



Faith Friends & Family Announcements and News for December 8- December 21

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

NEXT TWO WEEK'S CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS

Sunday, December 8

- 9:00 a.m. Book Study/Sunday School
10:00 a.m. Worship
11:30 a.m. Usher Training
6:00 p.m. Multi-generational dinner & discussion in Large Fellowship Hall: see inside the folder for more information.
6:00 p.m. Confirmation Class

Monday, December 9

Tuesday, December 10

- Noon Bible study in Pastor's office

Wednesday, December 11

- 9:30 a.m. Quilters
6:30 p.m. Packing "Stuff the Stocking" food
6:30 p.m. Faith Bells
7:15 p.m. Advent Service
7:45 p.m. Chancel Choir

Thursday, December 12

Friday, December 13

- 10:00 a.m. Large Fellowship Hall rental

Saturday, December 14

3:00 p.m. Large Fellowship Hall rental

Sunday, December 15

9:00 a.m. Sunday School

10:00 a.m. Worship/Noisy Offering/Christmas Pageant

Delivery of Stuff the Stocking Food Bags following worship.

11:30 a.m. Mutual Ministry Meeting

2:00 p.m. Sanctuary Rental

Monday, December 16

7:00 p.m. Church Council

Tuesday, December 17

10:00 a.m. Meridian Township Playgroup

12:00 p.m. Study in Pastor's office

Wednesday, December 18

9:30 a.m. Quilters

11:30 a.m. 60 +/- Christmas Luncheon

4:00 p.m. Bible Study

6:30 p.m. Faith Bells

7:15 p.m. Advent Service

7:45 p.m. Chancel Choir

Thursday, December 19

Friday, December 20

5:00 p.m. Large Fellowship Hall Rental

Saturday, December 21

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE TIMES



**4:00 P.M. FAMILY
WORSHIP SERVICE
(NURSERY IS
AVAILABLE)**

10:00 P.M.: NO NURSERY

FINANCIAL UPDATE

November 24, 2019

		Year to Date as of 10/31/2019
Loose Cash	\$ 34.00	Income \$232,710
Loose Checks	\$ 100.00	<u>Expenses \$254,097</u>
Flowers	\$ 25.00	Net \$ (21,387)
World Hunger	\$ 28.00	
Youth		
Registrations	\$ 75.00	
General Fund	\$3,225.00	
Organ Recital	\$ 574.00	
Music	\$1,000.00	
Subtotal	\$5,061.00	
Simply Giving		
General	\$	
Building	\$	
Total	\$5,061.00	

Men, Women, Anger, God and the Prophets

Kim O'Brien is hosting a multi-generational evening of dinner and discussion on Sunday, December 8 from 6-8 PM in the fellowship hall. She is required to host this event for an end of semester school project and is hoping many people will attend! During this discussion we will first engage the emotion of anger as read within the Prophetic books of the bible about God. God is often depicted as a male, angry warrior within prophetic writing. We will then discuss how God's anger and violence within scripture may affect people's feelings about anger within culture today. We will engage anger as an emotion, consider its value and its harm, recognizing the common differences in the ways that women and men experience anger. The purpose of this event is to engage this topic in discussion, not to provide solutions, resolutions or answers. All are welcome to come with open minds and open hearts to grow together and learn from one another! If you have questions, please contact Kim O'Brien at: kobrien001@luthersem.edu

60 +/- Meetings. Save the Dates!

**Wednesday, December 18th at 11:30 a.m. at Faith.
Christmas Potluck. sign-up sheet is in the Narthex.**

**Wednesday, January 22nd at 11:30 a.m. at Faith. We
welcome a speaker from Pure Michigan. More
information to come.**

Contact Marla Holle with any questions.

Wednesday evening Advent

Prayer Services will be held at 7:15

PM, beginning on Wednesday, December 4. We will be using

Holden Evening Prayer in these services in which we will also pray for the healing of the nations of the

world. The season of Advent dares us to hold out the hope that the new world God is bringing about in Jesus Christ is indeed coming – and coming soon! On the evenings of Dec. 4, 11, and 18, we will prayerfully spend time preparing our hearts and minds for the coming of the Christ child in our midst. You are invited to join us at 7:15 PM on Wednesdays for this time of prayer.



Advent Calendars and ELCA World Hunger Barns- Every family is welcome to take an ELCA Advent Calendar and a “barn” to take home. This “barn” will be used to collect money for ELCA World Hunger throughout the season of Advent. The Barn Advent offering will then be used to provide for ELCA ministries that are taking place in the home countries of the young men in our Parish House. (Felicien is from Rwanda, Gabriel is from Guatemala, and Jose is from El Salvador.) We are asking that the “Barn Advent Banks” be returned during worship on Sunday, December 22, the fourth Sunday in Advent.



CHRISTMAS PAGEANT – DECEMBER 15

Our annual Christmas Pageant will be held during Worship Service on Sunday, December 15. All children are welcome and encouraged to participate. Because this year's pageant will be narrated, there are no speaking parts to learn and there will be NO rehearsals. Costume selections will begin during Sunday School on Sunday, December 8 and children will be dressed in costumes for the pageant during Sunday School on December 15. If you would like any of your children to be a part of this pageant, please contact Judy Tuthill by emailing her at judithatuthill@gmail.com. Please include your children's names and ages, along with an email address and/or phone number for best reaching you.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE TIMES



**4:00 P.M. FAMILY
WORSHIP SERVICE
(NURSERY IS
AVAILABLE)**

10:00 P.M.: NO NURSERY

STUFF THE STOCKING FOOD COLLECTION

The Caring Committee has begun collecting food for Stuff the Stockings. We will be providing food for 20 Meridian Township families once again. This helps the families while their children are home over the



school break where they usually get breakfast and lunch provided to them. Please look for the grocery cart in the narthex which you can put the donations in. We will also collect money to help with the cost of the milk, eggs and break we will add to the bags.

Needed items:

Peanut butter, jelly, snack bars, pop tarts, muffin mix, pancake mix, syrup, canned fruits, boxed cereals, oatmeal, macaroni and cheese, boxed meals like Hamburger Helper, soup, boxed crackers, rice, pasta, spaghetti sauce.

We need people to help pack the bags on Wed. Dec. 11th at 6:30 p.m. We need people to sign up to deliver food bags on Sunday, December 15th after church. We also will take donations to help with the costs of milk and eggs as usual.

RIC Sunday – Sunday, January 26

Each year, Reconciling in Christ (RIC) congregations are encouraged to celebrate RIC Sunday, which is typically the last Sunday in January. Faith will be celebrating RIC Sunday on January 26. This is a time for congregations to recommit themselves to the full and total inclusion that they committed to when becoming an RIC Congregation. The service will focus on our commitment to our Welcoming Statement with specially selected liturgy, hymns, and sermon. We encourage you to attend and invite friends and family as we celebrate our continued commitment to welcoming and including all of God's people, especially those who have often been rejected by the church.

This year, Faith and Advocacy is the theme for RIC Sunday 2020. Knowing that God calls us to love and serve ALL of God's Beloveds, it is important that we recognize the ways in which we as the church have turned away from our LGBTQIA+ siblings. We focus this RIC Sunday asking the question, "How do we advocate for our queer siblings and those who are the most vulnerable in the room?" It is a service to set our hearts and eyes to God, asking for grace and forgiveness, leading us to be the advocates in this world, and stand with the oppressed.

More information, including recommended readings and ways to continue the conversation after RIC Sunday, is at <https://www.reconcilingworks.org/ric/ric-sunday-2020/>



THE 2020 HOLLE SPEAKER SERIES
Featuring: The Rev. Dr. Barbara R. Rossing
Saturday, April 18, 9:30 AM – 2:00 PM
Faith Lutheran Church

The Rev. Dr. Barbara Rossing will be joining us to speak on Revelation and Ecology. Dr. Rossing is professor of New Testament at the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago, where she has taught since 1994. She loves to teach and preach about the Bible, including the Bible's role in public life.

An avid environmentalist, Rossing is involved with environmental initiatives at the seminary. Rossing received the Bachelor of Arts degree from Carleton College, the master of divinity degree from Yale University Divinity School and the doctor of theology degree from Harvard University.

She served as pastor of a congregation in Minnesota, director for Global Mission Interpretation for the American Lutheran Church, pastor at Holden Village Retreat Center, Chelan, Wash., and chaplain at Harvard University Divinity School.

Rossing has lectured and preached widely, including synod assemblies and global mission events for the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), as well as ecumenical theological conferences. She has served on the executive committee and council of the Lutheran World Federation (2003-2010), and chaired the Lutheran World Federation's theology and studies committee. She currently serves on the advisory committee for *The Lutheran Magazine*.

As a public theologian her media appearances have included "CBS Sixty Minutes" as well as The History Channel, National Geographic, Living the Questions, and numerous print and radio interviews. Her publications include *The Rapture Exposed: The Message of Hope in the Book of Revelation* (Basic Books, 2004); *The Choice Between Two Cities: Whore, Bride and Empire in the Apocalypse* (Trinity Press, 1999); two volumes of the *New Proclamation* commentary (Fortress Press, 2000 and 2004); a nine-session Bible study, *Journeys Through Revelation: Apocalyptic Hope for Today* (Presbyterian Women, 2010); and articles and book chapters on the Apocalypse and ecology.

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

- Phyllis Shorman
- Connie Nelson
- Dale Halverson
- Brenda & Walter Kopf
- Ruthie Gardner
- Jeanne Hicks
- Todd Holle
- Rita Barry
- Ellen Milne
- Ken Whitmyer
- Sifa Ngasala
- Ginger Kinney, Kay Hillberg's sister
- Todd
- Kathy
- Todd Barriklow
- Christel Taha
- Carol Coyer
- Loretta Milne
- Kenley
- Allyson
- Bob (Brenda Zynda's nephew in hospice)
- Bob Shorman's niece Lyndsey in hospital.

-Our mission partner congregation

- Lansing Redeemer Church of Lansing

-Those in military service

- Jon Schoepf, Lani Yearicks, Landon Belanger, Melody and Adam Wright, Tracy Tuthill, Joe Morre 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. Russell Longston and the congregation of St. John Lutheran Church of Lake City, Mi.
- Rev. Matthew Smith & Rev. John Burow and the congregation of Bethlehem Lutheran Church of Lansing, Mi.