

October to December
2023

FAITH NEWS

A PUBLICATION OF FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH & PRESCHOOL

FALL EDITION 2023

FAITH
LUTHERAN
CHURCH

NEW MEMBER CLASS

If you've been visiting with us and would like to join our Faith Family please come to the New Member Class where you'll hear about our history and beliefs of our congregation and the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod.

**Thursday, October 19th at 6pm
in the Meeting Room**

Dinner Provided
Sign up in the Narthex



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Call Committee Update

“Commit your work to the Lord, and your plans will be established”. Proverbs 16:3

The Call Committee would like to update all of you on the work that has been done in regards to calling a second pastor to Faith. We have been working diligently to find a person that fits the Congregational survey requests, the requests made by Pastor Woolsey and whose personal and professional goals fit within the ministries at Faith. On July 13, 2023 Faith Lutheran Church received an initial candidate list from the District office for review. The list contained the names of 11 individuals. Five were nominated from members of Faith Lutheran Church (*) and the remaining 6 suggested by the District, based on the results of the congregational self-study information submitted by Faith.

Of those 11 candidates:

- 3 of the candidates were not available to consider a Call at this time for various reasons.
- 2 asked to be removed from consideration upon first contact from the Call Committee due to stated reasons.
- 2 indicated that they would not be inclined to pursue a call at this time for specific personal reasons.
- 1 never responded to initiated contact from the Call committee.
- 3 were open to discussion in regards to the Call process.

Of the 3 remaining candidates:

- After review of sermon videos and self-evaluation information, the Call committee decided unanimously to not pursue discussion with 1 candidate.
- Interviews were scheduled with the remaining 2 candidates (8/15/23, 8/16/23)
 - *At the conclusion of the first interview, it was determined that the Call committee would not pursue further conversations with 1 candidate.
 - *A 2nd interview was scheduled with the remaining candidate (8/22/23) – at the conclusion of this conversation, the candidate indicated a reservation about considering a Call at this time. No contact from the candidate after 8/22/23.

At this time the Call Committee views the candidate list, dated 7/13/23, as having been exhausted. We will be contacting the District office for a list of additional candidates. Below you will find the list of candidates and comments for each.

NAME	CHURCH	Comments
Brett Matz	Calvary, Princeton, WI	No interest in heading up youth program
Caleb Cox	Redeemer, Fort Collins, CO	Not interested in a Call at this time
Nicholas Schram	Luth. Church of the Resurrection, St Louis, MO	Interviewed twice, reticent to make a lateral move, expecting a baby, Oct 1st and happy where he is
Ryan Kleimola	Trinity Lutheran, Toledo OH	Interviewed once. Enjoys being an associate pastor with no senior pastor responsibilities and showed no interest in Faith Lutheran
Samuel Sessa	Redeemer, Fort Collins, CO	Not interested in a Call at this time, happy at his current location
Shawn Davis	St Michael Lutheran, Fort Wayne IN	Actively working on missionary position in current community, wife just signed teaching contract and kids are in school. Happy where he is.
Thomas Roma	Immanuel Lutheran, Wentzville, MO	Not interested in a Call at this time
Timothy Schaekel	not currently serving	No response to our inquiry
Daniel Clemens	King of Kings, Kansas City, MO	Not interested in a Call at this time
Dallas Dubke	St. Paul Lutheran, Red Bluff, CA	Part-time only - Not interested in a Call at this time
Josh Moldenhauer	Previously at Grace, Oberlin, OH	Accepted a Call to Minnesota

We move forward with the confidence in God's faithfulness and presence at Faith Lutheran Church and will continue to search for the person that He would have for us. We ask for your patience and your prayers as we continue this process together. If you have any questions, comments, or recommendations, we would love to hear from you.

The Committee will be available in the narthex before, and after both services on October 15th if you would like to speak with us in person and we are always available via email.

The Call Committee at Faith Lutheran Avon: Elizabeth Shick, chair, Fred Ayers, Jason Becker, Chris Corpus, Greg Schlotman, Brian Schuster, Jennifer Tucker

ARISE AND SHINE

A Series of Special Services for Advent

Midweek Schedule for Advent

Dec. 6 - Rising Light

Dec. 13 - Reflected Light

Dec. 20 - Healing Light

Join us for our Advent worship series, Arise and Shine. Each week will focus on a different aspect of the light of Christ and how we are enlightened by him throughout our lives.

In our worship for the first week in Advent we will celebrate the rising light. Repenting of our sins, we put away the works of darkness and dress in the armor of light.

In our worship for the second week in Advent we will celebrate Jesus as the Light of the world and how we reflect his light in our daily lives.

In our worship for the third week in Advent we anticipate with repentant joy the birth of our Savior, listen to his Word and seek to live according to it until he comes again.

Pastoral Care Ministry

By Rich Gray

"Christian Caregiving"

Holy scripture continuously teaches us about the many Christian values the Lord desires of all His people. We as Christians strive to follow these lessons and teachings in our everyday lives. Caring for one another, especially in times of need, is Christ centered. We should be ever mindful of providing Christian

care to our brothers and sisters here at Faith Lutheran. Each of us has experienced illness, loss, personal crisis and so many other moments of need and care. The Pastoral Care Ministry Team continues to assist Pastor in caring for our Faith family. You too can be a part of this Christian caregiving. It is hoped that the Holy Spirit will move you to let others know you are thinking of them and you care!

In His Service,

Bea Marlette, Chris Corpus, Jose Delgado, Bob Gill and Rich Gray



- ♦ Titus 2 Bible Study - Oct 2 & 16 at 9:30am
- ♦ The Chosen Bible Study - Oct 3, 10, 17, & 24 at 6pm
- ♦ GriefShare Fall Session - Oct 5, 12, 19, & 26 at 2pm
- ♦ Women's Walk & Talk - Oct 7 at 9am
- ♦ Quilters - Oct 10 & 24 at 9am
- ♦ New Member Class - Oct 19 at 6pm
- ♦ GriefShare Surviving the Holidays - Oct 21 at 1pm
- ♦ Crock-tober Fest - Oct 22 at noon
- ♦ Trunk or Treat - Oct 28 at 4pm
- ♦ Fall Caroling - Oct 29 at 2pm



- ♦ GriefShare Fall Session - Nov 2, 9, & 16 at 2pm
- ♦ Women's Walk & Talk - Nov 4 at 9am
- ♦ Love INC Training Session - Nov 5 during at 9:15am
- ♦ Titus 2 Bible Study - Nov 6 & 20 at 9:30am
- ♦ The Chosen Bible Study - Nov 7, 12, & 21 at 6pm
- ♦ Advent Workshop - Nov 12 at noon
- ♦ Quilters - Nov 14 & 28 at 9am
- ♦ Love Ops Event - Nov 16 at 6pm
- ♦ Thanksgiving Worship Service followed by Pie Social - Nov 21 at 7pm
- ♦ Church Office Closed - Nov 23 & 24
- ♦ LWML Birthday Party for Jesus Nov 30 at 6:30pm



- ♦ Women's Walk & Talk - Dec 2 at 9am
- ♦ Youth/LWML Cookie Packaging - Dec 2 at 10:30am
- ♦ Youth/LWML Cookie Sale - Dec 3 between Sunday Services
- ♦ Titus 2 Bible Study - Dec 4 & 18 at 9:30am
- ♦ Church Decorating Party - Dec 9 at 11AM
- ♦ Quilters - Dec 12 at 9AM
- ♦ Midweek Advent Service - Dec 6, 13, & 20 at Noon & 7PM
- ♦ Children's Christmas Program Dec 17 at 10:30am
- ♦ Christmas Eve Service - Dec 24 at 9:30am, 5pm, & 7pm
- ♦ Christmas Day Service - Dec 25 at 9:30AM
- ♦ Church Office Closed - Dec 25 & 26
- ♦ New Year's Eve Service - Dec 31 at 8am & 10:30am
- ♦ New Year's Eve Devotion & Party - Dec 31 at 6pm



Preschool Fall Happenings

We welcomed a new school year on September 6 with 51 students attending our program this year! We are blessed to have all our staff returning as well.

We are starting off our year learning about our classrooms and meeting new friends. We are learning "All About Me" and how God makes us special. We had our first Chapel with Pastor Woolsey where our youngest classes received a Beginner's Bible to share at home and follow along with the bible stories we will learn throughout the year.

We will do some cooking later as we learn about apples, pumpkins and nutrition this fall. You may catch our students learning sports skills on Mondays, as we welcome back Coach Charlotte for this extra curricular class. Mrs. Schroth is also returning to do a music class after school on Wednesdays. We are glad we can provide these opportunities for parents of students who attend our program.

Trunk or Treat is scheduled for October 28, and we pray for a successful community event. Consider hosting a car for this family friendly fall event! Pinterest those ideas now!

Looking forward to a great year, keep us in your prayers, and thank you for supporting our families and preschool ministry!

In Christ,
Michele



KIDS OF FAITH



Do you have a child in Preschool to Grade 5...Join us
Sunday mornings from 9:15-10:15am.

Each week, we hear about God's incredible love for us from God's Word and engage in fun activities that reinforce scripture truths!

Kids can join us one time or each week, hope to see you soon!

Any questions please don't hesitate to contact Holly or Stephanie at:
KidsofFaithAvon@gmail.com

PLUG



INTO FELLOWSHIP EVENTS

2023 Faith Fall Fellowship News

As summer winds down, we begin to plan our Fall Fellowship events. While our team coordinates and schedules these events, it takes MANY volunteers outside of the committee, LIKE YOU, who make them a success. When needed, we will be provide a sign-up with more specific details of the needs in hopes that we can gain more volunteers for future events.

Our Annual Church Picnic was another success!!

A BIG THANK YOU to Elvin Rueda for providing our delicious BBQ, as well as ALL the members who contributed sides, desserts and gave of their time during set-up and clean-up.

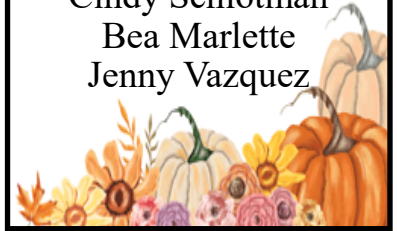


Sunday, October 22nd "Crock-tober Potluck"

Have a favorite main dish, soup, dessert or side? Put it in a crockpot and join us after the 2nd service, for a "Crock"-tober style potluck. A sign-up will be placed in the narthex closer to this event.

Fellowship Team

Melissa Watkins
Dimaris Woolsey
Bonnie Sears
Elizabeth Schuster
Leslie Ross
Cindy Schlotman
Bea Marlette
Jenny Vazquez



Advent Workshop

Come join us *Sunday, November 12th* after second service for an Advent Workshop!
More details to come.

PIE SOCIAL

Tuesday, November 21st

Apple, Pumpkin, Cherry..YUM!

Join us for a Pie Social after the 7pm Thanksgiving service.

A sign-up will be placed in the narthex closer to this event.



DECORATE
the church



Saturday, December 9th

Help us decorate the church for our advent season!
Join us at 11am with lunch provided by the Fellowship Team. All are welcome!

JOIN OUR TEAM!

We meet around May and September to discuss the details of past events while looking ahead to the rest of the year (usually 6 months at a time). Your time commitment, big or small, is greatly appreciated!

Have feedback and/or ideas about past or future events?
We would love to hear!

Please contact Melissa Watkins at watkinsmelissa81@gmail.com or 480-518-6791.

MUSIC NOTES

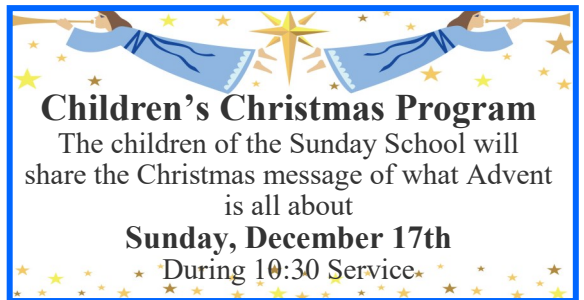
Shirley Smith - Director of Traditional Worship, Choir
Director, and Organist

This year, the first Sunday in Advent is December 3rd. The word "advent" is from the Latin word for "coming," and describes the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ into the flesh.

Advent begins the church year because the church year begins where Jesus' earthly life began. The readings during Advent focus on Christ's coming in the past, in the future, and in the present. We look at the Old Testament prophecies which focus on the incarnation at

Bethlehem. We also look at readings which highlight Christ's coming in the future. Finally, some of the readings direct our attention to Christ and His ministry through Word and Sacrament today.

There are many wonderful Advent traditions that we use during the season. The Advent wreath, Advent calendars, and the beautiful hymns of the Advent season all help us keep our focus on the coming of the Christ Child.

A graphic for the Children's Christmas Program. It features a blue banner at the top with a yellow star in the center. Below the banner, the text reads: "Children's Christmas Program", "The children of the Sunday School will share the Christmas message of what Advent is all about", "Sunday, December 17th", and "During 10:30 Service". The graphic is decorated with yellow stars.

Children's Christmas Program
The children of the Sunday School will share the Christmas message of what Advent is all about
Sunday, December 17th
During 10:30 Service

This year, during our midweek Advent services we will be centering on the theme "Arise and Shine." We welcome the Christ Child, who is the Light of the World. Also, the Children's Christmas program will center on what Advent is all about. We hope you can join us for these special services.

Fall
Caroling

October 29 at 2PM

Join us

A graphic for the Praise Band. It features a red and blue electric guitar on the left, a yellow sun in the background, and a white dove with its wings spread. The text "praise Band" is written in a stylized font, with "praise" in blue and "Band" in red. Below the graphic, the text reads: "Megan Kovach - Director of Contemporary Worship, Praise Band Leader and Instrumentalist".

praise Band
Megan Kovach - Director of Contemporary Worship, Praise Band Leader and Instrumentalist

The Contemporary Service Praise Band is continuing to meet on Saturday mornings (8-10am) or sometimes afternoons (2pm) depending on all of our schedules! It can get pretty busy, but we all find fulfillment in working together to praise our Savior with beautiful music.

We'd like to welcome Joe Taylor to the team as a second guitarist and bass guitarist! We're still looking for another person who plays drums to join the team. If you know anyone in the area, or you yourself play, please reach out! We're flexible and do our best to work with many schedules. Please prayerfully consider joining us!

Love INC.

Faith Lutheran, Avon Love Ops. Event

Faith Lutheran church will be hosting our first, onsite Love Ops. event to support our neighbors in Lorain County. This is a great, family friendly way to serve our community.

- Devotional
- Food
- Fellowship
- Kids Craft activity

JOIN US:

November 16th
at 6pm

Sign up sheet and opportunities to donate will be posted in the narthex and in the bulletin.

www.lilc.org

To prepare our volunteers and educate our congregation we will be hosting a ***Love INC. Equip training session on Sunday Nov. 5th, 2023*** during the Sunday school hour. Any questions, please contact Jennifer Tucker pszenitzki@hotmail.com



Calling all Jr & Sr High Youth!
Come join us for this fall for Faith, Fellowship, & Fun!

Oct. 1st 6:30-8 PM: Joint Youth Group event AT St. Paul Westlake (27993 Detroit Rd. Westlake) Friends welcome!

Oct. 15th Noon – 3PM: Hike and picnic at Cascade Park in Elyria. We need drivers! Friends welcome!



Nov. 5th 6-8 PM: Joint Youth Group event with St. Paul AT FAITH! Friends welcome!

Nov. 19th 6-8 PM: Youth Night at Faith. Bring Friends!

Dec. 2nd 10:30AM: Christmas Cookie Packing at Faith.



Dec. 3rd 6:30-8 PM: Joint Youth Group event AT St. Paul Westlake (27993 Detroit Rd. Westlake) Friends welcome!

Dec. 17th Christmas Party---details to come!

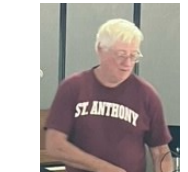
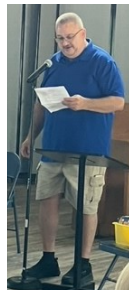


For text updates: Join Remind---
Text @faithju to the number 81010

Contact Cindy and Greg Schlotman with questions at: ges32010@hotmail.com



A special thank you to everyone who helped with the talent show!
We appreciate all of the help with set-up and snacks.
The performances were amazing and very entertaining.
We had a lot of variety.
It was such an enjoyable afternoon of fun and fellowship!
Thanks again!! Brian Schuster and Shirley Smith





LWML/Women in Mission **Fall 2023 News**

October 1st is LWML Sunday.

No invasion of the "Purple People", but The LWML/Women in Mission will be highlighted at both services! Between the services there will be an informal informational time to find out about the resources LWML has to equip women in leadership and their daily walk. Also find out about the new mission grants for 2023 to 2025. Of course there will be some yummy breakfast style foods. ***Remember to wear purple!***

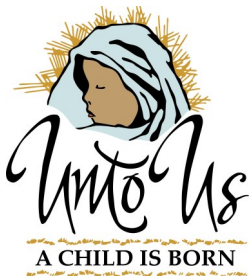
"Walk & Talk" is the best group ever! It is a come as you are, no make-up, or shower, or hair preparation. Just throw on a hat and meet at 9:00 in the kitchen for a devotion, walk, conversation, and a light snack! We walk on the first Saturday of the month.



During the cold, blustery winter days,
Bonnie Sears will have a craft which we can do indoors!

Walk & Talk Fall Schedule:
October 7th
November 4th
December 2nd

This activity is a great opportunity to invite friends and family.



LWML Baby Shower for Jesus **Thursday, November 30th at 6:30-8:30**

News has it that some women from Nazareth are going to be there, who have just been invited to a Baby Shower for Mary???

Jamie Buxton will be there to give us an update on
Laura's Home Women's Crisis Center.

It will an evening of Christmas Carols, Snacks, and Christian fellowship.

Oh yes, did I mention GIFTS! From a list we will ask the attendees to bring gifts for the women and children at Laura's Home. Bring them wrapped and they will be opened at the Shower.

This is a great time to prepare our hearts and mind to focus on Jesus throughout the holiday season. Please feel free to invite, neighbors, friends, relatives or work colleagues, as this is a comfortable setting to hear the message of Jesus.

LWML/Youth Group Bake Sale is on Sunday December 3rd

so start baking. Bake extra of your favorite Christmas cookies and freeze them. Bring them down to church, where the women and Youth will beautifully package them for sale.



Last year we made \$200 for LWML (to cover expenses) and over \$1000 for the Youth Group. We appreciate small cookies, so we can load the boxes with the goodies. These make great gifts!

Christmas Cookie Sale Schedule:
Dec 1 & 2 - Morning cookie drop off
Dec 2 - Cookie Packaging 10:30am
Dec 3 - Cookie Sale between services

Carla Russell 440-963-0023 Mutticjr@aol.com

Ways you can SERVE

Fellowship Team

Please consider joining our team! We meet around May and September to discuss the details of past events while looking ahead to the rest of the year (usually 6 months at a time). Your time commitment, big or small, is greatly appreciated! Have feedback and/or ideas about past or future events? Please contact Melissa Watkins at watkinsmelissa81@gmail.com or 480-518-6791.

AV (Audio Visual) Team

The AV team is in need of volunteers to help with live streaming, sound, and monitor display during Sunday and Special Services. No experience necessary, training is provided.

If you have 1 hour to spare a month, we could really use your help.

Sunday Service wouldn't be the same without our AV Team!!

Please consider volunteering.

For more information contact Nereida Ocasio via email at nereida.faithavon@gmail.com or contact the church office.

Newsletter

Faith is looking for volunteers to help create the quarterly newsletter "FAITH NEWS"

Looking for creative, computer savvy volunteers! Please contact Nereida Ocasio via email at nereida.faithavon@gmail.com or contact the church office.

Quilting Group

Help the quilting group twice a month. You don't have to sew as there are many other things to do in making "CARE QUILTS". Join us on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month at 9am.

Also, if you know someone in our church that could use a quilt please let Bea know. Bea Marlette (440) 937-4480

Property Maintenance

Mike Emling is looking for help with various projects to enhance the property. Please consider helping out with your time or special talent. Please contact Mike Emling at (440) 242-5601



Faith Lutheran Church Ministry & Staff Directory

Pastor	David Woolsey	440-934-4710	pastorwoolsey@gmail.com
Business Manager	Nereida Ocasio	440-934-4710	nereida.faithavon@gmail.com
Church Secretary	Michele Herner	440-934-4710	secretaryatfaith@gmail.com
Director of Preschool	Michele Herner	440-934-2465	preschool@faithavon.com
Properties Management	Mike Emling	440-242-5601	mjemling@gmail.com
Treasurer	Brian Prahst	216-926-3051	beprahst@yahoo.com
Financial Secretary	Elizabeth Zoric	440-541-4574	sarafina72@yahoo.com
AV Slide Technician	Kathleen Alexander	440-937-6417	kmalexander13@gmail.com
Event Setup Coordinator	Clyde Alexander	216-312-1025	cwalexander@yahoo.com

Governing Board

President	David Bowers	216-695-7340	westhighcowboy27@gmail.com
Vice President	Bea Marlette	440-937-4480	beamarlette@centurylink.net
Recording Secretary	Chris Corpus	216-973-2475	chris@corpuslawinc.com
Board Member	Kevin Kovach	440-281-4714	kevin.kovach1@gmail.com
Board Member	Elizabeth Shick	440-934-4710	schickh@gmail.com
Pastor	David Woolsey	440-934-4710	Pastorwoolsey@gmail.com

Ministries

Altar Care	David Woolsey	440-934-4710	Pastorwoolsey@gmail.com
Altar Flowers	Church Office	440-934-4710	nereida.faithavon@gmail.com
Fellowship	Melissa Watkins	440-518-6791	watkinsmelissa81@gmail.com
GriefShare	Trish High	440-734-4566	pahigh@att.net
LWML	Carla Russell	440-934-4710	mutticjr@aol.com
Love INC	Jennifer Tucker	440-427-0414	pszenitzki@hotmail.com
Director of Music	Shirley Smith	440-934-4710	blessingsinchrist4@icloud.com
Director of Contemporary Worship	Megan Kovach	607-643-1339	megankovach22@gmail.com
Pastoral Care Ministry	Rich Gray	216-521-9544	cybergray1@sbcglobal.net
Prayer Group	Judy Jamison	440-934-3323	judyjamison51@gmail.com
Quilting Group	Bea Marlette	440-937-4480	beamarlette@centurylink.net
Sunday School Directors	Holly Sulzer & Stephanie Tober		KidsofFaithavon@gmail.com
Titus 2	Dawn Klingshirn	440-670-0885	dik4464@yahoo.com
Worship Assistant	Elizabeth Shick	440-934-4710	shickh@gmail.com
Youth Group	Greg & Cindy Schlotman	216-496-5848	ges32010@hotmail.com

Faith Lutheran Church & Preschool

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Permit No. 30



Thanksgiving Service - Nov 21

7pm followed by Pie Social

Midweek Advent Services

Dec 6, 13, & 20 at Noon & 7pm

Christmas Eve Services - Dec. 24

9:30am Joint Service with Holy Communion
5pm Contemporary Christmas Eve Candle
light Service with Holy Communion
6pm Traditional Christmas Eve Candlelight
Service with Holy Communion

Christmas Day Service - Dec. 25

9:30am Traditional Service

New Year's Eve Service - Dec. 31

8am Traditional Service
10:30am Contemporary Service
6pm New Year Devotion & Party