

ATTENTION ATTENTION ATTENTION
MEMBERS OF FAITH EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
Special Congregational Meeting
Sunday, February 11th after the 10:00 Service

On January 17th, the Call Committee held an interview with a pastoral candidate recommended by our Synod Liaison, Pastor Samantha Drennan. That candidate is Pastor June Elva Wann.

Pastor June is currently serving the congregation at Zion Lutheran Church in Womelsdorf, PA. She began that ministry at Zion in 2011. Prior to that, Pastor June served for five years at St. Mark's Lutheran Church in Lumberton, North Carolina. Pastor June is a graduate of Kutztown University and the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia. She served her internship here at Faith Lutheran in 2004-2005. Those members of FELC who were here at that time will remember her as Vicar June Bair.

The Call Committee reviewed Pastor June's qualification, contacted numerous references listed on her Minister's Profile. Hearing responses to our questions during our interview and the discussion we had with her, the Call Committee unanimously agreed that Pastor June would be a great match for the needs of our congregation and recommended that the Church Council meet and interview her.

At a special meeting of the Council and Call Committee on January 30th, we shared our thoughts and feedback from the interview. Then Pastor June joined the meeting and was interviewed by the Council. The meeting ended with a closed session where the Church Council voted and approved unanimously that Pastor June be brought before the congregation to be considered as our next pastor.

ON FEBRUARY 11th, the congregation will have the opportunity to meet Pastor June, hear her preach as she participates with us in worship. This will be followed by a special Congregational Meeting where we will then vote on her becoming the new pastor of Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church. This voting process will be coordinated by a member of the Synod staff, with the candidate requiring a two thirds majority to be recognized as our new pastor.

Please mark February 11th on your calendar for this special day. We will have a Meet and Greet with the pastor starting at 8:30 in the Gathering Place. The worship service will follow afterwards. You must be present to vote on that Sunday.

Thank you for your prayers and support over this past year, we realize that this is an important decision for the future of our church. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Bob Billig, Call Committee Chairman at rbilligjr@gmail.com or 610-597-1346



FAITH EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
3355 MacArthur Road Whitehall, PA 18052
610 435 0451

The Rev. Peggy Wuertele
Interim Pastor

Robert Billig
President, Church Council

Zach Keenan
Vice President, Church Council

Secretary

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



Dates to Remember

February is African-American History Month.

February 2 Groundhog Day
February 11 special congregational meeting after service
February 12 Abraham Lincoln's Birthday.
February 13 Mardi Gras (aka "Fat Tuesday" or Shrove Tuesday),
February 14 Ash Wednesday
Services at 1:00 PM and 7:00 PM
February 14 Valentine's Day.
February 19 Presidents' Day,
February 29 Leap year

WORSHIP WITH US!

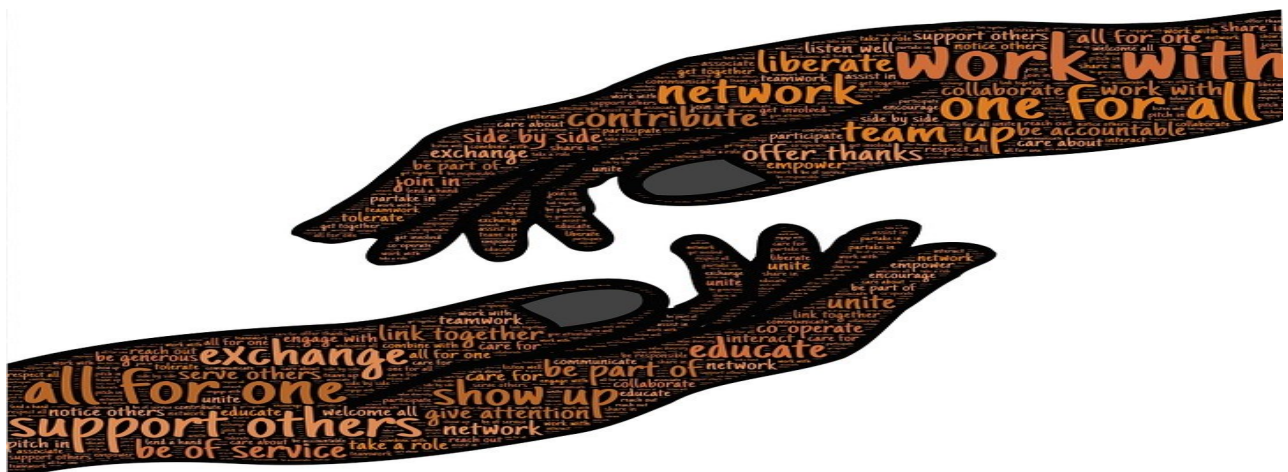
Sunday School classes for all ages at 9 am

- ♦ 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!**



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Basket Social—Saturday March 2 and Sunday March 3, 2024

Rain date Saturday March 3 and Sunday March 10, 2024

This is a fun and very big weekend at our church with LOTS of help needed. Margy Muthard and her daughter, Erika Miller, are co-chairs of this event.

Please email Margy if you will be able to help in any way, at margy@faithon145.org.

Although the weekend of the event is very busy, there are many ways to help and be involved ahead of time. Shopping, wrapping baskets, visiting and calling businesses for donations are just a few. If you have limited time and are not available the weekend of the event, any help prior to that weekend is appreciated as well.

Many hands are needed and you will make new friends at every turn. Thank you and God

Bless you!

Communications

Speak at services

Advertising

Newspapers and Online

Online Applications

Filling out forms online

Volunteers for event weekend

Need people to work ticket tables whole weekend, different shifts

Basket Wrapping

One person to schedule & 3 to wrap. So 4 total to wrap including person that schedules.

Gift Certificates

Deliver letters, pickup certificates

Bake Sale table

Volunteers for the table that weekend, get baked goods

Ticket Spreadsheet Excel spreadsheet for regular and WOW tickets

Kitchen: food, volunteers & supplies

Order food, volunteers and supplies

Numbering Baskets

Organize and number

Basket / Gift Certificate Spreadsheet/Excel spreadsheet / work with Basket Numbering volunteer

Drawing

4 people needed, 1 to call, 2 to check tickets, and 1 to give a break

Checking Winning Numbers

6 people – Cross check basket number and ticket

Calling Winners

This depends on the amount of baskets – 4 people with 100 baskets

Basket Pick-up

Pick-up is Monday 9-6 with different shifts

Thank you Joanne Gantz-Jalowiecki and our confirmands for
this interesting self-reflection exercise

Joanne shared this activity from confirmation class

“Who’s in Control?”

Object: A remote Control

Scripture: Mark 1:21-28

Joanne presented the analogy of a remote control device controlling one’s life followed by an exploration into what one’s personal remote control looks like and operates. She posed several thought -provoking questions.

Who is controlling your remote? What does that look like? What does Jesus in Control look like?

They began by Looking at the remote and its functions

- **Power on**
 - **Play**
- **Changing channels**
 - **Volume up**
 - **mute**
 - **Fast forward**
 - **Rewind**
 - **Slow motion**
 - **Pause**
 - **Power off**

Let’s look at some of our youths answers

Power on: wake up

Play: moving through one’s day: eating, walking, activities

Changing channels: going the wrong direction

Mute: no talking back

Fast forward: not thinking of what we are doing

Rewind: Can we take back our words or actions

The recent Bible lesson we read of Jesus showing people his amazing control **of everything** as he summoned the demon from the man in the Synagogue shows us God has a plan for us, but we must leave Jesus in Control.

What would your life look like if you let the buttons on the remote control your life?

Now what would it look like if Jesus were in control?

Thank you to Joanne and the confirmands for helping us to reflect on the importance of letting Jesus be in charge

Traditions of Lent

Lent starts on Ash Wednesday, as ashes are applied to the forehead to represent repentance. Lent hymns and services do not contain the joyful expression "Alleluia." Consider fasting throughout the day. Spend your daily mealtimes praying and reading the Bible. If you cannot compromise your diet for health reasons, give up something else (television, hobbies, etc.) Sundays (not part of the 40 days of Lent) are not fast days.

Lent, in the Christian [church](#), a period of penitential preparation for [Easter](#). begins on [Ash Wednesday](#), six and a half weeks before Easter, and provides a 40-day period for [fasting](#) and [abstinence](#) (Sundays are excluded), in imitation of [Jesus Christ's](#) fasting in the wilderness before he began his public ministry. This 40-day "Great Lent" includes Saturdays and Sundays as relaxed fast days.

A period of preparation and fasting likely has been observed before the Easter [festival](#) since apostolic times, though the practice was not formalized until the [First Council of Nicaea](#) in 325 CE. It was a time of preparation of candidates for [baptism](#) and a time of [penance](#) for grievous sinners who were [excluded](#) from Communion and were preparing for their restoration. As a sign of their penitence, they wore sackcloth and were sprinkled with ashes. This form of public penance began to die out in the 9th century. It became customary for all the faithful to be reminded of the need for penitence and of their own mortality by receiving a [memento mori](#) in the form of ashes on their foreheads on the first day of Lent—hence the name Ash Wednesday.

In the early centuries, fasting rules were strict. These fasting rules have gradually been relaxed. Christians often choose to give up specific pleasures, such as sweets, alcohol, or [social media](#), during Lent as a way to foster [simplicity and self-control](#); many use their cravings or desires for these items as a reminder to pray and to refocus on spiritual matters.

In [Lutheran](#) and many other Protestant churches, Lent is observed with various services and practices



28
DAYS IN THE MONTH
*Except for Leap Year

Leap Day
Every 4
Years



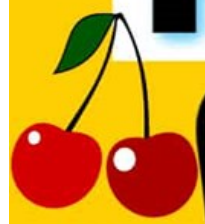
Library
Lovers Day



Violets + Primrose
February Flowers

Presidents Day

FEBRUARY



FUN FACTS



Amethyst
Birthstone

National
Cherry
Month

Random Act of
Kindness Week

KINDNESS



National
Tater Tot
Month

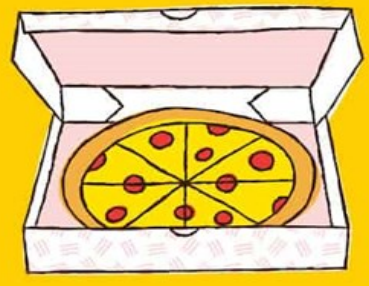
National
Golden
Retriever
Day



Most
Romantic
Month



National
Pizza Day



Super Bowl
2nd Sunday

Valentine's
Day



WINTER

Make a
Friend Day

Astrology Signs



Aquarius Pisces



2nd Month
of The Year

Groundhog
Day



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SOCIAL MINISTRY UPDATES

Gods Work, Our Hands.



As you may be aware, Faith has joined on in partnership with the Family Promise of the Lehigh Valley. It is a non-profit 501(c)3 affiliate of the National Family Promise Organization, which assists families and children experiencing homelessness. The national organization is made up of individual affiliates, which are regionally-based to allow for collaboration with existing services within the community.

As a partner with Family Promise, we will join other churches and service-based organizations to assist their screened participants as they are in transition for permanent housing. During the weeks of **April 14 - 21, 2024 and September 29 - October 6, 2024**, we will share our hospitality with their program participants. As our guests, we will provide them with dinner and overnight accommodations at Faith. They will be with us each day/evening during those weeks from 5PM – 6AM.

We look forward to welcoming Family Promise's Executive Director, Roslyn Kuba on Sunday, February 25. She will share an enlightening presentation on Family Promise with us during the worship service.

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

We will need help during the weeks that our Family Promise guests are with us. You can help by:

- Help setting up and cleaning before and after our guests leave Faith (the Sunday before and Sunday after)
- Preparing and dropping off a dinner meal by 5:30 PM (entrée, sides, and

dessert)

- Serving the dinner and clean up (5:30PM – 7:30PM)
- Serving as an overnight host and sleepover at church
(We need one male and one female to stay over at the church each evening from 7:30PM – 6AM)
- Donate designated breakfast and snack items for our guests
- Prepare gifts for our guests to make them feel welcomed and at home (i.e. pouches to hold toiletries, room signs, etc.)

We will begin sign ups for volunteers this month. All members interacting with Family Promise guests must have clearances and attend a 1 hour training session (which will be held at our church closer to our hospitality weeks).

Cindy Rowan and Pat Himmelwright serve as the coordinators of this program with Family Promise. Please feel free to contact Cindy or Pat for more information.

FAITH IN ACTION

* **Whitehall - Coplay School Program** – Michele Tabatabai, who serves as the coordinator with the school program, indicated that she dropped off about 2 car loads full of clothes and toiletry items to the school. She said that the school administrator was totally overwhelmed by Faith's generosity in providing all these items to children in need. As a reminder, each month, there is a collection for specific items for the school children that can be dropped off in the Social Ministry Collection Center (right off the narthex by the entrance to the church). Thanks, Michele, for keeping this vital ministry moving along!

* **Faith Food Box Program** – In December, Faith members generously donated food items that contributed to 14 food boxes for needy family members in our community. Special thanks to Rosemarie Haffner, Linda Eberhardt, Jackie Daniels, Rose Kwolek and Willie who coordinated the program.

Plan ahead to donate to the Easter boxes! There is a need of non-perishable items (mashed potatoes, canned vegetables, and cake mix/icing) which can be dropped off in the Social Ministry Collection Center (right off the narthex by the entrance to the church). Also, there is a need for 5-8 pound hams that can be dropped off at the church office for refrigeration. Easter is on March 31, please be sure to have items at the church no later than March 24.

* **Christmas Giving Tree** - This year there were a number of general items that were needed for young people at the Lehigh Valley Shelter and as we got closer to Christmas, we were provided with more specific items for the guests who were staying in the shelter at Christmas. Looked like there were a few dozen donation items on tags which decorated the beautiful Christmas tree in the narthex! Many thanks to Faith members who graciously donated gifts and for Tina Keenan who coordinated this program.



Worship Teams for February 2024

Feb 4

Feb 11

Feb 14

Feb 18

Feb 25

Altar Guild	Diane Batza and Cathy Haller	Barb Yurasits and Cindy Rowan	Cathy Haller and	Shel And Judy Ehret	Cathy Haller and Charlene Frack
Acolytes and Crucifers	Luke Knechel And Owen Keenan	Gavin Kishbaugh And Kendall Bashore		Kingston Rivera and Samantha Cave	Kendall Bashore And Luke Knechel
Lectors					
Narthex Greeters	Boy Scouts				
Assistant Ministers	Boy Scouts	Manny Stivers		Tom Colburn	Judy Ehret
Bulletin Sponsors				Stacey Bachman	Nelson and Kathy Schaeffer
Flower Sponsors		Erich and Rena Berg		Stacey Bachman	Nelson and Kathy Scheffer

February CALENDAR 2024

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
<p>Sunday School: 9:00 AM Worship Service 10:00 AM AA 8:00 PM (PH)</p>	<p>1:00 PM Piece Workers 6:00 PM Brownies 7:00 PM Pioneer Band (BH)</p>	<p>10:30 AM Prayer Group (TGP) 12:00 PM light lunch 1:00 PM Communion 6:45 PM Boy Scouts (PH)</p>	<p>6:00 PM Eagle Scouts</p>	<p>1 6:00 PM Cub Scouts (PH) 6:15 Bell Choir 7:00 pm Christian Ed 7:30 Senior Choir</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p>
<p>4 Sunday School: 9:00 AM Worship Service 10:00 AM AA 8:00 PM (PH)</p>	<p>5 1:00 PM Piece Workers 6:00 PM Brownies 7:00 PM Pioneer Band (BH)</p>	<p>6 Light lunch and pew communion noon, 1:00 pm 10:30 AM Prayer Group (TGP) 6:45 PM Boy Scouts (PH)</p>	<p>7 6:00 PM Eagle Scouts</p>	<p>8 6:00 PM Cub Scouts (PH) 6:15 Bell Choir 7:30 Senior Choir</p>	<p>9 Cemetery meeting at 10:00 AM</p>	<p>10</p>
<p>11 Sunday School: 9:00 AM Worship Service 10:00 AM Worship and music after service Blood pressure readings after Church AA 8:00 PM (PH)</p>	<p>12 1:00 PM Piece Workers 6:00 PM Brownies 7:00 PM Pioneer Band (BH)</p>	<p>13 10:30 AM Prayer Group (TGP) 6:45 PM Boy Scouts (PH)</p>	<p>14 Ash Wednesday service 1:00 PM 6:00 PM Eagle Scouts Ash Wednesday 7:00 PM</p>	<p>15 6:00 PM Cub Scouts (PH) 6:45 Bell Choir 7:30 Senior Choir</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17 PH Parented</p>
<p>18 Sunday School: 9:00 AM Worship Service 10:00 AM Eucharistic meeting at 11:00 AM 8:00 PM AA (PH)</p>	<p>19 1:00 PM Piece Workers 6:00 PM Brownies 7:00 PM Pioneer Band (BH)</p>	<p>20 10:30 AM Prayer Group (TGP) 6:45 PM Boy Scouts (PH) 7:00 PM Church Council</p>	<p>21 6:00 PM Eagle Scouts</p>	<p>22 6:00 PM Cub Scouts (PH) 6:15 Bell Choir 7:30 Senior Choir</p>	<p>23 Cemetery meeting</p>	<p>24</p>
<p>25 Sunday School: 9:00 AM Worship Ser-</p>	<p>26 1:00 PM Piece Work-</p>	<p>27 10:30 AM Prayer Group (TGP)</p>	<p>28 6:00 PM Eagle</p>	<p>29 6:00 PM Cub Scouts (PH)</p>		



BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH

Billig, Karla	02/01	Hower, Dennis	02/11
Schaffer, Mary	02/02	Colburn, Evan	02/12
Brandle, Grace	02/03	Taylor, Aiden	02/12
Frack, Charlene	02/04	Pryor, Kaleb	02/13
Holland, Jr. John	02/04	Thompson, Colby	02/14
Miller, Corbin	02/04	Lovelace, Mark	02/15
Minnich, Adriana	02/04	Wieder, Paul	02/15
Schrader Jr, Wilbert	02/04	Rivera, Kingston	02/16
Endy, Amanda	02/05	Bachman, Nancy	02/17
Endy, Christina	02/05	Backus, Lorraine	02/18
Stahler, Susan	02/05	Ruch, Karen	02/18
Trotter, Calista	02/05	Ely, Michelle	02/19
Berg, Olivia	02/06	Vanderslice, John	02/21
Gerlach, Michael	02/06	Keenan, Owen	02/22
John, Sara	02/06	Keenan, Robert	02/22
Reese, Marilyn	02/06	Markulics, Matthew	02/22
Smith, Ellen	02/06	Belles, Kayla	02/24
Sturtevant, Rebecca	02/07	Sheckler, Roberta	0/24
Pryor, Kurt	02/09	Ward, Rebecca	02/24
Brandt, Benjamin	02/10	Brandle, Roxanna	02/25
Brandt, Kyle	02/10	Meckes, Brayden	02/27
Kishbaugh, Aurora	02/10	Haller, Catherine	02/28
Roth, Seth	02/10	Schaeffer, Nelson	02/28
Zellner Jr, Wayne	02/10		