

# Faith Family News

## From the Pastor's Pen...

Dear Friends,

In 2 Corinthians 9:6-7, the Apostle Paul writes this to the Corinthians:

*“Remember: A stingy planter gets a stingy crop; a lavish planter gets a lavish crop. I want each of you to take plenty of time to think it over, and make up your own mind what you will give. That will protect you against sob stories and arm-twisting. God loves it when the giver delights in the giving.”*  
 (from **The Message**)

I think it is rather humorous the way Paul's words are translated in The Message. However, they do get the point across when it comes to stewardship.

October is Stewardship month in our Faith Lutheran community. As part of this effort, we are called to think about the gifts we have been given and how we might share these gifts with the world around us. This is a time to contemplate your giving to the community of Faith and the greater church. I encourage you to give this question prayerful consideration. Then, on Sunday, October 6, we will be receiving your 2019-2020 pledges during our morning worship.

As I write this article, I have been thinking about what Ken and I will give as a pledge to Faith Lutheran. I have also been thinking about the many other ways we are called to share what we have for the sake of the world. We have been given so much and all that we have is pure gift! When we sing the hymn, *We Give Thee But Thine Own*, we acknowledge this fact as we give back to God's work in this world. Moved by God's grace in Jesus Christ, and in response and thankfulness for all that we have been given, we are called to respond to the immense need in the world. We are called to reach out to our neighbors, whether they live in the next house, the next state, or the next continent.

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# Serving at Faith

Faith Lutheran Church

4515 Dobie Road

Okemos, MI 48864

Office Hours: 9am-1pm

Monday-Friday

Phone: (517) 349-0620

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[www.faithlutheranokemos.org](http://www.faithlutheranokemos.org)

[faith@faithlutheranokemos.org](mailto:faith@faithlutheranokemos.org)

## Ministers

All Members of the Faith Family

### Pastor

Ellen Schoepf

[prellen@faithlutheranokemos.org](mailto:prellen@faithlutheranokemos.org)

**Sunday School/Middle Director**

Maddie Wosinski

**Director of Music**

Deb Borton-McDonough

**Instrumental Worship Leader**

Bruce Williams

**High School Leaders**

Kim O'Brien

Ryan & Addie Thompson

**Newsletter Editor/Church Secretary**

Katie Love

**Mission Partner Congregation**

Redeemer Lutheran Church

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

### Committee Chairs

Caring Pam Williams & Lois Neves  
Evangelism/Outreach

Ellen Lewis & Brenda Kopf

Human Resources Lori Webb

Media/Technology Chris Lewis

Membership Development

Jean Lewis & Michelle Ransom

Mutual Ministry Linda Hirt

Property Bob Nelson

Rick Baderstadt

Stewardship Kim O'Brien

Worship & Music Diane Hill

## ACOLYTES

October 6	Maude Lewis
October 13	Sami Ransom
October 20	Austin Jones
October 27	Paige Lewis

To sign up to acolyte please use the following link

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/508094caaa623a3f49-acolyte2>

## ALTAR CARE

Rich Weingartner & Beth Belonga

## COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

See Acolyte, Lay Assistant and Reader.

## GREETERS

October 6	Lois Neves
October 13	Ken & Karen Whitmyer
October 20	Jeff & Melinda Schultz
October 27	Jack & Natalie Dingedine

## LAY ASSISTANTS

October 6	Harold Sollenberger
October 13	Kim O'Brien
October 20	Walter Kopf
October 27	Bob Shorman

## READERS

October 6	Melinda Schultz
October 13	Elaine Harrison
October 20	Brenda Kopf
October 27	John McCracken

## USHERS

October 6	Kopf
October 13	Williams
October 20	Schultz
October 27	Hirt

## NURSERY

October 6	Connie Nelson
October 13	Rachel Ngasala
October 20	Connie Nelson
October 27	Jennifer Coe

As followers of Christ, we are called to embody God's reconciling love at **all** times and in **all** places. We are called to rebuild, restore, and renew all that is broken. We are called to work to end the brokenness of hunger and poverty in our communities, in our country and in other countries. We are called to work toward a just world in which every person has an opportunity to thrive. We are called to participate in God's reconciling, restorative, healing work in this world. One of the ways we do this is by giving to the greater church and the work that is done through ELCA World Hunger, ELCA Disaster Response, Lutheran World Relief, Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services, etc. Through your gifts, we are also able to do this work in our own community.

As we live into God's dream for this broken world, I encourage you to reflect upon all you have been given and respond gratefully and generously by sharing what you have for the sake of our neighbors in this world.

In Christ,

Pastor Ellen

### FAITH'S TINY PANTRY

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.



## Prayers for Health & Healing

### Members of the congregation:

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

### Friends & Family:

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

## Prayers of Intercession

- Our Mission Partner congregation: Lansing Redeemer Lutheran Church
- Those in Military service: Jon Schoepf, Lani Yearicks and Melody, Adam Wright and Joe Galvin.

Please contact the church office at [faith@faithlutheranokemos.org](mailto:faith@faithlutheranokemos.org) or 349-0620 to update the prayer list.

### The website for Prayer Ventures is

<http://www.elca.org/en/Resources/prayer-ventures>

Prayer Ventures is a guide to daily prayer for the ministries of the church produced by ELCA Communication Services on behalf of the whole church.

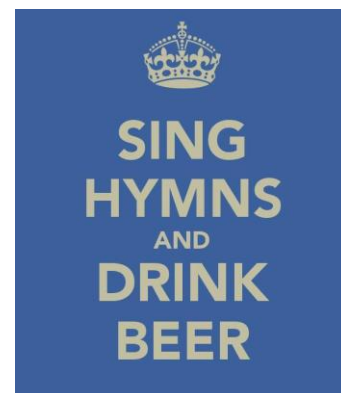


### From the Property Committee

The Property Committee will have the annual Fall Cleanup day after service on **Sunday, Nov. 3rd**. We'll do the usual: trimming, leaves, etc. Please join us if you can. Contact Bob Nelson with any questions.

### BEER & HYMNS:

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



### Caring Committee News

-All are welcome as we continue to make cards.

Sunday, October 20<sup>th</sup> 9:00 a.m. & Wednesday, October 23<sup>rd</sup> 6-7 p.m.

-The Caring Committee at Faith has started a Meal Ministry to those in need. If you know someone who just had a baby, or someone who had surgery or were hospitalized and could use a meal please contact either Pastor or Katie Love or Pam Williams 517-927-7703 or Lois Neves.

517-331-2057



### ORGAN DEDICATION RECITAL

On November 24th. at 3:00 there will be an organ concert dedicating the new pipes and other enhancements to our pipe organ. These additions to our organ are a gift in memory of Lois Sollenberger and Carol Towl. Various organ works will be performed by Bruce, Kathy Richardson and Pastor Ellen. The concert will also be a benefit to raise funds for to send to Tula Ngasala's parents' church in Tanzania. That congregation will be using this money to purchase hymnals and Bibles for their mission work in Tanzania. We invite you to join us as we not only remember Lois and Carol, but also celebrate the music of the church.



## **EDUCATIONAL EVENT** **LEARNING WITH IMAM SOHAIL CHAUDHRY AND** **PASTOR ELLEN**

The evening at the Islamic Center on Friday, September 27<sup>th</sup> was wonderful, and we invite you to the next event.



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

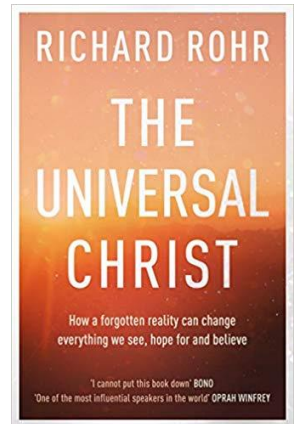
On this day, the Imam and members of the Islamic community will join us for a catered luncheon at Faith Lutheran Church. The Imam and Pastor Ellen will be talking about **Mohammed & The Prophets**. Because this luncheon will be catered, we need to know how many will attend. If you plan to come, please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

We invite you to consider participating in these events.

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## **NEW BOOK STUDY BEGINS OCTOBER 27**

Beginning on Sunday morning, October 27, Pastor Ellen and Harold Sollenberger will lead a 9:00 AM study on Richard Rohr's new book, *The Universal Christ*. Drawing on scripture, history, and spiritual practice, Rohr articulates a transformative view of Jesus Christ as a portrait of God's constant, unfolding work in the world. "God loves things by becoming them," he writes, and Jesus' life was meant to declare that humanity has never been separate from God – except by its own negative choice. When we recover this fundamental truth, faith becomes less about proving Jesus was God and more about learning to recognize the Creator's presence all around us and in everyone we meet.



You are invited to join Harold and Pastor Ellen as they lead this Sunday morning study. If you wish to be part of this experience, please add your name to the sign-up sheet in the Narthex.



## **Quilting & Care Kit Dedication**

On Sunday September 27<sup>th</sup> Faith dedicated over 40 quilts, 3 care kits, 3 school kits and 3 sewing kits that will be sent to Lutheran World Relief and be distributed where they are needed around the world. A huge thank you to the quilting and ACTION group for their dedication and commitment year after year.

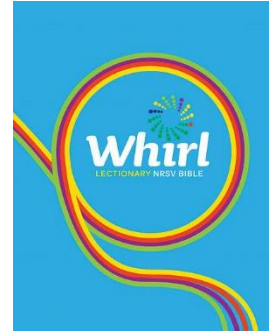
## FIRST COMMUNION CLASSES



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.

## 3<sup>RD</sup> GRADE BIBLE PRESENTATION

On Sunday, October 29<sup>th</sup> the 3<sup>rd</sup> graders at Faith will be presented a Whirl Study Bible. If you have a 3<sup>rd</sup> grader we look forward to celebrating with your family during worship.



## MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP

The next Middle School Youth group is Sunday, October 27 at 6:00 p.m.

**All those interested in going to CHARGE please contact Pastor Ellen by October 13<sup>th</sup>.**



## About Charge

Living Water Ministries will be offering a youth event in Michigan for Junior High youth (grades 6-8) during 2020 centered in our mission of faith formation, service, leadership and community for all of God's children.

We have dubbed this program "Charge" and we will hold our third annual event at Great Wolf Lodge in Traverse City, MI from March 20-22, 2020.

The Junior High Charge will bring youth together in the hopes to energize and form faith through worship, small groups, and congregational time. It is also our hope that through skillshops (workshops) emphasizing service opportunities, leadership development, and community (through team building) we can equip youth to return home ready to make change in the world in the name of Christ.

In addition to the familiar flow of worship, small groups, congregational time, skillshops, and recreation options we've honed at the Great Lakes Gathering, we'll also host an outdoor campfire camp style!



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

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

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

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

# GODS WORK. OUR HANDS

**We had a wonderful time beautifying Nancy Moore Park on Sunday,  
September 15<sup>th</sup>.  
Thank you to all that attended.**





# GODS WORK. OUR HANDS



## **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 Maldonado, Lansing area Immigration Attorney; and Farah Khalil, local refugee advocate.

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

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

## October 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>29</b> Remove Chairs after worship <b>9:00 AM</b> Holy Envy Book Study <b>9:00 AM</b> Sunday School <b>10:00 AM</b> Worship Service/Dedication of Quilts <b>11:30 AM</b> First Communion Class <b>6:00 PM</b> Middle School Youth Group	<b>30</b>	<b>1</b> Changing Lights in the Sanctuary <b>10:30 AM</b> Meridian Play Group <b>12:00 PM</b> Lunch lectionary study group	<b>2</b> <b>9:30 AM</b> Quilting and ACTION <b>4:00 PM</b> Soup & Study <b>6:30 PM</b> Faith Bells <b>7:30 PM</b> Chancel Choir	<b>3</b> Facility Rental	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>6</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> Holy Envy Book Study <b>9:00 AM</b> Sunday School <b>10:00 AM</b> Worship Service <b>11:30 AM</b> First Communion Class <b>11:30 AM</b> Worship Committee <b>6:00 PM</b> Confirmation Class	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> Facility Rental No Study Today <b>10:30 AM</b> Meridian Play Group	<b>9</b> Facility Rental <b>9:30 AM</b> Quilting and ACTION <b>4:00 PM</b> Soup & Study <b>6:30 PM</b> Faith Bells <b>7:30 PM</b> Chancel Choir	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>13</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> Holy Envy Book Study <b>9:00 AM</b> Sunday School <b>10:00 AM</b> Worship Service/Baptism/1st Communion <b>11:30 AM</b> Islamic Center at Faith for Lunch & Learn <b>6:00 PM</b> Confirmation Class <b>6:00 PM</b> High School Youth Group	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> <b>10:30 AM</b> Meridian Play Group <b>12:00 PM</b> Lunch lectionary study group <b>7:00 PM</b> Community Forum	<b>16</b> <b>9:30 AM</b> Quilting and ACTION <b>4:00 PM</b> Soup & Study <b>6:30 PM</b> Faith Bells <b>7:30 PM</b> Chancel Choir	<b>17</b> <b>7:00 PM</b> Community Forum	<b>18</b> Quarterly Reports Due	<b>19</b>
<b>20</b> Large Fellowship Hall Rented Noisy Offering <b>9:00 AM</b> Caring Committee Card Making <b>9:00 AM</b> Holy Envy Book Study <b>9:00 AM</b> Sunday School <b>10:00 AM</b> Worship Service/Baptism <b>6:00 PM</b> Confirmation Class <b>6:00 PM</b> Loaves & Fishes	<b>21</b> <b>7:00 PM</b> Church Council	<b>22</b> <b>10:30 AM</b> Meridian Play Group <b>12:00 PM</b> Lunch lectionary study group	<b>23</b> <b>9:30 AM</b> Quilting and ACTION <b>4:00 PM</b> Soup & Study <b>6:00 PM</b> Caring Committee Card Making <b>6:30 PM</b> Faith Bells <b>7:30 PM</b> Chancel Choir	<b>24</b> Facility Rental <b>11:00 AM</b> Dobie Road Service	<b>25</b> <b>6:00 PM</b> Beer & Hymns at Sollenberger Home	<b>26</b>
<b>27</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> New Book Study Begins <b>9:00 AM</b> Sunday School <b>10:00 AM</b> Worship Service/3rd Grade Bible <b>11:30 AM</b> Congregational Meeting <b>6:00 PM</b> High School Youth Group <b>6:00 PM</b> Middle School Youth Group	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> <b>10:30 AM</b> Meridian Play Group <b>12:00 PM</b> Lunch lectionary study group <b>7:00 PM</b> Paris to Pittsburg at Studio C!	<b>30</b> <b>9:30 AM</b> Quilting and ACTION <b>4:00 PM</b> Soup & Study <b>6:30 PM</b> Faith Bells <b>7:30 PM</b> Chancel Choir	<b>31</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>