

FAITH Lutheran Church
Offering Christ-Centered Childcare and Preschool
4241 Williamson Road
P.O. Box 242
Bridgeport, MI 48722

Phone: 989-777-2600 Fax: 989-777-5069

E-Mail: faithluthchurch@yahoo.com Web: faithlutheranbridgeport.org

FOCUS ON FAITH
November, 2022



MISSION STATEMENT: In responding to God's great love to us in Christ Jesus, FAITH Lutheran Church dedicates itself to the continual growth of Christ's Church in Bridgeport, in all of Michigan and the United States of America, and into all of the world through....

- **Fellowshipping** around the Gospel (*Acts 2:42*)
- **Administering** the Means of Grace (*1 Cor. 4:1*)
- **Investing** our time and talents (*2 Cor. 9:7, 8*)
- **Teaching** the Christian FAITH (*2 Tim. 2:2*)
- **Helping** those in need (*Matt. 25:40*)

Staff:

Rev. Timothy Behnke: *Pastor*, 989-777-2600 C: 989-292-9677

E-Mail: heiditim@netzero.com

Karlie Fournier: *Preschool and Childcare Director*, 989-777-2702

E-Mail: faithluthpreschoolandchildcare@gmail.com

Barb Swanson: *Secretary*, 989-777-2600

E-Mail: faithluthchurch@yahoo.com

Serving at FAITH in November

Elders:

November 6 Steve Dedyne, Archie Swanson
November 20 Tom Harris, Mike Hastedt

Altar Guild: Louise Davis, Denise Mosey, Kim Stroup

Fellowship: Swanson, Williams, Mosey, Dedyne

Ushers:

November 6 Group 4
November 13 Group WOF
November 20 Group 1
November 27 Group 1

Kidz' Word:

November 6 Archie Swanson
November 13 Mindy Hoffmann
November 20 Doug Williams
November 27 Laurie Lisk

Ushers List:

Group 1

Ron Reinbold

Group 4

Dean Notter
Austin Notter
Ron Brush

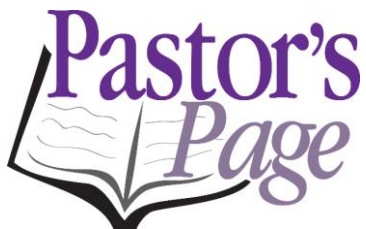
Women of FAITH Nov. 13

Laurie Lisk
Sandy Stroup
Patti Baughman
Dorothy Dedyne

Lectors:

November 6 Heidi Behnke
November 13 Mary Sylvester
November 20 Denise Mosey
November 27 Rachel Szaroletta





Prayer and Mercy.

This past week has been a blessing for me and Heidi. We took a mission trip to Good

News Bay, Alaska the summer before we came to Faith and made some good friends there. The blessing is that the host family from Good News Bay has traveled here to Saginaw to visit the many people who have visited them over the years. It was good to see Roy, Minnie and their children here and catch up with them. Roy does many things in Good News Bay, including leading services at the church since they do not have a pastor. He and Minnie also have been visiting Lutheran Schools this week to share a little about their lives and ministry. I was fortunate to visit Valley Lutheran's chapel the day he and Minnie led it. Roy told a story both about the power of prayer but also how legalism can kill a ministry.

He and Minnie were distressed over the plight of the young people in Good News Bay, since they were not connected to Christ. So they drove around the community of about 300 people and the 4 miles of road that is there and they prayed that God would work to bring them to Christ. This took 3 or 4 hours. Afterwards, they went to church to sing songs and hymns to Christ. To their amazement, 4 young people entered and began singing with them. They were soon joined by others and then others. The church was filled and this continued for several weeks. They were making in-roads and people were being connected to Christ. Prayer did work and in a miraculous way.

This was ruined one evening when during the service, one person got up and told everyone that unless they gave up certain things, they could not be there. This drove almost everyone away and the services and the ministry to the young has not recovered since. I believe that this person was well intentioned, but misguided. Christ told the Pharisees in Matthew Chapter 9: *“Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. Go and learn what this means: ‘I desire mercy, and not sacrifice.’ For I came not to call the righteous, but sinners.”* We too are sent to call the sinners to repentance, but we do not do that by cleaning them up first; we do it by bringing them to Jesus so they can learn about him and have a relationship with him. As they grow in Christ, the Holy Spirit will do the job of cleaning them up just as he does to us sinners every day.

This story both illustrates the power of prayer and the necessity of us, as God’s people, remaining humble and trusting God to do his work in people’s hearts and lives. That is grace in action. As we reach out with Christ, let us rely on prayer and God’s power more than we do now and let us bring Christ’s love and grace with us rather than condemnation. I believe that then God will work and people will listen. I believe that is when people will hear, believe and move from death to life in Christ.

--To God be the glory--

Pastor Tim Behnke

Deadline for the Monthly “Focus on FAITH” Newsletter is the 18th of November. **Deadline for the Sunday FAITHLINES** is 10:00 am Thursday mornings and no later. All information should be emailed to the church office at faithluthchurch@yahoo.com or placed in the office mailbox. Thank you.

Bridgeport Community Food Pantry: Now is the time to think about donating to the food pantry. Remember that non-perishable foods are requested. **Be sure to check the expiration date is current!** Donations may be dropped off in the box at the Sharing Station.



Poinsettia Order: We are taking orders for Poinsettia plants November 6th through November 20th. Order sheet is on the counter in the Narthex. The cost is \$12 each, choose from white, red or marble. Please make checks payable to Women of Faith and give to Dorothy Dedyne 989-233-1961. If you have any questions see

Dorothy.

Thank you: For all your donations of candy for Faith Lutheran Preschool and Childcares Trunk or Treat.

Preschool New:

Faith Lutheran Preschool and Childcare is now enrolling!

We currently have space in our Three year old preschool room.

We have a Pre-Kindergarten prep room! Get all the skills needed for Kindergarten! For ages four or five.

If you are interested, or know of someone who is please do not hesitate to contact Karlie Fournier at (989) 777-2702.

November

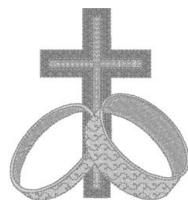


Birthdays

- 4 Shirley Lehman, Jean Husen
- 5 Drew Davis
- 8 William Niedrich
- 10 Kim McLean
- 11 Eric Curtis, Stephanie Harper
- 12 Clayton Alma, Marla Hoffmann, Linda Williams
- 15 Madison Hoffmann
- 16 Marilyn Streets, *Eden Stamper, * Bailey DeHerder
- 17 Mark Klein
- 18 Angie Bowns, Kaylea Simmons, Marlene Gerken
- 19 Paul Donahou, Brian Leaym
- 20 Keith Mosey
- 22 Barbara Hoffmann
- 26 Daniel Pavlicek
- 29 Kyle Herzberg, Rachel Hoffmann,
Jeremy Niedrich, Edna Walentovic
- 30 Kyle Curtis, Alex Klein

*infant/child/not confirmed

- 2 Ferris & Patricia Finerty
- 11 Rick & Jan Webb
- 14 Lance & Abigail Burns
- 19 Andy & Mindy Hoffmann



*wedding
Anniversaries*

If we have missed anyone or made an error, please call the church office at 777-2600 so corrections can be made. Thank You!

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL OCTOBER ITEM OF INTEREST

75th Anniversary your committee is working hard to make this day special. It will be on Sunday, February 19, 2023. If you have a special moment or memory you would like to share, please talk to Louise Davis. She is also asking for confirmation bulletins. Watch for more details.

Public Relations: Barb Swanson continues to put articles in both the Frankenmuth News and Birch Run/Bridgeport Herald.
Heidi Behnke continues to keep the parsonage sign current.

Outreach: There is no date for the Blood Drive. The next food distribution is November 10, 2022.

Elections: are upon us again, if you are asked to serve on a board, please prayerfully consider the position.

Transfer out:

Jillian Lovett family to Peace Saginaw
Kristin Jennings family to St. Lorenz Frankenmuth
Joan Morin to St. Lorenz Frankenmuth
Kathy Morin to St. Lorenz Frankenmuth

Respectively Submitted, Denise Mosey
Administrative Council Secretary

WOMEN OF FAITH OCTOBER NEWSLETTER

On October 20th thirteen women attended our meeting. We enjoyed snacks provided by Dorothy Dedyne and Shirley Lehman. Great fellowship was had by all. Ten women enjoyed dinner at Cracker Barrel on October 4th.

Fall Bazaar and Cookie Sale Saturday, November 19th 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Come and purchase those wonderful fresh baked cookies. If you would like to rent a table, fill out the registration form in the Narthex. If you have any questions, see Mary Sylvester.

Book Club: We are reading “Loving Isaac.” If you would like a book, please see Shirley Lehman.

Christmas Party: Sunday, December 4th 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Come and enjoy a time of fellowship. We will have finger foods and desserts. Bring your secret pal gift to exchange. If you would like to exchange a gift, bring a minimum of \$10.00, but no more than \$20.00. Watch Sunday, October 30th, November 6th, 13th, 20th to reserve your seat. Invite your mother, daughter, sister, cousin, aunt, friend, grandmother.

Upcoming events: Retreat Saturday, January 21st. Watch Faithlines for more details.

With God All Things Are Possible
Denise Mosey
President Women of FAITH

“Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with all your might” (Eccl 9:10).

God bids us to be faithful in the tasks He calls us to do. He calls us to be members of a family (husbands and wives; fathers and mothers; sons and daughters). He calls us to be members of society (those who govern and those who are governed). And He calls us to be members of His family, the Church (those who preach and teach and those who hear and learn). Each of these callings from God places a duty on us.

As members of a family, husbands are given the duty to die for their wives as Christ gave His life for His bride, the Church; while wives are given the duty to respect their husbands and submit themselves to them as the Church does to Christ. Fathers and mothers are to raise their children in the fear and admonition of the Lord, teaching them the Ten Commandments, the Creed, the Lord’s Prayer, and the Scriptures concerning Baptism, Confession, the Office of the Keys, and the Lord’s Supper. Children are to honor their parents throughout their lives, and even when their parents are no longer alive, serving and obeying them, loving and cherishing them, and speaking well of them.

As members of society, God calls those who govern to bear the sword, that is, to punish those who do evil (those who live contrary to God’s will) and to reward those who do good (those whose lives are lived in conformity with God’s will). Those who are governed are to obey their leaders as to the Lord Himself, for their leaders bear the sword of God’s temporal justice for a purpose.

As members of God’s own family, the Church, He calls those who preach and teach to do so in faithfulness to His holy Word. To preach and teach the Law of God to convict the hearts of hearers of their sin and to encourage, admonish, and exhort them to do good works in accordance with God’s will. They are to preach and teach the Gospel, the full forgiveness of their sins accomplished by Christ and received through faith, not by works. They are to administer the means of grace in accordance with the Gospel and the Word of God. They do all this for the young and old alike, for those who are near and far off. Those who hear and learn are to submit themselves to their preachers and teachers. They are support them by their prayers and their gifts.

Each of these callings from God place a duty on us. They make a claim on our presence; on our prayers; and our time, talents, and treasures. So, “Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with all your might” (Eccl 9:10). Pray for your family, your government, and your church. Give of yourself by means of your time, your talents, and your treasures to your family, your government, and your Church. That is what it means to be faithful in the tasks that God has given us. That is what it means to do it with all your might.

My Commitment to the Lord

“And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work” (2 Corinthians 9:8).

Being faithful with my time and talents...

- Read God’s Word
- Pray
- Worship
- Attend Bible studies
- Witness
- Serve

Being faithful with my money...

My (our) faith goal in _____ is to grow in the grace of giving by giving _____ percent of my (our) income.

My (our) weekly commitment will be \$_____

I (we) would like to enroll in Online Giving_____

*Prayerfully consider the faith goal of tithing...
... giving ten percent.*

Name (s) _____

Please return to the church office mailbox.

FAITH Lutheran Church 75th Anniversary 2023 Jacket, Sweatshirt and T-shirt sale!

You can now purchase items in 2 easy steps:

1. Go online to <https://faithlutheranchurch75.itemorder.com/>
Choose your items and add them to your cart
Securely checkout with your credit card
2. See the order form on the counter in the Narthex

Cotton T-Shirt \$8.00

Long sleeve cotton T-Shirt \$12.00

Hooded Sweatshirt \$22.00

Fleece Jacket \$25.00

Online Store Deadline: Sunday
November 13th, 2022 (11:59pm EST)



Faith Comes By Hearing

We freely provide Bible recordings to communities around the world and equip local believers to host Audio Bible listening programs.

We record reliable translations of God's Word in the languages of the world in collaboration with heart-language speakers and have initiated Oral Bible Translation projects.

We partner with like-minded ministries to share God's Word and engage the last, least, and forgotten like never before.

You Can Provide God's Word

FAITH Lutheran church will be collecting donations for Faith Comes By Hearing during the month of November.

If you would like to donate please place your check or monetary donation in the offering plate during worship marked "Faith Comes By Hearing".

Faith Comes By Hearing has come alongside the worldwide translation community in a movement to ensure that everyone on Earth has access to Jesus Christ's Gospel in a format they can understand. The various ministries carrying out this work have entered into an unprecedented time of unity, meaning that at long last, after two thousand-plus years, we can finally see the finish line.

Our goal: *To work in partnership to see that the Word of God is recorded and freely provided in every language that needs it by the year 2033.*

This is it. The final sprint. The Great Commission completed in our generation.