

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 and November are the months when we focus on Stewardship 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. You will receive pledge cards in October, then on Sunday, November 13, we will receive your pledges in worship. We will celebrate that Sunday with a **FIVE-MINUTE SERMON** and, following worship, Rich & Linda Triemer will do a **Stewardship Presentation** in the sanctuary. Rich is a magician and Linda performs as a clown. After their presentation, we will feast together on a **potluck meal** in the Fellowship Hall.

As I write this article, I have 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.



Inside This Issue

Serving Faith.....	2
Faith & Blue.....	3
Adult Education.....	4
Sunday School/Youth.....	5,6
News/Notes	7-9
Everbridge.....	10
Calendars.....	11

Serving Faith

LAY ASSISTANTS

10/2 Bob Nelson
10/9 Paul Hereza
10/16 Mike Eschelbach
10/23 Kim O'Brien
10/30 Harold Sollenberger

READER SCHEDULE

10/2 Lois Neves
10/9 Warren Heilman
10/16 Elaine Harrison
10/23 John McCracken
10/30 Megan Nyquist

COFFEE HOUR

10/2 Quilters
10/9 OPEN
10/16 OPEN
10/23 Rich Weingartner
10/30 OPEN

USHERS

10/2 McCracken
10/9 Kopf
10/16 Hirt
10/23 Harrison
10/30 Harrison

ALTAR CARE

10/2 Brenda Kopf
10/9 Tammy Heilman
10/16 Rich Weingartner
10/23 Tammy Heilman
10/30 Brenda Kopf

GREETERS

10/2 Chris & Jean Lewis
10/9 Mike Eschelbach
10/16 Doug & Linda Hirt
10/23 Lois Neves
10/30 Ken & Ellen Milne

NURSERY

10/2 Connie Nelson
10/9 Jennifer Coe
10/16 Connie Nelson
10/23 Brenda Kopf
10/30 Jennifer Coe

ACOLYTE

10/2 OPEN
10/9 OPEN
10/16 Maddie Webb
10/23 OPEN
10/30 Maddie Webb

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

Ushers: Ken Schoepf: kjschoepf@yahoo.com

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

Sunday School: Pam Williams

Nursery: Jennifer Coe: jenlynncoe@yahoo.com

Greeters: Mike Eschelbach: eschelbachm@gmail.com

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



The Next Quarterly Meeting will be held following worship on Sunday, October 30th.

From the Pastor's Pen Cont...

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 community, 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. It is through community and the body of Christ in this place that we can live into this call.

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 & BLUE

Join us!

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 9

3:00 P.M. - 6:00 P.M. | 4515 Dobie Road, Okemos MI 48864

FAITH & BLUE

Board Game Afternoon

Meridian Township Police officers will be here to join us
in our Board Game Afternoon.

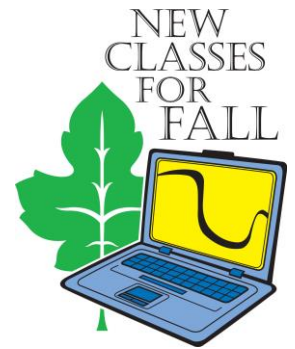
HOSTED BY
MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP POLICE
FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

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**MOTOROLA SOLUTIONS
FOUNDATION**

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

Pastor Ellen is hosting a continental breakfast and education time downstairs in the Fellowship Hall for any interested adults. Join her for donuts, coffee & juice and be taken to a deeper place 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.

Care Packages FOR COLLEGE STUDENTS



The Confirmands will be packing boxes of goodies to send to our college seniors. We only have 2 or 3 college kids, but we would like to collect items to them as they always appreciate it. We will be packing the boxes on Wednesday, Oct. 5th if you could donate an item or two.

Granola bars, candy, gum, playing cards, flavor packs for water, small Halloween decorations, face masks, hand sanitizer, socks popcorn, pens/pencils, sticky notes, lip balm, toiletries, lozenges/cough drops. Contact Pam Williams with any questions.

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.



High School Youth Group to Dinner and a Haunted House
When: October 16th

Where: We will leave from church by 6:30 to go to Howell for the Haunted House.

After that: We will go to Tomato Bros. for pizza and laughs.

Cost: \$25 covers the cost of both

***Bring a friend, but sign up by October 9th!



All 6-8th Graders are invited to a Middle School Activity Night on the first Wednesday of every month. We will meet from 6-7 P.M. at the church. The first Middle School Night will take place on **Wednesday, October 5th.**

Youth Group: 8th Grade and Up

Meets each Sunday following worship. Contact Pam Williams for more information.

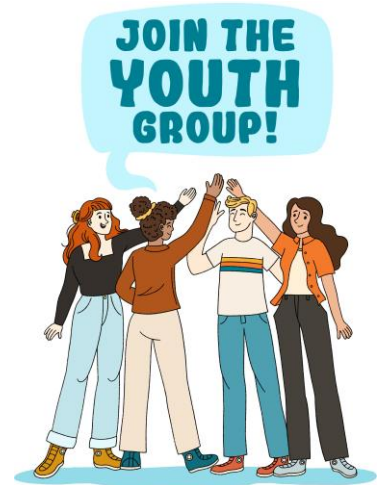
October 2: Set a Youth Group Goal

October 9th: No Youth Group: Make sure to tell Pam if you're going to the Haunted House/Tomato Brothers

October 16th: Volunteer: Clean/Organize the Nursery: 6th-12th Grade to Haunted House/Tomato Brothers

October 23rd: Volunteer: Take communion to the shut-ins from church.

October 30th: Game Day.



A special thank you to all who participated in, brought food, helped set up and clean up for our Rally Day on September 11th. It was fun, the food was good, and thank you to Linda and Richard Triemer for making balloon animals and keeping the children and adults entertained.





Intergenerational Halloween Activity/Luncheon

When: Sunday, Oct 30, 2022, following the Quarterly Meeting

Where: In the Fellowship Hall at Faith

What: Potluck Soup/Bread Lunch, pumpkin carving (bring your own pumpkins), pumpkin painting (provided), Halloween cooking decorating, craft projects and games.

To Bring: Please bring your own pumpkins if you want to carve them
Soup or Bread to share.

A signup sheet will be available in the Narthex so that we know approximately how many people to expect!

Hope to see you there.



If anyone is able to help make and/or deliver food to a family in need over the next couple of weeks can you please contact Kathy Mace. Her information is below:

Kathy Mace 517-881-0472 TennisRN56@gmail.com



Pantry Needs: Now that Fall is approaching the Pantry needs to have a few "meals in a can" such as hearty soups or cans of Chef Boyardee or Spaghetti-O, etc. Please bring to church and place them in the Pantry area in the Foyer. Thank you.

Looking for Volunteers to Join the Box Brigade

The Pantry Committee is looking for a couple more people to join our hearty band of Box Brigade Volunteers. Each Volunteer is assigned one day a week and either the mid-day or late afternoon shift for which you would be responsible to replenish items in the pantry here at church and our other location at the Okemos Library.

Pantry items are provided for the Brigade though monetary and product donations to the church and supplies are maintained for the Brigade's use in the pantry area in the church foyer. The whole process of refilling the two pantries takes only between 30-45 minutes to accomplish, including travel time between units and brings satisfaction to members helping others in need in our community. For more details or to volunteer, please contact Cecelia Kramer, 349-3297.



The painting and repair project for the soffits and fascia has been completed, and the new roof over the sanctuary and entrance has also been completed. The Property Committee thanks everyone who helped make these two major projects happen.

The Caring Committee is looking for people to help with our activities. If you don't know what we do, below is a list of some. It would be nice to have different people in charge of the different activities. Please let Pam Williams or Kathy Mace know if you would like to get involved and in what capacity.

Thanks for Caring



Food for those in need (If others are sick, have a baby, or have surgery..)

We have three food drives a year in which we take groceries to 20 families in the community.

Bring Smiles to Seniors - we make cards and give them to Diane Hill to deliver to nursing homes...all over Michigan.

We seek donations from local stores, to buy items for the food baskets.

We have a tree for Shared Pregnancy in which we collect donations to take to this nonprofit.

At Christmas, we have sponsored the Refugee boys in the home with some special gifts.

Pam Williams - teacherpam1@gmail.com

Kathy Mace - TennisRN56@gmail.com

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, Hannah Cunningham, and Aiden Seeley.

Give food to the hungry. Set the captives free. Lift up those who are bowed down. Watch over the stranger. Tend to those who are ill. Bring healing and comfort to all who are in need, especially Dave Mace, Mike Taylor, 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, Marilyn Hogan, Bill Williams, Todd Barricklow, Ben Cowin, Kenley, and Allyson. 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.

Being Welcoming With Food



Being a Reconciling in Christ church we often focus on being welcoming and inclusive for all genders, sexual orientations, races, ethnic backgrounds, physical and mental ability, etc. While this is certainly important, it is time to take a look at being welcoming with food.

As we continue to work through the pandemic and work towards safely having more regular events like we did before the pandemic - food is coming back! Pretty much everyone loves a good meal, a good potluck, or just some nice treats during coffee hour. Food can bring people together, encourage people to stay and mingle and get to know each other. Food can do many things and is usually viewed very fondly. However, certain foods can be not so kind or even dangerous to some people.

As we start to have more meals, potlucks, coffee hours, and especially as we welcome both new visitors and members, and welcome members who have been with us for a long time, we need to remember different people have different needs with food. Some people just have certain preferences about what they like and don't like. Other people have sensitivities to some foods and try to avoid them. While other people have to absolutely avoid certain foods because they can have allergic reactions to them. Since often when we serve food at church, it is to a larger group, we can't know for certain what everyone needs or wants to avoid.

To help ensure our food sharing times at Faith are as welcoming to everyone as possible, please consider labeling your foods with the major ingredients, list possible allergens (like peanuts, tree nuts, gluten, fish, dairy, etc.), and consider including your name as to who brought the dish, so if people have questions they can reach out to you.

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.

The Council and Human Resources Committee are pleased to announce that Faith Lutheran has hired two people to serve as Audio/Video Techs on Sunday mornings. We welcome Zachary Hereza and Justin Brown to these positions, and we are deeply grateful for what they do as they share their gifts with us in Sunday Worship.





**EVERBRIDGE
MOBILE APPS**

New Way to Receive Capital Area Ingham County Alerts!

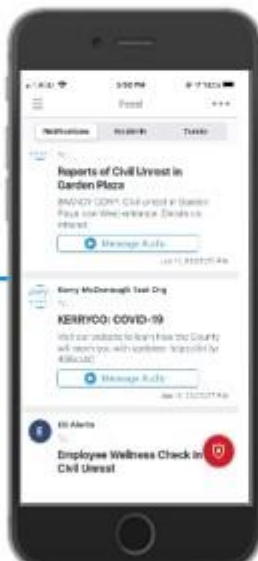
Aim your camera at
this code for a video
overview showing
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if using the
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App and traveling
through an
impacted area



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October 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
25 9:00am Adult Sunday School & Continental Breakfast 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service 11:00am Youth Group	26	27 12:00pm Noon Bible Study	28 9:30am Quilting and ACTION 6:00pm Confirmation 7:30pm Chancel Choir	29	30	1
2 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service 11:00am Youth Group	3	4 12:00pm Noon Bible Study	5 9:30am Quilting and ACTION 6:00pm Middle School Activity Night 7:30pm Chancel Choir	6	7	8 8:00am Fellowship Hall Rental
9 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service 3:00pm Faith & Blue Board Game Event	10	11 12:00pm Noon Bible Study	12 9:30am Quilting and ACTION 6:00pm Confirmation 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 11:00am Youth Group 6:30pm Youth Group to Haunted House	17 7:00pm Church Council Meeting	18 12:00pm Noon Bible Study	19 9:30am Quilting and ACTION 6:00pm Confirmation 7:30pm Chancel Choir	20	21	22 9:30am Synod Disability Learning Day
23 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service 11:00am Youth Group	24 7:00pm Green Team Meeting at Faith	25 12:00pm Noon Bible Study 6:00pm Fellowship Hall Rental	26 9:30am Quilting and ACTION 6:00pm Confirmation 7:30pm Chancel Choir	27	28	29 12:00pm Sanctuary Rental
30 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service 11:00am Youth Group 11:30pm Quarterly Meeting Halloween Potluck/Luncheon	31	1 12:00pm Noon Bible Study	2 9:30am Quilting and ACTION 6:00pm Middle School Activity Night 7:30pm Chancel Choir	3	4 Middle School Charge Retreat	5 Middle School Charge Retreat