



PENTECOST 26
VISITOR SUNDAY
November 17, 2024
10:00 AM

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

4515 Dobie Road
Okemos, MI 48864
517-349-0620

FLC Staff

Pastor Bruce Thorsen
Administrative AssistantKalea Sanford
Music Director Deb Borton-McDonough
Organist/Pianist Bruce Williams
Custodian Kelly Nickols
Sound Technicians Cody Boyan & Raymond Herek
Church email faith@faithlutheranokemos.org
Website www.faithlutheranokemos.org
Facebook Page facebook.com/faithlutheranokemos

WIFI: Faith Lutheran; Password: LutheranFaith

WELCOME STATEMENT

We, at Faith Lutheran Church, welcome you as God’s beloved child, “for in Christ Jesus... [we] are all children of God through faith.” (Galatians 3:26). No matter your age, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, race, ethnicity, marital status, neurodivergent status, faith background, political leanings, or mental, intellectual or physical ability – you are welcomed here just as you are. In this church, we commit to pursue gender and racial equity in all that we do, and to support one another as chosen family, being parents and siblings for each other regardless of who we have as biological family (Mark 3:31-35). For we are all one in Christ Jesus and rely on the unconditional nature of God’s love and grace to be our help and guide as we strive to serve our world.

INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

November begins with All Saints Day and ends in or near Advent, when we anticipate Christ’s coming again. It is fitting, then, that the readings today tell of the final resurrection and the end time. In the turmoil of hope, fear, and disbelief that these predictions provoke in us, Hebrews sounds a note of confident trust. Christ makes a way for us where there is no way, and we walk it confidently, our hearts and bodies washed in baptismal water, trusting the one who has promised forgiveness. The more we see the last day approaching, the more important it is to meet to provoke one another to love.

PRELUDE

“With Timbrel and Dance”

Margaret Tucker

Faith Bells

Calvin Kadrofske, tambourine and Raymond Herek, finger cymbal

STEWARDSHIP MINUTE

Our theme this week is “WHAT THE FAITH MUSIC PROGRAM MEANS TO ME!”

Today, Addie Thompson will share her story.

VERSE OF THE DAY (Read in Unison)

You know the path to life; your presence fills me with joy, and by your side I find enduring pleasure.

Psalm 16:11 The Inclusive Bible

CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: We come in this service to God, bringing our stories, our lives, and ourselves.

Amen.

Pastor: We come to God, who has come to us in Jesus, and who travels with us through our daily lives.

Amen.

Pastor: We come with our faith, our doubts, our hopes, our fears.

Amen.

Pastor: We come as we are, because it is God who invites us to come, and God will never turn us away.

Alleluia, Amen.

(Based on Iona Community service of prayer for healing)

OPENING PRAYER

All Loving God, Together, we gather to share worship and fellowship, in all our diversity, and as one people. Enable us to continue in our call to welcome all, love all, and fully include all in our churches and communities. Guide our steps as we journey towards and alongside you, giving us courage when we falter or turn away.

Allow us to see in each person your glory and your image, so that we can encourage one another in all that lies ahead, in friendship and hope.

We ask this in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

(Ann Memmott, 2019, used by permission)

GATHERING SONG – WE PRAISE YOU, O GOD (ELW 870)



1 We praise you, O God, our re - deem - er, cre - a - tor;
2 We wor - ship you, God of our fa - thers and mo - thers;
3 With voic - es u - nit - ed our prais - es we of - fer



in grate - ful de - vo - tion our trib - ute we bring.
through tri - al and tem - pest our guide you have been.
and glad - ly our songs of thanks - giv - ing we raise.



We lay it be - fore you; we kneel and a - dore you;
When per - ils o'er - take us, you will not for - sake us,
With you, Lord, be - side us, your strong arm will guide us.



we bless your ho - ly name; glad prais - es we sing.
and with your help, O Lord, our strug - gles we win.
To you, our great re - deem - er, for - ev - er be praise!

Tune: William W. How, 1823-1897
Music: SINGS NORTON, Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1912-1998
Music from The English Hymnal revised by the USAAG Oxford University Press 1996. All rights reserved.
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GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

CANTICLE OF PRAISE



Du är he - lig, du är hel. Du är all - tid myck-et mer
You are ho - ly, you are whole. You are al - ways ev - er more



än vi nån - sin kan för - stå, du är nä - ra än - då.
than we ev - er un - der - stand. You are al - ways at hand.



Väl - sig - nad va - re du som kom - mer hit just nu,
Bless - ed are you com - ing near. Bless - ed are you com - ing here



väl - sig - na - de vår jord, blir till bröd på vår jord.
to your church in wine and bread, raised from soil, raised from dead.



Du är he - lig, du är hel - het,
You are ho - ly, you are whole - ness,



du är när - het he - la kos - mos lo - var dig!
you are pres - ent. Let the cos - mos praise you, Lord!



Ho - si - an - na, ho - si - an - na,
Sing ho - san - na in the high - est!



ho - si - an - na, ho - si - an - na vår Gud.
Sing ho - san - na! Sing ho - san - na to our God!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, your sovereign purpose brings salvation to birth. Give us faith to be steadfast amid the tumults of this world, trusting that your kingdom comes and your will is done through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

FIRST READING: Daniel 12:1-3

The book of Daniel is an example of apocalyptic literature, which is full of strange visions and symbolism. Arising during times of great persecution, apocalyptic literature is concerned with God's revelation about the end time and the coming kingdom of God, when God will vindicate the righteous who have been persecuted.

¹ "At that time Michael, the great prince, the protector of your people, shall arise. There shall be a time of anguish, such as has never occurred since nations first came into existence. But at that time your people shall be delivered, everyone who is found written in the book. ² Many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt. ³ Those who are wise shall shine like the brightness of the sky, and those who lead many to righteousness, like the stars forever and ever."

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM OF THE DAY: Psalm 16 (Read Responsively)

¹ Protect me, O God, for I take refuge in you;
I have said to the LORD, "You are my Lord, my good above all other."

² **All my delight is in the godly that are in the land,
upon those who are noble among the people.**

³ But those who run after other gods
shall have their troubles multiplied.

⁴ **I will not pour out drink offerings to such gods,
never take their names upon my lips.**

⁵ O LORD, you are my portion and my cup;
it is you who uphold my lot.

⁶ **My boundaries enclose a pleasant land;
indeed, I have a rich inheritance.**

⁷ I will bless the LORD who gives me counsel;
my heart teaches me night after night.

⁸ **I have set the LORD always before me;
because God is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken.**

⁹ My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices;
my body also shall rest in hope.

¹⁰ **For you will not abandon me to the grave,
nor let your holy one see the pit.**

¹¹ You will show me the path of life;
in your presence there is fullness of joy, and in your right hand are pleasures
for evermore.

SECOND READING: Hebrews 10:11-14 [15-18] 19-25

Images of worship and sacrifice are used throughout Hebrews to highlight what Christ has uniquely accomplished through his death. Because we have received forgiveness through Christ's death, we live with sincere hearts by trusting in God's promises and encouraging love and good works from each other.

¹¹ Every priest stands day after day at his service, offering again and again the same sacrifices that can never take away sins. ¹² But when Christ had offered for all time a single sacrifice for sins, "he sat down at the right hand of God," ¹³ and since then has been waiting "until his enemies would be made a footstool for his feet." ¹⁴ For by a single offering he has perfected for all time those who are sanctified. [¹⁵ And the Holy Spirit also testifies to us, for after saying,

¹⁶ "This is the covenant that I will make with them
after those days, says the Lord:

I will put my laws in their hearts,
and I will write them on their minds,"

¹⁷ he also adds,

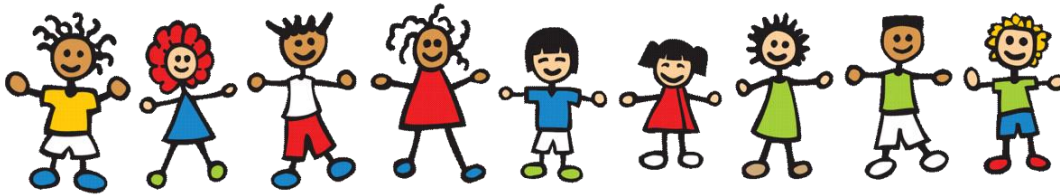
"I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more."

¹⁸ Where there is forgiveness of these, there is no longer any offering for sin.]

¹⁹ Therefore, my friends, since we have confidence to enter the sanctuary by the blood of Jesus, ²⁰ by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain (that is, through his flesh), ²¹ and since we have a great priest over the house of God, ²² let us approach with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. ²³ Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who has promised is faithful. ²⁴ And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, ²⁵ not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

CHILDREN'S SERMON



GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Refrain

F C⁷ F B^b C⁷ F B^b F

Thy word is a lamp un-to my feet and a light un-to my path.

C Gm Dm Am B^b C

2 I will not for-get your love for me, and yet my heart for-ev-er is

B^b/F F C Gm Dm Am

wan-der-ing. Je-sus, be my guide and hold me to your side, and

B^b C Dm D A/C[#] C^{sus} C⁷ *Refrain*

I will love you to the end.

Text: Psalm 119:105, refrain; Michael W. Smith, stanzas
 Music: Amy Grant
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GOSPEL: Mark 13: 1-8

In the last week of his life, Jesus warned his disciples concerning trials that were to come upon them and upon the world. He exhorts the listener: Do not be alarmed.

The holy gospel according to Mark. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

1 As he walked away from the Temple, one of his disciples said, “Teacher, look at that stonework! Those buildings!”

2 Jesus said, “You’re impressed by this grandiose architecture? There’s not a stone in the whole works that is not going to end up in a heap of rubble.”

3-4 Later, as he was sitting on Mount Olives in full view of the Temple, Peter, James, John, and Andrew got him off by himself and asked, “Tell us, when is this going to happen? What sign will we get that things are coming to a head?”

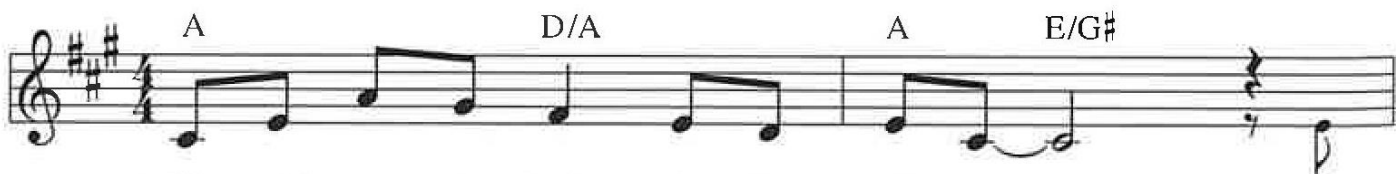
5-8 Jesus began, “Watch out for doomsday deceivers. Many leaders are going to show up with forged identities claiming, ‘I’m the One.’ They will deceive a lot of people. When you hear of wars and rumored wars, keep your head and don’t panic. This is routine history, and no sign of the end. Nation will fight nation and ruler fight ruler, over and over. Earthquakes will occur in various places. There will be famines. But these things are nothing compared to what’s coming.

The Message

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY – YOU ARE MINE (W&P 158)



1 “I will come to you in the si - lence,
2 “I am hope for all who are hope - less,
3 “I am strength for all the des - pair - ing,
(4) am the Word that leads all to free - dom,

I

F#m7 D Esus E

I will lift you from all your fear.
 I am eyes for all who long to see. In the
 heal - ing for the ones who dwell in shame.
 am the peace the world can - not give.

A D/A C# C#/E# F#m

You will hear my voice, I claim you as my choice. Be
 shad - ows of the night, I will be your light.
 All the blind will see, the lame will all run free, and
 I will call your name, em - brac - ing all your pain. Stand

Bm A/C# D Esus E Esus E

still and know I am here. (To stanza 2)
 Come and rest in me. (To refrain)
 all will know my name. (To refrain)
 up, now walk and live! (To refrain)

Refrain
A D/A E/G# F#m7 D

Do not be a - fraid, I am with you. I have called you each by

Esus E A D/A E/G# F#m F#m7/E

name. Come and fol - low me, I will bring you home; I

D Esus E A E/A D/A E/A A E/A D/A E/A Last time A

love you and you are mine.”

4 “I

CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Rooted in God's abundant love for the world, let us pray for our neighbors, the church, and all of creation. **Amen.**

God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

We offer our prayers to you, gracious God, trusting in your boundless love for all that you have made, through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

OFFERING

"Leaning on the Everlasting Arms"

arr. Mark Hayes

Chancel Choir

OFFERING PRAYER

Lord Jesus, our portion and our cup,
you offered yourself in love for the world,
and in this meal you nourish us with your life.

Fill us with your abundance,
that we may feed the hungry and welcome the stranger,
trusting in your name. **Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ, who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (STANZAS 1 & 5)



1 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly,
2 Gracious Fa - ther, gra - cious Fa - ther, we're so blest to be your
3 Pre - cious Je - sus, pre - cious Je - sus, we're so glad that you've re -
4 Ho - ly Spir - it, Ho - ly Spir - it, come and fill our hearts a -
5 Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah, . . .



Lord God Al - might - y; and we lift our hearts be - fore you as a
chil - dren, gra - cious Fa - ther; and we lift our heads be - fore you as a
deemed us, pre - cious Je - sus; and we lift our hands be - fore you as a
new, . . . Ho - ly Spir - it; and we lift our voice be - fore you as a
. hal - le - lu - jah; and we lift our hearts be - fore you as a



to - ken of our love, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly.
to - ken of our love, gra - cious Fa - ther, gra - cious Fa - ther.
to - ken of our love, pre - cious Je - sus, pre - cious Je - sus.
to - ken of our love, Ho - ly Spir - it, Ho - ly Spir - it.
to - ken of our love, hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

ALL ARE WELCOME TO COME TO THE LORD'S TABLE.

There are gluten free wafers available, just let the pastor know when you are at the altar rail. As you receive communion, in the center of each tray, there are a few glasses filled with white grape juice for those who prefer juice rather than wine. If you would prefer only a blessing, please have your hands folded and the pastor will give you a blessing.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Behold, God is making all things new.

Take your place in the new creation.

COMMUNION

The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you. **Amen.**

COMMUNION SONG

“God Will Make a Way”

Don Moen

Bob Nelson, Solo

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC

“It is well with My Soul”

arr. Kathy Smith

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

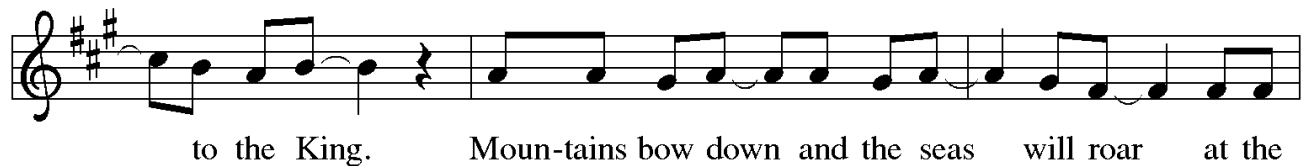
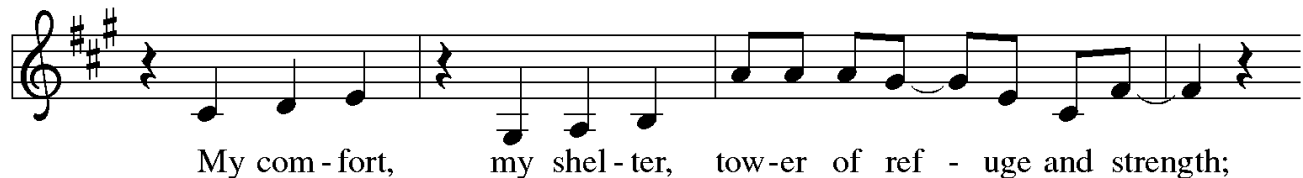
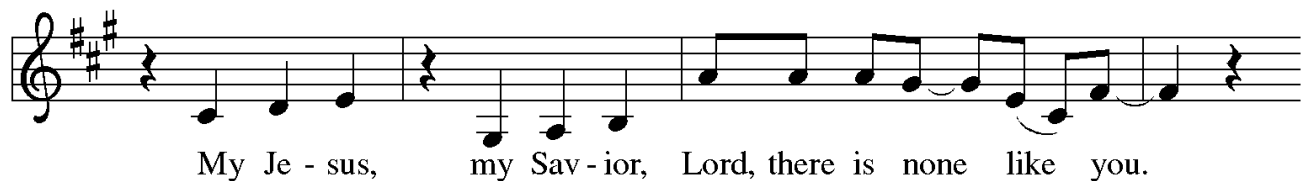
PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Faithful God,
you have spread before us a feast of rich food and drink
in the body and blood of your Son.
Now send us out to labor with you,
in service to the world you have made,
and among the people you have made your home,
in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

BLESSING

The Ancient One, enthroned,
the Crucified One, now risen,
the Indwelling One, poured out,
✝ bless you now and forever.
Amen.

SENDING SONG –SHOUT TO THE LORD (ELW 821)



Text: Darlene Zschech, b. 1965
Music: SHOUT TO THE LORD, Darlene Zschech
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DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Encourage one another in Christ. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

“Shout to The Lord”

arr. Jerry Ray

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WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Sunday, November 17 – VISITOR SUNDAY

- Sunday School @ 9am in Sunday School/Youth Room
- Worship Service @ 10am: **26th Sunday after Pentecost**
- Coffee Hour in the Fellowship Hall

Monday, November 18

- Council Meeting @7pm in Library
- Boy Scouts @ 7pm in Sunday School/Youth Room

Tuesday, November 19

- Bible Study @12pm in Library – Hybrid
- Girls Scouts @5:30pm in Sunday School/Youth Room

Wednesday, November 20

- Quilters Meet @ 9:30am
- Staff Meeting @10:15am
- Lunch Bunch @11:45am in Fellowship Hall
- Faith Bells rehearsal @ 6:30pm
- Chancel Choir rehearsal @ 7:30pm

Saturday, November 23

- Private Rental @2pm in Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall

Sunday, November 24 – STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY

- Sunday School @9am in Sunday School/Youth Room
- Worship Service @10am: **27th Sunday after Pentecost**
- Confirmation @11:30 in Fellowship Hall

FAITH VOLUNTEERS

November 17

Greeter(s): Chris & Jean Lewis

Reader: Raymond Herek Jr.

Prayers of Intercession: Jasper Wawrzynski

Communion Assistant: Calvin Kadrodske

Ushers: Jon & Elaine Harrison

Altar Care: Rich Weingartner

S/S: Megan Nyquist/Nicole Brier-Hartwick

Coffee Hour: Visitors Sunday

Counters: John McCracken/Kay Hilberg

Acolyte: Charlie Herek

November 24

Greeter(s): Mike Eschelbach

Reader: Ryan Thompson

Lay Assistant: Ray Herek

Ushers: John McCracken/Ken Milne

Altar Care: Elaine Harrison

S/S: Brenda Kopf/Megan Nyquist

Coffee Hour: Addie Thompson/Jamie Royalty

Counters: Jamie Royalty/ Kathy Mace

Acolyte: Owen Thompson



MEET & GREET

The Call Committee has recommended Megan Floyd to serve as our Pastor at Faith Lutheran Church. She will be preaching at Faith on December 8th and will be available afterwards for a meet and greet with the congregation. She comes to us with a wealth of experience; she has served as a children, youth and family minister for 13 years and is passionate about the Gospel and sharing God's all-inclusive love. A congregational meeting will be scheduled on Sunday, December 15, following the worship service, for a vote on whether to call Megan Floyd.

POINSETTIA ORDERS

The time has come to order Poinsettias for the holiday season! Order forms can be found in the Narthex, or one can be emailed to you. Please contact Kalea at faith@faithlutheranokemos.org for more information or return your order form to the church office no later than **Sunday, December 1st**.



BRING SMILES TO SENIORS – CARD WRITING

Bring Smiles to Seniors sends cheerful greeting cards to people in nursing homes and assisted living facilities. These cards brighten people's days and remind them that they are valued and remembered. Diane Hill from our own congregation is the Michigan coordinator of this effort! To support the program, we'll have cards available to write out and/or decorate on the counter in the narthex.

ALL ARE INVITED

Lunch Bunch will be held on Wednesday, November 20 @ 11:45 in the Fellowship Hall. This is a fun opportunity for fellowship and food. Bring a dish to pass or your lunch, if you wish. Come and go as you need to. We hope to see you there! (Connie and Bob Nelson will be hosting) Want to host the next one? Contact Tammy Heilman or Bob Nelson.

LanSING Out Christmas Concert – December 13 at 7:30 pm

LanSINGout is a voluntary community chorus providing the opportunity for LGBTQ+ persons and their allies. See <https://www.lansingout.com>, for more information. Pastor Bruce is a member.

FAITH NIGHT AT THE THEATRE

Faith Night at the Williamston Theatre will be on Saturday, December 14th at 7:30. The play this year is "A Very Williamston Christmas". Adult ticket prices are \$41, and student prices are \$12. This is a 90-minute play without an intermission, so probably not suited for very young children. Please make your payment to Diane Hill **by December 1st**. You can either pay in cash or write a check to Williamston Theatre (do not make your check out to Diane).

FOOD PANTRY

Starting Thursday, Nov. 14 and continuing daily until Thanksgiving on Thursday, Nov. 28, in addition to the items we regularly supply to the pantries once per day, we are fortunate to also be able to distribute a wonderful assortment of "Thanksgiving-themed" food items! A HUGE thank you to Tammy Heilman for writing and receiving a grant through Thrivent to purchase this Thanksgiving food; she also did the work of shopping for the products and assembling the bags for distribution by the Brigade.

YOUTH CORNER

Nine youths from Faith participated in Living Water Ministries' CHARGE conference last weekend at the Great Wolf Lodge in Traverse City. We were part of about 200 other Christian youth from around Michigan. CHARGE was truly an uplifting and powerful experience! Several meaningful and inspiring stories were presented by the keynote speaker, Daniel Kirschbaum, ELCA's Senior Director for Young Adult Communities. Our youth also participated in skills workshops and breakout sessions which taught leadership team-building skills and provided additional learning opportunities to grow in Christian faith. There was lots of great music from the worship leaders, Nickel and the Spare Change, that had our gang dancing and singing! (Nickel = Nicole McCarthy, newly appointed director of LWM!). Fun at the GWL water park and lunch at Sleder's restaurant (where Smooching the Moose is a must) were other highlights of the weekend. We wish to thank everyone for their donations which made this trip possible!!

MOVIE MATINEE

Because of the busy FLC calendar and several concurrent events, we have moved the "Lunch and Movie Matinee" from Sunday, November 17 to Sunday, December 15. All youth in grades 6 and up are welcome!! A light lunch and snacks will be provided after worship service in the fellowship hall, followed by a movie. Originally, "Rudy" was the movie choice, but given the date being closer to Christmas, a Christmas-themed movie may be in order....stay tuned!!