

The Messenger

November, 2020

From the Pastor

This November brings us into a very contentious election season, and with all the mail-in ballots because of the pandemic we may not have clear winners in close races for weeks to come. On top of that, with winter weather and people spending more time indoors, there are dire predictions that Covid-19 cases will be on the rise. Will we be able to gather with family and friends for Thanksgiving this year, or will it just be too risky? It's tempting to become frustrated, fearful and anxious about these situations and circumstances that are outside of our control. But we do have a choice about whether we will allow our fears to imprison us.

When Jesus came walking on the stormy sea to his disciples in their boat that was being tossed about by the waves he said to them, "Do not be afraid, it is I." These are words we need to hear and take to heart today as we're tossed to and fro during this tumultuous year of 2020. Our Lord is present with us to free us from all our self-imposed mental prisons, whether they be fear, shame, guilt, insecure self-image, or any other cage that inhibits our living an abundant life.

In his book *Eternal Echoes: Exploring Our Yearning to Belong*, John O'Donohue includes this blessing at the end of his chapter titled "Prisons We Choose to Live In:"

May you listen to your longing to be free.

May the frames of your belonging be large enough for the dreams of your soul.

May you arise each day with a voice of blessing whispering in your heart that something good is going to happen to you.

May you know the eternal longing which lives at the heart of time.

May there be kindness in your gaze when you look within.

May you never place walls between the light and yourself.

May your angel free you from the prisons of guilt, fear, disappointment, and despair.

May you allow the wild beauty of the invisible world to gather you, mind you, and embrace you in belonging.

This is my blessing for us all, that we're freed from everything that would bind us in order to be God's servants of love for our world. May we continue to be a community that not only cares for one another, but seeks fullness of life for the marginalized and those who struggle. In our

(Continued on page 2)

Worship

The **9:30 AM** in-person service includes communion and instrumental (piano or organ) music but no singing. If you plan to attend, please read and adhere to the [guide-lines](#).

The **11 AM** worship is live-streamed via YouTube and our Facebook page. You can access the livestream from

our [website](#) or from our [Facebook](#) page. For safety reasons, only ten people are in attendance at this service: the pastor, assisting minister, cantor, musician, sacristan and five people to lead singing. We wear masks and we practice social distancing and sanitizing.

From the Pastor (continued)

gospel lesson on Reformation Sunday we heard Jesus say, "You will know the truth and the truth will make you free." We have been freed, and nothing, especially not an election or a pandemic, has the power to imprison our souls. And if Christ has set us free, then we will be free indeed.

Deep Blessings,

Pastor Mark

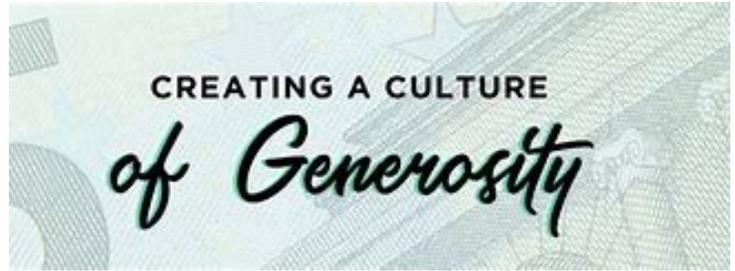


No More Batteries for Recycling



Please note that we are no longer accepting batteries of any kind for recycling. Thanks for your understanding.

From the Stewardship Committee



PLACE GOD FIRST IN YOUR BUDGETING AND SPENDING

The Ten Commandments stress that God must be first in our lives. And Jesus said, "Seek first God's kingdom and righteousness and all these things shall be yours as well." (Matthew 6:33)

Many experience difficulty giving generously despite the desire and pledge to do so, because they attempt to give from what is left over at the end of the week or month rather than from first fruits, from all they have received.

The simple practice of placing God and the Church first in budgeting and spending has helped many to experience joy in their giving. When you do this you are giving from all that a good and loving God has provided. And you are practicing stewardship, understanding that you are but a temporary trustee of what God has entrusted to you.

Thanks to everyone who has turned in their intent for giving in 2021. You can fill out the form online at faith-lutheranchurch.com (Stewardship tab, Online Commitment), or mail or hand deliver the form mailed to you if you haven't already. Remember that we have a challenge gift of an extra \$200 for every new or increase in giving up to \$4,000.



Holiday Service Projects

From the Community Ministry Committee

This year, our usual service projects will differ because of health concerns related to the COVID-19 pandemic. However, at this challenging time, we know many of you will want to share with those less fortunate in our community, who struggle even more with housing, food, and gifts for the holidays. There are lots of ways you can help. All assistance will be greatly appreciated!

Nathaniel Mission's Thanksgiving Meals: Volunteers needed to Bake Turkeys

Nathaniel United Methodist Mission's annual Thanksgiving Dinner has been cancelled this year but the Mission will be providing Thanksgiving carryout meals to families in need. If you can bake and slice a turkey November 20 or 21 for distribution to families on November 22, please contact Cindy Heine to make pickup and drop-off arrangements. (cynthia.heine@gmail.com or 859-351-9419)

Salvation Army: Bell Ringing for Red Kettle Campaign

Community Ministry will not schedule a day for Faith to ring the Salvation Army bells for the Red Kettle Campaign this Christmas season. If anyone wants to ring individually or with family members, contact Joanna Weaver at the Salvation Army at 252-7706, ext. 147, or Joanna.weaver@use.salvationarmy.org to arrange a time and location that works for you.

We also encourage members to give generously this year, either at the kettles, online [here](#), or by sending checks to: Salvation Army, Red Kettle Campaign, 736 West Main St, Lexington, KY 40508. The Red Kettle Campaign is one of the major ways the Salvation Army raises funds needed for the many ways they serve Lexington area families.

Salvation Army: Thanksgiving Meal Delivery

Volunteers are needed to deliver Thanksgiving meals to families in need. The pick up and delivery are NO CONTACT volunteer opportunities with drive through to pick up meals and delivery to door steps. If you would like to help, contact Linda Edin, 252-7706, ext. 113 (texting not available) or Linda.Edin@use.salvationarmy.org by November 12.

Santa for Seniors

Be a Santa to a Senior! In the past we were given names with specific gift requests. This year we will be giving general donations of the following items: winter hats, scarves, gloves, men's and women's toiletry items, body wash, shaving cream, razors, deodorant, perfume, blankets, throws, puzzles, crossword puzzles, cookies, sugar free candy, and Christmas decorations. The seniors would also enjoy a card or letter of encouragement. UNWRAPPED items can be left in the Gathering Area at church on or before November 30. Items can also be left at 207 East Reynolds Road, Suite 150. This is a great way to remember our seniors!

Reindeer Express

The NEST will be hosting the Reindeer Express this year for over 1,000 children. It will operate and look different because of health restrictions, but the children whose families need assistance with the holidays will have it. Needed items include:

Coats, hats and gloves for boys and girls sizes 2T, 3T and 4T

Books (including Spanish)

Age-appropriate games

Age-appropriate puzzles

Art supplies

Staff and volunteers will be handing out pre-filled bags of gifts because the Nest is not able to find a place large enough for safe distancing for so many families. Your unwrapped gifts may be dropped off at Faith on any Sunday until November 29. Gail Swanson will pick up whatever is in the Gathering Area at Faith each Sunday afternoon. If you have any questions please let her know: phone 859-913-6710 or email gailswanson18@gmail.com





Livestream Operators Needed

Every Sunday we need people to operate the livestream equipment. If you would be willing to be trained to do this, please contact Kathy in the office.

Members of Faith,

FLLC reopened on August 24. We are currently serving thirty-seven preschoolers and nine K-5 students for non-traditional instruction (NTI), soon to be hybrid learning. The students are happy to be at school and the staff are happy to be back at work.

Due to continued restrictions from the emergency regulations, we still have a reduced capacity and are unable to combine classes. The PPP loan we were awarded is helping with most of our payroll expenses through the end of December. Unfortunately, as we look forward to 2021, we are still in great need of financial support. If you have any ideas or connections for fundraising, please contact Charla Heersche, fllc859@gmail.com or 859-576-6099.

We have started a new fundraiser through Moe's. We had a great kick-off last week, with 36 taco kits ordered and 4 kits donated to teachers. I saw several church members stop by to pick one up; thank you! We will be continuing this fundraiser on the first Wednesday of each month. Keep an eye on Faith Notes and our Facebook page for more information on how to order.

If you would like to make a donation, you may visit our donation page, <http://www.tinyurl.com/fllclex> or mail a check payable to "FLLC", 1000 Tates Creek Rd, Lexington, KY 40502.

We are always seeking more church members to be a part of our Learning Center Committee. We meet on the second Wednesday of each month, currently via zoom. If you would like to join or learn more about the responsibilities, please contact Charla Heersche, Cindy Heine, or Gayle McGrath.

Thank you for your continued prayers and support,

Charla Heersche, FLLC Director

Tuesday Bible Study

The Tuesday morning Bible Study is currently studying the Gospel of John, which was written so that people may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing they may have life in his name (20:31). The meeting is held on Zoom at 11:00. Here is the link to join:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87550398740?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87550398740?pwd=QWFobEsvNTE0blZPdYtoWVgvOTZ0QT09)

[pwd=QWFobEsvNTE0blZPdYtoWVgvOTZ0QT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87550398740?pwd=QWFobEsvNTE0blZPdYtoWVgvOTZ0QT09)

Meeting ID: 875 5039 8740 Passcode: 451020 Or dial (312) 626 6799 US for audio

All are welcome. We would be happy to have you at any time. If you want a simple introduction to John, Google 'Bible Project John' for a YouTube video.



Life Together at Faith

November Birthdays

2 Diane Nicely
Joan Sorenson
4 Tracy Fugmann
Diana Shappley
9 Carolyn Holmes
11 Rowland Evans
12 Ana Hammonds
Barry Whitley
13 Carolyn Carden
Gail Swanson
15 Lois Dunnum
18 Mark Russell
19 Megan Bosse
20 Pete Gross
Ella Johnson
Rose Johnson
22 Robert Henry
23 Juliana Fox
24 David Debertin
25 Charlie Hamilton
27 Carl Whitehouse
28 Ashlyn Sievers
29 Carol Smith
30 Sharon Fegley
Bryan Kurth
Kerry Paumi

November Anniversaries

4 Kerry & Christian Paumi
13 Steve Hayes & Joyce Rector
26 Jerry & Paula Klim
27 Steve & Debbie Carter
28 Larry & Jan Isenhour
28 Ole & Kerstin Wendroth

Condolences

We extend our condolences to Donita Henry on the death of her mother, Berneda Becker, who died in Mankato, Minnesota, at the age of 91.

Births

Royce Jabbar Fox was born October 19 to Ana Hammonds and Ken Fox. Royce is welcomed by siblings Jaiden, Aeris, Aja, Juliana and Julius; uncle Kevin Lentz; and grandmother Kathy Egner.

Baptism Anniversaries

2 Roland Born
Britt Fugmann
7 Beth McGrath
10 Martin Shearer
13 Sophie Miller
Barbie Moore
27 Campbell Arnold
Evan Shearer



September Financial Summary

Sept 2020	Total Income - Month	Total Expense - Month	Actual Total Income Less Actual Total Expense	Total Income - YTD	Total Ex- pense - YTD	Actual Total Income Less Actual Total Expense
Budget Forecast	\$36,164.83	\$36,461.51		\$325,482.94	\$328,153.59	
Actual	\$32,399.59	\$24,654.18	\$7,745.41	\$261,211.06	\$239,003.30	\$22,207.76
Variance	(\$3,765.24)	(\$11,807.33)		(\$64,271.88)	(\$89,150.29)	
%	89.6%	67.6%		80.3%	72.8%	

Faith Lutheran Church

1000 Tates Creek Drive
Lexington, KY 40502
Phone: 859-266-7621
Fax: 859-266-9600
Email:
office@faithlutheranchurch.com



Church Council 2020

Jonathan Delap, President
Richard Heine, Vice-President
Gayle McGrath, Secretary
Roland Born
Sherri Greer
Carolyn Holmes
JoEllen McComb

Worship Schedule

Sunday In-Person Worship, 9:30 AM

Sunday Online Streaming, 11:00 AM

Staff

Mark Sloss, Pastor

pastormark@faithlutheranchurch.com

859-266-7621

Office hours: Tues-Thurs 9:00-12:00, day off Friday

765-437-3879

Kathy Egner, Parish Administrator

office@faithlutheranchurch.com

859-266-7621

Office hours: Mon-Thurs 9:00-3:00; Fri. 9:00-12:00

Neil McComb, Sexton

859-229-8834

Charla Heersche, Learning Center Director

flc859@gmail.com

859-268-0108

Lexington, KY 40502

1000 Tates Creek Road

Faith Lutheran Church