



Beacon of Faith

Worship God. Grow in faith. Offer hope.

Faith Lutheran Church and Preschool

December 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.



**Deadline for 2023
Financial
contributions
is Noon
Friday, Dec. 31**

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**Advent Arrives!
Prepare to Celebrate the Birth of Jesus!**



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



It's Time to Celebrate the Birth of Jesus!

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!





Pastor's Pondering
Pastor Jean M. Hansen



In the December 2022 Pondering, I ranted a bit about non-Christian Advent Calendars. This year, as I write this in mid-November, I have weightier things on my mind and in my prayers.

On November 14, the lives of many families in a neighboring county were changed forever following an accident involving a bus transporting students and chaperones from the Tuscarawas Valley Local School District. Three youth and three adults died, including a coworker of Faith Youth Co-director Abby Jezewski, and 18 were injured. The entire community was impacted by this tragedy.

And so, as we prepare to celebrate the first advent of Jesus, and anticipate his second advent, I pray: Come quickly, Lord Jesus.

Since mid-October, Israel has been waging against Hamas in response to that terrorist organization's indefensible assault on peaceful Jewish communities in southern Israel, killing and wounding more than 1400 people, and taking 240 hostages. While Israel's justified response targeted Hamas, it also has led to the deaths of more than 11,000 Palestinians, and anguish for thousands more. For the most part, these people are not extremists; they are suffering immensely due to lack of food, water, fuel, medical care, and safety. There will be no winners in this situation.

And so, as we prepare to celebrate the first advent of Jesus, and anticipate his second advent, I pray: Come quickly, Lord Jesus.

At a recent local meeting of ELCA rostered individuals, those attending were told that of the 8,300 churches in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, 20-30 percent will close within the next two to three years. Also, in 2023 there was a total of 183 students in ELCA seminaries, a number that does not begin to meet the need for pastors with 400-500 retiring each year. The church, as we have known it, will be no more. Are we prepared to proclaim the Good News of Jesus in a new way?

And so, as we prepare to celebrate the first advent of Jesus, and anticipate his second advent, I pray: Come quickly, Lord Jesus.

Guns are a plague in Summit County. A study done by the Akron Beacon Journal offers these conclusions: Gun deaths now dominate overall homicides like nothing the county has seen before. Fatal shootings and reported gunfire are highly concentrated in ZIP codes surrounding downtown Akron. Black, male victims fill morgues at a rate five times their share of the general population. Victims of gun violence are growing markedly younger as residents express fears of children running wild and youths who settle their scores with readily available firearms. We live in fear-filled times.

And so, as we prepare to celebrate the first advent of Jesus, and anticipate his second advent, I pray: Come quickly, Lord Jesus.

I could add more petitions to this litany, but I won't, given everyone's desire for the Advent and Christmas seasons to be a peace-filled and joyous time. Yet, the holidays come to a real world, with hurting people and insurmountable challenge. That's why it is even more vital than ever that we focus on the message of Christmas...that God became flesh and lived among us, full of truth and grace, forgiving and empowering us as we wait in this complicated time for his return.

Come quickly, Lord Jesus.

The Christmas Season Continues!

December 31

First Sunday of Christmas

Worship Schedule, as usual

9 a.m. in the Sanctuary

10:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall

The Informal Service will be “Table Worship” with interactive activities, children’s message and a conversation sermon!

January 7

The Epiphany of our Lord

Worship Schedule, as usual

9 a.m. in the Sanctuary

10:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall

We remember the arrival of the Magi, who were led by a star to Jesus!

Please note these Sunday updates for Children and Youth

There will be no Christian Education for children or youth in-between the services on December 17, 24 and 31. Classes will begin again on January 7.



Key Dates



to Decorate the Sanctuary

Please fill out a red poinsettia order form and place in the offering plate or turn in to the church office.

The deadline to place your order is December 3.



Help Decorate the Church Sunday, December 3 In between the services

Jobs for all ages. Many hands make light work.
Meet in the narthex.

Another opportunity to get to know your fellow Faith members. Questions? Contact Lorelee Daily 330-644-0928 or duanelorelee@netscape.net



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

Faith welcomes the LGBTQIA+ community and their allies to this event.

Please RSVP to the church office 330-836-8811
so we can have all the supplies ready for you!



2726 W. Market St., Fairlawn, Ohio
www.faithlutheranchurch.org



Key Dates

Salvation Army Angel Tree Located in the Welcome Center



Choose a tag(s) from the tree and place your name and contact information next to the corresponding tag number on the clipboard. Shop! Bring your unwrapped gifts in a garbage bag (with name tag securely attached to the bag), to the church and place under the Angel Trees.

Please note deadline to return bag of gifts is Sunday, December 10.

Kinship Café News

Snickerdoodles, Gingerbread, Macaroons...

Whatever you like to bake, please consider donating a dozen or two, or more, for the cookie reception that will follow the:



**10 a.m.
Music Sunday
Service
on
December 17**

**Please note the Kinship Café will not be open on December 24.*



Lessons and Carols

Friday, December 8
7:30 p.m. (prelude begins at 7 p.m.)
at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

The evening will feature Holy Trinity's vocal and bell choirs and brass.
Pastor Jean will be participating in the service.

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 50 N. Prospect St., Akron



Key Dates

Acme Community Cashback Raises Money for Our Youth Programs

Collect and turn in your Acme receipts through **Feb. 15, 2024**. Please place them in the Cashback Collection box in the Welcome Center, as well as in the Youth box outside Pastor Jean's office.

Thank you so much for your support for our youth programs!



Avoid those awkward, "what is their name?" moments!

Watch for a Special Online Church Directory Sign-Up Day in January!

On this day you will be able to:

- Fill out a form and submit your information
- Have your picture taken
- Get questions answered
- Receive instruction on using the directory.

To learn more about the directory and to sign-up now, visit the church website, www.faithlutheranchurch.org and click on the white **Members** button. There are currently 204 of your fellow Faith members in the directory.



Please Note:

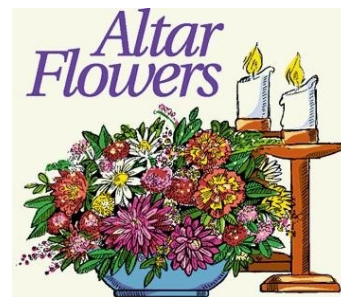
The Council will meet on December 18 in the Youth Room for an Advent Social Gathering. There will be no business meeting.

In January, the Council will meet for a day-long retreat on January 20, and therefore will not meet on January 15.

ANNUAL REPORTS

Attention Team Leaders
Annual Reports Due January 15, 2023

Please e-mail them to the church office at nancy@faithlutheranchurch.org



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.

Outreach



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

COMMUNITY
OUTREACH

COMMUNITY GARDEN:

Thanks to Sandy Selby for collecting and delivering the last 75 pounds of harvest to OPEN M. That brought our total 2023 contribution to 2,650 pounds. The Food Service staff were shocked, and delighted, that FLC was delivering *one more load* of fresh vegetables in mid-November! "Our clients will be so surprised, and so excited, when we give them these fresh vegetables today!" These photos are of our gardeners, Sandy's packed-up car, and the grateful OPEN-M food services staff.



AND, congratulation to our entire gardening team. This endeavor has been received two awards from the Gardeners of Greater Akron (GOGA). One recognizing the overall gardening effort and the other recognizing the children who assisted with the garden this year. Please see both awards which are displayed on the Outreach bulletin board. These awards were conferred at a GOGA'S annual ceremony on November 20. Present at the ceremony were Pastor Jean, Molly, Sean, Sam and Jax Donohue, Nicole, Brian, Elyse and Juliana Vincent, and Kara and Aly Buckler.

Fun Fact: A total of 9 tons of fresh produce has been donated since the garden began!

Outreach

RIC Event

Our RIC team is hosting a Gingerbread House making event for the LGBTQ+ community and allies. It will be on December 16 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and will include a pizza lunch. Please let anyone on the team or David Simpson know if you would like to participate and/or help to bake gingerbread houses in preparation for the event. The RIC team includes Em Antal, Joe Gardner, Dana Singer, Nancy Tobar and Marilyn Wilson.



INTERFAITH JUSTICE ALLIANCE (IJA)

The IJA 2024 planning committee has entitled the 2024 series “Uniting for Public Safety”. The dates are:



- Feb 21 – Legal and Social Environment - @ Faith Lutheran Church
- Feb 28 – Local Public Safety Initiatives - @ Temple Israel
- Mar 6 – Community Mentoring - @ New Hope Baptist
- Mar 13 – Schools - @ St Hilary
- Mar 20 – Students’ Experience - @ Prince of Peace Baptist Church

Please note that a fifth week has been added. It is at Prince of Peace Baptist Church whose pastor is Rev. J. Howard Streeter III. It is located at 844 Garth Ave, Akron, OH 44320.

Also, note that we will be hosting the first session of this series on February 21, 2024. (Remember, Easter is early this year.) This involves providing a meal and a worship service. Thanks in advance to the FFF Team and the Worship Team for planning and leading these events.

ELCA

Thanks to Karen and David Nevergall for delivering our donation of Personal Care Kits (towel, bath soap, toothbrush, comb & nail clippers) to Lutheran World Relief located in Baltimore, MD.



DLM

The next regular DLM service will be December 9. **This Christmas program will start at 10 a.m., so please arrive no later than 9:45 that morning.** Darlene Anderson has arranged for ‘Santa’ to participate and volunteers are invited to dress as elves. We will be serving a breakfast/brunch, and gifts will be given to each family member attending. The program will end at noon.

Here are the first quarter 2024 dates for DLM:

	Opening	Delivery
January	6	19
February	3	16
March	2	15
April	6	19

Outreach

PRAYER SHAWL TEAM



On October 19 this group blessed six prayer shawls for Grace House Akron providing one for each of the residents' rooms. Grace House provides a home for homeless people during their final days in hospice care.

From left to right Eugenia Sefton, Marilyn Wilson, Carol Whidden, Penny Thompson, Sandy Dolan, Dorothy Hansen, Chris Allen, Susan Thorkelson.

SALVATION ARMY ADOPT-A-CHILD CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

For this year we have again committed to supporting children ranging in age from infant to 14 years old. Specific information about the ages and gender is posted on tags attached to the special Christmas tree that has been placed in the Welcome Center. There will be tags for 40 children. Please consider purchasing a gift for one of the children. The deadline for returning gifts is December 10.



RISE AGAINST HUNGER (RAH)

Although we are not hosting a Rise Against Hunger event at this time, we have been invited to participate in one that is taking place on **December 9 at St. Stephen Lutheran Church in Stow** located at 3725 Kent Rd, Stow, OH 44224. To participate, one only needs to show up. If you have any questions you may call Jane Hecht at (330) 688-7213. Here is the announcement we received from St. Stephens:

Help Feed the World on December 9

Since 1998, Rise Against Hunger (RAH) has worked to feed hungry people around the world. To accomplish that goal, RAH engages with groups of volunteers to package dried ingredients that can be rehydrated into a nutritious meal. To date, volunteers across the U.S. have packed nearly 600 million meals that have been distributed to 78 countries. On Saturday, December 9, volunteers will gather at St. Stephen at 9 a.m. to pack 10,000 meals in about two hours. Children, youth and adults are all welcome to participate in this fun and meaningful activity. **The event is funded by the family of Clyde and Jean Bolinger, Lorelee Daily's parents, in honor of their commitment to creating a more just and equitable world.** Monetary donations are welcome too (checks should be made payable to Rise Against Hunger). To learn more about RAH, visit <https://www.riseagainsthunger.org/>

Outreach

FAMILY PROMISE

Please check the list of currently needed items for Family Promise's Glendora House, posted on the donation box in the Fellowship Hall hallway, above the coat rack. Thank you for your continued donations to support this important ministry.



LOADS OF FAITH – NEW VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

A few volunteer opportunities are available for our Loads of Faith laundry ministry. In addition to assisting with paying for washing and drying, there is opportunity for interacting with children accompanying their adult family members. Reading and art activities have been quite welcome. Here is another photo of Pastor Jean at Laundry Time Laundromat in North Hill.

MITZVAH DAY

The first Mitzvah Day planning meeting is scheduled for 7 p.m. on December 6 at Temple Israel. The program dates for 2024 are June 1 and 2. We will be encouraging you to consider participating in one of the programs that will be organized for those days. The list will be developed over the next few months.

SOUP MINISTRY

In addition to serving Valor Home, the Soup Ministry has recently included Grace House, Akron as a recipient of its nutritious donation program.



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

PROJECT UJIMA

Project Ujima is a grassroots community engagement organization that teaches and facilitates Discussion Circle processes that enable diverse citizens to come together, discuss issues of shared concern, develop relationships of trust, discover common ground, and go from talk to action.

The organization is named after the third principle of Kwanzaa, which means "Collective Work and Responsibility: To build and maintain our community together and to make our brother's and sister's problems our problems and to solve them together."

Project Ujima focuses on fostering the conditions that lead to citizens discovering their own efficacy and capacity to work together to strengthen the community. In addition to providing Circle processes, we provide logistical support to assist with implementation of actions that are agreed upon by Circle participants.*

**While our Discussion Circle processes and facilitator training are available to the community-at-large, our primary area of service is Akron's Buchtel Community, located on the City's west side.*

Project Ujima, Inc. provides trained facilitators to lead race dialogues for groups and organizations, using the Issue Guide, "Facing Racism in a Diverse Nation", published by Everyday Democracy. Project Ujima is an anchor partner with Everyday Democracy, a national organization committed to helping local communities foster civic engagement through an equity lens.

LaKesh Hayes serves as Executive Director. The website is: <http://www.projectujima-inc.org>

Outreach

ACCELERATE! - A New True North Ministry Community Based Initiative

What is it? A new inner-city Akron after school program designed to encourage the growth of junior- and high school aged young people in the four basic areas of wisdom (scholastic), stature (physical fitness), favor with God (through exploratory devotions led by True North Staff and volunteers) and favor with all – social skills character based programs, plus inspirational talks from leaders in the community.

Who is it for? High school aged youth who want to grow in the four basic areas and who have obtained a permission slip from their parents.

Where will it be held? Patterson Park Community Center. (future locations to be announced).

What are the times and when will it begin? From 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. on every Tuesday and Thursday beginning on Tuesday, February 2.

Will food be provided? Yes, through the generous donations of various partners in the community.

What is the cost? Offered free of charge!

What will be the activities? Homework assistance: 3-3:45 pm
Grab and go mealtime and devotional readings: 3:45-4:15
Physical fitness and game times: 4:15 till closing

Who will monitor and oversee the program? Pre-screened and trained adult volunteers from True North Ministries who can assist with homework topics, assisted by City employees of the Patterson Community Center.

What about safety and Social distancing? The program will abide by the rules of the City of Akron. Masks, social distancing rules and maximum room occupancy rules will be followed at all times by volunteers and students.

More Questions: Contact Julie Buckeye, Director, Community Based Ministries

Julie@truenorthministries.org Call us: 330-896-2700

Visit True North Ministries website: www.truenorthministries.org

BUS SHOWER SERVICE

A nonprofit in Akron is embarking on a journey to help the area's homeless in a unique way. Workers are equipping a donated Akron Metro Regional Transit Authority bus with some helpful amenities.

"It will have two showers, two tubs, changing rooms, actually two changing areas," said Robert Ford, founder of Forever R Children.

For people who hop on board, Ford believes it will be life-changing. The bus will lead "The Caravan of Love", serving the area's homeless.

"I can a (give them a) whole caravan, I can give them a hot shower, free dental, free medical, a food truck with my trailer, cold food, non-perishable foods, hot foods, barbers, beauticians," said Ford.

There will also be an organization on-site to help those in need find a job.

Lori Porter is a board member and said for some, the pandemic is still being felt.

"Some people just had to choose between rent and buying food. They had to choose between paying car insurance and buying gasoline. And so, the homeless population in our city has increased and is increasing," explained Porter.

Ford understands what it's like to be homeless.

"It's near and dear to my heart," he said. He understands because Ford was once homeless himself. "I lived it firsthand; I know how it is not to take a shower for a few days, not be able to brush your teeth," he added.

That's why he is driven to help some of those most in need in Akron. "I was homeless not because I was a drug addict or an alcoholic or anything like that; I just got a little down on my luck and had a sickness, so I was not able to work or do anything for seven years," Ford explained.

Now Ford, a team of people, nonprofits and organizations are determined to give back.

"The bus will be in local business and church parking lots. So, we have partnerships with some churches and businesses who have agreed to let us park the bus and bring our Caravan of Love," explained Porter.

Ford said they hope to have the bus rolling in about six weeks.

Operations

Financial Report

Operating Expenses Y-T-D through October, 2023

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>
Amount needed to meet budget:	\$488,210	\$566,080
Amount received to date:	504,780	456,521
Amount Over or (Under) Budget	16,570	(109,559)
Amount Over or (Under) Expenses	51,121	(31,967)



Thank you

Dear Faith Family,

Many thanks for all of your prayers, cards, and well wishes for my surgery and recovery. Your love and support means a lot to me.

Nancy Tobar

Dear Faith Lutheran Church,

Thank you so much for allowing us to use your church for our annual memorial service this fall. We appreciate your hospitality. We're so grateful for your partnership.

Sincerely,
Daphne & the Hospice Team & Families

Dear Busy Fingers,

Thank you for your generous donation of quilts. Veterans experiencing homelessness living in the Summit County area and across Ohio turn to Valor Home for help and we are here to give them the critical programs and support that they so desperately need.

The thoughtful donation of quilts you recently made couldn't have come at a better time. As you may know, Valor Home is the only male shelter in Summit County that provides emergency shelter and supportive programming to homeless Veterans. The demand for shelter continues to rise, and you have made it possible for us to continue to provide safety and comfort to Veterans.

Your support gives Veterans opportunities to achieve their goal of having a safe place to call home. Please feel free to contact us with any questions or concerns you may have.

Sincerely,
Cheryl Arnold, Manager

Dear Dineen & Faith Preschool,

Thank you for your generous gifts in support of OPEN M's participants. The toilet paper and paper towels that you have donated will certainly be put to good use.

Because of your thoughtfulness and generosity, we are able to give hope to impoverished individuals, and provide essential items to those who need them. We are truly proud to have you as a member of our ministry.

On behalf of the more than 50,000 individuals we serve annually, thank you for joining us on our journey to create pathways out of poverty, one person and one family at a time.

Julie Carneal, Chief Executive Officer

Digital Media

Using Facebook? Use it even better!

Many of us are on Facebook regularly to stay in touch with friends and family. But did you know that your use of Facebook can also be of great benefit to Faith Lutheran Church? Join us for two brief (about 20-minute) sessions on as we discover how to share the good news of God that is at work through our ministry here at Faith. We won't be doing anything highly technical or difficult to master...just learning new ways to use a tool we already know. Stop by the Library and join Pr. David Nevergall. You, too, can be a digital evangelist!



2 sessions - Sundays, December 3 and 10

Beginning at 10:05 a.m. in the library

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

Social Justice



FAITH is in Search Of Committee Members Who Are Passionate about Social Justice Issues:

Two teams at Faith that concentrate on contemporary issues of justice in our world are seeking members. Perhaps you feel the Spirit moving you to join?

Read below about their mission and please talk to Pastor Jean if you are interested in donating your time as part of one of these groups.



The RIC (Reconciling in Christ) Team advocates for inclusion of the LGBTQIA+ community and their allies at Faith and beyond. This team coordinates involvement at Akron's PRIDE event in August and the Gingerbread House Decorating in December. Participants meet less than once a month/when needed. Current team: Nancy Tobar, Em Antal, Joe Gardner, Marliyn Wilson, and Dana Singer.



The **Interfaith Justice Alliance** includes four very different local congregations who come together to advocate for common social justice issues. Faith Lutheran, St Hilary Catholic, and New Hope Baptist Churches, along with Temple Israel, plan an annual Spring speaker series that includes supper and worship in the style of the host congregation. The format allows for relationships to build and understanding to grow, while working as one to fight injustices, as our faith demands. The group meets less than once a month to plan the series. Previous topics for the series include: Racism, Gun Violence, Our Muslim Neighbors. Current Faith members are Pastor Jean, Dineen Dowling, and David Simpson.

**Think about it.
We can make a difference
for the sake of the Gospel.**





At Faith Preschool, we learn the important lesson of sharing what we have with others. Faith Preschool will adopt 5 families from Head Start to help them have a happier Christmas. **Gifts are donated** by our families, wrapped and delivered before Christmas. These families are identified by a social worker friend of Faith as those who sometimes fall through the cracks of assistance. Preschool families are so generous with their giving! We are blessed to be a blessing!

A Christmas pageant is part of our annual Christmas program for the older classes. On Friday, December 15, at 6 p.m. our students will present the perfectly preschool “ABCs of Christmas”. Songs will be interspersed throughout while children in costume set the stage for the Nativity story. We value this important retelling of the reason for the season. Merry Christmas to you!



FaithKids

Junior Youth Group



Advent Candle
Lighting

ELCA GOOD GIFTS

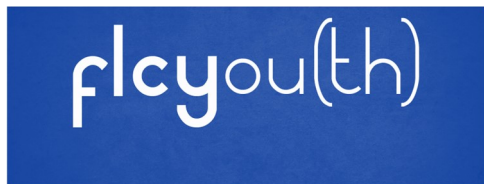


One way we prepare for the Christ Child is to light the Advent Wreath and read devotions both at home and at church. Faith families will take part in this tradition each Sunday of Advent, by lighting the Advent wreath and reading in worship. Thank you to all the families who participate and help us prepare the Way!

FaithKids and Junior Youth Group collected coins at the Ministry Fair. After that event, other donations of coins came in to total \$148! The Junior Youth Group counted out the coins and put them in the little bank sleeves THEN chose which animals to purchase from ELCA Good Gifts Catalog! We are excited to report that people we don't even know around the world will benefit from the generosity of strangers! Lives will be changed with the gift of a goat, pig, chicks, honeybees and more! The students even selected a donation to help a girl go to school!

If you are interested in giving something unexpected this Christmas, check out goodgifts.elca.org

Growth & Learning



Eric & Abby Jezewski
Youth Leader & Co-leader
330-836-8811/
faithlcyouth@gmail.com



Our second Confirmation Learning Retreat of the year was held on Saturday, November 18. There were 4 of our 6th grade youth in attendance and the topic was The Bible. Our next retreat is in February!

Don't forget, there will be no FACE Time during our Winter Break, which is December 17 through January 2. Enjoy the time with your families!

We had an absolute BLAST with everyone at the Nerf War that was held on Sunday, November 12! Special thanks to Joe and Em Antal for donating a full armory, along with helping out with such a cool event!!!



Parents of youth in 6-8th grade, please, PLEASE remember to put your youth's assigned days to serve on your personal calendars. While the documents are always available digitally on the Band App, we have had a few folks forget and have scrambled to find fill-ins on a Sunday morning. You are an essential part of our service on Sundays! Thanks!

Sunday, December 3 all youth (and friends) in grades 6-12 are invited to help decorate the church for Christmas and then join us for our annual Advent Lunch afterward! We will again be ordering out a celebratory lunch and will also have Christmas treats, games and a movie. We hope to see you there to celebrate the Christmas season with us!



On **December 9** there will be a **Rise Against Hunger** event at St. Stephen Lutheran Church in Stow. Since 1998, Rise Against Hunger (RAH) has worked to feed hungry people around the world. To accomplish that goal, RAH engages with groups of volunteers to package dried ingredients that can be rehydrated into a nutritious meal. To date, volunteers across the U.S. have packed nearly 600 million meals that have been distributed to 78 countries. On Saturday, December 9, volunteers will gather at St. Stephen at 9 a.m. to pack 10,000 meals in about two hours. Children, youth and adults are all welcome to participate in this fun and meaningful activity. The event is funded by the family of Clyde and Jean Bolinger, Lorelee Daily's parents, in honor of their commitment to creating a more just and equitable world. For more information please check out the flyer on the bulletin board!



In Our Prayers:

Health Concerns:

Faith member Mary Brandt
Faith member Lin Bryant
Tommy Gorman
Faith member Dennis Internoscia
Faith member Tim Keeler
Faith member Ashley Lapikas
Faith member Shirley Pope
Faith member Jennene Pritt
Faith member Vee Robinson
Faith member David Sweval
Faith member Terry Vernon
Faith member Darlene Weaver
Faith member Phyllis Woodrum

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 the family and friends of James Yutzy upon his death on October 10, that they may be comforted. James was a member of St. John/St. Paul Lutheran Church.

For Faith member Carl Sterner and family upon the death of his daughter Leigh Anne, on November 12, that they may be comforted. Leigh Anne's Memorial Service and interment will be at 11:30 a.m. on December 9 at the church.

For all who are grieving loved ones, and for all who were injured, in an accident involving a bus transporting students and chaperones from the Tuscarawas Valley Local School District. Three youth and three adults died, including a coworker of Faith Youth Co-director Abby Jezewski, and 18 were injured. May the entire community be strengthened and comforted.

For Martha Mazak and family upon the death of her cousin on November 12, and for her sister and brother-in-law, Pastor Betti and Chris Hazelton, upon the death of Chris' brother on Tuesday.

Special Prayers

For the people of Lewiston, Maine following the mass shooting in their community, especially all who were injured or whose loved ones died, that they may be comforted and strengthened.

With Thanksgiving:

For the new members who were welcomed on November 12, that we all may grow in Faith together.

For the birth of Delilah Maree Weidrick, daughter of Zack and Kelsey Weidrick and sister of Jace and Miles. The paternal grandparents are Faith members Linda and Rich Weidrick.

QR Code Prayer Requests:

For Hannah, that she may be restored to good health.
For Kathy, that she may be comforted.



Schedule to Serve

Date	Service	Altar	Communion	Flowers	Lay Reader	Ushers	Youth
3	9 a.m.	Debbie Gottas Kit Scheetz	Deb Rose - SE Debbie Gottas - SE Mandy Wagar - SP Emily Solberg -SP Karen Nevergall - B	Sarah Shook	Sandy Selby	Darryl Kleinhenz Nicole Vincent Elyse Vincent Linda Weigand	Acolyte: Cora Solberg Assistant: Kaylan Hyter
	10:30 a.m.	Bonnie Janelle	Deb Allen			Geoff Whidden	
10	9 a.m.	Debbie Gottas Kit Scheetz		Marilyn Wilson	Loralee Daily	Art Kaufman Nicole Vincent Juliana Vincent Linda Weigand	Acolyte: Elyse Vincent Assistant: Cayden Cloninger
	10:30 a.m.	Nancy Hooper	Nancy Hooper			Nancy Tobar	
17	10 a.m.	Debbie Gottas Kit Scheetz	Fedearia Sweval - SE Tim Lewis -SE Deb Gottas - SP Karen Nevergall -SP Sandy Selby -B	Eli Cooper	Karen Nevergall	Nancy Hooper John Knops Linda Lewis Tim Lewis	Acolyte: Andy Schafer Assistant: Linda Lewis Adam Schafer
24	10 a.m.	Debbie Gottas Kit Scheetz	Deb Allen	Carole & Skip Lintner		Art Kaufman Darryl Kleinhenz Ben Woods Carter Woods Nathan Woods Kim Kennedy	Acolyte: Treader Anderson Assistant: Kaylan Hyter
	7 p.m.	Debbie Gottas Kit Scheetz	Mandy Wagar - SE Emily Solberg - SE Debbie Gottas - SP Deb Rose -SP Dana Singer - B		Derek Daily	Seth Solberg Mason Solberg Hayden Solberg John Weisend	Acolyte: Matthew Bauer Assistant: Cora Solberg
31	9 a.m.	Debbie Gottas Kit Scheetz		Bobbie Fitt	Nicole Vincent	Art Kaufman Darryl Kleinhenz	
	10:30 a.m.	Deb Allen	Deb Allen			Karin Allen	

SE - Server
SP - Supplier
B - Bread



Calendar of Events

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2 11 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Tinsel & Tea
3 9 Traditional Svc. 9:50 Christian Ed. 10 Kinship Café Social Media Workshop Church Decorating 10:30 Informal Service 11:30 Bound 7:30 AA	4 8 p.m. AA	5 9:30 a.m. Busy Fingers Yoga 7 p.m. Scouts Al-Anon	6	7 10 a.m. Prayer Shawl 6:30 p.m. Cub Scouts	8	9 10 a.m. Stephanie Weddle Interment 11:30 a.m. Leigh Anne Sterner Mem. Svc., Interment 10 a.m - 1 p.m. DLM at Holy Trinity
10 9 Traditional Svc. 9:50 Christian Education 10 Kinship Café Social Media Workshop 10:30 Informal Service 11:30 Bound 1 Scouts 7:30 AA	11 8 p.m. AA	12 9:30 a.m. Busy Fingers Yoga 7 p.m. Scouts Al-Anon	13	14 10 a.m. Prayer Shawl 6:30 p.m. Cub Scouts	15 6 p.m. Preschool Christmas Program	16 9 a.m. Men of Faith 10:30 a.m. Music Sunday Choir Rehearsal 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Gingerbread House Making Event
17 Newsletter Deadline 10 One service Music Sunday 11 Kinship Café 7:30 AA	18 7 p.m. Council Advent Social 8 p.m. AA	19 9:30 a.m. Busy Fingers Yoga 7 p.m. Scouts Al-Anon	20	21 10 a.m. Prayer Shawl 10 a.m. Third Thurs. Women's Bible Study 6:30 p.m. Cub Scouts	22	23
24 10 One Service Advent 4 and Christmas Eve 7 Christmas Eve Candle-light Service 7:30 AA	25 8 p.m. AA	26 9:30 a.m. Busy Fingers Yoga 7 p.m. Scouts Al-Anon	27 5 p.m. Laundry Ministry	28 6:30 p.m. Cub Scouts	29	30
31 9 Traditional Svc. 10 Kinship Café 10:30 Informal Service 11:30 Bound 7:30 AA						



Please visit our website.



FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH
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