

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH
50 LEVERSEE ROAD
TROY, NY 12180



Following Faith

OCTOBER 2021

*Faith does not make
things **easy**,*

It makes them

POSSIBLE...

Luke 1:37

Special Congregational meeting on October 24th immediately following 10:30am church service.

The Faith Lutheran and Evangelical Lutheran Poestenkill Councils met jointly to interview our Pastoral candidate the Rev. Kate Drefke, recommended by the call committee, on September 20, 2021, via Zoom. After introductions and an extensive interview with many questions and answers, the two councils separated and met individually. After due deliberation, each council voted and both were in unanimously agreement to proceed with the call process.

Our next step is for each congregation to meet Pastor Kate.

On Saturday October 23rd everyone will have the opportunity to meet Pastor Kate at ELCP and Faith. Details on the Meet & Greet are in the planning stages, but please plan to attend one of the sessions so that you too will be prepared as the congregations decide whether to call her.

Sunday October 24th Rev. Kate Drefke will preside over both services. Immediately following our church service, we will hold a congregational meeting for active members to vote on whether to call Pastor Kate.

Please mark these dates on your calendar

More information on the candidate and events will follow.

Donna St. John, President
518-274-3539 *home*
518-526-2545 *cell*

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

www.faithlutherantroy.com

Transitional Leader – Pastor Dan May
(518) 795 0964 or pstrdan88@gmail.com

Sunday morning worship – In Person and Zoom
10:30 AM at Faith

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)
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

The Rev. Lee Miller II was recently elected to a 6 year term as Bishop, Upstate New York Synod. He writes

September 1, 2021

Dear Siblings in Christ,

“This is the day the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad in it!” (Ps. 118:24)

These words from an ancient psalmist are how I’ve greeted the communities I’ve served every Lord’s Day. “This is the day that the Lord has made, let us rejoice!” It is a statement of faith and a proclamation, a witness to God’s love active in the world.

Some days these words sound foreign; as when I have used them to greet an assembly gathered to commend a beloved one into God’s eternal care; or on the day after 9/11, or in the midst of a pandemic.

But these words are no less true, even when the “earth should change, [and] the mountains shake in the heart of the sea” (Ps. 46:2).

God is with us. God has been with us all along. The Divine continues to walk with us, alongside us, feeding us (that’s what all of these “bread” Sundays have been about after all) and leading us forward, together.

I am privileged, humbled, excited, and just a bit fearful, as we begin this call together as church and servant-bishop. I look forward to learning about God’s love made present in the world from you. I look forward to growing with you, activated by the one who has created us in an image of loving-kindness, and set free to do the liberating work of the gospel.

I know that the pandemic has been exhausting in many and various ways. This can’t be overstated. I believe as God’s people, saved and transformed by the sacrificial love of Christ and his death on the cross, we are raised up to new life, to be the church for such a time as this. I also believe, that as we come through the pandemic together, we do so with heightened needs for community and connections, for relationship and real purpose in being together. Our intentions have been focused and we are collaborating in new ways for the sake of our siblings. This is an incredible time to be the church!

I look forward to connecting with you this Fall as we begin our ministry together and renew our relationships throughout our synod, which is Christ’ church, together. Join me at your local conference Fall Assembly where we’ll have some time to meet and listen to one another.

Join me as well in praying for all God’s people, for our communities throughout the Upstate New York Synod, our ELCA, the Lutheran World Federation, and for all people in need everywhere.

Thank you for your partnership in the Gospel. Thanks be to God for the ways that love activates us in the world to do justice and share in the joy of Christ!

“This is the day that the Lord has made! Let us rejoice and be glad in it!”

Yours in Christ,

The Rev. Lee Miller II
Bishop, Upstate New York Synod

Faith Lutheran 30th Anniversary Celebration



On September 19th we held the celebration of 30 years as Faith Lutheran Church.

Thank you to Pastor Jim Hulihan for presiding over our celebratory service and Donna VanZandt for our music.



Following the service everybody was invited to enjoy a pulled pork lunch (in our normal fall fashion) and cupcake dessert along with all the fixings.

Attendees had an opportunity to look at our original tree banner more closely; to add their fingerprint to a Family in Faith tree; see some of the quilting expertise by our Women of Faith before these blankets are delivered to St. Paul's center; add to our church timeline; and view plenty of pictures taken over the years. Thank you to Fred Howard, Sara Martin, Donna St. John, and Nadeen Thompson for providing digital pictures.

Thank you to Sara Martin and Janet Walsh for all their help beginning to end! The day could not have been possible without the team efforts of Janet, Jackie, Dana, the Martins, Bulls, and St. Johns.



Let the celebration continue!

The timeline is still up in the fellowship hall if anybody would like to add memories. Anyone wishing to work on a history committee please contact Donna St. John. One of the digital picture frames is located in the narthex and can be plugged over the next few Sundays. Stop by to take another look at the pictures, feel free to take a faith stone and bookmark on your way through.

October Mission of the Month

Our Mission for the month of October is in support of **St. Paul's Center for Woman and Children**. St. Paul's Center, located in Rensselaer NY, 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 counseling, parenting, homemaking, budgeting, literacy, pediatric care, mental health, substance abuse, domestic violence education, job training and placement and permanent housing. Your continued support is greatly appreciated.

September 7, 2021 Council Meeting Highlights

Highlights from our Council Meeting on Sept. 7

The meeting was called to order at 7:15 p.m. followed by an opening prayer.

President's Report

- Discussion on the Go-Fund-Me request for Pastor Jennifer.

A donation was sent on behalf of Faith Lutheran Church and the special contributions that are being made by members and friends will be forwarded later this month.

- Sept. 11th is a clean-up day scheduled in the a.m. All hands on deck!

- The 30th anniversary of the joining of St. John's Lutheran of Troy and Our Savior's Lutheran of Speigletown to form Faith Lutheran will be celebrated on September 19th. Donna St. John is chairing this event which will include fellowship and light luncheon following morning service.

Committee Reports

- Inreach-Outreach - We need to remember the following.

- Barb Boord on the passing of Larry Boord

- Polly Hayward who continues to deal with some health issues.

- Kay Young is also dealing with health issues and has been moved to a different area of The Eddy.

- Committee reports

- Education - Hopefully some of the children can help with the clean-up on Sept. 11, and our 30th-year celebration.

- Worship - There is a continuing effort to secure supply pastors or SAM's for our upcoming services. (along with Lay Assistants and Alter Guild volunteers)

- Old Business

- Discussion continued with the possibility of finding an Administrative Assistant. No movement at this time.

- Paving of the parking lot. A positive vote was taken to hire Smith's Paving to upgrade the parking lot from the front of the church to the outside door of the Altar Guild Room. Cost - \$12,750.00.

- Outside sign discussion. Do we update? What are our options?

- New Business

- Zooming our services is still a work in progress. It is the opinion of the Council that an additional laptop needs to be purchased to make this work better.

- It was suggested that we engage Saratoga Sound to evaluate what we currently are doing for our Zoom services and to recommend steps for a more professional

operation. It was agreed that professional assistance was needed.

- Joys and Concerns
- On Sept. 25th Jim and Linda Houlihan's daughter will be renewing her vows.

Monday Quilt Group

We are back sewing together on Mondays after a hiatus during COVID. The virus may have kept us from sewing together but didn't stop us from quilting. We are busy tying quilt tops made over the last year; making them ready to be delivered to St. Paul's Center.

If you would like to be part of this ministry, it is easy to do by getting in touch with Janet Walsh 518 235 3245 or Donna Gibson 518 833 7471.

Altar Guild

With regular church services resuming, we would like to set a schedule for altar volunteers.

- You may have served in the past and would like to continue.
- Maybe you can assist with setting up on Saturday.
- Or maybe you are only available to help with the clean up after service.
- You might just want to hear more on what we do behind the scenes.

If you are interested in continuing to serve on the altar guild or would like to become an Altar Guild member, please contact me at 518-526-2545 or 518-274-3539.

Thank you,
Donna St. John, Altar Guild Leader

Leading Our October Worship

In the Pulpit	Lay Assistant
Oct. 3 - SAM Jim Netzer	Fred Howard
Oct. 10 - PR Christopher Hoyer	Rich Anderson
Oct. 17 - SAM Jim Netzer	Diane Dyer
Oct. 24 - PR John Knarvik	Carol Karpfen
Oct. 31 - PR Jim Hulihan	Bill of Evelyn Jarosz

Flowers for the Altar

Oct. 10 - In memory of Gwenllian Lynch. Given by Janet Walsh.

If you would like to place flowers on the Altar at any time during the remainder of 2021, please fill in the flower chart hanging in the Narthex. The cost continues to be \$20.00 per bouquet. Cash or check made out to WELCA is accepted. See Donna Van Zandt for questions and/or payment.

AMONG OUR PEOPLE

Prayer for healing for Larry Lansing who is undergoing Chemo therapy for cancer affecting his jaw. Our prayer is for healing and recovery.

Remember Paul Haas who is doing well at Van Rensselaer Manor. While he cannot have visitors, he does have his cell phone 518-892-2231 and enjoys telephone calls from his friends.

In some back and forth correspondence with Mary Chris Brauchili, Helen Inglis' daughter from NJ, we found that her home had been spared from Hurricane Ida's flooding, but that her daughter's home had 6-7 feet of basement flooding. There was much support from the community during recovery. The family is planning a "Celebration of Life" memorial for Helen next spring. Incidentally, Mary Chris thinks that Helen was at the 39th anniversary celebration. Surely she was, along with many of the other saints who have gone before us!

Prayers of renewal for the Congregations of Faith and Evangelical as we move into a new journey of Faith, service and outreach in our communities.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The newsletter item deadline for the November 2021 newsletter is Monday, October 25, 2021. 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.