

NEWS AND NOTES

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ALTAR FLOWERS today are given to the glory of God.

FAITH'S CHURCH COUNCIL meets TODAY at 12:30 PM in room EW-7.

LCMS MISSOURI DISTRICT "TOWN HALL" MEETING TODAY in the Peter's Family Life Center (north end of our facility) from 3 to 5 PM.

BACK TO CHURCH SUNDAY NEXT WEEK This year Faith Lutheran Church is observing "National Back to Church Sunday." This is an annual event on the third Sunday of September: this year on September 15th. The goal of this Sunday is to encourage church members who have drifted away from church attendance, to return to regular worship, Bible study and fellowship at their congregations. "National Back to Church Sunday" is also a great opportunity to invite relatives, friends, and neighbors who don't have a church home to be our guests for this special Sunday. See you in church!

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.

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 room EW-7 in the 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 Ehke

FREE BOOKS AVAILABLE An attempt has been made to make the church library a little more user friendly. Many books have been removed because of relevance to our existing needs. The library is located in the Gathering Room on the north end of our building. Two tables of books that are being removed are available to anyone who wants them and are free for the taking. These books will be available today and next Sunday so be sure to look over them. Also available are two sets of Old and New Testament Bible recordings on cassette tape.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

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EXCITING NEW LIBRARY ADDITION An exciting addition to our church library, located in the Gathering Room on the north end of our facility, is the Concordia Publishing sex education books. These books are available for parents and have books for each age group and gender. The only requests we have is that parents take only the ones needed for their children – in other words, please don't take the entire series out at one time. Two weeks is the limit for checking these books out. There will be cards to check them out so we know who has any certain book in case someone else needs it. We hope that these books, which are done in a Christian manner, will help parents.

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 at the north end, 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.

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 Tuesday evenings at 8:30 pm on Zoom to discuss the writings of C.S. Lewis, J.R.R. Tolkien, and authors of a similar genre. 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. This group is currently reading *The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* by C.S. Lewis.

FAITH FOUNDATIONS BIBLE STUDY AT TRINITY BEGINS TOMORROW 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.

MARRIAGE IN GOD'S WAY SEMINAR You are invited to an event that will offer long-lasting blessings! The Marriage in God's Way seminar, led by Rev. Dr. Todd Bierman, will help strengthen your marriage as you spend quality time with your spouse or fiancé. Redeemer Lutheran Church will be hosting this seminar for all married and engaged couples in the Southwest, MO region. Plan to join us at the Springfield campus from 8:30 am - 3:00 pm in the Redeemer fellowship hall on Saturday, October 12th. Ephesians 5:31-32 is an excellent summary of the Bible's key teachings on what makes a godly and lasting marriage. Study of this passage and others will direct couples to a complete Christian worldview that will benefit your marriage and all of life. Learn how your hand can be a constant guide to keeping your priorities in order and how a triangle can remind you of the three key aspects of marriage. Simple. Memorable. Fun. For you! Dr. Biermann is Executive Director of Concordia Center for the Family, based in Ann Arbor, MI – but he now lives in Republic, MO. A pastor of the LCMS since 1990, he completed his D. Min. degree related to Christian marriage in 2012. He and his wife, Heather, have been presenting "Marriage in God's Way" seminars since 2006 from Alaska to South America and Africa. Find out more about his work with Concordia Center for the Family at www.concordiafamily.org. The cost of the seminar is \$25 per couple, which will cover registration, snacks, lunch, and childcare. To register, go to Redeemer's website at www.growsharecare.org, scroll down to the "Current News" section, and click where it says, "Marriage in God's Way Seminar". For more information, contact the Redeemer church office at 417-881-5470.

COMMUNITY AND OUTREACH

SPRINGFIELD LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL UPDATE NEXT WEEK 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!



LUTHERANS FOR LIFE has gathered all donations from our annual Mother's Day/Father's Day ingathering. Our goal was for ALL STAGES OF LIFE. **Newborns in Need** is an agency that provides layettes and baby items for over 1000 babies each month. **Sammy's Window** is a support agency for families who have taken children who are in the foster care system into their homes. Our last group was a **local nursing home**. This was like delivering presents to your grandma. Each agency was delighted and grateful beyond measure. A special thank you from the Lutherans for Life Springfield Chapter.

THE MONGO HUGE RUMMAGE SALE IS OVER!! For at least another year. We laughed when a customer told us how much she enjoyed this and wished we would do it more often. We laughed a lot. We were AMAZED at all the donated treasures, truly astonished at the hundreds of volunteer hours by such lovely people who worked really hard...really hard. People surprised us by all the "treasures" they purchased, and we were completely astounded by the \$11,000 total sales. It is a big project, but our goal is to do BIG things for ALL STAGES OF LIFE. *"Love means doing what God has commanded us, and He has commanded us to love one another" 2 John 6*

LUTHERANS FOR LIFE REGIONAL CONFERENCE Lutherans For Life invites you to join fellow life-minded Lutherans celebrating life and equipping ourselves on life issues during the LFL Regional Conference Midwest at *Hope Lutheran Church in Shawnee, Kansas, on Saturday, October 12, 2024*. This one-day in-person conference features four national life-affirming, Gospel-motivated speakers, as well as fellowship, lunch, and a service opportunity. Limited childcare is available. Come and learn how the Lord calls us to follow Him and be "Life in the Darkness." Details and registration at <https://lutheransforlife.org/conferences/>



CROSSLINES FOOD PANTRY NEXT WEEK 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!

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 Ehke (neck cancer)
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.

We give thanks to the LORD and rejoice with Julia and Bradley Nolff at the birth of their son on August 29th in Florida. He is the grandson of our members Les and Kim DeLuce.

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:

*Ben Bass – 9/9
Janet Tscherny – 9/13
Amy Jeffries – 9/14
Edie Nelson – 9/14*

Anniversaries:

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

September 1, 2024

<u>Discipleship</u>			<u>Returning God's Gifts</u>	
Communicant:	151		66.0% of the 52 Sundays in 2024	Plate offerings and tithes:
Baptized:	165	(E-Tithe) Direct Deposit		\$185.00
		Total Gifts Last Week:		\$8,648.00
<u>Attendance</u>			<i>Weekly financial needs 2024</i>	\$4,923
Sun. 8:30 AM Svc.	55			
Sun. 11:00 AM Svc.	44			
Online	11			
Total in Person:	99		ABUNDANCE Last Week	\$3,725
			SHORTAGE for Year	(\$1,480)

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

Thank you for your servant heart ♥	<u>This Sunday</u> <u>(9/8)</u>	<u>Next Sunday</u> <u>(9/15)</u>
Elder/Deacon: (8:30 AM)	Cody Jeffries	Jim Garton
Elder/Deacon: (11:00 AM)	Daryl Bahn	Joye McElwee
Proclaim Service:	Nathan & Grace Meyer	Tyson Boubina
Altar Guild: (8:30 AM)	Carole Jones	Ann Dobbs
Altar Guild: (11:00 AM)	Debby Zibilski	Brandee Lentz
Lector: (8:30 AM)	Thomas Jeffries	Nathan Meyer
Acolyte: (8:30 AM)	Brenda Owen	Leah Meyer
Greeter: (8:30 AM)	Carole Jones	Brenda Owen
Greeter: (11:00 AM)	Grace & Leah Meyer	Helen Clair
Children's Message	Pastor Dave Benson	Pastor Dave Benson
Mowers:	Cathy Bowman	Richard Wilson

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT FAITH THIS WEEK?

TODAY – 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)

12:30 PM – Church Council Meeting (EW-7)

3:00 PM – LCMS Missouri District Town Hall Meeting

Monday, September 9th

6:00 PM – Lutheran Women in Mission

Tuesday, September 10th

8:30 PM – Inklings (Zoom)

Thursday, September 12th

9:00 AM – Bible Study (Fellowship Hall)

Next Sunday, September 15th – National Back to Church Sunday

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**