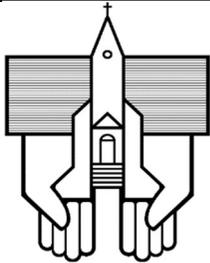


OCTOBER

2021



Reach Out

Newsletter of Faith Lutheran Church

## “Recalculating

Years ago, whenever one moved to a new place, one of the first and most essential purchases would be a good road map. I still recall moving to Philadelphia for seminary and purchasing a whole book of maps, with detailed pages for each neighborhood of the city. Whenever there was roadwork or an accident snarled traffic, it was reassuring to know that there was a well-dog eared resource right there in the front passenger seat.

Ah, how things change! As you might imagine, my 2020 move to Hillsborough was not aided by road maps, but instead, by road APPS. Depending on which app I used, when I encountered problems, I would have to turn off 206 or turn around altogether, waiting for the voice from my phone to inform me it was “recalculating.” Not knowing the area well, I could not picture the possible alternate routes. I was in the position of needing to simply acknowledge that my intended route was blocked, and then trust that I would be directed where I needed to go.

The Church of Christ—and Faith as a community of Christ—are certainly hearing echoes of “recalculating.” In many and various ways, pandemic, polarization, and reshuffling priorities in society have brought us to points when we need to admit that the route we planned or that we prefer are either blocked or are no longer the best way forward. We are navigating new territory, and many times we find ourselves needing to take new roads, new paths even while telling the “old, old story of Jesus and his love.”

When I am weighed down by the enormity of the challenges that change calls forth, I turn back to scripture to remind me that the people of God have always faced impediments and complications. And who is to say that blocked routes are not the recalculations of the Holy Spirit, bringing us to places we might not have gone if our preferred paths were clear?

The Book of Acts is a study in “recalculated” travels. I recently spent a good deal of time “Dwelling in the Word” with a church group I’d been coaching, focusing on one of Paul’s missionary journeys recounted in Acts 16. Paul, Silas and crew were on a ship, headed to share news and teaching with communities of believers they had previously visited. They were fresh from a meeting with the infant church’s leaders in Judea, where the apostles managed conflict among those who thought Gentile believers needed to adhere to the Law of Moses, and those who understood God’s call differently. A difficult compromise had been reached, only to be followed by a falling out between Paul and his companion Barnabas, who consequently parted ways. In the journey Paul now

*(Continued on next page)*

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**Handle With Care** (continued from previous page)

undertakes after these high-stakes conversations, he and his companions encounter obstacles to their intended missionary itinerary:

*“They went through the region of Phrygia and Galatia, having been forbidden by the Holy Spirit to speak the word in Asia. When they had come opposite Mysia, they attempted to go into Bithynia, but the Spirit of Jesus did not allow them...” (Acts 16:6-7)*

Twice in this brief travelogue, Paul is kept from following his own preferred route—the one he also assumed was what God would have him take. I can imagine the frustration of a hard-working, tired Paul thinking he knows where is going and what he must do, getting there to find the “road” (or port) blocked. However, the Holy Spirit is at work, transforming detours into opportunities for proclaiming Jesus to people who need to know God's power and love in the face of Roman oppression and the daily challenges of life. Ultimately, the Spirit gives Paul a vision that strengthens and emboldens his resolve to proclaim good news (Acts 16\_9-10).

As in our lives we resume old paths and find others still blocked, I believe we are called to trust in God to not only provide new ways forward, but also to touch us and others with the Spirit of the living Christ. We are called to pay attention to what is happening within and around us when we meet road blocks, and to consider the possibility that the Spirit is inviting us into encounters with Christ that may change a couple of roads or even whole sections of our itinerary, but that will never change God's promise to be with us always. We are in good company, my friends!

In Christ,  
Pastor Jill

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**Faith's Church Picnic will be Sunday, October 24 (rain-date October 31), from 11:00 AM – ?** Games, Pumpkin Painting, Food and Fellowship! We ask that you bring a side dish, dessert or other item(s) as noted, and a free will offering to cover the cost of burgers, hot dogs and rolls. Any excess funds will benefit the Samaritan Homeless Interim Program (SHIP). Please bring additional lawn games if you have them (corn hole, badminton, croquet, frisbees, etc.) Please sign up in the narthex or online at:

[www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0f45acac2da4ff2-church](http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0f45acac2da4ff2-church)



We are looking for volunteers to serve on Altar Guild. This involves preparing the altar for Holy Communion and cleaning up after worship. Please contact the church office if you are interested in helping out or would like more information. Training can be provided!



## CELEBRATING BAPTISMS



### OWEN SIBILIA

Son of Nilza Tyson and Peter Sibilias  
Born on January 31, 2020  
Reina Sapir and Adam Petsko, Sponsors



### BRODY CARRI

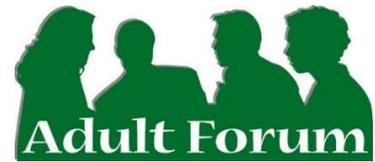
Son of Brianna and Bryce Carri  
Born on June 30, 202  
Jenna Patane and Ryan Carri, Sponsors



Reformation Sunday  
October 31



Mark your calendars for  
Faith's Fall Work Day:  
Saturday, November 13.  
More details to follow!



Join us Sundays at 10:30  
AM in the rear narthex  
as we discuss "Making  
Sense of Scripture."



Saturday, October 2, at 10:00 AM  
Please join us in the church parking lot  
with your beloved pets (on a leash or in a carrier)  
as we offer thanks to God for these creatures  
that bring such joy and comfort to our lives.



**College Care Packages.** We are looking for help with donating items for the college care packages the Evangelism Committee will be sending out. Small items such as snacks (no chips please as they get crushed during shipping) and stress reliever items can be placed in the box in the narthex. Monetary donations towards the purchase of these items are also welcome and may be placed in the offering plate. If donating by check, please write "College Care Packages" in the memo line, if donating with cash, please place it in an envelope with "College Care Packages" on the outside (envelopes will be available on the usher table in the narthex). Boxes will be assembled on Wednesday, October 27 at 7:00 PM. All are welcome to come and help! Thank you!

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**College Addresses.** Please contact the church office at [faithlutheranhills@comcast.net](mailto:faithlutheranhills@comcast.net) to confirm your child's current address at college (even if it hasn't changed) so that we can be sure the package is mailed to the correct address. **Packages will only be sent to those who confirm the current address before the packages are mailed out.**



**Online giving via GivePlus is changing.** The GivePlus mobile app will be changing at the end of September to Vanco Mobile. The information on the new app from Vanco has been tested by a couple of congregation members this past week. There have been a few glitches, but they are being addressed and we are working on a quick 'how to' for people to use with the new app. If you have a recurring donation set up in GivePlus, this will continue to be processed without any work on your part. If you want to make changes to your recurring donation after September 30th, that has to be done through the new app. Any new donations will have to be made through Vanco Mobile, the new app. One new feature that we have seen is an email receipt from Vanco after a donation is processed. Please watch for emails from Dale Tyson and/or Brenda Overcash during the next two weeks with more information.

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We want to make sure that Faith folks who are home-bound or otherwise unable to attend 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.





Our annual Crop Walk will be held on Sunday October 17 at Harlingen Reformed Church with registration starting at 1:30 PM and the walk at 2 PM. Up to ten churches from South Somerset County are expected to participate to raise money for Church World Service national and international programs. One quarter of the funds collected will go to local agencies to combat hunger, the Food Bank of Somerset County and SHiP. We are

also collecting tuna fish cans or other nonperishable food items for the food bank. Please volunteer to walk and solicit contributions for this fine cause. Since no Crop Walk supplies are available this year, please use your own forms and envelopes. Please give generously, preferably online (see link below). You may also contribute to a walker or place your offering in the collection plate in an envelope marked Crop Walk. Please make checks payable to Church World Service or to Crop Walk.

### **CROP WALK ONLINE DONATIONS**

(Less handling and avoids check cashing delay)

Click on the link below which will take you to Faith's page, where you can fill out the form to donate:

<https://events.crophungerwalk.org/2021/team/faith-lutheran-church-2>

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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 [pastorcollect@verizon.net](mailto:pastorcollect@verizon.net).



*Please keep in your prayers...*

- |                      |                      |                       |
|----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| + Megan Barlow       | + Martin Boer        | + Lorraine Capobianco |
| + Betty Hannum       | + Rudy Harding       | + Tara Joswick        |
| + Christine Kennette | + Christine Mastakas | + Jonathan Stein      |
| + Carol Suiter       | + Andrew Wishnow     | + Pastor Zimmermann   |



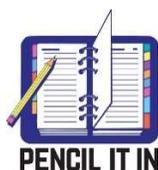
*Our sympathies and prayers are offered  
for the family and friends of:  
Peter Kougasian (requested by Bob Hawkes*



10/1	Tyler Doyal Juliana Weisenbach	10/19	Diane Handwerk
10/2	Donna Hardgrove	10/21	Brian Van Dongen
10/4	Cooper Karsay Isabel Turck	10/26	Melissa Hixson Ralph Yanuzzelli
10/6	Jimmy Marvits	10/27	Helaine Faryniak Beth Yanuzzelli
10/7	Tyler More Beth Noble	10/28	Skyla Joswick Marty Williams
10/10	Austin Pfau	10/29	Kelly Haase Courtney Nielsen Andrew Wishnow
10/12	Kyle Blumenthal Jana Mizrachy	10/30	Fran Barlow
10/14	Jaclyn Edolo	10/31	Xris Muller Debra Porowski Ryan Wargo Steven Watts
10/15	Ethan Gardner Connor Sporn		
10/17	Kristen Campbell		



If you would like to sponsor altar flowers, please see the Flower Chart 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. ***If taking the flowers home after worship, please return the vase to the church after use.***



Articles for the November *Reach Out* are due Friday, November 22.



**Faith Lutheran Church  
Operating Fund  
Statement of Revenues and Expenses  
For the three months ending August 31, 2021**

	<u>Approved Budget</u>	<u>Year to Date Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>
<b>Revenue</b>			
Envelopes	\$ 239,049	59,188	62,008
Other <sup>1</sup>	<u>37,145</u>	<u>2,260</u>	<u>992</u>
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b><u>276,194</u></b>	<b><u>61,448</u></b>	<b><u>63,000</u></b>
<b>Expenses</b>			
Total Mutual Ministry	209,898	55,349	54,213
Total Worship & Music	4,460	1,375	1,344
Total Property Maintenance	54,827	15,246	14,676
Total Christian Education	3,050	1,175	539
Total Youth	1,200	125	125
Total Evangelism	1,985	261	70
Total Social Ministry	25,410	6,352	6,483
Total Finance	41,989	10,365	10,365
Total Stewardship	200	--	--
Capital Improvement Fund	5,000	--	--
Equipment Fund	<u>--</u>	<u>--</u>	<u>--</u>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b><u>348,019</u></b>	<b><u>90,248</u></b>	<b><u>87,816</u></b>
<b>Income (Loss) Before Budget Gap</b>	<b><u>(71,825)</u></b>	<b><u>(28,800)</u></b>	<b><u>(24,816)</u></b>
<b>Budget Gap</b>	<b>71,825</b>	<b>28,800</b>	<b>--</b>
<b>Income (Loss)</b>	<b>\$ <u>0</u></b>	<b><u>0</u></b>	<b><u>(24,816)</u></b>

<sup>1</sup>PPP/ERC of \$24,673 included

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 SHIP's Galley 9:00 Silver Foxes	2 10:00 Blessing of the Pets
3 <b>19th Sunday after Pentecost</b> 9:30 Worship (Indoor) 10:15 Fellowship 10:30 Adult Forum / Confirmation Class / Sunday School	4 10:30 Staff Meeting 6:00 Jr. Raiders 7:15 Evangelism Committee Meeting 7:15 Re-Entry Committee Meeting	5 7:15 Christian Ed Committee Meeting	6	7 7:00 Girl Scout Troop 60126	8	9
10 <b>20th Sunday after Pentecost</b> 9:30 Worship (Outdoor) 10:15 Fellowship 10:30 Adult Forum / Sunday School	11 Church Office Closed 6:00 Jr. Raiders	12 7:00 Property Committee Meeting	13	14 4:30 Girl Scout Troop 60529 6:30 Finance Committee Meeting	15	16
17 <b>21st Sunday after Pentecost</b> 9:30 Worship (Indoor) 10:15 Fellowship 10:30 Adult Forum / Confirmation Class / Sunday School 4:00 Youth Group	18 6:00 Jr. Raiders 7:15 Youth Committee Meeting	19 7:15 Congregation Council Meeting	20	21 7:00 Girl Scout Troop 60126	22 Articles for November Reach Out Due	23 Youth Group Outing to Puskas Family Farm (Time TBD)
24 <b>22nd Sunday after Pentecost</b> 9:30 Worship (Outdoor) 10:30 Adult Forum / Confirmation Class / Sunday School 11:00 Church Picnic	25 10:30 Staff Meeting 6:00 Jr. Raiders	26	27 7:00 Assemble College Care Packages	28 4:30 Girl Scout Troop 60529	29	30
31 <b>Reformation Sunday / Confirmation</b> 9:30 Worship (Indoor) 10:15 Fellowship 10:30 Adult Forum	<p><b>All worship services will be live-streamed on Faith's Facebook page</b>  <b>Green</b> = Held via Faith's Zoom account  <b>Blue</b> = Facebook  <b>Purple</b> = Other Zoom</p>					