

FAITH at WORK

November 2021

Siblings in Jesus –

November is a bookended month. It starts ensconced in fall and ends with the chills of winter. Children go from door to door in costume and families gather around the table for a sumptuous feast. And in the church we go from a monk in Germany nailing complaints to a church door to the apocalyptic proclamations of Christ the King Sunday and the first Sunday of Advent.

We start the month by celebrating all the saints who have preceded us to the new Jerusalem and from there to the earthly Jerusalem, where the chief priests, elders, scribes, Pharisees, Sadducees, Romans and all earthly powers battle against Jesus. The Son of Man warns his followers of the times that are coming – hard times where there will be political uncertainty, famine and war. On the tides of those warnings will come his arrest, humiliation, crucifixion, death. But the story does not end there, for Jesus promised his followers that there would be resurrection.

This coming year we will hear of Jesus from the words of Luke, singing from the pages through the mouths of Mary and Simon, to the people who have walked in darkness and will see a great light.

It feels like we have been walking in darkness a long time.

Luke's gospel begins with a young woman, a girl really, hearing the impossible news that she is going to give birth to the Son of God by the Holy Spirit. That self same woman sings the Magnificat, the most famous song in the entirety of the Bible, a reminder of God's divine revolution that turns around all brokenness, sin and death of humanity to God's awesome perfection. From the darkness of an oppressed people on the frontiers of the Roman empire, longing for a voice, comes the light that breaks into their darkness, proclaiming good news.



Faith Lutheran Church

930 Queen Ave SW, Albany OR 97321

email: faithalbany@proaxis.com

website: www.faithalbany.org

541-928-7660

In This Issue

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

But Jesus doesn't go to the typical people to receive good news. He doesn't aim for the rich and the mighty, the people of the upper tax bracket. Jesus – especially in Luke's gospel doesn't point for those who get the “center of the meat, cushions on the seat, places in the street where it's sunny” (from Godspell's *All for the Best*). No Jesus aims for the poor, the lost, the least the lonely, the people on the margins, the people who are struggling in darkness.

Over the last couple of years I feel like I have been struggling in darkness. I (and all of us) have been trying to navigate a pandemic unlike anything we have lived through before. We have all, led by the Holy Spirit, tried our best to love God and neighbor. We have lived through lockdowns and virtual hangouts, followed the guidance of masks and vaccines. We have been careful in respect to health and bold in respect to love. And through it all, God is with us.

The God who changed the universe two thousand years ago is at work now, changing our creation. We live in a time when we can send a letter, call, email, video chat, meet in person – we have so many ways to reach out to others. We live in a time when fewer people are hungry than a generation before (even though there are more people), when fewer people are homeless (though obviously that is worldwide – Oregon's homeless rate is higher), where more people have a safe place to lie their head at night. A generation ago there were numerous places where it was illegal to be a follower of Jesus – there are still some but God as at work in our world.

We have walked in darkness, lonely and lost, seeking for the unchanging Alpha and Omega, who spoke to Mary, who gave promises to Anna and Simeon, who journeyed with the disciples, who welcomed the stranger, who raised Lazarus and comforted Mary of Bethany, who gave all for us.

This advent season and this year, may you be fed by the bread of life, by the well of living water that makes us never thirsty again.

Peace in Christ,
Pastor Mark

November Worship Schedules

November 7:	10:30 AM Live Worship & Streaming
November 14:	10:30 AM Live Worship & Streaming
November 21:	10:30 AM Live Worship & Streaming
November 24:	7:00 PM Ecumenical Thanksgiving Eve (Zoom)
November 28:	10:30 AM Live Worship & Streaming



Thanksgiving Blessing

O God, we thank you for this earth, our home; for the wide sky and the blessed sun, for the salt sea and the running water, for the everlasting hills and the never-resting winds, for trees and the common grass underfoot. We thank you for our senses by which we hear the songs of birds, and see the splendor of the summer fields, and taste of the autumn fruits, and rejoice in the feel of the snow, and smell the breath of the spring. Grant us a heart wide open to all this beauty; and save our souls from being so blind that we pass unseeing when even the common thorn bush is aflame with your glory,

O God our creator, Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

-Walter Rauschenbusch

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

Read a Gospel Challenge in November

Since Luke's gospel is going to be the focus of the next year, this would be a good time to reread it. Luke's gospel is notable for its songs, for poetry, for a focus on the lost, the least, the lonely. Women have a more prominent role in Luke than in the other gospels. Luke is the only source for some famous parables: the prodigal son and the Good Samaritan. Luke is home to Pastor Mark's favorite story in all the Bible: the Road to Emmaus.



Financial Update

Financial Report as of 10/21/2021:

Undesignated Income: \$7,219.00

Budgeted Undesignated Income: \$8,885.00

Net Undesignated Income: **(\$1,666)**

Total Expenses: \$3,272.07

Total Net Income: \$6,891.93

Church Announcements and Events



Book Study - Christ the Lord: Out of Egypt by Anne Rice
Mondays @ 1:00 PM Nov. 1, 8, 15 & 29

Five-week study in November creates a portrait of Jesus as a young child
The Monday study group will discuss the 2005 novel *Christ the Lord, Out of Egypt*. Author Anne Rice imagines, from the perspective of a seven-year-old, the world of Jesus as he begins to grapple with his divinity.

Rice thoroughly researched the topic of Israel/Egypt in the first century, added in Biblical characters as well as church historical records and non-conical writings to portray the world at the time of Jesus.

Pastor Mark and Kim Sass will team lead the discussions and it is hoped that participants might begin to dive deeper into Jesus' world. The easy-to-read short novel depicts everything from how the wider family of David might have interacted with each other, how they lived and worked, the food they ate and how they coped with the occupying Roman forces as well as the Temple politics of their day.

There are 24 chapters in the book and each week we will dive into six of them. You are invited to the church from 1 to 2 pm on Mondays, beginning November 1, or join us by zoom. Let the office or Pastor Mark know if you want the zoom address. Books are available in used book stores or in public libraries.

This best-selling novel will enrich your understanding of the tumultuous first century as we head into Advent, 2121 years later.

Ecumenical Book Study: The Difficult Words of Jesus

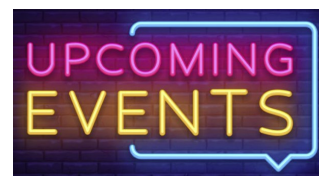
Sundays and Wednesdays Through Nov. 17th

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.

In-person study will be from 4pm—5pm on Sundays, beginning October 10 through November 14. It will be at Faith Lutheran Church.

Annual Bazaar (Virtual) December 4-11



The Bazaar will be presented virtually on the Faith Lutheran Church Facebook page on Saturday, December 4th—11th, 2021. 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 of COVID-19. 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.

We are currently accepting donations of new, handmade craft items. Donations can be made in a couple of ways: Drop off at the church between 10:00—11:30am (before or after service) on Sundays or during Church Office hours during the week (M-W-F 10am-2pm). Other arrangements can be made by contacting Jennifer Hall by phone at 541-760-7021 or email at jen-hall3@yahoo.com

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.

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.”

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 Bible Study for 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.

Thank You Budget Committee

Janice and Terry Virnig, Mary Sabatka-Gamet and Charles Bonville were all members of the hardworking budget committee. They gathered to determine financial paths forward for the congregation, we are indebted to their efforts.



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.



Streaming/Video Camera Gift

Thanks to the gift from Nona Sabatka, we have a new camera installed, which we should get up and running in the next week or two. John Berg and Jon Aaberg have been working on the software, they (along with Terry Virnig and Wally Oster) helped string the cable to be able to run the new camera. This will make for a more electronically stable streaming and should allow Faith Lutheran Church to connect current members and reach out to visitors.



Thank You for supporting the ANNUAL FISH FOOD DRIVE

All of you helped the annual FISH food drive to be a great success. Many of you donated food and many more volunteered their time to person the drive, among them: Nancy George and Skyla, Aaron, Dexter and Peter Bonville, Gavin Chamberlain, Elaine Wogomon, Bethany and Carol Olufson, Andie and Evelyn Daniels.



Thank You Janice and Terry Virnig

Janice and Terry are taking the school kits up to St. Andrews Lutheran in Beaverton for the ingathering this weekend. This trip is a long time in coming. Also a thank you to Peggy Preston, Norma Messman and Jeanette Thorpe for boxing up the kits for Lutheran World Relief, so they can help children in need to learn.

The Spirit of Harvest was a huge success!

Thanks to the support of many, over \$61,000 has been raised for Camp Lutherwood Oregon! These funds will support the ongoing operations and future plans of camp.



SUMMER 2022

Watch for our 2022 schedule coming soon! We are already planning for a great summer season with camps for all ages, families and adults and we can't wait to share it with you.

Holiday Bottle Drop Give

Save your cans and bottles and help Camp Lutherwood Oregon this upcoming holiday season. Once again, we are participating in Holiday Bottle Drop Give! From November 15- December 1, Camp Lutherwood Oregon will receive a 20% match for all donations made in our Blue Bags or online donations made from green bag accounts. Not sure how to participate: Contact the camp office to receive blue bags & tags at office@lutherwoodoregon.org or check out [these instructions on how to donate](#) from your

Thanksgiving's Ancient Origins

Although the American concept of Thanksgiving developed in the colonies of New England, its roots can be traced back to the other side of the Atlantic. Both the Separatists who came over on the Mayflower and the Puritans who arrived soon after brought with them a tradition of providential holidays—days of fasting during difficult or pivotal moments and days of feasting and celebration to thank God in times of plenty. As an annual celebration of the harvest and its bounty, moreover, Thanksgiving falls under a category of festivals that spans cultures, continents and millennia. In ancient times, the Egyptians, Greeks and Romans feasted and paid tribute to their gods after the fall harvest. Thanksgiving also bears a resemblance to the ancient Jewish harvest festival of Sukkot. Finally, historians have noted that Native Americans had a rich tradition of commemorating the fall harvest with feasting and merrymaking long before Europeans set foot on their shores.



Albany Community Events

Nov. 3: Sensory Friendly Ride @ Albany Historical Carousel & Museum 11:00 Am to 12:00 PM

Nov. 4: Downtown Unwrapped & Holiday Open House 5-8 PM Downtown Albany

Nov. 5-7: Downtown Unwrapped & Holiday Open House (All Day)

Nov. 6: Sally Animal Party—Unveiling Sally the Swiss Cow to the carousel family. Albany Carousel

Nov. 6: Stars & Stripes Ball @ National Guard Armory (Fundraiser for Vets)

Visit: <https://linkupvets.org/stars-and-stripes-ball-2021> for more information

Nov. 8-12 Wall of Honor @ Albany City Hall 8 AM to 5 PM

Nov. 11: Veterans Day Breakfast @ American Legion Post `10 8:30 Am to 11 :00 AM

Nov. 11: Veterans Day Memorial Service 11 AM—12:PM Timber Linn Memorial Park

Nov. 11: Veterans Day Parade 12:30 PM to 3 PM Down own Albany

Nov. 14: Virtual Annual Veterans Concert @ 3 PM WMC YouTube channel

Nov. 20– Dec. 5: Holly Jolly 5K & Auction (Support ABC House)

Register @ hollyjolly5k.org



November 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 1:00 PM Book Study - Christ the Lord: Out of Egypt 7:00 PM Boy Scouts	2 6:00 PM Cub Scouts	3 9:00 AM Quilters 9:00 AM TOM's 10:45 AM Book Study: Difficult Words of Jesus (Zoom)	4	5 9:00 AM String Therapy	6
7 10:30 AM Indoor Worship & livestreaming 4:00 PM Book Study: Difficult Words of Jesus (In-Person)	8 1:00 PM Book Study - Christ the Lord: Out of Egypt 7:00 PM Boy Scouts	9 1:00 PM Mary Martha Circle 6:00 PM Cub Scouts	10 9:00 AM Quilters 9:00 AM TOM's 10:45 AM Book Study: Difficult Words of Jesus (Zoom) 7:00 PM Council Meeting	11	12 9:00 AM String Therapy	13
14 10:30 AM Indoor Worship & livestreaming 4:00 PM Book Study: Difficult Words of Jesus (In-Person)	15 1:00 PM Book Study - Christ the Lord: Out of Egypt 7:00 PM Boy Scouts	16 6:00 PM Cub Scouts	17 9:00 AM Quilters 9:00 AM TOM's 10:45 AM Book Study: Difficult Words of Jesus (Zoom)	18	19 8:00 AM Newsletter Deadline 9:00 AM String Therapy	20 9:00 AM Circle of Friends (Peggy's Gazebo)
21 10:30 AM Indoor Worship & livestreaming - Blessing of the Quilts	22 No Book Study Today 7:00 PM Boy Scouts	23 6:00 PM Cub Scouts	24 No Quilting Today 9:00 AM TOM's 7:00 PM Thanksgiving Eve Ecumenical Service (Zoom)	25 Thanksgiving	26 9:00 AM String Therapy	27
28 10:30 AM Indoor Worship & livestreaming 11:15 AM Fellowship Meeting	29 1:00 PM Book Study - Christ the Lord: Out of Egypt 7:00 PM Boy Scouts	30 6:00 PM Cub Scouts				

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

Worship Leader Team 2021

November	7	14	21	28
Assisting Ministers	Jackye B.	Diane	Kim	Charles
Altar Prep	Elaine	Cynthia	Pam	Aabergs
Ushers	Jon	Allen	Wally	Dick
	Kim	Dick	Terry	Diane
Sound Technician	Terry	Gordy	John	Jon

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

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:

Jon and Rosemary Aaberg, Family, and Friends of Silas Haynes

Friends and Family of Ray Knuth

Elaine Wogomon and Family of Tony Castiello

Healing Prayer

Gracious God, giver of all good gifts, turn our weakness into strength, pain into comfort, and suffering into compassion.

May he awaken healing within us and restored wholeness and harmony to our minds, bodies and souls. May our fears be alleviated as we experience the blessing of God's love and presence. Amen.





Faith at Work

2021

Faith Lutheran
Church

930 Queen Ave
SW
Albany Oregon
97321

541-928-7660

faithalbany.org

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

PLACE
STAMP
HERE

Faith Lutheran Church
930 Queen Ave SW
Albany, OR 97321