

Sisters and brothers in Christ,

I feel like I am walking a precipice between sorrow and hope. Regathering in the sanctuary for the joy of the resurrection was a joy. Seeing familiar faces in a familiar setting brought smiles to the eyes, where we could see them despite masks. Vaccines bring a hope of finally turning the corner against this disease. Children going back to school mean that the youngest among us are getting the contact and socialization that they need.

At the same time we are all aware that pandemic numbers are growing in Oregon - rising to points last seen in the winter. Many of us know someone who has suffered from COVID 19. All of us have been affected in some way. We are still in the place where we have to be vigilant. We are back together but not yet back to the way things were before. For me it feels like walking a narrow path between promise and despair. The hardest part of the last year + is the uncertainty of what the future will bring.

A connection point might be the theology of the Apostle Paul. His theology is sometimes called the theology of Already but Not Yet or the Overlap of the Ages. Paul describes Jesus as the hinge point of history, he speaks of God's incarnation as the point that creation and all the cosmos turns on, the cross and the resurrection representing a new dawning together. Paul tells us that God's kingdom is already here - that Jesus has come. At the same time it is not yet fully realized, the world has not been brought into conformity with new life in



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Jesus Christ. And so his letters which are rich in hope also recognize the reality of a world still groaning as if in labor pains, waiting for redemption (Romans 8:22).

We are a people who are a part of our world. We are not ostriches with our heads in the sand, we acknowledge the struggles of this creation. We can see the world groaning when we see people in need, when we see the environment suffering, when we see signs of brokenness in the world. These are all signs that the kingdom has not yet been fully realized, that the age to come is not yet here. But we also are a people of hope, who see signs of God's promise and presence among us.

We live in hope, we live in the God who formed us and made us. We are among sorrow and brokenness but have are filled with the promise of Jesus incarnation, life and resurrection.

Peace in Christ, Pastor Mark

May's Worship Schedule

For worship that day please wear festive red as we celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit which makes us all one.

May 30:

Please reserve your spot by calling or emailing the church office. Enter through the glass double doors by the parking lot and exit through the front door. **Masks are required!** Also bring your communion elements (Bread and juice) so we may commune together safely.

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	Kim Sass
Secretary	Nancy George
Treasurer	Janice Virnig
Financial Secretary	John Berg
Education /youth	Andrea Daniels
Evangelism & Mission	Dick Olsen
Fellowship & Social Concerns	Peggy Preston
Property Management	Jon Aaberg
Stewardship & Resources	Gordy Gamet
Worship & Music	Terry Virnig
Mission Endowment Fund	Gordy Gamet



His Masterpiece

God took the fragrance of a flower
 The majesty of a tree,
 The gentleness of morning dew
 The calm of the quiet sea,
 The beauty of the twilight hour
 The soul of a starry night,
 The laughter of a rippling brook
 The grace of a bird in flight,
 The tender care of an angel
 The faith of a mustard seed,
 The patience of an eternity
 The depth of a family's need
 Then God fashioned from these things
 A creation like no other,
 And when His masterpiece was through
 He called it simply Mother...

Happy Mother's Day

May 9, 2021



Financial Report as of: 4/22/2021:

Undesignated income: \$5,713.00

Budgeted Undesignated
Income: \$8,885.00

Net Undesignated
Income: **(\$3,172.00)**

Total Expenses: \$2,034.21

Total Net Income: **\$4,092.62**

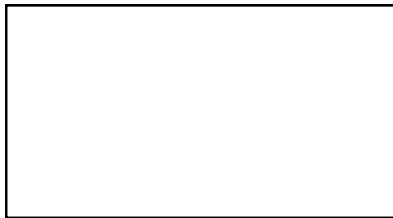
Livestream Services are still available at 9:30 a.m. going forward !

At this point the plan is to do a prayer service in the sanctuary, similar to what Pastor Mark has been doing, at 9:30 every Sunday. This is still a work in progress: we are trying to figure out a different system, however this is what we can manage now.

Outdoor Worship (May 30th and Beyond)

Summer in Oregon is a wonderful time to be surrounded by the awesome wonder of God's creation. We have pleasant mornings, the warming sun. Outdoors is also a much safer place to be during the pandemic. As we did last summer, this summer we are planning on worshipping outside. We may rotate closer to the church building, you will certainly be kept in the loop.

If it is raining, it is easy to go back inside to the sanctuary as a backup plan. So from May 30th and going forward in the summer, we will be worshipping outside as a baseline.



Call the Church office

@ 541-928-7660 or

Email : faithalbany@proaxis.com

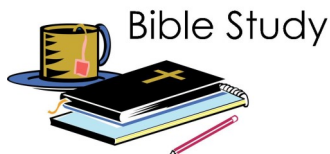
**by Friday each week to reserve
your spot. Thank you!!!**

Bible Study via Zoom at 1 PM on

Monday's May 3, 10, 17, and 24

Our Bible study will be reading the book "Learning to Walk in the Dark" by Barbara Brown Taylor. We are started this unit of our Bible study on April 18th. Please join us if you are able.

Barbara Brown Taylor is an Episcopalian priest, known for her luminescent writing and ability to write about spirituality in an easy going and approachable manner. If you wish to participate in the study you will have to get a copy of the book.



Bible Study

Church Council Happenings

This is a review of the church council meeting on 4/21. There were a few items that we wanted to make sure to bring the congregation up to speed on.

- 1) Our church has been running a deficit in 2021 (and ran a deficit in 2020 as well). We had some significant unanticipated expenses thus far 2021: tree trimming/limb removal from the ice storm and replacing the parsonage furnace being chief among them. Lower giving in addition means that Faith Lutheran has a deficit of over \$13,000. The council discusses our finances every month, are aware of the situation and are concerned.
- 2) The PPP loan that was taken in 2020 was forgiven in April of 2021, and converted to a grant. The purpose of this program was to guarantee payroll for employees, which Faith Lutheran did during a very uncertain time. That forgiveness gives the congregation more of a financial cushion. At the same time, the council continues to be faithful and cautious stewards of the congregation's resources. We give a big thank you to Janice Virnig, our treasurer, for her hard work all the way through the process. The Executive Committee recently learned that the deadline to apply for PPP round two has moved up to April 30th, and will be discussing that application this week. In light of our current deficit, it appears necessary to apply.
- 3) We discussed worship inside the sanctuary and affirmed that we would be following OHA guidelines. The council decided to keep worshipping indoors, despite the higher county metrics because of the importance of worship. The council also spoke about potentially moving outdoors for worship on non rainy Sundays beginning on the 30th of May. Look for another article about May worship in the newsletter.
- 4) On 4/9 Linn County returned to high risk, on 4/23 Linn County reached all the metrics except one (statewide hospitalization number) for extreme risk, a situation the council (and all of you) keeps an eye on as we try to faithfully care for each other and find ways to gather safely.
- 5) We discussed small groups such as the quilters, bible studies, the string therapy group and Scouts meeting at Faith Lutheran Church. We did not reach a consensus, in part because of the rising rate of infection countywide. We will decide, at our next meeting, at what risk levels the building will be available for small groups.
- 6) Our next meeting is on 5/12. If you have any questions or concerns to bring to the council, please feel free to talk to Charles Bonville, Kim Sass, Nancy George, John Berg, Janice Virnig, Jon Aaberg, Dick Olsen, Andie Daniels, Gordy Gamet, Peggy Preston, Terry Virnig or Pastor Mark Bringman. Or let us know and we would be glad to have you join us at our next meeting over Zoom at 7pm on 5/12.

Council reports are due on May 7th!

Office Hours Changing for May & June
Monday , Wednesday and Friday
8:30 AM to 12:30 PM

Dear FLC Congregation,

We are writing to let you know that tonight (Monday, April 26) your FLC Council met, discussed and unanimously approved an application process for the Federal Government's *Paycheck Protection Program* (PPP), Round Two, to assist us financially during this turbulent time.



The rules of Round Two state that a business or non-profit must experience one quarter in 2020 in which gross receipts (donations and rental income) were down by 25% or more. In the third quarter of 2020, our receipts were down by 26% as compared to the same quarter in 2019.

The Council gave consideration to the fact that our first application in PPP Round One was approved for forgiveness and converted into a grant. Those funds will be recognized as income for our church as of April 2021.

The Council also contemplated whether or not this issue needed to go before you, the congregation, for a vote. The relevant portion of the FLC Constitution, C12.05 c., states that the council may "enter into contracts of up to five per cent of the budget for items not included in the budget."

As we read the intent of C12.05 c., it is that council may only spend up to five per cent of budget on some **new** expense, or **new** spending, that was not part of our annual budget. However, all of the payroll positions are budgeted items and we are pursuing an alternative manner of funding/income for a portion of that payroll. The PPP program request is limited to 2.5 months of 2020 payroll.

We have had an email discussion about the timing of when we could announce a special congregational meeting, and then conduct that meeting two weeks thereafter. We wanted to make it a more open process, recognizing that a few in our midst expressed the feeling that FLC should not have applied for Round One.

But before we could act on such a meeting, the Council was informed that our deadline to apply is April 30, and that Key Bank had set this earlier deadline in order to ensure that they could process all Round Two applications prior to the federal program deadline of May 31.

The Council also gave consideration to the fact that the original deadline for Round Two was March 31. However, Congress acted to extend the deadline by two months because of the billions of dollars that were still available. The Council recalls that one of the arguments put forth in opposition to applying for Round One is the mistaken impression that we were causing other businesses to go without. On the contrary, both Rounds One and Two had an excess of funds available.

Finally, the Council recognizes its role as the Board of Trustees / Directors to manage FLC business and

fiscal affairs, to conduct financial affairs efficiently and to be responsible stewards of its investments. We take our role seriously and understand this to include pursuing forgivable loans, or grants, that increase our financial resources, and will take steps to ensure that FLC remains as a viable resource not only for you, our congregation, but also for the organizations that operate within our buildings for the good of the whole community.

I hope this letter finds you at peace with the unanimous Council decision to apply for PPP Round Two. We offer our highest praise to treasurer Janice Virnig for working with the bank to successfully apply for Round One and her further efforts to guide us for Round Two. She has spent countless hours on these endeavors and her work has become a blessing for our church. If you have a chance, do let Janice know how much you appreciate her work.

Please reach out to the Council should you have more detailed questions.

Sincerely,

Charles Bonville, President

Kim Sass, Vice President

May	Worship Leader Team 2021				
	2	9	16	23	30
Assisting Ministers	Shirley	Carol	Elaine	Jackye	Gordy
Altar Prep	N/A	N/A	N/A	TOMs	TOMs
Ushers	Jon	Nance	Dick	Janice	Wally
	Dick	Wally	Nance	Terry	Charles
Sound Technician	John	Gordy	Jon	Gordy	John

Worship Helpers are needed!

If you can help with worship, either as an usher, or assisting minister/lector (the two roles are combined for now) or working on the sound board, let us know. We are adapting to a changing world and counting on excited adaptable people.

Special Ascension Sunday

at Faith Lutheran Church in Albany



"I have revealed you to those whom you gave me out of the world. They were yours; you gave them to me and they have obeyed your word. ⁷ Now they know that everything you have given me comes from you. ⁸ For I gave them the words you gave me and they accepted them. They knew with certainty that I came from you, and they believed that you sent me. ⁹ I pray for them. I am not praying for the world, but for those you have given me, for they are yours. ¹⁰ All I have is yours, and all you have is mine. And glory has come to me through them." ¹¹

from John 17

Please join us as we remember and commend these saints who "the church triumphant" during our long months of separation from

Greetings from Camp!

Here are your announcements from Camp Lutherwood Oregon for the second half of April.



Register Now for Spring Work Days

Do you want to spend a day working at camp this spring? We're opening up 3 different Work Days with space for up to 5 families each. These work days will be held on May 8, and June 5 from 10AM to 2PM.

Reservations are required on a first-come, first-served basis.

Visit our website at <https://www.lutherwoodoregon.org/work-days-2/> to request your space!

Breaking News

We have just received word that Oregon's overnight camps will be allowed in 2021!

We will receive guidance from the Oregon Health Authority in April that will specify the operational guidelines for overnight youth camps.

We can't wait to gather around the campfire this summer!

2021 Summer Registration is OPEN!

Registration is open for Family Camp, Women's Retreat and Youth Programs now! Space is limited for all programs and spots are filling up fast. The most up to date information about program dates and costs can

PRAYER



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 to be with all of those listed, 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: pegpreston@aol.com

PRAY
GOD'S GLORY
Across the Earth

HABAKKUK 2:14

May 6, 2021 is National Prayer Day

Our 2021 National Day of Prayer theme prays:

"LORD pour out Your LOVE, LIFE, HEALING and LIBERTY." Once again praying and proclaiming a promise of God in our theme verse,

2 Corinthians 3:17, "Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty."



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
25 9:30 AM Facebook Live Stream 10:30 AM - 11:00 AM Indoor Worship	26 1:00 PM Zoom Bible Study	27	28 9:00 AM TOM's	29	30	1
2 9:30 AM Facebook Live Stream 10:30 AM - 11:00 AM Indoor Worship	3 1:00 PM Zoom Bible Study	4 3:00 PM Worship & Music Committee	5 9:00 AM TOM's	6 8:00 AM Reports to Council Due	7	8
9 9:30 AM Facebook Live Stream 10:30 AM - 11:00 AM Indoor Worship	10 1:00 PM Zoom Bible Study	11	12 9:00 AM TOM's 7:00 PM Council Meeting	13	14	15
16 9:30 AM Facebook Live Stream 10:30 AM - 11:00 AM Indoor Worship	17 1:00 PM Zoom Bible Study	18	19 9:00 AM TOM's	20 8:00 AM Newsletter Deadline	21	22
23 9:30 AM Facebook Live Stream 10:30 AM - 11:00 AM Indoor Worship	24 1:00 PM Zoom Bible Study	25	26 9:00 AM TOM's	27	28	29
30 9:30 AM Facebook Live Stream 10:30 AM - 11:00 AM Outdoor Worship	31 1:00 PM Zoom Bible Study	1	2 9:00 AM TOM's 5:30 PM Worship & Music Committee	3 8:00 AM Reports to Council Due	4	5

For the most up-to-date version,
[visit our online calendar](#)

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

11

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
Gigi Douglas
Ron Wold
Chiera Family
SangSau Tran
Silas Haynes
Cindy Harms
Izzy Covalt
Mona Crawford
Kris Waskosky
Shedd Waskosky
Kristy Bishop
Oliver
Madielynn

Stephan Selvage
Patrick Selvage
Garrett Baarsch
Carl Wogomon
Stephanie Bauthman
Marjorie Trainor
John Busher
Gene Hebert
Heather
Donald Roland
Margaret Rowland
Peggy Preston
Julie Shaw



**PLEASE REMEMBER
THESE FRIENDS IN
PRAYER**

REMEMBER OUR HOMEBOUND: Ruth Irwin, Connie Griffis

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

A SIMPLE PRAYER FOR HEALING

Lord of Heaven,
I rest underneath your mighty
wings of love.
I dwell within your gentle heart.
I know there is healing
in your touch.
Through the sufferings of Christ,
I can ask for restoration and
trust in your goodness.
You are my Lord, my Savior,
My Healer and my friend.
I dwell within your gentle
embrace.

AMEN





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SW
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Faith at Work

2021

PLACE
STAMP
HERE

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