

FAITH at WORK

September 2024

To God's Beloved at Faith Lutheran Church,

In late August, my husband John and I traveled to Alaska. It was my fifth time there, and still as mystical, magical and magnificent as it has been. One of the reasons for the trip was to take my dog Satin's ashes to be scattered in the place where I first met and loved her—Alaska.

The friends who retired Satin from sled dog racing and gave her to me helped me scatter her ashes. She died 20 years ago! The grief reared up again as we scattered her cremains. Together we remembered her wonderful personality, her life as a sled dog in sprint racing and the Junior Iditarod, and her life retired with me in Montana and The Dalles filled with long walks and new dog buddies. She went with me to work, greeting whoever came through the church's doors and was especially fond of the kids.

Honoring grief is so important. We have not always done a good job of that, as humans. Finding healthy ways to soothe or manage our griefs is important to our mental, emotional, and spiritual well-being. Grieving is good. Human beings were made to feel things. God feels things. Jesus feels things. Deeply. Remember how he cried at the death of his friend Lazarus.

Grief is a funny thing, sometimes. We don't always identify it as it can creep up on us. Or we might ignore it, pass it by, busy with other things on our priority lists. However, grief is real and we need to honor it, both for ourselves as well as for others. Grief is a natural reaction to loss, change, death—you name it. So it is vital to be kind to yourself and to others in grief.

The reason I bring up grief and grieving is that for churches in transition, like you, dear Faith, need to pay attention to the grieving. There will never be a time when the Church will return to what it was in the past. It is ok to grieve that, but also to celebrate the ways the Holy Spirit was at work in those days passed. Some things will change, some will be let go, some things will be carried forward. Grieving and celebrating can coincide.

However, we do not want to ignore or by-pass the grief of loss, change, and death that is occurring. That leads to unhealthy ways of being, as individuals and as a community. So, let us find ways to honor the grief, remember God's faithfulness in all of Faith's ministry, and anticipate the ways God is preparing you for the next life, whatever that might be.

(Continued on Page 2)

Faith Lutheran Church

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(Continued from Page 1)

What are you grieving these days? What losses, changes, deaths have taken up residence in your hearts? How shall we acknowledge that grief so that it doesn't control us or keep us from moving forward? Transition is hard work. The changes that have been happening here at Faith are also happening in many other congregations. In order to move forward, it is important to face our griefs. We can do that with trust in God's faithfulness

In Hebrews 11, the Faith chapter of the Bible, we hear, "Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen..." and what follows is a list of God's people who trusted in God's providence and what resulted...Abel, Abraham, Isaac, Moses, and many others who experienced loss and resurrection. The section continues in chapter 12 with, "Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God."

Our hope is in Christ Jesus. The "race" is not finished, however we are being cheered on to the finish line, keeping our eyes focused on Jesus. Faith Lutheran Church in Albany Oregon will never be what it was, but you can still trust God for what will be.

May you know God's presence as you grieve and prepare for whatever is next. God is not finished writing your story, dear Faith.

In Christ, with hope and peace,
Pr Dorthy+



Philippians 4:4-9

⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵ Let all men know your forbearance. The Lord is at hand. ⁶ Have no anxiety about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which passes all understanding, will keep your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

⁸ Finally, brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is gracious, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. ⁹ What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, do; and the God of peace will be with you.

TIME TO GET READY!

LUTHER HOUSE FOOTBALL FUNDRAISER

Students, alumni & LH friends,
volunteer to help park cars for home
games and raise money for your
favorite Lutheran campus ministry!

August 31, 3:30 pm game

September 14, 12:30 pm game

September 21, 5:30 pm game

October 5, 3:30 pm game

October 19, 12:30 pm game

November 9, 12:30 pm game

November 23, 4 pm game

September Days

O month of fairer, rarer days
Than Summer's best have been;
When skies at noon are burnished blue,
And winds at evening keen;
When tangled, tardy-blooming things
From wild waste places peer,
And drooping golden grain-heads tell
That harvest-time is near.

Though Autumn tints amid the green
Are gleaming, here and there,
And spicy Autumn odors float
Like incense on the air,
And sounds we mark as Autumn's own
Her nearing steps betray,
In gracious mood she seems to stand
And bid the Summer stay.

Though 'neath the trees, with fallen leaves
The sward be lightly strown,
And nests deserted tell the tale
Of summer bird-folk flown;
Though white with frost the lowlands lie
When lifts the morning haze,
Still there's a charm in every hour
Of sweet September days.

by Helen L. Smith



Faith Lutheran Church		2024
STAFF		
Interim Pastor	Pastor Dorthy Nielsen	
Office Manager	Carol Armstrong	
Organist/Pianist	Cheryl Blum	
Custodian	Hart's Janitorial	
CHURCH COUNCIL		
President	Gordy Gamet	
Vice President	Terry Virnig	
Secretary	Mary Sabatka Gamet	
Treasurer	Janice Lee Virnig	
Financial Secretary	Alice Weber	
Education/Youth	Vacant	
Evangelism & Mission	Dick Olsen	
Fellowship & Social	Peggy Preston	
Property Management	Vacant	
Stewardship & Resources	Vacant	
Worship & Music	Vacant	
Mission Endowment	Carol Olufson	



Financials as of: August 26, 2024

Undesignated Income: \$5,639.02
 Budgeted Undesignated Income: \$6,720.83
 Net Undesignated Income: (\$1,081.81)
 Total Expenses: \$8,589.10
 Total Net Income: \$1,949.92

Church Announcements and Events

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Transition Work for September

Sundays, September 1 & 15

September 1: Transition Work: Envisioning the Future—11:45am Coffee Hour conversation will be focused on brain-storming and listening to hear God's invitation to a new horizon.

September 15: Potluck —11:45am Please sign-up to bring some food to share.

Transition Work: Envisioning the Future—12:15pm Our work will focus on envisioning what the future of Faith Lutheran might look like and what God is calling us to do.

Church Office is Closed on Labor Day

Monday, September 2

Shared Worship at Good Shepherd Lutheran—10:00am

Sunday, September 8

We will join our friends at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church for a shared worship service and BBQ on Sunday, September 8. Service will begin at 10:00am. **There will NOT be service at FLC that day.** Good Shepherd Lutheran Church is located at the corner of 34th and Columbus Streets in Albany.

After service, they are hosting a BBQ that we are all invited to attend. The BBQ is not a potluck (all food will be provided), so all you need to bring is yourself. Please RSVP if you're planning to attend—a sign up sheet is available in the Fireside Room.

Bingo & More! —3:00pm

Sunday, September 15

Join us for an afternoon of fun & games! Bring a non-perishable food item for admission. Popcorn and Lemonade will be provided.

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.

Annual School Supply Drive

We have met the goal for 75 kits to be donated through Lutheran World Relief. Thank you to everyone who donated to make this possible! These kits will be delivered to LWR in October.

Thank you!



Gods Work, Our Hands Service Project

TBD

We are also doing a service project with the members of GSLC over at Lutherhouse in Corvallis. We are still working out the details of the date. We would like to do it before school starts but there are some home games in September and I think people would have a hard time finding a place to park. The work that we will be doing is mostly general maintenance - painting, cleaning, gardening, but there will be something to do for anyone that shows up regardless of abilities. Details to follow as we sort everything out. If you have any questions please talk to Mary Sabatka Gamet.

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 entryway.

*** Please check expiration date markings - FISH cannot accept foods past their marked expiration dates.*

Covid-19 Update

The pandemic may be over, but Covid-19 continues to circulate among the population and still poses a threat to the lives of our loved ones. Please be vigilant in protecting yourself and others by observing a few simple rules:

- If you are ill, please stay home
- Wash your hands often
- If you need to cough, please cover your mouth and nose.
- If you wish to wear a mask to protect yourself or others, please feel free to wear one.
- If you see someone wearing a mask, please respect their right to wear one.

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 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: pegprestonn@aol.com**

Harvest Festival Quilt & Craft Show —9:00am to 4:00pm**October 18 & 19**

Mark your calendars! The 2024 Quilt & Craft Show is planned as a joint effort with Good Shepherd this year. We are currently seeking a coordinator for this event. If you are interested in volunteering or have hand made goods to donate to the effort, please contact Peggy Preston at 541-926-2697.

Volunteer Driver Needed!**October 25 or 26**

A driver is needed to transport quilts and school kits to Beaverton, OR to the Lutheran World Relief Fall In-Gathering. If you are able to help with this, please contact Peggy Preston at 541-926-2697.



Worship Leaders Team 2024					
September	1	8	15	22	29
Assisting Ministers	George	N/A	Janice	Carol O.	Shirley
Altar Prep	Elaine	N/A	George	George	Elaine
Ushers	Dick	N/A	George	George	Dick
Sound Technicians	Gordy	N/A	Terry	John	Gordy

**September 2024 Worship Schedule**

September 1	10:30am	Worship
September 8*	10:00am	Worship at Good Shepherd
September 15	10:30am	Worship
September 22	10:30am	Worship
September 29	10:30am	Worship

*September 8—No Worship Service at Faith Lutheran



September

2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 10:30am Worship & Livestreaming - Pr. Dorthy Nielsen 11:30am - 12:30pm Coffee Hour Conversation-Transition	2 Church Office Closed Labor Day 7:00pm Boy Scouts	3 3:00pm - 6:00pm Jackson Street - Academic Tutoring 4:00pm - 7:30pm Family Tree Nursery-Parent Ed. Class	4 9:00am Quilters 9:00am TOPs	5 4:30pm - 8:00pm Jackson Street - Support Group	6 9:00am - 12:30pm String Therapy	7
8 No Service at FLC 10:00am - 1:00pm Shared Worship & BBQ at Good Shepherd Lutheran	9 12:30pm - 3:00pm Modern Travelers 7:00pm Boy Scouts 7:00pm Council Meeting	10 1:30pm Mary Martha Circle 3:00pm - 6:00pm Jackson Street - Academic Tutoring 4:00pm - 7:30pm Family Tree Nursery-Parent Ed. Class	11 9:00am Quilters 9:00am TOPs	12 Janitorial Service 4:30pm - 8:00pm Jackson Street - Support Group	13 9:00am - 12:30pm String Therapy	14
15 10:30am Worship & Livestreaming - Pr. Dorthy Nielsen 11:45am - 2:00pm Potluck and Transition Work: Future-Dreams & Hopes 3:00pm Bingo & More!	16 7:00pm Boy Scouts	17 1:00pm - 3:00pm D.A.R. Monthly Meeting 3:00pm - 6:00pm Jackson Street - Academic Tutoring 4:00pm - 7:30pm Family Tree Nursery-Parent Ed. Class	18 9:00am Quilters 9:00am TOPs	19 4:30pm - 8:00pm Jackson Street - Support Group	20 9:00am - 12:30pm String Therapy	21 9:00am Circle of Friends (Fellowship Hall)
22 10:30am Worship & Livestreaming - Pr. Dan Schlewitz 11:15am Fellowship Meeting	23 7:00pm Boy Scouts	24 3:00pm - 6:00pm Jackson Street - Academic Tutoring 4:00pm - 7:30pm Family Tree Nursery-Parent Ed. Class	25 9:00am Quilters 9:00am TOPs	26 Janitorial Service 4:30pm - 8:00pm Jackson Street - Support Group	27 9:00am - 12:30pm String Therapy	28 2:00pm - 4:00pm Rose Mary Aaberg Celebration of Life
29 Worship & Livestreaming - Pr. Dorthy Nielsen 10:30am Worship & Livestreaming	30 7:00pm Boy Scouts					

Prayer List

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

Tim Berg	Stephanie Bauthman	John Villani
Brenda Carroll	John Busher	Vanessa Munro
Sandy Hina	Julie Shaw	Jim Preston
Robert Jon	Olivia Hunter	Virginia
Linda Gail Voet	Nicholas Glass	Gabriel
Noah Holman	Karen Hoover	Dave Glass
Gigi Douglas	Chuck	Peggy Preston
Garrett Baarsch	Carol Olufson	Dick Dodge

REMEMBER OUR HOMEBOUND:

Izzy Covalt, Ruth Glace, Connie Griffis, Margaret Rowland, Sangsau Tran & Melba Wright

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

Friends and Family of Rose Mary Aaberg

Friends and Family of Wally Gustav



A Prayer for Every Day



Almighty and Everlasting God, thank You that your Spirit is within me. Lord, fill me anew with your Holy Spirit. Grant me the fortitude to live by the Spirit and to mark my life by a dependence on You. Even though these times deplete my energy and drain my resolve, You restore my soul by the indwelling of Your Spirit. Thank You that You have sent your Spirit and that this is a reason for my joy. In Jesus' name, amen.



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PLACE
STAMP
HERE

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