

Please keep the following people in your prayers:

Bill Scheimer Elsie Benjamin Ed Larson Lucille Brooks Marilyn Haas Ellen Lasky
Charles Benoit Marlene Nixon Charlie O'Connell Terry Scavetta



JULY

01 Elsie Benjamin
 Cynthia Schroll
05 Merlin Christianson
12 Adam Cummings
 Flo Le Page
13 Christopher Marineau
18 Marjorie Coons
19 Inge Melching
21 Carolyn Henry
23 Thomas Tedford, Jr.
24 Erik Pellett
29 Adell Kenyon
30 Matthew Kenyon
31 Helen Mariner

AUGUST

02 Kurt Melching
04 Adam Pearson

05 Bill Scheimer
06 Rick Hart
07 Tammy Harmon
09 Kathy Ricciardelli
10 Barbara Pellett
13 Veronica Carpenter
16 Dwight Henry Slocum
17 Mark George VanOstrand
19 Debbie Carr
 Marilyn Haas
20 Michael DePold
21 Karen Lamontagne-O'Brien
22 Louis Moreau
 Sarah Jaworski
23 Pamela Johnson
 Mathew Nelsen
24 Stuart Slocum
25 Samantha Harmon
 Robert Johnson
27 Charles Schiemer
28 Derek Cummings
31 Ethel Wirtemberg

Faith Council Structure:

COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Kent Tedford

DIVISION I VICE PRESIDENT

Open

DIVISION II VICE PRESIDENT

Annette Bolt

COUNCIL SECRETARY

Barbara Lewis

DIVISION I COMMITTEES

Worship and Music:

Beth Godwin

Christian Education:

Janet Holowczak

Sarah Jaworski

Youth:

Kent Tedford

Evangelism:

Joyce Lamontagne

Social Ministry:

Tom Benoit

Donna Hubbs

Youth Deacons

Eric Bolt

Ron Hart

DIVISION II COMMITTEES

Stewardship:

Joe Carlson

Finance:

Jim Bevins

Kurt Christensen

Property:

Jay Stolzenhaler

Publicity:

Peter Carlson

Mutual Ministry:

Janina Johnkoski

Prayer Blanket Ministry:

Linda Woodrow

Caryn Furbush

Worship for July and August

July 1st – Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

1 Kings 19:15-16, 19-21

Psalms 16

Galatians 5:1, 13-25

Luke 9:51-62

July 8th – Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

Isaiah 66:10-14

Psalms 66

Galatians 6:[1-6], 7-16

Luke 10:1-11,16-20

July 15th – Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

Deuteronomy 30:9-14

Psalms 25

Colossians 1:1-14

Luke 10:25-37

July 2nd - Mary Magdalene

Ruth 1:6-18

Psalms 73

Acts 13:26-33a

John 20:1-2, 11-18

July 29th – Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 18:20-32

Psalms 138

Colossians 2:6-15 [16-19]

Luke 11:1-13

Aug. 5th – Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14, 2:18-23

Psalms 49

Colossians 3:1-11

Luke 12:13-21

Aug. 12th – Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 15:1-6

Psalms 33

Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16

Luke 12:32-40

Aug. 19th – Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

Jeremiah 23:23-29

Psalms 82

Hebrews 11:29 – 12:2

Luke 12:49-56

Aug. 26th – Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Isaiah 58:9b-14

Psalms 103

Hebrews 12:18-29

Luke 13:10-17

Teller Schedule

July 1 - Jim Bevins & Lynn Tobin

July 22 – Chuck Sack & Steve Jaworski

July 8 – Jay Stolzenhaler & John Holowczak

July 29 – Jim Bevins & Lynn Tobin

July 15 – Craig Bolt & Keryl Robinson

AT YOUR SERVICE JULY & AUGUST

Greeters:

July 1, Cindy and Norm Banta
July 8,
July 15, Debbie Carr and Kendra Dubiel
July 22, Beth and Eleanor Warren
July 29, Dennis and Donna Hubbs
August 5, Kay and Bob Neumeister
August 12, Barbara Lewis and Adell Kenyon
August 19, Ken and Linda Parkany
August 26, Diana McVicker and Tom Benoit

Ushers:

July 1, Gene, Janina, and Robbie Johnkoski
July 8, Chuck and Pat Sack
July 15, Walter Schoenfeld and Brian Godwin
July 22, Jay and Carla Stolzenhaler
July 29, Melissa Golden and Marge Coons
August 5, Caryn Furbush and Barbara Lewis
August 12, Beth Warren and Mike Myette
August 19, Kent Tedford and Tom Benoit
August 26, Cathy Kay and Kendra Dubiel

Communion Assistants:

July 1, Craig and Annette Bolt
July 8, Carla and Jay Stolzenhaler
July 15, Kent Tedford and Ken Parkany
July 22, Linda Parkany and Joyce Lamontagne
July 29, Pat and Chuck Sack
August 5, Brian Godwin and Donna Hubbs
August 12, Janina and Gene Johnkoski
August 19, Melissa Golden and Cathy Kay
August 26, Craig and Annette Bolt

Lectors:

July 1, Merlin Christianson
July 8, Pete Carlson
July 15,
July 22,
July 29, Doris Schoenfeld
August 5, Janet Holowczak
August 12, Marge Coons
August 19, Joyce Lamontagne
August 26, Linda Parkany

If anyone on this list has any questions, or conflicts, please let Norm and Cindy know, and they will rectify your concerns. We wish to include all who want to participate in these services. Please feel free to contact us anytime.

If anyone is not on this list who is interested in one of these services, we want to know this, too. Thank you very much.

Norm and Cindy Banta
674 Center St.
Manchester, CT 06040-2701
Phone: (860) 643-4115
E-mail: bantanorman@sbcglobal.net

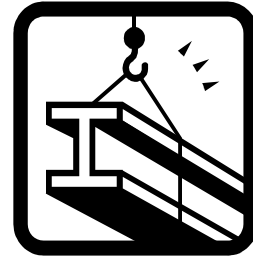
YOUTH Happenings & Upcoming Events

That's all for now. See you next month with the latest news and plans from the Youth Group!

Kent



Building Update



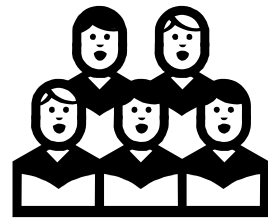
This is an update on our building plans that will expand our front lobby to accommodate a wheelchair lift and a unisex accessible restroom.

As this is being written in mid-May, the architect has completed the design that accommodates inputs from the structural engineer. After a final check the drawings will be ready to distribute to builders for bids. Letters have been sent to potential candidates to help in prescreening their interest.

I want to alert you to one late change. The main walkway to the new entry will be restored in concrete. The anniversary brick walkway will be rebuilt adjacent to that main walkway but reshaped as a patio. This was done after recommendations from two professionals who reviewed our plans that said it was too difficult to maintain a level surface with brick. We were also aware that a visitor tripped and fell a couple of months ago on the existing walkway. I hope you understand these safety considerations that were reviewed with the Church Council because our time was limited. The brick restoration will be done by the original installer. Steve Jaworski and his brother work for that business that also does the church landscaping.

As always if you have feedback, questions or comments, talk to Jay Stolzenthaler, Property Chair, at 528-0165.

Summer Office Hours: Beginning the week of June 25th, the office will be open on Tuesday and Friday from 9:00 AM until 11:00 AM. I will be working from home on Wednesday and Thursday and will check voice mail throughout the day as well as answer e-mail. Please remember that if you cannot reach someone in the office to call Kathy @ 216-1816 (home), or 803-9415 (cell), or Pastor Morris @ 203-389-2585.
Thanks, Kathy



Notes From the Balcony

Springtime is an amazing season. We celebrate the Risen Lord and then we watch the reawakening of the Earth “with its store of wonders untold.” For some, that is a problem; there is just too much to do.....all those wonders can be overwhelming. That must be one of the reasons for summer.....it gives us a time to unwind, a time to reflect, and really enjoy the wonders of the world.

Music programs at Faith are part of that same cycle. Christmas, Lent and Easter each have extra worship services and exquisite music to help us focus on the season and guide our observances. Throughout these seasons, Faith is fortunate to have many who generously share their musical talents and time. However, by late May, many get weary and summer just can’t come quickly enough.

I hope you will all join me in thanking all who have contributed to the musical activities at Faith—those individuals, ranging in age from 3 to the 80s, who are singers, ringers, and instrumentalists, and everyone who supports our programs. It takes an entire church to grow a child. It takes the entire church to build and maintain a music program. We aren’t done yet. There are so many wonders yet untold (and unsung) for us to experience.

Susan Lionberger

**Any comments about the website? Any ideas?
Any Faith members interested in the website?
Please contact Caryn Furbush, Webmaster**

**7/13-15 - WELCA Retreat at
Koinonia - Londonderry, VT**

Faith Lutheran Church

1120 Silver Lane Lane, East Hartford, CT 06118
Phone: 860-569-2037 Email: Faithehct@aol.com

6/3 - Youth Sunday

[Pastor's Message](#)
[Family of Faith](#)
[Prayer Blanket Ministry](#)
[Vision/Mission Statement](#)

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Amazing Faith Welcomes Everyone!

A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

A 92-year-old, petite, well-poised and proud man, who is fully dressed each morning by eight o'clock, with his hair fashionably coifed and shaved perfectly, even though he is legally blind, moved to a nursing home today. His wife of 70 years recently passed away, making the move necessary. After many hours of waiting patiently in the lobby of the nursing home, he smiled sweetly when told his room was ready.

As he maneuvered his walker to the elevator, I provided a visual description of his tiny room, including the eyelet sheets that had been hung on his window.

"I love it," he stated with the enthusiasm of an eight-year-old having just been presented with a new puppy.

"Mr. Jones, you haven't seen the room; just wait."

" That doesn't have anything to do with it," he replied.

"Happiness is something you decide on ahead of time. Whether I like my room or not doesn't depend on how the furniture is arranged .. it's how I arrange my mind. I already decided to love it. "It's a decision I make every morning when I wake up. I have a choice; I can spend the day in bed recounting the difficulty I have with the parts of my body that no longer work, or get out of bed and be thankful for the ones that do.

Each day is a gift, and as long as my eyes open, I'll focus on the new day and all the happy memories I've stored away. Just for this time in my life.

Old age is like a bank account. You withdraw from what you've put in.

So, my advice to you would be to deposit a lot of happiness in the bank account of memories! Thank you for your part in filling my Memory bank. I am still depositing." Remember the five simple rules to be happy:

- 1. Free your heart from hatred .**
- 2. Free your mind from worries.**
- 3. Live simply.**
- 4. Give more.**
- 5. Expect less.**

An Update from the DEEP WATER
NETS are Out and Catching Fish, Wind is Picking Up,
but Feel Safe Riding with Christ

A couple of months ago I shared the 6 overall objectives the Council had agreed to focus on over the next 12-18 months with you and asked if you were ready to come aboard and go fishing out in the deep water with Christ and the Leadership Team. It's clear from everything that's going on within Faith that many of you have come aboard. You're feeling the Spirit and bringing a level of energy to Faith that we haven't seen in awhile, which is great. With that in mind, I'd like to take a moment and provide you an update on how we're doing against those objectives so you can have a fuller perspective on how Christ is actively working through us (see the objectives and updates on next 2 pages).

You'll note there isn't a specific objective about finances, which may seem unusual, given that we've passed a budget with a \$31,000 Commitment Challenge and have had recent discussion on steps we could take to help our Treasurer manage our cash flow needs during the summer. It's not because we forgot. It's because we understand that if we're truly committed to these 6 objectives, He will provide for us. In fact, if you review the readings for the fishing experience between Christ and the Disciples, alluded to above, you'll see the answer in right there.

It's all about Faith. You either believe Christ will provide for us to carry out his ministry or you don't, simple, easy and straight forward. Unfortunately many of us have a tendency to be what I call "practical believers", that is we believe in what we can see and touch, but not completely in what we can't. I know all about this approach, as it used to be mine, but given everything I've learned and experienced over the past couple of years, I've moved over to the "full" belief and faith camp. It doesn't mean I think we should act irresponsibly and test the Lord, but it does mean that we may not have all the answers we'd like to have when we want them, but that we believe the answers will come to us from Him as needed, to carry out His ministry. We just need to be listening!

During these past couple of years, I've experienced personal challenges and leadership challenges, realizing many times I, alone do not have the answers. The interesting thing is that I've learned that by praying for help and guidance and trusting that the Lord will walk with me and see me through the challenges. It's actually been easier than I thought it would be and in the process, I've developed a fuller understanding of the resources we have available to us. To top it off, it's also provided me the opportunity to really strengthen my personal faith. To coin a recent card game craze, I like to think of it as going "**All In for Christ**"!

We all know the solution to our financial anxiety is to pray about how we use the resources we all have and prioritize our giving actions accordingly. We haven't made any radical increases in our spending from last year when we felt it was appropriate to develop a contingency plan, even though we didn't have to use it. The Lord worked with us and provided us the solution. To use the recent words of Eleanor Warren from a Bible Study discussion on how she turns difficult decisions into easy ones, she replied, "I pray and ask myself, What Would Jesus Do?". Sometimes it can really be that easy.

We also know that another important need for us is to actively grow our membership. We need to become more active in our ministries, spreading Christ's word and reaching out to those that haven't found Him yet, not shrink them. Put yourself in a potential new member's shoes and ask yourself some important questions; how would you feel about joining a church that felt it needed to shrink and cut its programs or thought it was a prudent step to "fire" their Pastor in order to meet a budget need during a period of transition or reduce their commitment to the broader church when so many people need so much help. If you were looking for a place where the Lord's spirit is strong and the people truly believe, is this a place you'd want to make your new church home?

As members of Faith, are these the answers you'd get when you ask, Jesus what he'd do when faced with a similar challenge?"

Here are a couple of Bible verses that I keep close by to help me during the challenging times. Please reflect on these and take some time to Pray and think about the future.

"Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight." – Proverbs 3:5,6

"Show me Your ways, O Lord, teach me Your paths; guide me in Your truth and teach me, for You are God my Savior, and my hope is in You all day long" – Psalm 25:4-5

One of the other things that's really helped me adjust my faith, is working with our teenage kids. They get it. They understand the security of the Lord, they trust that he will guide them and help them to the appropriate decisions. They understand that as a supportive group they can accomplish so much more. Just look at the recent things this group has accomplished (raised \$1,500 at a Valentines Dinner, raised \$2,500 for the 30 Hour Famine, raised \$1,650 at a Tag Sale, holding 2 Youth Sunday Services instead of just the usual 1, formed a Youth Band and introduced the experience to a entirely different congregation). They know they can lean on each other and they will always be there for each other when needed. They understand Christ walks with them all the time.

These are the types of powerful things that can happen when we listen for the Lord and challenge ourselves to follow his path. Do I wonder at times if we can do it all, yes, but then I reach out to Him and ask Him to show me the way and guide us.

I hope you'll take some time to reflect and pray on the things going on within Faith, the challenges we have and where we should look and listen for appropriate direction. I hope part of the "All In for Christ" crowd and that you're still in the boat with me and Christ, ready to fill the nets with "fish" and ensure Faith Lutheran Church continues to actively further Christ's ministries!

Your friend in Christ,

Kent Tedford
Church Council President

FAITH'S OBJECTIVES

Spiritual Growth

Encourage and Strengthen the Spiritual Growth of all members of Faith Lutheran Church in all aspects of the Church's Life.

Update:

- Christian Ed
 - Weekly Bible Study class in progress
 - Weekly Adult Forum in progress
 - Lutheran Liturgy class planned
 - Weekly Sunday School Program ongoing
- Evangelism – New Member Program designed and in progress
- Worship & Music
 - New ELCA Liturgy being used on Sundays
 - Educated on and experienced new Holy Week services
- Youth – Holding 2 Youth Sundays, Formed a Youth Band
- Prayer Blanket Ministry meeting weekly
- Establishment of “new” Faith Cares Committee.

Christian Educational Growth

Provide additional opportunities to expand the understanding of our Liturgy, the Bible and our Lutheran Roots to all.

Update:

- Christian Ed
 - Weekly Bible Study class in progress
 - Weekly Adult Forum in progress
 - Lutheran Liturgy class planned
 - Weekly Sunday School Program ongoing
- Worship & Music
 - Introduced new ELCA Liturgy and following weekly
 - Used weekly Lenten program to learn about Holy Week services
- Youth
 - Holding 2 Youth Sundays
 - Post Confirmation Youth education program being discussed

Manage the Pastoral Transition

Ensure Faith Lutheran Church completes a successful transition to a new permanent Pastor by the end of 2007.

Update:

- Congregational Profile to be completed and submitted to Synod offices by 6/7
- Call Committee selection in progress & scheduled for finalization at June Congregational meeting.
- Transition Mutual Ministry Committee to role as permanent committee, supporting new Pastor & congregation – Scheduled to start this summer.

Expand Community Outreach

Identify opportunities within the Community of Faith Lutheran to leverage & share our assets & resources in response to their needs, placing a special focus on the needs and social agendas within the East Hartford community.

Update:

- Social Ministry
 - Covenant to Care partnership “Adopt A Social Worker Program”
 - Actively participate in EHIM, including transitioning our Appliance Donation program
 - Actively support the EH, Friendship Center
 - Expand Men & Women in Blue to include Armed Services personnel
 - Provide space for , AA, OEA, Counseling program to meet
- Concert Series
- Stained Glass ministry
- Youth – 30 Hour Famine, Shelter project, Friendship Center support

Evangelize, Evangelize, Evangelize

Help those without a fulfilling Church home, recognize that Faith Lutheran is there for them and help them understand how it can be their church home, expanding their understanding of Christ’s message and how it can help support them in their lives.

Update:

- New Member Program designed and in progress
- Youth Group’s “Invite a Friend” program
- Concert Series
- Holy Week services & activities
- Men’s Fellowship Group
- WELCA
- Formation of a Faith Lutheran Book club
- Child care Room Remodeling
- Prayer Blanket Ministry
- Maintain Church website

Continued Communication Improvement

Continue to improve the information sharing within the family of Faith Lutheran Church so that all its members are aware of and have the opportunity for input into important discussions and decisions impacting Faith’s future.

Update:

- Provide regular committee updates in the VOF
- Actively update the Website
- Develop Overall Activity Calendar & insert upcoming activities into weekly Bulletin
- Prepare Committee poster boards for display within church
- Prepare Council Happenings bulletin board