

FAITH EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

DECEMBER 2024



**FAITH EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN
CHURCH**
3355 MacArthur Road
Whitehall, PA 18052
610 435 0451
M—Th 9:00 AM—3:00 PM

DECEMBER 2024

- December 1 is the First Sunday of Advent,
- 1ST CHRISTMAS TEA
- 4th 6:00 PM ADVENT WREATH MAKING
- December 6 is Saint Nicholas Day. The patron saint of children is the model for Santa and gift-giving.
- December 7 is National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day.
- December 8 is Bodhi Day in the Buddhist calendar, celebrating Buddha's enlightenment; it's celebrated similar to how Christians celebrate Christmas .
- December 13 is St. Lucia's Day, long associated with festivals of light. Her feast day occurred on the shortest day of the year
- 14TH BREAFAST WITH SANTA 8:00 AM TO 11:00 AM
- December 15 is Bill of Rights Day.
- December 17 is Wright Brothers Day.
- December 21 is the Winter Solstice—the astronomical day when the Earth is farthest away from the Sun. in ancient times, people celebrated the rebirth of the Sun through Yule.
- ♦ 24TH CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES 4:00 PM AND 7:00 PM
- December 25 is Christmas Day
- December 25 also marks the beginning of Hanukkah this year, the eight-day Jewish festival of lights.
- December 26 is Boxing Day (Canada, UK) and the first day of Kwanzaa.
- 29TH LESSONS IN CAROLS
- December 31 is New Year's Eve

The Rev. June E. Wann
Pastor

Robert Billig
President, Church Council

Zach Keenan
Vice President, Church Council

Secretary
Judy Ehret

Margy Muthard
Treasurer

Joanne Gantz-Jalowiecki
Dir. Of Children, Youth,
and Family Ministries
And Financial Secretary

Jennifer Kishbaugh
Dir. Of Music

Claudette Nia
Office Administrator

CHRISTIAN ED CHIT CHAT
FROM THE DESK OF MISS JOANNE

Classes for all ages.

Bible Babies — Adult Forum

Bible Babies is for infants and older. Rocking Chairs are available for Moms to hold their little ones.

Confirmation Class is a two– year program for our 7th and 8th graders

**Beyond Confirmation Class is for those beyond confirmation
and**

Adult Forum explores various studies during the Sunday School time.

Join us on Sundays 9—9:45 am

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA UPCOMING DECEMBER 14

Our Men's group will be preparing breakfast

Volunteers greatly encouraged

Photo Booth with Mr and Mrs Claus and at least one elf

Crafts to make

8 AM to 11 AM

Adult Forum meets in the Gathering Place Sunday mornings at 9 AM

Please join us!



From the Pastor's Desk

Among the countless Christmas legends, there is a Polish one involving a Christmas spider. According to this legend, when Joseph was warned in a dream to flee from King Herod and the massacre which he intended to inflict upon the children of Bethlehem, several animals from the manger decided to accompany the Holy Family on their journey. Each of the animals was determined to protect the baby Jesus, and each felt sure his or her particular talents would prove invaluable in that task. There also happened to be a spider who wanted to come. Yet none of the other animals felt the spider would be helpful. After all, she was only an insect. She had no keen ears or sharp teeth, no strong bones and no claws whatsoever. However, the spider persistently pleaded to be included, until at last the other animals agreed she could join them, provided she did not get in the way.

As the journey unfolded, all of the other supposedly brave animals either were frightened off or else were distracted. With Herod's troops on the march, and with the Holy Family growing more and more tired, Joseph and Mary had little choice but to try and hide. Finding a small cave, they huddled inside, seeking shelter and rest, with the donkey and the spider their only remaining companions. Holding Jesus in her arms, Mary gently rocked him to sleep, and, for a while, it appeared everything would be fine. They realized that the soldiers were getting close and would soon find them. Seeking to be of help in some small way, the spider carefully wove a web over the opening of the cave to try to keep the family safe.

The spider had just finished her weaving when suddenly voices were heard outside the cave. The soldiers had caught up with the Holy Family, and they were diligently searching the entire area. When they came to the cave where the Holy Family was hidden, both Mary and Joseph held their breath, certain their doom was upon them. Yet the soldiers passed by the cave. One soldier said it was a waste of time to search it, since anyone who had entered the cave would have broken the spider's web over the opening. Thus it was that the seemingly insignificant spider saved the day; and the legend goes on to say that this is why we hang tinsel on our Christmas trees ... to remind us of the silver strands of the web which the little spider wove ... and to remind us that no act of kindness, no act of courage, no act through which we seek peace with justice is ever wasted. Merry Christmas!

Pastor June

Praise!

Sunday School classes for all ages at 9 am

Sunday School classes available from Bible Babies to

Adult Forum.

Confirmation Classes for our youth in Seventh & Eighth grades.

This is a two-year program

Adult Forum classes are held in the Gathering Place

Worship Service at 10:00 AM

Communion—The first Tuesday of each month,

join us for a light lunch at noon

followed by communion at 1:00.

We hope to encourage our members who are uncomfortable driving at night, to use this time for fellowship that was enjoyed at our Wednesday night Hotdogs and Hymns. All are welcome! Bring a friend.

Altar Communion-The first Sunday of each month celebrate Communion around the Altar. Please join us!

Key Player Christmas Present
Looking for a unique and everlasting Christmas present?
Give the gift of a "key player" in honor of
Or
in memory of
a special person in your life

ORGAN FUNDRAISER FORM

"BE A KEY PLAYER"

NAME: _____ ENVELOPE # _____

Number of Keys and Amount

_____ \$ _____ Choir Manual - \$25/key (61 keys)

_____ \$ _____ Swell Manual - \$50/key (61 keys)

_____ \$ _____ Great Manual - \$100/key (61 keys)

_____ \$ _____ Pedals - \$250/key (32 keys)

_____ \$ Purchased Adjustable Bench - \$2000

Name to go on poster _____

Give form and payment cash or check made out to: FELC, memo line Organ Fund

DO NOT PUT IN COLLECTION PLATE. Give to Shel Ehret or Bob Billig.

your gift.

ORGAN DEDICATION CONCERT

ROBERT McCORMICK
Concert Organist

Sunday, February 23, 2025 at 3pm
Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church
3355 MacArthur Road, Whitehall, PA



"The instrument's countless colors, textures and dynamics were exhibited by McCormick in playing of technical wizardry and superb musicianship."

(Michael Caruso, Chestnut Hill Local, Philadelphia, PA, 2020)

Described by Choir & Organ as "indomitable and immensely gifted" and by The Macon Telegraph as "an artist of rare sensitivity and passion", Robert McCormick is heralded as one of the finest concert and church musicians of this era and is widely known for his unique abilities in organ improvisation. He has been featured in solo appearances in San Francisco, New York, Pittsburgh, Dallas, Albuquerque, and Atlanta, and in recitals and workshops for numerous American Guild of Organists chapters, the Association of Anglican Musicians, the Royal School of Church Music in America, and for Westminster Choir College. His recording from

St. Paul's, K Street, We Sing of God, was released on the Pro Organo label. Choir & Organ's review of the disc states that "[McCormick] shines at the organ."

Mr. McCormick is the newly-appointed Organist and Director of Music at Church of the Good Shepherd, Rosemont, Pennsylvania. He was Organist and Choirmaster of St. Mark's Episcopal Church in Philadelphia from 2016-2023. This follows eight years as Director of Music at St. Paul's Parish, K Street, Washington, D.C., and seven years as Organist and Music Director at the Church of St. Mary the Virgin, New York. He is a graduate of the Westminster Choir College. His teachers include McNeil Robinson and Robert Carwithen.

THE ALLEN AMERICAN SYMPHONIC ORGAN SYMPHONIC III/73

Faith Evangelical Lutheran's new SYMPHONIC Organ features a custom stoplist and audio specification curated by Allen Organ's tonal designers. With its rich and versatile tonal colors, this instrument provides musicians with unmatched flexibility for all musical styles and periods.



For more information about this concert, or this instrument, contact:
Jonathan Boksen at Allen Organ Sales, 610-966-2202.
This concert is Free and open to the public.



Robert McCormick is represented in North America exclusively by Phillip Truckenbrod Concert Artists, LLC.

CRAFT FAIR 2024



Our Miss Cathy always has
the very best shirts

HO HO HO



Thank you to our Scouts for their help in setting up and taking down
Craft Fair room arrangements



**A Giant Thank you to Heidi Carr and
A & B Lock & Safe Co.
1001 Union Blvd.
Allentown, PA 18109-1923**

For taking care of the costs for us to participate in the Coplay Halloween Parade

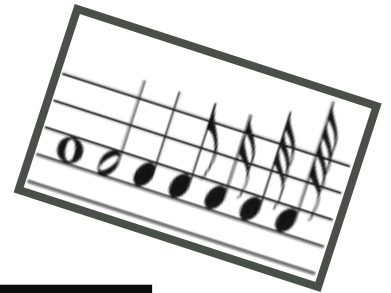
A Day of Fellowship at the Quilt Sales and Craft Fair

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who helped make this year's Quilt Sales and Craft Fair a memorable day of fellowship and community. We especially appreciate our Scout Troop for their invaluable support, and we extend a BIG thank you to each volunteer who worked tirelessly, both in planning and on the day of the event. Your hard work and dedication are truly what makes this day possible. We are also deeply grateful to all of the talented crafters who join us year after year. Your creativity and commitment bring life to this event, and we couldn't do it without you. Thank you for being part of our community and making this day so special.

**Always a big shout out to our AMAZING property committee for their tireless work and dedication to keeping our facility looking beautiful and running smoothly.
Thank you again for your hard work and dedication!**

**Thank you to our many dedicated volunteers who do so much to be the branches
with Jesus as our vine.**

"Our hands, God's work " Be the Church — change continues—Embrace it!



ORGAN FUND



BE A KEY PLAYER

FELC has initiated a fundraising campaign to cover the \$21,000 needed to cover the balance of our new Organ.

We call it “Be A Key Player”.

We are asking people to buy keys on the three manual organ

Keys on the Choir manual are \$25 each.

Keys on the Swell manual are \$50.

Keys on the Great manual are \$100

and

the pedals are \$250.

TO RECOGNIZE THOSE WHO PURCHASE A KEY,
THEIR NAMES WILL BE WRITTEN ON A KEY ON A COMMEMORATIVE POSTER
THAT WILL BE HUNG IN THE CHURCH.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO PURCHASE A KEY, THERE ARE FORMS IN THE NAR-
THEX OR CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE.

DECEMBER WORSHIP TEAMS

	Dec 1	Dec 8	Dec 15	Dec 22	Dec 29
ALTAR GUILD	Charlene Frack and Cathy Haller	Barb Yurasits and Pat Masonheimer	Diane Batza and Linda Johnston	Shel and Judy Ehret	Pat Masonheimer and Linda Johnston
GREETERS		Rivera Family	Charlene Frack	Pat Walsh burger	
LECTORS	Kindall Wann	Gail Herzog	Gail Herzog	Laura Blacker	Pam Blacker
FLOWER SPONSOR	Sandy And Michael John Bodnyk			Harold And Deb whittaker	
BULLETIN SPONSOR	Sandy And Michael John Bodnyk	Nancy Buskirk		Harold And Deb whittaker	
ASSISTING MINISTERS	Bob Billig	Shel Ehret	Sue Stahler	Joanne Gantz-Jalowiecki	Kindall Wann

DECEMBER 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 Worship Service 10:00 AM <u>Altar Communion</u> <u>Christmas Tea</u> <u>2-4 PM</u> AA 7:00 PM (PH) 1	2 6:00 PM Brownies 7:00 PM Pioneer Band (BH)	3 10:30 AM <u>Prayer Group</u> 12:00 PM <u>Light lunch</u> 1:00 PM <u>Communion</u> 6:45 PM Boy Scouts (PH)	4	5 <u>Christian ed mtg</u> <u>7 PM</u>	6	7
8 Worship Service 10:00 AM <u>Worship and music mtg</u> AA 7:00 PM (PH)	9 6:00 PM Brownies 7:00 PM Pioneer Band (BH)	10 10:30 AM <u>Prayer Group</u> 6:45 PM Boy Scouts <u>Exe Council mtg</u>	11 6:00 PM Eagle Scouts	12 6:00 PM Cub Scouts (PH) 6:15 <u>Bell Choir</u> 7:30 <u>Senior choir</u>	13	14
15 Worship Service 10:00 AM <u>Congregational Meeting</u> AA 7:00 PM	16 6:00 PM Brownies 7:00 PM Pioneer Band	17 10:30 AM <u>Prayer Group</u> 6:45 PM Boy Scouts (PH) <u>Church Council 7 PM</u>	18 6:00 PM Eagle Scouts	19 6:00 PM Cub Scouts (PH) 6:15 <u>Bell Choir</u> 7:30 <u>Senior choir</u>	20 10:00 AM	21
22 Worship Service 10:00 AM AA 7:00 PM	23 6:00 PM Brownies 7:00 PM Pioneer Band	24 <u>CHRISTMAS EVE</u> <u>4 PM and 7 PM</u>	25 CHRISTMAS	26 6:00 PM Cub Scouts (PH) 6:15 <u>Bell Choir</u> 7:30 <u>Senior choir</u>	27	28
29 Worship Service 10:00 AM <u>Lessons in Carols</u> AA 7:00 PM	30 6:00 PM Brownies 7:00 PM Pioneer Band (BH)	31 10:30 AM <u>Prayer Group</u> (2:00 PM <u>HR</u> 6:45 PM Boy Scouts (PH)				

News from our scouts

Cub Pack 32 which meets here at Faith as do Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts and Brownies. They are participating in a fundraiser , WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA

The link is <https://wreathsacrossamerica.org>

The Cub Pack is officially registered as the sponsor.

If any selects to “Sponsor a Wreath”, the group is listed as PA0713P—Cub Pack 32

After selecting the number of wreaths to sponsor, a second window should come up to list our Sponsorship group

We'd like both units to be “\$5 Back Groups”, where the units can take donations for wreaths for the Cedar Hill Memorial Park event that we've been participating in for years. We receive a portion of the proceed towards supporting scouting.

As the scouting units are chartered to the church, we belong to the church .

With best regards, Yours in Scouting,

Pete Paone

Asst. Scoutmaster—Troop 32

Treasurer—Pack 32

We're still actively recruiting into both units, as recharter is rapidly approaching. Our cub pack has seen several new members join from Kindergarten, as well as some older scouts join our Bear group (3rd Grade). Our Pack recently visited the Whitehall Fire Department in October, and is preparing to visit the Whitehall Police Department for a tour this week on November 21st.

While several of our older scouts in the troop are coming upon their 18th birthdays and getting ready to graduate high school and move on, we've been successful in seeing a few youth from our local school districts to join the troop directly. Our Troop 32 youth have had the opportunity to go on an overnight "bike-packing" trip along the D&L this past month, putting in approximately 30 miles round trip from Cementon to East Penn Township, with an overnight at the Riverview Park. This past weekend, 7 of our youth and 3 of our adult leaders from Troop 32 completed a 6-mile overnight hike along the Appalachian Trail, with stops at Bear Rock and along Knife's Edge, and an overnight camp near the spring approximately 2 miles from 309. We're currently preparing for a winter camp out along the Whitehall Parkway in December, and a cabin camping trip to Camp Minsi in January. Seven of our members participated in the district wide First Aid Meet held at Ag Hall in Allentown, and placed within the top 20, improving 6 spots from last year.

Our youth have been very active with community service. Over two weekends in November, 15 youth from our Troop and 13 youth from our Pack, accompanied by 11 parents and leaders from both units, distributed flyers and collected bags of food for the annual Scouting for Food Drive. Our unit collected 680 lbs of food and personal care items for the Whitehall Food Bank, and approximately 115 lbs of food towards the holiday baskets for Faith Lutheran. Our Pack also participated in the recent Craft Fair, and raised \$187 in person and \$51 online towards wreaths to be placed on the graves of veterans at Cedar Hill Memorial Park on December 14th during our Wreaths Across America event. We would like to sincerely thank Faith Lutheran for giving us the opportunity to participate, and for the generosity of so many of the patrons of the craft fair for their support of our veterans.

Please let me know if there are any questions or comments on any items regarding the units.

With best regards,

Pete Paone

Scoutmaster - Troop 32

(484) 695-2646

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Nancy Buskirk	December 1
Rebecca Grim	December 1
Amy Yurasits	December 1
Kathleen Kotsch	December 2
Carol Miller	December 2
Dean Wellington	December 3
Michael Miller	December 4
Alyssa Sheckler	December 5
Kathryn Kotsch	December 6j
Brad Legath	December 6
Ronald Moyer	December 8
Jeffrey Holobusky	December 10
Darlene Asbath	December 11
Denise King	December 11
Kathryn Stofflet	December 12
Nathan Carr	December 13
Dennis Silvius	December 13
Oliver Resh	December 15
Hale Trotter	December 15
Konstanse Hess	December 16
Richard Hess	December 16
Brian Holobusky	December 16
Samantha Grim	December 20

Samantha Carr	December 21
Gloria Senchak	December 23
Gail Herzog	December 24
Mim Gower	December 28
Colton Miller	December 29
Sabrina Haller	December 30

Let's
Celebrate



Richard and Jacquelyn Daniel

December 5

Omar and Olivia Rivera

December 9

Thomas and Janet Colburn

December 21

Melissa and Dennis Wehr Jr

December 28



FOR YOUR INFORMATION

The Lehigh Valley Conference of Churches offers resources to help individuals and families

The Lehigh Valley Conference of Churches 610 433 6421

We serve thousands of families and individuals living in the Lehigh Valley offering a continuum of care designed to meet basic human needs: food, a roof overhead, dignity, a sense of belonging and hope for the future.

The Conference Kitchen ensures that the working poor, homeless, elderly, children, people between jobs, individuals on fixed incomes, and those who have nowhere else to turn can receive a free nutritious meal, three times a day, five days a week.

Breakfast is served from 8:00 to 9:00 am, lunch from 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm and dinner from 4:00 to 4:30 pm Monday through Friday.

The Conference Housing program builds a path in which those who are homeless, threatened with homelessness, or re-entering society from jail or prison can find stability in their lives. We offer rental assistance, utility deposits, furniture, and support enabling families and individuals to stay housed.

If you are in need of housing we ask that you meet with us so we can access your needs. No appointment is necessary. Visit us from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Thursday at 457 W. Allen Street, Allentown.

We offer a myriad of supportive services to help individuals and families overcome the obstacles they face. Uniquely equipped staff meet people where they are and guide them through the steps to be successful with money management, job readiness, benefit enrollment, securing an ID, and apartment hunting.

In need of help? Please contact us info@lehighchurches.org or 610-433-6421

