

# FAITH at WORK

October 2025

Dear People of God at Faith Lutheran Church,

Autumn greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus, the One who is faithful and enlivens God's grace for the whole world.

Outside the living room window is one tree that has decided to turn color ahead of every other tree in that area. They are all wild cherry trees. While I am not sure while that one is ahead of all the others, it is definitely reminding me that fall is here, as is natural, and a lot of things are changing. Not the least of which includes each one of us.

Change can be a natural happening, but it can also be a deliberate thing. Sometimes change comes out of necessity, sometimes from crisis, and sometimes out of curiosity. I think change that comes from crisis is the most challenging and also has the best opportunity to bring about healthy, positive change.

The political violence in our country that we have been seeing, experiencing, has been disturbing. Tensions have elevated to beyond boiling point. Divisions, disagreements, and discussions have been failing. Why? One reason might be that we have forgotten how to listen to each other. Really listen to each other, not to debate but to understand. It is easy to fall into debate to change another's perspective. But that does more harm than good.

Listening could change the temperature of the current political climate. Maybe that's my simplistic, hopeful, Pollyanna-ish heart. I am guilty of letting my emotions and perspectives keep me from really listening. To be honest, what I hear already is distressing and doesn't square with what I hear from Jesus. He is my center, my ground, my faith. His teachings are what I cling to and work at living out.

White Christian Nationalism is an affront to the life and teachings of Jesus Christ. There is nothing that I hear that even comes close to matching Jesus' loving ways. I reject everything WCN stand for. But what if I listen deeper? Will I hear their fears? Their pain? Their perspectives? And will I hold back my emotional reactions to the things I believe are warped and twisted away from Jesus to acknowledge their fears and pains, even if I think they are way off?

Jesus calls us to change our focus from ourselves to the well-being of those who need support, who live on the margins of society, who are imprisoned by the oppressive systems in our country, and the world. A follower of Jesus seeks what is good for all, not some, the way Jesus did.

Many of the gospel readings in September were about the lost being found; about who is valued by God; about what you value which exposes your heart. Just as parents are entrusted with the care and nurture of their children, we are entrusted with the care and support of our neighbors, including those with needs which they cannot bear themselves. How does this mandate from Jesus change us, our lives, our politics?

## Faith Lutheran Church

930 Queen Ave SW, Albany OR 97321

email: [faithalbany@proaxis.com](mailto:faithalbany@proaxis.com)

website: [www.faithalbany.org](http://www.faithalbany.org)

Phone: (541) 928-7660



Our faith and values, founded in Jesus Christ, shapes our politics. Not the other way around. We are<sup>2</sup> called to love our neighbors as ourselves, not instead of neighbors or instead of ourselves. When we follow Jesus, we are changed. God transplants God's heart for ours, so that we would love the way God loves. Now that's quite a change!

As the trees begin to let go of their leaves, we too let go of those things that are part of who we are, but maybe don't bear the fruit Jesus calls us to bear. Remember a fig tree can only bear figs, apple trees bear apples, meaning we can only bear the fruit we are called to bear...love. Anything else is not fruit but waste.

Change is always in season for us, not only in the fall. As Faith Lutheran and Good Shepherd Lutheran churches begin to bear the fruit of love in turning toward each other in shared mission and ministry, let us engage in the deep listening that is needed so that the fruit of love can be shared, in Jesus' name.

In the love and peace of Christ Jesus,

Pr Dorthy+

### Blending for Mission

No Updates at this time.

### **From Church Council**

Hello Brothers and Sisters of Faith,

Well, a lot has happened in the world in the last month, especially here in the United States. I have been bothered by some of the violent events involving free speech and people feeling that having debate about their views is not safe. I know this has happened many times over the history of this country, but the bible says that God will judge you when you get in front of him. I know it seems like loving your brothers and sisters, no matter who they are, is harder to do today, but we need to try and do that. Sometimes just a smile and acknowledgement are all people are looking for. We are all God's children, and we need to try and remember that, me included. Showing some kindness to people is all it takes sometimes to make people feel appreciated. Let people see Jesus with your words and actions.

We are still working on our 2-point church process and have another meeting with the church leaders coming up later this month. I will be sure to let you know what is happening when I have more information. As always let me know if you have any questions.

Blessings,

Gordy Gamet

## Merry Autumn

It's all a farce,—these tales they tell  
About the breezes sighing,  
And moans astir o'er field and dell,  
Because the year is dying.

Such principles are most absurd,—  
I care not who first taught 'em;  
There's nothing known to beast or bird  
To make a solemn autumn.

In solemn times, when grief holds sway  
With countenance distressing,  
You'll note the more of black and gray  
Will then be used in dressing.

Now purple tints are all around;  
The sky is blue and mellow;  
And e'en the grasses turn the ground  
From modest green to yellow.

The seed burrs all with laughter crack  
On featherweed and jimson;  
And leaves that should be dressed in black  
Are all decked out in crimson.

A butterfly goes winging by;  
A singing bird comes after;  
And Nature, all from earth to sky,  
Is bubbling o'er with laughter.

The ripples wimple on the rills,  
Like sparkling little lasses;  
The sunlight runs along the hills,  
And laughs among the grasses.

The earth is just so full of fun  
It really can't contain it;  
And streams of mirth so freely run  
The heavens seem to rain it.

Don't talk to me of solemn days  
In autumn's time of splendor,  
Because the sun shows fewer rays,  
And these grow slant and slender.

Why, it's the climax of the year,—  
The highest time of living!—  
Till naturally its bursting cheer  
Just melts into thanksgiving.

—By Paul Laurence Dunbar

Faith Lutheran Church		2025
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	Terry Virnig (Acting)	
Stewardship & Resources	Vacant	
Worship & Music	George Hunt	
Mission Endowment	Carol Olufson	



Financials as of 9/25/25.

Undesignated Income: \$5,780.97  
 Budgeted Undesignated Income: \$5,416.66  
 Net Undesignated Income: 364.31  
 Total Expenses: \$5,891.65  
 Total Net Income: \$4,793.44



# HARVEST CRAFT & QUILT SHOW

**Faith Lutheran Church**  
930 Queen Avenue SW, Albany, OR

OCTOBER 17 & 18

9:00am—4:00pm


Please join us as you browse our amazing selection of:

Homespun Crafts  
Delicious Baked Goods  
&  
Handmade Quilts

**Lunch Will Be Served**

**11:00am—1:30pm**

Hearty Chicken Soup with Bread,  
Coffee or Tea, and a Homemade Dessert





# Church Announcements and Events

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## Contact Pr. Cindy Robles for Emergency Pastoral Care

If you have a need for emergency pastoral care, please contact Pr. Cindy at 563-845-8221.

## Men's Breakfast—8:30am

Tuesdays, Ongoing

Men's group meets for breakfast every Tuesday at 8:30am at either Sweetwaters Restaurant or Brick & Mortar Restaurant (alternating weeks). All men are welcome!

September 7 & 21 at Brick & Mortar — September 14 & 28 at Sweetwater's

## 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](mailto:pegprestonn@aol.com)

## 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.

## 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.*



## 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.



## Worship Leaders Team 2025

<b>October</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>26</b>
Assisting Ministers	Janice	Carol O.	Shirley	N/A
Altar Prep	Jon A.	Jon A.	Jon A.	N/A
Ushers	Dick	Dick	Dick	N/A
Sound Technicians	Terry	John B.	Gordy	N/A



## October 2025 Worship Schedule

<b>October 5</b>	<b>10:30am</b>	<b>Worship</b>
<b>October 12</b>	<b>10:30am</b>	<b>Worship</b>
<b>October 19</b>	<b>10:30am</b>	<b>Worship</b>
<b>October 26</b>	<b>10:00am</b>	<b>Worship at GSLC</b>



## JESUS TRAVELED TO MANY PLACES

Jesus traveled to many regions, cities, towns and villages to preach the Good News. In the puzzle below, find and circle the names of some of the places. Can you find the names on the list?

*Words can go left to right, up, down or diagonal—so look carefully in all directions!*

BETHANY  
BETHLEHEM  
BETHSAIDA  
CAESAREA PHILIPPI  
CANA  
CAPERNAUM  
DECAPOLIS  
EGYPT

EPHRAIM  
GALILEE  
JERICHO  
JERUSALEM  
JORDAN RIVER  
JUDEA  
MAGDALA

MOUNT OF OLIVES  
NAZARETH  
PEREA  
SAMARIA  
SIDON  
TYRE  
WILDERNESS

B	M	L	E	T	C	U	S	G	O	T	O	B	T	H	E
E	J	O	R	D	A	N	R	I	V	E	R	E	M	N	S
T	U	E	U	E	N	A	R	B	Y	V	I	T	A	L	S
H	D	L	R	N	A	Z	A	R	E	T	H	H	G	A	E
S	E	G	E	I	T	S	S	S	G	Y	O	L	D	I	N
A	A	C	J	A	C	O	N	I	Y	R	P	E	A	R	R
I	D	E	E	A	C	H	F	D	P	E	H	H	L	T	E
D	E	H	R	E	R	E	O	O	T	A	L	E	A	S	D
A	C	O	U	T	H	P	A	N	L	T	I	M	S	W	L
C	A	E	S	A	R	E	A	P	H	I	L	I	P	P	I
H	P	P	A	A	Y	R	I	H	A	V	V	E	C	O	W
M	O	H	L	E	M	E	S	O	H	E	T	E	R	A	V
E	L	R	E	L	E	A	D	T	H	R	O	U	S	G	H
O	I	A	M	U	T	G	R	A	B	E	T	H	A	N	Y
L	S	I	I	L	G	A	L	I	L	E	E	E	E	F	R
O	M	M	C	A	P	E	R	N	A	U	M	M	A	R	K





Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			<b>1</b> 9:00am Quilters & TOPs	<b>2</b> Janitorial Service 4:30pm - 8:00pm Jackson Street - Support Group 5:30pm - 8:30pm Fellowship Hall Rental - W/C Class	<b>3</b> 9:00am - 12:30pm String Therapy	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b> 10:30am Worship & Livestreaming - Pr. Dorothy Nielsen	<b>6</b> 7:00pm Boy Scouts	<b>7</b> 8:30am - 9:30am Men's Breakfast at Brick & Mortar 3:00pm - 6:00pm Jackson Street - Academic Tutoring	<b>8</b> 9:00am Quilters & TOPs	<b>9</b> 4:30pm - 8:00pm Jackson Street - Support Group 5:30pm - 8:30pm Fellowship Hall Rental - W/C Class	<b>10</b> 9:00am - 12:30pm String Therapy	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b> Blessing of the Quilts 10:30am Worship & Livestreaming - Pr. Dorothy Nielsen	<b>13</b> 12:00pm - 3:00pm Modern Travelers 7:00pm Boy Scouts	<b>14</b> 8:30am Men's Breakfast at Sweetwater's 1:30pm Mary Martha Circle 3:00pm - 6:00pm Jackson Street - Academic Tutoring	<b>15</b> 12:00pm Council Meeting 9:00am Quilters & TOPs	<b>16</b> 4:30pm - 8:00pm Jackson Street - Support Group	<b>17</b> 9:00am - 4:00pm Harvest Bazaar & Quilt Show	<b>18</b> 9:00am - 4:00pm Harvest Bazaar & Quilt Show 9:00am - 4:00pm Council Retreat
<b>19</b> 10:30am Worship & Livestreaming - Pr. Dorothy Nielsen 11:15am Fellowship Meeting	<b>20</b> 7:00pm Boy Scouts	<b>21</b> 8:30am - 9:30am Men's Breakfast at Brick & Mortar 3:00pm - 6:00pm Jackson Street - Academic Tutoring	<b>22</b> 9:00am Quilters & TOPs	<b>23</b> Janitorial Service 4:30pm - 8:00pm Jackson Street - Support Group 5:30pm - 8:30pm Fellowship Hall Rental - W/C Class	<b>24</b> 9:00am - 12:30pm String Therapy	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b> 10:00am - 11:00am Worship at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church	<b>27</b> 7:00pm Boy Scouts	<b>28</b> 8:30am Men's Breakfast at Sweetwater's 3:00pm - 6:00pm Jackson Street - Academic Tutoring	<b>29</b> 9:00am Quilters & TOPs	<b>30</b> 4:30pm - 8:00pm Jackson Street - Support Group 5:30pm - 8:30pm Fellowship Hall Rental - W/C Class	<b>31</b> 9:00am - 12:30pm String Therapy	



## *Prayer List*

***REMEMBER IN PRAYER those needing strength, guidance & healing.***

Tim Berg	Vanessa Munro	Catherine Baarsch
Noah Holman	Virginia	Peggy Preston
Gigi Douglas	Gabriel	Jim Preston
John Busher	Frank Perry	Nancy George
Julie Shaw	David	Grace Chadwick
Olivia Hunter	Mitchell Mueller	
Nicholas Glass	Monica Johnson	
Chuck	Keith Baarsch	

### ***REMEMBER OUR HOMEBOUND:***

Sangsau Tran, Karen Glenn, Melba Wright, Margaret Rowland

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

*Family and friends of Jackye Brown*



### **A Prayer for Every Day**



Almighty and Everlasting God, thank you for this new day and all of the blessings it brings. Be with me and guide me as I go about my daily tasks and responsibilities. Grant me the strength and resilience to face whatever challenges may come my way, and help me to be a source of love and support for those around me.

I pray for your protection and care for all those in need, and for your wisdom and discernment to guide me in making good choices. I trust in your love and care for us all, and am filled with the peace of knowing that you are with me always. Amen.



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**2025**

PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE

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