

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH
50 LEVERSEE ROAD
TROY, NEW YORK 12182



Following Faith

FEBRUARY 2020

For God

so *lo*ved the world,
tha *t* he gave his
o *n*ly
be *g*otten
So *n*,
tha *t* whosoever
be *l*ieveth
*i*n him should not perish,
but have *e*verlasting life.



John 3:16



Dear friends,

I am still basking in the glow of the wonderful Installation Service that took place on January 12th. Thank you to everyone who attended – and for those of you who couldn't attend but were with us there in spirit! I am so grateful for the participation of lay leaders from both Evangelical in Poestenkill and Faith in Troy, for the choir that was made up of members from both churches, for my colleagues from the local area (including Pastor Rahel and Pastor Jennifer), for the lovely (and delicious!) reception time following the service, and for the sense of joy that pervaded that day! Such a great way to start a new year!

Although the weather is cold and snowy outside, we're now in a 'green' season in the church – a time when we think a bit about learning and growing in faith. We are moving our way through the Time after Epiphany and hearing the stories of Jesus' ministry mainly through the words of Matthew's gospel. Some of those stories will challenge us to think about the message that Jesus taught and how we might also be telling and living out the good news in our day.

On the final Sunday of February, we will reach the high point of the season – the Transfiguration of Jesus. There on the mountain top, we will again hear God proclaim Jesus as the beloved of God – foreshadowing our adoption as God's children, too. our walk through Lent.

**Faith Lutheran Church
50 Leverage Road
Troy, New York 12182
(518) 237-4641**

www.faithlutherantroy.com

**Sunday morning worship: 11:00 a.m.
Sunday School: during worship**

Rev. Judith Converse, Pastor

Church Council Officers:

Fred Howard (President)

Rich Anderson (Financial Secretary)

Council Members

**Rich Anderson
Errol Bull
Mitch Cieminski
Roberta Hayward
Fred Howard
Linda Hulihan
Bill Jarosz
Carol Karpian
Sara Martin
Carol Perrott
Diana Rieker
Donna St. John**

Barbara Boord, Newsletter Editor

But by the end of this little-bit-shorter month of February, we'll come down to earth in a literal and figurative way as we hear the Ash Wednesday pronouncement of 'to dust you shall return' and begin

Blessings on your winter ventures and learning,
Pastor Judy

AMONG OUR PEOPLE

Russ Laustrup passed into the loving care of his maker on Sunday January 26th. Russ was one of the founding members of the congregation that is now Faith Lutheran. He is survived by his beloved wife Elinor and loving Father to six children, Grandfather to 16 Grandchildren and a Great Grandfather to 11.

Please keep Elinor Laustrup and the Laustrup Family in your prayers during this time of mourning.

Prayers for healing encouragement, and comfort for Stephanie Wagar who continues with a course of chemotherapy. Please include Ben as well.

Prayers for Larry Boord who is in Schenectady Center for Rehabilitation and Nursing after a fall at home. Please include Barbara as well

Prayers of encouragement for Helen Inglis who is continuing to work hard at rehabilitation after suffering a stroke. Helen is now living in the Guilderland Atria, 300 Mill Rose Court, Slingerlands, NY 12159. She can receive cards there. She is also able to have visitors. We are pleased with Helen's progress!

Prayers of encouragement for Pastor Judy and the Councils of Faith and Evangelical as they lead our congregations into a new journey of Faith in our communities.

ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting was conducted after service on January 26th. Council members for the new year were elected. Errol Bull, Bill Jarosz, Sara Martin, Donna St. John, Mitch Cieminski, Roberta Hayward, Carol Karpian, and Carol Perrot are joining for the coming year. Fred Howard and Diana Rieker continue as members this next year. Doug Adamek, Barbara Boord, Rob Hayward, Evelyn Jarosz, Ben Wager, and Mike Moroskey are

leaving the council after completing their terms, and we extend our thanks for their long and faithful service. The Council will elect this coming year's officers at its February 3 Organizational Meeting.

A budget for the new fiscal year (February 1, 2020 through January 31, 2021) was adopted. In addition to the operating budget, the Council was authorized to use \$30,000 from financial reserves to undertake some long-needed capital improvements for the church building. Things such as replacement of certain windows and doors and installation of required life-safety improvements will be included in the work.

Copies of the annual report are available in the Narthex in white cover folders. Please take one if you wish to review the financial information coming year and the reports for the past year.

Our Covenant Agreement with Evangelical Lutheran Church Poestenkill was renewed and the activities of the Partnership Council this past year reviewed. Various committee reports were presented.

Barbara Boord was recognized and thanked for her 20 years of service as Treasurer. Besides handling the duties of Treasurer, she has also been long term editor of the Newsletter which continues. Thanks Barb!

Inclement Weather

As the winter season is upon us, we need to prepare for the possibility that church services might be cancelled due to severe weather. If the weather is poor, please call the church office at (518) 237-4641. If church services have been changed or cancelled, the message on the church answering system will be updated. Otherwise, church services will be as regularly scheduled. We sure don't want anyone driving to church in severe weather

only to find out that the service has been cancelled.

We will be updating everyone's contact information in the coming weeks in order to further enhance communication with the congregation.



OUR FAITH at WORK

The featured mission for the month of February will be in support of the work of Jeff and Sissie D'Jernes as Wycliffe Bible Translators.

Wycliffe Bible Translators in partnership with SIL International celebrated a milestone of the dedication of the 1000th New Testament translation! One hundred thirteen Scripture publications were completed which means more communities are now able to know the Scripture in a language and form they clearly understand. Wycliffe Bible Translators set a goal of starting a Bible translation project in every language still needed by 2025.

Your continued support of the "Pull Tab" and "Box Top" missions is most appreciated. Both missions are receiving donations from the congregation each week. You will find the collection containers on the table in the Narthex.

The Bread of Life Food pantry is asking for the following items this month: Fruit juice (low sugar), canned fruit (in own juice), stew, hash or chili (canned), coffee (instant) baked beans (like Bush's), snacks and baking mixes, sugar, flour and cooking oil, jams or jellies. The following non-food items are always needed: laundry soap, dish soap, toilet paper, paper towels, tissues, toothbrushes (adult), toothpaste, soap, shampoo and deodorant.

Diana Rieker, Missions



Good news – the Faith Lutheran youth education program is getting back on track! It is a new year, and a new effort is underway. After meeting with Pastor Judy, we have decided to begin our youth on the pathway to Confirmation. As all youth have received First Communion, this is the next step in their faith pathway.

In addition, we will be working on the kids taking part in various parts of the service and continuing to engage in their Kid's Council efforts and other fellowship activities. We will be holding a "kick off" event for the new effort on Sunday, February 9th. We would love to see you there.

Keep an eye out for more updates and news about this new effort and the activities that our youth will be participating in. As always, please let us know if you have any ideas or if you would like to be involved in anyway.

Sara Martin,
Sunday School Coordinator

CHOIR

Choir has resumed its' rehearsal schedule. All voices are welcomed. Generally, practices are held on Thursday evenings beginning at 7:00 p.m. Any questions??? Speak to Donna Van Zandt.

SERVING FAITH in FEBRUARY

Feb. 2	Altar	LouAnn Behrens and Donna Gibson
	Lay Assistant Ushers	Mitch Cieminski Roberta and Rob Hayward
	Counters	Michele and Fred Howard
	Coffee Hour	Doug and Kathy Adamek
Feb. 9	Altar	Roberta Hayward and Sharon Morris
	Lay Assistant Ushers	Carol Karpfen Katie Bonnier and Mike Moroskey
	Counters	Diane and Rich Anderson
	Coffee Hour	Dinner Club Committee
Feb. 16	Altar	Roberta Hayward and Sharon Morris
	Lay Assistant Ushers	Fred Howard B. Morgan, B. Speanburg, and B. Stevens
	Counters	Donna Gibson and Linda Hulihan
	Coffee Hour	Merilyn Niles and Janet Walsh
Feb. 23	Altar	Evelyn Jarosz and Janet Walsh
	Lay Assistant Ushers	Rich Anderson Diana Rieker and Jim Peters
	Counters	Pat Brundige and Joyce Duncan
	Coffee Hour	Heather and Errol Bull

If you are unable to serve on your assigned Sunday, please arrange to trade dates with another assistant. Thank you in advance for your assistance.

*Worship Chairperson.
Roberta Hayward, Altar Guild
Coffee Hour*

FLOWERS CALENDAR FOR 2020

The 2020 flower calendar has been posted on the bulletin board in the back of the Narthax. If you would like to place flowers on the Altar in 2020, please place the following information on the appropriate date.

In memory or honor of _____. Given by _____

The price of each bouquet continues to be \$19.00. Any questions and/or payment should be directed to Donna Van Zandt. Checks made payable to WELCA.



FLOWERS for FEBRUARY

- Feb. 2** **To the Glory of God**
- Feb. 9** **In Honor of Pastor Judy Converse on
her Ordination Anniversary
Given by the Church Council**
- Feb. 16** **To the Glory of God**
- Feb. 23** **To the Glory of God**



JOINT PRAYER GROUP

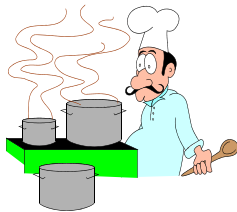
Faith Lutheran and Evangelical Lutheran have a Joint Prayer Group that has been active since June 2016. There are approximately 12 of us that pray on a regular basis for our churches, for our new Pastor and for healing for our members and others in need of prayer.

Most of our group prays at home although several of us have been meeting together at Evangelical or Faith on Tuesdays at 1:00 pm to pray together.

Pray for spiritual revival in this area. Pray also for the churches in this area that are struggling and in need of pastors.

If you, a loved one, or someone you know would like to be included on the specific list for prayers, please let me know

Michele Howard, mcvh44@aol.com, (518) 753-4288, or in person on Sunday Morning



DINNER CLUB

February's Dinner Club will be held on February 8, 2020. It is the Annual Banquet which will be held at the Church at 6:00 PM.

On the menu are appetizers, Salad, Turkey Dinner, or Stuffed Shells dessert and Beverage. Cost of the dinner is \$22.00 per person. Please contact Joyce Duncan, or Donna St. John.

We hope to see you there.

NEWSLETTER COORDINATOR

Barbara Boord is coordinating the Newsletter efforts. Hard copies of the Newsletter will be available at church for pick up when you are present.

You may go to the church web site at:

www.faithlutheranchurchtroy.com any time and view the newsletter.

We will email you a copy if you send your email address directly to Barbara at:

barbboord@hotmail.com.

At your request, we will be happy to send you a copy via the USPS.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The newsletter item deadline for the March 2020 newsletter is Monday: February 17th. Please email your articles to: barbboord@hotmail.com.

FEBRUARY 2020

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3 <i>CREATIVE THREADS</i> 10:30 AM COUNCIL 7:00 PM	4	5	6 <i>CHOIR 7PM</i>	7	8 ANNUAL DINNER CLUB BANQUET 6:00 PM
9	10 <i>CREATIVE THREADS</i> 10:30 AM	11	12 Speigle Elders 10:30AM-2:30PM	13 <i>CHOIR 7PM</i> Home Bureau 2:00 to 4:00 PM	14	15
16	17 <i>CREATIVE THREADS</i> 10:30 AM	18	19	20 <i>CHOIR 7PM</i>	21	22
23	24 <i>CREATIVE THREADS</i> 10:30 AM	25	26 ASH WEDNESDAY Speigle Elders 10:30AM-2:30PM	27 <i>CHOIR 7PM</i> Home Bureau 2:00 to 4:00 PM	28	29