FAITH EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH September 2024



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

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

Dates to Remember

September 1 Community Meal 4 to 6 pm

<u>September 2</u> is <u>Labor Day</u>. Office is closed.

September 8 Rally Day and Kennedy baptism

September 11 is Patriot Day, held in honor and remember 2001 torr

brance of those who died in the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks.

<u>September 11</u> is also <u>Grandparents Day</u> this year. Honor your grandparents today—and every day!

September 15 and 22 Holy Communion classes and Gerhard Baptism

<u>September 17</u> is <u>Constitution Day</u>. This day celebrates the adoption of the U.S. Constitution, which occurred on September 17, 1787

<u>September 21</u> is recognized as the annual <u>International</u> <u>Day of Peace</u>. Observances range from a moment of silence at noon to events such as peace walks, concerts, and volunteering in the community.

September 22 marks the start of fall! This year's Autumnal Equinox occurs at 8:44 A.M.

September 22 Assistant minister training

September 29 - October 6 Family Promise

September 29 Worship and Music

PASTOR JUNE'S SEPTEMBER MESSAGE

"From whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love."

(Ephesians 4:16)

The weather is slowly beginning to change and fall will be upon us very soon. I love this time of year! I love the cooler temperatures, falling leaves, and pumpkin spice everything! When I first entered into ministry almost 18 years ago, I have learned that fall also means that the church awakes from its summer slumber.

I've been thinking a lot about our upcoming Rally Day on September 8th. Partly because on that day so many of our fall programs begin. But also be cause I've been asked several times, "What is rally day?" Rally day is this:

- A day in the church where we rally together.
- A renewed energy and joy as we begin the new program year.
- As we return from summer, we renew our commitments and our joy.
- We celebrate all the things God is doing in our church and in our lives.

As part of Rally Day, this renewal is also meant to energize us. As we work together and grow together as the Body of Christ, we need that energy! There are so many ways that we can join together. We join in service, in fellowship, in discipleship, in outreach. And sometimes we might feel overwhelmed with all this energized activity. Built up in love! But don't worry, it's okay.

Our Ephesians text reminds us that it's never one person alone in this life of Christ. We are all of us joined and knit together. And each doing our own part, each of us building and being built up in love. So even for me, as I look over the busy season ahead, I find myself renewed and filled with joy. God is doing so much through us. And we are working together to share God's love with each other and with the world around us.

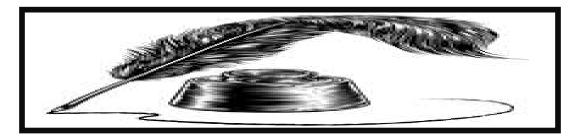


The Installation of The Rev. June E. Wann Sunday, October 13, 2024 at 2:00 p.m.

Join us as we celebrate the formal installation of our new pastor!

All are welcome to join this worship of celebration.

NEWS FROM COUNCIL PRESIDENT BOB BILLIG



It's hard to believe that it's September already. Where did the summer go? September usually means the end of vacations, the swimming pools closing, and kids going back to school. It also means that things here at FELC begin to ramp up again. There's the Rally Day Picnic and band concert, Sunday School starts again, our new organ will be installed soon and that means a dedication concert will soon follow. In September we also see our committees and other church activities more active. It takes a lot of people to make our church run, and most of them are our volunteers.

At the August council meeting, we have decided to be more accountable regarding our volunteer workers. We will be instituting a Volunteer Logbook that will ask people to record their volunteer time. Be it a worship assistant or lector, committee member or usher, we want to track all that our volunteers do to help keep FELC going. Then at the end of the year it is our intention to recognize our volunteers in some way. Watch for more information on this new initiative.

CHRISTIAN ED CHATTER FROM THE DESK OF MS JOANNE

RALLY DAY

Welcome Back!

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.

First communion classes will be taught on Sept 15th and Sept 22nd by Pastor June.

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

LOOKING AHEAD INTERESTED IN A PARADE?

Faith will be entering the Coplay Halloween Parade on October 15th. All ages are invited. Contact Joanne@215-880-1649.

Christmas Tea meeting is Sept 18th at 7:00 pm. The Christmas tea is scheduled for Dec. 1st

October 26th is Trunk and Treat. Volunteer your trunk to treat the little goblins. Contact Joanne at 215 880 1649.



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. <u>All are welcome!</u> Bring a friend.

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



"O come and let us sing to the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to the 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 <u>NEW</u> 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 <u>BEFORE</u> the first rehearsal for the purpose of assigning bells and ordering music.

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 <u>BEFORE</u> 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:

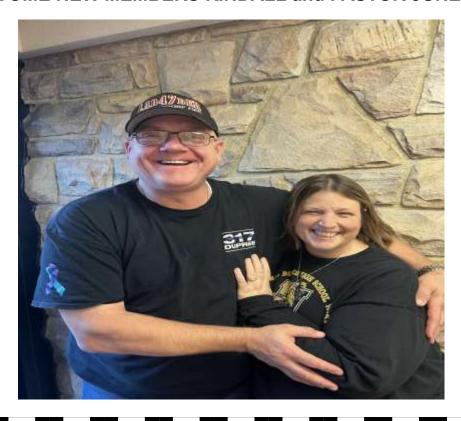
Vocalists and instrumentalists for special musical offerings are welcomed. Solos, duets, trios, and small ensembles are valued anytime, but especially during the summer months. Please let me know if you are interested in sharing your special talent.

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-the FIRST rehearsal will take place on Thursday, September 5th. 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

SEPTEMBER FAMILY OF THE MONTH WELCOME NEW MEMBERS KINDALL and PASTOR JUNE WANN!



WE ARE PLEASED TO WELCOME KINDALL WANN AND PASTOR JUNE WANN AS FAITH'S UPCOMING MEMBERS

Pastor June grew up in New Britain, PA and graduated from the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia. She did her internship as Vicar at Faith in 2004-2005, served at St. Mark's Lutheran in Lumberton NC, 2006-2011, Zion Lutheran Church, Womelsdorf, PA 2011-2024 and joined our "family of Faith" on April 21, 2024. We are thrilled to have Pastor June as our spiritual leader, Pastor and friend. Her smile and fun personality are contagious.

Kindall and Pastor June are eager to become parents through adoption, but currently their "child" is a 4 year old Husky and Lab mix named Olive.

Kindall Wann is happy to be joining his lovely wife, Pastor June, in the family of Faith. Growing up in Reading, PA, he has two sisters, Sherry and Kim, and had a brother, Greg, who sadly passed away recently.

Kindall worked for Boscov's as Sales Manager for 20 years and is currently employed at Bethany Children's Home in Womelsdorf. In 2019, Kindall founded the Berks County Fire Chaplains program for the Womelsdorf Volunteer Fire Department and is currently Director. He is also an active fire fighter with the Womelsdorf Fire Department. Kindall enjoys music, yard work and keeping busy. He is excited to start a Men's Group at Faith.

On October 21st, Kindall and Pastor June will celebrate their first wedding anniversary.

Please make Pastor June and Kindall feel the love!!!

7



A big shout out to our Karla Billig and her ensuring the 80th Birthday Bash went off without a hitch! A fabulous time was had by all! Thank you Karla and all the helpers! Bob Billig provided fabulous entertainment—There was singing along, clapping, swaying, and even some dancing! Fabulous food, friends, fellowship, festivity celebrating the love here at Faith!

Thank you Karla and all our fabulous helping hands!

THANK YOU

THANK YOU

THANK YOU

Thank you all for your generosity with our collection of Back to School Items and

our first "shop for school" outreach
for the Needing Families in the Whitehall-Coplay School District.
Thank you to all the volunteers who made this happen. Families and children were grateful!

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 "

"Jesus is the Vine, and We are the branches

His banner over me is Love"

Remember singing that? What a delightful time that Sunday with the children!

The love and comfort that comes from a strong Faith family defies words.

Your feel it in your heart.

You feel the love here at Faith.

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



LIVING OUR BAPTISM

When we affirm our baptism, we ask God to help and guide us as we commit to the five faith practices.

- 1. To live among God's faithful people
- 2. To hear the Word of God and share in the Lord's Supper
- 3. To proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed
 - 4. To serve all people following the example of Jesus
 - 5. To strive for justice and peace in all the Earth.

SEVEN FAITH PRACTICES

These seven faith practices provide a helpful road map for disciples PRAY. . .

STUDY...

WORSHIP...

INVITE...

ENCOURAGE...

SERVE...

GIVE...

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? Why and how should this church (members, congregations and other expressions) operate in the public arena? The very first social statement adopted by the ELCA, "Church in Society: A Lutheran Perspective," provides these answers.

Because 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.

As organizations that live in the present and in the age to come, congregations, synods, agencies, institutions and churchwide organizations all have particular roles in addressing society. The churchwide organization, for instance, brings together task forces to lead the participatory process of creating social statements. However, the statement is quite clear that 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. Because of this, congregations and other places of ministry sustain the baptismal vocation of ELCA members.

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" (p. 5). 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 occurs in the context of those who disagree, and the voices of those who have an interest at stake or will suffer consequences are an integral part of that deliberation. It is in 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

Perspective: A paradigm for the future church Life of Faith Initiative provides an alternative

By Craig L. Nessan July 8, 2024

Courtesy of ELCALiving Lutheran

At the end of Christendom, the church is in crisis. The conditions that allowed the growth of the church until the 1960s have collapsed. While nostalgia for that era continues, there is no going back.

We hear widespread laments at the decline of the institutional church and despondency among church leaders. As a denomination, the <u>ELCA</u> has entered a time for housecleaning and making strategic decisions about the future. There are many proposals about where to invest our time, attention and resources.

The <u>Life of Faith Initiative</u> has assets that distinguish it as a paradigm for the future church. The Life of Faith movement provides an alternative to the church structures of previous generations.

Going "back to the future" involves reclaiming three core practices from the early church:

- Paying concentrated attention on forming the Christian people to be disciples in Jesus' name (catechesis).
- Equipping the Christian people to share the faith through evangelical listening and speaking the gospel to others (evangelizing).
- Freeing the Christian people by the power of the gospel to participate in God's work of repairing creation (diakonia).

Leaders need laser-like focus on forming the Christian people for discipleship, evangelizing and diakonia at all congregational gatherings. The Christian people (aka laity) need to become—again for the first time—the primary agents of the church in mission.

We need to invest in a paradigm shift that makes the service by the baptized in their daily lives the central focus of the church's mission.

While Martin Luther imagined a universal priesthood of believers, this church model was never implemented. The future church will be a people's movement with pastors and deacons equipping them to be neighbors in daily life.

The Life of Faith Initiative reimagines a distinctive way forward toward the future church. The initiative:

- Focuses on a foundational paradigm change, not on introducing another program.
- Promotes a model of activating and equipping the Christian people to be the body of Christ instead of an attraction model that encourages members to support an institution.
- Employs small group processes that connect the affinities among church members.
- Cultivates culture change through the strategic use of coaching.
- Works with congregations of all sizes.

Shows demonstrated effectiveness in pilot congregations.

The crisis facing the church in North America cannot be addressed through programmatic efforts. The Life of Faith movement does not seek technical change through a quick fix but promotes adaptive change.

We need to invest in a paradigm shift that makes the service by the baptized in their daily lives the central focus of the church's mission. This requires shifting from the attraction model to the activation of the Christian people in service to neighbors in all arenas of their daily lives—family, workplace, school, local community and world. We need a fundamental transformation of the church's identity and mission.



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 NARTHEX OR CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE.

SEPTEMBER WORSHIP TEAMS

	SEPTEMBER 1	SEPTEMBER 8	SEPTEMBER 15 SE	EPTEMBER 22	SEPTEMBER 29	
ALTAR GUILD	Shel and Judy Ehret	Diane Batza and Cathy Haller	Pat Masonheimer and Gloria Senchak	Barb Yurasits and Charlene Frack	Linda Johnston and Cathy Haller	
ACOLYTE CRUCIFER						
GREETERS	Sara Laub	Dan Herzog	April Spaits	Barb Kotsch	Sara Laub	
LECTORS	Howard Schaffer	Kindall Wann	Heidi Carr Kindall Wann		Laura Blacker	
FLOWER SPONSOR			Pam Blacker			
BULLETIN SPONSOR			Pam Blacker	Bonnie Youwakim		

		SEPTEMB	R 2024			
1 Worship Service 10:00 AM Altar Communion Whitehall-Coplay Community Meal 4-6 AA 7:00 PM (PH)	2 1:00 PM Piece Workers 6:00 PM Brown- ies 7:00 PM Pioneer Band (BH)	3 10:30 AM Prayer Group 6:45 PM Boy Scouts (PH)	4 6:00 PM Eagle Scouts	6:00 PM Cub Scouts (PH) 6:15 Bell Choir 7:00 Christian Ed 7:30 Senior choir	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Rally Day Kennedy Baptism Church Picnic Worship Service 10:00AM AA 7:00 PM	1:00 PM Piece Workers 6:00 PM Brown- ies 7:00 PM Pioneer Band (BH)	10:30 AM Prayer Group (TGP) Executive Council Meeting 6:45 PM Boy Scouts (PH)	6:00 PM Eagle Scouts	6:00 PM Cub Scouts (PH) 6:15 Bell Choir 7:30 Senior choir		
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
Worship Service 10:00 AM Gerhard Baptism Holy Communion Class	1:00 PM Piece Workers 6:00 PM Brown- ies 7:00 PM Pioneer Band (BH)	10:30 AM Prayer Group (TGP) 6:45 PM Boy Scouts (PH) Council meeting 7:00 PM	6:00 PM Eagle Scouts 7:00 PM Christmas Tea Meeting	6:00 PM Cub Scouts (PH) 6:15 Bell Choir 7:30 Senior choir		
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
Worship Service 10:00 AM <u>Assistant Minis-</u> <u>ter training</u> <u>Holy Communion</u> <u>Class</u> AA 7:00 PM	1:00 PM Piece Workers 6:00 PM Brown- ies 7:00 PM Pioneer Band (BH	10:30 AM Prayer Group (TGP) <u>HR 2:00 PM</u> 6:45 PM Boy Scouts (PH)	6:00 PM Eagle Scouts	6:15 Bell Choir 7:30 Senior choir		
29 Worship Service 10:00 AM Music and Worship Meeting Family Promise begins	30 <u>Family Promise</u>	19				

MARK YOUR CALENDARS UPCOMING EVENTS LOTS TO BE PART OF IN ALL KINDS OF WAYS!

OCTOBER

6TH WORLD WIDE HOLY COMMUJNON **13TH** HARVEST HOME

AND

REV. JUNE E. WANN INSTALLATION 2 PM

15TH COPLAY PARADE

20TH—24TH PASTOR VACATION

20TH BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

SERVICE OF THE WORD THAT DAY, NO COMMUNION

26TH TRUNK OR TREAT 11:00 AM —1:00 PM

NOVEMBER

3RD ALL SAINTS SUNDAY: PLEASE BRING PICTURES OF LOVED ONES TO PLACE ON THE ALTAR

9TH THE CRAFT FAIR

24TH CHRIST THE KING THANKSGIVING CELEBRATION

DECEMBER

1ST CHRISTMAS TEA

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

14TH BREAFAST WITH SANTA 8: 00 AM TO 11:00 AM

24TH CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES 4:00 PM AND 7:00 PM

29TH LESSONS IN CAROLS

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Wendy Bachman	9/5
Matthew Brandle	9/11
Shawn Brandle	9/11
Laura Blacker	9/14
Patricia Smith	9/14
Macie Trotter	9/15
Dorothy Gantz	9/16
Rhys Trotter	9/16
Bill Focht	9/17
Suzan Brandt	9/19
Robert Billig Jr.	9/20
Heidi Carr	9/20
Thomas Colburn	9/25
Pastor June Wann	9/28
Debra Keenan	9/30

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Mrs. Charlene Frack 9/5

Nelson and Kathryn Schaeffer 9/5

Hilari Stahler and Chad Miller 9/23

Lynn and Carol Mickey 9/28

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. <u>Visit us from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Thursday at 457 W. Allen Street, Allentown.</u>

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 and ID, and apartment hunting.

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

