

Faith Friends & Family Announcements and News for April 14-April 27

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

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Please lift up in prayer this week:

✠ Members—Walter Kopf, Ellen Milne, Janice Taschner & Ken Whitmyer.

✠ Friends and family—

Terri Anderson, Harriet, Michael Bennett, Todd Barriklow, Bill Baker, Carol Coyer, Kay Coker, Chris Cotter, Terrie Becker, Brian Fent, Allyson, Heather, Erin, Al, Sai, Jeanne Hicks, Emily, Rod Kaschner, Eshwar Lingamgunta, Jenn Leitch, Brian Johnson, Meredith, Jeanne and Leonard, Johnathon Manitta family, Kiersten, Loretta Milne, Vicki Monroe & family, Patricia Rinehart, Bethany Robison, Karen Smiley, Jean Smith, Scott & Lisa Seeley, and the White family.

✠ Our mission partner congregation—Lansing Redeemer Lutheran Church

✠ Those in military service—Jon Schoepf, Lani Yearicks, Landon Belanger
Melody and Adam Wright and Joe Galvin.

✠ Samaritas children who seek adoption. Pray for each to be adopted and for
Jesus to be their lifelong friends

NORTH/WEST LOWER MICHIGAN SYNOD PRAYER PARTNER

April 14: As Jesus calls us to be one, even as he and the Father are one, please include Rev. Julie Schneider-Thomas and the congregation of Zion Lutheran Church of Comstock, Michigan in your prayers of intercession this week.

March 21: As Jesus calls us to be one, even as he and the Father are one, please include Rev. Christopher Laughlin and the congregation of Zion Lutheran Church of Constantine, Michigan in your prayers of intercession this week.

NEXT TWO WEEK'S CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS

Sunday, April 14

- 9:00 a.m. Sunday School/Adult Study
10:00 a.m. Worship/Palm Sunday
Easter Food Bag Delivery following worship
3:00 p.m. Worship at the Willows
6:00 p.m. High School Youth Group
Quarterly Committee Reports due to Church Office.

Monday, April 15

- 10:00 a.m. Meridian Township Playgroup
7:00 p.m. Council Meeting

Tuesday, April 16

- Noon Study in Pastor's office: All are welcome!

Wednesday, April 17

- 7:30 a.m. Men's Study
9:30 a.m. Quilters
No Wednesday Night Meal or classes
7:00 p.m. Combined Chancel Choir 'dress' rehearsal practice
with St. Paul Lutheran

Thursday, April 18

- 7:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday Worship at Faith

Friday, April 19

- Noon: Good Friday service at Okemos Community Church
7:00 p.m. Good Friday service at Faith Lutheran Church

Saturday, April 20

Sunday, April 21

- 8:45 a.m. Easter Breakfast: Food Signup Sheet on board in
the Narthex
9:00 a.m. No Sunday School or Adult Study
10:00 a.m. Worship/Easter Sunday
11:30 a.m. Mutual Ministry
6:00 p.m. Loaves & Fishes

Monday, April 22
Church Office Closed

Tuesday, April 23

10 a.m. Large Fellowship Hall Rental
Noon Study in Pastor's office: All are welcome!

Wednesday, April 24

7:30 a.m. Men's Study
9:30 a.m. Quilters
11:30 a.m. 60 +/- Meeting & Luncheon
5:30 p.m. Joyful Noise
5:45 p.m. Dinner begins served by Church Council
6:30 p.m. Book Study
6:30 p.m. Classes for pk-confirmation
6:30 p.m. Faith Bells
7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, April 25

11:00 a.m. Dobie Road Service

Friday, April 26

Large Fellowship Hall Rented

Saturday, April 27

Large Fellowship Hall & Sanctuary Rented

60 +/- Meeting



Maria in the "Sound of Music" taught the VonTrapp children to sing using the European solfege. Come to the **Wednesday, April 24**, Sixty Plus/Minus Group **Salad Luncheon** to hear about American Fasola, musical notation used to teach music by syllables.

The singing of shape notes explained, its tradition and use with a demonstration by Faith member, Cecelia Kramer, and the Mid-Michigan Fasola Singers. Bring your favorite salad to share. Sign up sheet is available in the Narthex. The program will start promptly at 11:30 a.m.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

March 24, 2019

Loose Cash	\$ 26.00
Loose Checks	\$ 30.00
Holle Speaker Series	\$ 250.00
Flowers	\$ 50.00
Trinity Dinner	\$ 30.00
Memorials: Carol Towl	\$ 100.00
Lenten Service 3/20	\$ 81.00
Parish House Project	\$ 10.00
General Fund	<u>\$2245.00</u>
 Subtotal	 \$2822.00
Simply Giving	
General	<u>\$ 100.00</u>
 Total	 \$2922.00

Year to Date as of 2/28/2019	
Income	\$21,224
<u>Expenses</u>	<u>\$28,308</u>
Net	\$ (7,084)

March 31, 2019

Loose Cash	\$ 99.00
Loose Checks	\$ 25.00
World Hunger	\$ 55.17
Caring Easter Baskets	\$ 35.00
Lenten Service 3/27	\$ 121.00
General Fund	<u>\$1675.00</u>
 Subtotal	 \$2010.17
Simply Giving	
General	<u>\$ 100.00</u>
 Total	 \$2110.17

April 7, 2019

Loose Cash	\$ 76.00
Loose Checks	\$ 155.00
Wed. Dinner	
Mutual Min.	\$ 25.00
Butterflies	\$ 12.00
Flowers	\$ 60.00
Lenten 4/3	\$ 50.00
General Fund	\$2266.50
Memorials	
Carol Towl	\$ 130.00
Parish House	\$3000.00
Vision 2020	<u>\$ 100.00</u>
Subtotal	\$5874.50
 Simply Giving	
General	\$4146.00
Building	<u>\$ 75.00</u>
Total	\$10095.50

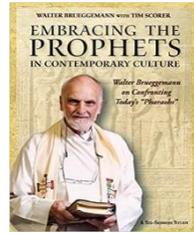
Embracing the Prophets in Contemporary Culture

by Walter Brueggemann

Next Meetings...

Sunday, April 14th

No Meeting Sunday, April 21st



In a series of six class sessions, Walter Brueggemann, arguably America's leading Old Testament scholar and theologian, will take you on a wild ride through the poetic prophecy of the Hebrew Scriptures. He will identify cultural contexts, putting a framework to Israel's history, and most significantly – and at times challengingly! – draw connections between Israel's sociological, economic and spiritual status and that of America today.

Created in 2011, this series will lead you through questions like:

- What was the message of these remarkable poet-prophets in their own time and place?
- What is their message for us today?
- Who are today's prophetic voices?
- How has the contemporary church been co-opted by culture?
- What steps can we take to reclaim the prophetic message of distributive justice, nonviolence, loss and hope?
- And, what is *your* role in bringing God's perspective to today's society?

Each session begins with a 10-15 minute video presentation by Walter Brueggemann, followed by filmed interaction with a diverse small group. Then, Kim O'Brien will lead you through a discussion of what you have learned.

Please consider signing up to participate in this very meaningful and enriching class experience as you go deeper in your faith journey. Add your name to the class sign-up sheet in the narthex so we are sure to have enough workbooks for everyone.

Special Thanks

The Caring Committee wants to thank Great Harvest Bread for donating to our Easter food baskets and for Tom's Food Market for giving us a good price on the hams. Next time you're in these businesses please say a special "thanks!"

Spring Golf League

Faith Lutheran Golf League –

This summer, our Golf League will again hit the tees. Our league will play on **Thursday evenings at Wheatfield Valley Golf Course**. We tee off at **5:30 each week** and **all are welcome**, even if you are not a great golfer. (*Just watch Pastor Ellen!*) Our first night of golf will be **Thursday, May 23, and we will play for 18 consecutive Thursdays, with our last day of play being Thursday, September 19**. The cost for the season will be \$234 per player, due the first night of play. ***If you are only able to come on occasion, we still welcome you, and you can pay only for those nights when you are able to make it. The cost per player for one evening is \$13 per person.*** We play a scramble so you can invite someone to join you. If you are interested in playing, there is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex. If you should have any questions, please speak to Pastor Ellen or Ken Schoepf.



Ways you can help!



Let's keep our *Tiny Pantry* FULL! Our tiny pantry 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 cereal, peanut butter, breakfast bars, oatmeal, tissues, toothpaste and laundry detergent. Please contact Katie in the church office with any questions.

April:

- 14: 9:00 a.m. Sunday School (PK-5th grade) 6:00 p.m. High School Youth group at Love' house.
- 17: No Wednesday Night Classes or Dinner
- 21: Easter Sunday: No Sunday School
- 24: 6:30 p.m. Classes for Pk-2nd, Trinity (3-5th grade) and Confirmation (6th-8th) grade.
- 28: 9:00 a.m. Sunday School (PK-5th grade) 6:00 p.m. High School Youth group at Love' house

VBS: June 24-27 from 5:30-8 p.m.



Mark your calendar for this year's Vacation Bible School!!

We will be ROARING into summer as we celebrate that life is WILD and GOD IS GOOD!!

VBS will be June 24-27 from 5:30-8 p.m. with dinner served from 5:30-6:00 p.m. Programing will be for PK-Middle School as well as classes offered for adults.

It takes a lot of work and volunteers to make a VBS happen. Please pray and consider how you might be able to serve this year at VBS! If you are able to volunteer for some days or all, please contact Maddie Wosinski at mwosinski@icloud.com

QUILT AUCTION

Throughout the month of April there will be a hand quilted quilt on display in the Narthex. Our Quilting Group is auctioning off this item to raise money for quilting supplies. There will be a sheet near the quilt on which you can place your bid. Then, at the end of April, the highest bidder will receive the quilt.

Sunday, April 28

Celebrate Earth Day - On **Sunday, April 28**, the Green Team will be leading worship as we celebrate Earth Day and the gift of creation that we have been given. During the worship service, you will have the opportunity to see a new video the ELCA has produced which shows how ELCA congregations and other denominations are collaborating to encourage people to become good stewards of creation and work for the healing of creation.

Quarterly Meeting – The Quarterly Meeting will take place immediately following worship on **Sunday, 4/28**.

Church Yard Clean-Up – Following the Quarterly Meeting on **Sunday, April 28**, all who are able are invited to stay and work on clean-up of our church grounds. Pastor Ellen will provide a simple lunch for all who are able to participate and lend a hand.

April 30th: 7:00 p.m. Book Study begins at the O'Brien's home. More information later in the announcement folder.

COMING IN MAY

Two Noisy Offerings in May – We will be taking TWO Noisy Offerings in May. In addition to the regular Noisy Offering on the 3rd Sunday of the month, we will take a **special Noisy Offering on Sunday, May 12. *This offering will be taken as our congregation's offering for Synod Assembly. Synod Assembly takes place May 16-18.*** In addition to Pastor Ellen, our congregation's representatives for this event are Kim O'Brien and Ken Schoepf.

Sunday, May 5th

Samaritas communications – At the beginning of worship on this Sunday, Rich Weingartner will be sharing some important information about the work of Samaritas.

Graduation Party for Tula Ngasala – Tula will be graduating from MSU on Friday, May 3, receiving her Doctorate in Environmental Engineering. Her parents and other members of her family will be coming from Tanzania to celebrate this occasion with her. **On Sunday, May 5, following worship, the Green Team will be hosting a Luncheon Graduation Party for Tula.** We invite you to come downstairs after worship on that day and celebrate this milestone with Tula and her family.

Tuesday, May 7th



Have you ever wondered what is really in the Quran?

– If this is a question that you have pondered, join us on **Tuesday evening, May 7, at 7:00 PM when the Imam joins us** to help us answer that question. The Imam has kindly offered to join us for an evening of interfaith education as we learn more about what is really in the Quran. You are invited to join us for this conversation and discover the riches God can teach us from the faith of others.

Sunday, May 12th

Confirmation Sunday – Join us as we celebrate the young people in our congregation who will be affirming their faith in Jesus Christ.

Sunday, May 19th

Music Sunday– Join us on this day as we celebrate and give thanks for the ministry of music that happens in and through the people at Faith Lutheran Church. Music is a vital aspect of ministry. On this day we thank those who have given of this time as they minister to us through the gift of music.

Congregational Art Project this is the last day when you will have the opportunity to participate in our congregational art project. Come and paint with us. Then, a few weeks later, you will see your portion of this work attached to all of the others when it is displayed in the church entry way.

Wednesday, May 22nd

WEDNESDAY NIGHT LITE! – Something new begins on **Wednesday evening, May 22, at 6:00 PM.** Wednesday Night Live will be suspended until mid-September, but it will be replaced by **Wednesday Night LITE!** We are beginning something totally new for the summer as we gather together on Wednesday evening

for **DINNER CHURCH.** We will gather together each Wednesday to share a sacred meal, just as the first followers of Jesus did. Come and join us for a fully

prepared meal as we eat together, explore scripture, offer prayers, sing together and experience the Eucharist. This worship experience is rooted in the patterns of the Early Church. If you cannot make it to worship on Sunday morning, come and join us on Wednesday evening!



New York Times Bestseller

What Is the Bible?

How an Ancient Library
of Poems, Letters, and
Stories Can Transform
the Way You Think and
Feel About Everything

Rob Bell

New York Times Bestselling Author of *Love Wins*

New Book Study

WHAT IS THE BIBLE?

We are beginning a new book study, using bestselling author, Rob Bell's book, *What Is The Bible?* **This study will begin on Tuesday evening, April 30, at 7:00 PM.** We will gather for this study at Kim O'Brien's home (1144 Bonanza Dr., Okemos).

If you have ever wondered how an ancient library of poems, letters, and stories can transform the way

you think and feel about everything, this book study will provide you with some answers. *What Is The Bible?* provides surprising insights and answers about how the Bible actually works as a source of faith and guidance, showcasing a brand-new way of reading this sacred text. Bell takes us deep into actual passages, revealing not only the humanity behind the scriptures but the revelation that one cannot get to the holy without going through the human. When considering a passage, Bell explains the worst question we can ask of a text ("Why did God...?") and the best question to ask ("Why did people find this important to write down?") to get at how scripture can best guide us today. In asking these questions, Bell goes beyond the one-dimensional questions of "Is it true?" to reveal the Bible's surprisingly transformative power. *What Is The Bible?* recaptures this ancient library's subversive energy and reaffirms its enduring ability to inspire and shape our lives today.

If you wish to join us for this study adventure, please add your name to the sign-up sheet in the Narthex!

QUILTERS, SEWERS, ASSEMBLERS and KNOTTERS are NEEDED!!!

WHO? Faith women/men and friends, youth knotters and learners, at home sewers and knotters, community quilters.

WHEN? Going on NOW: Wednesday Mornings, 9:30 - 11:30 A.M. (Or by arrangement).

WHERE? Faith Lutheran Church lower level rooms (guided tours anytime by arrangement). Sewing machines are available.

WHAT IS NEEDED? Throughout the year quilts are made for Lutheran World Relief as well as 80x60 quilts for Senior Centers and those in crisis. School & Personal Care kits for Lutheran World Relief are assembled in the Fall. For Samaritas, here in lower Michigan, small quilts are assembled for babies & children in foster care.

WHY? The quilts & kits for Lutheran World Relief are part of the 600,000 quilts and kits distributed across the world. We can help ease suffering for some of the world's poorest and most isolated people. Here in the U.S. the quilts comfort the sick and elderly, children disrupted by poverty and abuse, as well as those who are lonely and feel forsaken. It is what our Lord has given us to do in His name. What an opportunity!

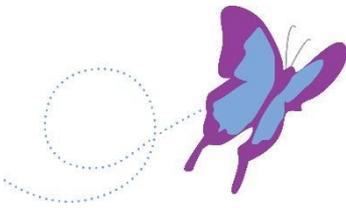
OTHER NEEDS: ***We need fabric!*** Cotton or poly/cotton for tops & backs, prints or solids, polyester filler (to be ordered) cotton yarns for tying layers together (knotting).

Please join this fun, worthwhile activity. No dues, no excuses needed for time off! Just a couple of hours each week and a warm reception by those who are there!

Please call the church office or Marla Holle with any questions.

Church Office: 349-0620

Marla Holle: 349-5265



Butterflies For Sale!

On Sunday, June 16, we will be releasing live butterflies outside by our Butterfly Garden. Butterflies are the symbol of new life. And, as we

celebrate the Pentecost season and the beginning of summer activities, we will be releasing painted lady butterflies to celebrate God’s gift of creation. The Green Team is inviting you to order a butterfly for \$12.00.

Following worship on June 9, you will be given your butterfly to release by our garden. This project is a Green Team fundraiser. A portion of the money earned from these butterfly sales will go to help with the purchase of new windows in our Parish House. Place your butterfly order by using the form below and turn it into the church office. ***All orders must be received by Sunday, May 26!***

Green Team Butterfly Order Form **Order Deadline: Sunday, May 26th**

Quantity

Total Cost (\$12/each)

Name: _____

Dedication (if any): _____

Make checks payable to Faith Lutheran Church.

Please put “Butterflies” in the memo line.

Place this form in Katie Love’s mailbox or the church office.