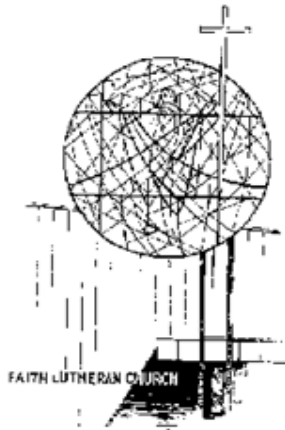
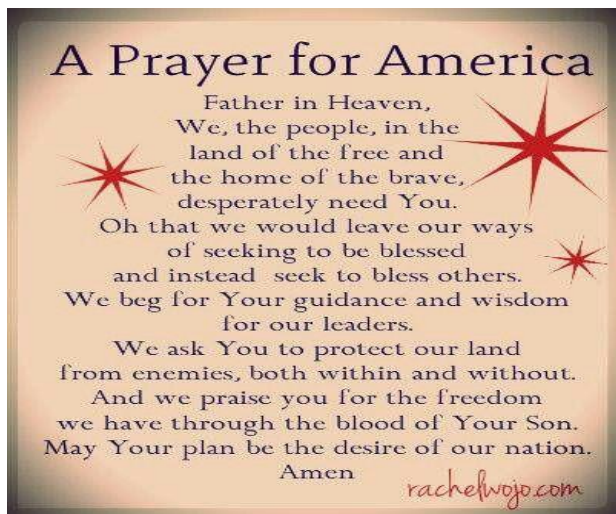


FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH
50 LEVERSEE ROAD
TROY, NEW YORK 12182



Following Faith

JULY 2018



the word manager and would prefer “support” in its place but has had little success thus far in making that change.

At that first meeting as well as subsequent meetings I watched him think and process thoughts. He didn’t speak often but when he did it garnered my attention because each time he talked he began with these words: “I wonder.” Those two words would be followed by something imaginative or different or hopeful.

I’ll simply share a number of my wonderings.

I wonder, if we took seriously the growing trend of fewer candidates for the Office of Word and Sacrament and gave pause to consider a greater use of well-trained, lay persons to create now models for ministry how that would work for us?

AMONG OUR PEOPLE

We welcome in Baptism our Brother Logan Clements. Logan is the Son of John and Aubrey Clements and little Brother of Jackson Clements.

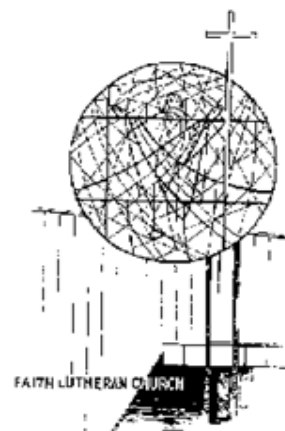
Sending out prayers and best wishes to Rev. Wegter-McNelly, Rev. Bill Hempel, Paul Molesky, Ben Wagar and Larry Boord as they continue their respective health journeys.

PRESIDENT’S REPORT

This month I want to share excerpts from a report that our Bishop, Rev. John Macholz gave to the Upstate New York Synod Assembly in Rochester on June 5, 2018. Bishop Macholz writes:

“A little over a year ago I met The Rev. Dr. Paul Baglyos at a Candidacy Committee Meeting. Since the demise of Regional Coordinators across the ELCA, one of the areas of great concern in most synods was the question: ‘Who will give us direction and information and connect us with the larger Church, especially in the arena of Candidacy, now that Regional Coordinators are gone?’

Paul Baglyos was the answer to that question and our prayer in this synod and region. Paul’s official title is “Candidacy and Leadership Manager for Regions 7 and 8”. He’s said he’s not really fond of



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

www.faithlutherantroy.com

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

Rev. William Hempel, Interim Pastor

Church Council Officers:

Fred Howard (President)
Evelyn Jarosz (Vice President)
Barbara Boord (Treasurer)
Donna Gibson (Secretary)

Council Members

Doug Adamek (Education)
Donna Gibson (Stewardship)
Rob Hayward
(Office Oversight/Admin)
Linda Hulihan
Evelyn Jarosz (In Reach/Out Reach)
(Missions)
Mike Moroskey (Property)
Sharon Morris (In Reach/Out Reach)
Ben Wagar (Property)

I wonder what would take place if we were able to let go of buildings that are weighing us down with maintenance costs that seem to grow year by year, I wonder what would happen if we created a new model for ministry where some of us sold our buildings, moved into leased space in strip malls, spent time in the community seeing what people needed and then built ministry around them instead of around ourselves?

I wonder what ministry would look like if we took Jesus call seriously to deny ourselves, take up the cross and follow him into the lives of the marginalized, forgotten and outcasts in this world of which there are billions? Would we have the courage, strength and ability to risk to do so? And, would we discover Jesus in the faces and lives and pain and joy of those we meet? And I wonder what might happen if we were able to look beyond the colors of one's skin or political party affiliation or ethnic background or socio-economic status in life and welcome one another with open arms, hearts and minds. Is it possible that we could rise above racism, sexism, ageism, Liberalism, Fundamentalism and Conservatism, just to name a few and find a way forward by recognizing that we are all in this together and that we truly need each other to move forward in an effective and helpful way?

What might it be like if we truly trusted the promise of God and leaned into the future God holds out for us even though we don't have a clue as to what that might mean and be or become? What if we actually took risks and stepped out boldly trusting that the One who has claimed us is faithful and leads us forward?

What might happen if we stopped thinking that young people walking through our church doors

would solve our problems and instead went to where they are and entered into genuine conversations to simply get to know them instead of judging them and wishing they were here to save us?

People of God, our story is a story that is grounded in death and resurrection. It is rooted in the endless, inexplicable love of our God who for some strange reason showers us with that love despite our best efforts to the contrary. It is a story that the world is desperate to hear and to hold and to live into. It is the story that we must tell, must live and must shout out with clarity, with hope and with joy and, oh, yes, wonder.

For although it is a wonder that God would love us so much the proof is at the foot of the cross and the entrance to the empty tomb. This God came and lived among us, died our death and was raised by the power of the Almighty God that we, you and I, might be his own and live under him in his kingdom and serve him in everlasting righteousness and innocence, even as he has risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity.

This is the truth, this is our story, this is our hope, our present, our future, our all. Come, wonder with me, let the shackles of the past fall to the wayside, question what is, ask what might be, step out in faith, let go of the past where necessary, grab hold of the future held out. Live in the Light and shine forth so that others might see in you the joy and deep delight that you are called children of God and loved by our God whose love knows no bounds.

Wonder with me, with others, with those you have yet to meet, **and know that our God of wonder walks with us each step of the way."**

Fred Howard
President
518 421 4576

OUR FAITH at WORK

Our featured mission for the month of July will be in support of the Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA) of the Greater Capital Region (GCR).

This year marks the Centennial Celebration of the building housing YWCA of the Greater Capital Region in downtown Troy. For the past 100 years

this building has been the start of positive change for thousands of local women and children. Programs offered by YWCA-GCR are designed to help women prepare for school and employment through economic advancement programs. It provides affordable, safe and supportive transitional and permanent housing, food security services, homelessness prevention, and advocates for gender and racial equity.

Our donations will join with others in efforts to continue building a healthy and strong community in downtown Troy.

The Bread of Life Food Pantry received a supply of food from Faith Lutheran Church in the month of June. A new list of most requested food items has been posted on our now empty food box in the Narthex. Some of those items are as listed: fresh and canned vegetables, fresh and canned fruit, condiments, sugar, cooking oil, spaghetti sauce, low sugar juice, coffee (instant & ground), tea bags and boxed macaroni & cheese, pancake mix and pasta.

Everyone has been very good in support of the Matthew 25 Pill Bottle project. The collection basket gets filled up most every Sunday. Thank you for removing the labels and glue from the bottles.

“Box Tops for Education” collection jar is now in place on the table in the Narthex. Thank you for your support.

The “Pull Tabs” are still being collected. If you have a worthy cause that would be a good recipient for our donation in the coming year please don’t hesitate to get in touch with a council member.

Evelyn Jarosz, Missions



The ladies had a perfect day for their annual picnic June 12th. The weather couldn’t have been any better, the food was top notched and the fellowship congenial. The ladies will be taking a hiatus for the months of July and August. They will return

September 18th for their first meeting and bible study in the fall.

SERVING FAITH in JULY

July 1st	Altar	Donna St. John and Janet Walsh
	Lay Assistant Ushers	Bill Maloney Barb Boord and Stephanie Wagar
	Counters	Polly and Bob Hayward
	Coffee Hour	On Hiatus for the Summer
July 8th	Altar	Stephanie Wagar and Karen Cordes
	Lay Assistant Ushers	Fred Howard B. Morgan, B. Speanburg and B. Stevens
	Counters	Diane and Rich Anderson
	Coffee Hour	On Hiatus for the Summer
July 15th	Altar	Stephanie Wagar and Karen Cordes
	Lay Assistant Ushers Counters	Unavailable at the Time of Printing
	Coffee Hour	On Hiatus for the Summer
July 22nd	Altar	Polly Hayward and Donna Gibson
	Lay Assistant Ushers Counters	Unavailable at the Time of Printing
	Coffee Hour	On Hiatus for the Summer

July 29th	Altar	Polly Hayward and Donna Gibson
	Lay Assistant Ushers Counters	Unavailable at the Time of Printing
	Coffee Hour	On Hiatus for the Summer

*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.
Roberta Hayward, Altar Guild
Heather Bull, Coffee Hour*

SUPPLY PASTORS FOR JULY

July 1st Beatles Liturgy – Pastor Jim Slater
 July 8th Pastor Jim Hulihan
 July 15th Pastor Dennis Myers
 July 22nd Pastor Jim Hulihan
 July 29th Pastor Jim Slater
 Aug. 5th Pastor Jim Hulihan
 After Aug. 5, Pastor Bill will be back with us.

FLOWERS for JULY

July 1st To the Glory of God
 July 8th To the Glory of God
 July 15th In Memory of Margaret
 Speanburg
 Given by Barbara Morgan
 July 22nd To the Glory of God
 July 29th To the Glory of God

CHOIR REHEARSAL

Choir Rehearsal is on break for the Summer.



DINNER CLUB

Dinner Club held its' Pot Luck evening on June 9th. There were many interesting choices to please the palate. Compliments go out to all the chefs.

The July gathering will be on the 18th for the annual outing to see Damn Yankees at the Washington Park Playhouse. Tickets are \$20 plus a ticketmaster fee of approximately \$2.00. The play begins at 8:00 PM and a picnic will proceed the play starting at 6:00 PM. Bring a picnic lunch and beverage to enjoy with the group. Come and enjoy an evening of fellowship and good entertainment. Everyone is welcome.

Please let Polly or Bob Hayward know if you are interested in attending.

VISION MISSION TO HONDURAS

The First Presbyterian Church of Chili (near Rochester) will be missioning to rural Honduras mid-March 29018. This issue at hand in the community is lack of vision care with reports of children dropping out of school because they cannot read the board nor their books. Their needs are listed as: a mobile Autorefractor and Phoropter, lenses, glasses, eye patches and lensometer. If anyone would like to donate any of these items, there will be a box stationed in the Narthex.

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.faithlutheranchurchtroty.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 will resume in September. Monday August 20th will be the deadline to send items for the September Newsletter. Please email your articles to: barbboord@hotmail.com.

JULY 2018

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Beatles Liturgy	Creative Threads 10:30 AM		INDEPENDENCE DAY	Home Bureau 2:00 to 4:00 PM		
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
	Council 7:00 PM		Speigle Elders 10:30AM-2:30PM			
	Creative Threads 10:30 AM					
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
	Creative Threads 10:30 AM		Dinner Club Play Picnic 6:00 PM Play 8:00 PM	Home Bureau 2:00 to 4:00 PM		
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
	Creative Threads 10:30 AM		Speigle Elders 10:30AM-2:30PM			
29	30	31				
	Creative Threads 10:30 AM					

