

# FAITH at WORK

February 2025

Dear Beloved of God at Faith in Albany,

The red hearts, chocolates, and conversation candies have been out for a while, already! Valentine's Day. Hmmm. The card companies come up with all kinds of "holidays" or remembrances to get you to buy cards, candy, trinkets and send them to someone you love.

There are other things to focus on in February. It is officially Black History month, Go Red for Women heart disease awareness, Teen Dating Violence month, and Racial Equality month. These have become officially recognized needed awareness.

Black History month is a rich time of remembrance and celebration. Our siblings with beautiful darker skin tones continue to experience discrimination at the least, and violence at the worst. They have endured a history of slavery that did not defeat them.

Often we experience something invented or developed by our Black siblings, like:

- Potato chips were created by George Crum in 1853.
- Light bulb carbon filaments were added by Lewis Latimer to Edison's invention, to make the bulbs last longer.
- Open-heart surgery was first performed by Dr Daniel Hale Williams in 1893.
- Blood bank was invented by Dr Charles Drew, a surgeon, researcher and inventor. He figured out how to safely bank blood for surgical use, and also discovered that blood plasma is universal and usable.
- Mathematician Katherine Johnson mapped the NASA flight of Alan Shepard, and other space exploration.
- Alice Parker designed a natural gas furnace that was more efficient than fireplaces.
- With over 200 patents, Marian Croak invented improvements for online voice and data systems, paving the way for videoconferencing, and her technology allowed donations by text after Hurricane Katrina in 2005.

The list is extensive, the contributions of our Black siblings, to life as we know it today. These are things that we can celebrate together.

## **Faith Lutheran Church**

**930 Queen Ave SW, Albany OR 97321**

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

**website: [www.faithalbany.org](http://www.faithalbany.org)**

**Phone: (541) 928-7660**



Racial Equality is also important. When we read the Bible we discover a God who loves diversity, justice and equality. Yet we humans have a long history of “othering” those who don’t look or act like us. There is no reason that is faithful to the God we know and believe. There are so many words to us about how to treat our neighbors within the Scriptures we hold dear.

Probably the best is the Acts 2 story of Pentecost Day when the Spirit of God came to Jerusalem and blew about, firing up the disciples and the hearers that day. The hearers were from all over the known world, and hearing about God’s mighty work of salvation in their own languages, in the nuances of their cultures.

Dr Luke Powery, professor at Duke Divinity School says it so beautifully, “We are only unified if we are diversified.” Here’s the deal: we need each other because God’s Spirit has breathed into all of us, called us beloved, without discrimination. The Spirit goes where the Spirit wills. There are no distinctions, no requirements. The Spirit of Pentecost breathes and speaks in the language that we can hear and understand.

As people who have experienced privilege, as followers of Jesus, we are called to speak for inclusion, diversity, compassion, and belonging for all of God’s children in this country. You can call it the Civil Rights Movement, or the Kingdom of God. The Spirit is calling us to work for justice. Any challenges or threats to the beautiful gift of God’s Kingdom of diversity and unity must be confronted. It is the Spirit’s work in us.

Working with you in God’s Kingdom, by the Spirit’s power,

Pastor Dorthy+

## From Church Council

Hello Brothers and Sisters of Faith,

Well January is already over and we head into February looking towards the rest of this year. For those you that listen to our Services online we are still narrowing down exactly what the problem is but we are getting close. We did figure out this past Sunday how to get the live stream to work during service time, and you can always go back and watch the recording later. Jon Aaberg and John Berg are working to get it all working correctly again, so if you see them around church please thank them for their work.

We are continuing our work with Good Shepard and are planning to meet with a couple of Churches from the Portland area that went through this process last year to answer some of our questions we have. We will be forming a committee of 8 people, 4 from each church, in March to continue moving along our progress. I will keep you informed as things progress, if you have any questions please reach out to me.

We are also working on our 75th Year celebration for later this year, if you would like to help out please talk to Peggy Preston.

Blessings,  
Gordy Gamet

## A Valentine

Oh! little loveliest lady mine,  
 What shall I send for your valentine?  
 Summer and flowers are far away;  
 Gloomy old Winter is king to-day;  
 Buds will not blow, and sun will not shine:  
 What shall I do for a valentine?

I've searched the gardens all through and through  
 For a bud to tell of my love so true;  
 But buds are asleep, and blossoms are dead,  
 And the snow beats down on my poor little head:  
 So, little loveliest lady mine,  
 Here is my heart for your valentine!

—by Laura Elizabeth Richards



Faith Lutheran Church		2025
<b>STAFF</b>		
Interim Pastor	Pastor Dorthy Nielsen	
Office Manager	Carol Armstrong	
Organist/Pianist	Cheryl Blum	
Custodian	Hart's Janitorial	
<b>CHURCH COUNCIL</b>		
President	Gordy Gamet	
Vice President	Terry Virnig	
Secretary	Mary Sabatka Gamet	
Treasurer	Janice Lee Virnig	
Financial Secretary	Alice Weber	
Education/Youth	Vacant	
Evangelism & Mission	Dick Olsen	
Fellowship & Social	Peggy Preston	
Property Management	Terry Virnig (Acting)	
Stewardship & Resources	Vacant	
Worship & Music	George Hunt	
Mission Endowment	Carol Olufson	



Financials as of: 01/02/2025

Undesignated Income: \$4,256.97

Budgeted Undesignated Income: \$5,416.66

Net Undesignated Income: (\$1,159.69)

Total Expenses: \$9,507.66

Total Net Income: \$3,494.31

# Church Announcements and Events

## TRANSITION TIME AT FAITH

The FLC congregational vote on November 17th was to continue forward in conversations with Good Shepherd to seek "mutual vision" together. We celebrate with them and await their newly called Pastor Cindy Robles to arrive in early January 2025. So there will be no Transition work until January or February when there may be some community conversations with Good Shepherd people that will include Pr Cindy.

## 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: [pegprestonn@aol.com](mailto:pegprestonn@aol.com)**

## Quilting and TOPs

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.

TOPs (stands for The Old People, though age is not requirements for the group) are busy working to keep our church property maintained and our grounds clean. If you have able hands and a willing heart, the TOPs will always welcome some help.

## Food Collection for F.I.S.H. of Albany



We are collecting non-perishable food items FISH of Albany. Donations can be placed in one of the baskets in the parking lot entryway.

**\*\* Please check expiration date markings - FISH cannot accept foods past their marked expiration dates.**



## 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.

## Worship Leaders Team 2025

<b>February</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>23</b>
Assisting Ministers	George	Janice	Shirley	Carol O.
Altar Prep	Jon A.	George	Jon A.	George
Ushers	Dick	Dick	Dick	Dick
Sound Technicians	John B.	Terry	Jon A.	Gordy



**Congregational Meeting—11:30am**

**Sunday, February 9**

The annual December Congregational Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, February 9, immediately following worship. Please plan to attend this important meeting.

### February 2025 Worship Schedule



<b>February 2</b>	<b>10:30am</b>	<b>Worship</b>
<b>February 9</b>	<b>10:30am</b>	<b>Worship</b>
<b>February 16</b>	<b>10:30am</b>	<b>Worship</b>
<b>February 23</b>	<b>10:30am</b>	<b>Worship</b>

All Worship Services are available to view on YouTube





Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						<b>1</b>
<b>2</b> 10:30am Worship & Livestreaming with Pr. Dorothy Nielsen	<b>3</b> 7:00pm Boy Scouts	<b>4</b> 3:00pm - 6:00pm Jackson Street - Academic Tutoring	<b>5</b> 9:00am Quilters 9:00am TOPs 6:30pm - 8:00pm Albany Evangelical Church	<b>6</b> 4:30pm - 8:00pm Jackson Street - Support Group	<b>7</b> 9:00am - 12:30pm String Therapy	<b>8</b>
<b>9</b> 10:30am Worship & Livestreaming with Pr. Dorothy Nielsen 11:30am Annual Congregational Meeting 3:00pm - 7:00pm Albany Evangelical Church	<b>10</b> 12:30pm - 3:00pm Modern Travelers 7:00pm Boy Scouts 7:00pm Council Meeting	<b>11</b> 1:30pm Mary Martha Circle 3:00pm - 6:00pm Jackson Street - Academic Tutoring	<b>12</b> 9:00am Quilters 9:00am TOPs	<b>13</b> <b>Janitorial Service</b> 4:30pm - 8:00pm Jackson Street - Support Group	<b>14</b> 9:00am - 12:30pm String Therapy 1:30pm - 3:30pm 20th Century Book Club	<b>15</b> 9:00am Circle of Friends (Fellowship Hall)
<b>16</b> 10:30am Worship & Livestreaming with Pr. Dorothy Nielsen	<b>17</b> 7:00pm Boy Scouts	<b>18</b> 3:00pm - 6:00pm Jackson Street - Academic Tutoring	<b>19</b> 9:00am Quilters 9:00am TOPs 6:30pm - 8:00pm Albany Evangelical Church	<b>20</b> 4:30pm - 8:00pm Jackson Street - Support Group	<b>21</b> 9:00am - 12:30pm String Therapy	<b>22</b>
<b>23</b> 10:30am Worship & Livestreaming with Pr. Joe Medley 11:15am Fellowship Meeting 3:00pm - 7:00pm Albany Evangelical Church	<b>24</b> 7:00pm Boy Scouts	<b>25</b> 3:00pm - 6:00pm Jackson Street - Academic Tutoring	<b>26</b> 9:00am Quilters 9:00am TOPs	<b>27</b> <b>Janitorial Service</b> 4:30pm - 8:00pm Jackson Street - Support Group	<b>28</b> 9:00am - 12:30pm String Therapy	<b>1</b>

## Prayer List

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

Tim Berg	Julie Shaw	Virginia
Brenda Carroll	Olivia Hunter	Gabriel
Sandy Hina	Nicholas Glass	Dick Dodge
Linda Gail Voet	Karen Hoover	Frank Perry
Noah Holman	Chuck	David
Gigi Douglas	Carol Olufson	Connie Griffis
Stephanie Bauthman	Vanessa Munro	
John Busher	Jim Preston	

*REMEMBER OUR HOMEBOUND:*

Izzy Covalt, Margaret Rowland, Sangsau Tran & Melba Wright

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



### A Prayer for Every Day

Almighty and Everlasting God, thank You that your Spirit is within me. Lord, fill me anew with your Holy Spirit. Grant me the fortitude to live by the Spirit and to mark my life by a dependence on You. Even though these times deplete my energy and drain my resolve, You restore my soul by the indwelling of Your Spirit. Thank You that You have sent your Spirit and that this is a reason for my joy. In Jesus' name, amen.





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Faith at Work

2025

PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE

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