

# FAITH at WORK

September 2023

Friends in Christ -

What is a prophet?

A person who brings a message from God. Reading through the Hebrew Bible/Old Testament, most of these people are bringing messages that are focused on their specific time. For instance, Malachi, which our Monday group just finished, spends a lot of time talking about acceptable offerings of grain or animals at the temple. That doesn't mean much to us. However Malachi also talks about giving our best for God, caring for the vulnerable in society. That means a lot!

And while some of the last part of Malachi are future focused - that is oracles that Christians believe predict John the Baptist or are oracles about the future, a lot on the time of Malachi.

We believe that the Bible is living and active, sharper than any two edged sword (Hebrews 4:12). This means that while it has a historical context that we cannot ignore at the same time we believe that God's word is eternal. God's promise through the messenger Malachi, to look out for the vulnerable in society (Malachi 3:5) is one that we need to hear as well. It is a reminder that God comes to the unexpected (1st Corinthians 1:28).

Thus while society often talks about prophets as people who predict the future, we in the church look as prophets as those who bring a message from God. We see these people in the historical prophets but also figures such as Augustine or Hildegard of Bingen or Martin Luther King Jr or Elizabeth Eaton. There are many people who bring messages from God - to care for each other and the creation, to be a voice for peace or those suffering injustice, to feed the hungry, care for the sick, clothe the naked.

Listen to the prophets in our midst, telling us the way to go.

—Pastor Mark

## Faith Lutheran Church

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## **Ruach-The Breath of God**      by Folasade Scott

Your Breath is God's Ruach – The Spirit that gives life and inspires your BE-coming. As you engage, there is so much unseen that God is ready to create – through you...

### **A Prayer of Thanks for Community**

Father in heaven, you are a community of love in your very nature. You are a holy family of father, son, and spirit. We thank you for the blessing you have given each of us to be in a relationship with you.

We also offer praise that you created us to live in community and family with one another. From the very beginning you blessed us to form families with one another.

Please be in the midst of each of our families and help us to love and honor one another in ways that are good in your eyes. In Jesus' name with pray, Amen.

## September

The golden-rod is yellow;  
 The corn is turning brown;  
 The trees in apple orchards  
 With fruit are bending down.  
 The gentian's bluest fringes  
 Are curling in the sun;  
 In dusty pods the milkweed  
 Its hidden silk has spun.  
 The sedges flaunt their harvest  
 In every meadow nook;  
 And asters by the brook-side  
 Make asters in the brook.  
 From dewy lanes at morning  
 The grapes' sweet odors rise;  
 At noon the roads all flutter  
 With yellow butterflies.  
 By all these lovely tokens  
 September days are here,  
 With summer's best of weather,  
 And autumn's best of cheer.  
 But none of all this beauty  
 Which floods the earth and air  
 Is unto me the secret  
 Which makes September fair.  
 'Tis a thing which I remember;  
 To name it thrills me yet  
 One day of one September  
 I never can forget.

—Helen Hunt Jackson



<b>Faith Lutheran Church</b>	<b>2023</b>
<b>STAFF</b>	
Pastor	Mark Bringman
Office Manager	Carol Armstrong
Organist/Pianist	Cheryl Blum
Custodian	Hart's Janitorial
<b>CHURCH COUNCIL</b>	
President	Terry Virnig
Vice President	Bob Buswell
Secretary	Mary Sabatka Gamet
Treasurer	Janice Lee Virnig
Financial Secretary	Alice Weber
Education/Youth	Vacant
Evangelism & Mission	Dick Olsen
Fellowship & Social	Denice Rickard
Property Management	Jon Aaberg
Stewardship & Resources	Wally Oster
Worship & Music	Diane Buswell
Mission Endowment	Carol Olufson



### Financials as of: September 25, 2023

Undesignated Income: \$5,019.52  
 Budgeted Undesignated Income: \$8,166.67  
 Net Undesignated Income: **(\$3,147.15)**  
 Total Expenses: \$3,354.30  
 Total Net Income: \$6,257.64

\*August 6 Mass in the Grass offering was designated for Laundry Love

# *Church Announcements and Events*

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**Pastor Mark—Light Week**

**September 4—9**

Pastor Mark will be available for emergency pastoral care only during this time.

**The Church Office will be closed on Monday, September 4 & Friday, September 8**

**Bible Study Group—1:00pm**

**Monday, September 11, 18 & 25**

Our bible study group is one that all are welcome to join. We are a group of believers seeking to grow together. Sometimes we study scripture, sometimes we discuss a movie or TV show, sometimes we read a book together. While some of our time is spent in discussion, we also pray together, share fellowship together and sometimes a meal.

We would love to have you be a part of this group which meets most Mondays. Our topic for August will be the Malachi. Malachi's place is at the end of the Hebrew Bible and messianic prophecies mean that it often points us to the coming of God's anointed one, Jesus Christ.

**Theology Pub @ Mary & Gordy's House—6:30pm**

**Tuesday, September 12**

Join us for a fun evening with free ranging discussion about the intersection of faith and life. This group is for friendly conversation and fellowship. One of the ideas behind theology pub was that it could be a low key engagement point for friends who don't have a church home.

This month theology pub will be at Mary and Gordy's house at 1303 9th Ave, SW, SW in Albany. They will provide snacks but ask that folks eat dinner before coming. Please bring your own beverages.

**Altar Guild Meeting—11:30am**

**Sunday, September 17**

## **Volunteers Needed!**

We are looking for volunteers to join the Altar Guild, the group that prepares our chancel (the area near the altar) for worship each week.

Typically this involves setting up for communion, clean up after service, and changing the linens on the altar (as needed).

Would you be willing to help with this? If so, please contact the church office.

**Sunday Cinema: The Chosen—2:00pm****Sunday, September 17**

We are going to continue following and learning about the life and ministry of Jesus, using the series *The Chosen*. This is a multi series look at the life of Jesus. We will be picking up near the end of the second season as Jesus and his disciples prepare for the Sermon on the Mount. Even if you haven't seen it before, join us and pick up as we dig in the story of our faith.

**New Young Adult Group—6:00pm****September 20, October 18, November 15**

Do you know any young adults between the ages of 18 and 35? A new group is being formed, for fellowship, discussion and to see what can happen when we join forces.

This group, [Gather: Rivers of Mercy](#), is being supported by a grant from ELCA. We are looking to bring together a group 'in the gap', to foster a place of meaningful connection.

We are beginning with low key gatherings at **The Barn at Hickory Station in North Albany** as an easy and public way to get to know each other (and a central location between the tri cities of Corvallis, Lebanon and Albany). Join us, grab a bite from a food cart, feel free to bring along the family (or just yourself) and help start a new group!

See you in September, October or November. If you have any questions or want to participate but can't make those dates, please get in touch with Kristin Young [young.kristin.723@gmail.com](mailto:young.kristin.723@gmail.com) or Pastor Mark [pastormarkbringman@gmail.com](mailto:pastormarkbringman@gmail.com) or Pastor Hallie at [housepastor@peak.org](mailto:housepastor@peak.org)

**LWR In-Gathering****Driver Needed!****October 27—28**

A driver is needed to transport boxes of quilts and school kits to Beaverton for the Lutheran World Relief In-Gathering. These collection activities are held at St. Andrew Lutheran Church, 12405 SW Butner Road, Beaverton, OR, between 8am—4pm on Friday and from 9am—12pm on Saturday.

To volunteer, please contact Peggy Preston at (541) 223-0197.

**A Prayer for Every Day**

O Lord, You are the light that guides my feet.  
 You are the map that gives me direction.  
 You are the peace that makes me strong.  
 You are the leader whom I faithfully follow.  
 May your light illuminate my life and your  
 guidance bring direction. May I find inspiration in  
 your word and peace in my heart as I follow you.  
 Amen.

## Annual School Supply Drive

Because of your generosity, we have met our goal of 75 School Kits!

Thank You!



## Food Collection for F.I.S.H. of Albany

We are collecting non-perishable food items FISH of Albany. Donations can be placed in one of the baskets in the parking lot entry-way.



**\*\*Please check expiration date markings**

*F.I.S.H. cannot accept foods past their marked expiration dates.*

## Quilting and TOPs

Wednesdays @ 9am

Wednesday mornings are a busy time at Faith Lutheran Church. We have quilters working to create comforting quilts that are donated to bring people warmth, privacy and shelter. If you are interested in joining them, there is always plenty to do.



TOPs (stands for The Old People, though age is not requirements for the group) are busy working to keep our church property maintained and our grounds clean. If you have able hands and a willing heart, the TOPs will always welcome some help.



## Mary Martha Circle

This is a Bible Study for women. We meet on the **second Tuesday of each month @ 1:00pm in the Fellowship Hall**. If you would like more information, please call: Karen Glenn at (541) 928-4729 or Shirley Karstens at (541) 967-8309.

## Prayer Chain:

We are asking those who are part of the prayer chain to lift up the concerns of Faith Lutheran congregants on a weekly basis and to pray for other concerns as they are shared. This is can be as simple as taking a few seconds to ask God to be with those listed, lifting each one up by name. Peggy Preston will be heading up the prayer chain. **If you are interested in being on the prayer chain, send her an email:**



**pegpreston@aol.com**

## Worship Leaders Team 2023

September	3	10	17	24
Assisting Ministers	Ellen	Shirley	Jeff	Carol
Altar Prep	Aabergs	Pam	Fleischers	Elaine
Ushers	Shirley	Kim	Dick	Wally
Sound Technicians	Terry	Gordy	John	Jon



## Attention Crafters & Bakers!



### SAVE THE DATE—November 3 & 4

Planning is underway for this year's Fall & Holiday Bazaar and the committee is seeking Crafters, Bakers, and Volunteers to participate. If you or someone you know is a crafter or has handmade items to sell, please contact Jan Wetzel by phone at: (541) 926-6917 or by email at: [rjwetzel@q.com](mailto:rjwetzel@q.com) to sign up for a selling space.

Your participation, whether that's making/donating items to sell, volunteering to help during the sale or bringing friends to shop at the bazaar, will be greatly appreciated.

## September 2023 Worship Schedule



September 3	10:30am	Sunday Worship Service
September 10	10:30am	Sunday Worship Service
September 17	10:30am	Sunday Worship Service
September 24	10:30am	Sunday Worship Service

**All Worship Services are filmed and available on YouTube**



# September

2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					<b>1</b> 9:00am - 12:30pm String Therapy	<b>2</b>
<b>3</b> 10:30am Indoor Worship & livestreaming	<b>4</b> Church Office Closed - Labor Day Pastor Mark - Off 7:00pm Boy Scouts	<b>5</b> Pastor Mark - Off	<b>6</b> Pastor Mark - Off 9:00am Quilters 9:00am TOPs	<b>7</b> Janitorial Service Pastor Mark - Off	<b>8</b> Church Office Closed Pastor Mark - Off 9:00am - 12:30pm String Therapy	<b>9</b> Pastor Mark - Off
<b>10</b> 10:30am Indoor Worship & livestreaming	<b>11</b> Bible Study Group 12:30pm - 3:00pm Modern Travelers 7:00pm Boy Scouts	<b>12</b> 1:30pm Mary Martha Circle 6:30pm Theology Pub @ Mary & Gordy's House	<b>13</b> 9:00am Quilters 9:00am TOPs 7:00pm Council Meeting	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> 9:00am - 12:30pm String Therapy	<b>16</b> 9:00am Circle of Friends (Peggy's Gazebo)
<b>17</b> 10:30am Indoor Worship & livestreaming 11:15am Altar Guild Meeting 2:00pm Sunday Cinema: The Chosen	<b>18</b> Bible Study Group 7:00pm Boy Scouts	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> 9:00am Quilters 9:00am TOPs 6:00pm Gather: Rivers of Mercy Meeting @ The Barn	<b>21</b> Janitorial Service	<b>22</b> 9:00am - 12:30pm String Therapy	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b> 10:30am Indoor Worship & livestreaming 11:15am Fellowship Meeting	<b>25</b> Bible Study Group 7:00pm Boy Scouts	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> 9:00am Quilters 9:00am TOPs	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> 9:00am - 12:30pm String Therapy 7:00pm Game Night - Bingo and More	<b>30</b>

## Church Office Hours

10:00am-2:00pm ♦ Monday—Wednesday—Friday



# Prayer List

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**PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER THOSE NEEDING STRENGTH, GUIDANCE AND HEALING:**

Tim B.	Izzy Covalt	Nicholas Glass
Brenda Carroll	Garrett Baarsch	Karen Hoover
Sandy Hina	Stephanie Bauthman	Karen Glenn
Robert Jon	Carl Wogomon	Jon McLarty
Linda Gail Voet	John Busher	Drew Butler
Melba Wright	Heather	Pat Norby
Brandon Crawford	Julie Shaw	Chuck
Noah Holman	Lee Horst	Jim Preston
Gigi Douglas	Margaret Rowland	
Chiera Family	Olivia Hunter	

## **REMEMBER OUR HOMEBOUND:**

Ruth Irwin, Connie Griffis, Izzy Covalt, Cindy Harms, Margaret Rowland, Melba Wright, Sangsau Tran

## **OUR SYMPATHY & PRAYERS TO THOSE WHO MOURN THE LOSS OF LOVED ONES**

*Family and friends of Sally Wasson, sister of Beth Harrington*



## **A Prayer of Thanks**

Thank you, God, for the pleasures of summer,  
the bright sunny days and perfect moonlit evenings,  
the smells of newly mowed grass and air thick with rain.

Thank you for days at the lake  
and the soft, warm breezes at the end of the day.

Thank you for vacations and festivals,  
picnics and cookouts, baseball and concerts,  
swimsuits and popsicles.

Thank you for the fireworks of thunderstorms,  
for watermelon sweetness,  
for summer's pace and summer's grace.

Thank you for showing us your beauty, power, abundance and  
glory. In Jesus' name we pray, amen.



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**Faith at Work**

**September 2023**

PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE

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Albany, OR 97321