

# The Messenger

October, 2020

## From the Pastor

In the last couple of months, a burst of energetic life has returned to our church building as our Faith Lutheran Learning Center reopened. It does my heart good to hear the children playing outside my window and to see the chalk drawings on the parking lot. This is a valuable ministry that we provide for families in our community. I'm proud of the way that Charla Heersche, Director of the Learning Center, and her staff work so diligently to provide a loving learning environment for the children. And in the midst of this pandemic they're doing their best to follow safety protocols to inhibit the spread of Covid-19.

Together we've been learning new ways to be the church, from worshipping online to participating in Zoom meetings and Bible Studies. Some groups and meetings have also taken place in person, while practicing the distancing necessary to keep one another safe. We've taken some steps to upgrade the livestreaming of our worship, and we'll be applying for a grant through the IK Synod to help cover most of the cost of new technology. We're also participat-

ing in a program through the Synod that provides us with training and resources for our Fall Stewardship Program (see article on page 2). This month, we will be sharing stories about the ways that Faith congregation makes an important difference in people's lives by sharing the love of Christ in many and various ways.

Here's one such story that comes from Faith's participation as one of the 26 congregations that join together in the BUILD justice ministry. After the pandemic brought about major tax revenue losses, the mayor proposed some drastic cuts in the city budget. The two million dollars that was to be set aside each year for the affordable housing fund was reduced to \$200,000. Since the fund was established through BUILD's efforts in 2014, we went into action and organized a car rally in the parking lot of Mary Queen church to show city officials how disturbing such a cut would be. As a result of this event and subsequent contacts with council members, the full two million dollars was restored in the final

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## Worship

We will continue to livestream our worship online Sundays at **11:00 AM**. You can access the livestream on our [website](#) or on our [Facebook](#) page. If you wish to include the Eucharist as part of your worship, prepare bread or crackers and fruit of the vine, wine or grape juice. You may eat and drink after the Pastor says the words, "The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you." If you don't have both bread and fruit of the

vine, know that communing in one kind is just as acceptable as in both kinds. Our Lord is still fully present.

We have now re-opened for in-person worship, which is held at **9:30**. At the moment, there is no music or communion at this service. If you plan to attend the in-person service, be sure you are aware of the guidelines established by our task force, which can be found on our [website](#).

## From the Pastor (continued)

budget. Affordable housing will remain a priority in our community, especially during this pandemic, when people need a safe and affordable place to be at home.

The Holy Spirit continues to blow through the ministry of Faith congregation as people reach out to and check up on one another, and as we come together for worship, be that in person or online. We've even had some people who have never been in our church building join us for online worship. For the first two weeks of our in-person worship we have had very low attendance. This tells me that most of you are being very cautious. The task force decided to begin small with no music or communion. We hope to be adding both these elements very soon. Although we will have instrumental music, we will not be able to sing because aerosols that can carry the coronavirus are released during singing. We will continue to offer both the in-person service at 9:30 and livestream worship at 11:00 on Sunday mornings, and I encourage you to decide which way works best for you.

I also pray that the treasure of God's love and grace continue to flow through your life as together we seek new ways to be and become servants of Christ.

Deep Blessings,

*Pastor Mark*



## From the Stewardship Committee



Dear Faith Family:

We can all agree that this year is unlike any year that we have witnessed in our history. Yet through the difficulties of this past year, the members of Faith Lutheran Church have been blessed in that we were able to worship our Lord in our homes via live stream, and we were able to care for one another by making calls, writing "Sonshine" notes, sending cards, and helping members in need.

Pat and I have been on the receiving end of this generosity. Pat has had two major surgeries since the beginning of this year. Each time our Faith Family has rallied around us with visits, calls, cards, food, and prayer. Offers of doing our shopping, running our errands, or taking Pat to the Doctor have poured in. During this time of home quarantine when so many have felt lonely and isolated, we have been blessed with support, love, and generosity. We have felt connected to our church family like never before. We have been surrounded by generous people who have continued to teach us how to be generous.

Because this year is so different, our stewardship campaign will also be uniquely different as we explore *Beginning a Culture of Generosity*. As we think about our giving, time, and gifts, let us do so with a spirit of generosity.

Your Stewardship Committee members are Richard Heine, Carolyn Holmes, Sherri Greer, David Templar, and Pastor Mark Sloss. We look forward to hearing more of your stories of generosity as we being this journey together.

Blessings, Sherri Greer



## Phone Chain

If you would like to be on a phone chain to be notified of deaths in the congregation, please let Kathy in the [office](#) know.



## In the Fall We Listen...

For leaves that crunch as we walk over them. For children's laughter as they play together outside. For the sound of the school bus as it picks up those same children to go to school. For the roar of the crowd at the high school football game. Unfortunately, we won't be hearing most of those sounds this fall; we'll remain as "locked down" as our socially distanced selves can tolerate. But we remember that there is another listening process that happens every fall, and that is the BUILD listening campaign. Over the years, BUILD leaders have encouraged everyone at Faith to be a part of the campaign. This year we are really (really, really) encouraging everyone to join with us in both speaking and listening. Earlier in this newsletter, Pastor Mark talked about stories and sacred conversations. It's truly time for those. Probably each of us has developed some new and different stories during the past several months, ranging from heart-hurting grief to heart-bursting joy. We all need an opportunity to talk in a safe place about what's going on in our lives, and how we've dealt with the pandemic, online schooling, health care, etc.

Gail Swanson will host/facilitate a ZOOM meeting on Saturday October 10 at 10:00 AM. You may contact her to secure a place and to get instructions for logging on. We hope that there will be so many of you who want to attend that we will have to schedule two more.

Gail Swanson 859-913-6710  
[gailswanson18@gmail.com](mailto:gailswanson18@gmail.com)



## Livestream Operators Needed

Every Sunday we need someone to operate the livestream equipment. If you would be willing to be trained to do this, please contact [Kathy](#) in the office.





## The Word in Season

The devotional booklets for October, November and December have arrived. They are on the bench inside the front door. Please feel free to come by and pick one up. If you would like to have one mailed to you, let Kathy in the office know, and she will be happy to send you one.

**There are still many openings in each of the five classrooms (ages 20 months-Pre-K). Please share with anyone you know who's looking for child care.** Hours are Monday through Friday, 7:30 AM to 5 PM. The cost is \$200 per week per child. A morning snack, lunch, and an afternoon snack are all included. Scholarships may be available to help with the cost. If interested, please contact Charla Heersche, Director, for more information ([flc859@gmail.com](mailto:flc859@gmail.com) or 859-268-0108).

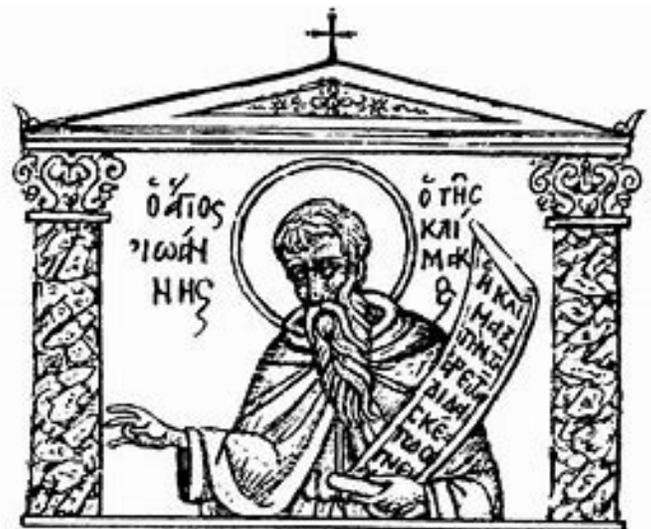
All staff positions have been filled. We are very excited to welcome Ms. Kathy Mathison as our new cook. I am updating our staff directory and will share it with the congregation so you can see who's working downstairs in the Learning Center.

We thank you for your generosity. We receive several monetary donations per month. Please continue to pray for the health of the children, families, and staff.

## 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?pwd=QWFobEsvNTEoblZPdYtoWVgvOTZoQT09> 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 You Tube video.



# Life Together at Faith

## October Birthdays

1	Debbie Carter Sean Young
2	Lois Lange
4	Helmut Schumacher
5	Abbie Johnson Traci Horrell
6	Chris Collins
8	Don Deluca
10	Jan Keinath
15	Peyton Zink
16	Cisco Hadden Barbara Palmquist Joseph Sievers
18	Robin Johnson
20	Amanda Terry
21	Derrion Jones
22	Dana Lockhart Pam Silvia
23	Steve Carter
24	Bront Davis
26	Richard Heine
28	Kate Hanford Eva Lau
30	LaDawn Reynolds James Sievers
31	Nancy Krause
32	Carl Lange

## October Anniversaries

1	David Templar & Kim Heersche
4	Carl & Lois Lange
9	Kristy & Anthony Cloyd
24	Dave and Barb Nikolajczyk
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.

## Baptism Anniversaries

1	Jerry Klim Ruth Lundborg Julia Wilson
4	Stephanie Meier Lori Watkins
9	Morton Terry
10	Carly Fugmann Kerstin Wendroth
12	Isaac Witt
20	Lori Ratliff
24	Kristy Cloyd Barbara Nikolajczyk
25	Steve Rosenberg
27	Adam Carey
28	Kelsey Cloyd



## August Financial Summary

Aug 2020	Total Income - Month	Total Expense - Month	Actual Total Income Less Actual Total Expense	Total Income - YTD	Total Expense - YTD	Actual Total Income Less Actual Total Expense
Budget Forecast	\$36,164.83	\$36,461.51		\$289,318.18	\$291,692.08	
<b>Actual</b>	<b>\$28,315.00</b>	<b>\$20,976.41</b>	<b>\$7,338.59</b>	<b>\$228,811.47</b>	<b>\$214,349.12</b>	<b>\$14,462.35</b>
Variance	(\$7,849.83)	(\$15,485.10)		(\$60,506.71)	(\$77,342.96)	
%	78.3%	57.5%		79.1%	73.5%	

## Faith Lutheran Church

1000 Tates Creek Drive  
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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

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