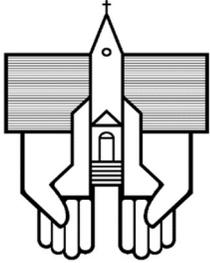


JUNE  
2021



# Reach Out

Newsletter of Faith Lutheran Church

## Pastor's Page

Dear People of Faith,

As the process of "opening up" around us and in our congregation begins in earnest, we have a need to name, acknowledge, grieve, and give over to God many burdens and losses of the many months past. We held a prayer service of Lament and Hope in the nave at Faith and will lead and livestream that same service in its entirety, so that it can be available to us all. While the whole service is of some length, I share here just a few petitions of the prayers of lament and hope that may enable us to move more fully not just into greater opportunities to gather, but also into the new things God will most certainly birth among us.

*It is hard to focus our anger, our frustration, our blame on an adversary we cannot see. Instead, we have been tempted to focus those feelings on one another. Where we have given in to that temptation, help us to be honest with ourselves and one another, to forgive and to receive forgiveness. Remind us that you are always ready to bear our uglier feelings and our cries of anger and pain.*

*LORD, in your mercy,*

**you are our refuge and strength.**

*Fear is intensified by a threat that cannot be seen or heard. In being frozen in the face of the unknown, we have often failed to communicate wholly and lovingly. Lord, clarify and heal misunderstandings born of our immobilization, confusion, and exhaustion.*

*LORD, in your mercy,*

**you are our refuge and strength.**

*Empathy frays quickly when there is no shared truth. And yet, knowledge about the novel coronavirus has had to be built from the bottom up, with much still left to learn. There has been endless disagreement and vitriol surrounding how best to respond to the pandemic. Put back together your people. Do not let forces that profit from dividing us prevail. Led us into Truth through Jesus Christ.*

*LORD, in your mercy,*

**you are our refuge and strength.**

*To lose a loved one at any time is crushing. To grieve without ability to gather in the comfort of community is a tragedy hard to accept. Walk alongside all who have suffered loss without the rituals and gatherings they so longed for and needed.*

*LORD, in your mercy,*

**you are our refuge and strength.**

(Continued on next page)

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Pastor's Page (continued from page 1)

*It is in our times of fear and uncertainty that we most crave to be together in space set aside for worship, among our siblings in Christ. And yet, we have refrained from such gathering for much of this past year, depending on you to the best of our ability to protect one another and the wider community. Heal and sustain leaders who have seemingly endlessly had to make difficult decisions and imperfect plans. We thank you for their willingness to bear and to share the weight of responsibility. For those who have felt neglected or unheard, we ask for healing and for your Spirit of reconciliation and renewal. Your presence never fails. True to your promise, leave no one abandoned.*

*LORD, in your mercy,*

**you are our refuge and strength.**

*In the presence of death and division, other losses may go ungrieved. We lift up to you all people who have missed long-anticipated experiences and rites of passage: graduations, years of college, proms, hellos and goodbyes, holding new grandchildren and hugging elderly parents, sitting by the bedside of our beloved ill. Help us to grieve all of our losses, and give us the gifts of resilience, resurrection hope, and the return of laughter and joy.*

*LORD, in your mercy,*

**you are our refuge and strength.**

*The loneliness and fear of recent months have cut into our sense of wellbeing and left scars. Bring healing to all who suffer exhaustion, burnout, mental illness, addiction, or family discord. May skilled and compassionate help be readily available to all who need it. Give to the whole human family patience and understanding in the long healing process ahead of us.*

*LORD, in your mercy,*

**you are our refuge and strength.**

There were other prayers, petitions, scripture readings and reflections shared during the Service of Lament and Hope. The service closed with this blessing, from a book entitled, *Speak It Plain*:

***May the weary weight you have carried here  
surrender to the power of connection and communion.***

***May the fullness of your actual self find warmth and recognition  
in the presence of Jesus, the risen One.***

***May the healing presence of God flow through you,  
soothing the cracks of your soul, anointing your whole life.***

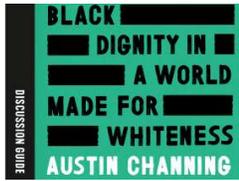
*(from Meta Herrick Carlson, Speak It Plain)*

*Let it be so! Amen.*

In Christ's Peace,  
Pastor Jill



Please join us for worship on Sunday, June 6, at 9:30 AM as we celebrate the installation of Pastor Jill. Bishop Tracie Bartholomew will be preaching at the service which will be held outside (weather permitting), followed by light refreshments.



## SUMMER BOOK DISCUSSION

**Austin Channing Brown's**  
***I'm Still Here: Black Dignity in a World Made for Whiteness***

Wednesdays, July 14-August 4  
7:00 PM (Online & In Person)

Join the discussion of Brown's reflections on her experiences as a Black woman, working and traveling largely in environments with other people of Christian faith, yet still in "a world made for whiteness." Here is a link to the discussion guide we will make use of in most sessions (left side of the web page): <http://austinchanning.com/printables>

Questions or other desire to touch base? Contact Pastor Jill at [pastorcollict@verizon.net](mailto:pastorcollict@verizon.net)

The Christian Education Committee would like to thank the parents, teachers and all who helped with our Sunday School program this past year. During difficult times, you helped to make it possible for us to continue this very important ministry. Special thanks to Kristen Campbell, Ailyn Del Rio, Aubrey Kandell, Laura Naumovski and Sophia Naumovski!



Our graduates will be held up in our prayers during a worship service in June (watch your bulletins for more details). Please notify the church office with the names of any family members or friends that will be graduating this year.

Please provide us with the name of the school from which they are graduating, degree earned, and if known, any immediate plans for after graduation.

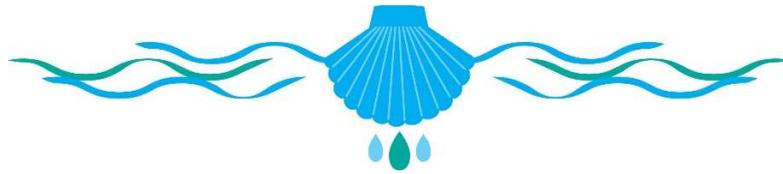


Thank you to all who participated in the Spring Work Day. Your continued commitment to keeping the church property maintained is very much appreciated!



## ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting of the Congregation will be held on Sunday, June 27, following worship.



On Sunday, May 2, we celebrated the Holy Baptism of:



Tyler Wayne More,  
son of Zach and Katie More,  
born on October 7, 2020.  
His sponsors were  
Craig Kraft and Ashley More.



Liam Michael Weisenbach,  
son of Luke and Jessica Wesienbach,  
born on July 29, 2020.  
His sponsors were  
Christopher Fascenelli and Samantha Koffler.



Thank you to all who participated in the Spring Work Day. Your continued hard work to keep the church property maintained is very much appreciated!



## ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting of the Congregation will be held on Sunday, June 27, following worship.



### ALTAR FLOWERS

If you would like to sponsor altar flowers, please see the Flower Chart which will be available at both indoor and outdoor worship services or you can contact the church office to reserve a date. The cost is \$20 per arrangement and you may place your payment in the offering plate or mail it to the church office. If you pay by check, please write "altar flowers" on the memo line. If paying with cash, please write your name and "altar flowers" on the outside of your envelope.



Now that we expect to be able to worship outdoors regularly, we will be celebrating Holy Communion more frequently as well. This means that we also need to make sure that Faith folks who are homebound or otherwise unable to attend outdoor worship are included in the meal. We ask you to inform the church office of your desire to have Communion brought to you, as well as the number of people in your household who would like to receive. We will strive to bring Holy Communion to you as frequently as we can, ideally not less than once per month. Please reach out to Pastor Jill ([pastorcollict@verizon.net](mailto:pastorcollict@verizon.net)) with any questions or concerns about this or any other pastoral matter. Also, if you know of someone who might need home communion or other outreach, let Pastor Jill know.



With the return to in-person worship, we are looking for help with our services. Please contact the church office if you would like to volunteer for any of the roles listed below. No experience necessary...training is available!

**Acolyte** – Participate at the worship services by lighting the candles, carrying the cross at special services, assisting with communion and collection of the offering plates.

**Altar Guild** – Work in teams to prepare the altar for Holy Communion and clean up after worship.

**Assisting Minister** – Assist the Pastor in leading worship services and distribution of communion.

**Communion Bread Supply** – Provide communion bread (baked at home or store bought) for Sunday and special worship services.

**Lector** – Read the lessons and psalmody during regular and special services. The readings are provided in advance of the service.

**Offering Counters** – Teams of two or three work together to count the church offerings on assigned Sundays (typically every six weeks). Open envelopes, count donations, complete Counter Sheet, prepare and deposit money in bank.

**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 who will distribute bulletins, collect the offering, direct people during communion and straighten up the sanctuary after each service.



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**“Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.”**

These are the familiar words we hear before praying the Lord's prayer. Whether we are gathered in a parking lot, the sanctuary or the living room, we worship together. We leave behind what distracts us. We greet each other. We sing praise and thanksgiving. We hear the Word of God, word of life. We ask for God's blessing and pray for all kinds of people, united as one body of Christ. We come to the banquet together to receive Christ's own body and blood.

*As we gather at your table, as we listen to your word  
Help us know, O God, your presence; let our hearts and minds be stirred  
Nourish us with sacred story till we claim it as our own  
Teach us through this holy banquet how to make Love's victory known*  
ELW 522, Text: Carl P. Daw, Jr.

**“What would you miss the most if your church closed?”**

This question was asked of council and staff at one of the Bold Initiative team trainings. The answers were things like youth group, worship, volunteering, intergenerational events, music, and socializing with church friends. All of these things involve *gathering*. After an isolating pandemic year, we are in desperate need of gathering as a church. We are trying to figure out ways to do this safely. We are at different comfort levels and adjusting to crowds. But I feel such hope and joy for the opportunities to gather this summer. I'm just going to put it out there: Please come. Bring a friendly smile. Greet Pastor Jill. Sing outdoors. Commune.

I look forward to worshipping with you soon,  
Becky Majewski

*Gather us in and hold us forever  
Gather us in and make us your own  
Gather us in, all peoples together  
Fire of love in our flesh and our bone*  
ELW 532, Text: Marty Haugen

**Outdoor worship updates (June 6 & 27):**

- Masks are not required
- Sitting in groups is not limited to family, but please leave 6 ft distancing from other groups
- Coffee in the Corner is back!

**Indoor worship updates (June 13 & 20):**

- Please enter quietly between 9:20-9:30 AM. There will be pre-service organ music.
- The congregation can speak and sing in a soft voice.
- Communion kits will be distributed with bulletins.
- Coffee in the Corner will be outside.

**\*\*\*Volunteers are essential to having worship outdoors.  
Please consider signing up to set-up at 9:00 AM or clean-up after worship.\*\*\***



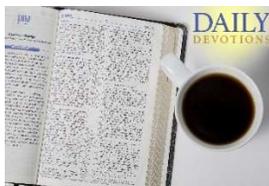
**Coffee in the Outdoor Corner.** Evangelism Committee wants us to be Social again! Weather permitting, with social distancing still encouraged, we hope to have light refreshments on Sundays through June 27th on a table outside the church entrance after service. We need your help for set up/clean up or to bring a light refreshment that is easily portioned (i.e., a box of cookies, a bunch of washed grape sections, a box of coffee or a bottle of juice). Please sign up via this link: [Coffee in the Outdoor Corner Sign Up](#). Questions? Email Kelly Haase at [dnkha@hotmail.com](mailto:dnkha@hotmail.com).



We are in need of coverage for our Church Office Administrator while she is on vacation July 5-9. If you are able to help out any days (or half days!) that week, please contact the church office. Thank you!



Pastor Jill takes her weekly sabbath on Fridays. She is available to attend to emergencies. All other messages will be returned on Saturday or, if not urgent, on Monday morning.



Please contact the church office if you would like a copy of the July/August/September 2021 *Christ in Our Home*.



Please contact the church office if you would like a hard copy of this month's *Reach Out*.



Articles for the July *Reach Out* are due Friday, June 18.

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## 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 [pastorcollict@verizon.net](mailto:pastorcollict@verizon.net).



*Please keep in your prayers...*

+ Megan Barlow	+ Karen Blumenthal	+ Florette Bodmer
+ Martin Boer	+ Lorraine Capobianco	+ Betty Hannum
+ Rudy Harding	+ Tara Joswick	+ Christine Kennette
+ Pastor Zimmermann	+ Jonathan Stein	+ Carol Suiter
+ Janice Vahl	+ Andrew Wishnow	



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

Diana Smith (friend of Teresa Feeser & Ray Richie)  
Bud Owen (requested by Colleen Marvits)  
Mark Allegretti (Bob Hawkes' brother-in-law)

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6/1 Allison Gan	
6/2 Erin Farreny Faith Ludvigsen	
6/3 Andrew Bourey, Jr. Adam Villano	
6/4 Janice Vahl	
6/5 Joseph Cseh	
6/8 Kari Patane Colton Reimann	
6/12 Christopher Hardgrove Daniel Pfau	
6/13 Ray Hannum Allison Puskas	

6/17 Ray Richie
6/18 Jenna Cauda Dick Van Arsdale
6/20 Carl Edolo Jordan Naumovski Lillian Pfau Erica Puskas Jack Trabilisy Tori Wargo
6/21 James Matsil
6/23 Keatyn Sullivan
6/24 Ashley Grega Jim Muller



6/26 Alex Crow David Mallon
6/27 Madison Markota
6/29 James Merriam Chris Truncale



Thank you to all who have faithfully continued to support our ministries while the building has been closed. We ask that you continue to prayerfully consider how you can support these ministries, while not physically present. As always, your regular offering (with or without an envelope) can be mailed directly to the church office (381 South Branch Road, Hillsborough, NJ 08844). In addition, the Finance and Stewardship committees have worked together to provide two additional options. There

is a link on Faith's website, [www.faithlutherannj.org/giving/](http://www.faithlutherannj.org/giving/) that will allow a person to give to a variety of ministries/funds using a bank account, debit or credit card. The same giving options are also available via an app (GivePlus or Give+) that can be installed on your smartphone. With either online giving option, it is easy to create an account, set Faith Lutheran as your church of choice and donate to different funds. Please contact the church office with any questions.



**Faith Lutheran Church  
Operating Fund  
Statement of Revenues and Expenses  
For the eleven months ending April 30, 2021**

	<u>Approved Budget</u>	<u>Year to Date Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>
<b>Revenue</b>			
Envelopes	\$ 262,116	238,988	241,658
Other <sup>1</sup>	<u>15,930</u>	<u>14,928</u>	<u>23,789</u>
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b><u>278,046</u></b>	<b><u>253,916</u></b>	<b><u>265,447</u></b>
<b>Expenses</b>			
Total Mutual Ministry	211,818	194,399	155,702
Total Worship & Music	4,554	4,235	1,179
Total Property Maintenance	60,031	56,796	45,021
Total Christian Education	2,475	2,385	2,563
Total Youth	1,200	1,088	1,665
Total Evangelism	2,240	1,430	849
Total Social Ministry	25,299	23,191	23,655
Total Finance	42,160	38,705	39,034
Total Stewardship	600	--	--
Capital Improvement Fund	5,000	--	--
Equipment Fund	<u>1,000</u>	<u>--</u>	<u>--</u>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b><u>356,377</u></b>	<b><u>322,829</u></b>	<b><u>269,669</u></b>
<b>Income (Loss) Before Budget Gap</b>	<b>(78,331)</b>	<b>(68,913)</b>	<b>(4,222)</b>
<b>Budget Gap</b>	<b>78,331</b>	<b>68,913</b>	<b>--</b>
<b>Income (Loss)</b>	<b>\$ <u>0</u></b>	<b><u>0</u></b>	<b><u>(4,222)</u></b>

<sup>1</sup>PPP Loan of \$15,492.50 included

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3 7:15 Re-Entry Committee Meeting	4	5
6 <b>Second Sunday after Pentecost</b> <b>Pastor Jill's Installation</b> 9:30 Worship (Outdoor) 10:15 Coffee Hour	7 10:00 Staff Meeting	8 7:15 Christian Ed Committee Meeting	9 7:30 Property Committee Meeting	10 6:30 Finance Committee Meeting	11	12
13 <b>Third Sunday after Pentecost</b> 9:30 Worship (Indoor) 10:15 Coffee Hour 6:00 Youth Group	14 10:00 Staff Meeting 7:00 Social Ministry Committee Meeting	15 7:15 Congregation Council Meeting	16	17 7:15 Worship & Music Committee Meeting	18 Articles for August Reach Out Due	19
20 <b>Fourth Sunday after Pentecost</b> 9:30 Worship (Indoor) 10:15 Coffee Hour	21 10:00 Staff Meeting	22	23	24	25	26
27 <b>Fifth Sunday after Pentecost</b> <b>Annual Meeting of the Congregation</b> 9:30 Worship (Outdoor) 10:15 Coffee Hour	28 10:00 Staff Meeting	29	30	<p><b>All worship services will be live-streamed on Faith's Facebook page</b></p> <p><b>Green</b> = Held via Faith's Zoom account</p> <p><b>Blue</b> = Facebook</p> <p><b>Purple</b> = Other Zoom</p>		