

# FAITH at WORK

October 2021

## Council Retreat October 3 at 1 pm

The council of Faith Lutheran Church is having a second retreat to vision for what the future might look like. This meeting – like all meetings at FLC – is open to whoever would like to attend. At the retreat on August 29<sup>th</sup>, as sisters and brothers in Christ, we talked about the situation here.

Faith Lutheran Church is a place where we hear God's promise of love and forgiveness, where we are fed and nourished at the meal of salvation, where we have fellowship with other saints and are sent into the mission fields to share the love of God. Many of our members have been a part of this church for many years. This is a sacred place where worship, service, education and fellowship occurred and continues to occur.

At the same time, the last two years have been extremely hard on our congregation: time spent in lockdown, sisters and brothers who died and we mourn. We have a hybrid worship where some people participate online and some people join in Sunday service. We are glad that the electronic option lets people participate who might not otherwise be able to. At the same time we long for a return to 'normal'. The reality is that our life is altered.

At the retreat we talked about what this means for the finances of Faith Lutheran Church. We can pay all of our bills. However unless we make some changes, there will be a significant budget deficit next year. We can address these changes in a few ways:

Firstly, we can grow our church. Faith Lutheran Church is the place where you are fed and nourished. This is a place where you hear God's word, where you receive the meal of salvation, where you have fellowship with the saints. We can grow the church by inviting friends and neighbors without a church home to join us. Christians are told by Jesus to share



## Faith Lutheran Church

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their faith with friends and neighbors. The Great Commission of Matthew 28 says “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations” – something that we as individual members have not done well.

**The most effective evangelism is when someone makes a personal invitation to someone they know.** An invitation from a friend to come to worship, or to quilting, or a bible study means a lot. We are a warm and welcoming congregation: let’s share that with our community! Let’s invite friends and family to the place that has meaning for us.

The second way we can address the change in Faith Lutheran Church, if we don’t grow the church, is through our expenditures. Neither one of the following two options are appealing. Both of these are suggestions that come from wanting to be fiscally sound. Either:

- a) Cutting Pastor Mark back to  $\frac{3}{4}$  time, recognizing that we do not currently have the funds to support a full time pastor.
- b) Changing the continuing resolution of the endowment fund to allow it to be used for one time capital expenses (such as the installation of the heat pumps this last year).
- c) Finally, we can look at working together with another congregation. Other congregations in Albany are in a similar situation and might be interested in working together. Two (or three) congregations working together may be able to achieve critical mass for small groups, studies, volunteer work, unique worship experiences. Sometimes at Faith we have struggled with numbers for a young adult group, or youth group, or for a group working on houses etc. Forming partnerships could lead to revitalization in both places.

**Ultimately it is up to the congregation.** In the near term, either we are going to grow or we are going to have to address costs. Ultimately it is up to us, to invite others or to make difficult decisions about limited finances. Faith Lutheran Church (and the ELCA as a whole) are a bottom up denomination, meaning that the congregation as a whole makes the decisions. We as a congregation have the opportunity to change our course or we have difficult decisions to make. The council will be discussing those options on October 3<sup>rd</sup>. We invite you to join us for that meeting. One way or another, the council is going to be bringing this to the congregation at the November or December annual meeting.

Peace in Christ,  
Pastor Mark

## October Worship Schedules

October 3:	10:30 AM Live Worship & Streaming
October 10:	10:30 AM Live Worship & Streaming
October 17:	10:30 AM Live Worship & Streaming
October 26:	10:30 AM Live Worship & Streaming
October 31	10:30 AM Live Worship & Streaming

**Masks and Social Distancing are Required for Indoor Worship**



## Autumn

There's nothing as fine  
 As an autumn day,  
 With the smell in the air  
 Of fresh mown hay.  
 Each tree is a wonder,  
 Of beauty, untold.  
 Each leaf brushed with color,  
 A sight to behold.  
 There's a nip in the air  
 -crisp, cool, and clear-  
 To remind us that winter  
 Soon will be here!  
 But for now we have autumn,  
 The 'show-off' of seasons!  
 My favorite by far,  
 And these are the reasons!

By June Kellum



## FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH 2021

### 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



## Financial Update

Financial Report as of 9/21/2021:

Undesignated Income: \$5,996.07

Budgeted Undesignated Income: \$8,885.00

Net Undesignated Income: (\$2,888.93)

Total Expenses: \$3,735.43

Total Net Income: \$2,392.70

## Church Announcements and Events

### Bible Study Monday's @ 1:00 PM

We are going to be studying Mark over the month of October using the following planned schedule:

October 4 Mark 13

October 11 Mark 14 and 15 - this will be a different format

October 18 skipped for Bishop's convocation

October 25 Mark 16 - Resurrection and wrap up



In November, the group decided to do the book *Christ the Lord out of Egypt*. You can find the book at used book stores, goodwill, at the library etc. It is written by Anne Rice, you can find a review of the book. We will do it in November starting on November 1st, all Saints Day. Kim Sass is going to help lead it

### Book Study: The Difficult Words of Jesus by Amy Jill Levine

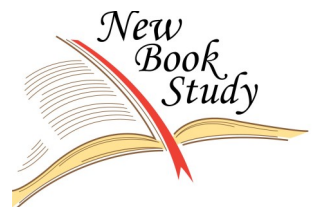
Sundays and Wednesdays October 10th and 13th

In the Bible Jesus says some things that are difficult and hard to understand, such as “sell what you own,” “hate father and mother,” and “be slave of all.” What might these difficult sayings mean for our lives and what did they mean to the people of Jesus’ day? You are invited to an in-person or online study of Amy-Jill Levine’s book *The Difficult Words of Jesus: A Beginner’s Guide to His Most Perplexing Teachings*.

On-line study will be via Zoom on Wednesdays from 10:45 to 11:45 a.m. beginning on October 13 through November 17. Contact Fr. Bob from the Episcopal Church by email at [robertpmorrison11@gmail.com](mailto:robertpmorrison11@gmail.com). Tell him you’re from Faith Lutheran Church and ask for the Zoom link to the upcoming Wednesday book study.

In-person study will be from 4:00 to 5:00 p.m. on Sundays, beginning October 10 through November 14. It will be at Faith Lutheran Church at 930 SW Queen Ave.

Before the class, buy *The Difficult Words of Jesus* and read the first chapter. Leaders for both the online and in-person studies are Father Bob from St. Alban’s Episcopal Church, Pastor Mark from Faith Lutheran Church, and Pastor Lura.



## Blessing of Our Animals

### October 10 @ 11:45 AM

We are going to have a blessing of animals service on October 10<sup>th</sup> after worship. If you want to bring your pet to the parking lot we will have a brief service. For pets for whom travel is difficult, feel free to have a picture on your phone, or just the pet's name.

For those who are at home, you might sing with your pet the hymn: "All Creatures of Our God and King", written by Francis of Assisi (who's feast day is October 4<sup>th</sup>). You can find a version of it here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MgIIBatRjUc>



Save the date!

October 6, 2021 | 7:00 p.m.

Spirit of Harvest

Join us on **Wednesday, October 6** for a fun and interactive online, livestream program uplifting the Spirit of Harvest that lives year-round at Camp Lutherwood Oregon!

Let's envision the future of camp together, even while we're far apart! Get ready to see some familiar faces, and hear about new ideas!

Just like past Harvest Festivals, this fun, fast-paced evening includes an exciting online auction (items will be announced soon!). This is your chance to bid on exclusive camp experiences and learn how your support will allow us to continue our outdoor ministry and education through 2022.

Tune in at 7PM PST on the Lutherwood website or subscribe to [Camp Lutherwood Oregon on YouTube](#). Dress in black tie or PJs and raise a s'more in support of Camp Lutherwood Oregon from the comfort of your home!

*Registration opens September 8th at [lutherwoodoregon.org/spirit-of-harvest](https://lutherwoodoregon.org/spirit-of-harvest). Stay tuned for more information about the event and how you can enjoy and participate in the evening.*



## Quilting and TOMs

Wednesdays at 9 AM

Wednesday mornings are a busy time at Faith Lutheran Church. We have quilters working to create comforting quilts that are donated to bring people warmth, privacy and shelter. If you are interested in joining them, there is always plenty to do.

The TOMS (stands for The Old Men, though age and gender are not requirements for the group) are busy working to keep our church property maintained and our grounds clean. If you have skills to share or able hands and a willing heart, the TOMs will always welcome some help.

At midmorning, the groups take a break together for fellowship and a few laughs. If you have some spare time and a desire for company, it's a good time to stop by to see what's going on.

## Mary Martha Circle



This is a monthly bible study for all women. We will be meeting on Second Tuesday of Each Month @ 1 PM in the Fellowship Hall. Please join us and bring a friend! If you would like more information, please call Karen Glenn at 541-928-4729 or Shirley Karstens at 541-967-8309.

## New Christ in Our Home are Available Now! (Oct.–Dec.)

If you would like us to mail you one, please give the office a call.



## Annual FISH Food Drive

October 16 from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm

Faith Lutheran will be a designated gathering site for the Annual FISH Food Drive on October 16th. This is their big collection in preparation for the winter and holiday seasons. All non-perishable foods are needed and welcome.

We need volunteers in the parking lot (in shifts) on that day to help gather food. If you are willing to assist, please let Pastor Mark know.

### Thank you to the Sabatka Sisters

Amy Anderson, Julie Hull, Carol Olufson, Jayne Preston and Mary Sabatka-Gamet have given a generous gift to the church endowment in memory of their mother Nona who joined the church triumphant in November of 2020. The sisters are still working together to determine how the money should be directed. However it is used, it will be a reminder of Nona, of her love of children and of Faith Lutheran Church. We are thankful for their generous gift.

### Thank You to Jon and Rosemary Aaberg

Jon and Rosemary generously donated a video cord to set up our new video system which we are working on getting up and running.



Thank you to those who brought school supplies for Lutheran World Relief School Kits, to those who made book bags, and to those who prepared the kits for shipment. Your generosity helped us reach our goal of 75 Kits again this year, and will make a real difference for the students receiving the kits.



Thank you to all who are sharing the bounty from your gardens. We all enjoy the produce and often don't know who it came from or who to thank. Your generosity is sincerely appreciated!

### Food Collection for Holiday Baskets

We are collecting non-perishable foods for the Salvation Army Holiday Food Baskets in October, November and December. Donations can be placed in a basket located in the parking lot entry-way.



## Annual Bazaar (Virtual) Dec. 3 & 4

The Bazaar will be presented virtually on the Faith Lutheran Facebook page on Saturday, December 4th. Jennifer Hall will be the coordinator and is the person to contact about donating items for the bazaar. This is a new format for us and will enable us to safely navigate the pandemic without putting volunteers and shoppers at risk of exposure. It also opens up our bazaar to a larger audience of friends and family who live in other areas of the country. Everything is in the planning stage at this point, so watch Faith at Work, the weekly bulletin and Facebook for more news.

If you want to help with this event, please contact Jennifer. We will require all workers to wear masks, maintain social distance, and remain home if feeling unwell. We want to make this a safe and fun event and hope to make some funds for the agencies that we annually support.

## Small Groups Meetings



Small groups may now meet at the church. For a small group to meet they must have a Key Contact or Liaison who will schedule a meeting, and fill out a form for the group (available at the door by the church office or online).

## Covid-19 Practices at Faith Lutheran Church

Out of love and concern for our neighbors, Faith Lutheran Church will be following the practices listed below:



- Masks are mandatory indoors
- Masks are mandatory outdoors if six feet cannot be maintained between people (OHA Mandate 8/27/2021)
- Keep social distance (6 feet apart)
- No food or beverages indoors
- We **WILL** continue to share in the meal of salvation

As Martin Luther said, "God doesn't need your good works but your neighbor does."





## October 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>1</b> 9:00 AM String Therapy	<b>2</b>
<b>3</b> 10:30 AM Indoor Worship & livestreaming 1:00 PM Council Retreat (Back Yard)	<b>4</b> 1:00 PM Bible Study 7:00 PM Boy Scouts	<b>5</b> 6:30 PM Cub Scouts	<b>6</b> 9:00 AM Quilters 9:00 AM TOM's	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> 8:00 AM Reports to Council Due 9:00 AM String Therapy	<b>9</b>
<b>10</b> 10:30 AM Indoor Worship & livestreaming 11:45 AM Blessing of Pets 4:00 PM Book Study: Difficult Words of Jesus (In-Person)	<b>11</b> 1:00 PM Bible Study 7:00 PM Boy Scouts	<b>12</b> 1:00 PM Mary Martha Circle 6:30 PM Cub Scouts	<b>13</b> 9:00 AM Quilters 9:00 AM TOM's 10:45 AM Book Study: Difficult Words of Jesus (Zoom) 7:00 PM Council Meeting	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> 9:00 AM String Therapy	<b>16</b> 9:00 AM Circle of Friends (Peggy's Gazebo) 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM Annual FISH Food Drive
<b>17</b> 10:30 AM Indoor Worship & livestreaming 4:00 PM Book Study: Difficult Words of Jesus (In-Person)	<b>18</b> Bishop's Convocation 7:00 PM Boy Scouts	<b>19</b> Bishop's Convocation 6:30 PM Cub Scouts	<b>20</b> Bishop's Convocation 9:00 AM Quilters 9:00 AM TOM's 10:45 AM Book Study: Difficult Words of Jesus (Zoom)	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> 8:00 AM Newsletter Deadline 9:00 AM String Therapy	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b> 10:30 AM Indoor Worship & livestreaming 11:15 AM Fellowship Meeting 4:00 PM Book Study: Difficult Words of Jesus (In-Person)	<b>25</b> 1:00 PM Bible Study 7:00 PM Boy Scouts	<b>26</b> 6:30 PM Cub Scouts	<b>27</b> 9:00 AM Quilters 9:00 AM TOM's 10:45 AM Book Study: Difficult Words of Jesus (Zoom)	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> 9:00 AM String Therapy	<b>30</b>
<b>31</b> 10:30 AM Indoor Worship & livestreaming 4:00 PM Book Study: Difficult Words of Jesus (In-Person)	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>

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



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](mailto:pegpreston@aol.com)



	Worship Leader Team 2021				
<b>October</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>31</b>
<b>Assisting Ministers</b>	<b>Terry</b>	<b>Shirley</b>	<b>Elaine</b>	<b>Charles</b>	<b>Carol O.</b>
<b>Altar Prep</b>	<b>Nance</b>	<b>Elaine</b>	<b>Pam</b>	<b>Jeff</b>	<b>Carol A.</b>
<b>Ushers</b>	<b>Kim</b>	<b>Nance</b>	<b>Jon</b>	<b>Terry</b>	<b>Dick</b>
	<b>Wally</b>	<b>Dick</b>	<b>Nance</b>	<b>Janice</b>	<b>Allen</b>
<b>Sound Technician</b>	<b>Gordy</b>	<b>John</b>	<b>Terry</b>	<b>Jon</b>	<b>John</b>

## 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.



## Prayer List

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



Tim B	Gigi Douglas	John Busher
Brenda Carroll	Ron Wold	Heather
Sandy Hina	Chiera Family	Julie Shaw
Robert Jon	SangSau Tran	John & Margarite Fusaro
Daniel Sullivan	Silas Haynes	Lee Horst
Linda Gail Voet	Cindy Harms	Nancy George
Melba Wright	Eleanor Barr	Margaret Rowland
Brandon Crawford	Izzy Covalt	Allison
Noah Holman	Oliver	Olivia Hunter
Barbara Rose	Garrett Baarsch	Ray Knuth
Jerry Sheffield	Stephanie Bauthman	Peggy Preston
Pat Norby	Carl Wogomon	

**REMEMBER OUR HOMEBOUND: Ruth Irwin, Connie Griffis, Ray Knuth, Eleanor Barr, Izzy Covalt, Cindy Harms, Margaret Rowland, Melba Wright, Sangsau Tran**

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

**Family and Friends of Alice Voet**

**Carrie Chamberlain & Family for the death of her father, Steve Richardson**

## Healing Prayer

O Holy Spirit, please come like a dove  
Shield and protect now the ones that we love.  
Cover their wounds with your grace feathered wings,  
Shield them from sorrow, breathe hope songs within.

Tend with Your goodness the pain that they bear  
Heal now their sickness with miracle care.  
Carry them high far above till they see  
Your rainbow of promise, real hope lies ahead.

**Amen.**





Faith at Work

2021

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