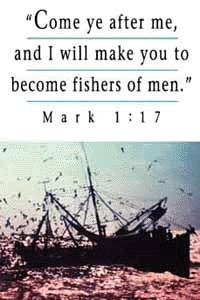
Welcome to

Faith Lutheran

January 21, 2018

****

**Pastor Ellen Schoepf**

**prellen@faithlutheranokemos.org**

**4515 Dobie Road**

**Okemos, MI 48864**





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

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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

**Doing What You Do**

Jesus’ first disciples were fishermen. We learn that James’s and John’s father was a fisherman who passed on his trade to his sons. They worked hard, developed their skills, and earned a living doing what they did. Presumably they did it well. It was good and valuable work. Simon, Andrew, James, and John were all being who they were and doing what they did when Jesus called them.

Look at how Jesus frames his call to these fishermen: “I will make you fish for people” (Mark 1:17). Jesus is telling them he can take who they are and what they do and use it for God’s kingdom. It might sound like the disciples dropped their nets and left their fishing vocation completely; but throughout the gospel story we hear about Jesus and the disciples getting into boats. Who else but fishermen would have boats? How else did they continue to support their ministry and feed their families? Fishermen fish, but now the disciples do it for a higher purpose.

Rather than imagine that we are called to some life completely different from the one we live now, imagine that we are called to do what we do already in ways that show and enact God’s kingdom. You’re a fisherman, so fish for people. You’re a singer, so sing for people. You’re a seamstress, so sew for people. You’re an engineer, so engineer for people. You’re an investor, so invest for people. It’s all about being who we are and doing what we do for a higher purpose.

The kingdom of God is about grace, love, justice, and mercy for all people. Through the grace of baptism, God has called us to follow Jesus in the way of the kingdom. How can you do what you do already, be who you are, in ways that help people know God and live life fully? Do what you do for God’s sake, for your neighbor, for people.

**Sunday, January 21, 2018**

3 Epiphany

**Introduction to the day**

Stories of the call to discipleship continue as the Time after Epiphany plays out the implications of our baptismal calling to show Christ to the world. Jesus begins proclaiming the good news and calling people to repentance right after John the Baptist is arrested for preaching in a similar way. Knowing that John was later executed, we see at the very outset the cost of discipleship. Still, the two sets of fisherman brothers leave everything they have known and worked for all their lives to follow Jesus and fish for people.

*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**

“Jubilation” (Parrish)

Faith Bells

**Gathering**

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

**Confession and Forgiveness**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,

who stretches out the heavens,

who sends light to the nations,

who gives breath to us all.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin

in the presence of God and of one another.

Loving God,

**we confess that we have turned from your way**

**to follow our own ways.**

**Forgive us for the times**

**we have spoken or acted too quickly;**

**we have not spoken or acted at all;**

**we have hurt those closest to us;**

**we have hurt those we have yet to know;**

**we have thought more about ourselves than others;**

**we have thought less of ourselves than we ought.**

**Turn us around, and give us a fresh start,**

**so that we can live again as your children. Amen.**

Even when we have done wrong, God makes us right.

Even when we have messed up, God puts us together.

God’s love never runs out.

God never tires of calling us beloved children.

Hear God say to you now:

Your sins are forgiven,

for the sake of ☩ Jesus Christ our Savior.

**Amen.**

**Gathering Song**

***Brightest and Best of the Stars ELW #303***

**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.**

**Canticle of Praise**

**A close up of a piece of paper

Description generated with high confidence**

**A close up of a piece of paper

Description generated with high confidencePrayer of the Day**

Let us pray.

Almighty God, by grace alone you call us and accept us in your service. Strengthen us by your Spirit, and make us worthy of your call, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

*The assembly is seated.*

**Word**

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

**First Reading: Jonah 3:1-5, 10**

*The book of Jonah is a comedy starring a reluctant prophet who is given a one-sentence message: Nineveh will be destroyed in forty days. Much to Jonah’s dismay, the people of Nineveh repent. The point of the story is to get the reader to wrestle with the question “On whom should God have mercy?”*

A reading from Jonah.

1The word of the Lord came to Jonah a second time, saying, 2“Get up, go to Nineveh, that great city, and proclaim to it the message that I tell you.” 3So Jonah set out and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the Lord. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly large city, a three days’ walk across. 4Jonah began to go into the city, going a day’s walk. And he cried out, “Forty days more, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!” 5And the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast, and everyone, great and small, put on sackcloth.  
  10When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 7:29-31**

*Paul does not disapprove of marriage or other human social institutions. He does, however, want Christians to live in the present in fervent anticipation of God’s future, which even now has dawned through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.*

A reading from 1 Corinthians.

29Brothers and sisters, the appointed time has grown short; from now on, let even those who have wives be as though they had none, 30and those who mourn as though they were not mourning, and those who rejoice as though they were not rejoicing, and those who buy as though they had no possessions, 31and those who deal with the world as though they had no dealings with it. For the present form of this world is passing away.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

*The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.*

**A screenshot of a cell phone

Description generated with very high confidenceGospel Acclamation**

**Gospel: Mark 1:14-20**

*Before Jesus calls his first disciples, he proclaims a message that becomes known as “the gospel” or good news from God. God is ready to rule our lives. Those who realize this will respond with repentance and faith.*

The holy gospel according to Mark.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

14Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, 15and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.”  
  
  16As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen. 17And Jesus said to them, “Follow me and I will make you fish for people.” 18And immediately they left their nets and followed him. 19As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. 20Immediately he called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men, and followed him.

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**

***You Have Come Down to the Lakeshore ELW #817***

**Creed**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,**

**creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord,**

**who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,**

**born of the virgin Mary,**

**suffered under Pontius Pilate,**

**was crucified, died, and was buried;**

**he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again;**

**he ascended into heaven,**

**he is seated at the right hand of the Father,**

**and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,**

**the holy catholic church,**

**the communion of saints,**

**the forgiveness of sins,**

**the resurrection of the body,**

**and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**Prayers of Intercession**

Confident that God our light and our salvation hears us when we pray, let us offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all people in need.

*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:*

Merciful God, you hear our prayers even before we speak them. Receive them for the sake of the one through whom you have revealed your goodness, Jesus Christ, our Savior and 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**

“I Am For You” (arr. Cooney)

Chancel Choir

Chris Lewis and Emily Brown, Soloist

**A screenshot of a cell phone

Description generated with very high confidenceoffering response** *Vs. 1 & 2*

**Offering Prayer**

Let us pray.

Merciful God,

receive the gifts we bring,

our selves, our time, and our possessions.

Through this meal unite us as your body,

shining with the light of your justice and mercy;

for the sake of him who gave himself for us,

Jesus Christ our Lord.

**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;

who on this day overcame death and the grave,

and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.

And so, with all the choirs of angels,

with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,

we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**A screenshot of a cell phone

Description generated with very high confidenceHoly, Holy, Holy**

**Thanksgiving at the Table**

Blessed are you, O holy God: you are the Life and Light of all.

By your powerful word you created all things. Through the prophets you called your people to be a light to the nations.

Blessed are you for Jesus, your Son. He is your Light, shining in our darkness and revealing to us your mercy and might.

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 preaching and healing, his dying and rising, and his promise to come again, we await that day when all the universe will rejoice in your holy and life-giving light.

By your Spirit bless us and this meal, that, refreshed with this heavenly food, we may be light for the world, revealing the brilliance of 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**

We who are many are one body,

for we all partake of the one bread.

Come. Be filled with light and life.

**Communion**

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

Amen.

A screenshot of a cell phone

Description generated with very high confidence**Communion Song**

**Instrumental Music**

***“Jesus Calls Us O’er the Tumult” arr. Dale Wood***

**CONGREGATIONAL SONG**

***I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light ELW #815***

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ

strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

**Amen.**

**Prayer after Communion**

Let us pray.

O Morning Star, fair and bright,

you have refreshed us again with heavenly food.

You are our dearest treasure.

Go with us now—

today, tomorrow, every day—

that we tell the story of your never-ending love

and sing your praise both now and forever.

**Amen.**

**Sending**

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

**Blessing**

The God of glory dwell in you richly,

name you beloved,

and shine brightly on your path;

and the blessing of almighty God,

the Father, the ☩ Son, and the Holy Spirit,

be upon you and remain with you always.

**Amen.**

**Sending Song**

***Go, Make Disciples ELW #540***

**Dismissal**

Go in peace. Be the light of Christ.

**Thanks be to God.**

**postlude**

“Heavenly Sunlight” arr. Mark Hayes

From sundaysandseasons.com.

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A sign on the side of a grass covered field

Description generated with very high confidenceSisters & brothers in Christ, welcome to worship! May your time in the Lord be rich and blessed.

Pastor Ellen Schoepf prellen@faithlutheranokemos.org

Secretary Katie Love klove@faithlutheranokemos.org

Director of Christian Education Katie Love

Director of Music Debra Borton-McDonough

Organist/Pianist Bruce Williams

January 14, 2018 Attendance 109

Serving Faith January 21 January 28

Acolyte Rachael Ngasala Serena Ngasala

Altar Care Carol Towl & Cecelia Kramer

Carol Towl & Linda Gerard

Communion Assistants Rachael Ngasala Serena Ngasala

Katie Love Rich Weingartner

Brian Ransom Deb Borton-McDonough

Greeters Jack & Natalie Dingledine Bill & Pam Williams

Lay Assistants Katie Love Rich Weingartner

Readers Brian Ransom Deb Borton-McDonough

Ushers Dingledine Family Nussdorfer Family

Nursery Marquardt’s Williams

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

FaithFamily&Friends3

**January 21, 2018**

*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

***February Faith Family News newsletter*⎯**

**Please submit by Monday, January 22**

Submit to Katie at klove@faithlutheranokemos.org

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Please lift up in prayer this week:

🕆 Members—Max Ambs, Lowell Barricklow, Ellen Milne, Tammy Heilman,

and Virginia Tashner.

🕆 Friends and family—

Harriet, Todd Barriklow, Marilyn Belanger, Greg Beckwith, Carol Coyer, Kay Coker, Chris Cotter, Terrie Becker, Brian Fent, Allyson, Heather, Erin, Al, Sai, Jeanne Hicks, Rod Kaschner, Eshwar Lingamgunta, Jenn Leitch, Brian Johnson, Meredith, Jeanne and Leonard, John Joseph Lanzetta, Johnathon Manitta family, Loretta Milne, Bethany Robison, Karen Smiley, Jean Smith, Scott Seeley, Doug Weaver, “Little Zee” (3 yr. old daughter of a friend of Brenda Kopf’s), and the White family.

🕆 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. Pray for each to be adopted and for

Jesus to be their lifelong friends

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

As Jesus calls us to be one, even as he and the Father are one, please include the supply Pastors and the congregation of St. Timothy Lutheran Church of Midland, Michigan in your prayers of intercession this week.

**FINANCIAL UPDATE**

**Weekly Offering 12/24/17** Year-to-date as of 12/31/17

Loose Cash $ 85.00 Income $272,093

Loose Checks $ 25.00 Expenses $296,290

Vision 2020 $ 25.00 **Net Income -24,197**

1/10 Wed Dinner $ 101.00

Parish House $ 50.00

ELCA Good Gifts $ 39.00

Study Books $ 8.00

Youth-Hockey Tickets $ 80.00

Flowers $ 50.00

World Hunger $ 50.00

General Fund $2335.00

Total **$2848.00**

**ALTAR FLOWER DEDICATIONS ­­­­**

Today’s altar flowers are given to the glory of God by Ken & Karen Whitmyer in celebration of Kadin Bower’s Birthday.

THIS WEEK’S CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS

Today

9:00 a.m. Sunday School

10:00 a.m. Worship: Noisy Offering

11:30 a.m. Mutual Ministry

4:00 p.m. Teens Painting Basement at Parish House

6:00 p.m. Loaves & Fishes

Monday, January 22

2:00 p.m. Women’s Study

7:00 p.m. Green Team

Tuesday, January 23

No Noon Study

Wednesday, January 24

7:30 a.m. Men’s Study

9:30 a.m. Quilting and Samaritas ACTION

1:00 p.m. 60 +/- Movie

5:30 p.m. Joyful Noise

5:45 p.m. Meal is Served: Chancel Choir

6:30 p.m. T & C

6:30 p.m. Activities for kids Pk-3rd Grade

6:30 p.m. Faith Bells

6:45 p.m. Nooma Video Series

7:15 p.m. Book Study “The Bible Makes Sense”

7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir

7:30 p.m. Additional Activities for kids

Thursday, January 25

11:00 a.m. Worship at Dobie Road

Friday, January 26

Saturday, January 27

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

**Sunday, February 4 - ANNUAL MEETING – SOUPER BOWL OF CARING – DEDICATION OF HOUSE**

On Sunday, February 4, it will be a busy day at Faith Lutheran Church. Not only is it Super Bowl Sunday. That Sunday morning will include the following:

1. **Annual Meeting** – Our Annual Meeting will take place during lunch, following worship
2. **Souper Bowl of Caring** - The Annual Meeting will take place while you eat soup. Various kinds of soup will be served, and the freewill offering proceeds will go to furnish food for the refugees who will be living in the Parish House.
3. **Dedication of House** – After the Annual Meeting, we will walk over to the Parish House and dedicate the house for the purpose of ministry to the refugees.

Please plan to join us for these events!

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

**2018 Stewardship Focus –** Our 2018 Stewardship Focus will be Michigan Refugee Hope. All Noisy Offerings during 2018 will go to help fund the care of the kids we and other foster parents are taking in. Noisy Offerings are always taken on the third Sunday of the month. Our first Noisy Offering will be taken on Sunday, January 21.

**New Member Sunday** – On Sunday, February 11, we will receive new members. If anyone is interested in becoming a member at Faith Lutheran Church, please speak to either Pastor Ellen or call the church office and let Katie know.

**Shrove Dinner &**

**ELCA Youth Gathering Fundraiser**

**Tuesday, February 13th 5:30 p.m.-7:00 p.m.**

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The youth attending the Houston Gathering in June will be preparing and serving the Shrove Dinner.

During dinner we will have introductions of the students, fun Houston Trivia, and an introduction to the “Blast off for Books” ELCA Youth Gathering Houston Literacy Campaign.

We hope you can join us for this great evening of fun as we get closer to our trip to Houston!!

**A free will offering will be collected all proceeds will go towards our trip!!**

PARISH HOUSE UPDATE

Huge progress was made last Saturday on getting the parish house ready for the refugee youth to move in. A big thank you to all who helped last Saturday or who have put in work on many other occasions to get this house ready! The house really looks amazing! In other exciting news, I found out this week that three sets of bunk beds and six mattresses are being donated to us by Vermeulen’s in Jackson! They will be arriving in the next week.

In the next step for getting us ready to house and mentor these young men, Samaritas is going to be offering some training for those who plan on helping in the house. There are two separate trainings being offered, cultural training for anyone who plans on helping in the house in any capacity and mentoring training for those who specifically want to be mentors. Those who want to be mentors should plan to attend one session of each training. The cultural training is being offered on January 19 from 11-1 and January 29 from 6-8. Mentoring training is being offered January 23 from 1-3 and January 26 from 6-8. All training will be held at the church. Sign up sheets for training will be posted on the board. Please contact Laurie Hereza at 927-6753 or [Laurie.hereza@gmail.com](mailto:Laurie.hereza@gmail.com) if you have any questions.

**WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE!**

**Faith is the place to be for**

**Wednesday Night Live**

On **Wednesday, January 10**, **at 7:00 PM** we begin a new book study by Walter Brueggemann. The book we will be looking at is ***The Bible Makes Sense***. This is a “how to” book of an unusual kind. Brueggemann proposes that Christians should approach the Bible, not as a collection of ancient documents, but as our partner in an ongoing dialog about our life here and now. He explains how to enter into this dialog, how to listen, and how to respond. This book is about the Christian way of approaching the Bible as the life-giving word of God addressed to us. It has much to offer all of us who are called to live by it and proclaim it in our life and actions. If you want to be part of this life-giving opportunity, add your name to the sign-up sheet in the Narthex.

5:30 – 6:00 Joyful Noise choir rehearsal

5:45 – 7:00 Meal served

6:30 – 7:30 Trinity, Confirmation, and *activities for younger children!*

6:30 - 7:30 First Communion Classes (Jan. 10-31st)

6:30 – 7:30 Bell Choir rehearsal

6:45 - 7:15 Nooma Video Series

7:15 – 8:00 “*The Bible Makes Sense”* Book Study

7:30 – 8:00 Additional Activities for Kids

7:30 – 9:00 Chancel Choir

**A close up of a logo

Description generated with high confidenceSIGN UP!**

Please take a look at the Dinner Sign-up sheet and sign-up your group or committee to host on a Wednesday Night!

UPCOMING MEETINGS AND STUDIES

**Upcoming Caregiving Meeting**

Mark your calendars for our upcoming topics:

Come join us on Thursday, February 8th, 11:30 for a lite lunch and discussion. All are welcome!

**February 8th** – How to manage emotionally as the Caregiver when your loved one is placed in assisted living or long-term care facility. Speaker- Heather Kaslo.

Mark your calendars for our upcoming topics:

**March 8th** – Jessica Corson with Anew Moon Yoga & Wellness, Meditation and Relaxation

**April 12th** – Video (PBS special) Caring for Mom & Dad. This is an hour-long video.

A close up of a sign

Description generated with very high confidence**Euchre Tournament**

**Friday, February 9th at 7pm**

**Come and join Membership Development for a fun night of Euchre. If you do not know how to play that’s o.k.-we will teach you! Bring your own beverage, we will provide a few snacks that won’t get the cards dirty! Sign up in the Narthex on the Membership Development clip board. Hope to see you there!**

UPCOMING MEETINGS AND STUDIES

***Sixty +/-***

***Wednesday, January 24, 2018, 1 p.m.***

***In Faith’s Choir Room***

***Popcorn and a Movie: “The Shack”***

“The Shack” takes us on a father’s uplifting spiritual journey. After suffering a family tragedy, Mack Phillips [Sam Worthington] spirals into a deep depression causing him to question his innermost beliefs. Facing a crisis of faith, he receives a mysterious letter urging him to an abandoned shack deep in the Oregon wilderness. Despite his doubts, Mack journeys to the shack and encounters an enigmatic trio of strangers led by a woman named Papa [Octavia Spencer]. Through this meeting, Mack finds important truths that will transform his understanding of his tragedy and change his life forever.

Warm your spirit in Michigan’s cold January by sharing fellowship with your 60 Plus or Minus Friends as we watch this inspirational film.

A picture containing sky, outdoor, nature, road

Description generated with high confidence

***Looking Ahead:***

***February 14, Ash Wednesday:*** We will honor our tradition of providing a soup and bread lunch for all those who attend the noon worship service.

DCYE/PARISH ED

**January:**

21st: 9 a.m. Sunday School PK-3 and Trinity 4-6

4:00 p.m. Teen to Paint Basement at Parish House

24th: Wednesday Night Live: PK-3 Activities, 4-6 Trinity, 7-8 Confirmation

27th: Confirmation Review with Melinda 9-12 at Faith

28th: Tara Williams starts her internship at Faith!

9 a.m. Sunday School PK-3 and Trinity 4-6

10 a.m. Joyful Noise Choir sings in Worship

6-8 “Getting Ready” Teen Night at Love’s House

31st: “Get to know the Intern” during dinner (6-6:30)

Wednesday Night Live: PK-3 Activities, 4-6 Trinity, 7-8 Confirmation

First Communion Class

**February:**

4th: 9 a.m. Sunday School PK-3 and Trinity 4-6

First Communion Sunday, Souper Bowl of Caring Lunch

and Parish House Dedication

7th: Wednesday Night Live: PK-3 Activities, 4-6 Trinity, 7-8 Confirmation.

11th: 9 a.m. Sunday School PK-3 and Trinity 4-6

11:15 a.m. Parish Ed Meeting

6-8 “Getting Ready” Teen Night at Love’s House

13th: Shrove Dinner & Gathering Fundraiser 5:30-7:00 p.m.

14th: Ash Wednesday Service: NO TRINITY OR CONFIRMATION

18th: 9 a.m. Sunday School PK-3 and Trinity 4-6

23-25th: Youth Weekend Retreat: No Teen Night on the 25th.

DCYE/PARISH ED



**Meet & Greet our New Intern**

We are excited to welcome Tara Williams who will begin her internship at Faith on Sunday, January28th. On Wednesday, January 31st, during the dinner hour (6:00-6:30) Tara will do a “Get to know the Intern”. Tara will share a little bit about her training and goals for the internship and open it up to anyone with questions for her.

We hope you can join us!

A picture containing text

Description generated with very high confidence**Shrove Dinner & Youth Gathering Fundraiser**

**Tuesday, February 13th**

**\*\*More information in bulletin under “important information”**



**Youth (9-12) Winter Retreat will be on Friday, February 23-Sunday, February 25th. Sign up information coming soon.**

**A picture containing object

Description generated with high confidence**

**Confirmation Save the Date:**

**Saturday, March 17th**

**Day Event filled with fun, food, games, study and a project.**

**More information coming soon.**

LOOKING AHEAD

**THRIVENT FINANCIAL WORKSHOP AND LUNCHEON**

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Description generated with very high confidence**On Sunday, February 11, Thrivent will be hosting a Luncheon and Financial Workshop following worship. If you are interested in coming to this event, please add your name to the sign-up sheet in the narthex.

LOOKING AHEAD: R&M HOLLE SPEAKER SERIES

**R&M Holle Speaker Series**

**Saturday, February 17, 2018**

**9:30 – 3:00 (Lunch provided)**

**Childcare Available**

**Faith Lutheran Church in Okemos**

**Featured Speaker: Dr. Jacqueline A Bussie**

You are invited to attend this kickoff event of the Holle Speaker Series, a planned annual event to honor former Bishop Reginald Holle and the work he did as the first Bishop of the North/West Lower Michigan Synod. This kick-off event will take place at Faith Lutheran Church in Okemos, MI where Bishop Holle was a longtime member and where his wife, Marla, continues to be an active, vital member of the community.

**Dr. Jacqueline Bussie**, a former professor at Capital University, is now Director of the *Forum on Faith and Life* and professor of religion at Concordia College in Moorhead, Minnesota. She is the author of ***Outlaw Christian: Finding Authentic Faith by Breaking the “Rules.”*** In this book, Bussie talks about the unwritten “rules” of modern Christianity. She goes into depth about her experience and these so called “rules” modern Christianity seems to place upon people. She says that a faith governed by these rules is stifling, unsustainable, and dishonest. In her life experience, she was unable to overlook the suffering she saw around her – suffering in her friends, her neighbors and in her own life. She discovered that the only way she could keep her faith in the God she loved was to start breaking the rules, rules like *“Never get mad or argue with God.”* She calls this rule a “life-sucking narrative of the lie you should consider breaking without shame or secrecy, especially if you are the kind of person who has already broken it a thousand tiny times within the recesses of your mind. Because hope is anger’s mother, if you start breaking this law, I promise you will encounter hope along the road and she will never leave your side. Also, airing your authentic tears, concerns, and emotions in the sunlight rather than hiding them or apologizing for their existence will restore your humanity.” (p.38)

Bussie draws from Scripture and her real-life experience and her book is a rallying cry to believers who care too much to not only let suffering go unquestioned but also care too much to let doubts go unanswered. Bussie calls for an authentic form of faith that laments, loves, laughs, longs, and lives, but never lies.

This February 17 event is free to the public. A freewill offering will be taken to cover luncheon expenses. Please add your name to the sign-up sheet in the Narthex if you plan to attend so we know how to plan for lunch.

IN OUR COMMUNITY

**Jazz Night with clarinet virtuoso Dave Bennett at the Presbyterian Church of Okemos, Saturday, February 10, at 7:00 p.m.**  Join us for Jazz Night and hear Dave Bennett, a multi-instrument phenomenon, playing the clarinet, guitar, drums, piano.  He vocalizes and composes a variety of musical styles.  He has performed with over 50 orchestras throughout the U.S. and Canada including a performance at Carnegie Hall, and is featured in dozens of music and jazz festivals.  All are welcome.