

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH
50 LEVERSEE ROAD
TROY, NEW YORK 12182



Following Faith

OCTOBER 2020





Dear friends,

The calendar on the wall and a weather report for the day tell us that the seasons continue to turn. Inside the church – and we can now be (safely!) inside the church – we are seeing the seasons move forward also.

In this coming month of October, we will continue to hear the stories of Jesus' life and ministry from the gospel book of Matthew. The stories come from the time when Jesus is headed to Jerusalem where he knows that he will face arrest, crucifixion, and death. He has told his disciples about what is ahead, but they seem caught up in their own ideas about what this Messiah is all about. Jesus' words to them (and to us!) are sometimes harsh as his time on earth seems to be running out.

On the final Sunday of October, we pause to celebrate Reformation Sunday and give thanks for the life and work of Martin Luther, the great reformer of the Christian church. We'll see a new COLOR in the church on that day: RED – for the presence of the Holy Spirit. Even 503 years after Luther began his attempts to reform the church of his day, we continue to pray for reform in our day as God calls us to seek the things that make for peace and justice in our world.

Blessings to you in this changing season,
Pastor Judy

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

www.faithlutherantroy.com

Sunday morning virtual worship: 10:00 a.m.

**Rev. Judith Converse, Pastor
(Stewardship)**

Church Council Officers:

**Diana Rieker (President)
Bill Jarosz (Vice President)
Carol Karpien (Secretary)
Roberta Hayward (Treasurer)
Rich Anderson (Financial Secretary)**

Council Members

**Errol Bull (Property)
Fred Howard (Special Projects)
Linda Hulihan (Stewardship)
Bill Jarosz (Property)
Sara Martin (Education)
Carol Perrott (Inreach/Outreach)
Donna St. John (Missions)**

**R. Hayward, F. Howard, B. Jarosz,
and C. Karpien (Partnership Council)**

Barbara Boord, Newsletter Editor

**ELECTRONIC SERVICES WILL CONTINUE
TO BE HELD UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.
INSTRUCTIONS FOR PARTICIPATION AS
WELL AS SERVICE MATERIALS WILL BE
SENT BY EMAIL AND BY US MAIL.**

WELCOME BACK!

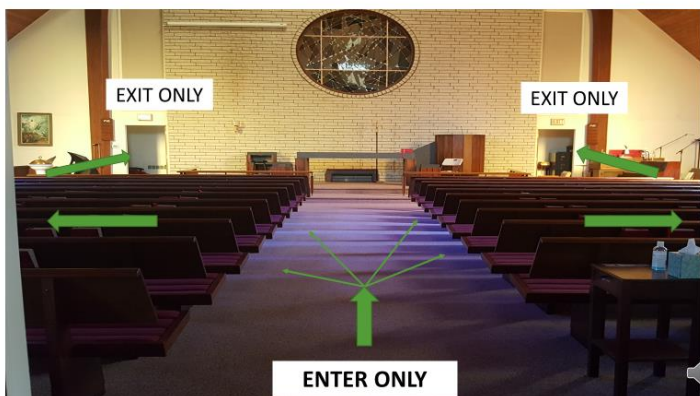
In anticipation of our worship indoors and in-person, we want to remind you of a couple things:

- PLEASE do a quick health screening before you come to church. If you are feeling ill at all, do not leave your home. Attend our worship service via Zoom at 10:30 a.m.
- Bring your mask – and wear it over your mouth and nose! Everyone attending worship in-person must wear a mask.

When you arrive at church, enter the narthex through the east or west doors. Keep six feet between you and others.

Provide your name and phone number to the check-in person. This is for contact tracing. We also ask you to sanitize your hands.

Move towards the center aisle, take a bulletin from the table, place your offering in the plate (THANK YOU!), and allow the usher to help you find a seat.



Stay seated during the entire worship service. At the end of the service, exit through the doors at the front of the sanctuary.

If you need to use the restroom during the service, please follow the arrows. Only one person/ family at a time should be in the restroom.

Currently we will not be singing during in-person worship or offering Holy Communion. We also cannot provide a coffee hour following worship.

If you have any questions, please contact a Council member or Pastor Judy.

RE-OPENING 'JOBS'

As we gather again inside and in-person this Fall, a few volunteers are needed to insure our safety and comfort:

- Check-in – two people sit at the check-in table to verify names and phone numbers for everyone attending
- Ushers – one or two people to escort worshippers to seats that are distanced from others
- Narthex person/ floater – one person to be available for questions
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If you would like to volunteer for any of these tasks, please contact a Council member or Pastor Judy.



AMONG OUR PEOPLE

It is with deep sadness that I share the passing of Paul Molesky on Monday evening September 28TH. Paul died at his home with his wife, Joann, and other family members near.

A private funeral service will be held on Sunday, October 4 at 2:00 p.m. at the Molesky home. Friends are invited to visit at the home on Saturday afternoon (after 2) or between 1:00 and 2:00 p.m. on Sunday.

The burial will take place in Petersburg, NY.

I know that Joann would welcome a card (291 Casey road, Schaghticoke, NY 12154) or a phone call next week (518 753 4557).

Please pray for Brayden McCormack, and his family. Brayden is a 9-year-old boy from Tampa, Florida who has unfortunately contracted Naegleria Fowleri a Brain-eating amoeba.

This single-cell amoeba attacks brain tissue and is usually fatal.

His continued strength, along with our loving prayers, will support his healing and recovery.

Prayers for Larry Boord who is now home and continuing his recovery process. Please include Barbara as well.

Prayers of encouragement for Pastor Judy and the Councils of Faith and Evangelical as they lead our congregations into a new journey of Faith in our communities.

And finally, prayers for our country and our world in these times of COVID-19 pandemic and turmoil and unrest.

OUR FAITH at WORK

OCTOBER MISSION

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.

Pull tabs

We continue to collect the pull tabs off soda or beer cans. Donated pull tabs will be periodically dropped off to the Ronald McDonald House, in Albany. You will find the collection containers on the table in the Narthex. Your continued support is greatly appreciated. Ronald McDonald House Charities of the Capital Region not only provides access to quality health care; we enable a family-centered approach, ensuring families are fully supported and actively involved in their children's care. For more information check out the website:

<https://rmhcofalbany.org/>

BREAD OF LIFE FOOD PANTRY.

Our mission of the month is the Bread of Life Food Pantry which is located next to Evangelical Church in Poestenkill. It is a nonprofit organization helping families supplement their food needs. Our church has been supporting the food pantry with food donations left in the collection box in the Narthex.

While the church is closed, the need continues. You may choose to bring donations directly to Evangelical Church in Poestenkill. You may drop off your donations during the daytime. Volunteers will check Monday, Wednesday, Friday. If you wish, you may leave a message at the church office number (518) 283-6045 to let them know when you will be dropping off a donation.

“BREAD OF LIFE” FOOD PANTRY
STAPLE FOOD SUGGESTIONS TO
SHOP FOR OR DONATE – ELCP Poestenkill, NY

Meat Items: hamburger (1lb.) bacon (1lb.) hot dogs, frozen chicken (tenders, nuggets, patties) Frozen fish (sticks, fillets) Eggs, American cheese slices, butter (1 lb.), bread & rolls
Canned or jarred items: Vegetables (green beans, corn, peas, potatoes, beets, carrots) Fruit (peaches, pears, pineapple, **fruit cocktail, Mandarin oranges,** applesauce)
 Pork & Beans, any like Bush’s baked beans, canned pasta (ravioli, beef-a-roni, spaghetti)
 Peanut Butter, jelly (**strawberry,** grape, others), fruit juices (apple, cranberry, other varieties) snack items (cookies, bars, pudding, fruit cups, cake & baking mixes, any others)
 Canned Tuna, Stew, Chili, or **Hash** – Soups (chicken noodle, tomato, or any kind) -Spaghetti sauce – Mayo, Mustard, Ketchup
 Coffee (instant or ground) Tea bags, Sugar, Flour, cooking oil, dried pasta (any kind) Pancake or Baking Mix, rice (white or brown), Pancake syrup
 Stuffing Mix, dried Potato Mixes, Mac & Cheese, Ramen Noodles, Cereal (cold or hot) Oatmeal, Cheerios, Frosted Flakes, Mini-Shredded Wheat, Cinnamon Toast Crunch, Cinnamon Life, Honey Nut Cheerios, Life, Raisin Bran, Chocolate varieties, Froot Loops, Lucky Charms
Personal Items: Bar soap, deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrush, shampoo, **dish soap, laundry soap,** toilet paper, paper towels, tissues
Fresh Produce: Potatoes, carrots, onions, oranges, apples, garden abundance in summer **THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**
 Call (518) 283-6045 for shopping list or to drop off at the church.

Donna St. John, Missions



As summer ends and fall begins, the Faith Lutheran Education Program is also beginning a new phase in our journey. This fall Confirmation lessons will

begin again in a new, revised format. Currently, we are planning on the kids working on their Confirmation through a combination of online learning and in-person activities.

Although COVID temporarily paused their faith education, it did not stop it. We are looking forward to getting back to learning and socializing, even if it is a bit different than how we started.

Hope to see everyone soon!

Sara Martin, Education Co-Ordinator



Oct. 4 – To the Glory of God

Oct. 11 - In memory of Gwenllian Lynch.
 Given by Janet Walsh.

Oct. 18 – To the Glory of God

Oct. 25 - In honor of Molly Martin's Baptism
 Given by the Martin Family.

SERVING FAITH – ALTAR GUILD

Good morning,

We will be waiting to set an altar schedule. During this restricted time, I will change banners and linens as needed. When we begin offering communion again, I will also plan to set that up for now. Please call me if there are any special needs.

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

We will email you a copy if you send your email address directly to Barbara at:

barbboord@hotmail.com.

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



JOINT PRAYER GROUP

Faith Lutheran and Evangelical Lutheran have a Joint Prayer Group that has been active since June 2016. There are approximately 12 of us that pray on a regular basis for our churches, for our Pastor and for healing for our members and others in need of prayer.

Pray for wisdom for our church leaders as we plan how we as congregations will worship together in the future.

Pray for spiritual revival in this area. Pray also for the churches in this area that are struggling and in need of pastors.

If you, a loved one, or someone you know would like to be included on the specific list for prayers, please let me know.

Michele Howard, mcvh44@aol.com, (518) 753-4288.

NEWSLETTER COORDINATOR

Barbara Boord is coordinating the Newsletter efforts.

Newsletter copies may be viewed on the church web site:

www.faithlutheranchurchtroy.com

at any time.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The newsletter item deadline for the November 2020 newsletter is Friday October 23rd. Please email your articles to: barbboord@hotmail.com.



ELCA Prayer for Times of Public Health Concern: COVID-19/Coronavirus

God, our peace, and our strength, we pray for our nation and the world as we face new uncertainties around coronavirus. Protect the most vulnerable among us, especially all who are currently sick or in isolation. Grant wisdom, patience, and clarity to health care workers, especially as their work caring for others puts

them at great risk. Guide us as we consider how best to prepare and respond in our families, congregations, workplaces, and communities. Give us courage to face these days not with fear but with compassion, concern, and acts of service, trusting that you abide with us always, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

WE'RE GETTING READY FOR IN-PERSON, INDOOR WORSHIP!

It has been 5 ½ months since we worshiped in our sanctuary at Faith Lutheran. It has been a **long** 5 ½ months! After a great deal of discussion following lots of reading and listening to the information that is available – **as well as weighing the risks that are still present**, we are beginning to plan for worship in our sanctuary again.

Here's what we're planning:

- September 6 – Worship via Zoom at 10:30 a.m. (Pastor Christopher Hoyer leading worship and preaching)
- September 13 – Outdoor worship at Evangelical/ Poestenkill at 9:00 a.m. and 10:30 Worship via Zoom
- September 20 – **INDOOR worship at Evangelical/ Poestenkill** at 9:00 a.m. and 10:30 Worship via Zoom
- September 27 – **INDOOR worship at Faith/ Troy** at 9:00 a.m. and 10:30 Worship via Zoom

Going forward the indoor/ in-person worship service will alternate between Evangelical and Faith Lutheran, each week at 9:00 a.m., AND the 10:30 Zoom worship would continue to be offered.

If you would like to receive OR continue to receive a weekly mailing of the Zoom worship bulletin, please call the church office (518 237 4641) and leave a message with your name and plan to continue. Thank you!

Here are some of the guidelines for our in-person worship:

- **Please, please do not come to in-person worship if you feel ill!** The symptoms of the virus are well-known – fever, shortness of breath, and achiness. Especially as we move into the Fall and flu season, we all need to be careful about spreading any illness to others when we are together.
- If you come to in-person worship, **a mask will be required**. That mask should cover your nose and mouth fairly snugly. Please have it on when you enter the building. Masks will also be available at the check-in table.
- Upon entering, you will be asked to sanitize your hands.
- We will ask you to verify your name and phone number for tracking purposes should someone present that day develop COVID-19.
- We ask that you **remain at least 6 feet away from others**. That includes when you are entering or leaving – and when you are sitting. The pews in the sanctuary will be marked to indicate where you can sit. Those from the same household can sit together.
- Please enter through the narthex – either the east or west doors. An usher will assist you in via the center aisle to a pew. All exiting will be from the side aisles and through the doors at the front of the sanctuary – near the library and the sacristy.
- An offering plate will be available in the center aisle for your envelope. THANK YOU!
- A bulletin will be available for use during the service.
- If you need to use the restroom while you are in the building, please allow only one person in the room at a time. Use the disinfectant wipes that are available.

Initially we will not be singing hymns or partaking in Holy Communion. These additions to our service may be added as we move forward.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact a Council member or Pastor Judy. Be safe.