

Walk With Faith October 2020 Newsletter



Faith Lutheran Church, LCMS
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Our Mission Statement

“A HEART FROM GOD”

“A HEART FOR OTHERS”

From the Pastor's Desk

As we move into October life is hardly normal for many Americans. We haven't quite resumed with what I would call normal activity in the church yet. We are holding certain meetings and moving ahead with planning as best we can. I consider it a great blessing that we are able to hold our services, both on-line and with worshippers in the pew. Regardless of the way others may feel, I believe what we do is an "essential service."



There was a survey back in 2018 from Chapman University that attempted to discover at that time what Americans feared. Germs came in 80th on the list. That was 16 positions higher than "Hell." Needless to say, the survey would come out much differently if given today.

The Department of Health and Human Services has classified the sentiment of our country at the present time as **"mad and sad."** There has been a test developed called the Epidemic-Pandemic Impacts Inventory (EPII) that is designed to **"learn about the impact of the coronavirus disease pandemic and future epidemics on various domains of personal and family life."** When the results are finally tabulated, I would expect far-reaching psychological and societal impacts.

I believe Christians can look at this differently than much of the world around us. 2 Timothy 1:7 is a Bible verse that keeps coming back to me at this time. I have even posted it on our church sign on the highway. **"For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind."** I don't quote this as an invitation to reckless behavior. It is a reminder that we are in God's hands and can therefore live boldly and confidently.

In my article for last month, I wrote about how this time is a great spiritual opportunity. Since then I read an article by Bruce Hartung published in the Concordia Journal (Vol. 46, No. 3, pgs. 51-60) entitled "Disillusionment Is a Spiritual Gift (Unless It Is Not)." He also speaks of this as a great time of opportunity. I will quote a short part of the article:

"Many speak of a desire to return to "normal." But perhaps, our opportunity spiritually is to discern and learn from our experience. This will require conversations about the illusions that have suffered distress and the disillusionment that has come about. This is a significant spiritual opportunity. What am I learning from this experience? How has God been active in my life and in the lives of others? In what ways has the presence of Jesus in fulfillment of his promise to be with me and us unto the end of the age been clear (or not) for me? What have I not been able to do that I miss? What have I not been able to do that I do not miss? What did I used to believe that I no longer do? What did I used to believe that I still do? What spiritual practices have been helpful to me?"

We quoted earlier the Apostle Paul from 2 Timothy. One final quote from this Apostle who trusted God's provision as he boldly proclaimed the Gospel in the first century.

"Finally, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is gracious, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing what you have learned and received and heard and seen in me [Paul]. Then the God of peace will be with you." (Phil. 4:8-9)

Pastor

J C L JAR

Please remember to drop your \$1 bills with the letters of either J C L, which stand for Jesus Christ (our) Lord, and put them in the plastic jar in the narthex. Of course, we will accept any bill or a check. The jar is looking pretty empty most of the time. Let's change that if we can. Thank you for your participation.



Dear Members of Faith,

Hard to believe we are in October already. The tenth month of the year in a year that has been less than stellar so far. It seems in these troubled times that there is no end to the chaos. In times like this, it is our faith in God and His love for us that will guide and comfort us all.

We had our first council meeting on the 17th of September, and it was so good to see everyone again. We were all practicing social distancing and wearing masks. We hope to meet every month once again. Our fervent hope is that by early next year we will be able to return to more normal practices. Some of our groups are beginning to meet now.

I would like to take a moment to thank all of the people who work so hard for us so that we are able to worship in church on Saturdays and Sundays. So, to the Pastor, the elders, ushers, altar guild, sound booth, organist, and all who help clean Thank You. I was able to take communion last Sunday for the first time in quite a while and you guys did a great job. I hope that any of our congregation who feel they could join us on the weekends, would do so.

In God's name, Dale

Dale Schluckbier	President	Kathy Blondell &	Co-treasurer
Jerry Marquette	Vice President	Joanne Fetzer	Co-treasurer
Jerry Gneckow	Stewardship	Carol Wygle	Financial Secretary
Vacant	Recording Secretary	David Haas	Head Elder
Maxine Crogley	Coordinator	Ann Panas	Outreach
Lu Ann Cooke	Newsletter	Melissa Climer	Education
Vacant	Publicity		

So why is a Car's windshield so large & the rear view mirror so small? Because our PAST is not as important as our FUTURE. So, Look Ahead and Move on.

November newsletter articles and updates will be due by October 28th. Please send them to Lu Ann Cooke at bluann@tampabay.rr.com. Also, view the calendar and make sure I have your meetings.

Newsletter and weekly updates may also be found at our church web site.

Go to <http://www.faithlecanto.com/>



ELDER'S Report



Greetings Christian Friends.

Worship Services for October is as follows: Saturday night service at 6:00 on 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th, and 31st. Holy Communion will be on the 10th, and 24th. Sunday morning service at 9:30 on the 4th, 11th, 18th and 25th. Holy Communion will be on the 4th, and 18th. We will continue to sit in every other pew. Sanitizing procedures are done before every service. Face coverings are encouraged. Pastor will greet you outside before and after service as we are trying to keep congestion in the Narthex to a minimum. If you cannot attend a service our website will continue to have a video service available.

David Hass
Board of Elder Chairman

YOUR ELDERS

David Hass, Chairman	Fred Cogle
Chuck Davey	Jack Ryan
Jerry Gneckow	Ed Stern
Walter Gergely	Jerry Marquette
John Lehmann	



Our Prayer Breakfast will continue to be on hold. Thanks to some generous donations from our church members I will be able to send \$500 in the near future to both of our seminary food banks. The students are very grateful for our support.

David Hass



The Outreach Committee wants everyone to know that we have “Welcome Home” packets available for visitors and guests or for anyone to take and pass along to others. Inside is a *Portals of Prayer, Luther’s Small Catechism*, a postcard of the church, a Gospel tract, and contact information for Faith Lutheran Church. There is also a one-page sheet with our history, our mission, and some of the

“normal” activities we have at Faith.

These items are in a maroon brochure holder on the stand in the narthex that has the guest register. I remember how warmly I was greeted when I visited Faith Lutheran a year ago and had a “Welcome Home” brochure placed in my hands. Outreach is a little more challenging these days, but always important!

Ann Panas



Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML) Sunday is Sunday, October 4, 2020. We have asked that the women of the church wear purple, which is the official color of LWML. Purple symbolizes royalty. The ushers and the reader will be women of the church. Thank you ladies for participating. Also, thank you Carol Clayton for donating the dessert following the church service.

We will meet for Ladies of Faith on Wednesday, October 7, 2020, 10:30 A.M. in the Fellowship Hall. While normally we have refreshments, we will serve coffee only at the meeting. All women of the church are welcome to attend. We are looking forward to meeting again after several months of no meetings. We will be practicing social distancing and wearing masks. We hope to see many at the meeting.

In fellowship and God bless,
Carla Nicklas,
President of Ladies Of Faith



CITRUS
UNITED
BASKET

CUB (CITRUS UNITED BASKET) SUGGESTED OCTOBER DONATION IS CEREAL

Watch for those “Buy One, Get One Free” ads for cereal. Perhaps, purchase one for yourself and one to donate to CUB. Drop your donated items in the garden cart in the narthex. Any non-perishable donation is appreciated. (You don't have to give every month. Please give when you can, what you can.) **Thank you!**



To my fellow members:

First, I want to say thank you, thank you for continuing to bring and/or mail your offerings even as we try to cope with this pandemic and its effects on our lives and schedules. Because of your generosity and because we have tried to be very frugal, Faith Lutheran Church has managed to keep its financial head above water. In order to save money, we have

postponed many projects, but now some of those things must be done soon. So, I encourage you to continue sending or bringing your normal offerings, and if possible, dig just a little deeper to help offset some of the expenses that we know are coming. Also, don't forget that you can still elect to do your offering electronically. E giving is simple, safe, and secure. Ask Jerry Gneckow for details.

Jerry Gneckow
Stewardship Chairman



Hearts of faith is not meeting during the pandemic, however, if anyone has a need, please contact the Church Office or Marcia Pridgen. Thank you.

Marcia Pridgen.



Grief support will start the third Saturday of November; November 17, at 10 am. Please join us. If you have a need to talk before then please feel free to call me.

Marcia Pridgen at 686-0287



ESTHER GROUP - WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

We will be starting the **Women's Bible Study** after the first of the year. Starting it now would run into the holidays. Let's pray the virus is manageable the first of the year.... Marcia Pridgen



Thank you to all who called, sent cards, and prayed during Bill's surgeries. We are dealing with issues around the Agency for Persons with Disabilities (APD) restrictions for Jeffrey regarding coming to church during the Covid-19 pandemic. We are praying we will be back with you all soon. In the meantime, you are all in our prayers.

Bill, Marcia, and Jeffrey Pridgen

Stitch and Tie Quilt Group



We had a sewing meeting on September 11th and celebrated Marge Sawyer's birthday also. It was so good to get together.

It was decided we would meet September 25th and every other week thereafter. If it is determined we should change the meeting dates, we will notify people and put it in the bulletin. Please note the meeting dates on the calendar for October.

We hope to display our quilts in the sanctuary late October. If our church members have gifts to buy for Christmas perhaps they might consider a throw/quilt. If not, they will be distributed at Christmas time to homes that provide for people in need.

Marilyn Richards, Member



KNIT. CROCHET. PRAY.

We continue to offer prayer shawls for those in need. If you have a friend or loved one at home or in the hospital who could use the warmth and prayerful comfort of a uniquely created shawl, please feel free to take one. They are located in a container in the narthex.

Many thanks to the ladies that have given their time and talent to crocheting and knitting the shawls. And thank you to those who have donated yarn for this ministry.

If you have any questions or would like to volunteer to help with this ministry, you may ask Lu Ann Cooke or email her at bluann@tampabay.rr.com.

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

Judy Grosze	1
Cheryl Schenck	3
Jerry Sullivan	6
Maxine Crogle	7
Sara Snook	7
Debbie Weisert	14
Ginger Jeffrey	15
Sandy Niver	16
Merle Snook	20
Kathy Walker	20
Fred Klovach	23
John Marshick	24
Elsie Gorman	27
Gerry Peterson	29

OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

Philip & Wanda Malphurs	10
Howard & Karen Wille	15
Chuck & Ellen Davey	20
Jack & Jan Ryan	20

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OCTOBER SCHEDULE
 Saturdays - Melissa Climer
 Sundays – Pat Gneckow

Most likely the parish has noted that the Communion Wine Tray is displayed by a SPACE AFTER EVERY CUP. THIS ALLOWS more space for picking up the filled cup, so that each cup is intact. We care about the proper health procedures at this significant time. The Altar Guild women are all in sync at this time and any time.

THANK YOU, LADIES! You are always timely, prudent, and pleasant in your service for the Lord!

MY THANKS!

ELLEN DAVEY, ALTAR GUILD



USHERS FOR OCTOBER

6:00 SATURDAY BILL & Joyce Engelbrecht
9:30 SUNDAY BILL MOELLER, Ray & Naning Bangel, Sylvia Decker,
 Betty Marquette, Marlene Nordquist

OCTOBER

Saturday

3 Candy Lott
 10 Madalyn Sabo
 17
 24 Walter Gergely
 31 Madalyn Sabo



Sunday

4 Carol
 11 John Lehman
 18 Gloria Schultz
 25 Tom Gottsbach



Robert Percival

BATHROOM CLEANING SCHEDULE FOR OCTOBER

Week of:

October 04 Professional Cleaner
 October 11 Karen Wille
 October 18 Professional Cleaner
 October 25 Gloria Schultz





OCTOBER 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 7:30 a.m. Workday	2	3 6:00 p.m. Worship Service
4 LWML Sunday 9:30 a.m. Worship Service Communion	5	6 1:30 Bible Study	7 10:30 a.m. Ladies of Faith	8 7:30 a.m. Workday 3:00 p.m. Elders	9 9:00 a.m. Stitch & Tie	10 6:00 p.m. Worship Service Communion
11 9:30 a.m. Worship Service	12 	13 NO Bible Study	14	15 7:30 a.m. Workday 3:00 p.m. Council	16	17 10:00 a.m. Grief Support 6:00 p.m. Worship Service
18 9:30 a.m. Worship Service Communion	19	20 1:30 Bible Study	21	22 7:30 a.m. Workday	23 9:00 a.m. Stitch & Tie	24 6:00 p.m. Worship Service Communion
25 9:30 a.m. Worship Service	26	27 1:30 Bible Study	28	29 7:30 a.m. Workday	30	31 6:00 p.m. Worship Service  Halloween