

Faith Lutheran Church
The Messenger
October, 2024



Dear Friends,

As we head toward “stewardship and budget season,” I would like to share a reflection on ministry in a time when the church is using reserve funds.

You’ve probably heard me say this before, but I learned a great deal about ministry from the farmers in western North Dakota. The small prairie congregations I served there were filled with faithful people. They were also some of the biggest risk-takers I have ever met. You won’t meet a gambler around the track or in a casino who makes bigger bets than a farmer. When your whole annual income depends on the weather and a dozen other factors outside your control, I guess you really live by faith. That’s got me thinking about our life together as a congregation.

For the farmers I knew, some years had good crop yields and high grain prices. These were the best years. Other years might see good crop yields but low prices. Whether a “bumper crop” paid off or not then depended on international markets and other factors that I could hardly begin to understand. The same work, the same soil, the same sun could yield vastly different financial outcomes. Even still, there were also years where the crop yields were low, but the prices were high. And then those dreaded years of low yields and also low prices. Too many of those and the entire operation is in danger.

While the prospect of such a life filled me anxiety, the outlook from most of my farming parishioners was quite hopeful and mature. Rather than living fretfully from one year to the next, they planned carefully, were prudent with their decision making, and lived in faith that the good years would carry them through the bad. I have no illusions that this outlook came easily or was never challenged, but it struck me as a faithful one. Some things are outside of our control. Some years are hard. But God is good... and each year there is a harvest to plant, tend, and gather.

A similar mindset may help us as a congregation as we look toward stewardship and budget season. Where do we put our trust? How do we proceed in an uncertain world, with so many factors beyond our control? When we stop and really reflect on it, haven’t the good years carried us through the leaner times? If there are factors outside our immediate control, how can we shift toward focusing on what we can do: faithfully planting, tending, and gathering? In adopting this mindset, we could see that while we are currently using reserve funds to help support church operations, God continues to bless our ministry. We could see that the “good years” (at least, in terms of finances) of the past may have been given for just a time as this. And we can plan carefully so that we are making the most of what God provides.

Doing so is not to encourage recklessness or to ignore the risks of long-term sustained deficit spending. But a community driven by anxiety and year-to-year budgeting risks losing sight of the bigger picture. As a congregation, we have been abundantly blessed this year with over

A Note From Pastor (continued)

\$100,000 in unexpected gift funds. That too is a sign of God's provision and reason to be hopeful. Some are quick to note that "these are one-time funds." That is true. But I wonder whether making that distinction too strongly is really all that helpful. One could just as well say that any deficit in 2024 only exists because of how we choose to categorize the financial gifts God has provided.

After all, there is a reason why our Lord taught us to pray, "give us today our daily bread" and not "give us today our daily bread plus a sufficient amount to save for any future non-budgeted expenditures." Each one of us lives by faith, daily trusting in God's provision. If our current needs are met, is that not sufficient for us? We are not a bank or a business, nor does a congregation ever plan to retire. To expect that the budget always balances, or that there will always be money left over, is to set our sights too low. It could mean we are not stretching toward greater growth. Farmers are risk takers. If anything, congregations should be even more so. As important as their harvest is, our harvest is even more so. And friends, there is planting, tending, and gathering to do!

An office anecdote:

Gayle and Jim McGrath dropped by my office the other day and we talked about all the progress being made around the church. The trees in the parking lot had just been trimmed. The church bell had also been lubricated. Meanwhile, the Bedford stone project was ongoing. Someone observed that this would make a rather hilarious property update: Faith Lutheran Church is now trimmed, lubed, and stoned.

Thanksgiving:

God willing, by the time you read this, I should be headed out on the first "real" vacation we have been able to take as a family in some time. Victoria, Bea and I are headed out west to visit family and see a part of the country that will be new to me. I am grateful for the call to serve Faith Lutheran and for the generous compensation (including time off) that makes this opportunity possible. I hope to return to you all rested and ready for the ministry ahead this fall. I also give thanks to my colleagues who provide pastoral coverage and the ministry of supply preaching. Your prayers for safe travel would be appreciated.

In Christ,

Pastor Dana

Thomas Keesecker



Faith Lutheran Church
Sunday, December 8, 2024
3:00 PM

Thomas Keesecker will share music from his bestselling piano collections in an hour-long program of piano music, congregational song, and poetry. Keesecker, a composer and church musician as well as a performer, is known around the country for his sensitive, delightful, and meditative piano arrangements of hymns. His informal, folksy programs have been compared to a show featuring Garrison Keillor and George Winston! We will be able to sing some of his arrangements, as well as listen to his interpretations. The hymns will be interspersed with poetry by Mary Oliver and Wendell Berry, two of the most beloved and profound poets of the 20th and 21st centuries. CDs of his music will be available for purchase after the concert.

Tom retired in 2019 after serving as a church musician for over 40 years in Lutheran and Roman Catholic parishes in Virginia, Montana, and Maryland. His sacred music is published by MorningStar, Augsburg Fortress, Choristers Guild, Concordia, and GIA. He studied at the Berklee College of Music in Boston and the Catholic University School of Music in Washington, D.C. He mixes classical technique, jazz improvisation, Celtic and folk music influences in his arrangements. His music may be listened to on Amazon Music and YouTube.

Grace Jar Entries



Thank you to everyone who has placed a note in the Grace Jar. Here are the entries we received in September. Please continue to place these in the jar in the Narthex.

- ◆ Grace for a great sermon from Pastor.
- ◆ Thanks to Debbie Anderson for sharing her musical talents—voice, recorder and bells
- ◆ Thank you to the Property Committee for work on the grounds
- ◆ Blessed be all the volunteers who help make our services so well run and enjoyable—greeters, ushers, cantors, assisting ministers, musicians, etc.
- ◆ Thanks to everyone who participated in the Healthy Congregations: Leadership on Saturday, September 14th
- ◆ Many thanks to Kirstin and Ole Wendroth for all their time and energy coordinating the Harstad Series
- ◆ Grace to the Learning Center for putting on a great Fall Festival
- ◆ Thanks to Kathy for being such a joy to work with. You are a ray of sunshine!

Ice Cream Social with Your Council Members



On Sunday September 29 following the joint service (at 10:00am) the Community Ministry and Parish Life committee will host a light lunch and ice cream social for the congregation of Faith Lutheran Church. A free will offering will benefit God's Panty, a community program serving adults and families by providing food, meal programs, and distribution in Fayette County. In addition, members of the Church council will be present to give an update of current events and progress reports on topics such as updating Faith Church's Mission Statement, status of the gift policy and gift fund, and a financial update. Bring your questions if you have any and have a little lunch and ice-cream too!

Keeneland



Tailgating at Keeneland!



The Parish Life Committee is planning an informal afternoon tailgating for the races at Keeneland on Saturday, October 12th. The Committee will provide sub/hoagie sandwiches for all to enjoy.

We ask that you bring a dessert or side dish to share and your own beverages, as well as your own chairs for seating.

Post Time is 1:00 PM (Although we recommend that you arrive earlier)

Children are welcomed!

No tickets needed & no charge of any kind associated with attendance!

We will be in the designated tailgating lot which is located adjacent to the Entertainment Center and Keene Barn. It is accessible via Gate 1 at no charge. Complimentary shuttle service is available to the grandstand area. Keeneland's enhanced tailgating lot, dubbed "The Hill", takes tailgating to a whole new level with a variety of fan-friendly amenities including food trucks, Bluegrass music, a jumbo television screen, the Keeneland Gift Shop, wagering options and Keeneland's BETologists.



FLLC Fall Festival



Last Month at Faith



Musician Ben Sollee performed at a sold out Harstad Fine Arts Series event Sunday, September 15.



We had a great turn out for the September 14 Healthy Congregations workshop.



A big Thank You to Val Dutcher for her work in organizing the Faith Lutheran Church “booth/table” at the FLLC Fall Festival held on Friday, September 13! Check out the Country Picture backdrop with the fall colored balloons and the tri-panel poster board made by Val (now located in the church narthex). Thanks to all those who helped staff the ball toss game, guess the candy corns and cheese balls contest, and hand out lollipops, stickers, and church brochures! The taco haystacks and peanut butter and jelly sandwiches hit the spot for dinner!

The highlight of the night was seeing four Learning Center Staff along with Pastor Dana, (who received the second most votes) and receiving a whipped cream pie in the face delivered by children from the Learning Center, in order to raise money for the new gate/fence. Thanks to all who came to support the event and to appreciate seeing the smiles on the faces of the children and their families who are in our Learning Center’s staff care on a daily basis!

Pictured above: Pastor Dana, Paige Barricklow, Carolyn Carden, Bob and Donita Henry, Val and Doug Dutcher, Gayle and Jim McGrath

Save the Dates



Friday, September 27: 2-5 PM Clean-up afternoon at Huntertown Interpretive Park. 1546 Huntertown Rd, Versailles, Ky. Bring Brooms, brushes, and rakes. Contact the Outreach Committee for more details: rgerth1155@gmail.com.

Saturday, September 28: 8-1 PM ALTRUSA Yard Sale: Faith Lutheran Parking Lot

Sunday, September 29: 10:00 AM One service: Following the service, light lunch and Ice-Cream Social to benefit God’s Party and Meet with Church Council

Saturday, October 12: 12:00 noon – 6PM. Annual Keeneland Outing and bring a dish for lunch! Parish Life Sign ups in Narthex!

Sunday, October 13: 2-5PM Crop Walk. Location and details to follow in October.

Hope everyone can make plans to attend some or all of the above events occurring in the life of our church!

Announcement About Announcements!



Do you have an announcement you would like communicated to the congregation? We have four major forms of communication: weekly church bulletin, Faith Notes, the Messenger and social media. Here's the type of announcements that are appropriate for each:

Bulletin: the Sunday bulletin is primarily intended as a resource for worship. Hymns, liturgy, and worship-specific information are given priority. Major congregational announcements (e.g. changes in worship time, annual meeting date) are also included. As space allows, an announcement section is intended to inform the congregation about events coming up in the next week. Since the bulletin is printed space is limited.

Faith Notes: Faith Notes should be used to announce events and meetings coming up in the next couple of weeks as well as pictures recapping events that have happened in the past week. This communication is electronic, so space is not limited.

Messenger: The Messenger is intended to recap events from the previous month as well as announce calendar events for the upcoming month. We like to include pictures in the Messenger as well, so any you have to share are greatly appreciated. The Messenger is electronic and printed so we do try to conserve space somewhat but want to do so without leaving out important events.

Social Media: This is an underutilized resource that we hope to increase in reach and popularity. As a public-facing medium, social media posts can be used to communicate information about events to both members of the congregation and the wider community. Graphics work the best on this platform. To submit something to be posted on a church social media account, please contact Amanda in the office.

Downtown Youth Group



On October 27th at 5pm, we will have our first opportunity to host Downtown Youth Group here at Faith! DYG is an intentionally ecumenical and affirming collaboration between mainline churches in downtown Lexington that provides youth with an opportunity to meet and build community with their Christian siblings across denominational lines. We are very excited to be welcoming our community into our space to join us for this event! If you would like to volunteer your time or to bring donations for activities or dinner, please reach out to Paige for more information (pesbarricklow@gmail.com).

**Kentucky's 5th District Supreme Court
Candidate Forum**

Candidates:

Moderator:
Prof. Joshua A. Douglas

Hon. Pamela R. Goodwine

Ms. Erin C.S. Izzo

Opening Remarks:
Chief Justice Laurance B. VanMeter

Location:
Faith Lutheran Church
1000 Tates Creek Rd
Lexington, KY 40502

Date:
October 17, 2024

Time:
7:00 PM - 9:30 PM

able

Doors open at 6:30 PM

NAACP
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE
1910

I hope this message finds you well. I'm excited to share with you the attached flyer/social media graphic for the **5th District Supreme Court Forum**, which will take place on **October 17, 2024**, at **Faith Lutheran Church, 1000 Tates Creek Rd, Lexington, KY 40502**. The forum will begin at **7:00 PM**, with doors opening at **6:30 PM**.

Registration for this important event will go live on **Monday, September 16th**. You can find the registration link here: <https://mobilize.us/s/qPKVP5>. We encourage you to share this link with your networks and across your social media platforms to help spread the word.

At the forum, each candidate will have **5 minutes** to introduce themselves and explain their motivations for pursuing the Supreme Court seat. This will be followed by a moderated Q&A session, and we are honored that **Professor Joshua A. Douglas** will moderate our discussion. Please note that all candidates will receive a general summary of the questions in the coming weeks.

We are also privileged that **Chief Justice Laurance B. VanMeter** will open the forum by sharing his experiences as the sitting chief justice and providing an overview of the Supreme Court's role in our commonwealth.

A reception will follow the forum, providing an opportunity for further discussion and networking.

Thank you for your support and participation. We look forward to seeing you at the event!

Best regards,

Whit Whitaker

President, Diamond Life Member, Lexington-Fayette NAACP

Co-Chair, Episcopal Diocese of Lexington DCRR

Commissioner, Racial Justice & Equity Commission

Prayer List

The persons on the parish prayer list are lifted in prayer at every Sunday service. If you would like to be on the prayer list or no longer need to be on the list, please call or email the parish office.

If you would like a pastoral visit or home communion, you may contact Pastor Dana by calling the church office or by email

(www.pastordana@faithlutheranchurch.org)

The prayer/care ministry invites you to join them in connecting with persons on our prayer list. You can volunteer to connect by phone or email, by a personal visit, or by agreeing to add one specific person to your daily prayers. Contact Pastor Dana for more information or to become part of this ministry.

Members of the Parish (recent concerns): Susan Harper, Joan Sorenson, Gary Chastain, Ray Ranta, Ron Luckey and Richard Heine

Members of the Parish (ongoing concerns): Wayne Schedler, Nancy George, Diana Seidel, Joe Swanson, Linda McDaniel, Dave McGrew, Mike Keller, Eva Lau and the family of Ruth Schumacher

Friends of the Parish:

Johnson Deshommes, the family of Richard Lee (friends of Judy Page and Elaine Billington), Jim Pinkston, the Nickou family, Don & Colleen Black, Pauline, Bob and Elizabeth Short (friends of the Polnisch family), the family of Barb Babcock, Donald Woehler (brother in law of Charlie Hamilton), Lola Baker (mother of Courtney Herald), Mark & Ronda Giesey, the family of Val Flagstad (mother of Ruth Lundborg), Charla Heersche and Linda Wolf (aunt of Amanda Nord).



4 Nick Luddy
5 Stephanie Dunaway
Abby Grotrian
Traci Horrell
8 Don Deluca
Jennifer Polnisch
10 Jan Keinath
15 Peyton Zink
16 Cisco Hadden
19 Royce Fox
22 Dana Lockhart
24 Bront Davis
28 Eva Lau
30 LaDawn Reynolds
31 Carl Lange

1 David Templar &
Kim Heersche
4 Carl & Lois Lange
19 John & Karen Polnisch
24 Dave & Barb Nikolajcyk
28 Ole & Kerstin Wendroth



Table or Treat



On October 27th after our Reformation Sunday church service we will be doing our own mini trick or treating, we are going to have table or treat! If you would like to help with donations or with "hosting" a table, either as a group or an individual, email Paige (pesbarricklow@gmail.com)

Jack-O-Lantern Trail

On October 25th Faith will be taking a trip to the McConnell Springs Park Jack-o-lantern trail! To get into the Halloween spirit, the city of Lexington lines the .6 mile trail at McConnell Springs with carved pumpkins for a fun seasonal activity for all ages. We want to invite everyone to join us at 6:30 for a festive hike, delicious food trucks, seasonal snacks, and a fun, spooky time!

Faith Lutheran Learning Center

I'm so excited to be a part of Faith Lutheran Learning Center, and it's been incredible to see the relationships between our center and the church grow. Our childcare ministry is much more than just a service—it's a way to nurture young minds while creating deeper connections with families in our community.

Recently, we were honored to be named the **Best Childcare in Lexington** by Quality Business Awards, which reflects the dedication of our entire team. What's even more meaningful is seeing how our program brings families together in a loving, supportive environment.

The partnership between the church and the learning center is so important. We are able to provide not only top-quality education but also a faith-based space for families to feel at home. I truly believe that as we continue to foster these relationships, we will see lasting impacts on both the children and their families, rooted in love and faith.

I look forward to seeing how this ministry continues to grow and how we can build even stronger bonds between the learning center and the church community!

Courtney

August Financial Summary

August 2024	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	\$24,935.83	\$34,780.21		\$199,486.64	\$278,241.68	
Actual	\$32,493.65	\$33,650.58	(\$1,156.93)	\$234,357.44	\$267,275.77	(\$32,918.33)
Variance	\$7,557.82	(\$1,129.63)	(1,156.93)	\$34,870.80	(\$10,965.91)	(\$32,918.33)
%	130.3%	96.8%		117.5%	96.1%	

Faith Lutheran Church
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Lexington, KY 40502
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Fax: 859-266-9600
Email:
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Church Council 2024
Bob Henry, President
Gayle McGrath, Vice President
David Templar, Secretary
Debbie Rosenberg, Treasurer
Pastor Dana Lockhart
Steve Hayes
Urton Anderson
Sue Anne Lau
Penni Black

Financial Secretary
Jennifer Carey

Sunday Worship Schedule
In-Person Worship 8:30 and 11:00 AM
Online Streaming, 11:00 AM

Staff

Pastor Dana Lockhart
859-266-7621
pastordana@faithlutheranchurch.com

Amanda Nord
Parish Administrator
office@faithlutheranchurch.com
859-266-7621

Kathy Egner
Director of Music
music@faithlutheranchurch.com
859-266-7621

Neil McComb, Sexton
859-229-8834

Paige Barricklow, Youth Assistant
pebarricklow15@gmail.com
859-940-0631

Courtney Herald, Learning Center Director
fillc859@gmail.com
859-268-0108

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