

NEWS AND NOTES


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ALTAR FLOWERS today are given to the glory of God.

PASTORAL CALL EXTENDED As a follow up to the Voters' meeting on August 25, 2024, I am excited to announce that Faith Lutheran Church has extended a call to Pastor Timothy Steckling to be our next pastor. Please pray for Pastor Steckling and his wife Tammy, as he seeks God's will regarding this call to serve our congregation. Please also pray for his current congregations at Our Redeemer - Bessemer, MI and Trinity Lutheran - Bergland, MI during this important time. And, finally, pray for your brothers and sisters at Faith Lutheran Church - Springfield as we prepare for his response to this call. To God be the Glory! Cindy MacGregor, Congregational President

FEEDBACK ON SURVEY Thank you so much for completing the survey about a possible adjustment to the service schedule on Sunday mornings. **First**, to clear up some misunderstanding: The survey was not a ballot of options from which to choose; the survey was a way to gather information about a possible change, with members indicating the schedule they would MOST support. A total of 73 surveys were received. **Second**, at the August 25th voters meeting, the motion to adjust the time of early service was postponed until the September meeting. The Church Council will review the perspectives of members from the survey prior to returning the matter to the voters for consideration. **Third**, to summarize what we can learn from the input: a) There was no clear pattern of responses, and b) the comments of preferences, concerns, and suggestions provided valuable insights to consider. Thanks to all for sharing your thoughts! Cindy MacGregor, Congregational President.

JOANNE STOLLE'S 90TH BIRTHDAY Joanne is turning 90 years old this weekend. Cards are being collected as a surprise present for her 90th birthday. Please send cards to her at 13481 Victory Gallop Way, Gainesville, VA 20155. Thanks for your help with this project!

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD UPDATE A big thank you to all who participated in our CHRISTMAS IN JULY PARTY for Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes. Daryl Bahn and his helpers put together 20 fishing kits!!! We created about 20 colorful jump ropes as well. There are lots of colorful T-shirt strips, thanks to Betty Garton, just waiting to be made in to jump ropes. You can pick those up in the supply room closet near the shoeboxes. Dr. Alan Zinke, my dentist and a member of Redeemer, donated several kid and adult toothbrushes for our Christmas Shoeboxes. THANK YOU DR. ZINKE! ~Judy Ehlke

 **MISSOURI DISTRICT TOWN HALL MEETING** The Missouri District staff and leaders encourage and serve our congregations, church workers and schools and meet their needs in an ever-changing world. They work to listen to the needs of our congregations, schools and workers. You are invited to attend a town hall meeting that will help the Missouri District leadership with that goal. We want to hear from you and other leaders across Missouri. At this event, we will share information about our priorities for the future and hear from you. Town hall meetings will be held around the state with the southwest Missouri town hall meeting being held here at Faith Lutheran on Sunday, September 8th from 3:00 – 5:00 PM. Please RSVP to Colleen Backer at colleen.backer@mo.lcms.org with your preferred location, one week in advance.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

MEN OF FAITH Our monthly, Saturday “Men of Faith” prayer time and Bible Study will resume on **Saturday, September 28th, 9:00 to 10:30 AM**. This will be our first gathering for this fall and we will be doing a study of **Ephesians 6:10-20** (The Armor of God). We will also be discussing future studies we would like to do together. Men, if you haven't been attending this monthly study, this would be a great time to join us. And, regular attenders, bring a friend with you. Please enter through the doors on the northeast side of the "Peters Family Life Center" (north building). We will be meeting in "The Gathering Room" (FC-3). Meeting dates for the remainder of 2024 are: October 26th, November 23rd, and December 21st.

WOMEN OF FAITH will be starting back up in September with a new study entitled “Praying with Power.” A sign-up sheet is available at the welcome desk in the narthex and at the back of the north sanctuary. Please sign up so that we can ensure there are enough books for everyone. This study will meet at Kerrie Salvador's home on the third Thursday of each month at 6:30 PM beginning Thursday, September 19th.

FAITHFUL SERVANTS will meet on Friday, September 27 at 5:00 p.m. at the home of Paul and Brenda Hansen. The event will be hosted by the Hansens and Ann Dobbs who will provide the burgers, dogs and brats. They are asking those attending to bring a side dish to share. There is a sign-up sheet for the dish you plan to bring and a sheet with a map and directions to their home at the welcome center in the narthex and on the counter at the north end. We hope to see everyone there.

ADULT EDUCATION "AFTERLIFE AND END TIMES" Exploring What the Bible Says, Verse-By-Verse" What happens after death? Will there be a rapture? What will Judgment Day look like for those saved and not saved? Join us Sundays during the education hour in the Gathering Room at the North End this summer to discuss what Scripture says about these and other related topics concerning the nature of our existence beyond and after this life.

SUNDAY MORNING YOUTH STUDY This study for 6th -12th grade students is held on Sunday mornings during the education hour in classroom FC-4 (the game room).

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL meets each week at 9:45 AM in the Peters Family Life Center, rooms 1 & 2.

THURSDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS Pastor Jerry Markel leads a Bible class on Thursday mornings at 9 AM. This class meets in the Fellowship Hall. For the most up-to-date schedule, please check the church calendar at www.flc-s.org. The calendar can be found under the “Activities” tab in the “Calendar” section.

COMPARATIVE RELIGIONS: CATHOLICISM This study will be co-led by Cody and Amy Jeffries, starting Sunday, September 22nd in the Gathering Room. In this seven-week installment of a longer series, we will compare and contrast Lutheranism with the denomination from which Martin Luther originally broke ties. In later installments of this Comparative Religions study, we will discuss how Lutheranism differs from other faiths, including Islam and Mormonism.

INKLINGS BOOK CLUB meets weekly on Zoom to discuss the writings of C.S. Lewis, J.R.R. Tolkien, and authors of a similar genre. Beginning Tuesday, September 3rd, they will meet on Tuesday evenings at 8:30 pm. If you would like to join this group, please contact Dr. Cody Jeffries or Pastor Dave Benson and you will be sent information on how to join the Zoom meeting. Starting in September, this group will be reading *The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* by C.S. Lewis.

FAITH FOUNDATIONS BIBLE STUDY AT TRINITY BEGINS NEXT WEEK The ladies of Faith Foundations will be studying the Gospel of John in its entirety over the next two years. John's account of Jesus' ministry is very different from that of Matthew, Mark, and Luke: it recounts different events, includes different monologues and sayings of Jesus, and overall focuses the most on Jesus' divine identity as God in the flesh, come to dwell with His people. Countless Christians over the past two thousand years have found inspiration, joy, and hope in John's Gospel, and they will continue to do so until the day that Jesus returns in glory. Join us at Faith Foundations on Monday mornings starting September 9th from 9:15 – 11 AM so that you too may be encouraged by Jesus, whom John's Gospel describes as the living water, the bread of life, the light of the world, the Good Shepherd, and the resurrection and the life! This study is led by Rev. Dr. Nicholas Hagerman at Trinity Lutheran Church. Childcare is provided. If you have questions, please contact Leslie King at (417)818-0338.

COMMUNITY AND OUTREACH

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LUTHERANS FOR LIFE MEETING THIS THURSDAY We want you to come! Remember all that lovely money at the Lutherans for Life MONGO Rummage Sale? It's time to spend it. We take the responsibility of encouraging Pro-life – ALL STAGES OF LIFE activities and agencies very seriously. We will meet at Redeemer Lutheran in Springfield at 6:30 PM on September 5th. Are you a member of LFL? Did you donate treasures, help prepare for the sale or, very importantly, care deeply about the sanctity of life? We welcome you. We will begin our meeting with prayer for God's guidance, we will present opportunities for ALL STAGES OF LIFE and we will spend this money in a pleasing manner. *For He Himself is our peace, who has made both one, and has broken down the middle wall of separation. Ephesians 2:14.*

SPRINGFIELD LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL UPDATE On Thursday, September 19, at 6 PM you're invited to the Springfield Lutheran School gym (2852 S Dayton Ave, Springfield) for in-person updates about the high school. This event is open to all who are curious and eager to learn more about Springfield Lutheran High School. Based on enrollment interest generated at this meeting, a launch date will be set – for either Fall 2025 or Fall 2026. Want to stay up-to-date on all things regarding Springfield Lutheran High School? Scan the QR code to subscribe and receive future news and updates sent straight to your inbox!



CROSSLINES FOOD PANTRY Faith Lutheran is signed up to volunteer at Crosslines every 3rd Tuesday of each month. Shifts can be split: 8:30 – 11:15 AM or 11:15 AM – 2:00 PM. Please contact Kim DeLuce with questions, or to schedule the time you can help out with this incredible organization. The next volunteer opportunity will be Tuesday, September 17th.

SENIOR CITIZEN TAX RELIEF Senior Citizens (age 62 or older) Greene County Real Estate Tax Freeze forms are available at the Welcome Desk. You have until 9/30/2024 to complete and turn in the form. Instructions are included with the form. You can get help completing and notarizing the form at the Greene County Courthouse.

GOOD SAMARITAN BOYS RANCH BIRTHDAY PARTY Help celebrate 65 years of Good Samaritan at their birthday party on Thursday, September 26th from 6-9 PM. There will be dinner, live music, games, ranch tours, Thursday Night Football, snow cones and giveaways. Their address is 5549 Hwy K, Brighton, MO 65617. Please RSVP at <https://ranchlife.org/65th-birthday-party/>

LUTHERAN STUDENT CENTER MEAL SIGN-UPS The 2024 Fall Semester will be here before we know it! The Lutheran Student Center could use your help to provide meals for their Tuesday night Prayer & Praise. They usually have about 20-30 students each week. More information and the meal sign-up can be found by scanning the QR code or visiting their website at <https://lsc-springfield.wixsite.com/lsc-springfield/prayer-praise-meal-sign-up>.



LUTHERAN FAMILY AND CHILDREN SERVICES is still in need of diapers (size 3 and up), wipes, diaper cream, tearless baby shampoo, and baby lotion. Can you help? We have a basket for baby supplies in the narthex. Thank you!

150-YEAR ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION OF TRINITY CHURCH & SCHOOL IN FREISTATT Next weekend will be the 150-year anniversary celebration of Trinity Lutheran Church and School in Freistatt, MO. This starts Saturday afternoon with tours of the church, school, and cemetery. On Saturday evening, September 7, at 6:30 pm, there will be a music concert. On Sunday morning, September 8, Divine Worship Service will be at 10 am with guest preacher Rev. Dr. R. Lee Hagan, president of the Missouri District - LCMS. The guest organist is Caleb Staehr for both the evening concert and the Divine Worship Service.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Those Grieving Loss of Loved Ones:

The family and friends of Carolyn Zell (neighbor of the Bensons)
The family of Larry & Terri Timmerman at the death of their son, Phillip

Homebound:

Nancy Engelking
Gene & Isabell Ervin
Wanda McCann
Teresa Murphy
Betty Wessler
Mary Ellen Wolf (Castlewood Senior Living)

Those Afflicted with Cancer

Bryan White, friend of Judy Ehlke (neck cancer)
Tom Ronk, good friend of Duane and Marit Parker (starting cancer treatments)
Pastor Gary Griffin, retired pastor from Immanuel in Lockwood (stage 4 neuroendocrine cancer)
Marlys St. George, sister of Frank Jones
Pastor Tim Jones, nephew of Frank & Carole Jones
Jorene Brooks, daughter of Joye and Karen McElwee

Health Petitions:

Betty Wessler (recovering from hospitalization, moved to skilled nursing facility)
Tim Powell, husband of Debbie Powell (advanced dementia)
Betty Garton (recovering from surgery on 8/14 in St. Louis)
Helenea Porter (recovering from back surgery on 7/16 and a fall)
David Moliga (chronic pain)
Mary Ellen Wolf (hospice care)
Arlo Buerck, grandson of Pastor Dave and Jan Benson (ITP)
Lukas Shook, grandson of Loeta Shook
Thomas Jeffries (special needs)

Praise & Thanks Petitions:

Pastor Steckling, his wife Tammy, Our Redeemer - Bessemer, MI and Trinity Lutheran - Bergland, MI as Pastor Steckling considers the call to serve as Pastor of Faith Lutheran.

Thanks to the LORD for the diligent work of our Call Committee as they sought God's guidance leading to the selection of our next pastor.

Mission Petitions:

Open Arms Early Childhood Development Center – Ozark

Rev. Jim & Kim Bartok, My Church – Ozark

Springfield Lutheran High School Project

Good Samaritan Ranch and Laura's Home

Crosslines, Rare Breed & York Elementary – Springfield

Rev. Dr. Ross Shaver and Family in the Dominican Republic

Rev. Mark Hunsaker-Church Planter in the LCMS Texas District

Joe Lee – Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) Area Coordinator

Hillcrest High School student body, parents, faculty & staff

Preparing for Ministry at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis

Nathan & Chrissy Tritch

Steven, Lori, David & Timmy Steingraber (sister of Leann Eden)

Our Nation and World

We pray for our nation, that we and our leaders would return to seeking God's will for our country and following the principles upon which it was founded.

We pray for the upcoming election, that God would guide our voters to choose national, state, and local officials who best reflect the morals and values found in the Holy Scriptures.

We pray for an end to all wars and political conflicts throughout the world, that all nations may live in peace and safety. Where wars continue, we pray that God would move us to bring physical and spiritual aid to civilians living in the middle of the conflicts.

Birthdays:

Anniversaries:

John & Kathy Hodges – 9/2 (49 years)

PRAYER CHAIN If you would like to receive prayer chain emails, please send your name and email address to mcelweej@gmail.com

| Fiscal Year Stewardship Report 1/1/24 - 12/31/24 | | | August 25, 2024 | |
|--|-----------|--------------|------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Discipleship | | | Returning God's Gifts | |
| Communicant: | 151 | | Plate offerings and tithes: | \$2,542.00 |
| Baptized: | 165 | 64.2% | (E-Tithe) Direct Deposit | \$35.00 |
| | | of the | | |
| | | 52 Sundays | Total Gifts Last Week: | \$2,577.00 |
| | | in 2024 | | |
| Attendance | | | <i>Weekly financial needs 2024</i> | \$4,923 |
| Sun. 8:30 AMSvc. | 45 | | | |
| Sun. 11:00 AMSvc. | 47 | | | |
| Online | 0 | | | |
| | | | SHORTAGE Last Week | (\$2,346) |
| Total in Person: | 92 | | SHORTAGE for Year | (\$5,205) |

Stewardship in Time and Talents Serving in the House of the Lord

| Thank you for your servant heart ♥ | <u>This Sunday</u> (9/1) | <u>Next Sunday</u> (9/8) |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Elder/Deacon: (8:30 AM) | Joe Hadank | Cody Jeffries |
| Elder/Deacon: (11:00 AM) | Joye McElwee | Daryl Bahn |
| Proclaim Service: | Tyson Bourbina | Nathan & Grace Meyer |
| Altar Guild: (8:30 AM) | Mary Beckers | Carole Jones |
| Altar Guild: (11:00 AM) | Darla Berg | Debby Zibilski |
| Lector: (8:30 AM) | Frank Kukal | Thomas Jeffries |
| Acolyte: (8:30 AM) | Kinley Cox | Brenda Owen |
| Greeter: (8:30 AM) | Vicki Kukal | Carole Jones |
| Greeter: (11:00 AM) | Carol Bourbina | Grace & Leah Meyer |
| Children's Message | Pastor Dave Benson | Pastor Dave Benson |
| Mowers: | Duane Parker | Cathy Bowman |

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT FAITH THIS WEEK?

TODAY – Sunday, September 1st

8:30 AM – Traditional Worship with Communion (South Sanctuary)

9:45 AM – Adult Bible Class (Gathering Room)

– Youth Bible Study (FC-5)

– Children's Sunday School (Peters Family Life Center, Rooms 1 &2)

11:00 AM – Contemporary Worship with Communion (North Sanctuary)

Tuesday, September 3rd

8:30 PM – Inklings (Zoom)

Thursday, September 5th

9:00 AM – Bible Study (Fellowship Hall)

6:30 PM – Lutherans for Life (Redeemer Lutheran Church, Springfield)

Next Sunday, September 8th

8:30 AM – Traditional Worship with Communion (South Sanctuary)

9:45 AM – Adult Bible Class (Gathering Room)

– Youth Bible Study (FC-5)

– Children's Sunday School (Peters Family Life Center, Rooms 1 &2)

11:00 AM – Contemporary Worship with Communion (North Sanctuary)

PLEASE LET US KNOW

Please call the church office (417-833-3749) or email faithlutheransec@gmail.com if you:

- Have a new address, phone number, or email
- Are sick, facing a surgery, or hospitalization
- Are unable to attend worship
- Would like to add to our praise & thanks petitions
- **Are in need of prayer**