



Dear Faith Lutheran,

I participated in a summer youth program with one of my daughters several years ago in Knoxville. Each evening the youth would participate in something called “Faith Exploration,” and the activities ranged from trust falls off the playground equipment (terrifying, but it made a point), to sitting in the dark sanctuary in total silence (believe it or not, a favorite for the youth).

One evening we were given clay flower pots and a paper bag. In silence, we used markers and drew something on the pot that represented us, or our emotions, or where we “were” that day. It could be a picture, bright or dark colors, a scripture verse – whatever was in our hearts. We then put the pot into the bag and gently broke it. Or smashed it.

The next part of the activity was to use glue and patience to put the pot back together again.

My daughter has moved out of our home, but some of her items are still there. Her bright yellow and orange pot still sits in the window. The pieces don’t fit perfectly. There’s a spot near the bottom that’s totally missing. There are globs of glue and smeared color marker, but the pot is truly beautiful.

I should also confess that I have a beautiful hurricane glass table lamp in my home office. It is made of white glass and painted with pink roses and it’s one of the few things that I have of my grandmother’s. I love that lamp. If you turn the lamp around, though, you’ll see that the glass is broken, and not just a little bit. There are sharp edges and a big piece is missing. But I can’t throw it away.

We so often see brokenness and broken things as items to be discarded. Thrown away. How many times have we thrown a plate away, or even a relationship away, because it is broken?

Pr. Kevin Strickland writes that as we approach Holy Week and journey to Jerusalem with Jesus, we are reminded that it is Jesus who is broken and hanging on a cross. But Jesus is not forgotten and thrown away. Instead God’s takes the brokenness and transforms it into a life and a love for the whole world. God shows us on Easter that there is life after brokenness. There is life after death. And that life is beautiful.

The Japanese mend broken objects by filling the cracks with gold. They believe that when something has suffered damage and has a history it becomes that much more beautiful.

Brokenness is a part of our lives, our relationships with each other, and our relationship with God. This Easter, let God into your life not to take away our brokenness, but lovingly fill in the cracks and the holes with pure gold, letting us reflect the life and love of our savior, Jesus Christ.

Lenten blessings,
Pastor Karen



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Rev. Karen M. Boda, Pastor
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LENT

WHY SHOULD CHILDREN BE AMONG THE WORSHIPERS AT HOLY WEEK SERVICES

When children worship on Maundy Thursday and Good Friday as well as Palm Sunday and Easter, they hear the whole story. Too often we hesitate to tell them the desertion and crucifixion stories. We want to protect them from the harsh realities. But until they hear those stories, they cannot really get the joy of Easter.

Children hear the stories of the Last Supper and Crucifixion on the anniversary of the very nights they happened. It is like hearing the story of Jesus' birth on Christmas Eve or the story of their own birth on their birthday. As they imagine themselves seated at the table or standing near the cross on those nights, the stories have greater power.

Not only do children hear the whole story, but they hear it in the sanctuary with the whole congregation. They sense the strong feelings around the stories and learn that these stories are very, very important to all the people gathered there. So, they listen more intently and claim the stories as their own.

When the whole family worships together during Holy Week, they are acting out their commitment to the story in a very real way.

<http://worshippingwithchildren.blogspot.com/2013/03/welcoming-children-to-holy-week-services.html?m=1>

MID-WEEK LENTEN WORSHIP

4/3..... 7 pm Mid-week Lenten Worship
4/10..... 7 pm Mid-week Lenten Worship

JOURNEY THROUGH HOLY WEEK WITH US

April 14 – 8:30am & 10:30am Palm Sunday Worship
April 18 – 12pm & lunch (Trussville First United Methodist Church)
April 18 – 7pm Maundy Thursday Worship
April 19 – 11am & 7pm Good Friday Worship
April 21 – 8:30am & 10:30am Easter Worship

EASTER LILIES

On Easter Sunday, 4/21, our worship area will be blessed with the addition of Easter lilies. Please use the sign-up form at the secretary's desk or call the church office at 680-2144 if you would like to contribute a lily in memory of, honor of, or thanksgiving for an individual etc. The deadline for signing up is Palm Sunday, 4/14. Lilies are \$10.00 each. Checks may be made payable to Faith Lutheran Church with the designation of "Easter Lily" in the memo line. Advance payment for your Easter lily is appreciated.

Fish Fry

Observe Good Friday with us!
Please plan to attend

Friday, April 19, 2019
Dinner will be served at 6pm
Good Friday Evening Worship at 7pm

Menu

| | |
|--|---|
| <u>Adults</u> Breaded flounder or Tilapia Potato Roll green Beans OR cole Slaw dessert & beverage | <u>Children</u> Fish sticks or Grilled Cheese sandwich chips, dessert & beverage |
|--|---|

FLOWERING THE CROSS ON EASTER



When you arrive at worship on Good Friday, the cross will be stripped bare, like the stripped and broken body of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

As you prepare for Easter worship on Sunday morning, pick fresh flowers and greenery from your garden or yard to bring with you to church. During worship, we will place flowers and greenery into the chicken wire covering the cross.

This tradition of "flowering the cross" dates to the early 6th century. The contrast between the starkly-bare-cross of Good Friday and the living-flowered-cross of Easter Sunday provides a visual representation of reversing death, darkness, pain and hopelessness into something beautiful, new and alive in celebration of the Resurrection of Christ.

If you have extra flowers, please bring them! We will have some additional flowers for all to use. All ages are welcome to participate.

Together, let's transform the cross and help make this Easter a celebration of new life.

LENTEN OFFERINGS

It has been a tradition at Faith Lutheran Church that Lenten Offerings are generously given to an outside organization that helps those in need. This year our Church Council has decided to send our Lenten offerings to the ELCA Southeastern Synod to be used for disaster relief in the South.

Please keep this in mind with your offerings as we help those in other communities who have lost lives, homes, schools, and other resources needed to carry on with their lives. For additional information about Lutheran Disaster Response (LDR) see <https://www.elca-ses.org/disasterministry>

UPCOMING EVENTS/DATES TO REMEMBER



Annual Spring Cleanup
Faith property committee will be holding a Spring cleanup day on Saturday April 6th starting about 8:30 in preparation for the Cross Dedication, Palm Sunday and Easter celebrations. Everyone is encouraged to come and help with the cleanup.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

The Women's Bible study group will meet twice in April--the 8th and the 22nd. Each time we will do two chapters from our book, *The Liturgy of the Ordinary*. On the 8th it will be Chapter 7 Checking Email, Blessing and Sending, and Chapter 8 Sitting in Traffic, Liturgical Time and an Unhurried God. On the 22nd it will be Chapter 9 Calling a Friend, Congregation and Community, and Chapter 10 Drinking Tea, Sanctuary and Savoring. We will be finishing our book before we break for the summer, so I'm looking for suggestions on what to do when we start up again in the fall--if you have ideas, or have heard of something you'd like to do, please let me know.

CLIPPED WINGS

Are you ready to give a brand-new place a try? On Thursday, April 11th, at 12:00 noon, we will meet at the Metro Diner in Trussville. It is located in a just completed shopping mall on 2050 Gadsden Highway, between Tutwiler Drive and Calumet Parkway, across the highway from Homestead Village (Hobby Lobby, new Aldi's), on the same side as the Pinnacle Shopping Center. The fare sounds hearty and delicious – there is even a “Gluten-Friendly” menu. So, please join us in our joyful, monthly gathering. Transportation is just a phone call away from Gail Kohser or Beate Cole. Let us welcome spring and look forward to a glorious Easter celebration!

DINNER & DISCUSSION GROUP

Dinner & Discussion group will begin meeting again on Wednesday, 4/24 & will be led by Dennis McMillan. We look forward to seeing you soon.

MONTGOMERY PIGRAMAGE

Join Bishop H. Julian Gordy, and fellow Lutherans and friends from across the synod on a pilgrimage to Montgomery, Alabama, Saturday, April 27, 2019. Our purpose is to experience *The Legacy Museum*, and *The National Memorial for Peace and Justice* followed by a period of reflection and conversation with Bishop Gordy and members of the Equal Justice Initiative. Visit this website for more information & to register.

<https://www.elca-ses.org/newsdetail/montgomery-pilgrimage-12766271>



Mark your calendars for May 3rd & 4th for the annual indoor YARD SALE and bake sale.

May 3 – 8am to 4pm

May 4 – 8am to 3pm

Yard sale donations may be brought to the church after Easter. Please contact Mary Yarbrough or Terrie Awtrey if you have any questions. We are also looking for people to price items and for workers during the sale hours. Watch the worship folder and weekly announcements for further details.

Baked goods of all kinds are also needed. If you can make any candy, cookies, brownies, cakes, muffins, etc. please sign up on bulletin board or see Marsha Craig. Thank you!

AFFIRM

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN! June 16-21, 2019 at the University of West Alabama in Livingston, AL. Affirm is a Summer Youth event of the ELCA Southeastern Synod. Affirm nurtures faith, equips youth leaders for today & tomorrow and trains youth in discipleship skills. Affirm is for grades 6-12, as well as trains college freshman & sophomores for youth ministry in a unit called YAYMI. Affirm is based on 10 different age appropriate leadership & discipleship units. Each of these units are staffed by small group leaders and a pair of unit directors.

VBS



WELCA

Dear Sisters in Christ,

You are invited to attend the Thirty-Second Annual Convention of the Southeastern Synod Women of the ELCA which will be held September 20-22, 2019 at Music Road Resort in Pigeon Forge, TN.

You will find the following information concerning the convention on the link below:

- * Registration Form
- * Convention Poster
- * Reservation Information for Music Road Resort
- * Voting Member Responsibilities
- * Nomination Form

<https://www.elca-ses.org/happening/2019-southeastern-synod-women-of-the-elca-covention-11587019>

We have five \$100 scholarships available and two \$100 scholarships for young women (14-40). Scholarships are awarded on a first-come, first-served basis. The **deadline to apply is July 1, 2019**. Please contact Patti Austin for a scholarship application.

Please note that you will need to make your room reservations directly with the Music Road Resort at 855-790-4646. Rooms will be released starting July 1 and cannot be guaranteed after August 1. A breakfast buffet is included with room reservation. All other meals will be in the convention center.

Each congregational or special unit of the Southeastern Synod Women of the ELCA is entitled to one voting member. It is very important that all congregations be represented as we conduct the business of our organization.

We will be electing a vice-president, secretary, and three board members this year. Please prayerfully consider serving our organization in this capacity but remember that only one person from a congregation may serve on the board at a time.

I look forward to seeing you in September!

Embracing God's Grace,
Paula McMillan

APRIL

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Haven Billy
Oren Tarpley
Jennifer Craig
Dennis McMillan
Terry Butz
Ellen Smith
Chris Diuguid
Troy Nelson
Bryan & Amanda Billy
Richard Ford
Terrie Awtrey
John & Katie Beyer
Caryl Stahl
April Kirksey
Amy Hollar
John Bakkegard
Joyce Ehrensperger

COMMUNITY OUTREACH PROJECTS

BEAUTIFICATION DAY



On Saturday, April 13th, we have the opportunity to help our outreach partner, Clay Elementary. We will be assisting with outdoor beautification projects. The work begins at 8AM and ends at 12PM. Breakfast biscuits will

be provided by Jacks. Please contact Linda Herold or Skip Craig with any questions.

HEALTH ROOM NEEDS



The Health Room nurse at Clay Elementary School needs some more undies for students before closing out the school year. Both boys' and girls' undies in sizes 6-12 are needed. Please place these in the metal tub in the narthex for delivery to the school, one of our Outreach partners. Thank you.

COMMUNITY KITCHEN

On Saturday, March 9, 2019, Karl Nelson, Mark Richey, Paul (a volunteer) and Tuval Mashburn (a friend of Mark's) served about 77 men and women at the Community Kitchen.

The next opportunity to serve is April 13. Please consider taking a turn at serving at the Kitchen. No experience is necessary just a willingness to serve. Volunteers meet at Grace Church at 11:30; however, if you would like to ride share just let Mark Richey know.

Location: Grace Episcopal Church 5712 1st Ave N
Birmingham, AL 35212

Second Saturday of each month

Time: 11:30 a.m. to approx. 1:30 p.m.

GOD'S GRACIOUS GENEROSITY



On Saturday, March 23, eight members of Faith's Generosity

Brainstorming Team left the church at 5:00 AM to journey to Emory University in Atlanta to attend the "Giving Freedom" conference, sponsored by the Candler School of Theology. Seven leading pastors, authors, philanthropists, and financial experts shared their insights and taught practical strategies for giving in our congregations and communities.

The presentations all centered around God's generosity and the true joy we can receive when we share God's generosity with others. God's abundance is indeed our abundance. We also learned about best practices in caring for the gifts received. Our group left the conference motivated and energized, anxious to share our enthusiasm with our Faith Family. Stay tuned for more.

Those early risers included Alan Boda, Pastor Karen Boda, Skip Craig, Linda Herold, Amy Hollar, Karl Nelson, Linda Nelson, and Oren Tarpley.

SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS

Eleven members from Faith Lutheran attended the March 3 Worship Service at Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church to hear the Rev. Dr. Joseph W. Ellwanger preach and lead a discussion following worship. Dr. Ellwanger was the pastor to St. Paul Lutheran Church in southwest Birmingham from 1958-1967. His active participation in the Civil Rights Movement included leading a march of blacks and whites in Selma in solidarity for the right to vote and hold elected office for all citizens regardless of color. This march on March 6, 1965 was the catalyst for the passage of the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

His sermon Sunday "Fully Awake to See the Glory of Jesus" emphasized how Jesus associated mainly with the marginalized of that day.

In the discussion following worship he reminded us that the problems that existed in 1965, including voter suppression and need for prison reform, are still with us today. He discussed his book *Strength For the Struggle* and related insights he gained from his ministries. Several members who had been part of his youth group at St. Paul attended the worship and discussion.



Southeastern Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

Did you know?

Faith Lutheran Church is a member of the Southeastern Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). The Southeastern Synod is made up of 160 congregations and new starts across Alabama, Georgia, Mississippi, and Tennessee. As one of 65 synods in the ELCA, we are called to be the hands and feet of Jesus in the communities that we serve. Together we extend our ministry and our reach around the country and around the world. Retrieved from <https://www.elca-ses.org/about>

PARISH NURSE NOTES

If you are trying to keep up with the latest on living a healthy lifestyle, you are probably confused by now. One day you are told that eggs are bad for you, then sometime later it is changed to eggs are good for you. Likewise, with coffee, one day it was bad and then changed to beneficial. The latest just came out, namely low dose aspirin. People have been taking these "baby aspirin" for years. Now what do we do? I personally recommend talking to your doctor about your options. Like all foods and medications, some people are more sensitive to certain chemicals and foods than others. It is most important to pay attention to your own body and report any unusual symptoms to your health care provider. The time I was in a nurses' health study, I quickly discovered that I couldn't tolerate even low doses of aspirin.

I'd be happy to hear any comments or answer questions about any of my monthly articles. Also, please remember that I am available every Sunday, before the 10:30am worship service to take your blood pressure. Confidential records are kept to determine what is a normal range for each individual.

Gail Kohser, Parish Nurse



PROPERTY COMMITTEE Church Maintenance is a series of on-going projects, just like home maintenance. While some maintenance projects are contracted on an as needed basis, volunteers are needed to coordinate activities as well as performing such tasks as we are able to accomplish ourselves. If you would like to join the property committee as a volunteer, visitor, or potential member, please contact Will Daum for more details.

LAWN CARE- Spring has sprung & it is grass cutting season once again. In order to avoid spending a whopping \$7000 (that we have budgeted) to a lawn care company, the Faith property committee would like to ask for volunteers to come to the church once a week and cut the grass & trim the playground area. Please help us by doing your part to keep our property beautiful. We have a great riding mower that anyone can learn to use with a few simple instructions. Contact Will Daum to sign up for a week & learn to use the mower. Remember, it takes a village...



Dear Faith Family,
It's been a long time since the first Sunday of December 2018 when life changed for us because of illness, first one and then the other. After almost three months, we are pleased to say that our health is improving—not always as fast as we want, but a little at the time. As is so true of the Faith Family, you reached out to us with cards, visits, food, and transportation. We were bolstered by knowing that your prayers were with us.

There are not enough words to thank Pastor Karen for her visits and for ministering to us by bringing Holy Communion and worship materials. She remains a treasured blessing in overseeing her flock.

We gratefully thank our church family for your many acts of kindness. Our prayers are that we will see all of you in worship services very soon.

Peace and love,
Al and Janet Awtrey

Dear Faith Family,
Thank you for the cards and calls over the last few weeks. We are grateful for your love and concern.

Rick and Mary Yarbrough.

Dear Faith Family,
Thank you for the cards and calls following the passing of my grandson Thomas.

Jean Nelson

SHEPHERD MINISTRY

I give thanks for the faithful service of Faith Lutheran Church's shepherds. Throughout the years the shepherds have shown loving care to this congregation. We have decided, however, to close out this chapter of our ministry because of the difficulty of finding enough shepherds.

I thank God for the blessings of this ministry and for each of you who have served as shepherds. And I look forward to where God will be calling us next to serve.

Many Blessings,
Pat Holman, Shepherd Chair

CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations to Bryan and Amanda Billy on the birth of their son, Cole Billy. Cole was born on April 1st at 7lbs. 11 oz. and welcomed to the family by his sister, Haven and his brother, Braxton.

Preschool Corner



The Preschool has new signs and some of our preschool students were happy to assist with hanging them!



After a cold and very rainy winter our students are excited to go outside and play!! Our little ones are looking forward to their Easter egg hunt on Wednesday, April 17th. If you would like to volunteer to hide the eggs please contact Terrie Awtrey for more details.



**April 2019
Worship Assistants**

8:30am

April 7

Asst. Minister: Sharon Butz

April 14 – Palm Sunday

Asst. Minister: Sharon Towry

April 21 - Easter

Asst. Minister: Linda Herold

April 28

Asst. Minister: Dennis McMillan

10:30 a.m.

Ushers: James Kennedy, Mark Richey,
& Mark Craig

Greeters: Sharon Towry & Linda Herold

April 7

Asst. Minister: Paula McMillan
Lector: Amy Hollar
Acolyte:
Crucifer: Devin Kennedy
Comm. Presenters: Hazel & Merle Wentzell

April 14 - Palm Sunday

Asst. Minister: Paula Daum
Readers: Shannon Graham,
Matt Kirksey, Dennis McMillan,
Devin Kennedy, Brandi Kennedy,
Ky-lin Berg, Jesse Byrd, Wayne Graham &
Troy Nelson
Acolyte: Carter Kirksey
Crucifer: Ky-lin Berg
Comm. Presenters: Paulette & Ken King

April 18 – Maundy Thursday

Assisting Minister: Tim Awtry
Lector: Karl Nelson
Acolyte: Michael May
Crucifer:
Comm. Presenters: Rick & Mary Yarbrough
Ushers:

April 19 – Good Friday

11am Asst. Minister: Beate Cole

7pm Asst. Minister: Mark LaRue
Ushers:

April 21 – Easter

Asst. Minister: Dennis McMillan
Lector: Will Daum
Acolyte: Michael May
Crucifer: David May
Comm. Presenters: Al & Sandra May

April 28

Asst. Minister: Mia Graham
Lector: Wanda Quinn
Acolyte: Lilly Nafziger
Crucifer: Ava Nafziger
Comm. Presenters: Tammie Richey &
Mary Yarbrough



Members: Amanda Billy, Douglas Honea, Al & Janet Awtrey, Johnnie Starnes, Ruth Spitzer, Teresa McCullough, Nancy Quinn, Tammie Richey & Dorothy Body

Friends: Barbara Schmidtter (Skip Craig's Aunt); Jay Wesson (cousin of Joan Laframboise); Steve Cheatham (friend of Craig & Sue Kuechenmeister); Wanda Payne & Tom Duke (friends of FLC Preschool); JoAnn Johnaon (friend of Linda Herold); Heather Wesson (David & Cheryl Ehrensperger's granddaughter); Brett Smith (Hazel Wentzell's nephew); Carol Cantrell (friend of Ken Monk); Jerry McNutt (Sarah Nafziger's father); Pat Ehlinger (friend of Harold & Sonja Utphall); Larry Allin (father-in-law of the Wentzell's grandson); Treasa Webb (friend of Preschool), Jerry Sellers (friend of the congregation), Gavin McMillan (grandson of Dennis & Paula McMillan), Teresa Buckner (friend of Sarah Nafziger), Ned Brittain (brother of Dick Brittain), Rozann Brittain (sister-in-law of Dick Brittain), Johnny Fricke, Larry Fricke (cousins of Becky Brittain); George Brown (dad of Sandra May); Mary Hamson (Al Awtrey's sister), Martin & Doreen Henry (friends of Johnnie Starnes); Kenneth Piper (cousin of Fred & Joyce Ehrensperger); Candi Prejean (friend of the Ehrensperger Family); Brian Poole, Gracie Ann Poole, Jackson Roberts, Kathie Finley, Reba Roberts (friends of Fred & Wanda Quinn), Ronald Park (brother-in-law of Wanda Quinn), Shirley Sanders (niece of Norma Holsombeck); Patricia Hofer & Winnie Starnes (sisters of Merle Wentzell); Neysa Charie Rhodes (friends of Sue Kuechenmeister), Stuart Craig (brother of Skip Craig), Michelle Miskelley (friend of Marsha Craig), Willard Leopard (brother of Wyomie McRae)

Serving Our Country: Connor Butz (son of Terry & Sharon Butz), Adam Ford & Austin Workman (sons of Richard & Emily Ford, grandsons of Jerry & Sharon Towry), Chris Lewis (son of Jeff & Martha Lewis), Noah Graham (son of Shannon Graham, grandson of Dennis & Paula McMillan and Wayne & Linda Graham)

College Students: Allison Boda (Furman), Andrew Boyd (UAH), Caroline Hoffman (Jacksonville State), Hannah LaRue (Tennessee Tech); Sarah Nafziger (UAB), Troy Nelson (UAB), Luke Richey (Auburn), Kinsey Waylander (UAB); Courtney Yarbrough (UAB) & Stephen Yarbrough (ASU)

Outreach partners: Lutheran World Relief, Community Kitchen, Trussville Ecumenical Assistive Ministry (TEAM), Clay Elementary

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|--|---|---|--|--|---|
| | 1 9am Preschool | 2 9am Preschool 4:30pm Worship Planning meeting 6:30pm Executive Board | 3 9am Preschool | 4 9am Preschool 6:30pm Generosity/ Brainstormer meeting | 5 9am Preschool | 6 Spring Cleanup day |
| 7 CROSS DEDICATION 8:30am Worship 9:15am Sunday school 10:30am Worship 12:15pm Choir practice | 8 9am Preschool Pastor in Atlanta | 9 9am Preschool 10am Quilters 6:30pm Council meeting | 10 9am Preschool 7pm Mid-week Lenten Worship | 11 9am Preschool Pastor at Conference | 12 9am Preschool | 13 Community Kitchen Clay Elementary Beautification Day 8am-Noon |
| 14 PALM SUNDAY 8:30am Worship 9:15am Sunday school 10:30am Worship 12:15pm Choir practice | 15 9am Preschool | 16 9am Preschool | 17 9am Preschool | 18 9am Preschool 12pm Community Worship TFUMC with lunch 7pm Maundy Thurs Worship | 19 11am Good Friday Worship 6pm Fish Fry 7pm Good Friday Worship | 20 6:30pm Easter Vigil at Shades Valley Lutheran Church |
| 21 EASTER SUNDAY 8:30am Worship 9:15am Easter Egg Hunt 10:30am Worship 12:15pm Choir practice | 22 Office Closed – Easter Monday 9am Preschool Yard Sale drop offs begin | 23 Pastor Karen on vacation 9am Preschool | 24 Pastor Karen on vacation 9am Preschool 6:30pm Dinner & Discussion | 25 9am Preschool 6:30pm Worship & Music Committee | 26 9am Preschool | 27 |
| 28 8:30am Worship 9:15am Sunday school 10:30am Worship 12:15pm Choir practice | 29 9am Preschool Yard sale pricing | 30 9am Preschool Yard sale pricing | | | | |
| April 2019 | | | | | | |

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

March 2019

Meeting minutes are a summary & a preliminary draft. Minutes will not be final until the next council meeting

Attending: Tim Awtrey, Beate Cole, Skip Craig, Fred Ehrensperger, Linda Herold, Amy Hollar, Pat Holman, Karl Nelson, Troy Nelson, Tammie Richey, and Pastor Karen Boda.

Absent: Jeannine Spann, Mary Yarbrough.

Opening Devotion: Amy Hollar opened the meeting with a devotion based on Colossians 1:15.

Review & Approve February Meeting Minutes:

The February Council minutes were approved with no corrections. Motion to approve by Pat Holman, second by Skip Craig.

Treasurer's Report: Fred Ehrensperger distributed the monthly report and noted that the church was under budget by an additional \$3,000 in Current this month with no unusual expenditures to account for this. He also noted that everything is normal under Special. After some discussion, Tim Awtrey made a motion to accept the report with a second by Skip Craig. The report was accepted.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Karen Boda reviewed her submitted report and added:

- Four or five couples will be trained to deliver communion to the homebound.
- She will be preaching at First UMC Trussville on Thursday of Holy Week (April 18) and Faith will be providing lunch to all those attending this community service.
- We will have a midday service on Good Friday at Faith.

Submitted Reports: Pat Holman moved to accept all submitted reports en bloc with a second by Tim Awtrey. All submitted reports are accepted.

Current Business:

- Staff Position Performance Review Documents – The Council provided some additional feedback on the ministry descriptions and evaluations. Skip Craig will make the agreed upon changes and bring back to Council next month for final approval.
- Constitution Approval – Skip Craig is working on the “current” versus “new” changes for the Church Constitution and hopes to have it completed by the next Council meeting.
- Sale of the office computer – Tim Awtrey plans to have the computer specs ready by the end of the week. The Council agreed to offer the computer for sale by sealed bid to the church congregation and staff.
- Nominating Committee – There is still an opening on the Nominating Committee.

- Yard Sale Proceeds – The Worship and Music Committee noted that they are in favor of the proceeds going toward the church playground.

New Business:

- Stewardship Brainstorming Meeting - Ten people participated. It was a wonderful meeting with lots of ideas and enthusiasm. Definition, communication and resources were discussed. So far 8 people are committed to go to the stewardship workshop at Emory University. There was discussion about the brainstorming meeting, Council's role and the methods for getting information out to the entire congregation.
- Informing Faith members about the Synod – Discussion was held on how to increase knowledge about the Synod.
- Shepherd Ministry – Pat Holman provided an update regarding the current status of the Shepherd Ministry.
- Annual Report – should be available next week or sooner.
- Lenten Worship offerings – Fred Ehrensperger made a motion that the Lenten offerings go to the Southeastern Synod to be used for Disaster Relief with a second by Beate Cole. Approved.
- Thursday Lenten luncheon funds request – Money is needed to cover the food and supplies for the Community Luncheon during Holy Week. It is expected that we will need to feed about 200 people. Connie Waylander will head this up. Amy Hollar made a motion to provide \$475 to come out of Thrivent Choice Dollars to pay for the Lenten Luncheon. Second by Troy Nelson. Approved
- Clay Elementary Beautification Day April 13. Currently Clay is asking for pine straw. Skip Craig is working with the Elementary School to assess any other needs they may have. Skip has requested a Thrivent Grant to help with this. More information to come.

Other

- A request has been made and accepted for a van to be parked temporarily at the back of the church parking lot.
- Fred Ehrensperger read the report from the inhouse audit team regarding the church financial books. He also provided a copy of the report to the Council Secretary for inclusion in the church records.

April 2019 Devotion: Karl Nelson

April 2019 Meeting date: Tuesday, April 9, 2019 at 6:30 pm.

Adjournment & Closing Prayer:

Respectfully submitted by

Tammie Richey, Council Secretary

Monthly Submitted Reports

Pastor's Report - Karen Boda, March 10, 2019

Worship

- Preached and presided at early/late worship services.
- Celebrated BOLD Women's Day, sponsored by WELCA, on Sunday, to uplift the ministry of Women/girls. Women/girls assumed all leadership roles during worship; hymns and the anthem were composed by women.
- Preached/presided at the WELCA Cluster meeting on 3-9. Hosted Marge and Mike Mynhier, Biblical Storyteller, for the WELCA meeting and worship at Faith on 3-10.
- Celebrated Ash Wednesday on 3-6 at 11:00am and 7pm. Wednesday 7pm worship through April 10 will be a meditation on Heidi Haverkamp's book *Holy Solitude* with the *Joyous Light* liturgy by Ray Makeever.

Congregational Care

- Ministered to members and families of Faith through visits, calls and cards.
- Met with Mutual Ministry Team. Added new members Beate Cole and Mark LaRue.

Education

- Held a communion refresher for all children currently communing.
- Completed the study *Inspired* by Rachel Held Evans at Wednesday evening Dinner and Discussion.
- Led Sunday School for Adults each week on the lectionary.
- Preschool – Led Bible Babble (chapel) each week. Attended Preschool Board Meeting.
- Hosted Shades Valley and Shepherd of the Hills for a discussion on the upcoming Bishop election at the Synod Assembly this May. Twenty-six attended.
- Faith had eleven of our members attend worship and study with Pr. Joseph Ellwanger at Shepherd of the Hills, 3/3. Pr. Ellwanger was active in Birmingham and Milwaukee, fighting the “holy struggle” against injustice through non-violence.

Outreach

- Concluded annual Epiphany food drive to support T.E.A.M. The Sunday School children and Connie Waylander (plus some other helpers) packed up and delivered the food.
- Featured one of the quilts made by Faith for Lutheran World Relief on the entry wall. It's beautiful!

Stewardship

- Attended Stewardship Brainstorming meeting 3-11.
- Plan to attend with others from Faith the “Giving Freedom: A Right-Side-Up Approach to Church Fundraising” at Candler School of Theology at Emory in Atlanta on Saturday, March 23.

Other

- Participated in the Church work day.
- Attended Synod Compensation Team meeting to discuss compensation survey. Beginning work to define Women in Ministry effort for Region 9 and the Southeastern Synod.
- Attended *Fearless Dialogue* at Eastlake UMC on Feb. 26. This was an excellent opportunity to spend time with a very diverse group from Birmingham and really talk/listen to each other. <http://www.fearlessdialogues.com/>
- Upcoming: Plan to attend on 3-14 a faith leader's gathering to discuss bringing the Jefferson County Memorial from the EJI Legacy Memorial to Birmingham.
- Training for Eucharistic Ministers will be held 3-13 after worship.

Policies and Procedures Committee

- The Policies and Procedures Committee met on Sunday, March 10 to begin looking over the suggestions from the Finance Committee and will meet again on Sunday, March 17 to continue this process.
Submitted by Linda Herold

Fellowship

- 25 people attended the Pancake supper on Tuesday, March 5th. Planning is underway for the Fish Fry on Good Friday, April 19th at 6:00 pm. Looking ahead to May, there will be a bake sale and concessions for sale at the yard sale on 5/3 & 5/4.
Submitted by Marsha Craig



Worship Service: 8:30 am
 Sunday School: 9:15am
 Worship Service: 10:30 am
 Coffee Fellowship: 11:45 am
 Choir Practice: 12:15 pm

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Thursday 9 am to 2 pm
 Friday 9am to 1pm

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 www.flc-al.org

Hard copies of The Scroll can be picked up from the
 Secretary’s desk.

Faith Lutheran Staff

Rev. Karen Boda, Pastor
 Terrie Awtrey, Preschool Director
 Martha Lewis, Secretary
 Adam Bowles, Keyboardist
 Gail Kohser, Parish Nurse

2019 Church Council

President - Linda Herold
 Vice President - Tim Awtrey
 Secretary - Tammie Richey
 Treasurer - Fred Ehrensperger
 Financial Secretary - Rick Yarbrough

2019 Liaisons

Education: Mary Yarbrough
 Evangelism: Troy Nelson
 Fellowship: Pat Holman
 Finance: Fred Ehrensperger
 Mutual Ministry: Jeannine Spann
 Outreach/Social Ministry: Karl Nelson
 Property: Tim Awtrey
 Stewardship: Skip Craig
 Worship and Music: Beate Cole
 Youth: Amy Hollar
 TEAM: Connie Waylander

Attention Thrivent Members:
 If you have any questions about Thrivent Choice,
 please see Skip Craig for more information

The deadline for the May 2019 Scroll is April 26

Information received after this date is not guaranteed to be included. Email submissions to the
 church office - flcoffice1@gmail.