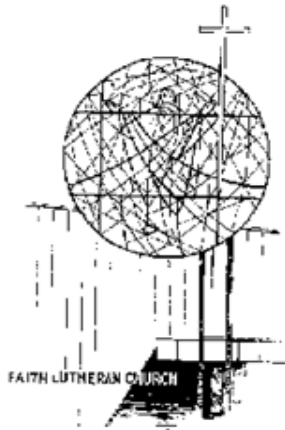


FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH
50 LEVERSEE ROAD
TROY, NEW YORK 12182



Following Faith

June 2016

Following Faith

The Newsletter of
Faith Lutheran Church

June 2016



THANK YOU ALL

Asked to write a final piece for the newsletter, first off, I want thank all who helped make our final Sunday at ELCP & Faith such a warm and memorable event. Your cards and personal notes were very meaningful and your generous gifts were really over the top. Thank you all.

The past six months were certainly nothing like anyone imagined they might be. I envisioned a few weeks helping out Pr. Steve and then being told thanks, I can handle it. However, these months have also been some of the richest ministry for me – working with you as we moved into Christmas celebrations and election of new council members, Lent and Holy Week – recalling past years and finding new strength and hope in the power of resurrection. I'm thankful for all that we have shared together. It has been a good ride. Yes there are some mixed emotions. I wish we could have done more together, but I'm also happy to rediscover my "retirement".

By the time you're reading this, the "hand-off" should be complete and you will be working with Pr. Jennifer on the interim process. I've met her and was impressed by her as a serious and thorough Pastor. She expressed some concern about mistakes in the liturgy. I told her not to worry – you are a forgiving crowd – remember the "good old days" when I was in the habit of omitting the Our Father! Ouch!

There are to be some very good days ahead in the lives of these two congregations. We all know it will take some great and combined effort on the part of everyone, while inviting new people to share in the work. Go for it.



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

www.faithlutherantroy.com

**Sunday morning worship: 10:30 a.m.
Adult Bible Study: 9:15 a. m.
Sunday School: during worship**

The Rev. Jennifer Wegter-McNelly, Pastor

Church Council Officers:

**Donna VanZandt (President)
Sara Martin (Vice President)
Barbara Boord (Treasurer)
Diana Rieker (Secretary)
Fred Howard (Financial Secretary)**

Council Members

**Errol Bull (Property)
Dana Cerrone (In Reach/Out Reach)
Elizabeth King (In Reach/Out Reach)
Evelyn Jarosz (Worship)
Sara Martin (Education)
Michael Moroskey (Property)
Pam Perras (Stewardship)
Carol Perrott (Missions)
Ben Wagar (Property)**

Let me leave you with some words of Mother Teresa

People are often unreasonable, illogical and self centered;
Forgive them anyway.
If you are kind, people may accuse you of selfish, ulterior motives;
Be kind anyway.
If you are successful, you will win some false friends and some true enemies;
Succeed anyway.
If you are honest and frank, people may cheat you;
Be honest and frank anyway.
What you spend years building, someone could destroy overnight;
Build anyway.
If you find serenity and happiness, they may be jealous;
Be happy anyway.
The good you do today, people will often forget tomorrow;
Do good anyway.
Give the world the best you have, and it may never be enough;
Give the world the best you've got anyway.
You see, in the final analysis, it is between you and your God;
It was never between you and them anyway.

Pastor Bill

PASTOR JENNIFER WEGTER-McNELLY

Pastor Jennifer grew up in Minnesota in a church family. She went to Carleton College in Northfield, MN. She received her Bachelor of Arts in Religious Studies and then continued her education at Macalester College in St. Paul, MN where she majored in Art History. She also holds her Master of Divinity from Princeton Theological Seminary in Princeton, NJ. Pastor Jennifer was ordained as a Presbyterian Pastor in 1996. The Presbyterian Church USA is one of the churches with which the ELCA has an ecumenical partnership and ecumenical agreements with which makes it possible for pastors from the Presbyterian Church to serve in ELCA congregations.

Pastor Jennifer has over ten years of experience serving as an Interim Pastor and has served churches large and small, from Boston to San Francisco. Most of her ministry has been with congregations in times of transition, conflict and sometimes transformation. Member who have reflected on her ministry with them describe her as 'strong yet gentle'. She has skills in leadership development, and a gift for seeing below the surface of problems and concerns. She listens, but also challenges.

Pastor herself says she 'feels called to a congregation whose members love God and one another, strive to appreciate their differences and seek to be transformed by our spiritual journey together'. They should also desire a pastor who will do ministry with them, rather than for them.

Although Pastor Jennifer has never led a Lutheran service, she has already started to learn the Lutheran liturgy and looks forward to working with the Worship Committees. She loves the rhythm of worship and liturgy, and also sees the creativity of ministry as always being different.

Beginning in September, Pastor Jennifer will serve ten hours per week during the academic year as Chaplain at the Russell Sage Colleges. She is also involved in the School Backpack Program sponsored by the Regional Food Bank in Albany.

Pastor Jennifer lives in Niskayuna with her husband Kirk and their 11 year old son Keller. Pastor's husband is a visiting professor of religious studies at Union College in Schenectady.

AMONG OUR PEOPLE

Kathleen Bonnier and Michele Howard officially joined the church on May 15th.

Janet Walsh suffered a fall hitting her head. She continues to recover after a nights stay in St.

Peter's. By the time the newsletter comes around I'm thinking we will be able to give more specific information. We understand she is doing okay and will be home soon. Irene Pagel is in Samaritan Hospital under Hospice care after suffering a cardiac episode. Her room number was 6026 as of May 27th.

Polly Hayward shared information that Burt and Dottie Benziger are now in assisted living. New address is: Brookdale Countryside
3260 N. McMullen Booth Rd.
Clearwater, Fl. 33761

ARE WE MISSING ANYTHING?

There are many things that Pastor Cordes did for our members, for friends of our congregation, and for our community that he did quietly, faithfully, and without fanfare. If you know of a ministry to someone or something that is no longer being done, please contact a member of the council so that we can endeavor to fill the void. And if you would be willing to help in outreach and service as we move forward, we would like to know that too!

Fred Howard
farmerf169@aol.com
421 4576

COUNCIL SUMMARY

A combined Council meeting with both Faith and Evangelical Councils was held on May 9th to determine whether to ask Pastor Jennifer Wegter-McNelly to join the two congregations as intentional interim pastor. The interview committee discussed Pastor Jennifer's responses during the interview and overall impressions of whether she would be a good fit. A motion was made to ask Pastor Jennifer to serve as interim pastor for Faith and Evangelical. The vote was unanimous 'in favor'. If Pastor Jennifer accepts, her initial period of service will be June 1, 2016 – June 1, 2017.

Fred and Michelle Howard have agreed to serve as representatives to the NYS Upstate Synod Assembly in June.

For any concerns or problems, please advise us. We will discuss and address issues at our next meeting on Monday June 13th, 2016 at 7pm.

Diana Rieker, Secretary



It seems like just last week I was writing the first newsletter article of the Sunday School year, and here we are at the end of the year already. This was a hard year for the Sunday School and we really miss Pastor Steve a lot. Pastor Bill and Pastor Jim did a great job of helping us out and providing support to the kids during this difficult time. We are looking forward to working with the new Pastor, and are excited to see what is in store!

We may try to schedule a bowling or bouncing event before July, but if we don't get the chance, all Sunday School families are invited to the congregational picnic on Saturday, July 9th at Grafton Lakes State Park. There is a sign up sheet for food/supplies in the back of the church.

The last day of Sunday School will be June 5th. Sunday School will resume again sometime at the end of September.

Have a great summer!

Sara Martin, Education Director

OUR FAITH at WORK

Our mission for the month of June will be in support of St. Paul's Center located in Rensselaer, New York.

St. Paul's Center provides emergency and transitional housing for homeless mothers and their

children. To assist the residents in moving on to independent living, they receive support and services in the following areas; counseling, parenting, homemaking, budgeting, literacy, pediatric and maternal health care, mental health, substance abuse, domestic violence education, job training and placement, and permanent housing.

For further information regarding St. Paul's Center you can visit their website at: www.stpaulscenter.com or look for information posted on the Mission's bulletin board.

Thank you for your continued support.

Carol Perrott, Missions

FLOWERS for JUNE

- June 5th** In honor of and to welcome Pastor Jennifer Wegter McNelly to Faith
- June 12th** In memory of Stephen Donald Lansing Given by Larry Lansing
- June 19th** In memory of Ruth Ann Inglis Given by Helen Inglis In memory of Paul Lynch Given by Janet Walsh
- June 26th** In memory of Richard Boord Given by Larry and Barbara Boord

SERVING FAITH in JUNE

June 5 th	Altar	Nadeen Thompson and LouAnn Behrens
	Lay Assistant Ushers	Dave Truland Roberta and Rob Hayward
	Counters	Donna Gibson and Linda Houlihan
	Coffee Hour	Sara and John Martin

June 12 th	Altar	Nadeen Thompson and LouAnn Behrens
	Lay Assistant Ushers	Fred Howard Pat Brundige and Nadeen Thompson
	Counters	Evelyn and Bill Jarosz
	Coffee Hour	Eugene and Donna St. John
June 19 th	Altar	Merilyn Niles and Donna St. John
	Lay Assistant Ushers	Bill Jarosz B. Morgan, B. Speanburg, B. Stevens
	Counters	Rich and Diane Anderson
	Coffee Hour	Janet Walsh and Merilyn Niles
June 26 th	Altar	Merilyn Niles and Donna St. John
	Lay Assistant Ushers	Carol Karpfen Carol Perrott and Stephanie Wagar
	Counters	LouAnn Behrens and Janet Walsh
	Coffee Hour	Nadeen Thompson

*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.
 Donna Van Zandt, Worship Chairperson.
 Schedule for Altar Guild by Pam Perras
 Schedule for Coffee Hour by Heather Bull*

Prayer Group News

Several members of both Faith Lutheran and Evangelical/Poestenkill have been meeting for

prayer on a regular basis since April 4th. We meet on Monday mornings at 10:00 am. This past month we met at Poestenkill. Please note: **We will be meeting at Faith Lutheran during the month of June, at Poestenkill during the month of July (excluding July 4th) and at Faith again during the month of August.** All are welcome. For further details, contact Michele Howard at 518-4288.



DINNER CLUB

Dinner Club members met May 14th. Dinner was hosted by Polly and Bob Hayward, Stephanie and Ben Wagar and Jim Peters. The committee prepared a delicious meal of baked chicken and gravy accompanied by a tossed salad, a vegetable of broccoli and to complete the meal strawberry shortcake. The meal was followed by conversation and a game of dominos.

June 11th, the second Saturday of June, Dinner Club will hold a pot luck supper. The committee, accepting your reservations for the evening; are Donna Van Zandt, Evelyn and Bill Jarosz and Jim Peters. We are looking forward to a smorgasbord of your favorite dishes. Hor d'oeuvres start at 6:00 p.m. with dinner at 6:30 p.m. We look forward to seeing you there to share a meal and good fellowship.

THE SECOND ANNUAL CHURCH PICNIC is scheduled for July 9th (Rain or Shine) at Grafton State Park (Beach Pavilion).

Please join us for a fun day with friends and family

- **Snacks 12:00 pm to 2:00 pm**
- **Hamburgers and Hot Dogs 2:00 pm**
- **Drinks All Day**

\$7.00 for Adults

Children under 16 Free

All are welcome. Bring you suits, sand toys and a chair if you are able. Covered dishes are appreciated. Sign up is on the bulletin board at the back of church. Hope to see you there. For reservations call Donna St. John. Tickets will be on sale in the near future.

BARBARA BOORD ACTING NEWSLETTER EDITOR/COORDINATOR

Hard copies of the Newsletter are 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 her email address. At your request, we will be happy to send you a copy via the USPS.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The July newsletter deadline is Monday June 20th. Please email articles to barbboord@hotmail.com.

I would like to extend my sincere appreciation and thanks to all the individuals that contribute to the Newsletter. Without your contributions the Newsletter would not be possible. In the midst of the hectic lives we live for you to take time for this endeavor is truly a blessing.

Assistance with the compiling and distribution of the Newsletter is always appreciated. Anyone that can give some time to this joint effort is encouraged to contact me at the above e-mail address.

JUNE 2016



Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
			Speigle Elders 10:30AM-2:30PM			
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
				Home Bureau 2:00 to 4:00 PM		<i>Dinner Club 6:00 PM</i>
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	<i>Council Meeting 7:00 PM</i>	<i>FLAG DAY</i>	Speigle Elders 10:30AM-2:30PM			
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
<i>FATHER'S DAY</i>	<i>Newsletter Items Due</i>			Home Bureau 2:00 to 4:00 PM		
26	27	28	29	30		

