

April to June
2022

FAITH NEWS

A PUBLICATION OF FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH & PRESCHOOL

SPRING EDITION

A call to serve from Bea Marlette

Servant Events for Our Community

Faith is on the move and looking to create 2 servant events this year and 3 servant events next year! We call this **2 for '22** and **3 for '23**! This is a great way to give back to our community the many gifts and talents that God has blessed our church family with. We would love to hear your ideas on making this happen! Through the help of Thrivent we will be able to obtain funding to help get those ideas off the ground! Please contact Bea Marlette or any of the governing board members with your ideas!

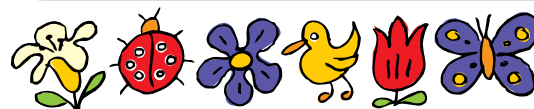
Fellowship Team Needs Our Help!

The Fellowship Team is in desperate need of new members! Right now there are only 2 ladies on this team, Dimaris and Bea, and they could really use more people to help plan and create Faith's social events! We all love attending the church picnic, potlucks, and other events for the wonderful fellowship we share, so please consider joining this fun group!



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From the Governing Board

Staffing and Ministry

On Saturday, March 26th 43 members of the congregation met to hear 3 major topics of concern for the Governing Board as they look for congregational feedback before moving ahead. Those 3 areas are Professional Staffing needs, Outreach Mission Opportunities and Renovations to Halvorson Hall and the 1967 addition. This is the area connecting the Hall with the new Sanctuary.



Prior to the Pandemic Faith was worshipping, on average, around 210 people weekly. Post Pandemic our numbers have returned to about 170 and we are receiving new members regularly. Many of these new members offer us unique opportunities for ministry, community contacts, fresh outlooks and an enthusiasm for increased ministries.

While we are blessed with wonderful volunteers to run programming ministries, we are frequently dependent on a small few to be leaders and organizers. Not nearly enough. Often the pastor has to step into a situation or assist or to become more involved which takes time and energy away from his principal role. While we thank and deeply appreciate all are volunteer's we have more things that can be done. Who is there to fill the vacuum or to initiate and monitor the many opportunities?

What we are addressing, and what is encouraged by our pastor, is an individual with an organizational and ministerial skill set. Our newly created position of Business Manager has worked out better than expected and Nereida Ocasio has done a wonderful job with the administrative and operational functions of the church. The church is in a much more effective and efficient position day to day then we have ever been. Her role is one of Administration not Ministerial.

It is commonly accepted within the Church that certain plateaus in weekly attendance require additional Professional Church Workers(PCW). The first of those plateaus is 150 worshippers in attendance or more. We had reached that number 7 years ago and in many ways stopped growing as a church both inwardly and in ministry to the community. We don't want to see that continue.

Well then, what PCW position should we look to. We have tried Family Life and Christian Education with some success but the Board recognizes how those positions were determined and that, overall, we reacted to opportunities where more careful discussion and thought might have led to a different outcome. Hence, the idea of the Town Hall in hopes people would share information and thoughts with us to help in our conversation. What excites you about our worship/ministry? What are you looking for? What's not getting done that you believe is important either internally or in the community?

Led by former Ohio District-LCMS President, Rev. Dr. David Buegler, facilitator of our Town Hall, we learned a great deal about the education and training of many different PCW Vocations and the expectations for their duties and responsibilities. Much of the discussion time was devoted to our prior staffing accomplishments and expectations and what is thought by many to be the best way to address our current and desired mission outcomes going forward. Many indicated Calling a second pastor.

Continued - From the Governing Board



Pastor Woolsey then led a brief conversation and dialogue in an **Outreach Focus to the Community** that we are calling **Two in Twenty-two and Three for Twenty-three**. Specifically, Faith Lutheran Church is committing to two community outreach events, NOT to be held on our grounds or in our building but somewhere in the city of Avon at congregational expense, where we can either participate or initiate in a community activity that strengthens people with the message of Jesus, demonstrate a servant leadership and begin to cultivate name recognition and offer our church as a place for help, assistance and connection with Christ.

While these were both good discussions we still wish to hear from anyone in the congregation who would like information or who has a thought on the direction any new staffing or mission opportunities should take. To that end if you have a question or suggestion about our mission and staffing concerns you can contact Governing Board Chairman, David Bowers at westhighcowboy27@gmail.com.

Building and Grounds

Tom Sear, Governing Board Vice-Chairman briefly led a discussion on thoughts relating to renovation of Halvorson Hall and to the 1967 addition which comprises the connector hall between the Halvorson and the new Sanctuary. What began as a planning effort at renovation 3 years ago was tabled because of the Pandemic. These efforts are now being review with a desire to make the building more functional for our current and future ministry needs as well as provide much needed office and meeting space. Of major concern is an upgrade to the kitchen and an opportunity for fellowship / bible study space in conjunction with changes to the Hall.

At this time NO new construction is planned. Only upgrading /renovation of our existing facility. We are working with an architect and he has taken the ideas, suggestions and needs from the previous studies and he has also made some suggestions of his own. We listened to comments from those in attendance at the Town Hall and welcome any new thoughts you might have. From all these ideas and suggestions, past and current, the architect will work on several alternatives for ways we can make our facilities match our needs, our mission and dreams for our future.

As we gather information and begin planning, we will keep the congregation informed. At this time there is NO cost estimate available. We do, however, understand that cost of materials continues to increase so we are looking to acquire estimates and discuss options soon.

For those wishing to know more about the renovation possibilities or to make suggestions please contact Tom Sear at tsear@me.com

Ministry Roles

The following is a brief and not inclusive summary of the various Professional Church Worker position generally found in LCMS churches. *(For this article it is assumed that most congregation members will understand general terms without our listing or enumerating individual tasks.)*

Ordained – Pastors those men who are Synodically trained to be shepherds, overseers of Word and Sacrament Ministry at the congregational level.

Commissioned- Workers whose primary function includes the teaching ministries such as: Teachers, Directors of Christian Education, Outreach, Family Ministry and Parish Music. Also, Deaconess and Parish Assistant.

Specialized Ministry Preparation or SMP- Lay workers who have been given specific ministry roles within a congregation and supervised by the local pastor and with the District Presidents permission are given on-line specialized training by the two LCMS Seminaries over 4 years to become Ordained or Commissioned and whose job and responsibilities is to their local congregation and can serve them only.

Pastors (Assistant, Associate, Pastor, Senior Pastor) -Preaching, teaching, administering the Sacraments, performing certain “rites” such as baptism, confirmation and marriage, conducting worship services, bible study and other classes, ministry to shut-in, spiritual counseling and guidance, working with all ministries within the congregation as needed, extensive research and individual study, Shaping the churches mission and its messaging, working with congregational leadership, boards and staff, planning and development of internal and external programming and oversight of church operations. May also involve many of the responsibilities of the Youth or Family Life ministry programming.

Deaconess

LCMS trains, calls and commissions deaconesses to serve Christ and His Church through works of mercy, spiritual care and teaching the faith. Deaconesses assist and strengthen the church’s ability to offer our Lord’s care for both body and soul to those who are in need. Job descriptions are often tailored to the individual skills and abilities of a deaconess, and they vary according to the nature of the parish, institution or Recognized Service Organization in which she serves.

Youth and or Family Life Directors- Usually synodically trained professional church workers who specialize in spiritual outreach and instruction for children, adolescents and college students. Working to build up the family dynamic of spiritual life

and growth in the church, assisting families and youth in the development of their faith journey. As Youth Directors or Christian Education Directors their role includes developing program ministries, oversee programs such as Vacation Bible School, Sunday School and planned mission retreats, mission projects and service activities both within the congregation and within the community. Recruit and train volunteers, conducting religious education classes and Bible Study for teens and college students, overseeing young adult social gatherings and planning and coordinating service programs.

Specialized Ministry Preparation or SMP- Typically individuals who are involved in the SMP tract are people who are Lay Leaders who have been tasked as Volunteer Directors in a specific church ministry (Youth, Evangelism, etc.) who have demonstrated through their abilities, Christian witness, understanding of the bible and its principles, development of relationships and fostering of involvement and spiritual growth within the congregation. And who have expressed a desire to become Professional Church Workers (Ordained or Commissioned) and willing to serve in that professional capacity for their local congregation only. These men and women are willing to commit to a 4-year program of study of up to 16 on-line classes and an annual one-week instructional opportunity at either of the 2 Synodical Seminaries and who will also receive individual instruction and training with their pastor that will lead to their becoming Ordained pastors or Commissioned ministers in an educational discipline. Essentially raising up a lay member of the congregation to become a Professional Church Worker for the congregation.

For more information visit
[lcms.org/set-apart-to-serve](https://www.lcms.org/set-apart-to-serve)

The Governing Board invites your input addressing what you believe is the ministry of Faith Lutheran Church and if adding a Professional Church Worker what position should we be looking to fill. Additional pastor, a Director (which discipline?) or should and why. Direct your response to pastor at pastorwoolsey@gmail.com or to David Bowers at westhighcowboy@gmail.com using Church Ministry on your subject line. We welcome and encourage your comments.

CHILDREN'S Sunday School

Kids Of Faith

The “Kids of Faith” continue to learn about the life and love of Jesus from our New Testament lessons. Some of Bible stories that we have experienced are: the boy Jesus in the temple, Jesus teaching Nicodemus and Jesus’ miracles. We enjoy our crafts, snacks and activities as we learn just how much Jesus loves each of us! We want to share



Special Events & Activities



- ♦ We made “God Loves You” valentines for the members of Faith who are not able to attend worship in person.
- ♦ We sang some of our favorite songs at a Contemporary Service.
- ♦ We had a special visit from Claudia and Ezra who are Comfort Dogs from Lutheran Church Charities. We enjoyed learning about their ministry and getting to pet them! *Special thanks to Bea Marlette for helping with the refreshments!!*
- ♦ Our offerings this year have helped buy a family a flock of chicks and another family a goat through Heifer International.
- ♦ Our remaining offerings are designated to support the ministry of the Comfort Dogs.

Thank you to all who have helped with “Kids of Faith”!

Chris Corpus and Jennifer Tucker – Teachers for Preschool through 3rd Grade
Dan Goldsmith – Teacher for Grades 4 and 5
Debora Poruban and Irene Swift – Teachers for Grades 6 through 8
Rich Poruban – Teacher for High School Students
Shirley Smith – Openings and Song Leader
Stephanie Tober – Coordinator of Group Activities



Help Needed

A Team Leader for “Kids of Faith” will be needed for the 2022-2023 Sunday School year. Please prayerfully consider serving the “Kids of Faith” in this way!

God's Blessings to each of you from the “Kids of Faith”!



Love INC

Love In the Name of Christ

What is Love INC?

Love INC is a national non-profit organization with a mission to mobilize the local church to transform lives and communities in the Name of Christ. It operates under a model that networks local churches, church volunteers and community organizations together to help our neighbors in need. Faith Lutheran Church is a member of the local network serving the community in Lorain County, OH.

How does our church participate?

Faith Lutheran Church has been a part of many programs serving the community throughout the years. Programs that have supplied food baskets, Christmas gifts, personal care items, baby gear and supplies, as well as, school uniforms are all part of our participation in Love INC. outreach efforts. We continue our commitment to the community through our current support of the Zion Personal Care Pantry and ongoing Clothe A Kid program. Our church has also participated in offering Redemptive Compassion training classes to further educate our congregational members interested in community outreach activities.

Who do we help?

The programs that we participate in help our neighbors within our local community of Lorain County. For example, at Christmas, our congregation collected over 740 pairs of new socks to be given to students throughout the Lorain City School system and our preschoolers donated rolls of toilet paper to support the Zion Personal Care Pantry. These items go along way to show our neighbors how much they are valued and loved. "Thank you all for always being willing to assist our students with their most basic needs...your thoughtful gift of socks! Your generosity will provide support to our "leaders of tomorrow." With best wishes and sincere gratitude, Jeffery Keruski – Executive Director of Family Office."

What's new with Love INC?

Currently our church is assisting in a total transformation of the Clothe A Kid program. This program, which was previously only offered once per year is now going to be a year-round resource for families in need. In addition to this change, our church will be working on developing a Church Assistance Response Plan with the help of our Business Manager and some dedicated volunteers. Our support of the Zion Personal Care Pantry continues to serve the community on a drive-thru basis with hopes to reintroduce fellowship opportunities during the summer months. Stay tuned for updates.

How can YOU help?

We are looking for a team of 4-6 individuals who like to shop and are willing to serve families as they may have a need for clothing orders through the new Clothe A Kid Program. These individuals would be willing to serve on an as-needed basis to follow up with families regarding clothing sizing and style information, shopping for specific items and delivering purchased items to families participating in this program. Please contact the church office or Jennifer Tucker (330-231-718) directly to get more information.

The clearing house at Love INC. is in need of volunteers. There are many ways to serve, such as, receptionist, intake team, development of events, marketing, prayer team and various other miscellaneous jobs. To get more information or sign up for a training event please visit LILC.ORG/involved.



LWML/Women in Mission News



Walk & Talk is April 2, at 9:00. Mark your calendars for the first Saturday of each month, unless it's a holiday. Meet in the kitchen for a devotion, walk, conversation, and a lite snack! Children and Strollers welcome!



Women's Evening Bible Study Tuesday Night Group is well on its way. Thank you, Megan Kovach for sharing your home and arranging this opportunity for the women to share and grow!

New Study **Thursday Evening Bible Study starting April 28 at Church, at 7:00 We will be meeting the 2nd and 4th Thursdays for nine sessions. Sign up sheet coming soon.

LWML/Women in Mission Spring Luncheon May 21 at 12:30



Diana Schnack will be our speaker for the day.
Returning from our 2019 LWML Tea

What mysteries will unfold as we explore the "what and why" of the contents of our purses. Let's compare what Biblical travelers needed in their travel bags as to what is needed in our travel bags. And we will have lots of fun while on our journey. It's a very interactive program, funny and inspirational with a short Bible study... even some games. Get ready for some fun **GIRL TIME!**

LWML District Convention "Lord of the Harvest"

June 17-18, 2022 at St. Paul Lutheran Church, in Napoleon, OH.



Time to Register!!

It will be a very mission-minded event. A worship service, great speakers, servant events and interest sessions has been planned. It will only last two days instead of the usual three. We will select new mission projects, elect new officers, and maintain our bylaws. Invite a friend to come with you – maybe someone who's never attended an LWML convention - and fill out a [registration form](#) today! Go to www.lwmlohio.org for the registration forms. We can share rides and rooms.

We will collect LWML Mission Mites every 4th Sunday of the month. "Making the Next Generation of Disciples for Life" still needs funding. The sanctity of life created by God, and the family as God designed it, has been under attack. With this grant, Ministry will build a set of developmentally appropriate resources and curriculum for early childhood, young children, and elementary-aged children and their families. *Watch the video about this mission grant* www.lwml.org.

MUSIC NOTES

Shirley Smith, Organist and Traditional Music Leader

The minor keys of Lent will soon be ending! They will be replaced by the sounds of the wonderful major keys of the joyous Easter hymns. The Alleluias will return!

During the season of Easter, we joyfully celebrate Jesus' victory over death and the joy of the empty tomb! The date of Easter is always the first Sunday after the first full moon after the spring equinox. The season of Easter lasts for 50 days after the day of Easter. Sundays following Easter are to celebrate the joy of the resurrection. White is the color of Easter. This color shares the message that "though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be white as snow." Christ's triumph from the grave on Resurrection Day is the cause for our rejoicing. White is the color for joy! "I Know that my Redeemer Lives!!!" Alleluia

The choir will continue rehearsing during April: April 6 at 6:00 p.m. – prior to the Lenten service, Thursday, April 14 – Rehearsal at 6:00 prior to the Maundy Thursday Service. Regular rehearsals will be on Wednesday, April 20 and April 27 at 6:30 p.m. There will also be a few rehearsals at 6:30 on Wednesday in early May.



EASTER CAROLING

(Yes, you saw that correctly!)

Sunday, May 15, 2022

At 2:00 p.m.

Join us as we sing joyous Easter hymns for the shut-ins of our church.

We will meet at Faith Lutheran Church (the doors by the sanctuary) and will carpool to various homes to sing. We may also visit an assisted living facility.

Everyone is invited to join us for this special afternoon!!! Bring a friend!

Any questions, contact Shirley Smith at blessingsinchrist4@icloud.com

Pastoral Care Ministry

By Rich Gray

Faith recently had a new members dinner. It was a wonderful evening of fellowship!

The new members appeared to appreciate hearing from all the different ministries of the church.

Excitement is infectious! It makes one want to get involved. And.....Faith can always use more members to get involved and help with the Lord's church!

Our Team is always looking for new members to assist the Pastor with our large membership Family.

If you have the gift of helping others, consider joining our Team! We assist the Pastor with visits, send supportive cards, make phone calls,

read selected scripture, commune and pray with those in need.

Doing the Lord's work here at Faith is a privilege and very rewarding! Come join us!

Contact the church office if interested and the Team will respond.

In the Lord's service.....
Bea Marlette, Jack Watkins,
Chris Corpus, Audrey Morris,
Fred Ayers, Joe Delgado and
Rich Gray

2022 Vacation Bible School

*June 13—16 at Faith
6:00pm to 8:00pm*

Please join us for VBS for kids in pre-school (potty trained) to 5th Grade
Our Theme will be "The Tree of Life-
God's Promise of Salvation"
Volunteers are needed!!!!

Please contact Shirley Smith at
blessingsinchrist4@icloud.com

Invite friends to join us for fun, fellowship, and learning about God's love for us in Christ.



APRIL

- ◆ Women's Walk & Talk - April 2 at 9AM
- ◆ Titus 2 - April 4 at 9:30AM
- ◆ GriefShare - April 4, 11, & 25 at 6:30PM
- ◆ Thursday Bible Study - April 7 at 10AM
- ◆ Women of Faith - April 9 at 10AM
- ◆ Quilters - April 12 & 26 at 9AM
- ◆ Holy Week - April 10 thru 17 (see back page for schedule)
- ◆ LWML Women's Bible Study - April 28 at 7PM



MAY

- ◆ Titus 2 - May 2 & 16 at 9:30AM
- ◆ GriefShare - May 2, 9, 16, 23 at 6:30PM
- ◆ Thursday Bible Study - May 5, 12, 19, 26 at 10AM
- ◆ Women's Walk & Talk - May 7 at 9AM
- ◆ Quilters - May 10 & 24 at 9AM
- ◆ LWML Women's Bible Study - May 12 & 26 at 7PM
- ◆ Women of Faith - May 14 at 10AM
- ◆ Youth Gathering Group Building - May 20 at 6PM
- ◆ LWML Women's Luncheon - May 21 at 12:30PM



JUNE

- ◆ Thursday Bible Study - June 2, 9, 16, 30 at 10AM
- ◆ Women's Walk & Talk - June 4 at 9AM
- ◆ GriefShare - June 6, 13, 20 at 6:30PM
- ◆ Women of Faith - June 11 at 10AM
- ◆ Quilters - June 14 & 28 at 9AM
- ◆ Youth Gathering Group Building - June 17 at 6PM
- ◆ LWML Women's Bible Study - June 9 & 23 at 7PM
- ◆ GriefShare Summer Picnic - June 25 at 1pm in pavilion

—STAYING—

CONNECTED

Facebook: facebook.com/faith.avon
Instagram: instagram.com/faith.avon
YouTube: faithavon.com/sermons



Happy Spring!

You can tell the end of the year is near, our friends have more pep in their step these days!

We are getting ready for Easter, learning about Lent and the Easter Story. We made palms to wave, Easter crosses, and even some bunny ears. Our Easter break will lead us right into the end of our school year.

When we return, we will have our annual Hop-a-thon, our only school fundraiser. We use these funds for new purchases, and replacing old toys and furniture.



At the beginning of May, we are bringing back our Mom's Tea. Moms or grandmas will join us in for the day and enjoy some fun activities, pampering and a tea party with their child. We are happy to bring this back after 2 years.

Our graduations and end of the year celebrations round out May. This year has been a blessing getting to do more things that we couldn't last year. I am thankful for our preschool staff who have worked together to make this year run so smoothly. We will miss the graduates, but look forward to our students who are moving up in the classes next year. Please keep our students in your prayers as we graduate the week of May 16th.



Please continue to share our preschool with your neighbors and friends! We have a few openings in our morning classes for the next school year.

Blessings,
Michele

Youth Group News

The Youth Group is working their way to the LCMS Youth Gathering and has some important dates to share with you!!

♦ **Currently - Wall of Envelopes.** We have made the decision to extend this fundraiser to help us raise \$8,000 needed for the Youth Gathering Trip!

- ♦ **April 17 - Easter Breakfast.** The youth will be there to help set-up, clean up, and do anything else that is needed. Free will offering will be collected.
- ♦ **May 22 - Chili cook-off with raffle.** The people are the judge! Come taste some chili and vote on your favorite one. We will be raffling off some baskets for which tickets will be sold the day of. Youth will be serving, cleaning, and helping with the raffle.
- ♦ **July 6 to 14 - The LCMS Youth Gathering!** 5 youth and 2 adults will be traveling to Houston, TX for a 5 day long gathering. This event couldn't be possible without the support from all of you! Thank you so much for the donations made and for the help in the events to come!

Faith Lutheran Church Ministry & Staff Directory

Church Office

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
Creative Arts Director	Edwin Schuster	440-864-9917	videos.faithavon@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	Sandy Hilston	440-263-6933	sshilston@yahoo.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 Tom Sear	440-785-7263	tsear@me.com
Recording Secretary Chris Corpus	216-973-2475	chris@corpuslawinc.com
Pastor David Woolsey	440-934-4710	Pastorwoolsey@gmail.com
Board Member Bea Marlette	440-235-0539	beamarlette@centurylink.net
Board Member George Huebner	440-394-4480	Pappap.ohio@yahoo.com

Ministries

Altar Care	Rhonda Zornes	440-668-8397	rhondazornes@icloud.com
Altar Flowers	Betty Lapos	440-397-0552	blapos1@centurylink.net
Fellowship	Dimaris Woolsey	440-864-1267	dimaris10@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
Music Team— Traditional	Shirley Smith	440-934-4710	blessingsinchrist4@icloud.com
Contemporary	Randy Knavel	440-934-4710	rknave14@gmail.com
Pastoral Care Ministry	Rich Gray	216-521-9544	cybergray1@sbcglobal.net
Prayer Group	Judy Jamison	440-934-3323	judyjamison51@gmail.com
Sunday School Director	Debi Pelger	440-356-2885	dapelger@yahoo.com
Titus 2	Dawn Klingshirn	440-670-0885	dik4464@yahoo.com
Women of Faith	Amy Mellinger	440-785-2128	amyemma@gmail.com
Worship Assistant	Elizabeth Shick	440-934-4710	shickh@gmail.com
Youth Group	Irene Swift	440-622-3545	irene.swift14@gmail.com

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All are welcome!

Holy Week Worship Schedule

Palm Sunday Service - April 10
8am Traditional, 10:30am Contemporary

Easter Sunday Service - April 17
8am Traditional, 10:30am Contemporary

Maundy Thursday - April 14
Noon & 7pm

Easter Breakfast - April 17
9:15am

Good Friday - April 15
Noon & 7pm