FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH 50 LEVERSEE ROAD TROY, NEW YORK 12182



Following Faith

JUNE 2021





Dear friends,

What a glorious day we had to celebrate Pentecost and the Affirmation of Baptism for our eight Confirmation students and their families! It was a joy to worship, sing, commune, and pray together.

Many thanks to Sara Martin and Dave Cerrone for their help in planning the service and arranging for certificate, music, food, gifts, and balloons! Thanks to Donna VanZandt for music leadership, rehearsal time, and flowers!

I would also like to thank you for the calls, cards, gifts, flowers, and words of love and encouragement as I enter this new phase of life called 'retirement.'

As with most transitions, it is both an exciting and somewhat unsettling time, but Steve and I are moving into it together.

Faith Lutheran is also 'in transition' and I know that God is at work in you. Keep loving God and each other!

Many blessings, Pastor Judy

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

www.faithlutherantroy.com

Sunday morning worship: See Below

Church Council Officers:

Donna St. John (President) Bill Jarosz (Vice President) Carol Karpien (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 Karpien (Stewardship) Sara Martin (Education) Diana Rieker (Inreach/Outreach) Donna Van Zandt (Worship)

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

Fred Howard, Interim Newsletter Editor

Confirmation – 2021

When I first volunteered to coordinate the Sunday School at FLC, I never dreamed that one day the congregation would be watching eight of our youth receive their Confirmation and affirm their baptism after one of the most trying years in recent memory. However, on May 23, 2021 that is exactly what happened. The kids started their Confirmation journey in early March of 2020 with a lesson and a lunch in the Sunday School room at the church. At the time, we never would have thought to refer to this as an "in person" lesson; it was just a lesson – with several more activities planned. We soon learned that their road to Confirmation would go down a completely different path. Zoom, virtual and recorded lessons became the norm, with "in person" classes being impossible. Although COVID 19 changed the way the kids were able to learn about and explore their faith, they were still able to move through the curriculum and reach the goal of finding their place with God and the church.

Throughout the past 10 years, the congregation has watched these kids go from dressing up for the Nativity play, to volunteering for "Buck a Chick" and Operation Christmas child, to standing under a tent on a beautiful day affirming their faith and remembering their baptism. This would not have been possible without the help and support of their families, the congregation, the Church Council, Donna Van Zandt and all of the Church family. Everyone that helped them on their way – Pastor Steve, Pastor Jennifer, and Pastor Judy played a role helping them grow into the fine young people they are today. I know Pastor Steve was looking down on us this May 23, proud of who these kids have become.

Please extend your congratulations and continuing prayers to the following Confirmands:

Marlene A. Cerrone, Dimitri A. Cerrone

Cole P. Franklin, Molly K. Martin

Alexander H. Rysedorph, Benjamin P. Rysedorph

Maximus S. Rysedorph, Timothy G. Martin

Peace and joy,

Sara Martin, Education Director







St. John's Cemetery – Melrose

The St. John's Cemetery in Melrose (Schaghticoke) is a cemetery that was 'used' by St. John's Lutheran Church, most recently sited in Melrose. Since that church closed in 1969, the cemetery has not been cared for, and it has become overgrown and unsightly. Since the last members of St. John's joined Our Savior's Lutheran (a church that then formed Faith Lutheran), there seems to be some connection and possible responsibility for the cemetery by Faith Lutheran.

Cleaning up and learning more about the restoration of the cemetery is a project that Pastor and Steve Converse are coordinating through the summer and into early Fall. They are hoping to spend a day/ week clearing the overgrown areas and removing fallen limbs, etc.

They are also coordinating a monthly work day for those from Faith Lutheran or other groups who are interested in helping. They will be at the cemetery on the third Saturday of the month between 9 and 2 to work with others there. Please join them for work if you're able – or just come by to see what's happening and partake of some cold lemonade and cookies!

Planned summer Saturday work days: June 19, July 16, August 21, September 18

Pastor Judy and Steve (978) 808-6780.

AMONG OUR PEOPLE

Thanksgiving for our new Confirmands, for our newest baptized member, and for our councils as they chart our course for the future.

Prayers of encouragement for success of the joint efforts of Faith and Evangelical during our diligent search for a new Pastor.



The featured mission for the month of June will be in support of the work of Bread of Life Food Pantry.

Bread of Life Food Pantry is located next to Evangelical Church in Poestenkill. It is a nonprofit organization helping families supplement their food needs. In addition to the mission money collected this month, our church has been supporting the food pantry with food donations left in the collection box in the Narthex which are then delivered to the pantry. Your continued support is greatly appreciated.

The Bread of Life Food pantry can always use the following items: Fruit juice (low sugar), canned fruit (in own juice), stew, hash or chili (canned), canned vegetables, baked beans (like Bush's), snacks and baking mixes, sugar and cooking oil, tuna fish (in water), mayo, mustard and ketchup. The following non-food items are always needed: laundry soap, dish soap, toilet paper, paper towels, tissues, toothbrushes (adult), toothpaste, soap, shampoo and deodorant.

Linda Hulihan, Missions

May 3, 2021 Council Meeting Highlights

President St. John summarized progress on the Ministry Site Profile call document, which is close to being completed. A joint meeting between Faith and ELCP councils was held to discuss the call process. The MSP committees from each church met to coordinate work on the document with Bill Jarosz, Carol Karpien, and Donna St. John working on Faith's MSP. A Call Committee consisting of four members will probably need to be appointed.

Pastor reported that current worship schedule will continue. She is working on getting supply pastors

through summer. Cameron Hayward will be baptized on 5/9. Confirmation will be held on 5/23 her last Sunday. The St. John cemetery project will begin on 5/15.

Property – Bill Jarosz reported that we have a new account with Curtis Lumber and that materials to repair the annex roof have been delivered. Repairs to the annex may start May 8. He also obtained quotes for blacktop repair to the driveway and along the northern side of the church. Three bids ranging from \$14,300 to \$35,240 for various levels of quality were received.

TSL Nursery School Inquiry - Concern was expressed over utility and insurance costs. We have not heard from TSL recently. Pastor will contact TSL.

St. John Cemetery – This is a short term clean-up project led by Steve Converse and assisted by the St. Johns. Start date is 5/15.

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 current and past newsletters.

You can change your current delivery option by sending your preference to: <u>farmerf169@aol.com</u> 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 Monday, June 28, 2021. Please email your articles to: <u>farmerf169@aol.com</u>. If you would like a special joy or concern shared, you can also contact him by phone at 518 421 4576.

