



# Messenger

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

November 2023

volume 63 . issue 11

a message from senior pastor, Jacob Heine

*Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.*

*Exodus 20:8*

**What does this mean?** *We should fear and love God so that we do not despise preaching and His Word, but hold it sacred and gladly hear and learn it.*

Every organization needs to have Core Values that help guide and direct decisions and all that they do. Faith Lutheran Church is no different. We have our Core Values that help to guide and direct all that we do and the decisions we make. Last month I started highlighting these values and why they matter to us. We heard how we are to put Christ at the center of all things. Christ is our light and our salvation, and it is important to put Him first in all things.

This month we look at our 2<sup>nd</sup> Core Value.

### **Core Value # 2 – Meaningful Worship**

We know that worship is important. As early as Genesis 4 we see that Cain and Able brought sacrifices to God in the act of worship. This importance of worship continues throughout Scripture all the way until Revelation 22 where the throne of God is there with the Lamb of God, Jesus Christ, seated upon it, being worshipped by all His servants. From start to finish, worship is shown as being important. This is the time when God’s people would gather together to receive from God His gifts, as well as to thank and praise Him for the gifts that He gives. During the week we pour ourselves out in service to our neighbor. When we come to worship we come together for God to pour himself out to fill us up through His Son, Jesus Christ.

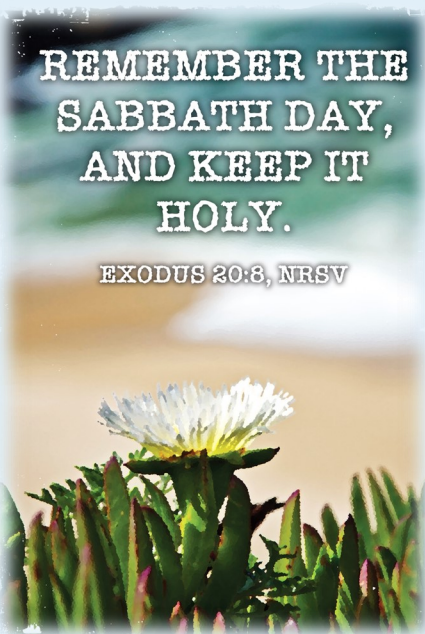
What matters in worship isn’t style or preference. Rather what matters is that God comes to us and that we, together as one body – the Church, thank and praise Him for this. Although we confess that God is present everywhere, we are not promised to meet God everywhere. We may. We may not. However, in worship, in the proclamation of God’s Word and in the receiving of His gifts in the Sacraments God, has promised to be there. We know that we will meet God in worship.

We certainly have our preferences and desires. This isn’t necessarily a bad thing. God has made each of us different. This is a great thing. This is why we offer worship in different forms. It is in these forms that God meets us. He doesn’t bind himself to one way, but promises to be present in worship. This is why worship style has shifted and adapted since the beginning of time. What matters is that God’s Word is proclaimed, that forgiveness and grace are given and received, and that the sacraments are regularly administered.

This also means that we have to ask questions about styles and formats that will bring God’s Word and gifts to those that aren’t currently here. It is truly good, right, and appropriate that we have worship for those that are present and part of the congregation now. It is also important that we also ask what forms and styles of worship will reach those that are not currently present. We want all people to hear God’s word and come to salvation in Christ our Lord.

In Christ’s Hands,

Pastor Jacob



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

Shari Albrecht, Rebecca Gutierrez, Karen Peterson, and Karen Tardiff attended the fall Topeka LWML Zone meeting in Vassar, Kansas on October 7. Our Bible Study was on 1 Corinthians, Chapters 8-16 with the message 'Let all that you do be done in HIS love.'

The Young Women Representative, or YWR, applications are now available for attending the next Kansas District Convention, April 12-14, 2024 in Wichita. Two young women from each zone will be selected to attend without charge. We encourage any women in our congregation, age 20-35 to apply as this is an excellent opportunity to join with LWML members across the state as we grow in God's Word, worship, and service. You can find both the printable and fillable applications on the KS District website at: [Special Focus Ministries \(kansaslwml.org\)](https://www.kansaslwml.org).

Forty-two women attended the **LWML FALL TEA** on Sunday afternoon, October 8. With a grant from Thrivent, we assembled 40 personal hygiene kits in mesh bags that included shampoo, conditioner, body wash, body lotion, and a bath sponge with a personal note of encouragement using cards from Faith's Care Card Ministry to be given to the YWCA's Center for Safety and Empowerment battered women's shelter. We also have collected donations of urgently needed household items for them.

Our speaker for the Tea (provided by Eve Circle) was Melanie Hutchison. She shared some amazing stories from her 12 years in India, living in villages, cities and slums. Melanie set-up Training Centers and taught sewing skills to women rescued from the streets - enabling them to earn money to support themselves and their children. Hannah Circle hosted the Tea with a wonderful selection of fall breads.

**DEBORAH CIRCLE** Many members are assisting with the Noodle dinner to be held November 5. The next circle meeting is Tuesday, November 14 at 7:00pm at the church. Marian Bolz is hostess and Caryn Sheets has the topic.

**EVE CIRCLE** will meet Monday, November 13 at Kathy Thomason's home.

**RUTH CIRCLE** will be meeting November 8 at 9:30am in the church parlor. Jan Rankin is the topic leader and Elaine Eggold and Wanita Damman are hosting.

We are all very busy with preparations for our annual chicken noodle dinner which is Sunday, November 5. We will be making noodles on Thursday, November 2 from 1-4PM and setting up and cooking chicken on Friday, November 3. Pre-orders for take out are available.

## Update from our treasurer. . .

### MONTHLY FINANCIAL RESULTS

- Donations for September were \$87,247 and expenses were \$73,697 resulting in a **net positive** balance for the month of \$13,551.
- YTD Donations are \$786,233 and expenses are \$840,603 resulting in a net YTD **negative** balance of (\$54,380).
- September YTD donations are \$31,869 below 2022.
- YTD expenses of \$126,076 are below budget.

**LWML**

# NOODLE DINNER

Quilt Raffle!

Sunday, Nov. 5  
11am-1pm  
In the Fellowship Hall

\$10 Adults  
\$5 Kids  
FREE Under 5

**LWML**  
Lutheran Women in Mission

# Advent Season



**CHILDREN'S ADVENT DEVOTIONS:** Pick-up "Counting to Christmas" and walk through the Advent season with your family! Each day focuses on kid-friendly questions and helps your family dive into Scripture together. Included in the back of the book is an Advent calendar for you to "Count" your way to Christmas!

**ADVENT DEVOTIONALS** Titled "The clothing of the King" will be available on a table in the lobby. This 1517 Advent Devotional tells the stories of the clothing of the King. Stories that describe a wardrobe at once splendid and sin-stained, with fabrics that reveal who we are and cover us freely. The clothing of the King is tattered and worn and glorious in its incorruptibility. It isn't ours, yet he gives it to us all the same. This study follows along with our Wednesday evening worship theme.

## Advent Meals

November 29: Baked chicken, mashed potatoes & gravy, corn, dinner rolls, cookies

December 6: Baked Potato Bar & Cake

December 13: Taco Bar & Sopapilla Cheesecakes



**Care Cards** Join friends at church every-other Wednesday in room 206 to make 4"x4" Care Cards. All materials are provided and no experience is necessary. Card making days this month are Nov. 8 & 22. Finished cards are placed in a box at the Care Card Center near the church's front entry - to be sent to members who need to know people CARE about them. Please write a note to the person(s) whose names appear on the white board at the Care Card center.

**Quilters Needed** Our Monday morning quilters are in need of more help. Please consider joining them on 2nd & 4th Monday mornings here at Faith. Upcoming quilting dates: November 13 & 27. No experience necessary. We are now meeting in a room in the south campus building. Questions? Contact Anne Johnson, 408-8004.



# November

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29 Reformation Sunday 8:00am Traditional Worship 9:30am Education Hour 10:45am Contemporary Worship 12:00pm Reformation Potluck 12:15pm Traditional Worship	30 7:00pm Boy Scouts	31 10:00am Bible Study 11:30am ASL Classes	1 5:15pm WOW 7:30pm Praise Team Rehearsal	2 6:00pm ASL Classes 6:00pm Bell rehearsal 7:15pm Adult Choir Rehearsal	3 9:00am ASL Classes 9:00am Bell rehearsal 7:15pm Adult Choir Rehearsal	4 8:00am Men's Bible Study
5 8:00am Traditional Worship 9:30am Education Hour 10:45am Contemporary Worship 11:00am LWML Noodle Dinner 12:15pm Traditional Worship	6 7:00pm Boy Scouts	7 10:00am Bible Study 11:30am ASL Classes 5:30pm Parade Float meeting 6:30pm Spiritual Life	8 11:00am Care Card Making 5:15pm WOW 7:30pm Praise Team Rehearsal	9 9:00am Scrapbooking 5:30pm Christian Service Team 6:00pm ASL Classes 6:00pm Bell rehearsal 7:15pm Adult Choir Rehearsal	10 9:00am Scrapbooking	11 Veterans Day 8:00am MOST Ministry
12 8:00am Traditional Worship 9:30am Education Hour w/ Ben Helge 10:45am Contemporary Worship 11:00am Picnic Pot-Luck 12:15pm Traditional Worship 5:00pm Harvest Dinner	13 9:00am Quilting 7:00pm Boy Scouts	14 10:00am Bible Study 11:30am ASL Classes 5:30pm Parade Float meeting 6:00pm LLC	15 5:15pm WOW 7:30pm Praise Team Rehearsal	16 11:30am Senior Saints 6:00pm ASL Classes 6:00pm Bell rehearsal 7:15pm Adult Choir Rehearsal	17 District Youth Gathering	18 District Youth Gathering 8:00am Men's Bible Study
19 District Youth Gathering 8:00am Traditional Worship 9:30am Education Hour 10:45am Contemporary Worship 12:15pm Traditional Worship	20 7:00pm Boy Scouts	21 10:00am Bible Study 5:30pm Parade Float meeting 7:00pm Deborah Circle 7:00pm Praise Team Rehearsal	22 11:00am Care Card Making 7:00pm Thanksgiving Eve Worship 8:00pm Pie Social	23 Church Office Closed Thanksgiving Day	24 Church Office Closed	25 8:00am Men's Bible Study
26 8:00am Traditional Worship 9:30am Education Hour 10:45am Contemporary Worship 12:15pm Traditional Worship	27 9:00am Quilting 7:00pm Boy Scouts	28 10:00am Bible Study 5:30pm Parade Float meeting 7:00pm Praise Team Rehearsal	29 5:00pm Advent Worship 5:15pm WOW 5:30pm Advent Meal 7:00pm Advent Worship	30 6:00pm Bell rehearsal 7:15pm Adult Choir Rehearsal	1 8:00am Men's Bible Study 9:00am Festival of the Nativities	2 8:00am Men's Bible Study 9:00am Festival of the Nativities



Amelia Henley	1
Toki Leonard	1
Tamara Maxwell	1
Joni Foster Webster	2
Carrie Halupa	2
Kelli Kirkeminde	2
Linda Meyer	2
Betsy Schlossman	2
Lance Smith	2
Kirby Wittenbach	2
Don Beck	3
Mike Lohe	3
David Marstall	3
Ron Shelton	3
Kaydee Wills	3
Matthew Marstall	4

Jill Quarles	4
Barrett Robertson	5
Sherri Forbes	6
Coleen Wenger	8
Clara Hudson	10
Kenny Schepmann	10
Emily Schwant	10
Ed Thompson	10
Gracelynn Bennett	12
Erinn Grist	12
Tatiana Halupa	12
Erin Snethen	12
Tamara Wilson	14
Andrew Kamprath	15
Karlea Landman	15
Mike Munson	16
Bob Nestler	16
James Gutierrez	17
Dalton Steinhauer	17
Craig Hansen	19
Muriel Bartlow	20
Angie Carlson	20

Natalie Haley	20
Meredith Owen	20
Kelsey Tenbrink	20
Mitch Johnson	20
Emma Michalski	21
Debra Taylor	21
Doug Boetcher	22
Dolan Riddle	22
Martin Albrecht	23
Sherrie Dick	23
Kae Hale	24
Mark Zillinger	25
Alyssa Decker	26
Jaden Decker	26
Logan Decker	26
Maddox Decker	26
Dora Lee Berry	27
Bob Gabler	27
Julianne Harris	28
Betty Deiter	30
Ethel Kufahl	30
Jan Lyle	30

Anna & Steve Obdyke	3
David & Nannette McGuigan	6
Don & Jan Rankin	7
Nick & Susie Tenbrink	13
Ashley & Branden Watson	18

Loren & Susan Thowe	23
Karen & Jim Bosch	25
Roger & Jerri Matzke	25
Martin & Shari Albrecht	26
Delane & Arlyn Brunken	29

Geoff & Lacey Greene 30



## FOR YOUR HEALTH ...end of life

a message from our Parish Nurse Pat Schultz, RN

Have you ever heard the expression, "Leave my house in dying order"? Or maybe you have even lived that expression? I personally experience this phenomenon every time I leave home for a vacation. Perhaps I have "been meaning to" or "need to" deal with that stack of papers...either into the trash can or into the file cabinet...for weeks. Preparing to leave home on vacation just intensifies the desire to accomplish that task. If I succumb to an accident or health issue while on vacation I don't want someone else to be forced to go through that pile of papers, or maybe this feeling boils down to HOW EMBARRASSING for someone to find our "messes!"

Similarly...have you thought about, or carried out, making **End of Life** decisions? A group is being formed to research and develop an opportunity to gather together in God's house, share professional advice, and progress towards setting End of Life decisions in place for your own peace of mind and for your family members' ease in carrying out your plans when that becomes necessary. Keep watching for more information!

# .CHILDREN. .YOUTH. .FAMILIES.

Heather McCormick, director of youth & family ministry

## YOUTH

**Junior Youth** Junior Youth will host coffee fellowship on Sunday, Nov. 5 at 8:30am. All proceeds go towards junior youth summer trips.

**Senior Youth** Senior Youth will host coffee fellowship on Sunday, Nov. 26 at 8:30am. All proceeds will go towards senior youth summer trips.

Senior Youth will be participating in the Kansas District Youth Gathering on Nov. 17-19. Please keep these students in your prayers as they learn and grow in their faith!

### WOW Meals:

Nov 1: Chicken & rice casserole, green beans, dinner rolls, cookies

Nov 8: Spaghetti & Meatballs, garlic bread, salad, brownies

Nov 15: Chicken Parm, pasta, salad, garlic bread, ice cream

Nov 22: NO WOW, Thanksgiving Eve service at 7pm

## FAMILY LIFE

Faith's **Annual Pie Social** will be on Wednesday, Nov. 22 following the 7pm worship service in the Fellowship Hall. Bring your favorite pie to share!



Faith's **Annual Zoo Lights event** will be on Wednesday, Dec. 20 from 6-9pm at the Kay McFarland building. Enter through the Kay McFarland Garden gate (to the right of the main entrance off of the parking lot). Come have a snack, enjoy the Christmas lights, get a door prize, and warm up after being in the cold with some hot chocolate! Tickets are available to members from the church office beginning November 15 (\$8/adults, \$5/kids under 12 & seniors).



  
**BREAKFAST CLUB**  
Saturdays at 9am  
Beginning Nov. 4  
Join us for fellowship time at Hanover Pancake House! Open to Young Adults Age 16+!



**Community Rewards Program**  
Faith is now enrolled! Designate your Dillon's Shoppers Card Community Rewards to Faith!



**Festival of the NATIVITIES**  
Saturday, Dec. 2  
9am-12pm  
Faith Lutheran Church  
1716 SW Gage Blvd.



Interested in submitting a nativity set? Scan the QR code to sign up or talk to DCE Hannah!



# Mission • Outreach

## FESTIVAL OF THE NATIVITIES

Share Christ's love this Christmas Season by lending your Nativity Set to be displayed at Faith's "Festival of the Nativities." Please contact DCE Hannah Elsey or fill out a paper form to register your nativity. All nativities should be registered and brought to the church building by November 29.

The Festival of Nativities will be December 2nd, 9-noon -- a great way to meet new neighbors and friends and share Christ's love!

## WASHBURN UNIVERSITY STUDENT CLUB

Outreach continues on WU's campus. There are several students interested in forming a university-recognized student club for fellowship, Bible study and service. We've enjoyed sharing meals and having fun together - all college students are welcome!

## MISSIONARY, BEN HELGE

We look forward to hosting Ben Helge and his family Sunday November 12. Missionary Ben will be giving a presentation in the Fellowship Hall at 9:30am.

## INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS TO VISIT FAITH

International students from Chiba University Japan will be visiting Faith on November 12th. These students are visiting as a

cultural experience for their studies; it is an excellent opportunity for us to practice Christian hospitality and share Christ's love.

## NOVEMBER 12 LUNCHEON

Please bring a side dish or dessert for the potluck lunch on Nov. 12 at 11:45am. Eating together will be a great way to celebrate our visiting missionaries and visiting International Students.

## 2024 MISSIONS, NICARAGUA

We will be serving the children of Matagalpa Nicaragua July 27-August 3rd. We will join Enrich Missions to fulfill their mission statement: "Spreading the love of Christ to children living in extreme poverty so they can fully engage their education opportunities!" You can find out more about the work of Enrich Missions by visiting their webpage: <https://www.enrichmissions.org/> Please add this service opportunity to your prayers. Any interested persons should speak with DCE Hannah Elsey.

## CHRISTMAS PARADE FLOAT

The parade float team will continue to meet on Tuesday in November at 5:30 in the South Building. Our theme this year is "Happy Birthday Jesus." We look forward to sharing Christ's love in Topeka's Annual Miracle on Kansas Avenue Parade, Dec 2.



**DOORSTEP**

Neighbors Helping Neighbors

## Christmas Distribution Volunteer Opportunities

(we will start scheduling volunteers in mid-November)

**Tuesday, December 12** there will be several opportunities from 8:30am – 12:30pm and 12:30pm – 5:30pm. (Lunch provided)

**Wednesday, December 13** opportunities are available from: 8:30am – 1:30pm and 1:30pm – 7:30pm. (Lunch and dinner provided)

**Thursday, December 14** opportunities are available from 8:30am – 12:30pm and 12:30pm – 5:30pm. (Lunch provided)

We also need your monetary donations to purchase gift cards, food, and any items not donated for our Christmas families.

You can mail your tax-deductible donations to:

Doorstep, Inc., 1119 SW 10<sup>th</sup>, Topeka, Ks 66604 or go to our website ([www.doorsteptopeka.org](http://www.doorsteptopeka.org)) to donate by credit card.

Please let us know if you attend one of Doorstep's Member Congregations for credit.

## FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

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FaithLutheranTopeka.com

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### STAFF

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**Debbie Siegel**, bookkeeper

*Bookkeeper@faithlutherantopeka.com*

**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

8:00am\* - Traditional Worship

10:45am\* - Contemporary Worship

12:15pm - Traditional 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. The next edition deadline is **November 16** 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:

November & December -  
Sunshine Connection

