#### SEPTEMBER 2019

## Faith Family News

#### From the Pastor's Pen...

September marks the beginning of a new educational year at Faith Lutheran Church. As fall programming begins, I am hoping more of our members will take advantage of the adult educational opportunities that will be offered throughout the year.

For all of us, learning is a lifelong experience. And, learning that connects to a life of faith should also be considered a lifelong experience. I am continually challenged by the lack of biblical knowledge in the lives of youth and adults. Therefore, I share with you some of my continued hopes and dreams for this Faith community. I continue to hope and pray:

- That Faith Lutheran Church becomes a place where lifelong learning becomes a priority.
- That continuing education of adults becomes situated not at the periphery of the Church's educational mission but at its center.
- That we recognize the need to nurture one another in our individual faith journeys by not only worshipping together but also learning together.

It is crucial for the future of the Church and the continuation of Jesus' mission of healing, loving and proclaiming mercy and justice that adult Christians are informed and motivated to live a life that reflects the gospel good news. Being informed about the good news and then living that good news requires nourishment and growth. Educational opportunities shape us and form us as Christians by taking us to deeper places in our faith journey. Therefore, I pray that you will participate in some of the following experiences over this coming programming year. Weekly educational opportunities include:

**Sunday Morning Adult Study – beginning Sept. 15 at 9:00 AM**Book Study on *Holy Envy* by Barbara Brown Taylor

Tuesday Noon Bible Study - every week in Pastor Ellen's office

## Wednesday Night Live! – beginning September 11, this is the Wednesday schedule

- 5:15 6:00 Bible Study focusing on the coming Sunday's readings
- 5:30 6:00 Joyful Noise Choir rehearsal
- 5:45 7:00 Meal served
- 6:30 7:30 Intergenerational Musical Rehearsal: *Oh Jonah!*
- 6:30 7:30 Bell Choir rehearsal
- 6:30 7:30 Movie of interest sponsored by the Green Team
- 7:30 9:00 Chancel Choir

I invite you and encourage you to make lifelong learning a priority throughout this educational year.



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Faith Lutheran Church 4515 Dobie Road Okemos, MI 48864 Office Hours: 9am-1pm Monday-Friday Phone: (517) 349-0620

Fax: (517) 349-5822 www.faithlutheranokemos.org faith@faithlutheranokemos.org

#### **Ministers**

All Members of the Faith Family **Pastor** 

**Ellen Schoepf** 

prellen@faithlutheranokemos.org

**Sunday School/Middle Director** 

Maddie Wosinski

Director of Music

Deb Borton-McDonough

**Instrumental Worship Leader** 

Bruce Williams

**High School Leaders** 

Kim O'Brien

Ryan & Addie Thompson

**Newsletter Editor/Church Secretary** 

**Katie Love** 

**Mission Partner Congregation** 

Redeemer Lutheran Church

President Paul Hereza
Vice President Ryan Thompson
Secretary Molly DeHate
Treasurer Gwynne Kadrofske
Financial Secretary Tom Schrote
Members-at-Large Kurt Steinke

Chuck Spanburg
Past President Kim O'Brien

Committee Chairs

Caring Pam Williams & Lois Neves

Evangelism/Outreach

Ellen Lewis & Brenda Kopf

Human Resources Lori Webb Media/Technology Chris Lewis

**Membership Development** 

Jean Lewis & Michelle Ransom

Mutual Ministry Linda Hirt Property Bob Nelson

**Rick Beaderstadt** 

Stewardship Kim O'Brien Worship & Music Diane Hill

# **Serving at Faith**

#### **ACOLYTES**

To sign up to acolyte please use the following link https://www.signupgenius.com/go/508094caaa623a3f49-acolyte2

#### **ALTAR CARE**

Melinda Schultz & Gwynne Kadrofske

#### **COMMUNION ASSISTANTS**

See Acolyte, Lay Assistant and Reader.

#### **GREETERS**

September 1 Bob Scholle
September 8 Mike Eschelbach
September 15 Mark & Molly DeHate
September 22 Marla Holle

September 22 Iviana none

September 29 Doug & Linda Hirt

#### LAY ASSISTANTS

September 1 Harold Sollenberger
September 8 Zachary Hereza
September 15 Korine Wawrzynski
September 22 Doug Hirt

September 22 Doug Hirt
September 29 Ken Schoepf

#### **READERS**

September 1 Atu Ngasala
September 8 Jack Dingledine
September 15 Gus Lusis
September 22 Open

September 29 Heidi Nussdorfer

#### **USHERS**

September 1 Bill & Pam Williams
September 8 Doug & Linda Hirt
September 15 Gerard/Milne

September 22 Jeff & Melinda Schultz
September 29 Mark & Gwynne Kadrofske

#### **NURSERY**

September 1 Melinda & Lauren Schultz

September 8 Marquardt's
September 15 Williams
September 22 Brenda Kopf
September 29 Rachael Ngasala

## Fifth Annual Community Picnic August 24, 2019

It was a beautiful day for the picnic. Thank you to the many volunteers that made the picnic so successful.

As people arrived; they were greeted at the Welcome Table. Children got a bottle of bubbles and free Thrivent notebooks and t-shirts were available to everyone. In addition, children and parents were invited to select free school supplies. The leftover supplies were taken by the Lauren Gewirtz, the lead singer of Summer of Sol, and were donated to Willow Elementary in Lansing, MI in the churches name.

Attendees were treated to a delicious picnic lunch from Watershed Bar and Grill. Pulled pork sandwiches, kettle chips and cookies were served. The kettle chips seemed to be especially popular. This was a great time of fellowship.

Sommer of Sol entertained everyone with their delightful music. This was the bands third year in a row playing at the picnic. Even the children of two band members joined in on a few songs.

The games and bounce house were fun for many. The cornhole competition got intense, just ask John McCracken or Paul Hereza about that.

To the delight of everyone, the Meridian Township fireman pulled in with an ambulance and fire rescue truck. Both adults and children flocked to the vehicles and enjoyed seeing and trying out the equipment.

Thank you again to all of the volunteers, we look forward to continuing this outreach activity for the community next year.

# Prayers for Health & Healing

## Members of the congregation:

Dale Halverson, Brenda & Walter Kopf, Rita Barry, Ellen Milne, Ken Whitmyer and Sifa Ngasala.

#### Friends & Family:

John Joe Lanzetta, Todd Barriklow, Carol Coyer, Loretta Milne, Scott & Lisa Seeley, Mike, Bob, Riley Backus, Diane.

## Prayers of Intercession

- Our Mission Partner congregation: Lansing Redeemer Lutheran Church
- Those in Military service:

   Jon Schoepf, Lani Yearicks and
   Melody, Adam Wright and Joe
   Galvin.

Please contact the church office at <a href="mailto:faith@faithlutheranokemos.org">faith@faithlutheranokemos.org</a> or 349-0620 to update the prayer list.

The website for
Prayer Ventures is
http://www.elca.org/en/Resources/
prayer-ventures
Prayer Ventures is a guide to daily
prayer for the ministries of the
church produced by ELCA
Communication Services on behalf
of the whole church.

### **NEWS & NOTES**



#### **From the Property Committee**

The Property Committee will have the annual Fall Cleanup day after service on **Sunday, Nov. 3rd.** We'll do the usual: trimming, leaves, etc. Please join us if you can. Also, we will be changing lights in the sanctuary in the early Fall. No date has been set yet, but the Sunday before we will be asking the congregation to help carry out chairs into the Narthex after service. A few volunteers later that week will be appreciated when the chairs get put back into the sanctuary.

#### **Volunteer Opportunities Board**

Volunteer Opportunities are posted on the Large board in the Narthex. Openings are available for Lay Assistants, Readers, Altar Care, Nursery Workers, Ushers and Acolytes. **Altar Care** is looking to fill several holes in November. Please sign up on the board or contact Elaine Harrison with any questions. Jon.harrison@comcast.net



#### Faith Lutheran Church Outing to Lansing Ignite Soccer Game

- Saturday, September 21st. Gates open at 6:00 p.m., game begins at 7:00 p.m.
- Enjoy an exciting night of soccer with family and friends.

\$18.00 for Section P seats and \$5 for kids/college students.

Special discounts during the game

- Hot dog or hamburger, chips & a drink \$5

A sign-up sheet is available in the Narthex. Please contact Melinda Schultz with any questions. <a href="mailto:Mrsjas305@sbcglobal.net">Mrsjas305@sbcglobal.net</a>



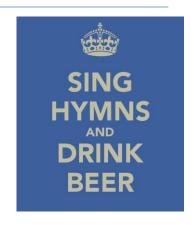
**GREEN TEAM VIDEOS** On Wednesday evenings, the Green Team will be showing a video almost every week. This video will be shown beginning at 6:30. Below is a listing of the showings in September.

September 11: "From the Ashes"
September 18th: "Winged Migration"

September 25th: "The Lorax"

## BEER & HYMNS: DATE CHANGE

Beer & Hymns is *moving to a new night!* We will be doing Beer & Hymns once a month in people's homes on Friday or Saturday evenings. People can sign up to host. Attendees will be asked to bring an appetizer to share and their own beverage of choice. Harold Sollenberger will host the first event on Friday evening, **October 25**, at 6:00 PM. A sign-up sheet for hosting will be placed in the Narthex.



#### WAYS YOU CAN HELP

#### **LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF**

LWR continues to give aid to refugees and persons displaced by natural and human disasters. We are assisting by collecting items for Personal Care Kits and School Kits.

#### **Each Personal Care Kit Contains:**

- One Bath Towel -medium weight in a dark color
- One Comb- heavy duty with large teeth
- One Pair of Nail Clippers
- One Toothbrush-adult size
- Two Bars of Soap bath size, ivory preferred
- One Pair of shoelaces

#### **Each School Kit Contains:**

- Four Spiral Notebooks 70 pages each
- One Ruler- with both inches & centimeters
- Five Pencils- unsharpened with erasers
- Five Ink Pens-blue or black ink
- One Eraser- flat pink
- One Pencil Sharpener
- One Pair of Scissors -with blunt point
- One Box of Crayons- 16 or 24 count

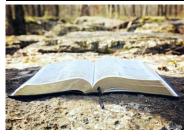
See the display boards and collection bins in the fellowship area during the month of September.

#### **FAITH'S TINY PANTRY**

Our tiny panty in the parking lot is being used quite often. If you happen to see it running low please consider adding some items. Items that go the quickest are ceareal, penut butter, breakfast bars, oatmeal, tissues, toothpaste and laundry detergent. Please contact Katie in the church office with any questions.



#### **BIBLES & HYMNALS FOR TANZANIA**



The Faith Lutheran organ is being finished with money received for that purpose from the Vision 2020 fund. When the organ is completed, we will be holding a Dedication Organ Recital to celebrate this gift. At the recital, we will take a Freewill Offering to be sent to Tanzania. We are working with the church where Tula Ngasala's parents are members and they will be using the money to purchase Bibles and hymnals for mission work in Tanzania.





## DCYE/PARISH EDUCATION



#### **RALLY DAY SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8**

Sunday School again begins on Sunday morning, September 8, at 9:00 AM. This year we will be using a new curriculum called *Whirl*. *Whirl All Kids* is a curriculum to be used in classrooms with multiple aged students. All kids, preschool through 5<sup>th</sup> grade will participate in these weekly classroom

experiences with Maddie Wosinski leading. Each Sunday morning, we will follow a consistent four-part sequence:

- Welcome –
- Hear Watch the Whirl characters learn about the Bible
- Respond Apply the message using their lesson leaflets
- Launch Participate in Scripture-based activities

Middle School students, grades 6 - 8, will be assisting in Sunday School this year. We will also be asking parents to choose a Sunday when they can be present and assist in this religious education effort. A sign-up sheet for parent participation will be posted on the board in the Narthex.

#### HIGH SCHOOL CAR WASH FUNDRAISER

The High School youth group is planning a fundraising car wash to raise money for a youth trip this winter. The car wash will be on Rally Day, September 8 during worship. Free will donations will be accepted. Contact Kim O'Brien or Ryan & Addie Thompson with any questions.





## MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP & CONFIRMATION BEGINS SEPTEMBER 15<sup>TH</sup>.

Students in grades (grades 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>) will kick off Confirmation/Middle School youth group with a parent/student meeting on **Sunday, September 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.** at Faith. Confirmation classes will take place every Sunday evening at 6:00 p.m. On the last Sunday of the month the students will participate in a middle school youth group event instead of Confirmation class. Please contact Pastor Ellen with any questions.

#### COMING IN SEPTEMBER

#### **WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE!**



5:15 - 6:00

Midweek activities will begin again in full on **Wednesday, September 11**. The schedule will be the same, but this year there will be no Trinity. From 6:30 – 7:30 we will be working on an intergenerational musical called **Oh Jonah!** We will then present this musical to the congregation during worship next May.

A frolicking, fun-filled musical based on the Old Testament story of Jonah, this work carries a serious message about responsibility. Diverse in musical styles, it is immediately appealing - especially the whale's song!

Anyone, children in 1<sup>st</sup> grade up through adults, is welcome to be part of this musical venture. In addition to cast members, we will need some people to help with set and costumes. If you have any questions, please speak to Pastor Ellen, Maddie or Deb.

GREEN TEAM VIDEOS - Also, on Wednesday evening, the Green Team will be showing a video almost every week. This video will be shown beginning at 6:30. The schedule of these movies will be posted next month.

#### The Wednesday Night Live schedule looks like this:

5:30 – 6:00	Joyful Noise choir rehearsal
5:45 - 7:00	Meal served
6:30 - 7:30	Intergenerational Musical Rehearsal: Oh Jonah!
6:30 - 7:30	Bell Choir rehearsal
6:30 - 7:30	Movie of interest sponsored by the Green Team
7:30 - 9:00	Chancel Choir

Bible Study based on Sunday's readings.

#### FLU SHOT CLINIC FOLLOWING WORSHIP ON SEPTEMBER 22ND

Our own Suzanne Phelps, RN will be administering the flu shots.

Flu shot (\$33), senior flu shot (\$50), Pneumonia (\$195)

### **PAYMENT OPTIONS:**

#### 1. INSURANCE

We bill the following insurances with flu vaccine coverage: BCBS (except TEA prefix), BCN, Medicare & Medicare Advantage Plans, HAP(except CIGNA), Priority Health, Physician Health Plan.

Photocopy of Insurance Card will be made.

2. **CASH OR CHECK:** Payable to Michigan Community Wellness VNA.

Questions: Contact the Church Office or Suzanne Phelps (313)587-6732



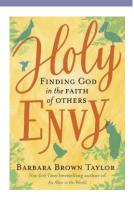
## COMING IN SEPTEMBER

**Holy Envy: Finding God in the Faith of Others New Sunday Morning five-week Book Study** 

When: Beginning Sunday morning, September 15, at 9:00 AM

Where: Church Library

In *Holy Envy: Finding God in the Faith of Others*, Episcopal priest, theologian, college professor and *New York Times* bestselling author, Barbara Brown Taylor, recounts her moving discoveries of finding the sacred in unexpected places while teaching the world's religions to undergraduates in rural Georgia, revealing how God delights in confounding our expectations.



In *Holy Envy*, Barbara Brown Taylor contemplates the myriad ways other people and faith traditions encounter the Transcendent, both by digging deeper into those traditions herself and by seeing them through her students' eyes as she sets off with them on field trips to monasteries, temples, and mosques.

Troubled and inspired by what she learns, Taylor returns to her own tradition for guidance, finding new meaning in old teachings that have too often been used to exclude religious strangers instead of embracing the divine challenges they present. Re-imagining some central stories from the religion she knows best, she takes heart in how often God chooses outsiders to teach insiders how out-of-bounds God really is.

Throughout *Holy Envy*, Taylor weaves together stories from the classroom with reflections on how her own spiritual journey has been complicated and renewed by connecting with people of other traditions—even those whose truths are quite different from hers. The one constant in her odyssey is the sense that God is the one calling her to disown her version of God—a change that ultimately enriches her faith in other human beings and in God.

Pastor Ellen and Kim O'Brien will be leading this study. If you are interested in joining us for this study, please add your name to the sign-up sheet in the Narthex!

# Join Us For...

God's work.
Our hands.



#### GOD'S WORK. OUR HANDS.

On **Sunday, September 15, beginning at 1:30 in the afternoon**, we will celebrate God's Work, Our Hands day by planting flowers and working to beautify **the Nancy Moore Park**, just off Okemos Rd. Throughout September, Lutherans across the country participate in God's Work, Our Hands as we do something to help the communities in which we live. Plan to join us as we share God's love in the greater community by using our hands for the good of the community. Add your name to the sign-up sheet in the narthex.

#### COMING IN SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER

## TWO EDUCATIONAL EVENTS LEARNING WITH IMAM SOHAIL CHAUDHRY AND PASTOR ELLEN

You are invited to participate in two educational events this fall, one at the Islamic Center in East Lansing and the other right here at Faith Lutheran Church.



#### Friday evening, September 27, from 6:00 – 7:30, at the Islamic Center

The Imam and Pastor Ellen will be sharing time talking about <u>Peace & Justice</u> as rooted in our faith traditions. Our community is invited to join members of the Islamic community for this event. Appetizers and coffee will be served.

#### Sunday, October 13, at 11:30 AM following worship, Luncheon at Faith Lutheran Church

On this day, the Imam and members of the Islamic community will join us for a catered luncheon at Faith Lutheran Church. The Imam and Pastor Ellen will be talking about **Mohammed & The Prophets**. Because this luncheon will be catered, we need to know how many will attend. If you plan to come, please add your name to the sign-up sheet in the narthex.

We invite you to consider participating in these events.

#### 60 +/- BEGINS A NEW YEAR OF FELLOWSHIP, FUN INFORMATION AND YES! POTLUCKS!!

Wednesday, September 25th 11:30 a.m. in the Faith Fellowship Hall: POTLUCK LUNCH

**Program:** Barbara Mannino from Tri-County Office on Aging will share information about housing, home care, driving issues/transportation services, and many more related subjects. Tri-County represents no businesses, they only seek to educate and provide helpful information. Barbara is an experience Social Worker and will welcome any questions and related concerns. This is a great opportunity to get accurate information from an expert. A signup sheet will be available in the Narthex. Please sign up for a potluck item or to help with set up/clean up. Friends are ALWAYS welcome! For questions or help with rides please contact Marla Holle (517-349-5265) or Katie Love (church office, 349-0620).

### PARIS TO PITTSBURGH SCREENING



Join us for a FREE screening of **Paris to Pittsburgh**, a new documentary film from National Geographic, produced by RadicalMedia in partnership with Bloomberg Philanthropies -- narrated by Emmy® and Golden Globe® Awardwinning actress and activist Rachel Brosnahan ("The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel"). This screening will take place at **7:00 PM on Tuesday evening, October 29, at Studio C Theaters in Okemos**.

This film is offered through Interfaith Power and Light. The Okemos screening is being sponsored by the following local faith communities: Williamston United Methodist Church, Bethlehem Lutheran Church, University Lutheran Church, St. Paul Lutheran Church, Grace Lutheran Church, Haslett Community Church, Okemos Presbyterian, The Islamic Center in East Lansing, and Faith Lutheran Church in Okemos.

From coastal cities to America's heartland, Americans are demanding and developing real solutions in the face of climate change. And as the weather grows more deadly and destructive, they aren't waiting on Washington to act. Learn about their incredible stories in **Paris to Pittsburgh**, and be inspired to create change in your own community!

Join us at Studio C in Okemos on Tuesday evening, October 29, at 7:00 PM. Following the screening, the Rev. Dr. John Schleicher, President of Michigan Interfaith Power and Light, and Leah Wiste, Executive Director of Michigan Interfaith Power and Light, will host a conversation about the movie.

### COMING IN OCTOBER

### Faith Lutheran Church and Samaritas join forces to sponsor two Community Forums!

On **Tuesday evening, October 15, at 7:00 PM,** Faith Lutheran and Samaritas will host a **Community Forum focused on IMMIGRATION**. Featured panelists on this forum include: Andrew Lorenzen-Strait, the Director of Children and Family Services at Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services; Melanie Jones, Staff Attorney with Michigan Immigrant Rights Center; Amy Maldanado, Lansing area Immigration Attorney; and Farah Khalil, local refugee advocate.

Then, on **Thursday evening, October 17, at 7:00 PM**, Faith Lutheran and Samaritas will host a Community Forum focusing on issues transgender youth face. **This forum, to learn about TRANSGENDER, LGBTQ+ ISSUES**, will feature the following panelists in discussion: Andrew Lorenzen-Strait, the Director of Children and Family Services at Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services; Melanie Jones, Staff Attorney with Michigan Immigrant Rights Center; Jay Kaplan, Staff Attorney for the ACLU of Michigan's LGBT Project; the Rev. Phiwa Langeni, Pastor of Salus Center, UCC; and Heidi Schaetzl, local school teacher. Courtney Isanhart, MSW, will moderate this event. This event also coincides with the opening of a Samaritas house for transgender refugee youth.

Notice that Andrew Lorenzen-Strait will be a panelist in both community forums. Before taking the job at Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services, he was a career government employee working as an ICE Agent. His background is extensive, and he brings a wealth of information to the topics of discussion at both forums. He will be coming from Baltimore to participate in these events and we are very fortunate to benefit from his presence to us. (Copies of his biography are in the Narthex) Come and invite friends to join you in attendance at these events.

## September 2019

Sunday	Monday	ander Tuesday Wednesday			Friday	Coturdos
Sunday	Wonday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
10:00 AM Worship Service	Church office Closed	<b>10:30 AM</b> Meridian Play Group	No Dinner Church 9:30 AM Quilting and ACTION 6:30 PM Faith Bells 7:30 PM Choir	7:00 PM Golf League		
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
9:00 AM Rally Day!! 10:00 AM Car Wash: High School Fundraiser 10:00 AM Worship Service 11:30 AM Worship Committee		<b>10:30 AM</b> Meridian Play Group	9:30 AM Quilting and ACTION 5:15 PM Bible Study 5:30 PM Joyful Noise Choir 5:45 PM Dinner 6:30 PM Faith Bells 6:30 PM Musical Practice 7:30 PM Choir	7:00 PM Golf League		
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
Noisy Offering 9:00 AM Holy Envy Book Study 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM Worship Service 1:30 PM Gods Work. Our Hands 6:00 PM Confirmation Class 6:00 PM Loaves & Fishes	7:00 PM Church Council	10:30 AM Meridian Play Group 12:00 PM Lunch lectionary study group	9:30 AM Quilting and ACTION 5:15 PM Bible Study 5:30 PM Joyful Noise Choir 5:45 PM Dinner 6:30 PM Faith Bells 6:30 PM Musical Practice 7:30 PM Choir	7:00 PM Golf League: Last Night	<b>7:00 AM</b> Large Fellowship Hall Rented	Large Fellowship Hall Rented 7:00 PM Faith Goes to Ignite Game
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
9:00 AM Holy Envy Book Study 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM Worship Service 11:30 AM Flu Shot Clinic 6:00 PM Confirmation Class		10:30 AM Meridian Play Group 12:00 PM Lunch lectionary study group	9:30 AM Quilting and ACTION 11:30 AM 60 +/- Meeting at Faith 5:15 PM Bible Study 5:30 PM Joyful Noise Choir 5:45 PM Dinner 6:30 PM Faith Bells 6:30 PM Musical Practice 7:30 PM Choir	Road Service	<b>6:00 PM</b> Fellowship/Appetizers @ Islamic Center	
29	30	1	2	3	4	5
9:00 AM Holy Envy Book Study 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM Worship Service 6:00 PM Confirmation Class		10:30 AM Meridian Play Group 12:00 PM Lunch lectionary study group	9:30 AM Quilting 5:15 PM Bible Study 5:30 PM Joyful Noise Choir 5:45 PM Dinner 6:30 PM Faith Bells 6:30 PM Musical Practice 7:30 PM Choir			