

Faith Family News

From Council President Mike Eschelbach

Change.

It's often said that people don't like change. We become used to the way things are. We like being in our comfort zones. Change can make us uncomfortable. Unsettled. Unnerved. Even Unhappy. Why do things have to change? And yet, change is inevitable.

Some change understandably is unwanted. Being laid off from a job. The death of a loved one. The dissolution of a marriage. The destruction of a home by fire or flood. The closure of a school. An unfavorable health diagnosis. Political upheaval.

Unwanted change isn't a new thing. The religious leaders of Jesus' time definitely did not want the change portended by Jesus' teaching and preaching. Their status as powers-that-be was threatened. That fear of change meant Jesus had to be removed, so they made sure he didn't survive. Except that he did, and change came.

Some change is wanted and welcome. Babies; children growing up and maturing into functioning adults. The change of seasons. A new and better job. A long-awaited vacation. New friendships. Recovery from illness.

Change is happening at Faith. We will see new faces at our pulpit and behind our church secretary's desk. While we may not have chosen these changes, they are happening. But we're not alone as we deal with these changes; God is with us. And we'll have Pastor Bruce Thorsen to help us through this transitional time. Volunteers will help with church office tasks and other things that need doing around the church.

Continued Page 3



Inside This Issue

- Serving Faith.....2
- Celebration Sunday.....3
- Graduates.....4
- News/Notes.....5
- Upcoming Events.....6
- Sunday School/Youth.....7,8
- VBS.....9
- Ways to Help.....10
- Calendar.....11

Serving Faith

LAY ASSISTANTS

5/7 Ryan Thompson
5/14 Harold Sollenberger
5/21 Doug Hirt
5/28 Walter Kopf

USHERS

Holste/Robinson
Harrison/Fraser
Ellen Holste
McCracken/Milne

NURSERY

READER SCHEDULE

5/7 Alexa Warwick
5/14 Jon Harrison
5/21 Linda Hirt
5/28 Brenda Kopf

ALTAR CARE

Jamie Royalty
Rich Weingartner
Kathy Mace
Diane Hill

ACOLYTE

COFFEE HOUR

5/7 Nelson
5/14 Open
5/21 Church Picnic
5/28 Open

GREETERS

Mike Eschelbach
Connie Nelson
Harold & Jan Sollenberger
Ken & Ellen Milne

We need volunteers for Nursery, Lay Assistants and Greeters.

Many hands make light work!! Step up and volunteer!

Lay Assistants/Readers: Diane Hill: hillmaxd6@gmail.com Ushers: Brenda Kopf bjkchr@sbcglobal.net

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

Property Committee News

Our annual yard Spring Cleanup will be on Sunday, May 7th after the morning service. We will do the usual trimming and bed upkeep, and this year we will be mulching as well. The rain date will be May 21st. Please put it on your calendar and help us if you can. Thank you. Property Committee

From Council President Mike Eschelbach Continued....

Most importantly, we, the members of our faith community, are here together! When we attend worship, ring bells, go to Sunday School, sing in the choir, clean up the church grounds, make quilts, chat during coffee hour, and participate in any of the many activities at Faith, we'll be side by side with people we know and love.

Things will work out.

Together, we can handle change.

Mike Eschelbach, Council



MUSIC SUNDAY



May 21st is a big day for our congregation, as we will celebrate Music Sunday and Graduation Sunday. Please join us for worship as we honor our high school and college graduates, as well as all those involved in our Music Ministry at Faith.

Following Worship, we invite the entire congregation to join us for an All-Church Picnic to celebrate the ending of Sunday School and the beginning of Summer.

Free hot dogs, lemonade, and water will be provided. Please bring a dish to pass and a chair or blanket.



Kathryn Magyar

Kathryn will graduate from Laingsburg HS as valedictorian of her class. Besides her academic studies she participated in Marching band, Cross country, Track, Quiz Bowl, First Robotics and Girl Scouts. In the fall she will attend the University of Michigan College of Literature, Science and the Arts in Ann Arbor to study Neuroscience on the PreMed track.



Zachary Hereza

Zachary will be in the Honors program at Western Michigan University studying aeronautical engineering.



Juliana Lewis

Juliana will attend either The University of Michigan or The University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill and plans to major in Political Science.



Suhraob Safi is planning on attending LCC to study computer science.

Ibrahim Alhassan is planning on attending LCC, major is undecided.

Kadin Bowers will be graduating from Kettering University with a BS in Mechanical Engineering. He has a job working at Tenneco.

Owen Dingleline will receive a BS in Film and Video Production from Grand Valley State University. He will finish an internship this summer working on a student film and then hopes to use his talent and expertise in editing of outdoor films.

Sam Kadrofske is graduating from Purdue University with a degree in Web Programming and Design. While at Purdue he enjoyed playing on the Undue Ultimate Frisbee team and hosting a weekly student radio show. Since June of 2022, he has been interning with SFP (Stormfront Productions), a web design and development company in Lafayette, Indiana, where he plans to continue working after graduation.

At the Special Congregational Meeting on April 23, votes were overwhelmingly cast to issue a 2-year transitional call to Pastor Bruce Thorsen. Thank you to everyone who attended the meeting and voted. This will give our congregation a good measure of stability as we move forward with our pastoral call process.



We expect Pastor Bruce will be able to begin serving as our transitional pastor in late June.



ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS GOING ON NOW

A STUDY ON CIVIC LIFE AND FAITH

John Schleicher and Rich Weingartner will co-teach a six-session study on **Civic Life and Faith**. This study curriculum was created by the Task Force on Civic Life and Faith of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) and published by the ELCA's churchwide organization as a critical step toward development of a social teaching statement. The curriculum invites participants to delve into the nature of politics, the meaning of the Scriptures, the purpose of government, the responsibility of congregations and church-related organizations, First Amendment issues, the relationship of faith-based living and civic life, connections between worship life and serving neighbor in society, the nature of citizenship, and other relevant topics. These are weighty and difficult discussions for people of faith! We invite you to join John and Rich for this new class.



Gracious God, you journey with us wherever our paths lead and you know the desires of our hearts. 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.

We also hold in prayer Jenny Knudstrup, Oliver, Alice, John, Grace, Daniel, Becca, Walter & Brenda Kopf, Michelle Diehm, Linda, Charlotte Hengesbach, Jim Voisinet, Luke Williams, Joan Herbon, Ralph Garber, Nate Statly, Harry Nawrock, Glyn, Bob, Jerry Ransom, Lois Neves, Mara Lusic, Charlotte Rasmussen, Marcele, Dale Halverson, Helen Brinkman, Jesslyn Silva, Bob Shorman, Krista, Lee Gerard, Shannon Stobel, Joy Coster, Carrie Christopher, Emily, Marilyn Hogan, 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.

We lift our prayers and praise to you, almighty and eternal God; through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.
Amen

Upcoming Events:

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
**W H A R T O N
C E N T E R**

There will also be a signup sheet for **Wharton Tickets** to Jesus Christ Superstar (thank you Rich Weingartner). The date for this show is Sunday, June 18th (Fyi- this is Father's Day) at 1:00 pm. Rich was able to

get a group rate for tickets, so the price is \$82 per ticket. A \$1 handling fee per order will also be charged. Orders and payments must be made by May 5th. What a great opportunity for Faith friends to see this rock opera that has wowed audiences for over 50 years!

Come join us for The Lunch Bunch on Wednesday, May 17 at FLC from 11:45 to 1:00. This will be an opportunity for fellowship and food, open to everyone. Cold cuts, cheese, bread and chips will be provided as well as coffee and lemonade. If you wish, bring a side dish or dessert. And, bring your own lunch if you'd like. See Bob Nelson or Tammy Heilman if you have any questions.

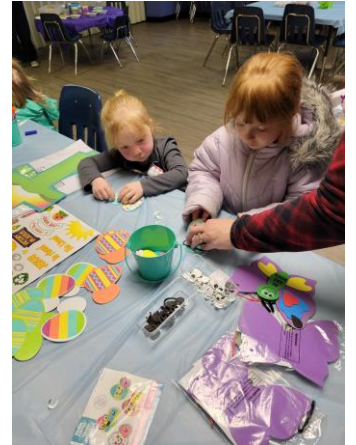


The Annual Community Picnic will be held Aug. 12, 2023.

We will have a silent auction during the three weeks prior to the picnic to raise funds for the pantries. We are looking for items that people would be willing to donate. We are also looking for volunteers to work on a picnic committee and help run the silent auction. Please contact Brenda Kopf 517-927-1800 or Cecelia Kramer 517-349-3297.

Sunday School/Youth Ministry

Thank you to everyone who participated in our Easter Event. It was a great day.



Student Spotlight

Andrew Herek- 5th Grade

Andrew loves to play soccer, drawing, video games, and being outdoors. He loves peaches, Harry Potter, and loves to watch sports on tv. He enjoys learning and exploring nature. His favorite subjects at school are math, science, gym, and art.

Confirmation Sunday, April 16th Congratulations Samantha Magyar



There is still space at Stony Lake Camp over the summer. Pam Williams plans to attend from June 25th to 30th.



Volunteer sign-up for Confirmation kids through high school

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080b4eaaab22aaf3-mayvolunteers#/>



The last day of Sunday school will be May 14th.

End of Sunday School PICNIC



The entire Congregation is Welcome

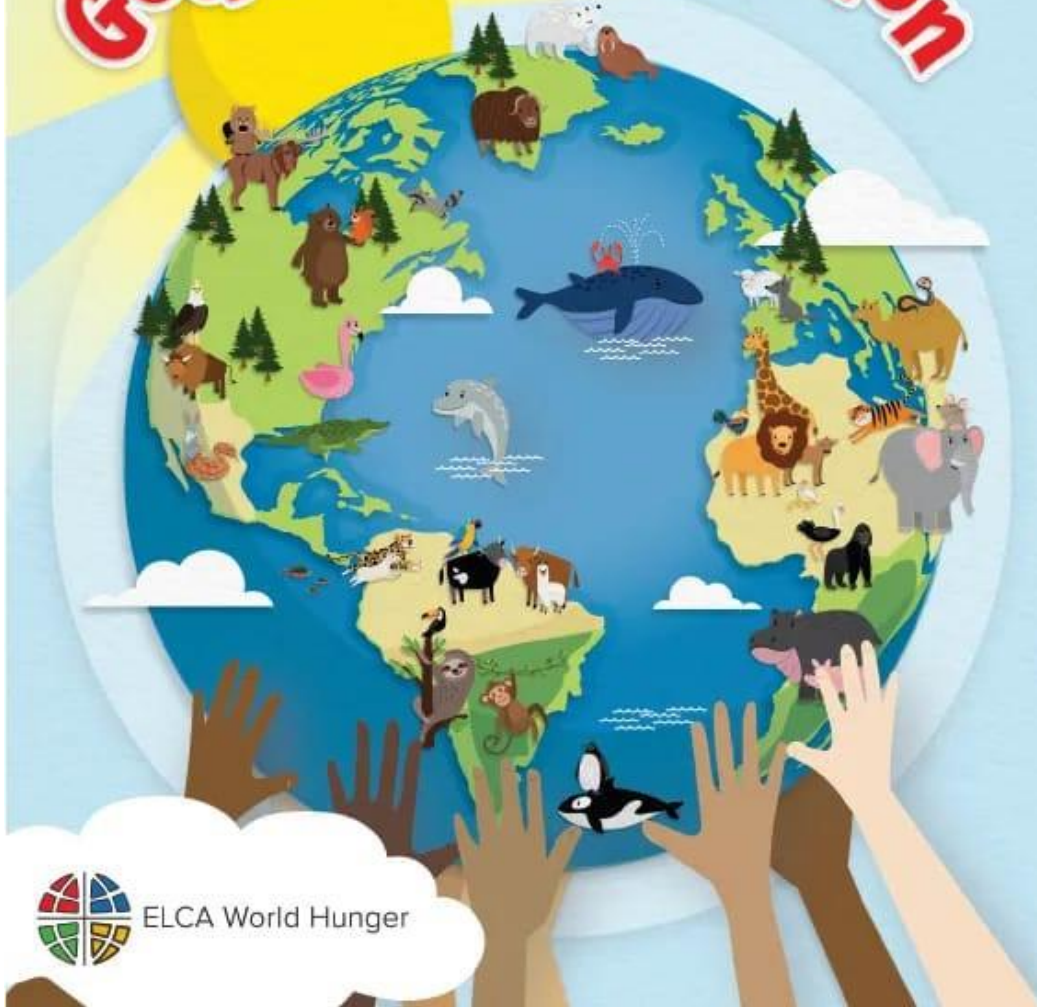
When: May 21st (after church)

What: Free lunch of hot dogs, lemonade and water. Bring a dish to pass.

Bring: A side dish or dessert and maybe a blanket to sit on.

2023 VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

God's New Creation



Faith Lutheran VBS is back!
July 31st thru August 4th
9:00 a.m. to Noon

Sign-up forms are available at church or sign
up online:

<https://forms.gle/HZnpRbnp8fdr9WL88>

We will take Noisy offerings for the Food Pantry on May 14 & 28th

A BIG THANK YOU!!!

Culver's Fundraiser A Success

Our Culver's fundraiser for our mini-food/personal care pantries was a great success! Between the donation we'll receive from Culver's and our donation box we put out for the evening, we raised \$536.15. This will all go directly to purchasing items for our pantries. Thank you to our friendly servers for the evening - Jamie and Randy Royalty, Karen Fraser, Gretchen Paige, Ellen Paige, and Rich Weingartner. Thanks to Cecelia Kramer for also helping welcome people and share news about the pantry to our guests that evening. A huge thanks to everyone who came out to eat that evening and brought their friends and family along - every purchase helped us have a successful evening.



HELP NEEDED!!

The Mini Food Pantry Committee is looking for one person or a family willing to help with stocking our pantries as a member of the elite Box Brigade. The Box Brigade fills both pantries with products from the cupboards at church either on a Mid-day or Early-Evening timeframe, only once each week. This entire project takes about 30-45 minutes, on your assigned day. For further information, please contact Cecelia Kramer at 517-349-3297.

Pantry Supplies Needed

We have noticed the increase in usage of our pantries and could use some assistance with supplying the needs of some of our most popular items. Just bring the items to the pantry cupboard in the front foyer.



Dish Soap – 16-18 oz. liquid soap, any variety , Kleenex – Any brand, any size, Canned Fruit

From the Caring Committee:

We want to thank everyone for the generous donations of money, food items, and time for the Easter basket deliveries for the 14 families in our community! Also, a big thanks to Meijer and Kroger for gift card donations and to the Great Harvest for providing bread and baked goods.

We're grateful for all the support as we do God's work in our community!

May 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30 Pastor Ellen's Last Sunday 9:00am Adult Sunday School 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service 11:00am Quarterly Congregational Meeting	1	2 12:00pm Noon Bible Study	3 9:30am Quilting and ACTION 6:30pm Bells Rehearsal 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	4 7:00pm Alzheimer's Caregivers Support Group	5 Wharton Ticket Orders Due 6:00pm Halal Dinner	6
7 Confirmation Sunday 9:00am Adult Sunday School 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service 11:00am Property Clean Up	8	9 12:00pm Noon Bible Study	10 9:30am Quilting and ACTION 6:30pm Bells Rehearsal 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	11	12 9:00am Sanctuary Rental	13 Choir Room Rental/Fellowship Hall 10:00am Sanctuary Rental
14 9:00am Adult Sunday School 9:00am Last day of Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service	15	16 12:00pm Noon Bible Study	17 9:30am Quilting and ACTION 11:45am Lunch Bunch 6:30pm Bells Rehearsal 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	18	19 6:00pm Sanctuary Rental	20
21 Graduation Sunday Music Sunday 9:00am Adult Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service 11:00am All Church Picnic 3:00pm Sanctuary Rental	22	23 12:00pm Noon Bible Study	24 9:30am Quilting and ACTION 6:30pm Bells Rehearsal 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	25 6:00pm Sanctuary Rental	26	27
28 9:00am Adult Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service	29	30 12:00pm Noon Bible Study	31 9:30am Quilting and ACTION 6:30pm Bells Rehearsal 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	1	2	3 1:00pm Sanctuary Rental

June 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28 9:00am Adult Sunday School 10:00am Worship Service	29	30 12:00pm Noon Bible Study	31 9:30am Quilting and ACTION 6:30pm Bells Rehearsal 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	1	2	3 1:00pm Sanctuary Rental
4 10:00am Worship Service	5	6	7 9:30am Quilting and ACTION 6:30pm Bells Rehearsal 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	8	9	10
11 10:00am Worship Service	12	13	14 9:30am Quilting and ACTION 6:30pm Bells Rehearsal 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	15	16	17
18 10:00am Worship Service	19	20	21 9:30am Quilting and ACTION 6:30pm Bells Rehearsal 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	22	23	24
25 10:00am Worship Service	26	27	28 9:30am Quilting & Action	29	30	1

