

FAITH EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

JULY 2023



The Rev. Peggy Wuertele
Interim Pastor

Zach Keenan
President, Church Council

Robert Billig
Vice President, Church Council

Stacey Bachman
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

OUR CONTACT INFO:

**FAITH EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN
CHURCH**
**3355 MacArthur Road Whitehall, PA
18052**
610 435 0451
OfficeManager@FaithOn145.org

JULY DATES OF NOTE

July 1 Canada Day / Dominion Day

July 4 Independence Day (U.S.)

July 14 Bastille Day



FROM THE PASTOR

July Newsletter

Pastor's Letter

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

St. Paul writes in his letter to the church in Corinth, "Every time I think of you I thank my God" That verse sums up my feelings for the people at Faith. Over the 15 or so months that I have been with you, I have experienced you as kind, compassionate and devoted to your church, and to Jesus Christ. This past couple of months my own family has experienced crisis and I have not felt my very best. You supported me, stepping up to cover various ministry tasks

You have been generous in acknowledging me with gifts...an Easter basket and a gorgeous handmade quilt that I will treasure forever. I have also received greeting cards with words of appreciation and support. I treasure these reminders of our work together and relationships in the Lord.

I know that you do these things for one another, "as any has need." Acts 2:45 These things bind together the Body of Christ.

I don't know how much longer I will be with you. Your call process has begun and I pray that there will be the right candidate coming soon, that you may move into the future with hope and purpose. I believe that this will be the case. In the meantime, we have some work to do together: we are embarking on a program to update our on-line presence, we are searching for a new organist, we are going to begin "hot dogs and hymns" for the second summer, there will be a 'mini-VBS' held during the worship service this summer. You can find details for all of this in our other publications. Just know that Faith is "on the move" and we want you to be involved!

Peace,

Pastor Peggy



WORSHIP WITH US

Sunday Church Services at 9:45 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!





Faith

A living, daring confidence in God's grace.

When Lutherans talk about faith, we are talking about the relationship God's Holy Spirit creates with us. It's a relationship where God's promise of steadfast love and mercy in Jesus opens us to a life of bold trust in God and joyful, generous service to everyone we know and meet in daily life. Faith does not close our minds to the world and our hearts to others. We continue to listen to the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments. We listen to the witness of others, and we watch for the ways God is active in the world around us. Faith opens a place for engaging others in conversation, for seeking the truth, for asking questions and speaking love in word and deed.

Martin Luther, after whom the Lutheran branch of Christianity is named, once wrote, "Faith is a living, daring confidence in God's grace, so sure and certain that you could stake your life on it one thousand times. ... Through faith, a person will do good to everyone without coercion, willingly and happily; serving everyone, suffering everything for the love and praise of God, who has shown such grace." Faith, then, is not about intellectually agreeing to a set of beliefs but about living in a trusting relationship with God in response to God's grace. Faith is our confident hope that living in God's promises sparks renewal to love and serve neighbors, as God in Christ loves us.

we are called to participate in God's work, in the thick of life, embracing individuals, families and communities that are hungry for hope and healing, justice and peace, advocates and partners.

Our faith and our call to boldly serve and love our neighbor take us into some interesting and challenging aspects of life: advocacy, corporate social responsibility, racial justice, science and ethics, peacemaking, justice for women, social issues, and community organizing. We are drawn into every corner of life, society and its institutions to bring the good news of Jesus Christ and to work for lasting, positive change that upholds human dignity.

"Our witness is a response to God's faithful love received in Word and Sacraments. The bread and the wine, the body and blood of Christ, are a sacrament of love. As love and support are given you, you in turn must render love and support to Christ in his needy ones. You must feel with sorrow all the dishonor done to Christ in his holy Word, all the misery of Christendom, all the unjust suffering of the innocent, with which the world is everywhere filled to overflowing. You must fight, work, pray, and — if you cannot do more — have heartfelt sympathy."

From the ELCA social statement, "[Church in Society: A Lutheran Perspective](#)"

Faith is a full life, liberated for a living, daring confidence in God's grace.

Information from ELCA.org/Faith and Society resources

“Church in Society: A Lutheran Perspective”

What is the appropriate way for Lutheran Christians and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) as an institution to be active in society?

The gospel of Jesus Christ liberates us from sin, death and evil, the church as the body of Christ is freed to "love the neighbor" (Matthew 22:36ff). The call of God motivates the church to address society. The church confesses and teaches both law and gospel as the living word of the triune God. God's activity in the world inevitably leads to participating in society, and caring for the earth with all its creatures. This participation involves a commitment to justice (Amos 5:24). The statement highlights the Lutheran teaching that God is at work in the "kingdom" of the civil realm primarily through the activity of the law. Family, education, economy, government and other social structures are the ways God restrains evil, protects from harm and upholds the common good. Christians are to respect the God-given integrity and tasks of these structures. Yet, since sin permeates them, too, they fall short of God's intention for justice, peace and care of creation.

Lutherans understand that the church (the body of Christ) is "in," but not "from," the world. The church (all baptized people are the church!) through faith already takes part in the healing activity of God in Jesus. At the same time, it awaits the fulfillment of the whole creation and so lives in a tension between two ages — the present age and the age to come. Christians share a common destiny with the whole world in the coming reign of God and yet can never be fully at home in the world as it is. Christians must always be "restless." God's restless church is called to serve and advocate in response to such diverse social situations as disasters, poverty, discrimination, social policies and economic arrangements. The statement says the church should keep enough critical distance from society to act, when appropriate, like the prophets of Scripture. Prophets challenged the culture, exposed the power of sin and idolatry, and spoke out on behalf of the poor and powerless.

Christians are committed to society for the sake of all, and this means they must be ready to speak for change. The primary way that the church carries out its responsibility in the world is through the everyday life of ordinary Christians. Every Christian is called through baptism to participate in society by doing good in the places of responsibility — marriage, family, work, school, volunteer associations, community organizations and political parties. Baptismal vocation is the primary way that God works through the church in the public arena. Christians fulfill their vocations in many ways and have many gifts. They will often disagree passionately on social questions. As a way of wrestling with social questions, the statement proposes the ELCA act as a "community of moral deliberation". Such a community looks together to Scripture as the normative source of faith and life and to the best knowledge available in the secular realm as it deliberates toward good actions and policies. Deliberation is a public process guided by the Holy Spirit that Christians come to discern what action they should take when dealing with complicated issues.

Provided by: Theological Discernment Department, Office of the Presiding Bishop

Beatitudes

Directions: Fill in the squares using the clues. Then, using the number codes, fill in the squares below to read three of the Beatitudes from Luke 6:20-21 (NIV).

1. Area behind house
2. Blooms
3. Precipitaion.....
4. Puffy and white in sky.....
5. Soil.....
6. Green, needs water.....
7. You must hoe this.....
8. Tiptoe through these.....
9. Baby sheep.....
10. We need food & this.....
11. God made it from nothing.....
12. Sign after it rains
13. These, in April, bring May flowers.....

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	
16	17	18	19				
20	21	22	23	24	25		
26	27	28	29				
30	31	32	33	34			
35	36	37	38	39	40		
41	42	43	44	45	46		
47	48	49	50	51			
52	53	54	55	56			
57	58	59	60	61	62	63	
65	66	67	68	69	70	71	
72	73	74	75	76	77	78	

	1	10	13	15	25	39	38		2	7	13		5	22	23		12	73	11		17	31	39		45
22	63	7		9	70	56		5	22	23	58	46		27	15		61	73	13		4	18	19	30	26
22	49		22	9		30	63	26		1	47	55	72	78	39	26		60	77	59		5	74	23	
12	73	70		73	23	40	35	13	56		9	11	65		5	63	23		75	18	10	47		1	76
	72	48	61	27	34	9	44	13	26		1	43	55	72	78	76	24		2	7	13		5	22	23
75	73	22		12	59	39	45		64	63	52		9	22	58		5	70	42		52	44	10	47	
10	2	23	35	73																					

Answers: 1. backyard, 2. flowers, 3. rain, 4. clouds, 5. dirt, 6. grass, 7. garden, 8. tulips, 9. lambs, 10. water, 11. crea-
tion, 12. rainbow, 13. showers



Looking for opportunities to give back? Volunteer!

Always welcoming committee participants, volunteering in the kitchen for special events, learning the process of preparation for Sundays and special events, choir, bell choir, Lectors, Greeters

See anyone on Council, Pastor, or stop by Church office!

**The Whitehall Food Pantry is in need of the following items:
Juice, macaroni and cheese, peanut butter, jelly, spaghetti pasta,
canned vegetables, rice, canned fruits, soups, cereal
Thank you for your support,**

Ribbons and bows are needed, wired ribbon is great if possible, for our baskets and things for the Craft Fair and later for our basket social. They can be dropped off at the Church office, M-Th 9-3.



Special Music this SUMMER at Faith!

Now is your chance to glorify God in song! Calling all vocalists and instrumentalists who would like to share their talents in church during a Sunday summer worship service. Summer worship (when the Bell Choir and Senior Choir does not provide music) occurs from June 4-September 3. This is your invitation!!

Anyone interested, please contact Jennifer Kishbaugh, Director of Music at 610-451-8660 or jenniferkishbaugh@gmail.com to reserve your date.

We are currently seeking substitute organists/pianists for our summer worship service (starting June 4). There is also a permanent organist position available, where an interview process will occur. If you are interested, please contact the church office at 610-435-0451 (Monday-Thursday 9:00am-3:00pm).



As always, the board of the Whitehall Food Pantry is extremely grateful to our members for the continued support and contributions that you share. As I stated in church last week, Second Harvest is finding it difficult to get some of the staples that we need for our patrons, and we have divided the list between our churches.

FELC has chosen 1 lb. bags of white rice and canned fruits for our “wish list”. In addition, the items that are in short supply are: rice, canned fruits, canned vegetables, soups, cereal and fruit juice.

If anyone is shopping and finds these items on sale, we would appreciate any help you can provide. We purchase these items each week in addition to meats when needed.

Thank you and God Bless You!



Donald Albright 5/23/47—6/14/2023

UPCOMING PIONEER BAND CONCERTS IN OUR AREA
July 16 7:30 PM West Park Allentown

Thank you to Christian Ed Team from Dayne Kishbaugh
 “Thank you so much for the gift! Thank you for the opportunity to serve in Church!
 We wish Dayne the very best as he heads to West Chester University! Best of everything, Dayne! Thank you for sharing your gifts with us!

SYNOD ASSEMBLY 2023 -GOING BEYOND

Attended by Judy and Shel Ehret along with Pastor Peggy Wuertele

Shel and I appreciated the opportunity to represent FELC at this year's Synod Assembly at Kalahari Resort in the Poconos. (and no, we did not get to the water park. ☐)

This was the third assembly that we've attended and by far, the most interesting and worthwhile. From the music (upbeat, guitars, singing) to the many presentations of Bishops (our Bishop DeForest, and Bishop Girlinghouse from Arkansas/Oklahoma Synod), many Ministers and representatives provided thought provoking ideas and spiritually uplifting messages.

Pastors Joe Davis and Dave Scherer from Minneapolis, presented several skits which illustrated the shortfalls in our churches and helpful clues to overcome. One example presented two friends who wanted to try something new at church but each suggested the other go "first". Finally, they decided to "step out together" and there they found success in their program.

Discussions were held on the problems ALL CHURCHES AND ALL DENOMINATIONS are facing with declining attendance. It was stated that prior to Covid, an average attendance would have been 125, in 2019 possibly 76 and 2021 to present, 46 is an average. It is thought that we will never see the attendance and activity that we as older adults saw in our younger days. However, we need to try new things, engage members in activities that will draw families and be open to change.

Pastor Brian Riedy from Catasauqua presented "Just Breathe". It was interesting – if you are stressed that attendance is down, "Just Breathe". If you tried a program that did not go well, "Just Breathe." Many examples were given.

Bishop DeForest presented a program called 6261 that he feels is coming.

6 Congregations share

2 FT Pastors

6 Lay Ministers

1 Deacon.

The churches in the past, shared their clergy and with the decline in attendance and monetary support, it may come to this. If there are multiple congregations (could be 4, 5 or 6) in a local area, say 5-10 miles, they will share clergy/support staff to allow these congregations to continue without giving up their "home church".

In addition to reduced attendance, the shortage of those entering the ministry is another problem. The SALM (Synodical Authorized Lay Minister) program is returning to help with this cleric shortage.

Additional presentations:

Lutheran Immigration & Refugee Services (LIRS)

Mission work

Disaster Relief

World Hunger

Lutheran Advocacy

“Hopes Table” a free meal program at a church in Reading.

Prolonged Grief Disorder

Additional business conducted:

Election of officers and installation

Treasurers Report

Secretaries Report

Action on Compensation Guidelines

Thank you to all those presiding members!

Closing of assembly.

A sincere thank you from Shel and me for providing these few days to strengthen our faith and to see God's work in so many different areas.

Blessings,

Judy Ehret

Cherry Popover Recipe



Popovers are a tasty pastry made from doughy egg batter and filled with cherries. Use fresh cherries from your own cherry tree, for a real treat the whole family will enjoy. Make this Cherry Popover recipe for dessert tonight!

Ingredients

1. 3 eggs
2. 1 1/2 cups milk
3. 1 1/2 cups flour (all-purpose or whole wheat)
4. 1/2 teaspoon salt
5. 1/4 cup unsalted butter, melted
6. 2/3 cups fresh, pitted cherries

Directions

- In a medium mixing bowl, combine milk, flour, salt, and melted butter.
 - Beat until just smooth.
 - Beat in eggs, one at a time.
 - Stir in pitted cherries.
 - Allow batter to rest for 15 minutes.
 - While the batter is resting, pre-heat the oven to 450 ° F.
 - Generously grease 12 muffin cups
 - Grease the muffin tin slots above the cups, so the popovers won't stick if they rise over the cups.
 - Fill cups 3/4 full, leaving plenty of room to rise.
 - Bake in preheated oven for 20 minutes.
 - Without opening the oven, lower the heat to 350 ° F, and bake another 10 minutes, until the popovers are brown and puffed.
 - Remove from oven. Carefully pierce muffins to allow the steam to escape.
 - Allow to cool in the pan for 5 minutes.
 - Remove from the pan and serve warm.
-
- ◆ You can also dust the tops of the popovers with powdered sugar.
 - ◆ Simply sprinkle a little powdered sugar on top, just as you remove the popovers from the oven.

July					
2023	July 2	July 9	July 16	July 23	July 30
Altar Guild	Shel and Judy Ehret	Linda Johnston and Cindy Rowan	Pat Masonheimer and Gloria Senchak	Cathy Haller and Charlene Frack	Rosemarie Haffner and Linda Johnston
Acolytes and Crucifers					
Lectors	Manny Stivers	Kyle Brandt	Karen Blayle	Heidi Carr	
Narthex Greeters	April Spaits And Charlene Frack	Karen Ruch And Bonnie Youwakim	Jane Ramer	Kyle and Ben Brandt	April Spaits
Assistant Ministers	Bob Billig	Tom Colburn	Manny Stivers	Zach Keenan	Gail Herzog
Bulletin Sponsors	Sara Laub	Harold and Deb Whittaker		Fred And Dorothy Scott	Judy and Shel Ehret
Flower Sponsors	Sara Laub	Harold and Deb Whittaker		Fred And Dorothy Scott	Judy and Shel Ehret

JULY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2 AA 8:00 PM (PH)	3 7:00 PM Pioneer Band (BH)	4 10:30 am pray- er group TGP 6:45 PM Boy Scouts (PH)	5	6 6:00 PM Cub Scouts (PH)	7	8
9 AA 8:00 PM (PH)	10 7:00 PM Pioneer Band (BH)	11 10:30 AM Pray- er Group (TGP) Noon light lunch (1:00 PM Communion (TGP) 6:45 PM Boy Scouts (PH)	12	13 6:00 PM Cub Scouts (PH)	14	15
16 AA 8:00 PM (PH)	17 7:00 PM Pioneer Band (BH)	18 10:30 AM Pray- er Group (TGP) 6:45 PM Boy Scouts (PH)	19	20 6:00 PM Cub Scouts (PH)	21	22
23 AA 8:00 PM (PH)	24 7:00 PM Pioneer Band (BH)	25 10:30 AM Pray- er Group (TGP) 6:45 PM Boy Scouts (PH)	26	27 6:00 PM Cub Scouts (PH)	28	29
30 AA 8:00 PM (PH)	31 7:00 PM Pioneer Band (BH)					



CELEBRATE

CELEBRATE



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Stacey Bachman	7/1
Denise Sneddon	7/1
Robert Stahler	7/3
Hope Bennett	7/4
Paula David	7/4
Marylou Hontz	7/7
Richard Snyder	7/7
Dale Mohr	7/9
Ed Ruch Jr	7/9
Sarah Whittaker	7/9
Kristine Eichelberger	7/10
Ernie Kotsch	7/10
Robert Hawkey	7/11
Brian Walschburger	7/11
Patricia Himmelwright	7/13
Cynthia Miller	7/14
Roger Reichard	7/14
Michele D'Zomic	7/15
Kim Kneller	7/15
Pat Walschburger	7/15
Dennis Wehr Jr	7/17
Heather Druckenmiller	7/18
Todd Mackaravitz	7/18
Joshua Prince	7/21
Timothy Paine	7/23
Joanne Gantz-Jalowiecki	7/24
Tracey Hartman	7/24
Adam Miller	7/24
Tammie Steidinger	7/24
Adam Miller	7/24
Jeffrey Bauder	7/25
Jonathan Whittaker	7/26
Michael Juliano	7/27
Tara Miller	7/27
Jenna Lance	7/28
Chad Pongracz	7/30
Janice Hillman	7/31
Donald Prince Jr	7/31
Mark Schaffer	7/31

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Robert and Debra Keenan	7/3
Mark and Krystal	7/7
Larry and Diane Finley	7/9
Chad and Heather Druckenmiller	7/10
Kristine and Paul Eichelberger	7/11
Phillip and Beverly Falk	7/12
Matthew and Jennifer Kishbaugh	7/13
Stacey Bachman	7/17
Jason and Donna Moyer	7/17
John and Janet Corello	7/20
Jeffrey and Anne Bauder	7/22
Frederick and Dorothy Scott	7/23
Kevin and Stacey O'Neill	7/25
Joseph and Diane Ziegler	7/25
Zachary and TinaMarie Keenan	7/31