

FAITH at WORK

November 2022

Friends in Christ -

I have enjoyed Halloween a lot more over the last couple years. Mary is at an age where she enjoys dressing up (last year as a princess ballerina for instance) and she of course really enjoys the candy. As I get older, I also find myself thinking of what it is: All Hallowed's Eve, the day before All Saints Day.

Saints are the people that God's light shines through, who reflect God's light and love to the world. Traditionally we speak of various new testament figures, such as St. Peter, St. Paul, St. Lydia as saints. Orthodox and Roman Catholic denominations have processes for declaring someone a saint. The denominations of the Reformation, looking at abuses of saints and relics moved away from this practice. Instead they focused on the priesthood of all believers.

As part of the priesthood of all believers, Luther noted that all of us are saints. Luther used the phrase *simul justus es peccator* or simultaneously saint and sinner. Part of the Reformation is to recognize not just a few as people who share God's love but to see it in everyone. So All Saints Day, we don't just remember St. Francis, St. Mary or St. Paul, we remember all the people who showed us some of God's love and light.

This All Saints Day, I have been thinking of some of my mentors in faith: pastors, choir directors and Sunday School teachers who preceded me, people who reflected through their words and actions God's love. When we think of the saints - Luther reminds us we don't just think of the people from long ago, we think of those friends in Christ who stirred our hearts and shone God's love to us. We think of them, give thanks for them and shall, at the last, be gathered with them in the great heavenly feast that has no end.

Pastor Mark



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Faith in Action

How many Lutherans does it take to update the ‘day room’ at Albany Helping Hands (AHH)?

Well, at least eleven -- plus five Episcopalians.

In the works since last spring, Mary Sabatka Gamet organized a project to help the largest homeless shelter in Albany and bring together two congregations with funding and people power.

The ELCA Oregon Synod donation plus funding from St. Alban’s Episcopal Church and the Faith Lutheran Church Endowment underwrote the costs of paint and supplies, new window coverings, two new bookcases, a large bulletin board and frames for photos of wildlife donated by Allen Norby.

The AHH room is the central eating and social space for residents and drop in guests. Meals are served three times a day. In-between meals, there are make-it-yourself peanut butter and jelly sandwiches and coffee/tea plus fresh fruit when donated.

About 15 tables and 75 chairs are in the room for dining as well as playing board games and using personal computers. A large screen television is used in the evenings for entertainment. The resident building can house approximately 100 adults, many of whom work, attend classes and seek medical and mental services to focus on their life path again. The central offices and a greeter area are adjacent to the day room.

“The shelter is a vital service for our community and we are fortunate to have people willing to work with those who are unhoused.” said Mary. “The space was drab and in desperate need for some sprucing up. With the darker days of winter approaching, we hope this encourages the staff as well as the residents -- and communicates that we are supportive of their efforts.”

Mary said a young resident named ‘Christen’ helped with assembling a bookcase and grabbed a paint roller and masterfully painted the hallway to the kitchen. He chatted happily with the crew and shared some of his story.

The *other* Christians who worked for seven hours to complete the task on October 22: Father Bob Morrison of St. Alban’s and four parishioners Elnora (Nonie) Harcombe, Katherine Harkins, Carol Leder and Patty Nordyke; plus, FLC Pastor Mark Bringman, Jon Aaberg, John Berg, Bob Christensen, Gordy Gamet, Mary Sabatka Gamet, Kim Sass, Janice, Jessica and Terry Virnig.

A special thanks to the FLC property committee for preparing the space on the Wednesday before the final work day and Allen Norby for sharing his precious original photos.

“It was an intense day,” said Mary, “but we did it in love for our God and homeless adults who are truly on the edges of our society.”

—Submitted by Kim Sass

Count Your Blessings

*Count your blessings instead of your crosses;
 Count your gains instead of your losses.
 Count your joys instead of your woes;
 Count your friends instead of your foes.
 Count your smiles instead of your tears;
 Count your courage instead of your fears.
 Count your full years instead of your lean;
 Count your kind deeds instead of your mean.
 Count your health instead of your wealth;
 Count on God instead of yourself.*

—Author Unknown

Faith Lutheran Church		2022
Staff		
Pastor	Mark Bringman	
Office Manager	Carol Armstrong	
Organist/Pianist	Cheryl Blum	
Custodian	Terry Bushnell	
Church Council		
President	Terry Virnig	
Vice President	Kim Sass	
Secretary	Alice Weber	
Treasurer	Janice Virnig	
Financial Secretary	John Berg	
Education/Youth	Vacant	
Evangelism & Mission	Dick Olsen	
Fellowship & Social	Peggy Preston	
Property Management	Jon Aaberg	
Stewardship & Resources	Vacant	
Worship & Music	Vacant	
Mission Endowment	Carol Olufson	



Financial Report as of 10/30/2022:

Undesignated Income: \$7,811.99

Budgeted Undesignated Income: \$7,916.00

Net Undesignated Income: **(\$104.01)**

Total Expenses: \$10724.88

Total Net Income: \$732.11



Mission Endowment Committee Update

At the Congregational Meeting on December 4th, Carol Olufson, chair of the Mission Endowment Committee, will be asking the people of FLC for their approval of some housekeeping changes the committee has been developing for the group.

“We wanted to clarify our role in support of our mission to support this church, our community and ELCA-linked ministries,” said Carol. “We also have old language that enhances services – like the preschool – that we no longer have.”

Specifically, the committee (that includes Shirley Karstens, Kim Sass and Alice Weber) wants to more clearly define what ‘church operating expenses’ are in the context of what the endowment does not support. Those items the endowment does focus on will be more clearly defined and in some cases combined (such as youth/children’s ministry).

Finally, the guidelines indicate an annual budget process that frankly has not been adhered to in recent years because the endowment is not as active as the originators envisioned.

“This is the first time in 22 years that changes have been proposed,” said Carol. “In early 2023 we will fully report on all our recent activities and disbursements during the annual meeting. We always welcome your ideas and input.”

Copies of the proposed changes will be available in the fireside room on Sunday, November 6, so that you will have an opportunity to read about the changes before the December 4th meeting and make an informed decision.

—Submitted by Kim Sass



Church Announcements and Events

Fall & Holiday Bazaar 9am—4pm

November 4 & 5

Bring your friends and join us for the Fall & Holiday Bazaar!

It will be a wonderful introduction to the holiday season.

- **Homemade Crafts**
- **Baked Goods**
- **Caramel Corn**
- **Quilts**



LUNCHEON SERVED

Hearty Vegetable Beef Soup and Bread, Coffee or Tea & Homemade Pie

from 11:00am to 1:30pm

Coffee, Tea & Goodies served all day — Both Days!

(Profits from the sale will be donated to support local charities)

All Saints Sunday

November 6

The first Sunday of November is the Sunday that we remember all those who have come before us in faith; parents, grandparents, Sunday School teachers, Godparents, Pastors, administrative assistants, church musicians, choir leaders, youth leaders, confirmation mentors, etc. It is a day when we remember that the Holy Spirit binds all the church into one community.

Please email the Church Office if there is anyone you wish to remember in our worship service on that day.

Monday Study Group—1:00pm**October 31, November 7, 14 & 28**

We are going to be looking at saints and those that we commemorate in the Lutheran Church. Strictly speaking, we speak of two types of `saints'. One type includes the people who are specifically mentioned in the New Testament such as Paul, Peter, Mary Magdalene etc. The other type are those that we commemorate. Our denomination does not have a formal rite of beatification but instead celebrates the priesthood of all believers.

We will meet next on October 31st to begin this study. The following link leads to a list of saints and commemorations—find a person that is of interest to you. We will take turns on this day and in November, sharing about saints and their practices. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Calendar_of_saints

Theology Pub @ The Barn—6:30pm
(Hickory Station in North Albany)**Tuesday, November 15**

Theology pub is designed to inspire provocative discussions in a casual setting. This month's topic is Rethinking Church. We will use a one page prompt for our discussion this month as we consider what the difference is between thinking of church as a noun or a verb. Basically, we will be considering the difference between the Great Commission of Matthew 28:16 – 20 (church as verb) and a static church (as a noun).

Join us! All are welcome.**Sunday Cinema — 2:00pm**
"The Chosen" (Season 2)**Sunday, November 27**

Join us in the Sanctuary to watch the next episode of **The Chosen -- Season 2** on November 27 at 2pm. We would love to have you join us as we continue to learn about the life of Jesus.

Advent Worship — Wednesdays**November 30, December 7 & 14****Dinner at 6:00pm followed by 7:00pm Advent Worship Service**

We will be worshipping together with our friends at Grace Lutheran Church in Corvallis and Good Shepherd Lutheran Church here in Albany to prepare for the birth of our Lord. Faith Lutheran Church will be hosting on November 30, Grace Lutheran Church on December 7, and Good Shepherd Lutheran Church will host on December 14.

Church Office Hours**10:00am-2:00pm ♦ Monday—Wednesday—Friday**

Pastor Mark's Week Off

November 20—26

Because of our decision to support Pastor Mark at three-quarter time, he takes a week off from church activities each month (other than Sunday morning worship). He will not respond to any non-emergency pastoral care calls on those days. Pastor Joe Medley will lead us in worship on November 20.

Congregational Meeting—11:15am

Sunday, December 4

We have a meeting every last quarter of the year to pass the budget and elect a council. Please join us for worship and then stay for what will (hopefully) be a brief meeting.

Holy Land Trip

Nick Doversberger will be leading a group on a [Holy Land Pilgrimage](#) in November 2023. You can read more about it in the Oregon Synod Newsletter (subscribe to the newsletter at <http://oregonsynod.org>) or contact Nick Doversberger directly for more information, either by email at ndoversb@gmail.com or by phone at 503-956-4666.

Quilting and TOMs

Wednesdays @ 9am



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



Mary Martha Circle

This is a Bible Study for women. We meet on the **second Tuesday of each month @ 1:00pm in the Fellowship Hall**. If you would like more information, please call: Karen Glenn at (541) 928-4729 or Shirley Karstens at (541) 967-8309

Holiday Food Collection for Salvation Army

We are collecting non-perishable items for the Salvation Army Holiday Food Baskets in October, November and December. Donations can be placed in one of the baskets in the parking lot entry-way.

****Please check expiration date markings**

Salvation Army cannot accept foods beyond the marked expiration dates.

Volunteers Needed!

We have different groups that meet at the church and could use volunteers or help. If your skills could be of assistance here are some areas of need.

- ◆ **Worship Leaders:** We need assisting ministers, ushers, and video – if you could do one of these tasks once a month, that would be great. Many of you sign up regularly. Thank you for that!
- ◆ **Altar Guild:** these are the folks who set up the altar every week. Pam Nelson organizes this group, feel free to reach out to her.
- ◆ **TOMS:** This group does maintenance work around the church. Jon Aaberg heads this group up and would appreciate assistance.
- ◆ **Rides:** We have some members who would love to come but need a ride to be able to. If you would be willing to pick up one of our members and bring them to church, that would be great.

Prayer Chain: We are asking those who are part of the prayer chain to lift up the concerns of Faith Lutheran congregants on a weekly basis and to pray for other concerns as they are shared. This can be as simple as taking a few seconds to ask God to be with those listed, lifting each one up by name. 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**



Co-Dependence Anonymous

Fridays @ 5:30pm

Co-dependence Anonymous (CoDA) is a twelve step fellowship of men and women whose common purpose is to develop healthy relationships. The only requirement for membership is a desire for healthy and loving relationships.

For further information contact Denice R. at (541) 974-5060



A Prayer for Every Day

O Lord, You are the light that guides my feet.
 You are the map that gives me direction.
 You are the peace that makes me strong.
 You are the leader whom I faithfully follow.
 May your light illuminate my life and your
 guidance bring direction. May I find inspiration in
 your word and peace in my heart as I follow you.
 Amen.



Worship Leaders Team 2022				
November	6	13	20	27
Assisting Ministers	Jeff	Denice	Diane	Shirley
Altar Prep	Fleishers	Aabergs	Elaine	Pam
Ushers	Kim	Dick	Wally	Terry
Sound Technicians	Gordy	Jon	Terry	John



PRAYERS FOR UKRAINE:

We encourage you to pray for Ukrainian people, refugees and peace. We pray for an end to war: to all wars. We pray for peace throughout the world: in Ukraine, Afghanistan, Syria, in all places foreign and domestic. Pray for an end to violence.



People ask what can they do? We can pray. We can give. Lutheran World Relief, UNICEF, the Methodist Committee on Relief, Catholic Charities, etc. all are working to help with the humanitarian crisis in Ukraine. I am sharing the Lutheran World Relief (LWR) link here, please consider giving if you can: (click on the give Ukraine button in the middle) <https://lwr.org/>

November Worship Schedule



November 6	10:30am Worship & Livestreaming
November 13	10:30am Worship & Livestreaming
November 20	10:30am Worship & Livestreaming
November 27	10:30am Worship & Livestreaming

Prayer List



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

Tim B	Chiera Family	Margaret Rowland
Brenda Carroll	Cindy Harms	Allison
Sandy Hina	Izzy Covalt	Olivia Hunter
Robert Jon	Garrett Baarsch	Nicholas Glass
Linda Gail Voet	Stephanie Bauthman	Norma Messman
Melba Wright	Carl Wogomon	Nancy Goodwin
Brandon Crawford	John Busher	Karen Glenn
Noah Holman	Gene Hebert	Peggy Preston
Jerry Sheffield	Heather	
Pat Norby	Julie Shaw	
Gigi Douglas	Lee Horst	

PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SEEKING TO GROW THEIR FAITH

REMEMBER OUR HOMEBOUND:

Ruth Irwin, Connie Griffis, Izzy Covalt, Cindy Harms, Margaret Rowland, Melba Wright, Sangsau Tran

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

A Prayer of Thanksgiving

Thank you God for your great love and blessing over our lives. Thank you that your favor has no end, but it lasts for our entire lifetime. Forgive us for sometimes forgetting that you are intimately acquainted with all of our ways, that you know what concerns us, and you cover us as with a shield.

Establish the work of our hands and bring to fulfillment all that you have given us to do in these days. We pray that you would make our way purposeful and our footsteps firm out of your goodness and love. Give us a heart of wisdom to hear your voice, and make us strong by your huge favor and grace. In Jesus' Name, Amen.



2022 November

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 6:00pm Cub Scouts	2 9:00am Quilters/Bazaar Setup 9:00am TOMs	3 9:00am - 4:00pm Bazaar Setup	4 9:00am - 4:00pm Bazaar 9:00am String Therapy 10:00am Reports to Council Due 5:30pm CoDA	5 9:00am - 4:00pm Bazaar
6 All Saints Sunday 10:30am Indoor Worship & livestreaming	7 7:00pm Boy Scouts	8 1:00pm Mary Martha Circle 6:00pm Cub Scouts	9 9:00am Quilters 9:00am TOMs	10	11 Veteran's Day 9:00am String Therapy 5:30pm CoDA	12
13 10:30am Indoor Worship & livestreaming	14 12:30pm - 3:00pm Modern Travelers 7:00pm Boy Scouts	15 6:00pm Cub Scouts	16 9:00am Quilters 9:00am TOMs	17 7:00pm Council Meeting	18 9:00am String Therapy 1:00pm - 2:30pm 20th Century Book Club 5:30pm CoDA	19 9:00am Circle of Friends (Fellowship Hall)
20 Pastor Mark Off 10:30am Indoor Worship & livestreaming	21 Pastor Mark Off 8:00am Newsletter Deadline 7:00pm Boy Scouts	22 Pastor Mark Off 6:00pm Cub Scouts	23 Pastor Mark Off 9:00am Quilters 9:00am TOMs	24 Pastor Mark Off Thanksgiving Day	25 Church Office Closed Pastor Mark Off 9:00am String Therapy 5:30pm CoDA	26 Pastor Mark Off
27 10:30am Indoor Worship & livestreaming 11:15am Fellowship Meeting	28 7:00pm Boy Scouts	29 6:00pm Cub Scouts	30 9:00am Quilters 9:00am TOMs 6:00pm Advent Dinner 7:00pm Advent Worship Service			

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





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PLACE
STAMP
HERE

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