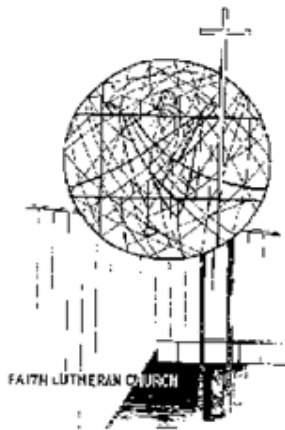


FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH
50 LEVERSEE ROAD
TROY, NEW YORK 12182



Following Faith

January 2020

The graphic has a light purple background with several white starburst patterns scattered around. The text is written in a mix of blue and black fonts. "God" is in a large, blue, cursive font. "BLESS" is in a smaller, black, sans-serif font. "IN THE" is in a smaller, black, sans-serif font. "You" is in a blue, cursive font. "New Year" is in a large, blue, cursive font. Below the main text is a block of text in a small, black, sans-serif font, followed by the reference "JEREMIAH 29:11". At the bottom center is a small, blue, starburst icon.

God
BLESS
IN THE You
New Year

For surely I know the plans I have for you,
says the Lord, plans for your welfare
and not for harm, to give you a future with hope.
JEREMIAH 29:11



Dear friends,

Now that we've gotten through these busy holiday months of November and December, we have a chance to catch our breath a bit and settle into what's known as Ordinary Time. I used to question that label – Ordinary – and wondered if it was possible for any Time of the church year, any Sunday even – to be considered ordinary. But that term, ordinary, I later learned, actually comes from a base word, ordinal, and implies numbers and ordering. The Sundays of Ordinary Time, the time of the church year after Epiphany and after Pentecost, are numbered for convenience, with the seasons of Lent and Easter being the (rather lengthy) interruption in the sequence.

So, in this first bit of Ordinary Time, we'll hear about God's good news breaking into the world in the words and work of Jesus Christ.

Jesus' ministry began with his baptism by John the Baptist in the River Jordan. We remember and celebrate that event each year on the first Sunday after the full Christmas season is over. This year on that Sunday, January 12th, a service of installation will mark the 'official' beginning of my ministry with you at Evangelical/ Poestenkill and Faith/ Troy. The service will be held at Faith Lutheran at 3:00 p.m., and I invite YOU to attend.

Many blessings to you as we begin a New Year together,
Pastor Judy

**Faith Lutheran Church
50 Lerversee 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)
Doug Adamek (Vice President)
Barbara Boord (Treasurer)
Evelyn Jarosz (Secretary)
Rich Anderson (Financial Secretary)**

Council Members

**Doug Adamek (Education)
Rob Hayward (Office Administration)
Linda Hulihan
Evelyn Jarosz
Mike Moroskey (Property)
Diana Rieker (Missions)
Fred Howard (Stewardship)
Ben Wagar (Property)**

Barbara Boord, Newsletter Editor

A Short Bio

I grew up in Minnesota – in a suburb of Minneapolis. I was the oldest child in my family and had two younger brothers. My family were members of an Evangelical Covenant church that was just a few blocks from our home, and we were very involved there.

I attended college at the University of Minnesota in Duluth – on the shores of Lake Superior, and married Steve Converse just a few months after my graduation

from there. We became Lutherans while we were living in the Chicago area (Steve's family were members of the Episcopal Church), and our three daughters were all born there.

In 1996, a job change for Steve took us to Massachusetts where our girls finished high school, and I worked for a number of years at a small Episcopal Church nearby. That was where I learned a lot about ordained ministry and the life of a clergy person. My formal education took place at Andover-Newton Seminary outside of Boston for three years (part time) and then over a year spent at the Lutheran School of Theology at Philadelphia.

I was ordained in 2010 in the New England Synod and served my first church in West Boylston, Massachusetts – about an hour west of Boston. After three years, I felt that it was time to make a change, and I was called to First Lutheran in Northwood, Iowa. At the time, my parents were still living in the Twin Cities area, and it was great to be so much closer to them and to provide some assistance as they got older. Eventually they moved to an assisted living facility about a block from the parsonage in Northwood, and later into the skilled care area of the facility. They both died in 2018 – my dad in July and my mom in late November.

Last spring Steve and I decided that we wanted to live closer to the new generation of our family (grandkids!) So, we moved in August to live with our oldest daughter and her family (husband, son 4 ½, and daughter almost 1!) in Schenectady. Our middle daughter, her husband, and their two-year old daughter live in Chicago, and our youngest daughter, her husband, and their 1 ½ year-old daughter live in East Providence, Rhode Island. The later family is expecting a second child in May!

I am thrilled to be serving as pastor at Evangelical and Faith! We love this area – even the winter weather – and are excited to learn more and become more involved in the community.

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.

AMONG OUR PEOPLE

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.



OUR FAITH at WORK

The featured mission for the month of January is in support of the Regional Food Bank of Northeastern New York.

The Regional Food Bank provides food assistance to many charitable agencies serving the hungry and disadvantaged, including food pantries, soup kitchens, emergency shelters, youth programs, senior programs and programs for the disabled. Many of our neighbors continue to struggle with hunger and food insecurity. Our support helps make the Regional Food Bank a better and stronger organization that improves the lives of hungry people throughout the Capital Region.

The Bread of Life Food pantry is asking for the following items this month: bottled fruit juice (low sugar), canned fruit (in own juice), coffee (instant), sugar, pancake syrup, baked beans (like Bushes), spaghetti sauce and pasta, plain soups (chicken, vegetable and tomato), mayo, mustard and ketchup, pancake mix and stuffing mix. 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

SERVING FAITH in JANUARY

Jan. 5	Altar	Sharon Morris and Polly Hayward
	Lay Assistant Ushers	Rich Anderson Mike Moroskey and Barbara Boord
	Counters	LouAnn Behrens and Janet Walsh
	Coffee Hour	Heather and Errol Bull

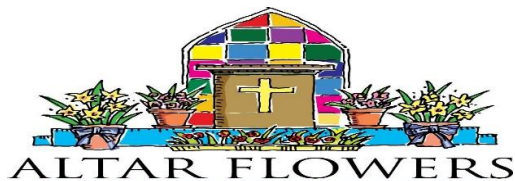
Jan. 12	Altar	Karen Cordes and Donna St. John
	Lay Assistant Ushers	Mitch Cieminski B. Morgan, B Stevens, B. Speanburg
	Counters	Diane and Rich Anderson
	Coffee Hour	Dana and Dave Cerrone
Jan. 19	Altar	Karen Cordes and Donna St. John
	Lay Assistant Ushers	Errol Bull Diana Rieker and Jim Peters
	Counters	Pat Brundige and Joyce Duncan
	Coffee Hour	Fred and Michele Howard
Jan. 26	Altar	LouAnn Behrens and Donna Gibson
	Lay Assistant Ushers	Donna Gibson Carol Perrott and Ron Turcotte
	Counters	Michele and Fred Howard
	Coffee Hour	Sara and John Martin

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*

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.



JOINT PRAYER GROUP

FLOWERS for JANUARY

- Jan. 5 In Loving Memory of Ernest Bohatec
Given by Larry and Barbara Boord**
- Jan. 12 In Loving Memory of Marilyn Howard
Given by The Howards**
- Jan. 19 In Loving Memory of Lucy Rose Bohatec
Given by Larry and Barbara Boord**
- Jan. 26 To the Glory of God**

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.

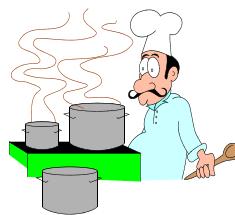
Faith Lutheran and Evangelical Lutheran have a Joint Prayer Group that has been active since June 2016. There are approximately 12 of us that pray on a regular basis for our churches, for our new Pastor and for healing for our members and others in need of prayer.

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

Decembers Dinner Club enjoyed a great Italian feast. Grab bag gifts were picked, exchanged and the usual wonder at what some of the packages contained was enjoyed by all. Ornaments and candy were received by all.

No Dinner Club will be held in January. The next meeting will be in February for the annual banquet.

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 February 2020 newsletter is Monday: January 20th. Please email your articles to: barbboord@hotmail.com.

JANUARY 2020

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
			HAPPY NEW YEAR	Home Bureau 2:00 to 4:00 PM		
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	CREATIVE THREADS 10:30 AM		Speigle Elders 10:30AM-2:30PM			NO DINNER CLUB
	COUNCIL 7:00 PM					
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	CREATIVE THREADS 10:30 AM			Home Bureau 2:00 to 4:00 PM		
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
	CREATIVE THREADS 10:30 AM		Speigle Elders 10:30AM-2:30PM			
26	27	28	29	30	31	
ANNUAL MEETING	CREATIVE THREADS 10:30 AM					