

# **FAITH EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**

## **SEPTEMBER 2023**



### **FAITH EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**

**3355 MacArthur Road Whitehall, PA  
18052**

**610 435 0451**

**claudette@faithon145.org**

**M-Th 9—3**

**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**

### **September Dates of Importance**

**September 4 Labor Day**

**September 11 Patriot Day, held  
in honor and remembrance of those who  
died in the September 11, 2001 terror-  
ist attacks.**

**September 11 Grandparents Day**

**September 15 starts Rosh Hashanah, a Jew-  
ish holiday that marks the beginning of  
the new year.**

**September 17 is Constitution Day. This day cele-  
brates the adoption of the U.S. Constitution, which  
occurred on September 17, 1787**

**September 21 is recognized as the annu-  
al International Day of Peace. Observances range  
from a moment of silence at noon to events such  
as peace walks, concerts, and volunteering in  
the community.**

**September 23 marks the start of fall! This  
year's Autumnal Equinox occurs at  
2:50 A.M. EDT on Saturday, September  
23.**

**September 24 marks the start of Yom Kip-  
pur, at sundown.**



## From Pastor Peggy

### September 2023 Newsletter

Change...it is the one constant that we can rely on! We often don't like change, because change usually involves loss of something or someone. But, change can also offer us new challenges and opportunities. We've experienced quite a bit of change in our congregation in the nearly year and a half that I have been with you. Across the church people are dealing with change and trying to figure out how to be faithful when the landscape is constantly changing. One of the things that our bishop is trying is to equip more lay leaders to help with congregations. He is calling one model "6261" and we learned about it at the synod assembly back in June. It involves six congregations who share a sense of mission, led by two pastors and six licensed lay ministers, and one ordained deacon. There is hope that four of these groupings will be formed in the coming year and four more in each of the subsequent years. It doesn't replace the one congregation-one pastor church that we are most familiar with, but it does distribute resources in a new way in some places.

Remember that when the Lutheran church was first brought to the colonies that would become the United States, German Lutherans formed congregations, BUT there were no pastors. The people met for scripture reading, prayer and singing. Eventually Henry Melchior Muhlenberg arrived, followed by a handful of other pastors from Germany. The folks still met on their own for prayer and study, and these circuit riding pastors visited as they were able (riding horses) to celebrate communion and baptism on a periodic basis...and the church flourished!

I am part of the group who is developing the curriculum for the new licensed lay ministers' training. It will be a two year program taught through a series of retreats and courses, taken on line or in person. It replaces the SALM program, which was being phased out just ten or so years ago, because we had an over-abundance of retired and active pastors in this synod!

This is adaptive leadership—facing changes that we haven't experienced before and trying new Holy Experiences to grapple with them. Through all of this we remember that this congregation, our synod, the ELCA and the whole of the Church belongs to Jesus Christ. We trust him to lead us and we pray that we can be faithful followers and disciples. Peace, blessings and joy, Pastor Peggy



Welcome  
—We are glad you are here—

**BEGINNING RALLY DAY: NEXT SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 10**  
**WORSHIP SERVICE WILL BEGIN AT 10:00 AM**  
to accommodate Sunday School and  
Confirmation class

**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!

**All Sunday School and Confirmation classes will resume on**  
**September 10th at 9:00 AM**

**Sunday School classes for all ages at 9 a.m.**

- ♦ **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.**

# Music in Ministry

*“O come and let us sing to the Lord;  
rock of our salvation! Let us come into His presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful  
noise to Him with songs of praise!”  
-Psalm 95: 1-2*

Worship and music are inseparable. The arts are a powerful medium for ministry, providing a vehicle for personal and corporate praise, prayer, and thanksgiving to God. Music speaks what cannot be expressed in words, thus soothing the mind, healing the heart, calming and uplifting the spirit. Music is a gift from God that flows from heaven to the soul. **However great or small your talents, there is a place for you in our music ministry.** I hope that this helps you to find a way to come out this fall to “make a joyful noise unto the Lord.”

## **Musical opportunities include:**

### **Bell Choir:** (7th grade and up)

I look forward to **NEW** members joining us this year. Having the ability to read music is an advantage but if you are unable to read music and have an interest in playing, please do not be discouraged; come to a rehearsal and see what it is all about. If you were part of the bell choir last year you need not contact me, as I will count on you continuing playing with us, but if you are a potential new member that would be interested in playing please contact me **BEFORE** the first rehearsal for the purpose of assigning bells.

***Rehearsals***-one night a week (Thursdays 6:15-7:15)

***Location***-Rhoads Room/Sanctuary

***Ministry***-rings once a month during the worship service and special events of the church season

### **Senior Choir:** (9th grade and up)

Calling all who are interested in praising God in song! If you have not been in the choir before and are interested in joining us, please contact me **BEFORE** the first rehearsal, so that a folder is prepared for you.

***Rehearsals***-one night a week (Thursdays 7:30-8:30)

***Location***-Rhoads Room/Sanctuary

***Ministry***-weekly ministry for Sunday service and special events of the church season

### **Special Music:**

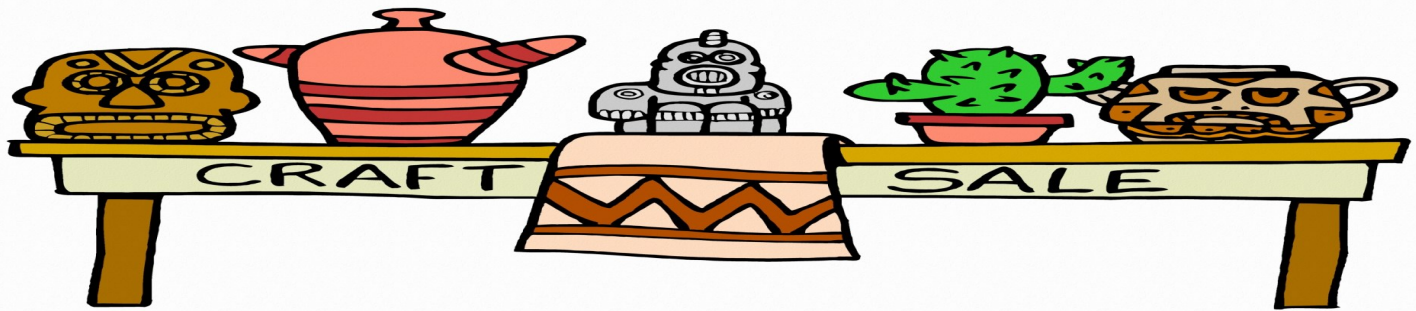
Vocalists and instrumentalists for special musical offerings are welcomed. Solos, duets, trios, and small ensembles are valued anytime, but especially during the summer months. Please let me know if you are interested in sharing your special talent.

### **Instrumentalists:**

There are Senior Choir anthems that sometimes have an accompaniment part that require various instrumentation (violin, trumpet, flute, drum, clarinet, etc.); if you would be interested in accompanying the Senior Choir on a particular instrument—please let me know what instrument it is that you play and what level you play at (beginner, intermediate, advanced).

\*\*\*Rehearsals for ensembles occur on Thursday evenings-If you took a break from music and are ready to come back, if you have never rung a bell or sung in a choir before, or if you have been part of the music ministry here for years; I look forward to glorifying God’s name with you. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at home: jenniferkishbaugh@gmail.com (subject heading: FELC Music) or at 610-451-8660 (cell/text).

Jennifer Kishbaugh, Director of Music



## Help Wanted: Volunteers for Annual Craft Fair!

**Thank You to Charlene Frack for volunteering to shadow Tom and learn to take over Craft Fair!**

Are you passionate about crafts, in love with quilting, and maybe just a little bit crazy? If so, we want **YOU** to join our incredible team of volunteers for our upcoming Annual Craft Fair!

Position: Craft Fair Enthusiast

### Requirements:

**Must Love Crafts:** Whether it's knitting, painting, pottery, or any other crafty endeavor, we're seeking individuals who have a genuine love and appreciation for the world of crafts. Your creativity and enthusiasm will be a valuable asset in making this event a memorable one.

**Should Love Quilts:** Quilts are not just blankets; they are a work of art and a labor of love. If you have a soft spot for quilting, a keen eye for quilt designs, or simply enjoy the cozy comfort they bring, we would love to have you on board.

**May be Crazy:** Okay, not *literally* crazy, but a little bit of quirky fun and a willingness to think outside the box will surely make this experience even more enjoyable. We believe that a dash of craziness can lead to unique ideas and unforgettable moments!

### Responsibilities:

- Collaborate with fellow craft-loving volunteers to plan and organize the Craft Fair.
- Assist in setting up booths, decorating the venue, and creating an inviting atmosphere.
- Engage with visitors and showcase your crafting expertise.
- Share your passion for quilts and crafts with attendees through interactive workshops or demonstrations.

### Benefits:

1. An opportunity to be a part of a vibrant and welcoming community.
2. Showcase and sell your own crafts or quilts, if you wish to do so.
3. Gain valuable event planning and organizational skills.
4. Make new friends who share your interests and enthusiasm.
5. The satisfaction of contributing to a meaningful and enjoyable event for everyone.

Join Us Today! If you're excited to be a part of our Annual Craft Fair and are ready to bring your crafting and creative energy to the table, we can't wait to meet you!

- ♦ Please reach out to [claudette@faithon145.org](mailto:claudette@faithon145.org), office: 610 435 0451 M-Th 9:00 am to 3:00 pm to sign up as a volunteer. Let's make this Craft Fair the best one yet!

## HOORAY FOR OUR SOCIAL MINISTRY COMMITTEE SERVING OTHERS

### CHURCH CHATTER



We are excited to be an outreach partner to the Whitehall-Coplay School District! Michele Tabatabai and Cindy Rowan met with the district's outreach coordinator in July. We learned that 57% of the student families are economically disadvantaged; with 15-20 homeless families within the district. We discussed numerous opportunities for an ongoing partnership. Going forward, the social ministry committee will coordinate opportunities for Faith to support. Beginning in mid-July, the congregation so graciously supported the collection of backpacks, toiletry items, and miscellaneous school supplies. On Sunday, August 13, Pastor Peggy blessed the 65 backpacks and Michele delivered them along with 4 boxes of additional items to the school district on Monday, August 14. The district coordinator was overwhelmed by the congregation's contributions of so many items in a relatively short period of time! She noted how these items were really going to be of help to so many students whose families do not have the funds to purchase them and extended sincere gratitude to the members of Faith. Shortly, you'll be hearing about more opportunities to not only support students in the Whitehall-Coplay Schools, but also with many others who are in need in the local community and beyond. Social ministry is "God's Work; Our Hands" as we are reminded that we are called to serve beyond the walls of the church and into the world that God created and loves.

Thank you and thanks be to God!



**Nyonblee Cares Foundation USA** is a non-profit organization created to provide health clinics, food support for the elderly, sponsorship for education and medical help to all ages of citizens in Liberia.

Dianne Frana, a friend who works at the Whitehall Food Pantry was a founding board member for the Nyonblee Cares Foundation. She went on a mission trip to Liberia last year to see firsthand the work that their fundraising and planning has provided.

Diane was very enthused and impressed with the broad reach that has been possible with mobile clinics, surgical events as well as the educational impact. The cell phones that we have been gathering, are to be used for the citizens of Liberia as an emergency contact. God's Hands at Work are reaching the far ends of the world.

On Sunday, October 22 following the 10 a.m. service, Diane will present a 20 minute video and explanation/question/answer time for our members and guests. This will be in the Gathering Place with the Meet and Greet, so everyone can have a seat, watch the video and share your questions. Probably 45 minutes total.

We always say that we are to be God's hands in helping those less fortunate. Please join us to learn about this and see all that can be accomplished with a vision and some work.

You can find information on this facebook page.

<https://www.facebook.com/nyonbleecares/services/>

blessings,

Judy and Shel Ehret







A very special thank you to all our volunteers  
Thank you for all you do to live God's promises through your good works.

(Ephesians 2:10)

For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

**THANK YOU    THANK YOU    THANK YOU**

Many, many thanks for your generosity donating book bags, school supplies, and toiletries to the children in the Whitehall- Coplay School District!

We collected 75 backpacks filled with back- to -school necessities. In addition, we donated several boxes of additional school supplies and toiletries.

Your generosity helps many.

Thank you for supporting our Social Ministry Outreach commitments!

A note of Thanks for the many contributions for the Whitehall Food Pantry.  
"Ask and you will receive"..... I asked and you were so very generous.

The response from our "Faithful" members has been overwhelming and if you could see the grateful smiles from our patrons, you would understand why we are so grateful.

You are the BEST.

Fondly,

Judy and Shel Ehret

"We want to thank all the people who worked at the 80th Birthday Party, August 2, 2023. The food was delicious, the workers so pleasant and helpful. We also enjoyed the entertainers and appreciate getting the leftovers.

Hope we can come again next year.

Angela and Oliver Resh



## From the ELCA social statement, "Church in Society"

### Social Issues

The ELCA is a church energized by lively engagement in faith and life, a church that rolls up our sleeves and gets to work. We encourage this kind of engagement with social concerns by providing written resources, fostering learning and encouraging action.

The following is a list of social issues that will take you to resources and links related to that issue, such as relevant ELCA social documents, resources for study and education, or ways to take action in your congregation, community and the world.

#### [Hunger and poverty](#)

"Through human decisions and actions, God is at work in economic life."

#### [The environment](#)

"We pray, therefore, for the creativity and dedication to live more gently with the earth."

#### [Health and wellness](#)

"Health care and healing are concrete manifestations of God's ongoing care for and redemption of all creation."

#### [Race, ethnicity and culture](#)

"Cultural differences still matter, but they can be seen for what God intends — blessings rather than means of enslavement."

**"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."**

### Hunger and Poverty

We are freed in Christ to serve, love and care for our neighbor, and in this work we strive to ensure that all people have a livelihood that is sufficient to meet their basic needs and is sustainable in creation. The issues associated with economic life and economic justice include poverty versus wealth, corporate social responsibility, hunger, consumerism, international debt relief, gambling, racism, sexism, community development and worker exploitation. Grounded in God's love and forgiveness, we are equipped to live and serve here and now, in the world, with all its complexities, tensions and ambiguities.

## Race, Ethnicity and Culture

We live in a world with vibrant and beautiful, diverse cultures. This diversity is a blessing from God, but these gifts are often received fearfully or reluctantly.

The ELCA recognizes itself to be in mission and ministry in a multicultural society and world and is committed to welcoming and affirming cultural diversity. We are committed to confronting racism and calling for justice for all people despite ethnicity, culture, economic situation, primary language or gender. Living out such commitments in daily life includes recognition, discernment and action to confront the problems, which are buried deep in each individual and in society and its structures. Much has been done, yet more work and progress is needed that can only be accomplished by working together and with partners who share a common vision.



Healthy choices includes faith practices. The Affirmation of Baptism provides five faith practices to integrate into our daily life. Receive each as a gift from God:

- live among God's faithful people
  - hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper
- proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed
  - serve all people following the example of Jesus
- strive for justice and peace in all the earth
  - (Affirmation of Baptism, Evangelical Lutheran Worship, p. 236)

## SEPTEMBER FUN FACTS

### Folklore for the Season

- September dries up ditches or breaks down bridges.
- Married in September's golden glow, smooth and serene your life will go.
- If the storms of September clear off warm, the storms of the following winter will be warm.
- Fair on September 1st, fair for the month.

September's birth flowers are the aster and the morning glory.

The aster signifies powerful love, and the China aster expresses variety or afterthought .



The morning glory symbolizes affection. It can also mean coquetry, affectation, or bonds .



### Full Harvest Moon

September's full moon, the **Harvest Moon**, reaches peak illumination on Friday, September 19, at 5:58 A.M.

The full Moon that happens **nearest to the [fall equinox](#)** (September 22 or 23) always takes on the name "**Harvest Moon**." Unlike other full Moons, this full Moon rises at nearly the same time—around sunset—for several evenings in a row, giving farmers several extra evenings of moonlight and allowing them to finish their harvests before the frosts of fall arrive.

## September Birthstone

The birthstone for the ninth month is the sapphire, which was once thought to guard against evil and poisoning.

- Sapphire is a form of corundum that is typically blue, a color caused by tiny bits of iron and titanium; sapphires also appear in other colors. Those with red colors are called rubies.
- Sapphires were thought to encourage divine wisdom and protection. They symbolized purity, truth, trust, and loyalty. Some believed that if they were placed in a jar with a snake, the snake would die.
- The sapphire, along with the related ruby, are the second-hardest natural gemstones, with only the diamond being harder.



### September Recipe

#### Baked Apples Filled With Sausage

1 pound bulk sausage

2 tablespoons brown sugar

6 large tart baking apples

1 teaspoon ground cinnamon

1/4 teaspoon grated lemon rind

1/4 cup chopped figs

brown sugar, ground cinnamon, grated lemon rind, or chopped figs

Preheat the oven to 375 degrees F. Brown the sausage in a large skillet. Wash the apples and cut a slice from the tops. Scoop out the flesh, leaving shells 1/2 inch thick. Cut the flesh from the cores and chop it. Add the chopped apple, brown sugar, cinnamon, lemon rind, and figs to the sausage and mix well. Fill the apple shells with the mixture. Sprinkle the tops with brown sugar, cinnamon, grated lemon rind, or chopped figs. Place in a baking dish, cover, and bake until tender, about 40 minutes.

## **SCRIPTURE COOKIES**

**Look up each verse to find the ingredient you need**

**Thank you Karla Billig for finding this fun and tasty recipe!**

**½ cup (Psalm 55:21)**

**½ cup (Psalm 119:103)**

**1 – (Isaiah 10:14)**

**2 tsp- (Ephesians 5:2)**

**1 cup – (Matthew 13:33)**

**½ tsp – (Matthew 5:13)**

**½ tsp – (Galatians 5:9) baking soda substitute**

**1 tsp – (Proverbs 7:17)**

**¾ cup – (I Chronicles 12:40)**

**2 cups – (Mark 4:7) oatmeal as a grain**

- **Preheat oven to 350 degrees**
- **Beat the butter and honey for one minute**
- **Add eggs and vanilla and beat on medium for another minute**
- **In a separate bowl, mix flour, oats, baking soda, salt and cinnamon**
  - **Stir in raisins and drop by spoonful on a cookie sheet**
    - **Bake for 12-14 minutes**



# SEPTEMBER

	<b>Sept 3</b>	<b>Sept 10</b>	<b>Sept 17</b>	<b>Sept 24</b>
Altar Guild	Cathy Haller and Barb Yurasits	Pat Masonheimer and Linda Johnston	Diane Batza and Rosemarie Haffner	Cindy Rowan and Gloria Senchak
Acolytes and Crucifers	TBA			
Lectors	Manny Stivers	Stacey Bachman	Barb Kotsch	Gail Herzog
Narthex Greeters	April Spaits	Bonnie Youwakim and Karen Ruch	Charlene Frack	Sara Laub
Assistant Ministers	Sue Stahler	Bob Billig	Gail Herzog	Barb Kotsch
Bulletin Sponsors	Nelson and Kathy Schaeffer			
Flower Sponsors	Nelson and Kathy Schaeffer			

SEPTEMBER CALENDAR

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
3 Worship Service 9:45 am  AA 8:00 PM (PH)	4  <b>Labor Day Office closed</b>	5 10:30 AM Prayer Group (TGP)  Noon: light lunch 1:00 pm com- munion  6:45 PM Boy Scouts (PH)		7  6:00 PM Cub Scouts (PH)  7:00 PM Chris- tian Ed Mtg	8  Cemetery Meeting 8:00 am (TGP)	9
10  RALLY DAY!  Sunday School: 9:00 AM  Worship Service 10:00 AM  CHURCH PICNIC AA 8:00 PM (PH)	11  1:00 PM Piece- makers  6:00 PM Brown- ies  7:00 PM Pioneer Band (BH)	12  10:30 AM Prayer Group (TGP)  6:45 PM Boy Scouts (PH)		14  6:00 PM Cub Scouts (PH)	15	16
17  Sunday School: 9:00 AM Worship Service 10:00 AM  <b>Breakfast by the Iron Chefs after Service</b>  Fellowship meeting AA 8:00 PM (PH)	18  1:00 PM Piece- makers  6:00 PM Brown- ies  7:00 PM Pioneer Band (BH)	19  10:30 AM Prayer Group (TGP)  6:45 PM Boy Scouts (PH)		21  6:00 PM Cub Scouts (PH)	22	223
24  Sunday School: 9:00 AM  Worship Service 10:00 AM  AA 8:00 PM (PH)	25  Pieceworkers 1:00 PM  6:00 PM Brown- ies  7:00 PM Pioneer Band (BH)	26  10:30 AM Prayer Group (TGP)  6:45 PM Boy Scouts (PH)		28  6:00 PM Cub Scouts (PH)	29	30





## **September Birthdays**

**BACHMAN, WENDY 09/05**  
**ENDY, KAYLA 09/06**  
**BRANDLE, MATTHEW 09/11**  
**BRANDLE, SHAWN 09/11**  
**DEUTSCH, LINDA 09/13**  
**BLACKER, LAURA 09/14**  
**HEINEY, HEATHER 09/14**  
**SMITH, PATRICIA 09/14**  
**TROTTER, MACIE 09/15**  
**GANTZ, DOROTHY 09/16**  
**KRICK, HARRY 09/16**  
**LEIGHTON, AYDAN 09/17**  
**SCHAFFER JR, JAMES 09/17**  
**ZIEGENFUSS, JACOB 09/18**  
**BEDNAR, CAROL 09/19**  
**BRANDT, SUZAN 09/19**  
**BILLIG JR, ROBERT 09/20**  
**CARR, HEIDI 09/20**  
**LANCE, GABRIELLE 09/20**  
**BARTHOLOMEW, TONIA 09/23**  
**COLBURN, THOMAS 09/25**  
**MILLER II, RICHARD 09/26**  
**WECHSLER JR., RONALD 09/27**  
**REESE, DAVID 09/28**  
**WARD V, CHARLES 09/28**  
**FALK, PHILLIP 09/29**  
**KEENAN, DEBRA 09/30**  
**MAKATURA, JENNIFER 09/3**

## Anniversaries

SCHAEFFER, NELSON & KATHRYN 09/05

FRITZ, RANDY & ANN 09/08

WALSCHBURGER, BRIAN & DARLA 09/12

LANCE, MICHAEL & LISA 09/16

KAUFFMAN, BRIAN & KELLY 09/21

MILLER, CHAD & HILARI STAHLER 09/23

HIRTH, STEVEN & SHANNON 09/26

ROHRBACH, JAMES & MICHELLE 09/26

JULIANO, MICHAEL & RITA 09/28

MICKEY, LYNN & CAROL 09/28

