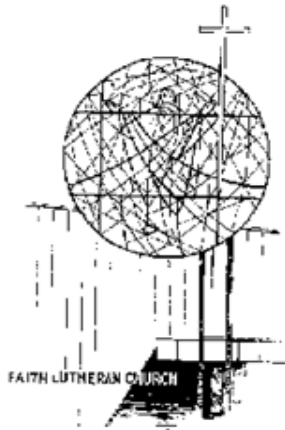


FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH
50 LEVERSEE ROAD
TROY, NEW YORK 12182



Following Faith

July 2016

**The Newsletter of Faith Lutheran
Church July 2016**



**A COOL GLASS OF
WATER**

. A cool glass of water offered by a neighbor is always a welcome gesture this time of year.

It can also have deeper symbolism, as it did when we poured one another glasses of water during our devotions at the Faith and Evangelical churches' joint council meeting in June.

Our prayers that evening were shaped by two vivid Bible passages. The first was the story of the Israelites in the desert during the Exodus. A time came when they were thirsty and without water. They were anxious, tired, and vulnerable in the wilderness. But God provided a miracle: when Moses struck a rock with his staff, a spring of fresh water bubbled up to save every person and animal. (Exodus 17:1-7)

We also heard Jesus' call to the people, "let anyone who is thirsty come to me, let anyone who believes in me drink." He reminded them of the biblical promise "from believers' hearts shall flow rivers of living water," explaining that he would send the Spirit to fill and sustain them when he was gone. (John 7:37-39)

The promise that God sustains and refreshes us at every stage of our journeys is something I have experienced again and again with congregations who were in times of transition and facing great challenges. It doesn't make the path easy or the destination clear. But remembering that God's Spirit is right there with us, eager to quench our thirst when we remember to drink, can make all the difference.

I am honored and glad for the invitation to be your Interim Pastor as Faith Lutheran Church walks through this important time of transition. At this early stage, there are many things we don't know – about one another and about how the time ahead will unfold. But if we do our part we, I believe that we will draw closer to God and to one another through this journey.



**Faith Lutheran Church
50 Leverage Road
Troy, New York 12182
(518) 237-4641**

www.faithlutherantroy.com

**Sunday morning worship: 10:30 a.m.
Adult Bible Study: 9:15 a. m.
Sunday School: during worship**

The Rev. Jennifer Wegter-McNelly, Pastor

Church Council Officers:

**Donna VanZandt (President)
Sara Martin (Vice President)
Barbara Boord (Treasurer)
Diana Rieker (Secretary)
Fred Howard (Financial Secretary)**

Council Members

**Errol Bull (Property)
Dana Cerrone (In Reach/Out Reach)
Elizabeth King (In Reach/Out Reach)
Evelyn Jarosz (Worship)
Sara Martin (Education)
Michael Moroskey (Property)
Pam Perras (Stewardship)
Carol Perrott (Missions)
Ben Wagar (Property)**

Intentional interim ministry is a process, a set of tools, and an approach that have developed in mainline Protestant churches over the last several decades to help congregations in transition to discern their way forward effectively and to emerge strong and clear about what sort of pastor to call to lead them into the future.

Intentional interim ministry helps a congregation ask:

Who are we now?
Who are our neighbors?
And, who is God calling us to be next?

The answers to these questions shape the plans for the future and the search for a called pastor.

Over the months of this discernment, all the regular life of the congregation continues and needs to remain strong. Worship and prayer, service and care for those in need, friendship, and welcoming of any newcomers who arrive are as important as ever. This makes for a busy and challenging season of church life, one we can do well by coming together to support and encourage one another...and by giving each other grace and having a sense of humor for the inevitable times when something will be less than perfect.

I hope that you will help me as I get started by holding me in your prayers and pointing me in the directions I need to go. I want to hear each of your stories and to be present when and where I am most needed. Please don't hesitate to reach out to invite me for a visit, to meet for a cup of coffee, or to suggest someone who may need my care.

The time ahead will be full and exciting. By God's grace, it will be a time with cool water of the Spirit to refresh us as we go.

*Peace in Christ,
Pastor Jennifer*

AMONG OUR PEOPLE

Dorothy Benzinger entered into eternal life on June 8th in Florida. Bob Hayward shared the sad news and said that Bert has requested that condolences and remembrances be sent to 3113 State Road #580 Lot 266, Safety Harbor, Florida 34695.

Irene Pagel, a dear friend to Faith and its' members, especially the children made her journey

into eternal peace and love on June 28th. She will be dearly missed.

Dave Cerrone is undergoing therapy at Sunnyview in Schenectady. He steadily improving but has a long way to go. Please keep Dave and his family in your prayers. Larry Boord is undergoing out-patient therapy at Sunnyview for Lymphedema.

COUNCIL SUMMARY

A combined Council meeting with both Faith and Evangelical Councils was held on June 13th. Pastor Jennifer led a discussion about "Choices". The premise of the discussion was; what do we, as congregations, want to accomplish now with an interim pastor and what do we want to accomplish with our future permanent pastor?

Pastor Jennifer introduced the Councils to multiple concepts including: the interim journey, interim ministry tasks and steps, a typical timeline and making time for items/topics that are a priority. She also discussed tools and resources. Electronic or paper copies of Pastor Jennifer's presentation are available. Please see a Council member.

For any concerns or problems, please advise us. We will discuss and address issues at our next meeting on Monday July 11th, 2016 at 7pm.

Diana Rieker, Secretary

OUR FAITH at WORK

Our mission for the month of June will be in support of St. Paul's Center located in Rensselaer, New York.

St. Paul's Center provides emergency and transitional housing for homeless mothers and their children. To assist the residents in moving on to independent living, they receive support and services in the following areas; counseling, parenting, homemaking, budgeting, literacy, pediatric and maternal health care, mental health, substance abuse, domestic violence education, job training and placement, and permanent housing.

For further information regarding St. Paul's Center you can visit their website at:

www.stpaulscenter.com or look for information posted on the Mission's bulletin board.

Thank you for your continued support.

Carol Perrott, Missions

FLOWERS for JULY

- July 3rd In Memory of Gertrude Clickner
Given by Larry Lansing
- July 10th To the Glory of God
- July 17th In Memory of Margaret Speanburg
Given by Barbara Morgan
- July 24th In Memory of Merilynn Howard
Given by Fred and Michele Howard
- July 31st Dorothy and Leo Perras
Given by Pam and Leo Perras

SERVING FAITH in JULY

July 3 rd	Altar	Evelyn Jarosz and Polly Hayward
	Lay Assistant Ushers	Bill Maloney Diana Rieker and Jim Peters
	Counters	Fred and Michele Howard
	Coffee Hour	Carolyn Rouse
July 10 th	Altar	Evelyn Jarosz and Polly Hayward
	Lay Assistant Ushers	Pat Turcotte Bill Speanburg and Ron Moss
	Counters	Joyce Duncan and Pat Brundige
	Coffee Hour	Errol and Heather Bull

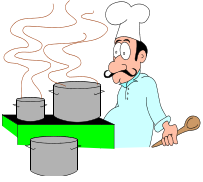
July 17 th	Altar	Joyce Duncan and Stephanie Wagar
	Lay Assistant Ushers	Errol Bull Errol Bull and Ryland Bull
	Counters	Polly and Bob Hayward
	Coffee Hour	Rikki Franklin
July 24 th	Altar	Joyce Duncan and Stephanie Wagar
	Lay Assistant Ushers	Rich Anderson Donna Truland and Family
	Counters	Donna Gibson and Linda Houlihan
	Coffee Hour	Donna Gibson
July 31 st	Altar	Donna Gibson and Pam Perras
	Lay Assistant Ushers	Aaron Cordes Barbara Boord and Ron Turcotte
	Counters	LouAnn Behrens and Janet Walsh
	Coffee Hour	Donna and Gene St. John

*If you are unable to serve on your assigned Sunday, please arrange to trade dates with another assistant. Thank you in advance for your assistance.
Donna Van Zandt, Worship Chairperson.
Schedule for Altar Guild by Pam Perras
Schedule for Coffee Hour by Heather Bull*

PRAYER GROUP NEWS

Members of the joint Faith Lutheran and Evangelical/Poestenkill Prayer group meet on a regular basis. The group generally meets on Monday mornings at 10:00 am. ***Evangelical in Poestenkill will be the site during the month of July (excluding July 4th). August prayer group***

meeting will be at Faith. Anyone wishing to join the group is welcome. For further details, contact Michele Howard at 518-4288.



DINNER CLUB

Dinner Club met June 11th for a pot luck supper. The members brought a large selection of delicious casseroles. No one left the table hungry. Faith Lutheran has many good cooks!! The evening was hosted by Donna VanZandt, Jim Peters and Evelyn and Bill Jarosz. Following dinner the entertainment consisted of 3 secrets to be shared by 3 teams. It has been determined that secrets are safe among our members as no secret was repeated correctly, although, there were plenty of laughs!

July 9th will be the Second Annual Church Picnic at Grafton State Park (rain or shine) hosted by Dinner Club. The picnic committee coordinators are Donna and Eugene St. John. There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex. Make your reservation and sign up to bring a dish to be passed.

Polly and Bob Hayward are once again taking reservations for the Washington Park Playhouse presentation of the play Chicago for July 27th. Everyone will gather in the park prior to the show to share a meal together. The sandwich shop where sandwiches were purchased in previous years has closed so plan to bring sandwiches with you.

HAVE A SAFE AND JOYFUL JULY 4TH

BARBARA BOORD ACTING NEWSLETTER EDITOR/COORDINATOR

Hard copies of the Newsletter are available at church for pick up when you are present.

You may go to the church web site at: www.faithlutheranchurchtroy.com any time and view the newsletter.

We will email you a copy if you send your email address directly to Barbara at her email address. At your request, we will be happy to send you a copy via the USPS.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The August newsletter deadline is Monday July 18th. Please email articles to: barbboord@hotmail.com.

Assistance with the compiling and distribution of the Newsletter is always appreciated. Anyone that can give some time to this joint effort is encouraged to contact me at the above e-mail address.

GOD BLESS AMERICA

JULY 2016

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	 4	5	6	7	8	9
	<i>Independence Day</i>		Speigle Elders 10:30AM-2:20PM			<i>Annual Picnic Noon -?</i>
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	<i>Council Meeting 7:00 PM</i>			Home Bureau 2:00 to 4:00 PM		
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
	<i>Newsletter Items Due</i>		Speigle Elders 10:30AM-2:30PM			
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
				Home Bureau 2:00 to 4:00 PM		
31						