



# Messenger

F a i t h L u t h e r a n C h u r c h

August 2023

volume 63 . issue 8

a message from senior pastor, Jacob Heine

*There is an occasion for everything, and a time for every activity under heaven...*

*~Ecclesiastes 3:1~*

Like me, I am sure you have heard someone say (or maybe even said it yourself), no one likes change. That is absolutely true for a change that we don't like. When someone we love dies, we most certainly do not like that change in our lives. When people we care about move away, we mourn and don't like the change in relationship this brings. When we lose a job, we do not like the change in income and the change that such an upheaval brings.

However, when it is a change we desire or want it is certainly something we like. At a wedding we rejoice in the change of a new member that is welcomed into the family. At the birth of a child new parents excitedly make changes to house and life to welcome the new bundle of joy. A promotion or new job brings exciting changes for careers and life.

Change is really never the problem. Change is actually neutral. Rather, the question is if the change is a gain or a loss. We like g something. We do not like losing something. That is when change becomes difficult.

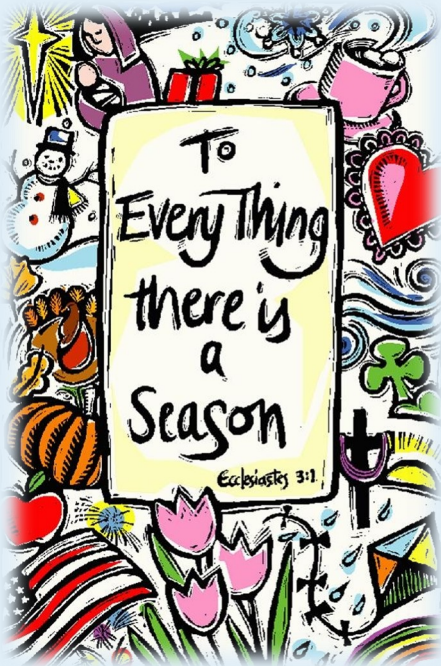
This year we have a big change that will affect us all in different ways. After two decades of having three worship services on Sunday morning with an overlapping education hour the decision has been made to move permanently to two Sunday morning worship services with a dedicated education hour. Last Summer and this Summer we have used this schedule to much success. We have seen a significant increase in Bible Study and Sunday School attendance during the Summer over the School Year. A time of fellowship is available where all members that attend on Sunday morning have the opportunity to see each other and interact. The family of God at Faith Lutheran has the chance to worship and study together. This change has many positives.

However, we also recognize that there is loss experienced in this change. With a reduction in worship services some will need to move what time they come to worship. This is also true of those that prefer worshipping earlier in the morning and their service will be later. This change can also bring a feeling of loss as we look at the years past longingly wishing that things would return to previous times.

The gains and the loss are real. We recognize that while also looking for what is needed and best as a congregation. Having the membership together in the study of God's Word is vital and necessary. Having a time of dedicated education for our children, youth, and adults is vital now more than ever. The opportunities for fellowship together and gathering as a community are great.

We know that the only thing in life that is constant is the love of God in Christ Jesus, our

continued on page 2



## IN THIS NEWSLETTER:

Pastor's article cont.....	2
Music Ministry .....	2
Treasurer Report.....	2
Parish Nurse .....	3
August Calendar.....	4
Birthdays & Anniversaries .....	5
Children/Youth Families .....	6
Christian Service/Doorstep .....	7
LWML.....	7
Mission Offerings for 2023.....	8

Lord. All other changes can, and sometimes need to adapt more. We pray that God leads our congregation to reach more people and we continue to see attendance grow. We look for opportunities for other worship that allows us to continue to reach more people with the gifts of God while providing solid education to all people.

As the leadership of the congregation, we see great blessings and opportunities through this change, all the while recognizing that this is a loss for some. For this reasons we invite you to one of two townhall meetings (Wednesday, August 2 at 6:00pm and Sunday August 6 at 9:30am) to hear more about this change and our hopes for the future.

In Christ's Hands

Pastor Heine

## From our Director of Music & Worship Arts

### Music Rehearsals resume in September

Faith's Music Ministry enjoyed a busy first half of 2023 preparing and performing music for regular Sunday morning worship, for special services for Holy Week and Easter, and then culminating in our joy-filled 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary worship on June. Did hearing all the choir, the bells, the praise team put a little spark in your heart to want to be a part of this ministry? If so, then explore the many opportunities to share your talents. If you have questions, please direct them to Linda Meyer, Director of Music & Worship Arts.

- **Adult Choir** – This non-audition vocal choir usually sings music in 2- or 4-part harmony and participates at least twice a month in worship (mainly in traditional, but occasionally in contemporary). *Rehearsals are Thursdays, 7:15-8:30pm, in the choir loft/balcony, beginning Sept. 7.*
- **Praise Team** – If your musical interests lean toward Christian contemporary music in a band setting, then explore what our Praise Team has to offer during any rehearsal every Wednesday at 7:30pm. We always have a need for *vocalists* (lead or harmony who feel comfortable singing into a mic in front of the congregation); *instrumentalists* proficient in guitar (acoustic, electric or bass), drum kit, or keyboard/synth; and *tech-savvy people* who are willing to learn our sound board or screen software or cameras for streaming.
- **Beginner Bell Training** – Do you understand rhythm and counting in music? Even if you don't know all the notes, you can learn to ring handbells! If you want to learn the basics of handbell ringing, come for a *6-week beginners session starting Thursday, Sept 7, 5:30-6:00pm* in the sanctuary. For ages middle school through adult with some knowledge of rhythm and note reading.
- **Alleluia Ringers Bell Choir** – Rehearsals for our advanced bell choir begin *Thursday, Sept 7, 6:00-7:10pm* in the sanctuary. If you have experience ringing bells and would like to be on a list of substitute ringers, please contact Linda Meyer.

And finally, all those involved or wanting to get involved in our **Music Ministry are invited to an Open House/Happy Hour** hosted by Director Linda Meyer in her backyard (4812 SW 33<sup>rd</sup> Terrace) on *Thursday, Aug. 31. Stop in anytime between 5:00-7:00pm* for light refreshments and fellowship with other music-lovers!

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### MONTHLY FINANCIAL RESULTS

#### Update from our treasurer. . .

- Donations for June were \$96,375 and expenses were \$121,1540 resulting in a **Negative** balance for the month of \$24,778.
- YTD Donations are \$542,973 and expenses are \$592,386 resulting in a net YTD **Negative** balance of \$29,415.
- YTD donations are \$20,024 below 2022 and \$101,240 below projected.
- YTD expenses are \$91,607 higher than 2022 but \$43,087 below budget.

## FOR YOUR HEALTH ...

a message from our Parish Nurse Pat Schultz, RN

Our Faith family has over the years lost three women, all from one family...Lota Pinter, the mother; Tina Fay, a daughter; and Betty Ramsey, a daughter and a sister. This mother and two of her daughters all suffered from ALSP, a rare, progressive neurological disease which has no cure.

ALSP is the acronym for Addult-Onset Leukoencephalopathy with Axonal Spheroids and Pigmented Glia. What does this mean?

Leukoencephalopathy is the alteration of white matter, one type of brain tissue that affects learning and brain



functions and coordinates communication between different regions in the brain. White matter consists of axons, or nerve fibers, covered by myelin, a substance that insulates and protects. The axons transmit nerve impulses throughout the body. A spheroid is a result of swelling of axons in the brain. The spheroids, or damaged axons, disrupt messages being sent in the brain. Damage to glia cells is believed to contribute to the neurological symptoms ALSP patients experience.

The cause of ALSP is the mutation of the CSF1R gene. Without a normally-functioning CSF-1 Receptor structural changes to the nerve cell occur. It takes only one copy of a mutated CSF1 Receptor to cause symptoms and to diagnose ALSP. Also, if a parent has a mutation each child has a 50% chance of inheriting the mutation. The risk of inheritance is the same for males and females. Also, the altered gene can be the result of a new mutation in the affected person.

ALSP symptoms vary from patient to patient, can even vary between patients from the same family, and worsen over time. Cognitive symptoms include memory problems, dementia, confusion, and loss of speech. Behavioral symptoms include mood and personality changes, lack of self-control, poor judgment, and depression. Motor symptoms include tight, weak muscles, muscle spasms and tremors, difficulty walking or slowness of movements, and lack of coordination. Other possible symptoms can be a change in vision, difficulty swallowing, or slurred speech. Many of these ALSP symptoms look much like other disease processes, making diagnosis difficult.

There are no FDA-approved treatments for ALSP. Current treatment options do not reverse or “fix” damage, but rather are used to manage symptoms. Continued research is very important to further advance our understanding of this disease and to develop more effective treatment options.

A bone marrow transplant procedure is the most promising, possible treatment to slow down the ALSP disease symptoms.

A national ALSP 5K run will be held in Raleigh, NC, on September 9 to raise awareness of ALSP and to raise funds for research and support for patients of ALSP and their families. We are organizing a Topeka Team walk at Lake Shawnee’s Ensley Gardens on that same day, September 9. We will be at the shelter at the parking lot entrance to the gardens from 8-11 am. Water, snacks, and educational material will be available there that day. You can walk at your own pace, any distance. Other options include walking any place and any time...you can walk at the place and time of your choice! You can register as a virtual walker for only \$20...which will help raise funds to support research and to support ALSP patients and their families. Continue to check the Weekend Updates for new information as it is released.

Sisters’ Hope Foundation, [sistershopefoundation.org](http://sistershopefoundation.org), has more information. Check it out!



# August 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>30</b> 8:00am Traditional Worship 9:30am Education Hour 10:45am Contemporary Worship w/ commissioning of Hannah Elsey 12:00pm Hannah's Celebration 3:00pm Deaf worship	<b>31</b> 7:00pm Boy Scouts	<b>1</b> 10:00am Small Group Bible Study 6:30pm Spiritual Life Brd	<b>2</b> 11:00am Care Card Making 7:00pm Praise Team Rehearsal	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> 9:00am Hannah Circle 3:30pm FIA - Back to School Bash
<b>6</b> 8:00am Traditional Worship 9:30am Education Hour 10:45am Contemporary Worship	<b>7</b> 7:00pm Boy Scouts	<b>8</b> 10:00am Small Group Bible Study	<b>9</b> 7:00pm Praise Team Rehearsal	<b>10</b> 9:00am Scrapbooking 5:30pm Christian Service Team	<b>11</b> Scrapbooking	<b>12</b> 8:00am MOST Ministry
<b>13</b> 8:00am Traditional Worship 9:30am Education Hour 10:45am Contemporary Worship	<b>14</b> 9:00am Quilting 5:30pm Eve Circle 7:00pm Boy Scouts	<b>15</b> 10:00am Small Group Bible Study	<b>16</b> 11:00am Care Card Making 7:00pm Praise Team Rehearsal	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> 6:00pm Youth & Parent Meeting /Window Well Painting
<b>20</b> 8:00am Traditional Worship 9:30am Education Hour 10:45am Contemporary Worship 6:00pm FIA - End of Summer BBQ	<b>21</b> 7:00pm Boy Scouts	<b>22</b> 10:00am Small Group Bible Study	<b>23</b> 7:00pm Praise Team Rehearsal	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>27</b> 8:00am Traditional Worship 9:30am Education Hour 10:45am Contemporary Worship	<b>28</b> 9:00am Quilting 7:00pm Boy Scouts	<b>29</b> 10:00am Small Group Bible Study	<b>30</b> 11:00am Care Card Making 7:00pm Praise Team Rehearsal	<b>31</b> 5:00pm Music Ministry Open House	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> 8:00am Men's Bible Study 9:00am Hannah Circle



# AUGUST

## BIRTHDAYS

Judson Schmitt	1
Christina Genrich	2
Jennifer Jones	2
Nannette McGuigan	2
Sarah Ramsey	2
Michael Welch	2
Jeremiah Anderson	3
Charlotte Campbell	3
Debra Hale	3
Dani Campbell	4
Robert Haley Jr	4
George Henley	4
Canon Thompson	4
Tom Greene	5
Kim Hernandez	5
Kenny Riddle	5
Connie Wright	5
Alfred Charay	6
Cynthia Barrett	7
David Conroy	7

Olivia Riddle	7
Trenton Rollenhagen	7
Mackenzie Crader	8
Emily Lehman	8
Heather Myers	9
Colin Robinson	9
Loren Thowe	9
Chris Wodtke	9
Heather McCormick	10
Lori Welch	10
Willard Welch	10
Logan Glinka	11
Freddy Baier	12
Stephanie Hennessey	12
Zachary Sage	12
Kim Strube	12
Tracy Adams	13
Jean Stock	14
Vickie Brokke	15
Robert King	15
Shirley Pryor	15
Kathleen Weber	15
Debbie Domingo	16
Julaine Garcia	16
Brooks Robertson	16
Amber Thompson	16
Sam Elsey	17
Rebecca Robinson	17
Jan Zillinger	17
Teri Bynum	18
Carissa Robertson	18

Norma Startup	18
Daniel Marichal	19
Callum Ramsey	19
Byron Jones	20
Cathy Atchison	21
Tyler Rollenhagen	21
Lillian Krohe	22
Luke Tenbrink	22
Frank Maike	23
David Hale	24
John Watson	24
Anne Johnson	25
Gail Sawyer	25
Carrie Gibbs	26
Dick Laird	26
Tammi Pierce	26
Janet Johnson	27
Hayden Saunders	27
Betsy Thompson	27
Linda Laird	28
Roger Offermann	28
Dwight Cater	29
Jewelina Oswald	29
Kathy Summers	29
Jessica Saxton	30
Michael Tilton	30
Delmer Kruse	31
Jane Nelson	31
Pat Schultz	31
Mary Shaw	31
Raylan Watson	31

Doug Jeffrey & Arenda Latham	1
Richard & Marilyn Bruenger	2
Tom & Kay Dittmer	2
Tyler & Claire Banion	4
Erika & Luke Yoder	5
Lisa & Randall Haag	6
Jim & Lynn Janousek	7
Lance & Kerri Smith	10
Kelli & Kevin Duermeier	12
Jacob & Theresa Heine	15
David & Kim Knowland	17
Mike & Melinda Landman	17

Angela & Eric McHardie	17
Sherry & Randy Forbes	19
Art & Karen Tardiff	19
Nels & Shannon Huesers	21
Phil & Rebecca Gutierrez	22
Robert & Angie Carlson	23
Fred & Idonna Rogge	24
Greg & Anne Johnson	25
Christina & Casey McClintock	26
GR & Josie Marchant	27
Rich & Barb Mesloh	27
Gary & Faye Ideker	29

Brian & Rose Brunkow	30
Amanda & Matt Crawford	30
Howard & Mary Ann Graham	30



# AUGUST

## ANNIVERSARIES

# .CHILDREN. .YOUTH. .FAMILIES.

Heather McCormick, director of youth & family ministry

## YOUTH

**Junior Youth** will host coffee fellowship on Sunday, Aug 6 at 8:30am.

**Senior Youth** will host coffee fellowship on Sunday, Aug 20 at 8:30am.

**Back to School Bash:** Join us at Blaisdell Pool on Saturday, Aug 5 from 3:30-6pm! Free entry to the pool (tell them you're with Faith) and dinner is provided! Students can meet their Sunday School and WOW teachers for the fall semester!

**Junior and Senior Youth** will have their annual Painting of the Windows event with a youth and parent meeting on Saturday, Aug 19 from 6-9pm at Faith. Dinner is provided.

## FAMILY LIFE

**Congregational Picnic:** Faith's Annual Congregational Picnic is on Sunday, August 20 starting at 6pm at Lake Shawnee Shelter House #1! All food and non-alcoholic drinks provided, BYOB. Join us for food, fun, fellowship, and Bingo with prizes!

**Rally Day!** All ages are invited to join us on Sunday, Sept. 10 at 12pm on the Green for Faith's Annual Rally Day! Live music from Switch in Time, catered lunch, inflatables, yard games, and more!

**WOW Kick-Off!** Join us on Wednesday, Sept. 6 for the kick-off of WOW with missionary Chelsea Irwin, classes for all ages 3 through 5th grade, 6th grade Bible study, Confirmation, Senior Youth Bible Study, Women's Bible Study, and Bible study led by Pastor Heine). Dinner begins at 5:15pm, classes run from 6-7:30pm!

**LUTHERAN WITNESS** is the official publication of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. Published 11 times a year, the *Lutheran Witness* keeps you updated with news from around the Synod. If you are currently a subscriber, now is the time to

renew. If you would like to begin a subscription or renew, please send \$30

(clearly marked *Lutheran Witness*) to the church office by Aug 11. Contact Debbie (bookkeeper@faithlutherantopeka.com) if you have any questions.



## FAITH IS NOW ENROLLED IN THE DILLONS COMMUNITY REWARDS PROGRAM

Anyone with a Dillon's Shoppers Card can designate Faith Lutheran Church – Topeka (organization # CX912) as the reward recipient for their purchases.

To designate Faith on your Shoppers Card account: go to [www.dillons.com/communityrewards](http://www.dillons.com/communityrewards)

Sign into your Dillons account. Go to "Link your Card to an organization." Then click on "Search for your organization here."

On the next screen, in the field "Find an Organization", enter Faith Lutheran Church and press enter.

Click on "Enroll" under the name "Faith Lutheran Church – Topeka". You will see a message you have successfully enrolled and you are finished.

Shoppers Card holders must re-enroll annually to designate Faith in this program.





### Support Doorstep in August!

August is Faith Lutheran's month to **stock Doorstep's food pantry.**

In July, Faith's Christian Service Team passed out grocery bags for non perishable food donations.

Return the filled bags (please double bag heavy items) and return to church. Tables will be set up to display donations through August 14. After that, food can be placed in the Doorstep box in the gathering nook. Last year, church members contributed over 1500 pounds of food in August!

Non perishable food might include mac-n-cheese, canned soups or vegetables or fruit, one pound packages of rice, dried beans or pasta, dry cereal, Spaghetti O's or peanut butter and jelly.

In addition to meals from the food pantry and gently used clothes from the clothing room, Doorstep provides emergency assistance



to families in crisis. Working with other local agencies, Doorstep offers help with basic health needs, gas vouchers and bus passes, and homeless prevention assistance.

### Faith volunteers at Doorstep

*"I have often prayed to find a way to be the hands and feet of Jesus in service to my community. I see my Doorstep job as that. I have met people in need and I have met some of the most generous people in Topeka. The friendships I've made and the "disciples" that I have met have been a blessing to me, and an answer to prayer. As it has turned out, I'm the one blessed by this time of volunteering and have once again been convicted that I will NEVER outgive God."*

Gina Brewer (Gina volunteers in Doorstep's food pantry)

*"I enjoy volunteering at Doorstep! You meet other volunteers from all faith groups who are fun and easy to work with. Doorstep assists people*

*who are experiencing hard times for a multitude of reasons. Volunteering there is a very rewarding experience."*

Connie Tarvin (Connie volunteers in Doorstep's clothing room)



During August, Faith members are invited to volunteer for a few hours in Doorstep's clothing room. Sign up in the lobby if you are interested or email Carolyn at [gdale11@cox.net](mailto:gdale11@cox.net)

Please pray this month that the food we give will be a blessing to those who receive it.



*Oh come, let us sing to the LORD;  
let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!*

Psalm 95:1

**Eve Circle** will meet together on Aug 14 for a fun night of Pizza and "white elephant bingo." Meet in the Parlor. September 11 will be the first regular meeting of the season.

**Ruth Circle** is meeting Aug 9, at 9:30am in the Parlor. Brenda Reynolds is the topic leader. The lesson is "Here am I, Send Me!" from the summer Quarterly. Wanita Dammann and Jan Rankin are hosting. Please call Brenda if you need a ride.

## FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

1716 SW Gage Boulevard  
Topeka, Kansas 66604

785.272.4214

office@faithlutherantopeka.com



FaithLutheranTopeka.com

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### LEAD STAFF

**Jacob Heine**, senior pastor

*PastorHeine@faithlutherantopeka.com*

**Martin Albrecht**, assistant pastor

*PastorMartin@faithlutherantopeka.com*

**Jeff Lane**, vicar

*JeffLane@faithlutherantopeka.com*

**Heather McCormick**, dir. of youth/family ministry

*DCEHeather@faithlutherantopeka.com*

**Hannah Elsey**, director of mission & outreach

*HannahElsey@faithlutherantopeka.com*

**Linda Meyer**, director of music & worship arts

*LindaMeyer@faithlutherantopeka.com*

### SUPPORT STAFF

**Sharon Lowe**, admin assist/publications

*SharonLowe@faithlutherantopeka.com*

**Jason Wills**, facility manager/admin coordinator

*JasonWills@faithlutherantopeka.com*

**Debbie Siegel**, bookkeeper

*Bookkeeper@faithlutherantopeka.com*

### AUXILIARY

**Pat Schultz**, RN, parish nurse

*TiredMomPLS@aol.com*

**Jessica Atchison**, SS & WOW superintendent

*JessicaKidMin@gmail.com*

### CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Mon - Fri 8:00am to 4:30pm (closed 12-1pm)

### SUNDAY WORSHIP

8:00\* - Traditional Worship

10:45\* - Contemporary Worship

\* also live-streamed on Facebook, YouTube

### EDUCATION

Sundays for all ages: 9:30am

WOW Wednesdays: 5:15-7:30pm (Sept-Apr)

*The Messenger is mailed monthly to all members. September edition deadline is*

**August 21** to the church office.



FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

1716 SW Gage Blvd  
Topeka KS 66604

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### Address Service Requested



Christian Service Team has determined  
2023 Sunday School /Mission Outreach  
offering will include:

August - Doorstep

September & October - (TBD)

November & December -

Sunshine Connection

