

Beacon of Faith

Worship God. Grow in faith. Offer hope.

Faith Lutheran Church and Preschool

November 2023



Welcome Statement

In response to God's unconditional love and grace, the people of Faith Lutheran Church seek to follow Jesus' commandment to love God, and to love our neighbor as ourselves. We express that love in our commitment to racial equity, and in our welcome of people of all ages, races, economic status, intellectual and physical abilities, sexual orientations, gender identities and expressions, along with their families and friends, to join with us as we worship God, grow in faith, and offer hope.



**VETERANS
DAY**

November 11
(observed on Nov. 10)

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ONE Service on November 19

9 a.m. in the Sanctuary

Followed by the 2023 Annual Meeting

There will be one service at 9 a.m. on November 19 in the sanctuary, followed by the 2023 Annual Meeting. Parents, please note: Children are invited to participate in the service. There will be a children's message in worship. The nursery (age 6 and under) will be available for worship and the Annual Meeting. Supervised activities will be held upstairs for children kindergarten-5th grade during the meeting.

IMPORTANT: The meeting report, including the proposed budget for 2024, will be available on Sunday, November 12. Those who would like to review it prior to the meeting are encouraged to pick one up at the church OR call and request that it be sent electronically or by mail (330-836-8811).



Pastor's Pondering
Pastor Jean M. Hansen



Ministry Fair **What a Celebration!!**

October 8, 2023 was a great and glorious day at Faith Lutheran Church!

No, the Bishop was not visiting and, no, it was not a celebration of a significant anniversary. The celebration on that day was of ministry, and of the people who make it happen.

The Ministry Fair on October 8 in the Welcome Center and Youth Room showcased 34 of our congregation's ministries. Their leaders went to considerable time and effort to decorate tables, share their mission and provide fun giveaways that contributed to the festive atmosphere. Members of the congregation who were not staffing the displays wandered among them, collecting goodies (it was an early Trick or Treat opportunity for the children), chatting about the ministries and generally connecting with one another. It was a great and glorious day!

I am so grateful for everyone's intentional participation! Thank-you, also, to the Stewardship Team who organized the event: Andrew and Laurajeanne Fligor – especially for the boxes of Cracker Jack, goodie-collecting bags and cheerful balloons and to Sarah Kaufman - for the candle favors and song-sharing of the previous week. I was also blessed by staff members Nancy Tobar, Dineen Dowling, David Simpson and Jesse Unk who assisted with promotion, organizing and set-up for the Fair. We did indeed let our light shine, and those who participated did give glory to God because of everyone's efforts.

I am not kidding when I say that the event brought a tear – of joy – to my eye. To see the commitment of the congregation to ministry displayed in one place, with so much variety, creativity and intentionality was a great blessing. It was a concrete indication that our mission to Worship God! Grow in Faith! Offer Hope! is being fulfilled and will continue to be our focus as the people of God at Faith Lutheran Church.

There is little more satisfying to a pastor – at least to this pastor – than to see ministry happening without her or his direct involvement, but certainly with her or his support and encouragement. That's what I saw on Oct. 8, the people of God, doing the work of God, in the church facility and beyond. My heart is filled with gratitude for all who make this ministry happen with their hands-on activity and financial support; the light of God is shining through all for all to see ... thanks be to God!

Please turn to page 7 & 12 for photos from the Fair.

Key Dates

The  is back!

All the soup you can eat plus desserts and beverages!

Friday, November 10, 2023

Dinner 5:30 - 7 PM Table games 7 - 9 PM

**Faith Lutheran Church
Fellowship Hall**

\$7.50 Adult

\$5.00 Child

A Silent Auction will run concurrently with dinner.
All proceeds benefit local food pantries!



Please contact Debbie Gottas at d6gottas@outlook.com or 330-592-4251 if you would like to donate soup, dessert, or an auction item.

Key Dates



West Akron Churches Community Thanksgiving Day Service

9 a.m., November 23

Episcopal Church of Our Saviour

471 Crosby St, Akron

The offering will benefit DLM.

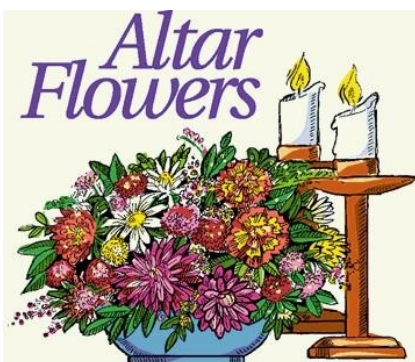
Pastor Jean will be participating in this service and invites you to do so as well!



to Decorate the Sanctuary

Look for order inserts soon in the Weekly Beacon, Weekly e-news,
or stop by the church office.

The deadline to place your order is early December.



**Please note, effective January 1, 2024, the
cost of altar flowers will increase to \$60.**

The 2024 flower chart has been posted across from the Meeting Room on the bulletin board and is ready for signup. Checks are to be made payable to the church and in the memo section, note altar flowers. Please pick up your flowers after the 10:30 a.m. Informal Service. They are yours to keep or to give to someone who would enjoy them.

Key Dates



Save the Date!

“Tinsel and Tea” Luncheon

**December 2
11 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.**



Annual RIC Event at Faith:

**Gingerbread House Decorating
Saturday, December 16
11 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Decorating and Lunch**

Faith welcomes the **LBGTQIA+** community and their allies to this event. Please RSVP to the church office 330-836-8811 so we have enough supplies!

BAKERS NEEDED: We will have pans in the shape of houses but need bakers! Contact the church office if you can help!



**Sing with the choir
on
Music Sunday, December 17
One 10 a.m. Service**

**Rehearsals are at 10:30 a.m. in the Choir
Room on:**

**Nov. 26
Dec. 3
Dec. 10
Sat., Dec. 16 - Dress Rehearsal,
10 a.m. - Noon**

Key Dates



Mark Your December Calendars!

December 3

First Sunday in Advent

Lighting of the Advent Wreath and Holy Communion at both services.

December 10

Second Sunday in Advent

Lighting of the Advent Wreath and Holy Communion at both services.

December 17

Third Sunday in Advent

ONE service at 10 a.m. in the Sanctuary

Christmas Music Sunday

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Holy Communion

Followed by Christmas goodies at the Kinship Café

December 24

Fourth Sunday in Advent

Christmas Eve

ONE morning service, 10 a.m. in the sanctuary

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Holy Communion

Celebrate the birth of Jesus!!

No Kinship Café

and

ONE evening service, 7 p.m. in the sanctuary

Candlelight Worship

Holy Communion

Celebrate the birth of Jesus!!

Please note: the morning and evening services on December 24 will each be unique, so why not attend both as we celebrate the birth of Jesus!

Outreach



David Simpson
Community Outreach Coordinator
Outreach@faithlutheranchurch.org
330-836-8811

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

MINISTRY FAIR

The Ministry Fair on October 8 was a wonderful success. Several members provided excellent graphic displays depicting ministry highlights from all areas of the congregation.

The following community outreach ministries represented were:

Busy Fingers
Community Garden with OPEN M
DLM
Family Promise – Glendora Hous
Interfaith Justice Alliance
Loads of Faith - Laundry Love
OASIS
Ohio Mission Trip
OPEN M
Prayer Shawls
RIC
Salvation Army
Soup Ministry
Thailand Outreach Mission
Wheelchair Ministry



Outreach

ELCA DAY OF SERVICE

The Busy Fingers Team repackaged all 77 of the health kits to better meet the needs of Lutheran World Relief. The kits will be delivered to the international distribution center in Baltimore in November. David and Karen Nevergall have offered to take care of this delivery as they will be travelling to that area. Thanks to our Busy Fingers folks for so efficiently tending to this matter.

LOADS OF FAITH (LoF)

We are delighted that Ed Pleasant has joined the LoF team. Ed began his participation on September 27, at Laundromat City. Thank you Ed.

We are also having more children participate in reading and art activities while their parents are taking care of the family laundry. These photos are from Laundry Time Laundromat. (The families granted us permission to use the pictures.)



Ed greeting laundry customers.



Pastor Jean with Shafiqullah & Malala



Darlene made a new laundry bag for a customer.



Also with Susmita & Shweta

SALVATION ARMY ANGEL TREE

Each Advent season members of Faith Lutheran Church have been providing gifts to children through the Salvation Army Angel Tree project. Participants are invited to take tags from either decorated tree that will be located in the Welcome Center and Narthex. These tags provide information about local children and their Christmas wishes. Gifts are purchased and returned unwrapped, marked with the child's tag identification, and delivered to the Salvation Army before Christmas. This year we will be responsible for 40 children's gifts. The two trees will be put up on Sat., November 18. Coordinators are Patti Nagy, Carla Ringer and Nancy Tobar.



Outreach

COMMUNITY GARDEN

The Community Garden had an incredible year with over 2,500 pounds of fresh produce donated to OPEN M. Nicole Vincent and Molly Donahue, garden coordinators, express thanks to everyone for their hard work of creating this year's crop, from preparing to planting to tending and to harvesting. Thanks to Molly and Nicole for their leadership. Other team members are:

Nancy Bradshaw
Tony, Kara and Aly Buckler
The Donahue Family
Pastor Jean

Art Kaufman
Tim Lewis
Sara Molnar
Molly Vongratane

The Vincent Family
Darlene Weaver
Linda Weigand



INTERFAITH JUSTICE ALLIANCE

The interfaith planning committee met on October 2 at Faith Lutheran Church to continue preparing the 2024 series. Committee members from Faith are Pastor Jean, Dineen Dowling and David Simpson. Current plans include a continuing focus on gun violence both by going more deeply into this matter and by creating opportunities for significant follow-up action. Tentatively, these are the areas of emphasis:

The law - Evolution of gun laws since the 1990's

Advocacy - What can be done?

Local legislation - Local laws and the new Police Oversight Board

Schools - How gun violence has affected how we teach.



The following are the proposed dates for the series February 21 and 28, and March 6 and 13. More details will follow.

Outreach

LOOKING AHEAD

- *Loads of Faith* (Both North Hill and Wallhaven) - October 25, November 29, December 27
- *DLM* – November 4, December 9
- *RIC* - Gingerbread House Making Event for LGBTQ+ Community & Allies

O-T-H-E-R R-E-L-A-T-E-D N-E-W-S

COPLEY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Copley United Methodist Church is starting a free used housewares and clothing store for those in need in Copley and Fairlawn. The store will be open at the Church the first Friday of every month, starting from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Donations of gently used or new children's clothing, kitchen equipment and bath towels would be much appreciated. Donations can be dropped off at the church on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., or by making arrangements through 330-666-8354.

ELCA NEWS

The next **ELCA World Hunger Leadership Gathering** will be in February 2024 in Houston, Texas.

FAMILY PROMISE

Thanks to all of you who anonymously contribute condiments for Family Promise. You may be interested in knowing that the organization reached a new threshold. Here is a story from their own newsletter:

*Today, we finalized the selection of the first family to be placed in our first house in the **Survive to Thrive – Destination Homeownership** program. Charla Smith and Jim Johnson are a young married couple who have been married for three years. They have two beautiful children, Andrea (1yrs old) and Nini (3yrs old) and are expecting a third child in mid-October. They were living with James' mother in Florida for about one year. After his mother's landlord discovered that they were living there without being on the lease, he had no choice but to kick them out. From there, the family came to Akron with hope to find a safe, affordable place to live. They stayed with family and friends for a while but eventually had to check into a hotel. A few months later they were contacted by United Way's Housing Services for placement into Family Promise's homeless shelter. While being in this program these past two months, this family has accomplished a lot. They are going to marriage counseling, they have signed up with United Way's Financial Empowerment Center to help with their budgeting, and James found a part time job. In a few months James will be going into the police Academy. Chantel has a degree in Psychology. Once she has the baby she will be getting a job in her career field.*

It's been a struggle for this family for two years of being homeless. This will be their first time being in a home of their own and the opportunity for them to become homeowners will be absolutely life-changing. This will be their first time ever having their name on a lease. We are proud that this bright couple who wants nothing else but to provide a safe and stable place for their growing families will take possession of the first Survive – 2 – Thrive home. We are hopeful that the family will be settled in the home by October 1, 2023. It is my hope that you all have a sense of pride and warmth having been a part of making this happen for a family! They will be in a home. A place where they can be a family, get stronger as the days, months and years pass. A place that will be filled with love, grace, and peace. What greater accomplishment could Family Promise achieve than to say to the family – "welcome home!"



Outreach

THE INTERNATIONAL WELCOME CENTER (IWC)

Darlene Weaver and David Simpson were guests of Marla Rieder at a fundraising and education event, hosted by the **International Welcome Center** at the Pro Football Hall of Fame. The purposes were to not only to introduce us to the organization, but also to explore possible future networking or collaborative opportunities. Marla is an IWC board member and one of Darlene's friends. The organization's mission is "empowering the foreign-born through faith, empathy, and service. We stand committed to embodying Christ's love, forming purposeful partnerships, and nurturing a world where every soul, regardless of origin, feels valued, understood, and truly at home with dignity. From diverse refugee countries represented, to the many individuals now proudly calling Akron home, our dedicated volunteers witness the transformative reach of the IWC's mission in action. We have over 10,000 refugees from 13 countries. We work with a small paid staff and more than 130 volunteers."

IWC is an independent not-for profit organization founded by Rev. Cary Duckett, Pastor of Grace Bible Church in New Franklin, Ohio. The IWC website is: <https://theiwc.org>

Here is a testimonial from a grateful refugee service recipient:

"As a refugee, my life has been filled with unimaginable challenges and hardships. However, despite the adversity, I am grateful for the safety of the United States and the assistance the International Welcome Center has provided me. Their compassion and support have given me hope for a better future, and I am determined to contribute to my new community to the best of my abilities." – Joseph

MIRACLES ON WHEELS

The following article is from the Akron Beacon Journal:



Betty Lin-Fisher:

Miracles on Wheels gives away cars to break cycle of poverty, disparity.

For the last 13 years, Harvey Bryant Sr. has been quietly giving away fixed up cars to friends and strangers.

His ministry, Miracles on Wheels, is not an official nonprofit with 501(c)(3) status.

He's just a former city of Akron sewer maintenance worker and Akron police department reserve officer who now works as a security guard and who has a mission in his heart. He has funded his ministry with his wife of seven years, Michelle, and in recent years a hand full of friends, who try to donate \$25 a month.

He calls the ministry his "download" from God. The West Akron man has other ministries too, including delivering meals to senior citizens. He also would like to build tiny houses for the homeless.

"Everybody needs somebody to lift them up and to be a blessing. Everybody can be a blessing," Bryant said recently. "That car can be a blessing to someone and change their whole life instantly."

His wife knows firsthand. "Before we were married, I was a single mom and I know what it was like to struggle and take the bus," she said. "So I was so grateful that the Lord put that in his heart to do."

Bryant was one of the winners in the second round of my Health Disparities Project, which started with a \$3,000 reporting grant and recognizes grassroots group in Akron working to solve the problem of racism as a public health issue. In total, a group of community judges have awarded more than \$10,000 thanks to donations from readers. To read more about the project, go to www.tinyurl.com/ABJHealthDisparities

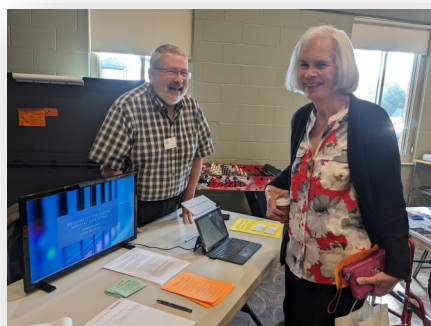


Financial Report

Operating Expenses
Y-T-D through September, 2023

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>
Amount needed to meet budget:	\$439,389	\$509,472
Amount received to date:	449,520	401,548
Amount Over or (Under) Budget	10,131	(107,924)
Amount Over or (Under) Expenses	35,851	(38,491)

Highlights from October's Faith's Ministry Fair



David Nevergall discusses the Digital Ministry Outreach with Chris Allen.



Ed Pleasant and John Knops share how rewarding and fun it is to be an usher.



Celebration & Memorial Courtyard



Seth Solberg shares ideas from the Congregations Lead Initiative group.



Art Kaufman share details about the Wheelchair Ministry.



Bonnie Janelle talks about the Women's Third Thursday Bible Study group.



New Tools Tell the Old, Old Story

Imagine a hot new technology taking the world by storm...a tool that allows folks from just about anywhere to quickly and comprehensively share news and ideas, creativity and opinion with a bigger audience in less time than ever before possible.

That's precisely what was happening when a college professor nailed up a list of debating points to the community bulletin board in Wittenberg, Germany, on October 31, 1517. With the help of a new technology...the printing press...Dr. Martin Luther's ideas spread quickly across Europe and ignited the firestorm we know as the Protestant Reformation. Our very presence as a congregation in the Lutheran tradition is testimony to how powerful that new technology was in bringing the Good News of Christ Jesus into a new day.

It makes perfect sense that, like our ancestors, we too would seize the opportunity that new technology gives us for sharing the Gospel. And that's precisely what the **Digital Ministry Task Force** of Faith Lutheran Church is aiming for. We have been meeting with the various ministry teams to help develop new methods for carrying out this congregation's established ministries: creating community, making disciples, reaching out to those in need, and worshipping our Lord.

But this is not work confined to a single committee. All of us will have the opportunity to participate as we take up new tools for telling the old, old story. For example:

- Have you ever taken a class online? Part One of the three-part **online Zoom class** is currently meeting at **7:30 p.m. on Wednesday evenings**. (Details on next page.) We're exploring Luther's Small Catechism, beginning with the Ten Commandments. It's not too late to join the conversation. Contact Pr. David Nevergall (david.nevergall@gmail.com) for Zoom link information.
- Do you use Facebook? Join us for a **two-session Sunday morning gathering (December 3 and 10)**, from **10 - 10:30 a.m. in the church library**, as we discover how to share the work of the congregation on that platform, and thus extend Faith's reach into the community with God's Good News in Christ.

This, of course, is only the beginning. There will be more ways to participate in this expanding effort. We urge you to check the Task Force's bulletin board, the weekly bulletin, the newsletter, and the website for up-to-date information.

Just like Martin Luther, we have Good News to proclaim in new ways. We look forward to sharing this exciting effort with you!

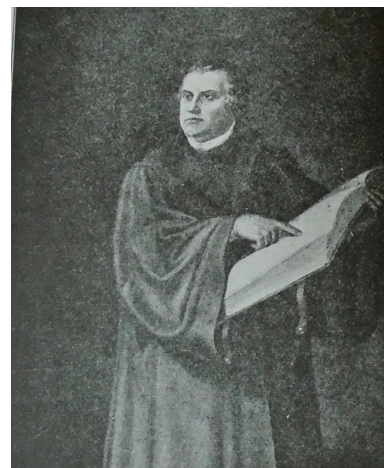
Growth & Learning/Digital Media

Remember the Small Catechism?

Some of us have probably kept up since 7th grade. But some of us haven't... and some of us probably never had the chance to learn. That's the reason we're offering an online class on Luther's Small Catechism.

First published in 1529, the Small Catechism was designed to help parents teach their children the faith at home. Mostly these days, it is used in confirmation classes. But it's still good stuff for adults to learn and remember.

So you're invited to join us! We'll continue to be online via Zoom on Wednesdays: November 1, November 15, November 22, and November 29. We meet at 7:30 p.m. for about an hour. These six sessions will cover the Ten Commandments. (We'll get to the rest of the Catechism beginning in January, 2024). It's not too late to join the conversation (the first two classes were held on October 18 and 25)



Our class leader will be Pr. David Nevergall. Contact him directly (david.nevergall@gmail.com) for the Zoom link you'll need. Then join us as we discover anew the power of Luther's Small Catechism for our faith in this day.

Upcoming Learning Opportunities!

How to help extend Faith's Social Media Reach

2 sessions - Sundays, December 3 and 10
10-10:30 a.m. in the Library

Come learn how your social media activity can help boost
Faith Lutheran's presence in the community.

There's an App for That!

Check out these handy tools for your smart phone:

Bible Hub (biblehub.com)

...a handy Bible study tool with multiple languages and commentaries.

YouVersion Bible (youversion.com)

...the premier Bible reading and community app

Luther's Small Catechism (cph.org)

...from Martin Luther to you in a beautiful format.

Verse-a-Day (verse-a-day.com)

...inspiration delivered daily to your smartphone.

PrayerMate (prayermate.net)

...helps develop or enrich your daily prayer habits.

Growth & Learning



Third Thursday Bible Study Thursday, November 16 10 a.m. in the Youth Room

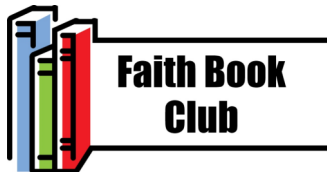
Third Thursday Bible Study will wrap-up the Ascension Press video series on *Jesus: the Way, the Truth, and the Life* with its final session entitled "Resurrection and Life". It will be an overview of Jesus' appearances after his death. All women are invited to participate on **Thursday, November 16, at 10 a.m.** in the Youth Room at Faith.

For more information, contact Bonnie at 330.606.3230 or janellebonnie@gmail.com.

Men of Faith Bible study and discussion group 9 a.m. in the Youth Room November 18



Men of Faith, a Bible study and discussion group meets the third Saturday of each month in the Youth Room. For more information contact Geoff Whidden, geoffrey.whidden@gmail.com or Karl Demuth, karldemuth@gmail.com.



Up for Discussion by the FLC Book Club

The Story of Arthur Truluv 2 p.m. Tues., November 21 Join us in the Youth Room

Up for discussion by Faith's book club on **November 21, 2023** is *The Story of Arthur Truluv* by **Elizabeth Berg**. **Join us in the Youth Room at 2:00 pm** for a discussion of three people who each lose the one they love most, only to find second chances where they least expect them. What follows is a bit more of our "tease." For more information about Book Club, see our page on the FLC website. Or contact one of our leaders, Faith members Marilyn Wilson or Steve Thompson.

For the past six months, Arthur Moses's days have looked the same: He tends to his rose garden and to Gordon, his cat, then rides the bus to the cemetery to visit his beloved late wife for lunch. The last thing Arthur would imagine is for one unlikely encounter to utterly transform his life.

Eighteen-year-old Maddy Harris is an introspective girl who visits the cemetery to escape the other kids at school. One afternoon she joins Arthur—a gesture that begins a surprising friendship between two lonely souls. Moved by Arthur's kindness and devotion, Maddy gives him the nickname "Truluv." As Arthur's neighbor Lucille moves into their orbit, the unlikely trio band together and, through heartache and hardships, help one another rediscover their own potential to start anew.

Wonderfully written and full of profound observations about life, *The Story of Arthur Truluv* is a beautiful and moving novel of compassion in the face of loss, of the small acts that turn friends into family, and of the possibilities to achieve happiness at any age.

FaithKids

Junior Youth Group

Recent Service Projects:



ELCA Good Gifts We are collecting coins to buy some animals for families around the world! You can take a barn bank home to collect or just bring change to church. At the Ministry Fair, a member told me she had \$100 in coins to contribute! I thought the Jr Youth could count and roll the coins AND THEN, after we added up what we collected (by Nov 19), they could do the math and decide which animals we were going to purchase.



Birthday in a Bag

This is a local service project, which we tried last summer at VBS. Both DLM and OPEN M, food pantries that we gave the bags to in the summer, said they are completely OUT. And you know fall and winter kids in need have birthdays coming up... so... we are revisiting this project. Bags are available in the Welcome Center to fill and return. Your family is invited to participate by taking a bag, filling it with the items listed, and bringing it back by Oct 29. If any families want to deliver them to OPEN M or DLM, let Dineen know!

Other important dates coming up:

Presentation of Bibles Sunday!



Sunday, November 19 is a single 9 a.m. service in the Sanctuary. During worship, we will give gifts of Bibles to our FaithKids! Traditionally, Faith Lutheran Church gives our Kindergarteners a Spark Story Bible and our 1st Graders an NRSV Gift Bible. Please let Dineen know if your kindergartener or 1st grader will be in worship that Sunday!

This is one way we fulfill the promise made at Baptism, "to place in their hands the Holy Scriptures!"

Preparing for the Christ Child!

Advent Night Wed, Nov 29 – supper and Advent activity

SAVE THE DATE! This is a great way to open the holiday season with Christ at the center!

Advent Wreath Candle Lighting/Reading Sundays in December! I will be seeking out families who have a good reader to read a devotion while another family member lights the candles on the Advent wreath.

Puppet Ministry to help with Children's Sermons Hoping to schedule Daniel & Kaylan Hyter to join us again to work with puppets and teach a story to share at a children's sermon!

Finally, I wanted to encourage you all to bring your child to our Sunday morning time of faith formation. Not just because we have planned something for them, but because they can grow in faith and friendships with one another! For example, in Junior Youth Group we have a new member who is in 5th grade and just recently was baptized! She's a newer Christian and could use some friends from church! I want her to feel welcomed and would love for this group to grow in faith and friendship with one another!

Sunday School

Sundays, Nov 5, 12, 26

9:50-10:30 a.m.

Near the end of the *first service (around 9:50), Pastor Jean dismisses all those staying for Sunday School to exit the Narthex.

FaithKids: 4yo-2nd Grade meet upstairs
Junior Youth: 3rd-5th meet in the Library.

*Any 10:30 attenders, please come early to make it to Sunday School by 9:50 a.m.

Plan to have a fun-filled, faith-building time in fellowship with your Faith friends!

(NO Sunday School on Nov 19 due to single 9 a.m. service & annual mtg.)

There will be activities for children & Jr youth during annual meeting)





New Playground Equipment

As this newsletter goes to press, the new playset is being installed. Each day another piece of equipment is added, and the excitement is growing! The children (and teachers) are hoping for some warm weather before the snow flies to allow us to play outside and try out our new set!

Three Turtle Tots Classes!

Due to great interest in our Mom, Dad & Me Class for 2-3 year olds and a caregiver, we have THREE class offerings: Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. Taught by Amanda Hyter, this class is an excellent introduction to the preschool experience!

Decision to create an LLC

After hearing from Attorneys John Reyes and Nate Fulmer, and John Weisend from the Finance Team, it was recommended that Faith Preschool shift to an LLC. This risk management move will protect the church and preschool staff from litigation. The Congregation Council approved of the move. Next steps include drawing up the LLC paperwork and creating a regulating document and new Board Manual.

40th Anniversary Open House

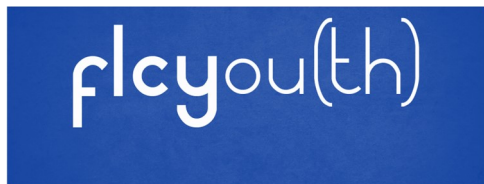
Faith Preschool is celebrating 40 years of serving children and families! Current and former staff, students, board members all gathered on Saturday, Oct. 14, to give thanks for this milestone. We enjoyed donuts and cider from Hillside Orchard (a favorite field trip destination) and coffee and gelato from Café Arnone Foodtruck. Em Antal wowed with face and hand painting. There was walk-around magic, a giant quilt to sign, and little pumpkin rocks to paint. Families could peek at the progress of our playground through the Youth Room windows. It was a fun event! We give thanks to God for all those who pass through our doors!



Thank you to all church members and families who purchased frozen Butter Braids and Mrs. Fields cookie dough. Items will be delivered on Thursday, November 9 and available for pick up between 11:30 a.m. and 12Noon. We can keep your order in the freezer at church until you can pick up on Sunday, Nov, 12. We made over \$1,600!

Thank you to our Board members who worked the Open House: Carla Ringer, Debbie Gottas, Cindy Boswell, and Michelle Wolski! Your dedication and assistance made the event run smoothly!

Growth & Learning



Eric & Abby Jezewski
Youth Leader & Co-leader

Thank you to our 6th grade youth who attended our first Learning Retreat of the year on October 7! Pastor Jean, Eric and Abby truly enjoyed the time spent together learning more about the Apostles Creed and the great discussions we had! Next retreat is **Saturday, November 18** in the Youth Room.

Don't forget that **FACE Time** and **Midweek Meal & More** have started again! FACE Time is every Sunday from 10-10:30 a.m. in the Youth Room for all youth in grades 6-12. Midweek Meal and More falls on the 3rd Wednesday of each month from 5:30-7 p.m. with light supper provided!

Join us for a NERF War on **Sunday November 12**! All youth in grades 6-12 are invited to bring their own NERF guns (make sure you put your initials on them as well as any darts/balls!), and we also have some loaners thanks to Joe Antal. We will meet in the Youth Room immediately following the second service for lunch and then commence with the days activities. Please make sure you RSVP so that we have enough food!



We are still collecting Acme Community Cashback Receipts! Please feel free to place them in the box in the Welcome Center, as well as in the Youth box outside Pastor Jean's office. Thank you so much for your support!

If you would like to find out more about our youth program at Faith Lutheran, please contact Youth Leader, Eric Jezewski, 330-836-8811/faithlcyouth@gmail.com



In Our Prayers:

Health Concerns:

Faith member Lin Bryant
Tommy Gorman
Faith member Dennis Internoscia
Faith member Tim Keeler
Faith member Vee Robinson
Faith member David Sweval
Faith member Terry Vernon
Faith member Hannah Williams

For Faith members Marian, Sally, Liane, Donna, Shirley, Martha, JoAnn and Ann who are in assisted living facilities, or receiving nursing care.

In Times of Loss:

For Faith member Dennis Caetta, and family, upon the unexpected death of his sister, Judy Vandegrift, that they may be comforted.

For Faith members Ann and Gary Hagen, and family, upon the death of Ann's mother on October 12, that they may be comforted.

Special Prayers

For peace in the Middle East.

With Thanksgiving:

For the baptisms of Ciara Nicole Holland and Carter Wayne Holland on October 1, children of Dawn and Jim Ware, Sarah Dietz and Chris Holland. Their sponsor is their grandmother, Muriel Dietz.



November



Schedule to Serve

Date	Service	Altar	Communion	Flowers	Lay Reader	Ushers	Youth
5	9 a.m.	Debbie Gottas Kit Scheetz	Deb Gottas - SE Karen Nevergall - SE Judy Harrison - SP Tim Lewis -SP Polly Dobkin - B	Tom Peyton	Rebecca Williams	Paul Skerlong John Weisend	Acolyte: Adam Schafer Assistant: Elyse Vincent
	10:30 a.m.	Bonnie Janelle	Bonnie Janelle			Geoff Whidden	
12	9 a.m.	Debbie Gottas Kit Scheetz		Ann & Gary Hagen	Sue Harman	Paul Skerlong John Weisend	
	10:30 a.m.	Nancy Hooper	Nancy Hooper			Karin Allen	
19	9 a.m.	Debbie Gottas Kit Scheetz	Fedearia Sweval - SE Tim Lewis -SE Deb Gottas - SP Karen Nevergall -SP Sandy Selby -B	Karin Allen	Gabe Hyter	Paul Skerlong John Weisend Ed Pleasant	Acolyte: Cayden Cloninger Assistant: Andy Schafer
26	9 a.m.	Debbie Gottas Kit Scheetz		Shirley Pope	Debbie Gottas	Paul Skerlong John Weisend	
	10:30 a.m.	Deb Allen	Deb Allen			Kim Kennedy	

SE - Server
SP - Supplier
B - Bread





Calendar of Events

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1 1 p.m. Courtyard 7:30 p.m. Adult Educ - Sm. Catechism	2 10 a.m. Prayer Shawl Noon Faith Family Fellowship Team	3	4 9:30 a.m. - 11 a.m. New Member Brunch 10:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. DLM @ Holy Trinity
5 9 Traditional Svc. 9:50 Christian Education 10 Kinship Café 10:30 Informal Service 11:30 Bound 7:30 AA	6 10 a.m. St. Cecelia Chorus 7 p.m. Council 8 p.m. AA	7 9:30 a.m. Busy Fingers Yoga 7 p.m. Scouts Al-Anon	8	9 10 a.m. Prayer Shawl	10 5:30 p.m. Faith Event - Soup Supper	11
12 9 Traditional Svc. 9:50 Christian Education 10 Kinship Café 10:30 Informal Service 11:30 Bound 7:30 AA	13 8 p.m. AA	14 9:30 a.m. Busy Fingers Yoga 7 p.m. SJSP Endow. 7 p.m. Scouts Al-Anon	15 5:30 p.m. Youth Midweek Meal & More 7:30 p.m. Adult Educ - Sm. Catechism	16 10 a.m. Prayer Shawl 10 a.m. Third Thurs. Women's Bible Study	17 6 p.m. Preschool PJ Party	18 9 a.m. Men of Faith Confirmation Learning Saturday
19 Newsletter Deadline 9 One service Followed by Annual Meeting 7:30 AA	20 10 a.m. St. Cecelia Chorus 8 p.m. AA	21 9:30 a.m. Busy Fingers Yoga 2 p.m. Book Club 7 p.m. Scouts Al-Anon	22 7:30 p.m. Adult Educ - Sm. Catechism	23 	24 Office Closed	25
26 9 Traditional Svc. 9:50 Christian Education 10 Kinship Café 10:30 Informal Service 11:30 Bound 7:30 AA	27 10 a.m. St. Cecelia Chorus 7 p.m. Gardeners of Greater Akron 8 p.m. AA	28 9:30 a.m. Busy Fingers Yoga 7 p.m. Scouts Al-Anon	29 5 p.m. Laundry Ministry 7:30 p.m. Adult Educ - Sm. Catechism	30 10 a.m. Prayer Shawl		



Please visit our website.



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Worship God. Grow in faith. Offer hope.