

Faith Family News

From the Pastor's Pen...

September marks the beginning of a new year of programming at Faith Lutheran Church. As we begin this educational year, I am hoping more of our members will take advantage of the adult educational opportunities offered throughout the year.

For all of us, learning is a lifelong experience. And, learning within the life of a faith community should also be considered a lifelong experience. Therefore, I share with you some of my hopes and dreams for this Faith community. I hope and pray:

- That Faith Lutheran Church continually becomes a place where lifelong learning becomes a priority.
- That continuing education of adults becomes situated not at the periphery of the Church's educational mission but at its center.
- That we recognize the need to nurture one another in our individual faith journeys by not only worshipping together but also learning together.

It is crucial for the future of the Church and the continuation of Jesus' mission of healing, loving and proclaiming mercy and justice that adult Christians are informed and motivated to live a life that reflects the gospel good news. Being informed about the good news and then living that good news requires participating in educational experiences.

Beginning in September, there are two opportunities to participate in Adult Education. They are:

1. Sunday morning at 9:00 AM in the Fellowship Hall. Join us for coffee, donuts, and juice as we cover various topics throughout the year. *(More about this opportunity is found elsewhere in the Newsletter)*
2. The Tuesday Noon Bible Study. This study takes place via Zoom as we look at and discuss the scripture readings for the coming Sunday. The Study Guide and the Zoom invitation come are sent out in an email each Monday.

I invite you and encourage you to make lifelong learning a priority throughout this educational year.

Pastor Ellen



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Serving Faith

LAY ASSISTANTS

9/4 Randy Royalty
9/11 Rich Weingartner
9/18 Doug Hirt
9/25 Harold Sollenberger

USHERS

9/4 Harrison
9/11 Kopf
9/18 Hirt
9/25 McCracken/Milne

NURSERY

9/4
9/11 Jennifer Coe
9/18 Brenda Kopf
9/25 Jennifer Coe

READER SCHEDULE

9/4 Harold Sollenberger
9/11 Heidi Nussdorfer
9/18 Linda Hirt
9/25 Alexa Warwick

ALTAR CARE

9/4 Elaine Harrison
9/11 Jamie Royalty
9/18 Jamie Royalty
9/25 Rich Weingartner

COFFEE HOUR

9/4 Open
9/11 Rally Day
9/18 Open
9/25 Open

GREETERS

9/4 N/A
9/11 Harold & Jan Sollenberger
9/18 Ken & Ellen Milne
9/25 Rich Weingartner

Are you interested in being apart of the volunteer team at Faith? We have openings for ushers, readers, lay assistants, Sunday School teachers, altar care, nursery, and greeters. Please contact the volunteer coordinators if you are willing to help regularly or occasionally. Anything helps!

Lay Assistants/Readers: Diane Hill: hillmaxd6@gmail.com

Ushers: Ken Schoepf: kjschoepf@yahoo.com We are always looking for additional ushers! If you are interested in helping support and enhance the worship experience of our congregation, please think of volunteering as an usher. Either individuals, or family groups are welcome. Duties include making sure attendance is taken, passing out bulletins, taking the offering, and coordinating communion. We use a rotating schedule. Please contact Ken Schoepf or the church office if you are interested.

Altar Care: Elaine Harrison: jon.harrison@comcast.net

Sunday School: Pam Williams: pwilliams@faithlutheranokemos.org:
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSenDyoszZwf7QwgHq4BFHI-m5WJNAYH1kuRyxk_fgDJkVfTvQ/viewform?vc=0&c=0&w=1&flr=0

Nursery: Jennifer Coe: jenlynncoe@yahoo.com

Greeters: Mike Eschelbach: eschelbachm@gmail.com

We're looking for more greeters! You may have noticed that greeters are once again welcoming folks as they enter the sanctuary for Sunday worship. It's a great way to say "Good Morning" to those coming to worship with us and can be a good way to get to know those you may not be familiar with. If you'd be willing to be a greeter (you just need to be at church 10 minutes or so before the service starts and offer a smile and a word of welcome to others), please let Mike Eschelbach know (directly or by email at eschelbachm@gmail.com).

To Sign up for Coffee Hour please use the sign-up sheet on the Narthex Kitchen Counter



Sunday School Begins 9/11/22

9:00 a.m. - Downstairs Fellowship Hall (Continental Breakfast)

All kids preschool through 5th grade, their families and all the Sunday School helpers! Parents will meet the teachers, learn how Sunday School will be run this year and fill out permission slips. Students will then go onto an activity while the parents have time to talk and ask questions and hear what Pastor has planned for the 9:00 hour. They will end in their classrooms where you will get them at 9:45.



All-Church Potluck following worship

The entire congregation is invited to an all-church potluck on Sunday, September 11th following worship. Hot dogs will be provided. During this luncheon, people will be able to watch a video of Mary Ann Scheuerman's recent trip to the Holy Land.

GOD'S WORK OUR HANDS PROJECT - Sunday, September 11, 2:00 PM

On the afternoon of Sunday, September 11, we will gather at the Historical Village in Meridian Township at 2:00 PM. Once there, we will meet up with Emma Campbell, Environmental Stewardship & Volunteer Coordinator for Meridian Township. Our project this year will be ***litter***

cleanup. Volunteers will monitor and clean up litter along the Marketplace on the Green, the Historical Village area, Central Park South, and the area near the MSU Credit Union which is always quite littered. *Picking up this litter is a simple task that just takes some walking around and looking out for any trash, but it is very important to the health of the local wetlands, which receive a lot of the trash once it blows out of the area.*



We ask that you bring gloves, dress appropriately for the weather, and wear proper footwear for this effort. When you meet up with Emma at 2:00 PM, you will receive your assignments. **Emma will provide trash pickers, buckets, bags, safety vests for volunteers to use, and some gloves if needed.**

Emma said that over the past two years they have removed thousands of pounds in total of trash from that area, so this kind of community help is really needed. She said it is fun for the group to see the total amount of accumulated trash at the end, and they always do a **fun competition for whoever finds the weirdest/coolest trash!** Join us as we again live into God's Work using Our Hands in this community!

Sunday morning 9:00 AM Continental Breakfast & Christian Education for adults

Beginning on Sunday morning, **September 18**, Pastor Ellen will host a continental breakfast and education time downstairs in the Fellowship Hall for interested adults. Join her for donuts, coffee & juice and be taken to a deeper in your faith journey.

For the first 3-6 weeks, we will use a curriculum entitled **Confronting Christian Nationalism**. This three-session curriculum examines the threat of Christian nationalism in our country. Because discussions may take longer than the time provided before worship, Pastor Ellen is providing flexibility as we look at this three-session course, allowing

up to six weeks

(if needed) to complete the discussions.



After completing our time of learning regarding the topic of Christian nationalism, we will then focus on **How Lutherans Interpret the Bible**. Each of these sessions will begin with a video by Dr. Mark Allan Powell, a Lutheran pastor and seminary Bible professor. Each video, designed as a teaching tool for congregational use, will be followed by a time for group discussion. The seven sessions are:

Session 1: The Word of God

Session 2: What Lutherans Say About the Bible

Session 3: Where the Bible Comes From

Session 4: Interpreting the Bible in Context

Session 5: Determining Right from Wrong

Session 6: The Many Meanings of the Bible

Session 7: Devotional Bible Reading

All adults are welcome to participate in this education experience. If you have children attending Sunday School, drop them off for 9:00 AM Sunday School then come join us in the Fellowship Hall.

Synod Disability Learning Day



On Saturday, October 22, our Synod is having a Disability Learning Day at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Portage from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

To help us live into our RIC promise of making God's message of love for all, available to all, we should always look to expand our knowledge of how our building and worship service are accessible (or not) to people with disabilities. This learning day presented by our Synod is a great opportunity to explore the impact disabilities have on people and their connection to the church and God. The cost of this learning day is \$20 and includes lunch and the book *Worship As One: Varied Abilities in the Body of Christ*. There will be sessions on aging, the autism spectrum, accessible worship, and more.

Details and a registration link can be found at <https://www.mittensynod.org/event/disability-learning-day/>

Rich Weingartner will be attending, so if you would like to attend but need or would like a ride there - contact Rich. Also, contact Rich if you have additional questions or would like to attend but are unable to afford to do so.

Confirmation Classes begin on Wednesday, September 14

Confirmation Classes this year begin on Wednesday evening, September 14, at 6:00 PM. Confirmation Classes are for all young people in Grades 6-8. The first meeting will be for students and parents. If you have any questions or have a student who would like to participate and has not connected with Pastor Ellen, please email <mailto:prellen@faithlutheranokemos.org>



Rally Day

We will start Sunday school on Sept. 11th at 9:00 a.m. We are using a Spark Rotation curriculum. We are going to focus on miracles this year. We will do Jesus Feeds 5000 first. Each theme will be the same for 4-5 weeks. This year Sunday School will be at 9:00 A.M.

Nursery

As of Sunday, September 11th the Nursery will be open during Sunday morning worship at 10 A.M. Please contact [Jennifer Coe](#) if you would be willing to be a volunteer.

Heifer International

The Sunday school youth are learning about this organization and about how they support others around the world to not only be able to feed their families but also as a sustaining opportunity to help these families make money to support themselves and help their communities. We plan to continue collecting an offering for this again this year.

Worship Bags

Worship Bags are being made available for children as we understand how difficult it can be to sit still and be quiet during church. There are materials inside the Worship Bags that are disposable like the coloring and activity worksheets. These can be taken home. For the materials that are reusable, such as stuffed animals and fidgets, we ask that you leave them in the bag on their chairs at the end of the service. We will be sure they are cleaned before they are used again. If there is a book that your child would like to borrow, please just bring it back next week. There are bags for younger children with the stuffed animals and some for a little older. We are welcome to suggestions that we can add to the bags.





There's Music in the Air!

The Chancel Choir and Faith Bells will begin our regular season very soon ... and we would like to invite YOU to join us! You need not be a seasoned musician in order to join the music ministry at Faith Lutheran - - just the desire to join some really cool people and me as we work to enhance the worship services. The Chancel Choir sings most Sundays during worship and rehearses on Wednesday evenings from 7:30 - 9:00. The bell choir plays during worship on the 3rd Sunday of the month and rehearses on Wednesday evenings from 6:30 – 7:15.

Our first rehearsals of the season will take place on Wednesday evening, September 7th. Chancel Choir will sing during worship on September 11th, and the Faith Bells will play during worship on September 25th.

Please e-mail me at laladyB@comcast.net if you'd like more information about the music program at FLC ... or, come and give us a try!!!

Deb Borton-McDonough

THANK YOU, Faith Lutheran Community!

We give thanks and celebrate your amazing generosity as we share the news that donations and pledges for our new roof total \$45,289.76! The roof will soon be replaced! Thank you to everyone who worked so hard on the fundraiser and participated in making the fundraiser events successful. We extend a big thank you to everyone who donated or pledged money for this new roof!



1 CHRONICLES 16:34: Oh, give thanks to the LORD, for He is good; for His steadfast love endures forever!

Felicien is one of the young men who has gone through the Michigan Refugee Hope program. He is now a student at the University of Michigan. He wrote a song about his gratefulness for being able to come to America. Here he performs his song at the roof fundraising event that was held at Faith.

<https://kjschoepf.wetransfer.com/downloads/77a5f08a9941e40fc544ba02a003ee5920220821041642/09d7816c9f53a5b4e2e251484d550ae20220821041643/136fb5>

PERSONAL CARE KITS

Include the following items in each Personal Care Kit:



x1

One light-weight bath-size towel (between 20" x 40" & 52" x 27"), dark color recommended



x2

Two bath-size bars (4 to 5 oz.) of soap, any brand, in original wrapping



x1

One adult-size toothbrush in its original packaging*



x1

One sturdy comb, remove packaging



x1

One metal nail clippers (attached file optional), remove packaging



Wrap all the items in the towel and tie securely with ribbons or yarn.

SCHOOL KIT ASSEMBLY INSTRUCTIONS

Include the following items in each School Kit:



x1

One sturdy drawstring backpack-style cloth bag, approximately 14" x 17", with shoulder straps (no standard backpacks)



x4

Four 70-sheet notebooks of wide- or college-ruled paper, approximately 8" x 10½"; no loose-leaf paper



x1

One box of 16 or 24 crayons



x1

One 30-centimeter ruler, or a ruler with centimeters on one side and inches on the other



x1

One pencil sharpener



x1

One pair of blunt scissors (safety scissors with embedded steel blades work well)



x5

Five unsharpened No. 2 pencils with erasers; secure together with a rubber band



x5

Five black or blue ballpoint pens (no gel ink); secure together with a rubber band



x1

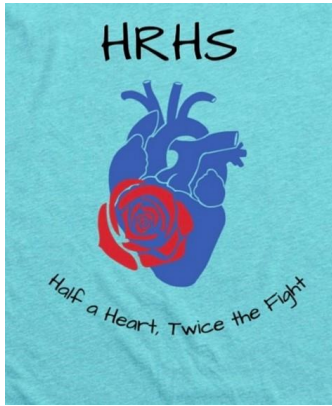
One 2½" eraser

We will be focusing on Care Kits in September. Please drop off your donations at the LWR table in the Narthex. School Kit items are still being accepted.



Table Games Afternoon – Sunday, October 9, 3 – 6 pm.

Bring a favorite table game or two (such as Mexican Train, Rumikub, Sequence, Monopoly, Chutes and Ladders, Cribbage) and enjoy a fun afternoon of playing games. We'll switch off periodically, so no one gets bored! Come and test your game-playing skills and see how you do up against the competition. Sign-up sheet in the narthex.



Rosie's Heart Walk: Sunday, September 18: Beginning at 2 P.M.
This 5k walk is designed to start and end at: Faith Lutheran Church

**Join us as we walk the neighborhood to raise money for
Conquering CHD**

Rosie is a member of Faith Lutheran Church in Okemos. She was born with a congenital heart defect (CHD) called **hypoplastic right heart syndrome (HRHS)**. We are walking to raise money for research to conquer congenital heart defects in babies and children like Rosie.

If you would like to order a shirt for this event, please order through this link: <https://www.bonfire.com/rosies-heart-walk160/> Proceeds from shirt sales will go directly to Conquering CHD. T-shirts are still available to purchase they just will not arrive before the walk.

Prayers

Trusting in God's extraordinary love, let us come near to the Holy One in prayer.

We pray for those in military service who are connected to our community: Lani Yearicks, Jon Schoepf, Landon Belanger, Melody and Adam Wright, Tracy Tuthill and Jae Moore, Joe Galvin, Coleman Curry, and Hannah Cunningham.

For all in need: for those who suffer from disease, who struggle with homelessness or food insecurity, for those whose family life is difficult, and for all in this community who need your care, especially Joshua Nystrom, John & Susan Barry, Helen Brinkman, Joe, Alice, Jesslyn Silva, Bob Shorman, Krista, LeVine Bennet, Lee Gerard, Chip, Mabel Anglin, Emily, Gail & Lowell Barricklow, Rosie Brown, Shannon Stobel, Joy Coster, Carrie Christopher, Debra Vorce, Dorothy, Heather, Virginia Taschner, Marilyn Hogan, Ellen Milne, Ken Milne, Bill Williams, Todd Barricklow, Ben Cowin, Kenley, Allyson, and Dale Halverson. We hold in prayer the ministry of Loaves and Fishes and we pray for all the Samaritas children who seek adoption.



Receive the prayers of your children, merciful God, and hold us forever in your steadfast love; through Jesus Christ, our holy Wisdom. **Amen.**

Name Tags

With the start to the school year and new faces in the congregation, we ask that you please wear a nametag on Sunday mornings when possible. If you need a name tag printed, please let Katie know. We will also have write-in name tags available.



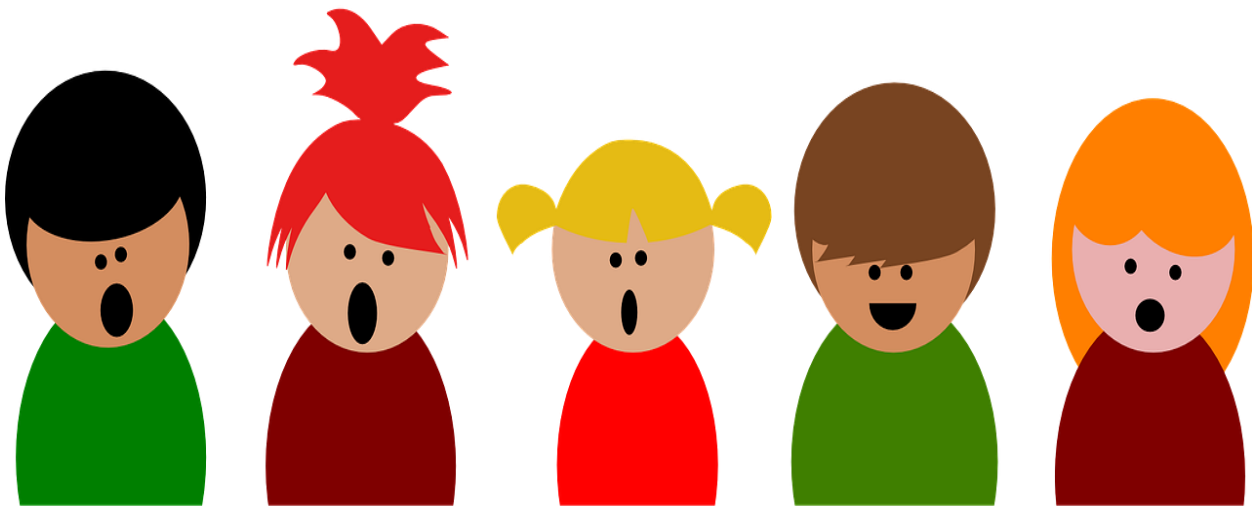
September 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28 Back to School Bag Delivery 10:00am Worship Service	29	30 12:00pm Noon Bible Study	31 9:30am Quilting and ACTION	1	2	3 9:30am MRH Golf Outing Fundraiser
4 10:00am Worship Service	5	6 No Noon Study	7 9:30am Quilting and ACTION 6:30pm Bells Rehearsal 7:30pm Chancel Choir	8 11:00am Worship Service at Medilodge Nursing Home	9 8:30am Sanctuary Rental	10
11 Rally Day 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service 11:00am All Church Potluck 2:00pm God's Work Our Hands	12	13 12:00pm Noon Bible Study	14 9:30am Quilting and ACTION 6:00pm Confirmation Starts 6:30pm Bells Rehearsal 7:30pm Chancel Choir	15	16	17 Singers & Ringers Party
18 9:00am Adult Sunday School & Continental Breakfast Starts 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service 2:00pm Rosie's Heart Walk	19 7:00pm Council Meeting	20 12:00pm Noon Bible Study	21 9:30am Quilting and ACTION 6:00pm Confirmation 6:30pm Bells Rehearsal 7:30pm Chancel Choir	22	23	24
25 9:00am Adult Sunday School & Continental Breakfast 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service	26	27 12:00pm Noon Bible Study	28 9:30am Quilting and ACTION 6:30pm Confirmation 7:30pm Chancel Choir	29	30	1

October 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service	3	4 12:00pm Noon Bible Study	5 9:30am Quilting and ACTION 7:30pm Chancel Choir	6	7	8 8:00am Fellowship Hall Rental
9 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service 3:00pm Board Game Event	10	11 12:00pm Noon Bible Study	12 9:30am Quilting and ACTION 7:30pm Chancel Choir	13 11:00am Worship Service at Medilodge Nursing Home	14 9:00am Sanctuary Rental	15
16 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service	17	18 12:00pm Noon Bible Study	19 9:30am Quilting and ACTION 7:30pm Chancel Choir	20	21	22 9:30am Synod Disability Learning Day
23 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service	24	25 12:00pm Noon Bible Study 6:00pm Fellowship Hall Rental	26 9:30am Quilting and ACTION 7:30pm Chancel Choir	27	28	29 12:00pm Sanctuary Rental
30 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service 11:30pm Quarterly Meeting	31	1 12:00pm Noon Bible Study	2 9:30am Quilting and ACTION 7:30pm Chancel Choir	3	4	5

Join Us for Sunday School
Starts on September 11 at 9:00 a.m.
Ages Preschool thru 5th grade



Faith Lutheran Church - 4515 Dobie Road

For more information, please contact Pam Williams at
pwilliams@faithlutheranokemos.org