

Following Faith

APRIL 2021





Dear friends,

Even as these past few days have given us hints of warmer and brighter days ahead, our church calendar is now drawing us into the most holy week of the church year. On the last Sunday of March we'll come to the Sunday which carries two distinct moods. Palm Sunday is a time to celebrate – as Jesus rides into Jerusalem to the cheers and praises of the local people. But within the week (for him) and within the hour (for us), we know that Jesus is arrested and put to death on the cross.

Two services during Holy Week will look closer at the events of the week. The first is on Thursday – Maundy Thursday – when we hear about Jesus' last meal with his close friends – his disciples. On Friday – Good Friday – we walk the last few hours of Jesus' life with him – to his death on Friday afternoon. Both the Thursday and Friday evening services will be at 7:00 on Zoom. Look for bulletins for these services in the way that you usually receive the bulletin each week.

On Easter Sunday – the Resurrection of Our Lord – there will be three opportunities to worship and celebrate this most holy of all days!

6:30 a.m. – Sunrise service via Zoom

8:30 a.m. – Easter worship – Holy Communion

Evangelical Lutheran parking lot

10:30 a.m. – Easter worship - Holy Communion

Faith Lutheran parking lot

You are welcome to attend the outdoor parking lot services remaining in your car and tuning your car radio to the FM station that we'll use. If the weather is nice, you could bring a lawn chair and sit

near your car. Bulletins will be provided and communion will be served. Please plan to join us! In gratitude to God for our life together,

Pastor Judy

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

www.faithlutherantroy.com

Sunday morning worship: See Below

Rev. Judith Converse, Pastor

Church Council Officers:

**Donna St. John (President)
Bill Jarosz (Vice President)
Carol Karpfen (Secretary)
Roberta Hayward (Treasurer)
Rich Anderson (Financial Secretary)**

Council Members/Committee Assignments

**Rich Anderson (Stewardship)
Errol Bull (Property)
David Cerrone (Education, Worship)
Diane Dyer (Office Administration)
Roberta Hayward (Stewardship)
Linda Hulihan (Missions)
Bill Jarosz (Property)
Carol Karpfen (Stewardship)
Sara Martin (Education)
Carol Perrott (Inreach/Outreach)
Diana Rieker (Inreach/Outreach)
Donna Van Zandt (Worship)**

**R. Hayward, B. Jarosz, C. Karpfen,
and D. Van Zandt (Partnership Council)**

Fred Howard, Interim Newsletter Editor

Worship schedule (Easter season 2021)

Second Sunday of Easter – April 11: 9:00 a.m. Worship service via Zoom; 10:30 a.m. Holy Communion parking lot service at Faith

Third Sunday of Easter – April 18: 9:00 a.m. Worship service via Zoom; 10:30 a.m. Holy Communion parking lot service at ELCP

Fourth Sunday of Easter – April 25: 9:00 a.m. Worship service via Zoom; 10:30 a.m. Holy Communion parking lot service at Faith

Fifth Sunday of Easter – May 2: 9:00 a.m. Worship service via Zoom; 10:30 a.m. Holy Communion parking lot service at ELCP

Sixth Sunday of Easter – May 9: 9:00 a.m. Worship service via Zoom; 10:30 a.m. Holy Communion parking lot service at Faith

Seventh Sunday of Easter – May 16: 9:00 a.m. Worship service via Zoom; 10:30 a.m. Holy Communion parking lot service at ELCP

Pentecost – May 23: 9:00 a.m. Worship service via Zoom; 10:30 a.m. Affirmation of Baptism with Holy Communion parking lot service at Faith

COUNCIL

President's Report:

Donna St. John reported that she and Eugene visited the St. John cemetery site in Melrose and found that it was very overgrown. Photos were shared with Council. In regard to the St. John's Cemetery, Pastor attached a report by Steve Converse who recommended that a task force be appointed investigate further and possibly work on the property.

Pastor's Report

Confirmation class continues via Zoom. Pastor will spend time with each student and is planning an Affirmation of Baptism (Confirmation) service on May 23rd.

Lenten adult study continues with sessions at 9:30 AM and 7:30 PM every Wednesday.

Committee Reports

Property – (Errol Bull, Bill Jarosz) –

Doors: New locks are needed for the kitchen and boiler room doors at a cost of \$125/set. The east and west Narthex entrance doors need to be replaced with new doors equipped with panic hardware. Bill Jarosz will research parking lot repair costs. Errol Bull will get estimates for annex roof repairs.

Partnership Council (Carol Karpien, Roberta Hayward, Bill Jarosz, Donna Van Zandt)

The Partnership Council met on March 2 with Synod representatives Jo Page and Julie Grindle. They presented two options for the call process: 1. Begin call process right away. 2. Get a transition pastor for 12 to 18 months with the option to call the transition pastor. Option 2 was the recommended choice as it would give the churches more time to assess their situations.

Additionally, Gilead Lutheran has expressed interest in some type of joint ministry, which would take time to investigate. A question was raised whether we would have the opportunity to interview a transitional pastor. The understanding was that we would. Council agreed that option 2 was the better approach.

AMONG OUR PEOPLE

Prayers for healing encouragement, and comfort for all of those who are mentioned in our weekly service.

Prayers of encouragement for Pastor Judy as she prepares for retirement and for the Councils of Faith and Evangelical as they lead our congregations onto the next path in our walk in faith together.



OUR FAITH at WORK

The featured mission for the month of April is in support of **Lutheran World Relief**. Lutheran World Relief (LWR) provides aid in emergencies and helps families restore their lives. LWR partners with communities to build and grow rural economies and works with the communities to break the cycle of poverty, so that families and communities can thrive. Your continued support is greatly appreciated.

Linda Hulihan, Missions



DINNER CLUB

In April, the virtual fellowship will take place on Zoom at 6:00 PM on April 10th. All are welcome to join in and enjoy an hour of conversation with friends that we miss so much during these times of isolation. Each participant is responsible for preparing their own meal which may be eaten before, during, or after the meeting.

NEWSLETTER COORDINATOR

Fred Howard is coordinating the Newsletter efforts on an Interim basis.

You may go to the church web site at:

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

You can change your current delivery option by sending your preference to: farmerf169@aol.com or contacting Fred by phone at 518 421 4576. Leave a voice mail if there is no answer. News Letter Delivery option (USPS, email, or unsubscribe) can be communicated either way.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The newsletter item deadline for the May 2021 newsletter is Wednesday, April 21. Please email your articles to: farmerf169@aol.com. If you would like a special joy or concern shared, you can also contact him by phone at 518 421 4576.

Faith Lutheran Church is turning 30 this year!

Our Savior's and St. John's merged in September of 1991. Let's find a special way to celebrate our 30th anniversary. Please contact Donna St. John if you would like to be on the planning committee.

518 526 2545 or dstjohn2@nycap.rr.com

And please see the following letter and certificate from the Bishop celebrating 150 years of our Lutheran heritage in the greater Troy NY area!

Upstate New York Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

February 18, 2021
Faith Lutheran Church
50 Leverage Road
Troy, NY 12182

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Grace to you and peace, from God our Father and from our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

As St. Paul wrote in his letter to the people in Philippi: "3 I thank my God every time I remember you, 4 constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, 5 because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now." Philippians 1:3-5

It is with great joy that I send this note of congratulations your way with prayerful thanksgiving as you celebrate one hundred and fifty years of ministry in Troy and surrounding environs. Over those years the Gospel has been preached and the sacraments administered, all to the glory of God. Countless lives have been touched and changed and the Good News has gone out from there into the community and world.

I like to imagine the number and variety of hymns that have been sung, prayers offered and welcomes extended over those years, all in the Name of the One who gives us life and hope and peace. The Spirit has been alive and directive in your ministry even as that same Spirit calls you forth to discern what the future might bring. While I know these are challenging times I also know that the God who has called you to this place and time stands beside you and promises to be with you whatever that future holds out for you.

Thank you for your faithfulness, your witness and your light shined in the darkness of this world. Thank you for assistance offered, words of encouragement and strength spoken and comfort extended. Thank you for your partnership in this ministry we call synod and your willingness to risk for the sake of the Gospel of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

May your celebration be filled with grand memories, much joy and deep laughter as you give thanks and sing to the One who makes all things new!

In Christ,

John S. Macholz, Bishop
Bishop John S. Macholz

ELCA Upstate New York Synod
5811 Heritage Landing Drive, 1st Floor, East Syracuse, NY 13057-9360
Phone: (315) 299-4955 Fax: (315) 299-4981
www.upstatenysynod.org

150th Anniversary as a Congregation

Recognition is given to

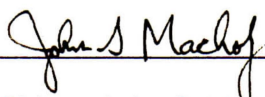
Faith Lutheran Church

for 150 years of contribution to the community
and for sharing the Gospel of our Lord, Jesus Christ
with its members and the world.

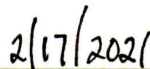
From

Upstate New York Synod

May God Continue to Bless Your Ministry



Bishop John S. Macholz



Date