**FAITH UNITED LUTHERAN CHURCH**

**4543 DOUGLAS ROAD**

**TOLEDO, OH 43613**

**SEPTEMBER 2024**

 **FAITH CHRONICLES**

 **Faith United Lutheran** **Church**

 **4543 Douglas Road – Toledo, Ohio 43613**

 **419-473-1369**

**Email: faithunitedlutherantoledo@gmail.com**

**Website:** [**www.faithunitedlutherantoledo.com**](http://www.faithunitedlutherantoledo.com) **or** [**www.faithunited.church**](http://www.faithunited.church)

Pastor: Pr. Tom Schaeffer Worship Services: Sunday – 10:00 am

Secretary: Jan Weatherly Choir Director: Rick Napierala

Organist: Patricia Haase Vicar: Frank Weaver

Office Hours: Monday through Friday, 10:00 am – 3:00 pm

*In case of an emergency, you may reach Pastor Tom at 419-481-3891 or Donna Morrin at 419-290-8997*

**Faith United Lutheran Church Mission Statement**

We are committed to seeing every member grow as a “disciple who makes disciples.” We profess that the church is not a building but is the people of God sent into the world to proclaim the Gospel. We do this through both words and actions with the hope of seeing more and more people come to faith in Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior.

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**A MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR**



Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

In June of this year, our church council held a retreat to discuss the mission of our church. It was a great day with lively conversation. As a result of that retreat and a meeting between myself and our president and vice president (Jim Griess and Paul Nelson respectively), the council has approved the formation of what we are calling a discernment counsel.

To understand what this is, let’s break down the name. First, it is a group focused on discernment. The Oxford Dictionary gives the following definitions for discernment:

1. the ability to judge well.
2. (in Christian contexts) perception in the absence of judgment with a view to obtaining spiritual guidance and understanding.

So, one purpose of this group is to seek spiritual guidance and understanding. The second important word is ***counsel****.* The definition of the word “counsel” according to Merriam-Webster is “advice given especially as a result of consultation.”

With these two meanings in mind, the work of the discernment counsel will be to seek spiritual guidance and understanding about the ministry and mission of Faith United by seeking the consultation of the Holy Spirit through scripture and prayer. This will result in advice that is given to the church council for their approval.

The size and membership of this group will be at the discretion of the pastor. With its mission in mind, I am selecting members for this group based on the spiritual maturity of the individual and their understanding of the mission of our church and the Church universal. The group will be small, but strong in their commitment to doing the work before them.

The reason for the formation of the discernment counsel is that it became clear that a church council cannot devote the amount of time and attention that is needed to the spiritual and strategic matters of ministry. This is not a judgment on our council but rather a reality concerning the limitations of traditional church governance and the requirements placed on it by both our denomination and state law. In short, after dealing with the required reports, finances, budget, and building discussions there is no time to dive deep into matters of ministry like discipleship, prayer-life, and spiritual formation to name a few.

That will be the work of the discernment counsel. It will be focused on providing direction and accountability for the work of being a biblical church seeking God’s will in all we do. These people will be serving in an important calling with great responsibility. With that in mind, after prayer and seeking the guidance of God, I have invited the following persons into the initial formation of this group: Jim Griess, Paul Nelson, and Tom Titkemeier. These will not be the last or only persons, and as God guides, others will be invited into this obligation.

For now, I ask that you pray fervently for their work in advancing the mission of Faith United in agreement with the will of God.

United in Faith,

Pastor Tom

**WHAT’S NEW AT FAITH UNITED**

**Facebook Page:** If you haven’t been to Faith United’s Facebook page yet, please visit there (and Like us.) Anyone is welcome to share photos of church activities, say hello to one another and just keep up on news. You can also share upcoming events with your Friends. It is called Faith United Lutheran Church.

**Web Site** – The church’s Web site, [www.faithunitedlutherantoledo.com](http://www.faithunitedlutherantoledo.com) or www.faithunited.church, is a great source for information for you and you can tell friends to check out the site to find out what is happening at Faith United!

**Church Office Hours** –The church office is fully open to visitors again. Office hours are 10:30 – 3:00 M-F.

**Church Supplies** – the church is always in need of paper towels, toilet paper, and hand soap. You can bring supplies to the church office or drop off on the next Sunday we are together.

**Rummage Sale Update**

On behalf of the Rummage Sale committee, I would like to give a HUGE THANK YOU to everyone who helped out in any capacity, and to all who donated items. We couldn’t have done it without the great support of the congregation. We made $8,062.00! Again, thank you to all!

Sheryl Johnson

**WELCA (Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America)**

Is Grace Real? Ladies, join us on September 7 as we begin our fall Bible Study, “Receiving Grace: A study of Ephesians” by the Rev. Heidi Haverkamp. We often focus on how we fall short and deserve God’s judgement. What if, instead, we remember God’s continual gift of grace? God invites us to lead lives of love and wholeness. What is grace, exactly? Grace does not take away the sin and suffering of this life. Yet grace offers us a way to live from love despite hardship. We will meet at 10 am in the lounge.

Reservations for the ”Edge of the Water Retreat” are due on Saturday, September 7.

Immediately after Bible Study we will proceed to the front lawn for “Free Sharing Saturday”. If you are able, please join us there to help distribute school supplies, cereal and snacks, and meet the community as we serve a hot dog lunch.

Thank you for the amazing donations of school supplies cereal and snacks for the “Free Sharing Saturday” event. We are grateful, as will be the recipients of your generosity.

Our fourth quarter Mission:Action outreach project will benefit those folks who meet downtown on Saturday mornings to receive a meal and in-kind gifts. Please join us in providing socks, gloves, hats, and snacks that we will distribute downtown on the first Saturday in January. We will be collecting these items from September through December.

 “Be the One who matters to the One who matters”!

Living Awake,

Cindy Sauppé

**FROM THE OUTREACH COORDINATOR**

If anyone knows where the committee might obtain some large cardboard boxes, would you please let Jan Weatherly or Sheryl Johnson know. We are trying to do a little something extra for Trunk or Treat.

Respectfully submitted,

Jan Weatherly

Outreach Coordinator

**Polish-American Concert Band remaining Summer Schedule**

Sunday, Sept. 29 – Komen Race for the Cure

**Sunday School**

Sunday School for adults will start up again on Sept. 15 at 8:30am. They will be discussing **humility** and all are welcome and encouraged to join in. Class is in the conference room in the office wing. Children’s Sunday School will be at 10:00am.

**Notes of Interest from the Chancel Choir**

September means fall is right around the corner and school has begun again. It also means the Chancel Choir resumes its regular schedule. We are always looking for new members. You don’t have to be a concert soloist! We welcome anyone who likes to “make a joyful noise!”

Rehearsals begin on Thursday, Sept. 5 at 7:00 in the sanctuary. Our first Sunday to sing will be Sunday, Sept. 15. Come join us! It is fun and a joy to serve the church and our Lord in this capacity.

**THANK YOU**

Many thanks to everyone for all the prayers, visits, cards, and flowers during my recent illness. It has been a very scary time not knowing if I would be able to play the piano or organ again, but your prayers and concern have definitely helped me get through it. Thank you and God bless.

Tricia Haase

To ALL of the Faith United Family and ANY others who read this.

  We thank each and every one of you!  If you sent a card (Get Well or Sympathy), if you were with us at the time of our pain and sorrow, if you remembered Chad in a memorial gift, if we received flowers or a different remembrance from you, if you helped with the wonderful luncheon, if you prayed for us or kept us in your thoughts, there are not enough words to say Thank You from the Bottom of Our Hearts!

    John, Linda Bailiff & Jessica

Recent Memorials received:

**In memory of Corinne Oliger**

Sharon Alexander Grace& Dave Anton Linda Bellman

Charles Calmes Diana Coyne Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Dewitz

Caroline & Chuck Dolt Sandy & Steve Drake Jan & Chuck Ellenberger

Ann Gedeon Shari & Jim Gorski Mary Ann Gould

Peg & Ron Gould Cheryl Kemp Daniel Kerscher

Joanne Kraus Rochelle Krolak Sue & John Kusz

Laura Langenderfer Patricia Lezon Barb Links

Thomas Meinhart Brenda, Sara & Art Michaelis Fran Oliver

Mary & Larry Ray Louanne Saylors Karen & Tom Schaeffer

Ruth & Roger Stygles Sharon Taylor-Ansted Jan Weatherly

Marcia Conn Peg & Dave Hinds

**In memory of Gary Paulson**

Janet Anello Hong & Kent Buehrer Mary & John Burchfield

Sandy & Steve Drake Lynn & Timothy Granatir Barb & Ron Libben

Jennifer & Ron Libben Libben Lisa & Frank Lysiak

Karen & Tom Schaeffer Sandra & Mark Snyder Nancy & Bud Wilson

Janet Wueth

**In memory of Chad Bailiff**

Linda Bellman Sandy & Steve Drake Bob Fry

Shari & Jim Gorski Peg & Ron Gould Carol Haar

Carole Haugh Peg & Dave Hinds Danny Holzscheiter

Sue Karalfa Teresa Marzec Thomas McCullough

Brenda, Sara & Art Michaels Mary & Larry Ray Ruth & Roger Stygles

Karen & Tom Schaeffer Jan Weatherly Rita & Jim Yingling

Marcia Conn

**In memory of Libby Ketterman**

Linda Bellman Julie & Paul Ketterman Beth & Tom Harrold

Cheryl Kemp

**SPECIAL BUILDING USE**

September

Saturday 09/07/2024 12:00-2:00 Free Sharing Saturday Lawn

Monday 09/09/2024 7:00-9:00 Church Council Council Room

Wednesday 09/11/2024 10:30-12:30 Birth Certificate Chapel

Friday 09/13/2024 11:00-1.00 Feed Your Neighbor LH

Wednesday 09/25/2024 10:30-12:30 Birth Certificate Chapel

**REGULAR BUILDING USE**

September 2024

Monday 11:00-1:30 Open-Minded AA Lower Education Wing

 4:30-9:30 Driving School Lower Education Wing

 5:30-8:30 Kylie & Co Luther Hall

Tuesday 11:00-1:30 Open-Minded AA Lower Education Wing

 4:30-9:30 Driving School Lower Education Wing

Wednesday 11:00-1:30 Open-Minded AA Lower Education Wing

 5:30-8:30 Kylie & Co Luther Hall

 7:30-10:00 12-Step West Lower Education Wing

Thursday 11:00-1:30 Open-Minded AA Lower Education Wing

 5:30-7:00 Basketball Luther Hall

 4:30-9:30 Driving School Lower Education Wing

 7:00-8:00ish Chancel Choir Sanctuary

Friday 11:00-1:30 Open-Minded AA Lower Education Wing

Saturday 11:00-1:30 Open-Minded AA Lower Education Wing

\*Council-2nd Monday of each month Council Room

\*WELCA-1st Saturday of each month Lounge

**IN OUR PRAYERS**

**Members at Home**: Barb Callis; Jan Ellenberger; Carole Haugh; Tricia Haase; Linda & John Bailiff; Grace & Dave Anton; Art Michaelis; Bill & Mary Ann McDermott; Pauletta Forbes; Ann Krebser; Peg & Ron Gould; Nancy Robinson; Dave & Nancy Reynolds; Sarah Monnett; Karen & Mike Isbell; Tom & Mike Hillesheim; Joanna Ranes; Rob Young; John Kusz; Freider Kempf; Chuck Dolt; Marcia Conn; Art Schroeder; Julie Boesenhofer; Randy Collier; Sandy & Steve Drake; Larry Matzinger; Lori Knous; Lydia Latsch.

**Hospitals/Care Centers:** Gloria DeMerritt (Kingston on King Rd); Pastor Nick Mays (Charter Senior Living of Oak Openings); Michael Morrin.

**Friends & Family**: Larry K; Lois Aey; Marilyn Laughlin, Kathy Schneider, Bob Hofmeister, Dave Krolak; JoAn Monnett & Monnett Family; The Family of Brad Larnhart; Doreen Younts; Mike Lindecker; John & Barb Fix; The Estop Family; Jeff, Cindy, & Whitmore family; Wayne Jackson; Deb Ash; Jim Gorski; Margaret Schonter.

**In death:** Gary Paulson, Corinne Oliger, Ed Schulte, Chad Bailiff

**In the military:** Roy Oberhaus, Bill Myers, Jason Weatherly, Kyle Dietrich, Kayla Maher, Sean Ray, Logan Hillesheim, Chris, Pete Christoff, Nicholas Kerchvall, Andrea Perry

**July Income and Expenses**

This information is compiled from the weekly offering control sheets

**Accounting of Income:**

L/R New Life 1,300.00

Loose 237.00

Online Giving 1628.50

Currency/Checks 30,035.00

Rental 1,741.76 Rental deposits not refunded yet

Building Fund 50.00

Synod Benevolence 6.00

Misc. Flowers/initial 446.00

Misc.Christmas, Holidays

Easter/Lent

LWorld Hunger 130.00

Lutheran Disaster 520.00

Kroger Rewards

Transfer to savings

Memorials 3,438.00

Totals 39,532.26

**Expense Paid**

1. Synod Benevolence 2,356.00 (Paid quarterly)
2. Parish Ministry 14,106.05
3. Worship 4,682.76
4. Christian Ed
5. Programs 901.40
6. Parish Administration 4,171.76
7. Maintenance 6,977.76
8. Building Mortgage 1,829.00.

Total Expenses 35,024.73

Income Over (under) Expenses 4,507.53

**Happy Birthday and Anniversary to those who celebrate in September!**

**Birthdays Anniversaries**

1 John Bailiff, Shirley Sorensen 6 Grace & Dave Anton

5 Ashley Moore, Art Schroeder 21 Terry & Cindy Sauppé

6 Lennox Paluga 25 Roger & Ruth Stygles

8 Sarah Monnet

10 Cindy Sauppé, Sue Gries

12 Norma Belanga

15 Denise Witkowski

17 Ronnie Belanga

22 Jayden Benedict, Matthew Dembski

25 Nancy Sieja, Keith Flick, Layla Cross, Carolyn Wells

26 Grace Anton

**Bible Readings for September**

1. Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23
2. 1 Timothy 4:6-16
3. 1 Peter 2:19-25
4. Mark 7:9-23
5. Romans 2:1-11
6. Romans 2:12-16
7. Matthew 15:21-31
8. Mark 7:24-37
9. Hebrews 11:29 – 12:2
10. Hebrews 12:3-13
11. Matthew 17:14-21
12. Hebrews 11:17-22
13. James 2:17-26
14. Matthew 21:23-32
15. Mark 8:17-38
16. Romans 3:9-20
17. Colossians 3:1-11
18. John 7:25-36
19. 1 Corinthians 2:1-5
20. Romans 11:25-32
21. Matthew 23:29-39
22. Mark 9:30-37
23. James 4:8-17
24. James 5:1-6
25. John 8:21-38
26. Acts 4:13-31
27. Acts 12:20-25
28. Matthew 5:13-20
29. Luke 10:17-20
30. 1 Peter 1:3-9