

September 15, 2019

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

4515 Dobie Road Okemos, MI 48864 517-349-0620

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

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

Pastor:	Ellen Schoepf
Music Director:	Debra Borton-McDonough
Organist/Pianist:	Bruce Williams
Church Secretary:	Katie Love
Sunday School/Middle School Direct	tor: Maddie Wosinski
High School Leaders:K	im O'Brien, Ryan & Addie Thompson
Pastor's email:	prellen@faithlutheranokemos.org
Church email:	faith@faithlutheranokemos.org
Website:	<u>www.faithlutheranokemos.org</u>
Facebook Page:	.facebook.com/faithlutheranokemos

Aids for hearing, children's activity bulletins, and large print bulletins are available from the ushers.



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.

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.

Faith Lutheran live streams it's services. No names of participants are broadcast.

Ushers: Gerard/Milne

Greeters: Mark & Molly DeHate

Altar Care: Melinda Schultz & Gwynne Kadrofske

Acolyte: open Reader: Gus Lusis

Lay Assistant: Korine Wawrzynski

Nursery: Williams

Coffee Hour Hosts: Ellen Holste & Todd Robinson

We cordially greet all who have come to worship today.

Please register your attendance and join us in fellowship after the service.

Bi-Weekly Announcement packets are available in the Narthex. Prayer requests and praises are listed in the announcement packets.

Introduction to the day

The grumbling of the Pharisees and the scribes in today's gospel is actually our holy hope: This Jesus welcomes sinners and eats with them. That our God wills to seek and to save the lost is not only a holy hope, it is our only hope. As Paul's first letter to Timothy reminds us, "The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners." Thanks be to God.

Welcome and Announcements Prayer Requests

Prelude

"Immortal, Invisible"

arr. Kindred

Faith Bells

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 marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, the strength of our ancestors, the host of this meal, the builder of the city that is to come.

Amen.

If we have died with Christ, we will also live with Christ. Let us confess our sin to the one who is faithful. Silence is kept for reflection.

God our helper,

we confess the many ways

we have failed to live as your disciples.

We have not finished what we began.

We have feasted with friends but ignored strangers.

We have been captivated by our possessions.

Lift our burdens, gracious God.

Refresh our hearts and forgive our sin.

Raise us to the new life you have chosen for us

in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

There is rejoicing in heaven when sinners repent.

Put your trust in these promises:

God will never leave you or forsake you.

You who were lost have been found.

For the sake of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.

Rejoice with the angels at this good news.

Amen.

GATHERING SONG

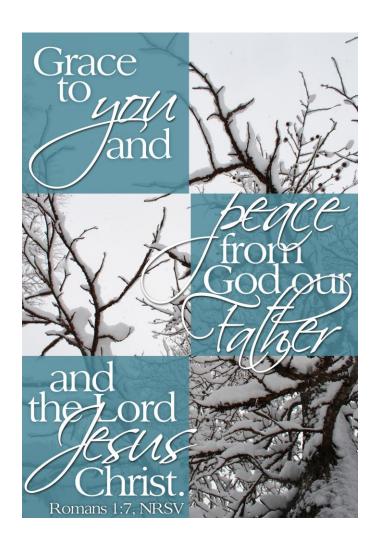
How Firm a Foundation

ELW #796

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



PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O God, overflowing with mercy and compassion, you lead back to yourself all those who go astray. Preserve your people in your loving care, that we may reject whatever is contrary to you and may follow all things that sustain our life in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

The assembly is seated.

WORD

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

OLD TESTAMENT READING: Exodus 32:7-14 Reader: Gus Lusis

While Moses is on Mount Sinai, the people grow restless and make a golden calf to worship. Today's reading shows Moses as the mediator between an angry God and a sinful people. Moses reminds God that the Israelites are God's own people and boldly asks mercy for them.

A reading from Exodus.

⁷The LORD said to Moses, "Go down at once! Your people, whom you brought up out of the land of Egypt, have acted perversely; ⁸they have been quick to turn aside from the way that I commanded them; they have cast for themselves an image of a calf, and have worshiped it and sacrificed to it, and said, 'These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!'" ⁹The LORD said to Moses, "I have seen this people, how stiff-necked they are. ¹⁰Now let me alone, so that my wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them; and of you I will make a great nation."

¹¹But Moses implored the LORD his God, and said, "O LORD, why does your wrath burn hot against your people, whom you brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand? ¹²Why should the Egyptians say, 'It was with evil intent that he brought them out to kill them in the mountains, and to consume them from the face of the earth'? Turn from your fierce wrath; change your mind and do not bring disaster on your people. ¹³Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, your

servants, how you swore to them by your own self, saying to them, 'I will multiply your descendants like the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have promised I will give to your descendants, and they shall inherit it forever.' " ¹⁴And the LORD changed his mind about the disaster that he planned to bring on his people.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

NEW TESTAMENT READING: 1 Timothy 1:12-17 Reader: Gus Lusis

The letters to Timothy are called the Pastoral Epistles because they contain advice especially intended for leaders in the church. Here the mercy shown to Paul, who once persecuted the church, is cited as evidence that even the most unworthy may become witnesses to the grace of God.

A reading from 1 Timothy.

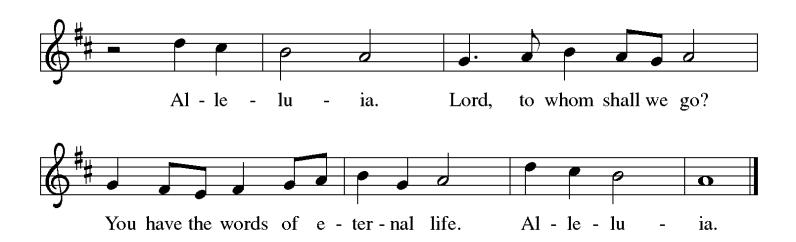
¹²I am grateful to Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because he judged me faithful and appointed me to his service, ¹³even though I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and a man of violence. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, ¹⁴and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. ¹⁵The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the foremost. ¹⁶But for that very reason I received mercy, so that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display the utmost patience, making me an example to those who would come to believe in him for eternal life. ¹⁷To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.



GOSPEL: Luke 15:1-10

Jesus tells two stories that suggest a curious connection between the lost being found and sinners repenting. God takes the initiative to find sinners, each of whom is so precious to God that his or her recovery brings joy in heaven.

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to [Jesus.] ²And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them."

³So he told them this parable: ⁴"Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? ⁵When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. ⁶And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.' ⁷Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

⁸"Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? ⁹When she has found it, she calls together her friends and

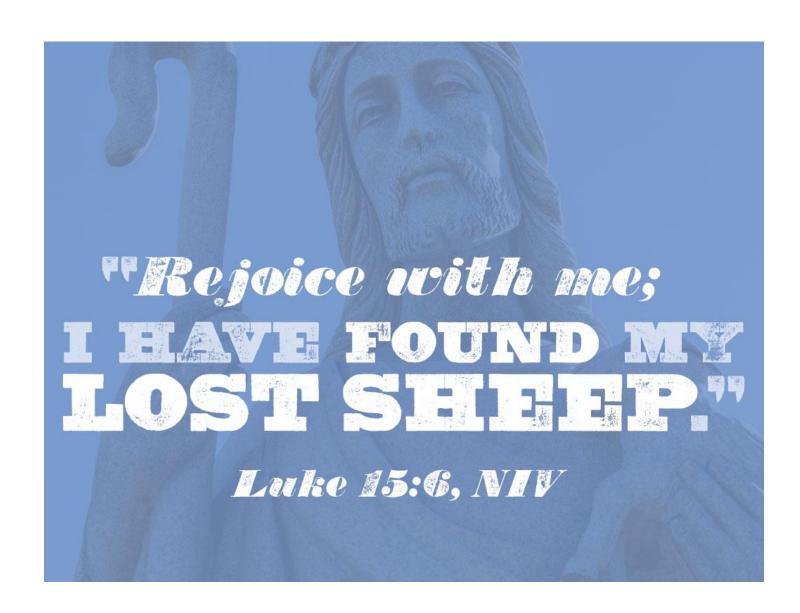
neighbors, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.' ¹⁰Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

The assembly is seated.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE SERMON



HYMN OF THE DAY

God's Work, Our Hands



Text: Wayne L. Wold

Music: EARTH AND ALL STARS, David N. Johnson

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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

Sustained and nurtured by our generous God, we gather as one to pray for the church, the world, and all of God's 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:
Assured by your promise to hear us, we lay our prayers before your throne of grace; through Jesus Christ our 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

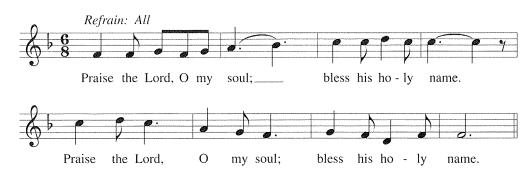
"Bless His Holy Name"

(Shepperd)

Chancel Choir

Psalm 103 Johann Gramann, 1487–1541 Tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1829–78, alt.

Mark Shepperd



Verse Forget him not whose meekness still bears with all your sin, who heals your every weakness, renews your life within.

Refrain All

Verse He offers all his treasure of truth and righteousness, his love beyond our measure, he pities our distress.

Refrain All

Sung in canon; women begin, men enter one measure later.

Verse For as a tender father pities his children here,

God in his arms will gather all those who him like children fear.

Refrain All

Verse In heaven is fixed his dwelling, his rule is over all;

you hosts with might excelling, with praise before him fall.

Refrain Ali

Sung in canon; men begin, women enter one measure later.

Verse Praise him forever reigning, all here who hear his word,

our life and all sustaining. My soul, oh, praise the Lord!

Refrain All

Bless His Holy Name, by Mark Shepperd, ISBN 0-8006-7403-0 Copyright © 2001 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Permission is hereby granted for duplication of this page for congregational use, but not sale, provided each copy carries this copyright notice.

OFFERING RESPONSE

Create in Me a Clean Heart Offering Song



Music: Liturgy of Joy, James M. Capers, b. 1948 Music © 1993 Augsburg Fortress.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

God our provider,
we bring nothing into this world
and we can take nothing out of it.
Accept the gifts you have first given us,
which we bring to your table,
and with them the offering of our lives.
Nourish us now with the life that really is life,
revealed to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

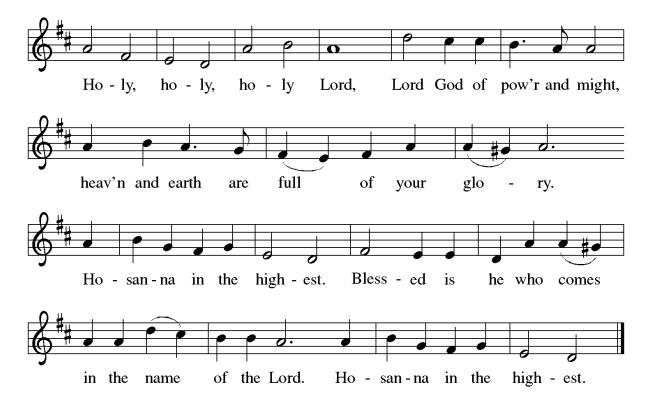
We lift them to the Lord.

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:



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy God, our Bread of life, our Table, and our Food, you created a world in which all might be satisfied by your abundance. You dined with Abraham and Sarah, promising them life, and fed your people Israel with manna from heaven. You sent your Son to eat with sinners and to become food for the world.

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 life given for us and his rising from the grave, we await his coming again to share with us the everlasting feast.

By your Spirit nurture and sustain us with this meal: strengthen us to serve all in hunger and want, and by this bread and cup make of us the body 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**

THE LORDS 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.

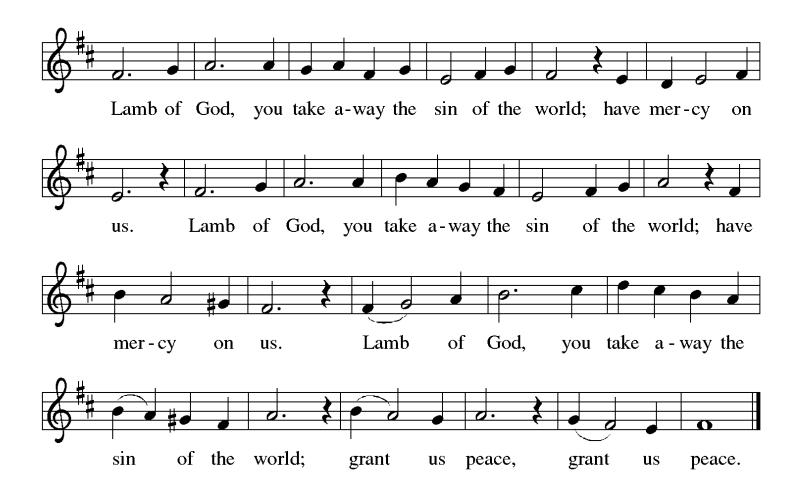
INVITATION TO COMMUNION

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



INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC "Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness"

arr. Donald Busarow

CONGREGATIONAL SONG

You Satisfy the Hungry Heart

ELW #484

The assembly stands.

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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

God of blessing,

at this table we have seen you face to face, and in the gift of Christ's body and blood,

our hearts have been refreshed.

Send us now to shine with your goodness and bear witness to the one we have received:

Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

SENDING

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

BLESSING

Guard the good treasure entrusted to you, with the help of the Holy Spirit living in us.

Almighty God + bless you with grace, mercy, and peace, now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING SONG

We Are Marching in the Light

ELW #866

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Live in love as Christ loved us.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

"Cornet Voluntary"

George Berg



September 8, 2019 Attendance: 108

Serving Faith September 22nd

Ushers: Jeff & Melinda Schultz

Greeter: Marla Holle

Altar Care: Melinda Schultz & Gwynne Kadrofske

Acolyte: open Reader: open

Lay Assistant: Ken Schoepf

Nursery: Brenda Kopf

Coffee Hour Hosts: Jeff & Melinda Schultz

Altar Flower Dedications

Sunday, September 15th: Altar flowers are given to the glory of God by... Vase 1: Harry Nawrock and the Richardson family in celebration of Kathy Richardson's birthday.

Vase 2: Sheila Smith with celebration and blessings to her Faith community.





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.

<u>Email address</u> 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

<u>Facebook</u> facebook.com/faithlutheranokemos

You also can find the audio available on Faith's website under worship Sermons

FALL LINE UP



MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP & CONFIRMATION BEGINS SEPTEMBER 15TH.

Students in grades (grades 6th-8th) will kick off Confirmation/Middle School youth group with a parent/student meeting on Sunday, September 15th 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 events instead of Confirmation class. Please contact Pastor Ellen with any questions.

FIRST COMMUNION

Pastor Ellen will be holding First Communion classes for any children who want to begin taking communion. These classes will take place following worship on Sunday, Sept. 29 and Sunday, Oct. 6. Children will then receive first communion on Sunday, Oct. 13. These classes will not be age specific. If your child is interested in taking communion, that interest and desire are



all that is required for participation in these classes. If you are interested in having your child participate, please speak to Pastor Ellen or call Katie in the church office to have your child's name added to this list. These classes are for parents and children.

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).

WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE

WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE!



Wednesday Night Live has BEGUN! 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!

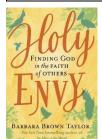
Anyone, children in 1st grade up through adults, is welcome to be part of this musical venture. In addition to cast members, we will need some people to help with set and costumes. If you have any questions, please speak to Pastor Ellen, Maddie or Deb.

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:

5:15 – 6:00	Bible Study based on 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

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.

COMING IN SEPTEMBER

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 as Lutherans across the country participate in this effort throughout the month. We will be gathering and doing work for Meridian Parks & Recreation. We do not yet know our assignment for the day. However, plan to join us as we share God's love in the greater community by using our hands for the good of the community. Please add your name to the signup sheet in the Narthex if you are able to participate.



Faith Lutheran Church Outing to Lansing Ignite Soccer Game

- **Saturday, September 21**st. 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. Mrsjas305@sbcglobal.net

FLU SHOT CLINIC



FLU SHOT CLINIC FOLLOWING WORSHIP ON SEPTEMBER 22

OUR OWN SUZANNE PHELPS, RN WILL BE ADMINISTERING THE FLU SHOTS.

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

PAYMENT OPTIONS:

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.

CASH OR CHECK:

Payable to Michigan Community Wellness VNA.

Questions:

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

EDUCATIONAL EVENTS



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 Peace & Justice 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.

PARIS TO PITTSBURGH



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, will host a conversation about the movie.

COMMUNITY FORUM

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

LWR Personal Care/School Kits

Donate Hygiene Items



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.

If you have any additions or updates, please contact the church office. klove@faithlutheranokemos.org

- > Allen
- ➤ Dale Halverson
- Brenda Kopf
- ➤ Walter Kopf
- Alisyn & Devin
- ➤ Rita Barry
- > Ellen Milne
- ➤ Ken Whitmyer
- ➤ Sifa Ngasala
- ➤ Megan Marquez (Marilyn Hogan's daughter)
- ➤ John Joe Lanzetta
- > Todd Barriklow
- Carol Coyer
- ➤ Loretta Milne
- > Scott & Lisa Seeley
- ➤ Bob (Brenda Zynda's nephew in hospice)
- ➤ Bob Shorman's niece Lyndsey in hospital.
- ➤ Diane (Deb Borton's friend who has end stage cancer.)

Those grieving

- -Our mission partner congregation
 - ➤ Lansing Redeemer Church of Lansing
- -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 friend.
- -Northwest Lower Michigan Synod Prayer Partners
 - > Rev. Kenneth Scheck and the congregation of Grace Lutheran Church of Hastings, Mi.
 - ➤ Rev. Leslie Nye and the congregation of St. Matthew Church of Herron, Mi.