

Greetings!

When I need to decompress, you'll find me on our porch with a diet coke and some pretzels. I'll be stretched out on the couch with a book in my hand. There's nothing better than a good book!

If you know me, you know that I'm a reader. I'm sitting in my kitchen as I write this and there are no less than five partially finished books in my line of site. *Just Mercy* by Bryan Stevenson – a very disturbing must read for everyone. *A Gentleman in Moscow* by Amor Towles – a beautiful story! *Everything Happens for a Reason, and Other Lies I've Loved* by Kate Bowler – a prosperity gospel Christian who faced a cancer diagnosis at age 35. *When a Father Loses a Son* by Herbert W. Chilstrom – he's the first presiding bishop of the ELCA. *The Great Alone* by Kristen Hannah – everyone needs a good beach book. I'm sure there are more tucked just out of site. I read books. I read blogs. I read the news. I read, read, read.

Do you read? Someone asked me one day if in the Lutheran Church we are *allowed* to read a certain kind of book. They had been warned by their pastor not to read certain things and only to use one type of Bible. This question has puzzled me since the day I was asked. I'm a huge proponent of reading, but even more, I'm a huge proponent of reading anything and everything that I can. I read things that I like and things I don't like. I read things that I agree with. I read things that I disagree with. If we only read a certain genre, a certain author, a certain philosophy, only fiction or only non-fiction, or only a single political leaning, how will we grow? How will we be exposed to new thoughts and ideas? I believe that we should read everything but be informed about what and who we are reading.

Do you read the Bible? There are different translations and paraphrases. Everything from the *King James* translation written in 1611 to *The Message*, a paraphrase written in 2002. Some translations are at a fifth-grade reading level, some at a twelfth. There are different books in the Bible by different authors. From the poetry of Psalms to the "theologically dense and syntactically awkward" writing that sometimes trips us up in Romans to the stories of the Old Testament.

Challenge yourself this summer to read a book you haven't read or haven't read in a while. Challenge yourself to read something in the Bible – we Lutherans are not always as biblically literate as some of our other Christian friends. If the Bible is overwhelming, read the lectionary each week to prepare for worship. Hint: the week's lessons are listed in the Tuesday email or on the last page of the Worship Folder. Read the Bible *and* read about your faith. *Christ in Our Home* is a great little devotional, as are *Listening to Your Life* by Frederick Buechner and *A Year with C.S. Lewis*. Read books about justice and mercy, about giving as Jesus gives.

No matter what, just read...and let me know what you're reading. I'd love to hear!

Blessings,
Pastor Karen



Committee and Ministry Reports

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

Opening Devotions: Beate Cole

Members present: Skip Craig, Linda Herold, Fred Ehrensperger, Pastor Boda, Troy Nelson, Beate Cole, Mary Yarbrough, Pat Holman

Review & Approve May Minutes: Approved: first, Fred Ehrensperger, second, Pat Holman

Treasurer's Report:

Down \$900 for the month

Approved: first, Linda Herold, second, Mary Yarbrough

Pastor's Report:

Worship

- Preached and presided at early/late worship services.
- We give God thanks for each of these young people and what God is doing in their life.
 - Baptized Adam Ford on 5/12.
 - Celebrated the Rite of Confirmation for five youth on 5/20 – Ky-lin Berg, Mia Graham, Devin Kennedy, David May, and Olivia Nafziger.
 - Blessed the high school graduation of Noah Graham on 5/29. We were honored to have Noah sing the anthem that day.
- Had our first Summer Choir, welcoming all who wanted to sing in the choir for a single Sunday. Thank you – the hymn was glorious! Next up is the Men's Summer Choir on July 1.
- As requested, we will sing one contemporary song each month this summer. First up is *Lord, I Lift Your Name on High* on 6/24.
- We were honored to have Tim Awtrey lead Faith in the Service of the Word on 6/3 and Pr. Pauline Fazzaro preach and preside on 6/10 while I was at Synod Assembly and Affirm.

Congregational Care

- Ministered to members and families of Faith through hospital, rehab center, and home visits, phone calls and cards.
- Ministered to Angeline Starr and her family. We mourned her death on 5/16/18

Education

- Led weekly Adult Sunday School classes on the lectionary except for last Sunday of the month,

when Linda Nelson led the class using *The Wired Word*.

- Led Dinner and Discussions each Wednesday on the Book of *Acts*. This group will be on summer break until July 25.
- Led Preschool Chapel for our littlest ones each Wednesday. Attended the final program for the Preschool.
- Attended the Preschool Advisory Board meeting on 5/5.

Outreach

- Visited Clay Elementary School and Principal Dr. Sharon Gallant with Linda Herold. We are investigating possible opportunities for Faith to serve that community.
- Organized with Linda Nelson our first Intergenerational Outreach Summer Sunday School. We will tie fleece blankets to give to the Health Room at Clay Elementary to warmly wrap those children who are ill or in need of a hug. Thrivent Action Teams will provide the funding.

Other

- Attended a meeting for our Diaspora Conference at Shades Valley with Skip Craig (Pres), Linda Herold (VP), and Dennis and Paula McMillan (scheduled Synod Assembly attendees). Approximately 25 attended to discuss Conference representation within the Synod, the upcoming Bishop election, and the fabulous things happening in our congregations. There is much for which to give God thanks!
- Met to kick-off the Policies and Procedures Team.
- Attended a meeting for the Synod Compensation Committee.
- Attended Synod Assembly, June 1-3 in Chattanooga with Linda Herold and Alan Boda. In addition to the Plenary Sessions and fabulous Worship, I
 - attended First Call Training on "The Rostered Minister's Role in Advocacy".
 - attended a workshop by Pr. Terrie Stagner-Collier on *Characteristics of Pastors in Growing Congregations*, the topic of her sabbatical.
 - led a workshop entitled *Compensation and Benefits Guidelines*. A major focus of the workshop included Flexible Ministry Options for Rostered Leaders.

- spoke to the Plenary briefly about the Lutheran Formation Experience and the Candidacy Process.
- Served as staff Member at Affirm, June 8-15, University of West Alabama for Bridges Unit of 17 11th and 12th graders. Five of our youth attended Affirm and Terrie Awtrrey served as a staff member too. It was a fabulous experience. Thank you, Faith Lutheran, for supporting our youth at this event and supporting my involvement.

Committee & Ministry Reports

Property:

- Emergency repair of ac unit that feeds the classrooms after blocked overflow drain leaked into the back hallway and choir room closet.
- Continued lawn and grounds maintenance – thanks to Harold Utphall and Wayne Graham for the work on the bank and ditch.
- Will replace the kitchen cooktop after conferring with the primary users. One consideration is the ability to “lock” controls so that there is no accidental usage.
- We discussed various options for installing a cross in the front of the building. Also discussed adding a cross to the existing sign. One example is at Faith Methodist church in Pinson. There is also a possibility of back lighting the cross which would entail some additional electrical work. Project could also provide some additional lighting for the interior sanctuary window. After looking at a number of web site offerings, we decided it might be a good idea to contact Seay Construction for recommendations or possible installation.
- The property committee is recommending that an ad-hoc committee be established to work on this project and make a presentation to the congregation before proceeding on a final design.

Finance:

- Property insurance will go up \$350/year

Social Ministry Committee:

- Community kitchen continues to be successful over the summer months
- Received email from Linda Herold and Pastor Karen in regard to assisting with projects at Clay Elementary. We will be ready to help when needed.
- Working also on a project for August during the intergenerational Sunday School
- The next meeting has not been scheduled yet but will most likely schedule it after a school project has been identified.

Communication:

- Mark Craig continues to work on streamlining the website.
- All Personally Identifiable Information (PII) has been removed from the website, including birthdays and anniversaries from the Scroll pdfs. This was a recommendation from the church insurance review.
- Mark Craig is also working to put the church on the map, literally, with emails out to Google, MSN (Bing), and Apple to add “Faith Lutheran Church” icon on their maps. This will just be another way we can identify and help people find us.
- Mark Craig continues to research the benefits of TITHE.LY; awaiting a demo.

TEAM: Connie Waylander

New facility has opened; all is going well.

Updates:

- Policy & Procedures Team progress
 - Met twice; starting with the Children and Youth Abuse Policy
 - Meeting 6/24 with Education and Preschool to share thought process and gather feedback; after changes are incorporated, the policy will come to Council for approval
- Mutual Ministry Team 1st meeting
 - First meeting 6/28; team includes Dennis McMillan, Linda Nelson, Jeannine Spann (Council rep)
- Car sale progress
 - Paperwork is all straight; no bids in the first round
 - Next step: try to sell the car to the public
 - Motion to change the price to \$1500: first, Fred Ehrensperger, second, Pat Holman
 - We will announce this first to the congregation verbally and through Worship Folder and Tuesday email, then announce to the public.
- VBS background check progress
 - Request sent out to the teachers; requested that it be finished by July 1
- Synod approval of revised constitution
 - Constitutions are approved at the September Synod Council meeting. Ours will go before the Council at that time.

Old Business:

- Council priorities of Outreach and Evangelism.
 - Evangelism: no update; We will likely need to gather additional resources to work on this.
 - Outreach

- visit to Clay Elementary
 - Linda Herold and Pastor Karen met with Dr. Sharon Gallant (principal) and Amanda Dobbins (bookkeeper)
 - there are needs for the Health Room, a desire to involve parents, a dream for a Sensory Room
 - possible drive in August for Health Room supplies (Band-Aids, underwear, socks, antibiotics, etc.)
 - Intergenerational Outreach Sunday School – one each month in the summer
 - Staff performance evaluations process
 - Desire to do evaluations for all paid staff by the end of July
 - Involves position descriptions, feedback from the congregation, and written evaluations
 - Continued discussions about how committees can create more opportunities for youth to serve, including worship, VBS, etc.
 - Update on addition of cross to exterior of building
 - Looking at something similar to Pinson United Methodist Church.
- 
- Will Daum will contact Seay Construction and recruit a small team to investigate.

New Business:

- Synod Assembly update by attendees. Formal report attached.
 - showed: <https://www.elca-ses.org/videodetail/2018-synod-assembly-2017-elca-year-in-review-11454159>
- Possible property donation to Faith
 - Skip will contact a realtor for some advice
- God's Work Our Hands in September.
 - This is an ELCA wide day of service in local communities, Saturday, Sept. 8
 - Desire by council to work with Clay Elementary. Looking for someone to head this up.

- Preschool year-end report/update. Formal report attached.
 - Motion to approve hiring of one new preschool teacher for a new three day per week class of two-year olds for Fall 2018
 - Approved: First, Linda Herold. Second, Fred Ehrensperger.
 - Motion to approve the use of the conference room by the Preschool on Monday/Wednesday/Friday from 9am-1pm
 - Approved: First, Linda Herold. Second, Fred Ehrensperger.
- Motion to approve the use of church facilities on Saturday, November 17th, for the Ehrensperger memorial blood drive
 - Approved: First, Linda Herold, Second, Will Daum
- Audit
 - Books turned over by Fred Ehrensperger to Ms. Bernie Gregson

July 2018 Devotions: Fred Ehrensperger

July 2018 Meeting date: Tuesday, July 10th, 6:30pm

Adjournment & Closing Prayer: First, Troy Nelson, Second, Pat Holman.

JULY BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Susan Jones
 Kristen Svoboda
 Mike Diuguid
 Fred & Wanda Quinn
 Chris & Tiffany Fortunis
 Scott & Karla Gealow
 Bill Owens
 Alan Boda
 Al & Janet Awtrey
 Richard & Emily Ford

CLIPPED WINGS LUNCH

Clipped Wings – A Change is Blowing in the Wind --- In July we will meet on Wednesday, July 11th at 9:30 am at the Regal Trussville in the Walmart Shopping Center to see the animated movie “SING”. It promises to be delightful and so much fun and admission is only \$1, which should leave us a little to splurge on our lunch afterwards at Costa’s Mediterranean Café, practically next door.

Everyone is invited. Please let Beate Cole know if you’d like to join us for this outing. Sometimes we could really use an extra chauffeur or two. Looking forward to sharing a fun time with you.

GRASS CUTTING LIST

Please sign up on the bulletin board to take a turn cutting the grass around the church and on the playground during the summer months.



COMMUNITY KITCHEN

Please consider volunteering to serve in the Community Kitchen. No experience is necessary just a willingness to serve.

A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board

or you may let Mark Richey know that you can help.

Mark's cell phone number is (205) 914-2269.

Details:

Location: Grace Episcopal Church 5712 1st Avenue North, Birmingham, AL 35212

Dates: Second Saturday of each month

Time: 11:15 a.m. to approximately 1:30 p.m.

PARISH NURSE NOTES

Do you eat oatmeal for breakfast? We are told that breakfast is the most important meal. Getting a healthy start to the day is vital. Well, if all that is true, I have a tip to give you an even bigger boost. Namely, add chia seeds to your oatmeal.

Since oatmeal contains a beta-glucan soluble fiber it helps balance blood sugar levels, lowers bad cholesterol and strengthens the heart. It also contains protein, fiber and minerals. All of which you probably already knew. Now, look at adding chia seeds which provide omega 3 and 6 and provides more calcium than milk in addition to having antioxidant and anti-inflammatory benefits.

I will have copies of the oatmeal-chia recipe available if anyone is interested in trying this. Just see me Sunday morning as I plan to resume my blood pressure ministry in July.

Gail Kohser

MANY THANKS!

This year at affirm was the best year yet! I couldn't have had as much fun as I did without this wonderful congregation! I will always remember how great my large and small group was! I was enrolled in the wrong group, so I was with older kids which made me pretty shy and nervous. but by the end of the week, I had tons of new friends and a bigger family. The dance was super fun as well! Affirm changed me in the best way possible. Thank you! Love,

Mia Graham

Dear Faith Lutheran,

Thank you for sending me to Affirm. I had a great time this year. I enjoyed many parts of Affirm, including seeing my friends from last year and making new friends this year.

This year I was put in Missionaries, which meant we went out to do mission projects during the week. On Wednesday, we went to a house called the Wesley House. We did some work on it, which involved painting, trimming bushes, and laying out gravel in the parking lot. I was part of a group of six kids who went to a nearby country club to collect pine straw that was donated. We took it back to the Wesley House and laid it around the bushes. On Thursday, we had options to go to an elderly nursing home to help them out, go to the Methodist Church and make tater tot casserole for homeless people, or go back to the Wesley House to finish and clean up from the previous day. I went to help the elderly people and had a great time. I really enjoyed Affirm this year and can't wait for next year.

Devin Kennedy

Thanks for sending me to Affirm. It was so much fun, and I can't wait to go again next year! I enjoyed large and small groups, and the ending dance. During worship, I learned a lot about God and my relationship with Jesus. I love you guys. You do so much for me.

Cayden Nadeau

Dear Faith Family,

I graciously thank you all for giving me the necessities to attend Affirm yet again. This camp allows my faith to flourish and friendships to strengthen, but none of it would be possible without your financial and emotional support. Thank you so much for this wonderful experience! Sincerely,

Ky-Lin Berg

I would like to thank Faith Lutheran with the opportunity to go to Affirm. This was my first time and I was not sure if I would like it. I had a very good time. I'm looking forward to next year and other times where I can meet up with my friends I have made. And, thanks for the goody bag that was made for each of us. Thanks so much

David May

EDUCATION

Inter-generational Outreach Sunday school!

We had a great turnout for our first Outreach Sunday school on 6/24. Twenty-five of us tied "Feel Better" fleece blankets for the Health Room at Clay Elementary. We pray these blankets will bless the children who need a special healing hug. A Thrivent Action Grant paid for the material and the day was sponsored by the Adult Sunday school class. Our next Outreach Sunday for all ages, is Sunday, 7/29 at 9:15am. Join us!



Do you like to sing? Make a joyful noise?

Come and join your friends and all who love to sing for our special music Summer Sundays. On 7/1, we will welcome all boys & men to join the men of the choir. On 7/22, we will welcome all girls & women to join the women of the choir at 10am to learn a simple anthem and then sing for the 10:30am worship service. Join us & let's fill the sanctuary with many, many joyful voices!

PRESCHOOL CORNER

Our little ones are having a great time this summer learning all about ocean life. They are enjoying finding shells & other surprises in the sand table. The dolphin snack was a big hit! Feel free to take a stroll down the hallway and check out some of our artwork.



FAITH LUTHERAN PRESCHOOL ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES Tuesday, June 5, 2018

The meeting was called to order by Advisory Board Chair, Linda Herold.

Board Members Present: Terrie Awtrey, Pastor Karen Boda, Will Daum, Linda Herold, Paula McMillan, Mary Yarbrough.

Members Absent: None

Opening Prayer: Pastor Karen

Preschool Happenings: Terrie reported on the summer program. Currently, 8 students are attending with 3+ drop-ins. Donna and Michelle are the teachers. Tuition is the same as during the school year with a \$20 supply fee. Drop ins are \$20/day.

Parent Evaluations: Terrie received 7 of 17 evaluations from the Parent Breakfast. The comments were very positive with the highest scores possible. All evaluations indicated they would recommend Faith's Preschool Ministry to their friends. Terrie will address any specific requests raised on the survey. The board felt that the breakfast and the survey in May were a success and plan to repeat these in the fall.

Current Financial Report and Audit: Connie Waylander is working on the financial audit. Heather and Donna will be paid \$20 each for the time they spent completing the background check. All Preschool background checks are completed. The board discussed the need for a yearly budget in order to have a more complete picture of expenses. This will be implemented in late summer. Mary agreed to give the financial report a new look that will be more detailed. Mary and Terrie will look at Accounts Receivable to be sure all payments are up to date. We are currently looking at placing one student on scholarship. Will agreed to help Terrie count and wrap the drink machine money as needed.

Expansion of Preschool Classes: The five-day a week class is on hold until we get more students registered. If Council approves, the board will hire a second two-year old/three-day per week teacher. Terrie will handle advertising the new position. Council will be asked to approve the new teacher and to give permission to use the conference room on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays for stations by the four-year old class. All preschool materials will be removed from the conference room daily at the close of school.

Staff Raises: Based on financial projections presented, the board approved raises for the three current teachers and director effective at the beginning of the fall term. Will moved for the salary increase and Pastor Karen seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Overdue Tuition Letter: Linda will make changes to the Overdue Tuition Letter and it will be kept on the office computer so it can easily be printed and given to the parent by the Director at the appropriate time. The Advisory Board Chairman will meet with the parent to develop a payment plan.

Policies and Procedures Manual Update: Pastor Karen, Terrie and Linda will get together and go through the current manual to make changes and corrections.

Increase Awareness of the Preschool as a Ministry: The board discussed what it means to be a Christian Preschool and determined that we must have a clear mission, write it down, and market it. This will be one of our goals for the coming year. The board also discussed showing a preschool video on a Sunday morning following worship to increase the congregation's awareness of the preschool. This strategy could also be used by other ministries at Faith.

Coordination of Facility Use with Sunday School: The Advisory Board will arrange to meet with the Education Committee this summer to discuss the best and most effective use of the classrooms with a goal to ensure that both Sunday School and Preschool have the materials, configurations, and space required.

Closing Prayer and Adjournment: The next regular Preschool Advisory Board meeting will be held in September and tuition increases will be discussed.

2018 ELCA SOUTHEASTERN SYNOD ASSEMBLY June 1-3, 2018 in Chattanooga, TN

- Assembly Highlights
 - REF: <https://www.elca-ses.org/newsdetail/2018-elca-southeastern-synod-assembly-10566193> (has links to speeches, sermons, photo albums, many other materials)
- Faith Lutheran Church was represented by the following voting members:
 - Pastor Karen Boda
 - Linda Herold
 - Alan Boda (last minute substitution for another member who became ill)
- Pastor Karen
 - Gave a Candidacy Moment to entire assembly on her Southeastern Synod (SES) Lutheran Formation Experience.
 - Led the workshop: "Compensation (and Benefits) Guidelines – It's Not Just About Money! Rethinking How this Tool Can Serve Rostered Ministers and Congregations"
- **Theme:** "Reformation 500 .. Now What?"
Assembly began to consider who God is calling us

to be and what God is calling us to do into the future.

- Over 320 voting members, plus visitors, speakers, and SESYLO (youth) were present (over 400 people total)
- Bishop Gordy's Oral Report:
 - Text: <https://www.elca-ses.org/files/bishop+gordy%27s+spoken+report+to+the+2018+southeastern+synod+assembly.pdf>
 - Thanked all the dedicated people and staff who worked to put the Assembly together.
 - Thanks to the 17 Deans of the SES, of which 5 are leaving (retirement, moving out of their deanery)
 - While church in the West may be shrinking, it is booming in Asia and Africa. Christianity is the fastest growing religion in the world.
 - While we may be nostalgic for the days when pews were filled, he points out that in 1776, none of the 13 original states had even 10% of people affiliated with any religion.
 - Presiding Bishop Eaton has this to say about who we could be in this church and what our role could be in this changing American religious landscape.
 - He says "So be of good cheer, Friends. In spite of what you may have heard, these are good days to be the church. ... Now what? Living and proclaiming and being the good news of Jesus is what. That's the mission to which we've always been called. It's the mission we get to be part of now, here in the Christ-haunted South and around the world."
- The Rev. Karen Castillo, pastor, Iglesia Luterana Agustina de Guatemala, and her sister Ms. Beatriz Castillo, were the honored guests from the ILAG, one of four Southeastern Synod global companion synods. Pastor Castillo spoke eloquently about their ministry and the Milagro "Creating Miracles in Guatemala" program for breaking the cycle of poverty and bringing about change in the lives of women between 12 and 20 years of age.
- **Worship Services every day.** Much care and attention were put into each of these services, each unique in of themselves, and each very much Lutheran:

- Friday worship was a Dinner Church format. Bishop Gordy preached. Guitars, keyboard, percussion.
- Saturday worship was blended worship traditions from our synod's many African descent congregations. The Rev. Tiffany Chaney preached. Chris Clay, St. John's, Knoxville, was the featured musician. (If you haven't heard him, look him up!)
- Sunday worship had a full choir and music ensemble. This service was highlighted by the reception onto the ELCA roster of Word and Sacrament ministers of Crispin Ilombe Wilondja. See his story. The Rev Karen Castillo preached. Full choir (Pastor Karen sang) and small orchestra (Alan played) was led by Ted Wilson (who also orchestrated the music). His jazz arrangement of "A Mighty Fortress" was the postlude – Fabulous!
- With over 400 Lutherans worshipping together, it was quite the experience.
- SES Financial discussions and votes
 - **Important:** New Financial Procedures for making financial contributions to the Southeastern Synod Congregational financial secretaries and individuals are strongly encouraged to send gifts to the synod online. Do not send to MIF in Chicago as it would need to be re-routed back to the SES.
 - For details: <https://se-www.brtsite.com/newfinancialprocedures>
 - The Assembly approved the 2019-20 Ministry Funding Plan (a copy of the Narrative Budget for 2019-20 is available [here](#)), the 2019 Compensation Guidelines, and heard from ministry partner agencies and organizations.
 - Ministry Funding Plan materials that were presented can also be found here: <https://guidebook.com/guide/116583/list/604605/> This includes, among others, Line-by-Line Ministry Funding Proposal for 2019, and the Giving in 2017 by Conference and Congregation.
 - Michelle Angelet, Assistant to the Bishop, presented findings from Portico data regarding Clergy Compensation gaps between male and female clergy.
- A hearing for the ELCA Draft Social Statement on Women and Justice was held on Saturday. To learn more and to provide your feedback to this draft, click [here](#).
- Deacon Rothmeyer provided the report of the Churchwide Representative on behalf of ELCA Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton. She shared the work that this church does together using the 2017 Year in Review video. Bishop Eaton provided greetings through her We are Lutheran video.
- Elections:
 - Prayers were raised prior to each vote by the Assembly Chaplain, The Rev. Susan Thisell, pastor of Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd, Garden City, GA
 - Candidates for VP gave timed speeches. Bios for candidates of other positions were made available in advance or at the assembly.
 - The Southeastern Synod elected a new Vice President. Mr. Imran Siddiqui (left) was elected to serve as the Vice President on the first ballot. He is a member of St. John's, Atlanta, GA and was serving his second term on the Synod Council when elected. Ms. Doris Underwood (below), Messiah, Montgomery, AL completed the second of two available terms as Vice President with this Synod Assembly. She was thanked for her eight years of service in this role, for her leadership of the Synod Council and for her commitment to the gospel.
 - Synod Council Members
 - Voting Members of the 2019 Churchwide Assembly
 - Alternate Voting Members of the 2019 Churchwide Assembly
- Celebrated anniversaries (on the 5's)
 - Pastor ordination anniversaries (1590 combined years of ordination in these anniversaries)
 - Congregational anniversaries
 - Oldest was Immanuel Lutheran in Blountville, TN which celebrated its 225th anniversary!
- The Assembly engaged in two "Southeastern Synod 2019 - Now what? Discerning our future" conversations. On Saturday morning, Bishop Gordy led the discussion and invited participants to think about who we are as a synod and where God may be calling us. His script and PowerPoint presentation can be found [here](#). On

Saturday afternoon, ELCA Churchwide Representative Deacon Sue Rothmeyer led the second part of this conversation inviting the Assembly to begin to think about who God might be calling to lead the Southeastern Synod as bishop. The script and accompanying exhibit can be found [here](#). The Southeastern Synod will elect a new bishop in 2019. She/he will begin to serve on September 1.

- Workshops
 - Linda attended:
 - Managing Risk: Steps Toward Congregational Best Practices.
 - Learn About the ELCA Draft Social Statement on Women and Justice
 - Lunch and Conversations: Council Presidents and Vice Presidents Learn About a New Synod Initiative to Connect Congregations and Lay Leaders
 - Alan attended:
 - Becoming the Beatitudes – ways to approach living the Beatitudes.
 - “A Voice In The Wilderness” – Advocacy about addressing the inter-related social issues that are the root causes of Hunger and Poverty. Focus was on plight of Human Trafficking in our part of the country and how important political advocacy is to working to address these social issues.
 - Gathering/discussion for Spouses of Rostered Ministers.
- All Synod Assembly Resource Materials can be found here: <https://guidebook.com/guide/116583/>



Linda Herold, Pastor Karen and Alan Boda at Assembly



Playing the prelude for Sunday Worship



WOMEN OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA (WELCA):

Who Are These People??

They are women who attend an Evangelical Lutheran Church in America that may be found in the United States and Caribbean. They are women who attend an ELCA church located in the State of Alabama. They are women who attend ELCA churches found in and around Birmingham and from Alabama’s Gulf Coast to North Alabama. They are women who attend Faith Lutheran in Clay. I am one. You are one. The woman you sit next to in church, stand next to in the communion line, worship and pray with, greet at Coffee Fellowships, share time together in small groups, serve together on ministry teams, join together with helping to make our VBS week an exciting and educational time for the children, ALL of us are Women of the ELCA. You may have been serving as a Woman of the ELCA and were not even aware. And we may range in ages from 14 to 100!!

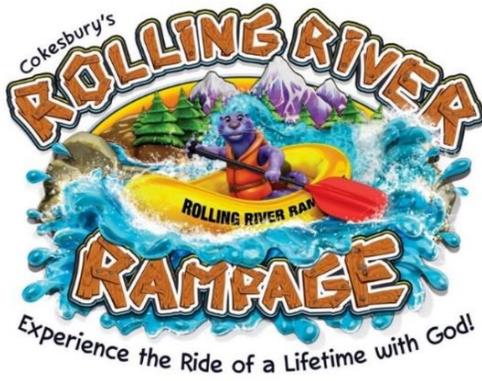
Women of the ELCA is not a “club.” Women of the ELCA is not an organization you “join.” Women of the ELCA is an organization one participates in through a variety of different venues and ministries. There are no “dues” to be paid but there are our gifts of offerings, time and talents to be shared.

OUR MISSION: Mobilizing women to act boldly on their faith in Jesus Christ.

OUR PURPOSE: As a community of women created in the image of God, called to discipleship in Jesus Christ, and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we commit ourselves to grow in faith, affirm our gifts, support one another in our callings, engage in ministry and action, and promote healing and wholeness in the church, the society, and the world.

In the upcoming months, you will discover additional Scroll articles, Worship Bulletin inserts, visual materials and opportunities to learn more about this organization of women who gather in more than 7,000 locations in the U.S. and the Caribbean, for service, study, advocacy, fellowship and more! There is a place for you in Women of the ELCA!!

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL



Theme: Rolling River Rampage:
Experience the Ride of a Lifetime
with God

Bible Verse Focus: When you pass
through the waters, I will be with you.
(Isaiah 43:2)

Dates: July 16 – July 20, 2018

Time: 6:00PM – 8:30PM Monday
through Friday

Crew leaders are needed for the week of VBS. Each leader will be responsible for groups of about 5 children leading them from station to station. You can work random nights or all nights that week. Whatever works for you. There will be a training class prior to VBS this year.

Help is also needed:

- prior to the week making decorations
- putting up decorations 7/14 and after the 10:30am service on 7/15
- converting the rolling river back into a church at the end of VBS

It's a lot of fun so please make plans to plug in somewhere and join in the adventure. Contact Mary Yarbrough if you have questions.



Dinner & Snack donations for VBS

Please see list on bulletin board for quantities needed & to sign up.
Monetary donations are also welcome

Mac & cheese
Apples
Oranges
Bananas
Watermelon
Apple sauce
Large marshmallows
Pretzel sticks

Potato chips
Boxes of Jell-O (any flavor)
String licorice
Graham crackers
Vanilla icing
Snack size TWIX candy bars
Goldfish
Teddy Grahams

All non-perishable items may be brought any time before Sunday, July 15th. Please mark them "VBS" and leave them in the kitchen. Contact Marsha Craig for more details.

JULY 2018 WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

8:30 a.m.

July 1 Asst. Min. – Linda Herold

July 8 Asst. Min. – Dick Brittain

July 15 Asst. Min. – Paula McMillan

July 22 Asst. Min. – Tim Awtrey

July 29 Asst. Min.–Dennis McMillan

10:30 a.m.

Ushers: Merle Wentzell, Fred Quinn & Tristan Hollar

Greeters: Sonja Utphall & Sharon Towry

July 1

Asst. Minister: Mark Craig

Lector: Shannon Graham

Acolyte: Michael May

Crucifer: David May

Comm. Presenters: Karl & Linda Nelson

July 22

Asst. Minister: Tim Awtrey

Lector: Will Daum

Acolyte: Ava Nafziger

Crucifer: Olivia Nafziger

Comm. Presenters: Terrie Awtrey & Amy Hollar

July 8

Asst. Minister: Sharon Towry

Lector: Wanda Quinn

Acolyte: Michael May

Crucifer: David May

Comm. Presenters: Fred & Wanda Quinn

July 29

Asst. Minister: Dennis McMillan

Lector: Linda Herold

Acolyte: Mia Graham

Crucifer: Devin Kennedy

Comm. Presenters: Ky-lin Berg & Mia Graham

July 15

Asst. Minister: Troy Nelson

Lector: Matt Kirksey

Acolyte: Lilly Nafziger

Crucifer: Ky-lin Berg

Comm. Presenters: Matt & April Kirksey

Jane Wuerdeman passed away on June 26. Please keep her family in your prayers, especially her children, David, Dianne and Donna.

Please keep the Solwold and McRae families in your prayers this week as they mourn the passing of Gene and Wyomie's grandson, Matthew.

Members: Al Awtrey, Nancy Doane, Bill Holsombeck, Gail Kohser, Teresa McCullough, Dennis McMillan, Nancy Quinn, Tammie Richey, Johnnie Starnes & Raymond Spitzer

Military: Conner Butz (son of Terry & Sharon Butz), Adam Ford (son of Richard & Emily Ford), Bailey Quinn (Grandson of Fred & Wanda Quinn)

Homebound: Dorothy Body & Norma Holsombeck **Friends:** Cooper League (friend of Sarah Nafziger), Brandie Felice and family (friend of Dick Brittain), 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); David Spitzer, Mark Spitzer, Jeff Spitzer (sons of Raymond & Ruth Spitzer); Mary Hamson (Al Awtrey's sister), Martin & Doreen Henry (friends of Johnnie Starnes); Kenneth & Ina Piper (cousins of Fred & Joyce Ehrensperger); Claire Reeves & Candi Prejean (friends of the Ehrensperger Family); Edwin Thrasher (father of Mike Thrasher) Brian Poole, Gracie Ann Poole, Jackson McCullough, Kathie Finley (friends of Wanda Quinn), Reba Roberts (friends of Fred & Wanda Quinn), Kay Roussell (sister in law of Havis Johnson); Jeany King Salvagio (friend of Ken & Paulette King); Shirley Sanders (niece of Norma Holsombeck); Patricia Hofer & Winnie Starnes (sisters of Merle Wentzell); Pat Hall, Bonnye Stitt (friends of Hazel Wentzell); Emily Stephenson (friend of the Diuguid family), Marlene Meyers (wife of Pastor Donald Meyers); Donald Hatcher, Sr. (husband of Pastor Marie Hatcher), Eddie Adams and Callie Hartley (friends of Denny & Paula McMillan), Bradley Family (friends of Noah Graham), Neysa Charie Rhodes & Rosemary Coyle (friends of Sue Kuechenmeister), Michelle Miskelley (friend of Marsha Craig), Willard Leopard (brother of Wyomie McRae), Joanne Sencindiver (sister of Linda Herold) **College Students:** Allison Boda (Furman), Andrew Boyd (UAH), Caroline Hoffman (Jacksonville State), Tristan Hollar (MSU), Sarah Nafziger (UAB), Troy Nelson (UAB), Luke Richey (Auburn) & Courtney Yarbrough (UAB)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Summer Singers (men only)	2 Preschool closed	3 6:30pm Executive Committee Meeting	4  Preschool & Church office closed	5 Secretary off 6:30pm Property Committee Meeting	6 Preschool & Church office closed	7 9am VBS workday
8 Remembrance of AI May during 10:30am Worship VBS training following worship	9 9am Preschool	10 10am Quilters 6:30pm Council Meeting	11 10am Clipped Wings at Regals Cinemas to watch SING, with lunch following at Costas	12	13	14 Community Kitchen 9am VBS Set Up
15 VBS set up following 10:30am Worship	16 9am Preschool 6-8:30pm VBS	17 10am Quilters 6-8:30pm VBS	18 9am Preschool 6-8:30pm VBS	19 6-8:30pm VBS	20 9am Preschool 6-8:30pm VBS	21
22 Summer Singers (women only)	23 9am Preschool	24 10am Quilters	25 9am Preschool 6:30pm Dinner & Discussion	26	27 9am Preschool	28
29 9:15am Inter-generational Outreach	30 9am Preschool	31 10am Quilters		July 2018		



Early Worship Service: 8:30 am
Sunday School: 9:15 am
Late 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

Sign up for ENEWS today
go to WWW.ELCA-SES.org

Connect with Faith Lutheran online
Website – www.flc-al.org
Facebook – @faithlutheranclay

The Sermon can be found online each week at
www.flc-al.org

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

2018 Church Council

President-Skip Craig
Vice-President-Linda Herold
Secretary-Will Daum
Treasurer-Fred Ehrensperger
Financial Secretary-Rick Yarbrough

Committee Liaisons

Youth - James Kennedy
Fellowship - Emily Craig
Finance- Fred Ehrensperger
Property-Will Daum
Stewardship -Sarah Nafziger
Evangelism-Troy Nelson
Social Ministry-Linda Herold
Mutual Ministry-Jeannine Spann
Worship and Music-Beate Cole
Education - Mary Yarbrough
Skip Craig
Pat Holman

Faith Lutheran Staff

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

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



From the
EDITOR

The deadline for the
August 2018 Scroll
is July 26th

Information received after this date is not guaranteed
to be included. Please make submissions to the church
secretary or email flcoffice1@gmail.com.