

FAITH at WORK¹

June 2020



Dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

The Council, Property and Worship and music committees have been working hard so that we can safely gather for worship. This is complicated for a number of obvious reasons.

To gather for worship at FLC, our committees have been considering the federal, state and local guidelines, synodical recommendations and the steps we have to take to be in legal compliance and maintain our insurance. Beyond that, we have a responsibility to you, our neighbors, to love, care for and protect you. So we have been diligently praying about, researching, following and planning for best practices for Worship in unprecedented circumstance.

Our plan (and this will show up in other points in the newsletter and via mail) is to have a drive up worship service on June 7th, similar to what we had before.

We plan to gather for outdoor worship for June 21st. We will give you confirmation that this is the case by June 7th on whether FLC leadership and volunteers can make this happen. To gather for outdoor worship requires the following: (all of which we are working diligently on):

(Continued on page 2)



Faith Lutheran Church

930 Queen Ave SW, Albany OR 97321

email: faithalbany@proaxis.com

website: www.faithalbany.org

541-928-7660

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In This Issue

- Church Announcements and Events
- Community Announcements and Events
- Calendars
- Prayer needs

1)Gathering the necessary supplies for cleaning and disinfecting our space. We are trying to minimize points of potential infection as best we can. We encourage you to use the restroom before you come to worship, however we recognize that like Saul in 1st Samuel 24, that there are times that we all have to cover our feet.

2)Contacting every member of the congregation and subdividing our congregation into three groups so that we can follow guidelines regarding number of people gathering together. We need your active participation with this section, to determine who is going to be part of our 8:30, 9:30 and 10:30 services.

3)Enlisting an expanded list of ushers to help welcome the neighbor (both known and unknown) and help us at FLC show love, care and compassion.

4)Setting up an outdoor space for a socially distanced worship including sound, space for families, etc.

5)Modifying the liturgy for a shorter service so that people will be able to enter and exit in an orderly fashion and not have the services overlap. Presently, Fellowship will be limited to our time together at FLC during Worship. Put another way, we have heard your call to resume Worship at FLC because it is important to many of you to have Worship while you are together in a shared space. However, we will not be having the usual Fellowship time after Worship, per current guidelines from the Synod and public health authorities.

6)Working on ways to keep up our online presence for those who still are staying safer at home, so that we can still reach out to them. We also are going to continue to send bulletins via mail and email to those who opt to stay safer at home.

This is not an exhaustive list – in other words we are just giving you most of the highlights. We are going to need help with this, and all of us can help in some way. You could make face coverings (Peggy Preston has been making many, you could contact her and co-ordinate). You could call our members, particularly our homebound members as part of a phone tree. You could be part of the survey team, determining which services people will attend. You could volunteer to serve as an usher or assisting minister/lector (the assisting minister and lector will be temporarily combined). You can pray – we need prayer, the whole world needs prayer. You can contact organizations like FISH and Helping Hands and see what they need. You can follow the guidelines of Oregon Health Authority and help keep your neighbor safe.

When the Council made the decision to close on March 12th, we were entering unknown territory – none of us had lived through quarantine before, and none of us knew what it was going to look like. Our response will continue to evolve as public health guidance changes. As we continue in this process, we are praying and working as we go through what is still unknown. It is hard to do something for the first time – and all of us have been doing this for the first time.

So we solicit your help, your love, your compassion and mercy. When asked, Jesus said that the two greatest commandments were to love God and to love our neighbor as ourself (Mark 12:28 - 31). We ask you to show the sacrificial love of Christ by showing caution, care and compassion for your neighbor with everything you do.

Peace in Christ,
Pastor Mark Bringman
Charles Bonville, President



Heavenly Father,
Shower your blessings upon all
fathers and the men in our lives who
are not fathers but mentor and guide
us with fatherly love and advice.

Grant them wisdom to guide their
children along the right paths and
strength to forgive when their
children stray from those paths.

Grant them perseverance as they
provide for the needs of their
families. Help them always balance
work, family and faith in joy and
sacrifice.

May your love shelter them in times
of need and expand their capacity for
forgiveness, kindness and
compassion.

You, who are Father of us all, hold all
fathers in your warm and generous
heart.
Amen.



FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH 2020

STAFF

Pastor	Mark Bringman
Office Manager	Nance G
Organist/Pianist	Cheryl B.
Custodian	Terry B.

CHURCH COUNCIL

President	Charles Bonville
Vice President	Carol Olufson
Secretary	Alice Weber
Treasurer	Janice Virnig
Financial Secretary	John Berg
Education /youth	Andrea Daniels
Evangelism & Mission	Cynthia Bonville
Fellowship & Social Con- cerns	Vicky Heintzman
Property Management	Jon Aaberg
Stewardship & Resources	Gordy Gamet
Worship & Music	Terry Virnig
Youth Facilitator	Kayleigh Cannady Shultz
Mission Endowment Fund	Gordy Gamet



Here are the numbers as of 5/26:

Undesignated Income: \$7,848.96

Budgeted Undesignated Income:
\$8,416.67

Net Undesignated Income: (567.71)

Total Expenses: \$5,132.87

Total Net Income: \$5,066.09

Following best practices (and recognizing that we live in Oregon with typically wonderful summer weather), for in person services in 2020, we will be worshipping outside. We are spacing out the first couple of these (for June 21st and July 12th) because we recognize that this asks a lot of volunteers, because Pastor Mark will have Mary on the intervening weeks (and child care is hard to come by), because we want to reduce risk, because we love each other. Faith Lutheran Church is a family. We love our family and want to operate with caution and concern.

As the Apostle Paul says in 1st Corinthians 10:23 “‘All things are permissible’ but not all things are beneficial, ‘All things are permissible’, but not all things build up.” We want to build up the body – we want to work for the benefit of each other.

1. We will schedule which services we will be a part of: We will have a team that is going to be working with the congregation to divide ourselves into three separate services: an 8:30, 9:30 and 10:30. The services will run for approximately 30 minutes.
2. Plan to arrive to worship no more than ten minutes early: The usher/assisting minister/pastor are going to be preparing the space between services. We need to use that time to prepare for the next service.
3. Plan to bring your own mask, chairs and sun protection: Wearing a mask will be mandatory. Bring a chair to sit on. Either bring an umbrella or wear a hat/sun block. Also plan to walk around the church building to get to the back.
4. The church building will only be open for restrooms: We encourage you to please use the restrooms at your home. The restrooms will be available if you need to use them during your time here. If you do need to use them, you will be expected to wipe them down with provided cleaning supplies (and will be asked by the usher to double-check that you have).
5. For communion, you will be bringing your own: This is to reduce transmission and infection possibility.
6. Bulletins will be available: However if you have the ability to read the service electronically then this is preferred. If you have a pad, printer at home, or the ability to read the service on your phone, that reduces your risk of infection.
7. After the service, please return to your cars: in a timely and orderly fashion.
8. Services will be limited to 25 people or less. This follows best practices from the CDC and Oregon Health Authority. While gatherings of larger groups might be permitted, given the age of many of our members, caution is called for.
9. We will be continuing to use video methods for worship: If you are not going out for any number of reasons, we will continue to supply electronic resources. You might be staying home because guidelines suggest that those 60/65 (60 is OHA, 65 is CDC) should stay home. You might have pre-existing medical conditions and being cautious.
10. If you have symptoms STAY HOME. We are trusting each other. If you have a fever, or a new cough, or aches, or difficulty breathing, etc. please take care of your neighbors and show good judgment. Contact your health care provider. This only works if we consider the needs of each other.

OUTDOOR WORSHIP CHECKLIST FOR JUNE 21st:

- 1) Services will be at 8:30/9:30/10:30**
- 2) Plan to be no more than 10 minutes early**
- 3) Plan to bring your own mask, chairs, and sun protection**
- 4) The only thing open in the church building will be restrooms**
- 5) Bring your own communion (again to reduce transmission risk)**
- 6) Bring electronics for bulletins (printed ones will also be available)**
- 7) After worship please return promptly to your cars**
- 8) Services will be small (25 people or less)**
- 9) We will be continuing electronic measures**
- 10) If you have symptoms STAY HOME contact your health care provider**

Updates from the Treasurer, Janice Lee-Virnig

Part of the CARES Act that became law on March 27, 2020 was the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP). This program is meant to provide cash flow assistance to businesses impacted by the downturn in the economy due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Administered through the Small Business Administration and participating banks, the purpose is to lend employers funds to assist in paying their staff, rent, and utilities for an eight-week period. If the funds are spent as intended during this period, the loan can be forgiven. If the funds are not forgiven, the loan must be paid back within a two-year period at 1% interest.

Non-profits, including churches, are allowed to apply for this program. Since Faith Lutheran does not self-insure that would provide unemployment benefits for the staff, the executive council members asked that I contact the church's bank, Key Bank. I submitted our application electronically on April 4th. On April 21st, Faith Lutheran was loaned \$20,200. This allowed us to pay Pastor Mark, Cheryl, Nancy, Kayleigh, and Nathan for the months of April and May and to pay for Pastor's benefits for those months. I have also been using the funds to pay our utility expenses. Our eight-week period ends on June 16th.

The next step is to apply for loan forgiveness. Key Bank has been in contact with me about this and have sent me the necessary forms. I will participate in a webinar covering the loan forgiveness that is scheduled for May 29th. From what I can see so far, the forgiveness process should be smoother than the initial application since the SBA has had more time to prepare for this part of the process. Any funds from this loan that are not spent in the allowed period will be repaid to Key Bank immediately. I do not see any obstacles to having the amount that we spend forgiven but if the loan forgiveness is not granted, the council will decide what our next steps will be concerning this loan.

In other Treasurer "news", the bequest of Amy Noble Toumi has been depleted. The funds were disbursed to organizations designated in her bequest and the remainder was spent on church projects. The windows are in as is the new flooring. The total cost of the windows was \$10,745 with a portion of the payment coming from a reimbursement for a broken window. The new flooring cost \$14,724.76 with a portion of this payment coming from the Endowment Committee.

The contributions by the congregation have remained strong despite our inability to "pass the plate" on Sunday mornings. Of course, our expenses have been lower since we suspended services and other activities, but our rental income is also lower since we voted to temporarily suspend rent on the parsonage.

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The undesignated contributions have exceeded the budgeted amount for each month. Our congregation continues to show their support and love for this church and its staff.

Respectfully submitted, Janice Lee-Virnig, Treasurer

Opportunities for Additional Worship

June 7th—Communion in Your Car

11:30 - 11:50 a.m for people with the last name A - G,

11:50 - 12:10 a.m. for people with the last name H - O

12:10 - 12:30 a.m. for people with the last name P - Z

(these times are all rough guidelines, if you are early or late, no worries, this is just a rough outline)

We are going to do a drive up communion service in cars again on June 7th

- ⇒ Every household would come in their car and would not leave their car.
- ⇒ Cars would BRING THEIR OWN COMMUNION ELEMENTS that would not leave the car (bread/crackers and grape juice/water [no alcohol please due to open container laws/safe driving]).
- ⇒ Cars would roll down their window to hear Pastor Mark (who would stand at least 10 feet away)
- ⇒ Cars would distribute communion entirely within their own car (we want their to be no risk of infection going either way).
- ⇒ This service would be very brief (a few minutes). Pastor Mark has spoken to a volunteer about helping to organize traffic. The brevity of the service would reflect the liturgy that Pastor Mark uses for homebound communion: scripture, prayer, the Lord's prayer, the meal, benediction. It is a full liturgy, but shorter to reflect health needs.
- ⇒ Cars should enter the parking lot from the 18th street entrance and exit on the Queen Street side.

BIBLE STUDY WEDNESDAYS AT 1:00 PM

On Wednesdays Pastor Mark hosts a 1 pm Bible Study on Zoom. If you want to join, the link is sent out on Wednesday mornings to the congregation email, feel free to message him for it as well. The Bible study has been looking at women of the Bible (we started with Mary and are on Rebekkah now) but it can change week to week.

SUNDAY MORNING SCHEDULE FOR MAY 31st, JUNE 7th and 28th (for earlier in the morning)

- Bulletin Mailed Out usually Friday
- Sermon Recorded on Youtube Saturday night/Sunday morning
- Zoom Fellowship Time/Pericope 9:30 – 10:15
- Facebook Livestream Prayer Service 10:30 – 11:00

May 26, 2020

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Dear Brothers & Sisters,

I hope this letter finds everyone doing well. On behalf of the Stewardship committee, I would like to thank everyone for their diligence on making contributions to Faith Lutheran. With your giving we have been able to keep our budget on track and doing well. I appreciate everyone stepping up when we needed it.

Please continue making your contributions so we can stay on track for the rest of this year. Soon we will be able to starting gathering together, Mary and I are looking forward to seeing everyone.

I hope everyone is able to stay safe and healthy. If you are able please check on one another via phone. This can give you both a chance to communicate and hopefully enjoy a little laughter at such a stressful time.

Looking forward to seeing everyone in several weeks. If you have any questions you can reach out to me 541-971-9944. Take care, be safe.

Sincerely yours,

Gordon Gamet (Stewardship Chair)

RATIONALE BEHIND FAITH LUTHERAN'S COVID 19 Decisions

There is extensive rationale behind the decisions that our COVID 19 Task Force has made. Here is some of the grounding.

Social Distancing/Face Masks/Staying at home:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/index.html>

Vulnerable Populations

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/need-extra-precautions/index.html>

Singing Specific – this was at a church choir practice in March - or why we will not be singing at in person worship:

<https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/69/wr/mm6919e6.htm>

Concerns about large group gatherings – Arkansas Church case study – think of this congregation as our congregation – how would any of us feel if 30 members of our community got sick from worship:

<https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/69/wr/mm6920e2.htm>

Concerns regarding congregations that have reopened and implemented measures but still worship inside (or why we are staying outside):

Georgia Church that closed after two weeks of being reopened because of COVID 19 outbreak

<https://www.christianpost.com/news/georgia-church-closes-two-weeks-after-reopening-as-families-come-down-with-coronavirus.html>

German Church linked to over 100 cases after reopening

<https://www.wsj.com/articles/more-than-100-in-germany-found-to-be-infected-with-coronavirus-after-a-churchs-services-11590340102>

Dear Friends of Camp Lutherwood Oregon,

Camp Lutherwood Oregon's Board of Directors has made the difficult decision to **suspend all planned programs for summer 2020**. The health and safety of all campers, staff and guests is our top priority as well as the desire to be financially responsible with the future viability of this ministry.

We believe this decision will allow camp to be a vibrant place for all to gather again in the future. We are constantly monitoring the recommendations of Oregon Health Authority, the American Camp Association and the Governor's mandates to see if any small group program options could be possible later in the summer. These could include opening camp for day use, small group family camps or work days.

As you can imagine, COVID-19 has put all of us, including Camp Lutherwood Oregon, in very challenging financial positions. We are grateful for the continued support of camper families, donors, volunteers, congregations and friends of camp. Your continued support is needed now to ensure that camp is poised to launch operations again as soon as it is safe to do so.

We are eager to stay in touch over the coming months. Be sure to follow us on social media for regular updates from camp.

Thank you for your support of Camp Lutherwood Oregon! We wish you health and safety in the days and weeks ahead.

Blessings,

Andrea Scofield
Executive Director
Camp Lutherwood Oregon



PRAYER CHAIN

We are asking anyone in the prayer chain to lift up the concerns of Faith Lutheran Church weekly (which could be as little as taking a few seconds and asking God's to be with all of those concerns and as much as lifting them up by name) and to pray for other concerns as they are shared. Peggy Preston will be heading up the prayer chain. If you are interested in being on the prayer chain, send her an email: pegp Preston@aol.com

May 3, 2020— Communion From Our Cars

Where there is a will, there is a way and we found it. Pastor Mark helped distribute the Holy Sacrament while we were a safe distance away from each other in our cars. We had 23 families come through on May 3rd. Each car had their own bread and juice to distribute among their family members. Pastor Mark officiated over 3 cars at a time. It was great to see our church family members in passing. Thank you to Pastor Mark and Jon Aaberg (our traffic controller) for making this happen.



Online Giving is available
through our Web Site

Availability to use Debit or Credit Cards for donations is on our website. If you have any questions, please contact our treasurer, Janice Virnig, email flctreasurer@proaxis.com, or call 541-928-7660

COMMUNITY
BLOOD
DRIVE

July 10, 2020

Time: 12 PM—5 PM

The Red Cross will be using their mobile unit and will be our parking lot from 11 to 6 PM. We will work out the social distancing protocols prior to that date. The drive is now open to online registration.

June's Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31 9:30 AM - 10:15 AM Zoom Fellowship Time/Pericope 10:30 AM - 11:00 AM Facebook Livestream Prayer Service	1	2	3 1:00 PM Zoom Bible Study	4 8:00 AM Reports to Council Due	5 4:30 PM - 7:30 PM Janitor	6
7 9:30 AM - 10:15 AM Zoom Fellowship Time/Pericope 10:30 AM - 11:00 AM Facebook Livestream Prayer Service 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM Communion in Your Car	8	9	10 1:00 PM Zoom Bible Study 7:00 PM Council Meeting (Zoom)	11 Pastor Vac. 4:30 PM - 7:30 PM Janitor Cleaning	12 Pastor Vac.	13 Pastor Vac.
14 Pastor Vac.	15 Pastor Vac.	16 Pastor Vac.	17 Pastor Vac.	18 Pastor Vac. 4:30 PM - 7:30 PM Janitor Cleaning	19 Pastor Vac.	20 Pastor Vac. 8:00 AM Newsletter Deadline
21 8:30 AM - 9:00 AM Outdoor Worship Service 9:30 AM - 10:00 AM Outdoor Worship Service 10:30 AM - 11:00 AM Outdoor Worship Service	22	23	24 1:00 PM Zoom Bible Study	25 4:30 PM - 7:30 PM Janitor Cleaning	26	27
28 9:30 AM - 10:15 AM Zoom Fellowship Time/Pericope 10:30 AM - 11:00 AM Facebook Livestream Prayer Service	29	30	1 1:00 PM Zoom Bible Study	2 8:00 AM Reports to Council Due	3 4:30 PM - 7:30 PM Janitor	4

For the most up-to-date version,

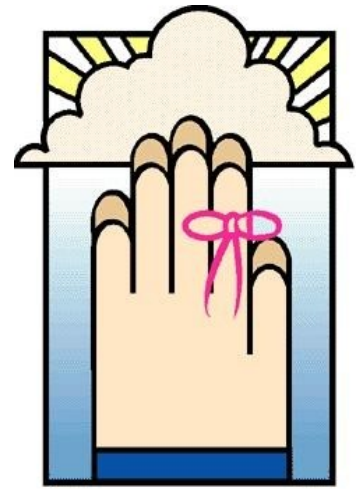
[visit our online calendar](#)

**PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER THOSE NEEDING
STRENGTH, GUIDANCE AND HEALING:**

Tim B
Brenda Carroll
Sandy Hina
Robert Jon
Daniel Sullivan
Linda Gail Voet
Melba Wright
Brandon Crawford
Christopher
Noah Holman
Susan Johnson
Barbara Rose
Jerry Sheffield
Pat Norby
Eleanor Barr

Ray Barr
Gigi Douglas
Ron Wold
Chiera Family
SangSau Tran
Donna Zolotoff
Vern Zimbleman
Silas Haynes
Edwarda Prochnau
Cindy Harms
Lori Guerrero
Izzy Covalt
Mona Crawford
Kris Waskosky
Shedd Waskosky

Shirley Brudvig
Kristy Bishop
Oliver
Madielynn
Stephan Selvage
Patrick Selvage
Alberta Oster
Garrett Baarsch
Rosemary Aaberg



**PLEASE REMEMBER
THESE FRIENDS IN
PRAYER**

REMEMBER OUR HOMEBOUND: Lou C, Bonnie K, Rita E, Betty K., Ruth Irwin

OUR SYMPATHY & PRAYERS TO THOSE WHO MOURN THE LOSS OF LOVED ONES.

Vicky Heintzman and Zolotoff Family

PASTOR MARK VACATION June 11th - 20th

Pastor Mark, Vanessa and Mary are taking some Sabbath time from June 11th – 20th. During this time, Pastor Mark will not be looking at emails, he will be taking a break from the phone etc. God rested as an example to us and we shall rest in God as well.

During this time Father Bob Morrison of St Albans is available to call his number is 541-321-1076.

**Welcome
Evan Adam Fleischer
6lb 6oz born on May 1st.**

**Grandparents Sue and Jeff
Fleischer are very happy to
welcome Evan into the family.**





Faith at Work

2020

Faith Lutheran
Church
930 Queen Ave
SW
Albany Oregon
97321

Sundays
Sunday School
9 am
Worship 10:15
am

541-928-7660

faithalbany.org

[faithalbany@
proaxis.com](mailto:faithalbany@proaxis.com)

PLACE
STAMP
HERE

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