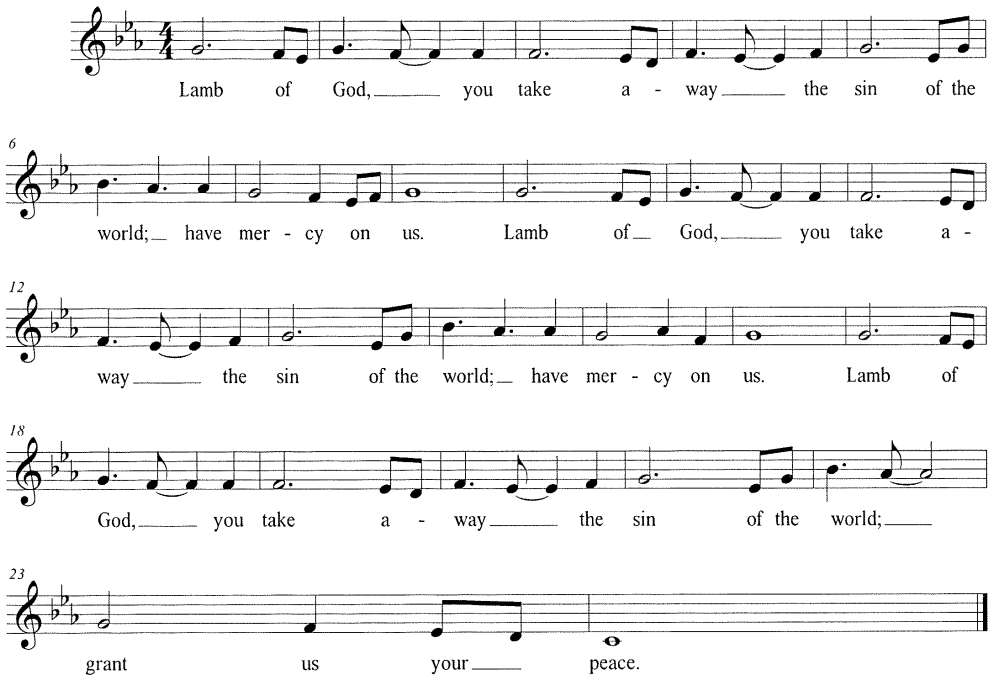
INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.

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
6 world;_ have mer - cy on us. Lamb of_ God, _____ you take a -
12 way _____ the sin of the world;_ have mer - cy on us. Lamb of
18 God, _____ you take a - way _____ the sin of the world; _____
23 grant us your _____ peace.

CONGREGATIONAL SONG

We Come to the Hungry Feast

ELW #479

CONGREGATIONAL SONG

Let Us Break Bread Together

ELW #471

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

Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

Living God,

you have greeted us in our brokenness
and nourished us with the body of Christ, broken for us.

Risen to new life with you,
send us now to bear your healing love
into the wounded world,
in the name of our risen Savior and Lord.

Amen.

SENDING

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

BLESSING

The blessing of the living God,
Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit,
surround and sustain you,
keep you from harm,
and fill you with courage.

Amen.

SENDING SONG

O Day Full of Grace

ELW #627

DISMISSAL

You are the body of Christ raised up for the world.
Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

“O Day Full of Grace”

arr. Michael Burkhardt

From sundaysandseasons.com.

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All are welcome to a cake reception in the Narthex following worship to celebrate our graduates.

Pastor	Ellen Schoepf	prellen@faithlutheranokemos.org
Secretary	Katie Love	klove@faithlutheranokemos.org
High School Director		Katie Love
Trinity/Middle School Director		Maddie Wosinski
Director of Music		Debra Borton-McDonough
Organist/Pianist		Bruce Williams

Bi-Weekly Announcement packets are available in the narthex.

June 2, 2019 Attendance: 95

Serving Faith	June 9	June 16
Acolyte	open	open
Altar Care	Diane Hill & Tammy Heilman	
Communion Assistants	open	open
	Rich Weingartner	Maddie Wosinski
	Gus Lulis	Brenda Kopf
Greeters	Ken & Karen Whitmyer	Jeff & Melinda Schultz
Lay Assistants	Rich Weingartner	Maddie Wosinski
Readers	Gus Lulis	Brenda Kopf
Ushers	Jon & Elaine Harrison	Jon & Elaine Harrison
Nursery	Heidi Bowers	Lori Webb
Coffee Hosts	Graduation Sunday	Nelson/Ambs

Altar Flower Dedications:

Sunday, June 9th: Altar flowers are given to the glory of God...

Vase 1: by Matt & Korine Wawrzynski in celebration of Jasper's 9th birthday.

Vase 2: in honor of Bob & Phyllis Shorman in celebration of their 37th wedding anniversary.

CELEBRATE



HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES



Kadin Bowers

Kadin has been a member of Faith Lutheran since his birth. He was baptized at Faith by Pastor Neves. Growing up, Kadin was very involved in Faith Lutheran student groups as well as mission trips and VBS. He participated in robotics for 8 years, starting in 5th grade. During high school Kadin was in the marching band for all 4 years and held the honor of drum major. Kadin is graduating from Haslett High School and will be attending Kettering University in the Fall where he will be studying Mechanical Engineering.



Owen Dingledine

Owen has been a member of Faith Lutheran Church since his birth and was baptized by Pastor Neves. He has participated in numerous church activities over the years including Youth Group, VBS, mission trip to West Virginia, and local mission opportunities. Owen participated in Ski Club, JV tennis and 3 years of Varsity lacrosse while in high school. He graduates from Haslett High School and will be attending Grand Valley State University in the fall.



Sam Kadrofske

Sam is graduating from Okemos High School. Since becoming a member of Faith Lutheran Church at the age of five, he has actively participated in Sunday school, Trinity, Confirmation, VBS and the high school youth group. Sam attended the mission trip to Wheeling, West Virginia in 2016 and the Gathering in Houston in 2018. He has played the euphonium since the 5th grade and plans to continue participating in band during college. He has also been a member of the Okemos High School golf team for the past four years and recently earned All-Conference. In the fall, Sam will be attending Purdue University where he plans to pursue a degree in Computer Graphics Technology within the Purdue Polytechnic Institute.



Walter Lewis

Walter Williams Lewis is a 2019 graduate of Okemos High School. He has lived in Okemos since June 2017, and his family became members of Faith early in 2018. Walter spent his freshman and sophomore years at Samuel V. Champion High School in Boerne, Texas; he also confirmed his faith there at St. John Lutheran Church.

After throwing his heart into the band program in Boerne, especially the marching band where he led the loading crew as a sophomore, he embraced new experiences in Michigan, where he joined the cross country and track teams. Throughout his four years, he maintained high academic standards and looks forward to continuing his successes at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio, where he plans to major in computer science.



Zakaria Mohamud

Zakaria Mohamed Mohamud will graduate Cum Laude from Williamston High School on Sunday, June 9, 2019. He says, "The medical field has always fascinated me since my childhood. I come from a society that is underprivileged in many areas, including healthcare. I understand the importance of medicine in society and the ability to take away people's pain and suffering inspires me."

Zakaria will attend Lansing Community College and study pre-nursing this fall. All are welcome to join in celebrating this milestone at his Open House on July 13th! Information cards in the Narthex.



Abdoul Rachid Mamah

Rachid is graduating from Williamston High School on Sunday, June 9, 2019. In High School he was on the Varsity soccer and track teams. Rachid made States in track his Junior and Senior year. Rachid will be attending Lansing Community College in the Fall and will be studying pre-nursing. All are welcome to join in celebrating this milestone at his

Open House on June 15th from 4-8 p.m. Information cards are in the Narthex.

HIGHER EDUCATION GRADUATES

Sera Heft

Sera graduated from Central Michigan University in May with a Bachelor of Arts degree. She majored in music performance on the flute, and also had a minor in psychology. In August, she will be moving to Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, with her fiancé Jonathon, where she hopes to begin teaching private flute lessons and eventually open her own studio. She hopes that in the future she will be able to not only change her students' lives, but also make changes in her community by getting active in local politics to stand up for what she believes in. She is looking forward to the next chapter in her life, and will miss her faith family tremendously."

Tula Ngasala

Tula graduated from MSU on Friday, May 3, receiving her Doctorate in Environmental Engineering.

Gregory McCracken

Gregory McCracken, son of John and Gayle McCracken, is receiving his Ph.D. in Applied Physics from Stanford University on Sunday, June 16. He will be staying at Stanford for another year doing post-doctoral research and looking for that next job! His wife, Melissa, is a museum educator at the Oakland Museum of California and would love for Greg to find a job closer to Michigan. John & Gayle are keeping their fingers crossed 🤞