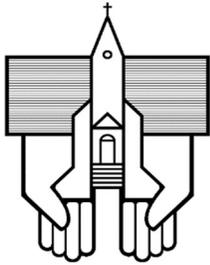


APRIL
2022



Reach Out

Newsletter of Faith Lutheran Church

“See, It Springs Forth



FROM OUR
PASTOR

While this is the month of Easter, as I write we are in the homestretch of Lent. Perhaps you are like me and feelings unusually excited about Holy Week this year, about the promise of doing things we used to do but have fasted from the last two years: processing into worship carrying palms, watching in quiet darkness as the altar is stripped of its adornments on Maundy Thursday, contemplating the gruesome and glorious cross on Friday, gathering around the New Fire at the Vigil before Easter. Then, on Easter Sunday, we long to pull out all the stops: a full liturgical process with shouts of “Alleluia!” I am grinning like a newly large-hearted Grinch just writing these words.

Getting back to things as they used to be has been a deepening hope as we long for a fullness of community and of celebration we have grieved. My question, though, is: Can we really go back to the way things used to be? We have changed in these years, and so has the world in which we live. For those who are learning to live in the wake of loved ones’ deaths, the contrast is especially stark. Yet we are each and all, in some way, rattled and rearranged. We may not know yet exactly what we choose for our next steps; others may have taken a fuller stock of life and are purposeful about what they will—and will NOT—prioritize on the upcoming leg of life. We will be coming back to in-person church life in staggered stages as folks determine comfort with changing conditions. And while I am optimistic that we are through with taking steps forward and then back again, we have learned the need to hold lightly onto cherished plans.

Stirred, stunned, and re-starting as we are, coming back into community and congregational life will offer both joy and challenges. The joy, so far, has been undeniable. The first Sunday we returned to the altar was incredibly moving as I placed bread in your hands for the first time since becoming Faith’s pastor—a high point for me in our frustratingly-slow time of getting to know one another as pastor and people. Awkwardness is also going to be present as even long-time Faith folks get to know one another all over again. And, the crankiness...stress and fatigue and finally being able to relax a bit will, at times, release some of the tension and complaints that have built up within us.

Here is my advice to us all, myself included: let’s embrace the awkwardness, the pinches and pulls, the fact that we cannot simply turn the clock back a couple of years. Let’s embrace the messiness of forgetting one another’s names because our minds are still quite foggy and we’ve not seen one another’s faces in a

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while. Let's help one another focus on the joy of rediscovering life together, even as we support one another in the very real grief and anxiety that will emerge in the months ahead.

We are about to celebrate the Resurrection of Our Lord on Easter Sunday—the day of great joy as we place our hope yet again in the promise that, as Christ has been raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might live in newness of life. What we easily forget in the celebrating is that, after the discovery of the empty tomb, life did not go back to “normal” with just a little extra jolt of joy. Nothing was ever the same again. After a brief fishing sojourn back in Galilee, the disciples set out to new places near and far to announce the resurrection and spread of Way of Jesus around the world.

On the Sunday coming up as I write this letter, we will hear the prophet Isaiah speaking God's word for the Israelite exiles whose homes had been destroyed and lives uprooted by war and defeat. The prophet does not pronounce that things will go back to “normal” as they return home. Instead, he says,

Thus says the Lord, who makes a way in the sea, a path in the mighty waters, ¹⁷who brings out chariot and horse, army and warrior; they lie down, they cannot rise, they are extinguished, quenched like a wick: ¹⁸Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old. ¹⁹I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert. ²⁰The wild animals will honor me, the jackals and the ostriches; for I give water in the wilderness, rivers in the desert, to give drink to my chosen people, ²¹the people whom I formed for myself so that they might declare my praise. (Isaiah 43:16-21)

Things are going to be different, my friends. We are called to move forward in patience and hope as a congregational community, loving one another through the tensions and joys ahead. We are called to figure out, together, how we can serve in ways that hold our neighbors up in hope and proclaim new life in God's undying love. We need not be afraid, ***“for if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall surely be united with him in a resurrection like his.”***

Alleluia!

Thanks be to God!



We will once again have flowers grace the altar on Easter Sunday, April 17. If you would like to purchase or donate towards flowers, please use the bulletin found in the weekly bulletin on April 3 and 10, or you can contact the church office. Payment may be made by check or you can use one of the online giving options (Giving Page of Faith's website or the Give+ app). Plants can be picked up following the 11:00 service. Donated plants will be planted on the church grounds. Orders are due Sunday, April 10



HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Palm Sunday – Sunday of the Passion

April 10, 9:30 & 11:00 AM

Blessing and distribution of palms and processional.

Maundy Thursday

April 14, 7:30 PM

We confess our sins, receive personal or corporate forgiveness.

We remember the Last Supper with Holy Communion.

We strip the altar for Good Friday.

Good Friday

April 15, 7:30 PM

The Adoration of the Cross

Easter Vigil

April 16, 7:30 PM



Resurrection of Our Lord: Easter Day

April 17, 9:30 & 11:00 AM

Holy Communion will be celebrated at both services.

**Don't Let the Easter Joy end! Worship this Easter Season
Sundays, April 24-May 29**



This year the youth at Faith are looking to bring safe Easter Eggs Hunts to you! This is an invitation to all families of Faith, and feel free to share with your families, cousins, and grandchildren who live locally.

On Saturday, April 16, sometime after dark, our youth group members will come to your home and hide Easter Eggs in your front yard for your kids to find in the morning! Eggs are \$20 for 2 dozen, \$40 for 4 dozen, and

\$50 for 8 dozen. You can indicate below if you just want "prizes" or if you want a mix of prizes and candy too (please note we cannot ensure that candy will be nut-free). Payments should be made by check and sent directly to the church office (381 South Branch Road, Hillsborough, NJ 08844), or you can use our online giving system and choose the option for Youth Group Activities.

Please use the link below to complete the Sign Up Form by Sunday, April 3 so we can be sure to have enough prizes, candy, and eggs. This is a fundraiser for the youth group as we look forward to finally being together again this spring. Thank you for supporting our youth group! If you have any questions, contact Debra Porowski at deporowski@gmail.com.

[Easter Egg Sign Up Form](#)

If anyone in the congregation would like to donate to this event, we will collect empty colored plastic eggs and small wrapped candy at church until April 10. Thank you!



Vacation Bible School season is almost here! The Christian Ed Committee has already selected a program for summer 2022, but now we need your help to put on another great VBS event. We are looking for a VBS Coordinator, adult teachers, and teen volunteers. The Coordinator position is the overall "organizer" of the week – coordinating schedules, managing check-in and check-out and being the "face" of Faith. Teachers and teen volunteers need to be available for approximately 4 hours each day, with some prep time added on. If you are interested or have any questions, please reach out to Aubrey Kandell at kandell9@comcast.net.



Spring Work Day

The Property Committee has scheduled a **Spring Work Day** for the church property on Saturday, April 30, beginning at 9:00 AM. Please come out and help with some projects around the church building and grounds.



The Youth Group will be holding a Spring Clothing Drive during April and May. Please watch for information on items that will be accepted in upcoming bulletins.

THANK YOU!
Faith Lutheran Church's 2022 Collection
raised:
\$198 and 10 food items

Thanks to your efforts this year, more dollars have been raised, more lives have been changed and the nation has seen the impact of people working together to help those in need. Thank you for working to transform the time around the Super Bowl into the nation's largest celebration of giving and serving.

SOUPER BOWL OF CARING
tacklehunger.org

February 13, 2022

Alison Reese
Executive Director
Souper Bowl of Caring



Coffee In the Corner – Fellowship takes place each Sunday following worship, but we need your help. Please consider volunteering for set up, clean up or to bring baked goods. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the narthex.

Blanket+ Sunday – This year our congregation donated \$695 for Church World Service disaster relief operations around the world. Thank you for your generosity.



Be sure to stay connected by clicking on the links below to follow us:

www.facebook.com/faithlutherannj and
www.instagram.com/faith_lutheran_hillsborough/



Would you like to be more involved in our worship services? Please contact the church office if you'd like to help out with anything listed below or would like more information. Training is always available!

Acolyte

Youth and adults light the candles during the prelude, carry the cross at special services, present the offering plates to the ushers, collect communion cups and extinguish the candles during the sending hymn.

Altar Guild

A **Coordinator** schedules the volunteers for weekly services and maintains altar guild supplies so the Office Administrator can place orders.

Volunteers work in teams to prepare the altar for Holy Communion and clean up after each service. Preparation is done on Sunday before the first service, cleanup and refreshing is required in between services and the final cleanup is done after the last service. These responsibilities are usually divided up between team members.

Assisting Minister

A lay member who assists in worship by singing the Kyrie, leading the Prayers of Intercession, assisting with communion and speaking the dismissal. They typically wear an alb and process/recess with the Pastor.

Communion Bread Supply

Volunteers provide communion bread (baked at home or store bought) for Sunday and special worship services. The Altar Guild Coordinator schedules the bakers.

Flower Coordinator

Monitor Flower Chart and arrange for altar flowers on Sundays when sponsored by members of the congregation as well as for special services and holidays (Christmas, Easter, etc.).

Lector

Youth and adults read the lessons and psalmody during regular and special worship services. The readings are provided to the volunteer ahead of time and help is available for pronunciation.

Usher

The ushers serve as God's host by assisting visitors and members before and during the worship services. Each service has a team of two ushers and training is provided. Ushers are needed for the weekly and special worship services. The duties include distribution of bulletins, collection of offering, directing people during communion and straightening up the sanctuary after each service.

Worship Assistant Coordinator

Volunteers are needed to schedule each group (ushers, lectors, acolytes, etc.) for worship services.

Hospital Stays/Prayer List Updates

Please notify the church office with any additions, deletions or changes to our prayer concerns or when you or someone you love is hospitalized (also when you or your loved one is released from the hospital).

Need or want to talk with the Pastor?

Please call the church office at (908) 369-3201 or you may email Pastor Jill at pastorcollect@verizon.net.



Please keep in your prayers...

- | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| + Martin Boer | + Lorraine Capobianco |
| + Betty Hannum | + Rudy Harding |
| + Tara Joswick | + Christine Kennette |
| + Jonathan Stein | + Nilza Tyson |
| + Janice Vahl | + Andrew Wishnow |
| + Pastor Zimmermann | |

Our sympathies and prayers are offered for the family and friends of:



- Wayne Swinsburg (Elsa Pappalardo's uncle)
Chris Mastakas (Jim's cousin)
Glenn Miller (cousin of Cathy Staszczyk & Carol Samaniego)
Steve Buccignano (requested by Tom Marvits)
Rose Marie Demetrio (requested by Tom & Colleen Marvits)



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|--|--|---|
| 4/1 Barbara Ossman | 4/11 Pastor Jill | 4/20 Chase Rutherford
Brian Stampoulos
Isabella Volpe
Michael Williams |
| 4/2 Evan Stampoulos | 4/12 Debbie Hart | 4/21 Kayleigh Edolo
Madison Wishnow |
| 4/4 Florette Bodmer | Jan Mallon | 4/23 Jackson Farreny |
| 4/5 Andrew Bourey
Philip Naumovski
Daniel Ponsini
Aidan Villano | 4/16 Patrick Flynn
Christopher Johnson
Zackary Johnson
Jean Lapotasky | 4/24 Sally Schmitz
Sophia Yanuzzelli |
| 4/8 Jeffrey Hockenbury | 4/17 Eric Van Dongen | 4/26 Bryce Carri |
| 4/9 Katherine Merriam
Anthony Turck | 4/18 Robbie Reimann II | 4/27 Charlotte Illein
Phil Ludvigsen
Emily Pedersen |
| 4/10 Danielle Fanizzi | 4/19 Casey Bumgarner
Greg Nobile | 4/28 Georgina Calvi
4/29 Billy Matsil |



**Faith Lutheran Church
Operating Fund
Statement of Revenues and Expenses
For the nine months ending February 28, 2022**

	<u>Approved Budget</u>	<u>Year to Date Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>
Revenue			
Envelopes	\$239,049	\$178,712	\$195,232
Other	<u>37,145</u>	<u>33,434</u>	<u>41,175</u>
Total Revenue	276,194	212,146	236,407
Expenses			
Total Mutual Ministry	209,898	160,213	153,986
Total Worship & Music	4,460	3,405	3,090
Total Property Maintenance	54,827	43,302	36,430
Total Christian Education	3,050	2,700	1,961
Total Youth	1,200	905	375
Total Evangelism	1,985	934	222
Total Social Ministry	25,410	19,057	18,979
Total Finance	41,989	31,624	31,567
Total Stewardship	200	--	--
Capital Improvement Fund	5,000	--	--
Equipment Fund	<u>--</u>	<u>--</u>	<u>--</u>
Total Expenses	348,019	262,140	246,610
Special Benevolence/Social Ministry-Other	<u>--</u>	<u>--</u>	<u>4,761</u>
Total Expenses after Special Benevolence	348,019	262,140	251,371
Income (Loss) Before Budget Gap	(71,825)	(49,994)	(14,964)
Budget Gap	71,825	49,994	--
Income (Loss)	\$ <u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>(14,964)</u>

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APRIL 2022

And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true."

Revelation 21:5

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 9:00 Silver Foxes 10:00 SHIP	2
3 Fifth Sunday in Lent 9:30 Worship 10:30 Adult Forum/ Confirmation Class/ Sunday School 5:00 Bell Choir Rehearsal	4 7:15 Evangelism Committee Meeting	5 7:15 Property Committee Meeting	6 6:30 Soup & Bread 7:00 Senior Choir Rehearsal 7:30 Worship	7	8 9:00 Red, Hot & Gold	9
10 Sunday of the Passion / Palm Sunday 9:30 & 11:00 Worship	11 7:30 Nominating Committee Meeting	12 7:00 Finance Committee Meeting	13	14 7:30 Worship Maunder Thursday	15 Church Office Closed 7:30 Worship Good Friday	16 7:30 Worship Easter Vigil
17 Resurrection of Our Lord / Easter Day 9:30 & 11:00 Worship	18 Church Office Closed	19 7:15 Monthly Council Meeting	20	21	22 Articles for May Reach Out due	23
24 Second Sunday in Easter 9:30 Worship 10:30 Adult Forum/ Confirmation Class/ Sunday School	25 7:30 Long Range Planning Committee Meeting	26	27 1:00 Worship & Music Committee Meeting	28 Reach Out published	29 4/29-5/1 Cross Roads HS & MS Retreat (Gr. 6-12)	30 9:00 Spring Work Day