



FAITH EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH SEPTEMBER 2020

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Monday, September 7th
Labor Day

Office Closed

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Sunday, September 13th
Fall Worship Begins

9:00 a.m.

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Monday, September 21st
Church Council meeting

7:00 pm

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Psalm 119:37, NIV

From the

Vicar



Are you excited?

When I was younger, my sister and I used to get excited about our summer trips to Dorney Park. Waking up early on school days was a struggle, but the excitement of riding the roller coasters got us out of bed obscenely early those mornings. We couldn't wait to enjoy the day and experience all that was in store for us.

Are you excited to be a part of this church? Are you eager to be here, enjoy the day, and experience all that is in store for us as a congregation?

Scripture reminds us that God is doing a new thing (Isaiah 43:19). In Christ, we are a new creation (2 Corinthians 5:17). God continues to act in our lives and in our world. God breathes the fresh air of redemption and reconciliation. Through baptism, God calls us to be a part of the body of Christ, and enter into God's mission in the world. As the current slogan of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America reminds us: "God's work. Our hands."

God has called us to serve together in this time and place. A new pastor is an opportunity to discern the goals and priorities of a congregation. What does God's calling for us look like in this time and place? How are we going to minister together in Christ's name? What does this new creation look like?

I am looking forward to being a part of this next chapter of this congregation. I am excited!

Are you excited?

Thomas D. Busteed, Vicar
Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church, Whitehall, PA





Greeting Sisters and Brothers of Faith from Church Council

A lot has been accomplished since mid-July. We have a new pastor, Vicar Tom Busteed was voted in and we should all be happy for him and Faith Lutheran Church. Lets all get behind and support him. Looking forward to working with him for a long time. A big thank you to the members of the Call Committee for a job well done.

VBS , Knights of the North Castle was held in the Sanctuary, under the supervision of Joanne Gantz-Jalowiecki. Heidi Carr and Grace Kemmerer setup and ran the show! Wonderful job ladies. Congratulations to 2020, Confirmation class, it took a little longer but you finally had your day with your family. Hopefully we will see a lot of you in church. Thank you for letting me talk to you before the service.

We will be resuming church services on [September 13th](#) inside the sanctuary. Fred Scheirer, head of safety, Vicar Tom and I met and decided that the church will be open. All safety measures will be in effect for the service. Looking forward to getting service back in church. More details to follow as things will change.

Church Council did not take the summer off, meeting in July and August. Vice President, Tim Lucas ran the meetings while I was recovering from knee surgery. The Council decided to go ahead with applying for a PPP loan. A lot of paper work was completed by many people. Pastor Don Hayn announced that he would be leaving in mid-July, also for knee surgery. Pastor Manny leaving at the end of August turning over the reins to Vicar Tom. Thank you to Pastor Don and Pastor Manny for their service to Faith Lutheran Church.

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward man. Luke 2:14

Dan Herzog, Church Council President

Moving Forward with Long Range Planning



At the beginning of 2020, the Church Council began using the congregations' responses to the questionnaires, surveys, and questions used in the Call Process to begin designing goals for our future. The goals include:

- Growing the church.
 - Involving more young people in church activities and missions.
 - Focus our work as a church on increasing our missions and outreach programs
 - Meet the needs of our aging congregation

The Church Council began to organize a process for moving our goals into action items for each Faith Committee. These action items would be measurable and apply to the different responsibilities of each committee. Some of these action items could take several years and become part of our Long Range Plan.

During the fall, the Council will provide updates on their work, and will work with the congregation to approve of a new Church Constitution and By-Laws (that have been updated over the past several months), ask for support for decisions involving our budget, and ask for input on other issues.

The Annual Report for 2020 will include the Long Range Plan with the goals and activities that will guide our work as a Church Council over the next few years.

It is exciting to have the Vicar join us as we begin this planning and create a vision for Faith that moves us into the future. The role of our pastor in our planning and decisions is critical for our success. We are blessed to begin this work with a dedicated team of volunteers, staff, and our church leadership in place.



**Fall Worship Begins
September 13th with only
one service at 9:00 am**

Sunday School information to follow

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Baptism(s)

Adelyn Loraine Babb child of
Gerard and Allyson Babb.



God's blessings and our best wishes
to all those celebrating a special day
this month.



September 22nd

Sunday, September 13



Happy Grandparents Day!



Memorial

Rita Graberitz
Janice (Deibert) Swoyer



Congratulations to Hale Trotter, the 2020 winner of the Robert L. George Scholarship. This is a \$500 scholarship given to a student in two increments of \$250, once in August and again in January.

The selection process consisted of a leadership role, grade point average, service activities and an essay on "How has Faith Church helped in your spiritual growth?" The Scholarship committee is proud of this year's recipient. Congratulations and best wishes to ALL our students.

Shel Ehret
For the Robert L. George Scholarship Committee

Miller Keystone Blood Drives:

It is such an honor to provide a venue for this life saving ministry and a joy to work with the many loyal donors for our Faith Lutheran quarterly blood drives. Faith Lutheran hosts four drives a year: February, May, August, and November and in 2019 we collected a total of 63 units of blood, potentially saving 126 lives. In February 2020, we collected 13 units, and with our extreme circumstances with Covid-19, we've totaled 13 in the May and August drives together. With a grateful heart and pride in your loyalty and love, I thank you.

Judy Ehret



Dear Faith Lutheran;

Thank you for having a caring heart and loving your neighbors. Faith Lutheran's gift of \$250.00 for The Lutheran Home at Topton through the Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod for July 2020, is a wonderful expression of love for the countless children, adults and families who depend on Diakon for care and services. Thank you again for your continued prayers and generosity.

MaryEllen Dickey, CFRE, Senior VP of Advancement
The Lutheran Home at Topton

Christmas Tea for
December 2020
has been
CANCELLED



FAITH'S CURRENT FINANCIAL SITUATION

The closing of all operations and worship at the church in mid-March due to the COVID 19 Virus has had a profound effect on everyone's lives. Obviously, our church closing, cancellations of services and all activities held in the church has had a trickle-down affect as well. One area of concern is the church finances. Through June, we are 14% below budgeted Giving. So, even though we have lost numerous Sunday services, many in the congregation have continued to GIVE FAITHFULLY and we thank all for their continued support to Faith Whitehall.

As we all know, Faith has a great track record in conducting very successful "fund raisers" which have significantly augmented our giving and allowed us to minister to the community and keep Faith financially healthy. With everyone's safety in mind, we have had to cancel two Craft Fair's and the Car Show & Craft Fair for this year. Thankfully, we were able to conduct a very successful Basket Social. However, the loss of fund raisers and the loss of several months' rentals has significantly reduced the "non-operating income".

Working with Church Council, the Finance Committee recommended a reduction of all "non-essential" spending for the balance of 2020. Here are a few of the actions taken:

1. Administrative Assistant furloughed herself in March
2. Delayed hiring a part-time Youth Director
3. Stopped all non-essential spending on preventative maintenance
4. Asked all department heads to reduce purchases to absolute minimum

These actions through July have resulted in operating expense's being \$25,000 below budget and as much as \$45,000 below by year-end.

Another action taken is the successful awarding of a PPP (Payroll Protection Program) loan through the Cares Act. This \$19,609 loan was approved because Faith retained and paid all employee's while we were closed. We will be able to apply for loan "forgiveness" this fall. The money is being used exclusively for employee payroll payments until it is depleted. We received this loan through New Tripoli Bank. We will also begin using NTB as our primary bank effective immediately.

The pandemic caused a steep dip in the financial markets in March, but we are happy to report that Faith's investment total is back to pre-pandemic level.

In conclusion, the leadership of the church has done everything possible to assure Faith Whitehall retains the financial wherewithal to minister to its membership and to be a helpful support to the community we serve. Again, thank you to all for your continued financial support of Faith Whitehall.

Financial Committee

PETITE SCHOLAR'S

As you know, Petite Scholar's has been a tenant of the church for three years using Parker and Blacker Halls to provide daycare to school age children. Both Petit Scholars and Faith Whitehall have had to incur some additional costs in order to meet and exceed government guidelines for the COVID 19 virus.

In September, Petite Scholar's will offer an assistance program for virtual learning and will be using several classrooms upstairs. We are meeting regularly to ensure that all guidelines of safety are being met or exceeded as it relates to sanitization of all facilities and materials being used. Their presence will not have any effect on the ongoing church activities and needs. In these times, reliable daycare is essential to allow parents to feel comfortable returning to work. Faith Whitehall is supportive and helpful to the community.

Property Committee



HARVEST HOME SUNDAY AT FAITH OCTOBER 11

We are encouraging ALL OUR MEMBERS to share with those less fortunate by bringing any of the following canned and/or packaged foods to Faith Church up to and including **Friday, October 9th**. Tuna, pancake mix and pancake syrup, canned fruit, canned meats, canned pastas, (spaghetti's, ravioli), soup (not tomato), boxed potatoes, hamburger helper, pasta sides (rice or noodle), coffee and tea, egg noodles, elbow macaroni, stuffing mix, canned vegetables (preferably corn, green beans, peas) yams or sweet potatoes; cranberry sauce, jelly, cereal, spaghetti sauce, cake mixes and icing and baby food are examples of foods which are appreciated. The food is shared with the Whitehall Food Pantry, with some being used for the Thanksgiving and Christmas Baskets we prepare for distribution from our church. Please check the dates on all donations to make sure they're not expired. Monetary donations are always welcome. Please make checks payable to **FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH** with a notation on the check that it's a donation for the Food Pantry. This allows the church to give you credit on your statement, even though the money will be given to the Whitehall Food Pantry. Do not underestimate a moment of your KINDNESS. It has the power to change lives in ways you may never know. Thank you in advance for caring and sharing. God bless you all!

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CROP Hunger Walk/Drive-By

Due to COVID-19 precautions, participants may choose to:

Walk anytime, anywhere October 1-11, 2020, carrying CROP Hunger Walk signs and posting photos/videos on social media:

Register to participate in the walk or the drive-by at
<https://www.crophungerwalk.org/allentownpa/>



During these unprecedented times it is important to keep music alive at Faith Lutheran. As new information/research is made available, music provided at church will continue to adapt as needed. Worship and music are inseparable. Music speaks what cannot be expressed in words, thus soothing the mind, healing the heart, calming and uplifting the spirit. Music is a gift from God that flows from heaven to the soul.

Musical News:

Bell Choir:

The Bell Choir will continue to provide music in worship at least once a month, while practicing social distancing and safety precautions.

Rehearsals-one night a week (Thursdays 6:15-7:15)

Location-Rhoads Room/Sanctuary

Ministry-rings once a month during the worship service and special events of the church season

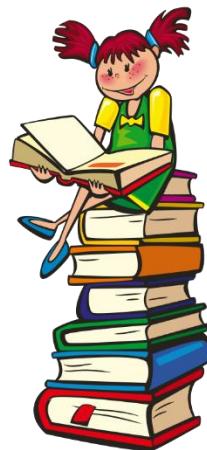
Special Music:

STRING instrumentalists for special musical offerings are welcomed. Solos, duets, trios, and small ensembles are valued anytime, but especially during this time. Please let me know if you are interested in sharing your special talent.

***Rehearsals for Bell Choir begin **Thursday, September 10th**. I look forward to glorifying God's name with you. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at home: jenniferkishbaugh@gmail.com (subject heading: FELC Music) or at 610-451-8660 (cell/text).

*Jennifer Kishbaugh,
Director of Music*

KIDS PAGE

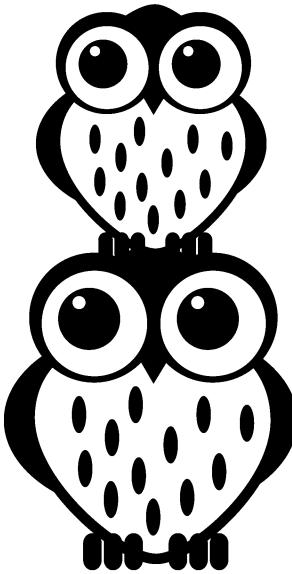


PUZZLE

WISDOM FROM THE WORD

God makes a special promise to people who study Scripture.

Directions: Arrange the word list in alphabetical order. Then write the circled letters in order below to complete Joshua 1:8, NIV.



school	- ○ - - -
paper	- ○ -
wisdom	- - ○ -
read	- - - ○
play	- - - -
learn	○ - - -
grow	- ○ - - -
pencils	- - - -
pray	- ○ - -
art	- - - -
student	- - - ○ - -
kids	- - ○ - - -
apple	- - ○ - - -

"... meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be _____ and successful."

JOSHUA 1:8, NIV

Answers: apple, art, grow, kids, learn, paper, pencils, play, pray, read, school, student, wisdom; prosperous

A BUSHEL OF BOOKS



Design a handy bag to tote your books this fall.

What you need:

- Plain canvas bag
- Cardboard scrap
- Acrylic paints (2 colors)
- 2 small paper plates
- Apple
- Knife (and adult help)
- Foam brush
- Scrap paper



What you do:

1. Lay the bag flat on a table, and place cardboard inside for protection.
2. Pour a paint dollop on each plate.
3. Slice the apple in half, keeping the core intact.
4. Brush a thin layer of paint on the cut side of an apple half. Practice making stamps on scrap paper. Use the other color on the other apple half.
5. Paint and stamp the bag with your final design. When dry, remove the cardboard.
6. Use the bag for school and Sunday school. Happy reading!

