**ANNOUNCEMENTS**



**November 27th**

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

**DEADLINES**

Sunday worship folder announcements⎯Tuesday of each week

Submit to Katie at klove@faithlutheranokemos.org

***January Faith Family News newsletter*⎯**

**Please submit by Monday December 19th**

Submit to Katie at klove@faithlutheranokemos.org

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Please lift up in prayer this week:

🕆 Members—Max Ambs, Lowell Barricklow, Ellen Milne, Harry Nawrock

 and the Barry family.

🕆 Friends and family—

 Pat Belonga, Chris Cotter, Lil Jennings, Terrie Becker, Allie, Heather,

 Al, Lilly, Sai Eshwar Lingamgunta, Jenn Leitch, Jeanne and Leonard, Tom

 Brown, Susan Heft, Pat Hillberg & Family, Dennis Cobler, John Joseph

 Lanzetta and Bethany Robison. Please pray for Erika Engel, her brother David

 and mother Edwina Engel upon the death of Erika’s brother Jerry.

🕆 Our mission partner congregation⎯Lansing Redeemer Lutheran Church

🕆 Those in military service⎯Jon Schoepf, Lani Yearicks,

 Melody and Adam Wright and Joe Galvin.

🕆 Samaritas children who seek adoption— Grace and Darriona. Pray for each

 to be adopted and for Jesus to be their lifelong friend.

**NORTH/WEST LOWER MICHIGAN SYNOD PRAYER PARTNER**

As Jesus calls us to be one, even as he and the Father are one, please include

Pastor Bradley Ross and the congregation of St. John’s Lutheran Church of Baroda, Michigan in your prayers of intercession this week.

**ALTAR FLOWER DEDICATIONS**

The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God by. . .

Vase 1: Becca, Katy, Austin and Ciare in celebration of Walter & Brenda’s

 anniversary.

Vase 2: Pat Fagan in celebration of life and family.

**FINANCIAL UPDATE**

**Weekly Offering 11/13/16**  Year-to-date as of 09/30/2016

General Fund $2955.00 Income $219,713.88

Loose Cash 135.65 Expenses 228,998.75

Loose Checks 25.00 Net Income (-9284.87)

Shirley Jirele Memorial 50.00

Flowers 55.00

World Hunger 110.00

Loaves & Fishes 10.00

Youth Spaghetti Dinner 25.00

Total $3365.65

Simply Giving 2826.00

Total $6191.65 Memorial Envelopes available in

 the narthex.

THIS WEEK’S CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS

**TODAY Poinsettia Order Forms are available in the narthex.**

 **Orders are NEXT SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4TH .**

 **World Hunger Offering**

9:00 a.m. “How Lutherans Interpret the Bible”

9:00 a.m. Sunday School

10:00 a.m. WORSHIP: New Member Sunday/Baptism

Monday, November 28th

2:00 p.m. Women’s Study

Tuesday, November 29th

Worship folder announcements deadline

12:00 p.m. Lectionary study in Pastor Ellen’s office

Wednesday, November 30th

7:30 a.m. Men’s Study Group in the Library

9:30 a.m. Quilting and Samaritas ACTION

5:30 p.m. Joyful Noise

6:00 p.m. T&C

6:30 p.m. Faith Bells

7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir

Thursday, December 1st

Friday, December 2nd

Saturday, December 3rd

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

**Lay Assistant Training**

We would like all of those who volunteer their time as lay assistant to go through a small training. ***TODAY*** immediately following worship.

Please contact Diane Wilke or the Church office for more information and to sign up. Thank you!

**Altar Care Leader**

We are need of a **leader for Altar Care** to guide the team and make the schedules.  If two people would like to work together on this, it be a cooperative effort.  Many hands make light work!! Please contact Diane Hill.



***60 +/- Christmas Luncheon Sign up Deadline TODAY***

Join your 60 +/- friends for a Christmas luncheon at 12:00 p.m. on Sunday December 4th at the Kellogg Center on Harrison Avenue on the MSU Campus. We will enjoy the delicious buffet brunch at a group of reserved tables in the State Room. The buffet features a complete selection from breakfast items to entrees, dessert and coffee. The cost, including tax and gratuity, remains $21.35 with free parking (under cover and attached to the Kellogg Center). We’ll be paying individually on the day of the event.

As our name “60 Plus or *Minus*” suggests, we welcome friends and guests who have not yet reached that golden age! **Be sure to add your name to the sign-up sheet in the narthex by November 27 so that we can reserve the proper number of tables.**

UPCOMING MEETINGS & STUDIES

***How Lutherans Interpret the Bible*, starting October 16 at 9:00am**

Everyone is welcome! We will meet in the large fellowship hall during the Sunday School hour.

***CAREGIVERS SUPPORT Group Meeting***

Join us at 11:30am for a light lunch and discussion. All are Welcome!

Thursday, December 8th: Kathy Mrozinski will be speaking. Kathy is the Marketing Manager for Senior CommUnity Care of Michigan PACE Program. The program is an all-inclusive care for the elderly in Ingham, Eaton and Clinton Counties.

Thursday, January 12th: Angie Cantlon form CareLinc Medical Equipment will speak on how the Durable Medical Equipment World works. There is more offered then just a wheelchair and a walker!

Thursday, February 9th : Michelle Traill – Crosser from Caring Transitions will be speaking about downsizing.

**The Great Divide – An Evening of Conversation\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

 **December 12, 7:00pm**

This past presidential election has created division among people in our own community and in the lives of families within our faith community. In an effort to help create healing of that divide, enable people to listen to each other and converse with each other in a safe, hospitable manner, we are holding and evening of conversation at church on Monday, December 12, at 7:00 PM. When we stand at the foot of the cross, we stand on common ground. That is Christian community. When we gather at the foot of the cross we find a way to accept people who have experienced what theologian, Walter Brueggemann, calls “an alternative obedience”……a different lived-experience from our own in regard to matters of faith and obedience. Consider joining us for this evening of conversation.

UPCOMING MEETINGS & STUDIES

**Water In Tanzania** - Tula Ngasala is one of our members and she is working on her Environmental Engineering degree at MSU.  During this time, she has also been working on developing water projects in her home country of Tanzania.  Working with Engineers Without Borders and WEES (another non-profit organization), she was able to construct a much needed well at her father's home congregation in Tanzania.  This well serves people in the surrounding community.  Now she is developing and working on a water project in another part of her home country.  On **Sunday, January 8**, during the morning worship service, Tula will be sharing information about these water projects and the way her faith informs her work

 WAYS TO GET INVOLVED

**Holiday Cookie Exchange\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

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The Membership Development Committee will host a **Holiday Cookie Exchange** on Wednesday, December 14 at 6:30 pm. Please sign up to join us by December 4th on the message board and pick up a copy of the guidelines. Join us for yummy treats, fellowship and take home an assortment of delicious cookies to share with your holiday guests!

 Holiday attire is encouraged and door prizes will be given!

**Samaritas Operation GOOD CHEER!!\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

***Just a few children left! Thank you!*!**

This year Samaritas has given Faith Lutheran **13 children** to bless with Christmas Wishes. A Chart of wishes has been set up in the narthex. Each child has a list of 3 wishes. You may purchase as many items as you can. Gifts may be wrapped. Please make sure to put the child’s first name and last initial on the box.

Please contact Marla Holle or Katie Love with any questions.

**Deadline is Sunday, December 4th!!**

**Grab a Friend, Partner together, Have Fun!**

WAYS TO GET INVOLVED CONT.



 **Stuff the Stocking Food Drive**

 **Caring Committee News**

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 and 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 begin now and our delivery date will be Sunday, December 18.

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WAYS TO GET INVOLVED CONT.

**Help Decorate the Sharing Tree**

**Not with Ornaments and Tinsel....**

**.....but with baby items!!!**

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.

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**Poinsettia Order**

Now is the time to order your poinsettias! Order forms are available in the church narthex. Please put your order form in the church office or in Katie Love’s church mailbox. Thanks!



**November Stewardship: ELCA Good Gifts**

Forms regarding the ELCA Good Gifts are available in the narthex and in the November newsletter.

**GREEN TEAM TIP OF THE MONTH**

**Reduce Your Water Use**

Try turning off water while brushing your teeth or lathering up in the shower

Install aerators in faucets or shower heads

Older toilets use a lot of water **-** you can reduce your usage by sinking a half gallon jug of water in the toilet tank.

Did you know?  That most modern dishwashers when fully loaded conserve more water than hand washing.

**CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AND YOUTH ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Halloween Candy Needed**
Parish Education is in need of the following candies for gifts to the children at Christmas time, so when you are out before and after Halloween, there may be discounts available. Individually wrapped little packages of: Candy Canes, Gold Wrapped Rolo, Dove, Starlight mint, Milky Way, Life Saver, Hershey Hugs, and Almond Joy. Thank you for all of your support.

![C:\Users\Valued Customer\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\G8VHL6DL\Blue_man_on_trampoline_logo[1].jpg]()**Youth Group Outing**On December 10th the Youth (grades 9-12) will be going to District 5 from 5:00-10:00pm. The cost is $6.50 for jumping and then money for pizza at Old Chicago. Please let Melinda know if you will be attending.

**Christmas Pageant Rehearsal Schedule – “Christmas in a Box”**Starting in November, we will be holding rehearsals during Trinity/Confirmation evenings with the 4-6 grades. We will be running the songs in November during the first 15 minutes of class time with Pre-K through 6th grade. In December, we will practice during Sunday School on the 4th and December 11th. Additionally, we will have a dress rehearsal for everyone after church on December 4th from 11:30-1:00pm. We will feed the children and then rehearse. The pageant is Sunday, December 11th during the service. Hope to see everyone's family for our celebration of the birth of Jesus!

**Thrivent Action Teams are needed!!!**
Please apply to help your youth group in a one-time fundraiser, service activity or educational event that can be completed within 90 days. Here are some suggestions for your Thrivent Action Teams: Shrove Supper, March Madness Meal, and Quiche Meal, to name a few. Use this link to get started: <https://www.thrivent.com/making-a-difference/living-generously/thrivent-action-teams/> Please talk to Melinda if you have any questions.

**You Are Needed!!!**

I am in need of help in several different ways:

1. **DONATIONS NEEDED** – While you are out shopping and preparing for this Christmas season, please keep our auction in your mind. Ask your vendors and those people who you get services from for a donation to our auction. It only takes a quick ask, and many are happy to oblige as it also brings in new customers. Things you can ask for or may have access to:

Sports tickets, haircuts, massages, dry cleaners, vacation home, artwork, jewelry, oil changes, pet grooming, restaurant gift cards, sports memorabilia, landscaping, house cleaning, etc.

1. I need a Co-Chair for the auction which will take place on January 27th. We will be planning the dinner and obtaining the auction items with the help of the congregation.

**January 27, 2017 – 6:00-9:00pm**

The Youth, with the assistance of the Music Program, will be hosting a fun evening which will include entertainment, dinner, and multiple opportunities to win some great items. Please join us for this special

 event. Tickets will go on sale in

 January.

 **Important Dates in December**4th - Youth Group Bake Sale – Immediately following service.
4th - All Grades Pageant Rehearsal, 11:30-1:00, Lunch will be served.
11th - Christmas Pageant, 10:00am
10th - Youth Group – District 5, meet at church at 5:00pm, go jumping and then to dinner at Old Chicago, $6.50 plus money for food.
14th - Trinity & Confirmation Fun Night, bring White Elephant present.