

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH
50 LEVERSEE ROAD
TROY, NEW YORK 12182



Following Faith

JUNE 2017



From Your New Transitional Pastor

People of Faith and Evangelical,

I will take the opportunity this newsletter mailing allows to introduce myself to you. Pastor Jennifer is no longer able to serve as your Transitional Pastor due to the medical treatments she will be receiving, so I have been asked to take over that position in service to the two congregations.

Presently, I am called to serve the congregations of St. Luke's in Valatie and Emanuel in Stuyvesant Falls on a half time basis. I am also the supervisory pastor for the congregation of Emanuel/St. John's in Hudson. But at the end of June, all that will be completed in my full retirement from called pastoral ministry.

What that means for you is that through the month of June I will make sure that there is worship leadership for both Evangelical and Faith, I will attend council meetings to provide pastoral support and guidance, I will perform pastoral acts such as weddings and funerals as needed, I will visit the sick, hospitalized and shut-ins, and respond to pastoral emergencies. After June, I will be available to lead you in worship and meet more of you in person.

I have served in linked parish congregations for my entire ministry: seven and a half years at St. Paul's in Redwood and Evangelical in Orleans Four Corners, NY, and now for 31 years at Valatie and Stuyvesant Falls. My wife, Christa, and I have been married for 43 years. We have two daughters, Rebekah Stephenson who lives with her son, Slater, in Las Vegas, Nevada, and Deborah Diamante who lives with her husband, Peter, and two children, Gabriel and Abigail, in Beacon Falls, Connecticut.

At the end of June, my wife and I will be moving to Fox Hill Campground in Spencertown, NY. I will be available to serve Evangelical and Faith until you call your own pastor or through the month of September, whichever comes first. Because my life is in such transition, the best ways to contact me is through my cell phone number (518-755-6801). And I welcome your calls.



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

The Rev. James Slater, Pastor

Church Council Officers:

Fred Howard (President)
Evelyn Jarosz (Vice President)
Barbara Boord (Treasurer)
Diana Rieker (Secretary)
**Michele Howard/
Pam Perras Financial Secretaries)**

Council Members

Doug Adamek (Education)
Errol Bull (Property)
Donna Gibson (Stewardship)
Rob Hayward (Stewardship)
Evelyn Jarosz (In Reach/Out Reach)
Sharon Morris (Worship)
Carol Perrott (Missions)
Pam Perras (In Reach/Out Reach)

I look forward to working with the people of God at Evangelical and Faith, encouraging and supporting your mission and ministries, and sharing the good news of God's great love in the gift of our Savior, Jesus Christ, with all of you. And I pray for God's blessings as you work through the call process to discern God's will in your future pastoral leadership.

*Alive in Christ,
Pastor Jim Slater*

PASTORAL DISCERNMENT TEAM STATUS

The Faith Lutheran Pastoral Discernment Team has met three times to date.

The first meeting was convened by Pastor Jennifer in early April to provide an orientation and a plan of work for team members.

On May 8th, a joint meeting with the Evangelical Lutheran Church Pastoral Discernment Team, facilitated by Shannon Vance-O'Campo from the Albany Presbytery, was held to begin work on drafting individual Pastor Portraits. These portraits are a description of the "needs" and "wants" of both Churches related to the future pastor in terms of the tasks and functions they will perform, experience, characteristics, or skills that are desired. The draft Pastor Portrait for Faith Lutheran will be shared with the Council, refined with input, then shared with the congregation and refined again.

The teams were asked individually to respond to a series of questions: What brings the Congregation joy? What are the Internal/ External Needs? What makes God cry? In addition, the Teams jointly listed pastoral qualities they felt were important.

YouTube video references and online articles provided to the teams are:

- YouTube Interview: "Between Two Plants: 21st century Church"
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=93hbLzUb9GA>
- Online essay about Millennials and Faith
<http://faithit.com/12-reasons-millennials-over-church-sam-eaton/>

- If You Ask the Wrong Question, You Will Always Get the Wrong Answer:
<https://achurchforstarvingartists.wordpress.com/2017/05/02/if-you-ask-the-wrong-question-youwill-always-get-the-wrong-answer/>

On May 18th, the Faith Pastoral Discernment Team met to finalize the draft Pastor Portrait for our Church.

On May 22nd, the Faith Pastoral Discernment Team and Church Council met to discuss the draft Pastor Portrait.

Information regarding sharing the draft Pastor Portrait will be forthcoming.

SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

The Council and the Pastoral Discernment Committee (PDC) are holding a special Informational Meeting for the Congregation at 9:30 AM, June 4, 2017, in Fellowship Hall to discuss our direction and progress to date. We hope that it will also be taken as an opportunity for members of the congregation to provide their input to the process. After another round of meetings between Evangelical, Faith, the PDC and the Council a second meeting with the congregation will take place toward the end of June. At that point, we will be looking for approval of the direction that is being recommended for our congregation and our broader Parish, Faith and Evangelical together. Our hope is that then in July, we will be able to complete the documents needed to initiate the formal call process.

AMONG OUR PEOPLE

Mildred LaLanne joined God's angels on May 15th. Pastor Bill Hempel continues his chemotherapy treatments. Dave Cerrone is continuing his recovery process with a second round of treatments and Janet Walsh is recovering from Knee Replacement Surgery.

Pastor Jennifer is glad that she can use Dana Farber, and to have reached the end of the testing and biopsy phase. It has been firmly established through biopsy; that the cancer, affecting her liver is in fact a metastasis of her breast cancer. She will

be traveling to Dana Farber in Boston each week for the next 6-9 months to receive the selected course of treatment. She did have her first chemo treatment this past Thursday. She is very grateful for the outpouring of prayers and encouragement. She and Kirk are planning to do a CaringBridge page, but it is not set up yet. Once it has been set up, interested people will be able to follow her progress there. We will also keep you updated through the newsletter each month.

COUNCIL SUMMARY

Pastor Slater and Ruth Frazee, Council President of Evangelical, were visitors attending the May Council meeting. Several items of concern to both congregations were discussed, including the acceptance of a motion of a resolution to modify the employee status of Intentional Interim Pastor Jennifer Wegter-McNelly.

A motion to accept the resolution approving Pastor Slater's engagement by the congregations was made and accepted by the Council.

For any concerns or problems, please advise us. We will discuss and address issues at our next meeting on Monday June 5th, 2017 at 7pm.

Diana Rieker,
Secretary



Spring is finally here! The last newsletter went out before I had time to update everyone on the Holy Week activities. We had a great time learning about and passing out the new "eco" palms on Palm Sunday and hearing the special kids stories and plays that Pastor Jennifer had in store for us during Holy Week. The kids also enjoyed a special "church" goodie bag with some yummy chocolate crosses and other Easter related items. Thanks to the Howards for helpin out with that!

The students that are making their first communion in June have been attending classes, they have taken three so far, with the fourth coming at the end

of this month. They all have enjoyed the fellowship, learning and delicious dinners that have been a part of the class experience. Remember, First Communion will be held on June 4th with a picnic to follow.

I wanted to thank Doug Adamek, our Sunday School/Education representatvie on the council now that I have taken a term away. It is great to know that we have someone that cares so much about our kids helping out.

The children have also spent time in class praying for Pastor Jennifer and her family, and will be thinking of her as they finish out the school year and take their First Communion.

See everyone soon!

Sara Martin,
Education Director

OUR FAITH at WORK

Our mission for the month of June is continued for Rebecca Truland. Rebecca graduated from Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago with a Master of Divinity degree on Sunday May 21st at a ceremony in Chicago. She has been assigned to the New Jersey Synod and will be entering the call process with a congregation there over the Summer. She hopes to be up at Faith sometime over the Summer to express thanks and say hello.



Carol Perrott, Missions

IN REACH/ OUT REACH COMMITTEE

The committee continues their work on a current directory of our church family. We've held many meetings and compiled names and addresses from many lists. We need your assistance if your information needs to be changed. Please let the office know via e-mail or a telephone call so that the new statistics can be forwarded to the committee.

The committee members include:

Chairperson –Evelyn Jarosz, Pat Brundige, Joyce Duncan, Pam Perras, Donna & Eugene St. John and Stephanie Wagar.

Peace be with all of you,

Evelyn Jarosz
Chairperson

FLOWERS for JUNE

- June 4th** In Honor of Donna Truland's Birthday
Given by Mr. and Mrs. Warren Truland
- June 11th** In Memory of Paul Lynch
Given by Janet Walsh
- June 18th** In Memory of Donald Lansing
Given by Larry Lansing
- June 25th** In Memory of Richard Boord
Given by Larry and Barbara Boord

SERVING FAITH in JUNE

June 4 th	Altar	Polly Hayward and Donna Gibson
	Lay Assistant Ushers	Bill Jarosz Diana Rieker and Jim Peters
	Counters	Polly and Bob Hayward
	Coffee Hour	Heather and Errol Bull

June 11 th	Altar	Evelyn Jarosz and Sharon Morris
	Lay Assistant Ushers	Carol Karpien Donna and Dave Truland
	Counters	Michele and Fred Howard
	Coffee Hour	Janet Walsh and Merilyn Nile
June 18 th	Altar	Evelyn Jarosz and Sharon Morris
	Lay Assistant Ushers	Bill Maloney Errol and Ryland Bull
	Counters	Donna Gibson and Linda Hulihan
	Coffee Hour	Kathy and Doug Adameck
June 25 th	Altar	Polly Hayward and Roberta Hayward
	Lay Assistant Ushers	Pat Turcotte Barb Boord and Ron Turcotte
	Counters	Evelyn and Bill Jarosz
	Coffee Hour	Carolyn Rouse and Donna Gibson

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.

*Sharon Morris, Worship Chairperson.
Schedule for Altar Guild by Pam Perras
Schedule for Coffee Hour by Heather Bull*

CHOIR REHEARSAL

Choir rehearsals are generally held every Thursday at 7:00 P.M. for about an hour. Anyone interested in joining is welcome to come and enjoy singing our praises to the Lord.



The ladies of WELCA thank everyone for their participation in the meal for Joseph's House without your help the meal would not be possible. A baked chicken dinner with all the fixings was delivered the afternoon of May 6th to a most appreciative staff and guests.

As part of a mission for WELCA there will be a quilting bee Saturday, June 3rd starting at 10:00 a.m. There will be lots of opportunity for all to participate in the day. We need people to cut fabric, sew seams, press fabric and ties quilts. Bring your lunch to share. If sewing isn't your thing come for fellowship and enjoy the day.

The June 20th gathering of WELCA will be at the home of Marilyn Niles for our annual picnic and pool party. The potluck picnic will start at 3:00 p.m. with dinner being served at 5 o'clock. All ladies of the church are cordially invited to join in the fun at Marilyn's house.

Donna Gibson

PRAYER GROUP

The Prayer Group has been meeting for the past year. We have been alternating monthly between Evangelical/Poestenkill and Faith Lutheran on Tuesday at 1:00 P.M. The June meetings will be held at Evangelical. Those of us who have met together value the time we have spent together and have grown in being able to pray. We have also seen God's hand at work and have praised him for answered prayer.

We would like to encourage you to join with us as we meet. There is something about the body of Christ and the power of corporate prayer. Won't you consider being a part of this group? We would appreciate your presence with us even on an occasional basis. If the time is inconvenient, let us know so that we might consider a time that is better for you.

We believe that everything starts with prayer to our Heavenly Father, in whose hands lie our well-being

and our future. Please contact Michele Howard with any questions or for directions.

MEMORIAL DAY COMMUNITY SERVICE

On May 21st, the 2nd Annual Community Memorial Day Service was held at Faith at 3:00 in the afternoon. Seven area churches participated in the program along with the Lansingburg Veterans. Warren (Porky) Lansing was the overall program initiator and coordinator and Donna VanZandt worked with him to coordinate efforts within our congregation. The program was a great success, and our Sunday School Children worked with Porky and were an integral part of the program. A free will offering was collected for Military Mom in Action, a local group that provides support from "home" for men and women serving overseas. After the program, most of the attendees stayed for fellowship, conversation, and snacks galore in our Fellowship Hall. Several of our members helped with supplying some of the refreshments, setting up, and cleaning up. Food was also contributed by other participating congregations. Special thanks to Warren for all that he did to organize, decorate, execute flawlessly, and un-decorate. Thanks to all who were participants in this highly successful community service!



DINNER CLUB

Pizza was the hit of May 13th dinner served by the committee and enjoyed by all. The coming attraction for our dinner June 10th will be a potluck supper organized by Linda and Jim Hulihan, Jim Peters and Ben and Stephanie Wager. We'll all experience great fellowship and share a meal together. Mark your calendar and plan to come and enjoy the evening with friends. Let anyone on the committee know you will be joining in the fun.

Looking ahead the annual picnic will be July 15th beginning at 10:00 a.m. at the Brunswick Town Park. The St. John's and the dinner club officers will be hosting. Watch for further information as the time draws near.

**FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH
ANNUAL PICNIC**

July 15th, 2017 - Rain or Shine

**The church picnic this year will be held
at the Brunswick Beach Pavilion.**

**Come hang out and enjoy the day,
starting at 11:00am**

Lunch will be served at 1:00pm

**Hamburgers & Hot Dogs, chips, pickles,
ice tea & lemonade will be provided by
the Faith Lutheran Church Dinner Club.**

Please bring a dish to share.

Additional drinks available at cost.

**A GOOD WILL OFFERING will be collected
to defray the cost of pavilion rental &
food.**

**We hope to see you there,
Donna St. John**

**NEWSLETTER
EDITOR/COORDINATOR**

Barbara Boord is coordinating the Newsletter efforts. 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.faithlutherantroy.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 shown below.

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

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The July newsletter deadline is Monday June 19th. Anyone with items of interest or submissions for Among Our People please email your articles to:

barbboord@hotmail.com or call (518) 982-1250.

JUNE 2017

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