

Faith Lutheran Church
The Messenger
November, 2024



Consecration Sunday Shouldn't Feel Like Tax Day

“Celebration Sunday,” “Stewardship Sunday,” “Ingathering Sunday,” whatever it is called, congregations typically designate a service each fall to receiving financial commitments for the coming year. And Faith Lutheran is no different: this year we will hold “Consecration Sunday” on November 24th at both services.

This is an opportunity to give thanks for God’s provision, celebrate our ministry together, and pledge our support so that this ministry continues in 2025. This year, the Stewardship committee is also collecting time and talent sheets for the first time in several years. This appropriately recognizes that stewardship is about more than money and that we are called to give in a variety of ways.

Another shift this year is that we want to highlight the joy and celebration that accompanies stewardship. In that vein, both services on November 24th will include a celebratory surprise for all who attend worship. It is my hope that we will gather together with a sense of gratitude for all that God does for us, and in turn all the good that God empowers us to do for our neighbors.

The church is a living sign of abundance, generosity, and perseverance. That is particularly true for Lutherans. In an essay entitled “The Catholicity of the Local Congregation,” pastor and theologian Timothy Lull opens with a provocative observation: “What is most remarkable about Lutheran parishes in North America is their very existence.” From the very beginning, Lutheran immigrant communities on this continent built congregations and church institutions through voluntary giving. Without the tax revenue of the state churches they left behind, and often operating with very little extra, Lutherans built colleges, hospitals, schools and churches from sea to sea. We have inherited this legacy.

Stewardship is ultimately not about budgets, or institutional needs, or burdensome obligations, but rather a natural reflection that all that we have comes from God. At the same time, as someone close to me puts it, “stewardship is hard: it is a sensitive subject and objectively boring.” It is the “eat your vegetables and watch your sugar intake” of church life. But as maintaining a healthy body allow one to pursue many life-giving activities, so does the mundane work of stewardship prepare our community to accomplish great things.

And it is good for us to give. Nothing helps a person fend off the temptations of greed like generous giving and faithful service. Recognizing that sharing what we have is good for us helps explain why it so often feels good to give gifts to loved ones or contribute to something that matters. That, I believe, is the true sense of “God loves a cheerful giver” (2 Corinthians 9:6). Contentment and joy are not the products of “having enough” so much as a reflection of “giving enough.”

Let us prayerfully discern our commitments for the coming year and celebrate the fruits of this discernment on November 24th!

In Christ,

Pastor Dana

Prayer and Care Team

We will be having Home Communion Visit Training Sunday, November 10 after the 11:00 service. For more information, contact Pastor Dana.

The Nest/Reindeer Express

It's time once again for the Reindeer Express 2024! The staff at the Nest is expecting to have more requests for help this Christmas than ever before. The Nest in Lexington currently serves 475 families and 1000 children. They are in need of winter wear for kids 0-5: winter coats, hats, gloves, and scarfs in sizes for newborns up to 7/8. Last year we furnished 52 coats, and accessories! This year our challenge to the congregation is to match or beat that number!

The Nest also requests new unwrapped toys in the same age range 0-5. Dolls, toy trucks or cars, character toys, pretend play, sports items and arts and crafts items. All items need to be collected by Sunday, December 8th. Items can be brought in to the collection center (behind the screens) in the Narthex in the marked barrels/boxes. If you have any questions please email Joyce Cornett at netubet44@bellsouth.net

Santa for Seniors



We have been asked to provide gifts for homebound Seniors again this year. Tags with the name of a senior and suggested gifts for that individual senior will be available on the Christmas Tree in the Narthex beginning on Sunday November 2nd. Please take a tag or tags, sign your name and the tag number on the signup sheet and return the wrapped gifts with the tag securely attached. All items from tags should be wrapped and returned to the church by December 1st. We need to deliver all presents to Home Instead by December 3rd. Thanks to everyone who participated last year, and we hope you will participate again this year to help make a senior feel cared about at Christmas time. If you have any questions please email Joyce Cornett at netubet44@bellsouth.net



The Harstad Fine Arts Series Ninth Season

Join us for two performances by pianist and faculty member of the Colburn Performing Arts School in Los Angeles, CA

Dominic Cheli PIANO

Children's Program *From Beethoven to Star Wars*

November 2, 2pm at Faith Lutheran Church

In this concert specifically for children, Cheli will share wonderful classical music masterpieces and how they influenced many of the movies and soundtracks that we love today. [FREE TICKETS HERE](#)

Solo Concert *Dedications to the Human Spirit*

November 3, 3pm at Faith Lutheran Church

This program contains pieces of music that were written and/or dedicated to individuals that the composers felt strong connections with: Enjoy Mussorgsky's *Pictures at an Exhibition* and pieces by Liszt, Beethoven, Schubert, and Brahms. [FREE TICKETS HERE](#)

"Pianist Dominic Cheli transfixed the audience. This young man was mesmerizing - his fingers were one with each key." [LA Times]
"Cheli transformed the piano into a mini-orchestra of its own, echoing the agility of a violin, the singing of a flute or the deep responsive voice of a double bass. His touch was resonant and rich, with unerring accuracy." [The Heartland Journal]

Admission is FREE, but ticket reservations are required at link above or at harstadarts.com



LexArts has provided funding support for the Harstad Fine Arts Series Season 2024-2025 through its Fund for the Arts.



The Kentucky Arts Council, the state arts agency, provides operating support to the Harstad Fine Arts Series with state tax dollars and federal funding from the National Endowment for the Arts.

Let's Get Out and VOTE!



Tuesday, November 5, 2024 our country holds a very consequential election for President and Vice-President, as well as other down ballot positions. If you are registered to vote, want to exercise this precious right, but you do not have a ride to your polling place, please contact **Sherri Greer**. **The Outreach (formerly Community Ministry, Evangelism, and Global Missions) Committee, along with the Prayer and Care Committee will provide needed transportation to vote.**

Please e-mail Sherri Greer at Kyrehab@yahoo.com or call/text Sherri at 1 (859) 806-2517 to sign up for voting transportation. Please provide the following information:

Name; Address; Phone Number; E-Mail Address, Polling Precinct/Location; and any Accommodations you need (i.e. I use a walker, I can't walk long distances, I can't climb in a truck). Also, specify how you best communicate (Phone, E-mail, Text, Relay/Text Telephone).

Please provide your information to Sherri by Thursday, October 31, 2024 and Sherri will contact you no later than November 4, 2024 with your specific arrangements.

Thank you and God Bless America!!!

Thank You



Dear, dear, brothers and sisters:

My recovery from surgery has reached a point where I can sit at this computer and say what I have felt all along but have been unable to express directly to you—"thank you, thank you, thank you." It is breathtaking to me, to Pacita, and to our family that in the last several weeks you have individually and in groups gathered to pray and support us.

The fact of the matter is, sometimes the wilderness of pain is so severe and the exile of weakness so dark that one cannot say one's own prayers or rely on one's faith. The words just don't come and faith seems foggy. At least that was my experience. It was in those times that I relied on you to say the words, you to believe the Creeds, you to allow me to lean on your faith. I thank God you were and are there. God bless you.

Ron Luckey

Grace Jar Entries



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

- ◆ To Pastor Doug for supplying and sharing a wonderful sermon.
- ◆ Thanks to all who helped prepare the meal and ice cream social after the 10am service on 9/29/24.
- ◆ Thank you to the Property Committee for work on the grounds
- ◆ Sharon Fegley—for all the various things she does for several committees—even when she is in Florida! Thanks to the internet and Zoom!
- ◆ Thanks for all the calls, texts, emails and cards I received from the congregation after my car accident and broken leg. They were very much appreciated. –Stevie Barker
- ◆ Praise to those who have recently played musical instruments to the glory of God.
- ◆ Thank you to the Learning Center staff for putting the safety and well-being of the kiddos first. I love hearing them laugh and play!
- ◆ Praise to the choir for making beautiful music!
- ◆ Great job Kathy Egner in working with the “littles” in the Learning Center. They love their time with you.

Pharmacists Needed for Mission Health Lexington

Mission Health Lexington provides care to the most vulnerable in our community. We could not operate without our wonderful volunteers. Recently, we have had several of our volunteer pharmacists move out of the area. We are looking for a couple of pharmacists who would like to join MHL in serving our community. Volunteering just 3-4 Saturday mornings per year makes a huge impact on the patients MHL serves. Please email Abby Pliszka at abby@missionlexington.org to learn more.

Last Month at Faith



FLLC Pumpkin Carving



We had a great turnout for DYG on Reformation Sunday. We ate a meal, played games, and learned about the reformation and disagreeing in love and community.



We got into the Halloween spirit at table or treat with some super fun costumes!



Nothing is as fun as hand picking your own pumpkins to decorate for Halloween!



Children's Worship and Wonder storytellers and helpers joined us to hand out candy at table or treat.



At DYG we got to take advantage of our wonderful outdoor space, playing 4 square and basketball and chalk drawing in the parking lot.



Faith Lutheran Youth went to the pumpkin patch in early October where we stuffed ourselves with apple cider and escaped the corn maze!

Help Cook a Turkey



Help Cook a Turkey for Someone's Thanksgiving

Nathaniel Mission will serve a Thanksgiving meal to their members and neighbors on Thursday, November 21 - earlier than their usual schedule. We have been **asked to bake 10 turkeys** this year: **this requires thawing, baking, and slicing**. Then you are asked to **return the turkeys to the church by noon November 21**. Nathaniel Mission provides the turkeys, we just bake them!

Frozen turkeys (and instructions) will be available to pick up at the church on **Sunday, Nov. 17 between services and after the 11:00 service**. There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex for those who are willing and able to help or you can call/text Carolyn Carden at 859-552-8910. Help to give someone a Happy Thanksgiving!

Faith Floor Waxing



We will be having the upstairs and the Sanctuary floors waxed Tuesday November 19th from 6:00pm-8:00pm. They will be going around the pews and there will be no residual odor or extended drying time. The downstairs areas will be done November 23rd.

Consecration Sunday



Join us on November 24 for a celebration of Consecration Sunday. Services will be held at 8:30am and 11:00am as usual with a celebration from 9:00am-1:00pm. We hope you will join us!

Announcement About Announcements



Another Announcement About Announcements!

Last month, we highlighted the different forms of communication available to share information with the congregation. This month, we want to share some insight into why we are not always able to accommodate requests to "please print this in the bulletin"

Curiously, this request is often made with the explanation that it is necessary because, "no one reads the Messenger." [If you are reading this, then evidently someone does read it!]. This concern reflects how persistently challenging communicating announcements to the congregation can be.

Nevertheless, it is a questionable use of church resources (and of questionable effectiveness) to essentially reprint a monthly newsletter in each Sunday bulletin. That is where we are: regularly being asked to include 5-8 pages worth of announcements!

To help address that, we're asking that any announcements intended for the bulletin be no more than 150 words (the length of this note).

Fall Back November 3rd



We are days away from getting an extra hour of sleep! Fall is in the air, pumpkin spice lattes are back, and temperatures will begin cooling down...eventually. Sunday, November 3 at 2:00am daylight savings time ends. Don't forget to set your clocks back by 1 hour!

Tuesday Bible Study

The 11am Tuesday Bible Study on Zoom will not meet on November 5th so that people can attend the Bishop's service.

Faith Hiring Facilities Manager



Please consider or share the following job posting information with friends or family members who might be good candidates for this position. Questions can be addressed to Pastor Dana Lockhart or Cindy Heine.

Cindy Heine, chair, FLC Personnel Committee

Facilities Manager Position Announced

Faith Lutheran Church, Lexington, KY, is hiring for the position of Facilities Manager. This position is responsible for providing oversight and maintenance of all church facilities and grounds and supervising the Church Sexton, in order to ensure a safe and well-maintained property.

Must be able to problem solve, work independently and be flexible. Hours are 40 per month averaging 10 hours per week. There will be some set hours but this position also requires flexibility and on call availability including snow removal and response to alarms. Hourly rate: \$20-25 range.

Job functions will include:

- landscaping and lawn maintenance
- electrical to include lighting and wiring
- plumbing to include sink and toilet repair/replacement
- painting
- small construction repair and replacement; windows, walls, pews, etc.
- maintenance and repair of playground equipment
- maintaining facilities to meet relevant child care regulations
- maintenance and repair of office and landscaping equipment
- setting up and taking down tables and chairs
- responding to emergency repair calls
- maintaining a list of contractors and providing oversight of contracted work

This position will work with the Pastor, Faith Lutheran Learning Center Director and Property Committee.

Resumes or a letter-of-intent should be submitted by November 14 to: employment@faithlutheranchurch.com; mailed to: Faith Lutheran Church Employment, 1000 Tates Creek Road, Lexington, KY 40502; or dropped off at the church office. For non members, office hours are 9 am - 3 pm M-Th; 9 am to noon Fri.

Deep Green Faith Forum



How do I fit into this world? That is the question we will be exploring in the new year. Each of us is a unique member of the Body of Christ. We naturally have different gifts and abilities, not to mention lifestyles. How do we integrate faith into our daily lives, to live in such a way that we honor the world that God has made.

Rather than suggesting a list of dos and don'ts to apply universally to our lives, we will be reflecting on what we can do and what we feel called to do. The shepherd David, fighting Goliath will serve as our model. When Saul insisted on preparing David for battle by outfitting the boy with bulky armor, David could not move. Instead, David went to the stream to collect **five smooth stones**. The first one flung from his slingshot killed Goliath. The stones served as David's effective tool for addressing his challenge. We won't have to face such a battle, but what tools might we use to face the challenges of our place in our time? Finding our five smooth stones, or whatever number of stones seems appropriate, is our intention.

This intention will be pursued through the **Deep Green Faith Forum** and grounded in Martin Luther's case for an everyday practical and compassionate response to a Gracious God. We will weave together three different strands for exploration:

God and Nature

Vocation and Faith

Refuge and Learning

We will be looking into these three strands more extensively, but let's start with an invitation for you to share your vocation and faith story. Members of our congregation and community will be sharing their stories of how vocation can shape faith and how faith shapes one's vocation. What we do in our everyday lives can be a vital expression of our beliefs.

Would you like to share your vocation/faith story?

Please contact Pastor Dana Lockhart at pastordana@faithlutheranchurch.com; or Sue Anne Lau at sabeyer@twc.com; or Kathy Johnson at kathyreesjohnson@gmail.com.

Stay tuned for more information!

Healthy Congregations

Next Workshop: November 9th. Gather for breakfast at 8:30 am and the workshop will be from 9:00 am to 1 pm.

Facilitator: The Rev. Kevin Burney

Theme: Relationships in Healthy Congregations

Goals for this workshop:

In healthy congregations, people respond graciously and truthfully (rather than judgmentally or secretively)

In healthy congregations, people develop caring relationships (rather than willful transactions)

In healthy congregations, people empower others (rather than dominate them or cure them)

At the end of this workshop, participants will be able to:

- Understand forgiveness as found in Colossians 3:12-17 using their favorite multiple intelligence

- Define the benefit to the system of truth telling

- Discuss the motives for telling or not telling the truth

- Describe the benefits of plying while making connections

- Give two examples of ways the congregation plays, touches, mirrors, and nurtures

- Distinguish between the concepts of “intimacy” and “dependency”

- Discuss the roles of the people involved in the healing story found in Mark 2:1-12

- State the results of unhealthy helping

Goals of the Healthy Congregations series:

The purpose of healthy Congregations, Inc. is to provide training consultation, and education in emotional process as it relates to the community and congregational systems.

The workshops are designed precisely for a time of rapid changes. It is a new way of thinking about the congregation and its leadership. You will view the congregation as a whole, as an organism, as a system. Instead of seeing separate parts, you will see interrelated parts and their interactions.

Congregational leaders are the chief stewards. They are in a position to promote the well-being of the congregation. They set a mood and tone for the congregation.

These workshops enable participants to:

- Gain a renewed sense of purpose and mission

- Cultivate strong leadership capacities to challenge the congregation

- Learn how to develop healthy patterns of living together in community

- Learn to focus on strengths, resources, and options for the future

- Boost confidence in responding to challenges and opportunities

- Learn how to lead calmly with thoughtfulness

- Reflect theologically about relationships

- Move the congregation toward healthy functioning

All members and friends of Faith Lutheran are invited and encouraged to attend. If you have not attended a previous workshop, you would still be able to participate and contribute to this one. We hope to see you there!

The final workshop of the Healthy Congregations series will be held on January 11th!

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 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, Ray Ranta, Ron Luckey, Richard Heine, Stevie Barker, Joan Sorenson and Paul Sorenson

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, Tom Scott (cousin of Bonnie Chastain), Rory Hefner-Templar (daughter of David Templar) and Walter Dixon (nephew of Kathy Wilson).



- 2 Diane Nicely
Joan Sorenson
- 4 Diana Shappley
- 9 Carolyn Holmes
Karen Polnisch
- 12 Ana Hammonds
Barry Whitley
- 13 Carolyn Carden
Gail Swanson
- 20 Pete Gross
- 22 Robert Henry
- 23 Juliana Fox
Michael Miller
- 25 Charlie Hamilton Jr
- 26 Emily McGrath
- 30 Sharon Fegley



- 13 Steve Hayes &
Joyce Rector-Hayes
- 26 Jerry & Paula Klim

Office Closure

The Parish Office will be closed Thursday, November 28 and Friday, November 29 for the Thanksgiving holiday. We hope everyone has a great holiday. Gobble til you wobble!

Bishop Visit

Bishop Tim Graham will be preaching and leading worship for the East Kentucky Conference Ministerium at Faith Lutheran on Tuesday, November 5th at 10:00 am. Everyone is invited to attend worship and meet our new bishop!

Salvation Army Bell Ringing



We will be ringing the Salvation Army bell on Saturday, December 7, at Lexington Green from 10:00 - 6:00. This is a great opportunity to help families in need. There is a sign-up sheet on the table in the narthex or you can call Carolyn Carden at 859-552-8910.



Mark your calendars for the following upcoming events:

November 17—At 8:00pm, Choral Scholar Elijah Garrett presents his senior recital at the Singletary Center.

December 1—Children’s Choir sings at the 11:00 service.

This is an exciting moment as our newly formed group of children sing Advent songs. Come and support them!

December 8—Thomas Keesecker plays and directs the choir at the 11:00 service, joined by Luise Wendroth on the violin. At 3:00pm that day, he will present a program of Advent piano music, song and poetry. Mr. Keesecker is a well-known composer of piano, choral and handbell music. Our choir has sung a number of his beautiful arrangements. You do not want to miss this. Come, relax, and enjoy! There will be a freewill offering to help with the expenses.

December 22—Blue Christmas. If you have suffered a loss in the past year, if you are feeling low and finding it hard to face Christmas jollity, or if you just want to experience a quieter Christmas worship, join us at 6:00pm.

December 24—Christmas Eve. Enjoy again the beautiful cello music played by Nancy McKenney. Sing your favorite carols and be blessed by this candlelight worship service.

I am honored to be a part of beautiful music at Faith Lutheran.

In Christ, Kathy

Music@faithlutheranchurch.com

Stewardship



Because of God’s Great Mercy
Stewardship for our congregation

You should receive in early November a letter containing your Giving Intent Card and a Time & Talent sheet for 2025. God’s mercy comes to us in countless ways. It is through the love and forgiveness that is ours in our Lord Jesus that we can boldly claim to be God’s own people – not because of what we have done, but because of what God has done for us through his only Son.

God’s mercy also comes to us in many other ways. Among these are the material possessions we enjoy. They are gifts from God, but more than this, they are entrusted to us by God. To be a steward is to be entrusted to care for some of what God owns in this world. Those stewards are us, God’s people, entrusted to care for all that God has placed in our hands.

Because of God’s great mercy, we marvel at all we have received. Because of God’s great mercy, we think about how we will respond. Please remember to bring your Giving Intent Card and Time & Talent sheet to Consecration Sunday on November 24th.

Thank you from the Stewardship Team.

Thomas Keesecker

Mark your calendars for a free Advent music program with

Mr. Thomas Keesecker

Renowned composer of piano, handbell and choral music

Program includes piano music, song, and poetry

December 8, 2024

3:00pm

September Financial Summary

September 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		\$224,422.47	\$313,021.89	
Actual	\$37,861.81	\$36,637.20	\$1,224.61	\$272,219.25	\$317,683.07	(\$45,463.82)
Variance	\$12,925.98	\$1,856.99	\$1,224.61	\$47,796.78	\$4,661.18	(\$45,463.82)
%	151.8%	105.3%		121.3%	101.5%	

Faith Lutheran Church

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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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