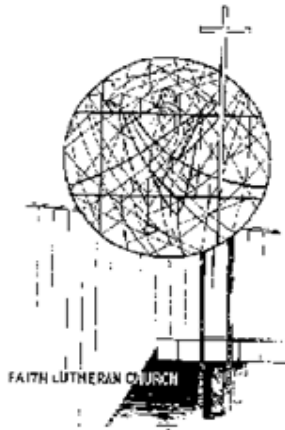


FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH
50 LEVERSEE ROAD
TROY, NEW YORK 12182



Following Faith

May 2017



Dear Church

Here's a Quiz Question for you, in the category of Arcane Christian Calendar Trivia:

How long is Easter?

If you answered **24 hours**, well, yes, technically that is correct. Easter is the same length as all the other days of the year.

But if your answer was **50 days** or **7 Sundays**, you can also give yourself a point. In the Christian tradition, we are encouraged to celebrate the resurrection not only on Easter morning but for the following season, often called Eastertide.

This is great news for those of you who love hymns and music because it gives us a whole lot longer to enjoy all the great music that we couldn't possibly fit into a single day.

For a preacher, it is a bit more of a puzzle. How do we think about resurrection for seven Sundays, I wondered when I was a new preacher?

The first thing to notice is that the good news of the resurrection didn't happen at the same time for everybody. Remember, Mary Magdalene met the risen Jesus at the tomb, but the disciples in the locked room didn't meet him until later. And the disciple Thomas until after that. And the disciples on the road to Cana later still. The experience of the resurrection and the joyful news rippled out, bit by bit over time.

Another reason it is important to enjoy the whole season of Eastertide is because there are so many ways to think about the resurrection power of Jesus Christ rippling out in our lives.

Here are a few of my favorites. (You might consider these for your prayers or reflection in the coming weeks. I'm also eager to hear what other ways you may be thinking about resurrection.)



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

www.faithlutherantroy.com

Sunday morning worship: 11:00 a.m.
Sunday School: during worship

The Rev. Jennifer Wegter McNelly,
Pastor

Church Council Officers:

Fred Howard (President)
Evelyn Jarosz (Vice President)
Barbara Boord (Treasurer)
Diana Rieker (Secretary)
**Michele Howard/
Pam Perras Financial Secretaries)**

Council Members

Doug Adamek (Education)
Errol Bull (Property)
Donna Gibson (Stewardship)
Rob Hayward (Stewardship)
Evelyn Jarosz (In Reach/Out Reach)
Sharon Morris (Worship)
Carol Perrott (Missions)
Pam Perras (In Reach/Out Reach)

Resurrection for the Earth – Each day we learn of new ways that nature is stressed by humanity's love of building and consuming. We can pray for insight and commitment so that we may be good stewards of the planet, in our individual choices and as a people.

Resurrection in our relationships – I don't know anyone who doesn't have at least one relationship that could use a little resurrection hope. Think of the people who are important in your life – either because you love them or because you are connected in an important way. Explore what resurrection might look like in that relationship. Is it forgiveness? Speaking the truth in love? Letting go and moving on? Often it is only with God's help that we can discover the right thing to do in a difficult relationship.

Resurrection in our congregation – As your Interim Pastor, I fear you will tire of me reminding you of this, but it is always the right time to wonder and pray about how God may be bringing new life, people, or possibilities to our church. Where does our great joy meet the world's (or the neighborhood's) deep need?

Resurrection of justice between people – There are so many ways we might focus our prayers for Christ's newness between people locally and internationally. One that has been close to my heart lately has been prayers for the dynamic between police officers and citizens in our area. I am troubled and concerned by the spiral of disrespect, abuse, and violence. How can God help us create the trust needed so that the police treat the citizens with dignity and fairness, and the people treat the police with respect and support?

May God bless us and refresh us as ripples of resurrection newness spread through our lives this season.

Peace in Christ
Pastor Jennifer

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

Before service April 23rd, Pastor Jennifer shared a health-related issue that she is facing. She has been diagnosed with breast cancer and will begin treatment the week of April 24th. A joint Faith/Evangelical council meeting is being held on April 27th with Pastor Jennifer and Rev. David

Preisinger, Assistant to the Bishop, to discuss how this may affect her interim ministry. Our hope is that she will be able to finish the tasks that she has begun with our two congregations, perhaps with additional support from Synod. Please pray for effective medical intervention, treatment, and healing for Pastor Jennifer.

AMONG OUR PEOPLE

Mildred LaLanne who has been hospitalized and Pastor Bill Hempel who continues his chemotherapy treatments. Paul Molesky continues to struggle with pain and breathing problems. Dave Cerrone and Paul Haas as they continue therapy and recovery.

COUNCIL SUMMARY

There was further discussion regarding the need for an Office Oversight and Administration Committee to be responsible for addressing administrative and technical requirements of the church. A motion was made and approved by members of the Council to add the Office Oversight and Administration Committee to the Faith Constitution. Rob Hayward will serve as chairman.

Conversations with members of Faith and Evangelical regarding the search for a new pastor will continue. Pastor Jennifer is initially coordinating a meeting of Faith committee members and then will schedule a joint meeting with all Call Process Committee members.

An updated Faith Constitution needs to be submitted to Synod in 2018. A comparison of a model Synod Constitution with Faith's Constitution is being performed to identify how much work will be required to update.

For any concerns or problems, please advise us. We will discuss and address issues at our next meeting on Monday May 1st, 2017 at 7 P.M.

Diana Rieker, Secretary



Happy spring! Hopefully everyone had a wonderful Easter, it is such a joyous time of year. There is a little over a month left in the Sunday School season, but it will be a busy time. There will be a presentation from the Kid's Council on their fundraising project, and the First Communion students will be starting their lessons in preparation for the big day.

As many of you know, in years past we have had an end of the year Sunday School picnic, but for the past couple of years, we have forgone this event and joined the Congregational picnic over the summer. This year, in honor of First Communion, we will once again be having a picnic after the church service on that Sunday (June 4). We are hoping that all of you can mark both events on your calendar and plan to attend. More details on these events to follow.

See you in church!

Sara Martin, Education Director

OUR FAITH at WORK

Our mission for the month of May will be in support of the *Basics for Babies* campaign through Unity House in Troy.

Through community support, Unity House helps the youngest, most vulnerable victims of poverty - the children. Unity House provides families in need with items such as car seats, cribs, diapers, formula, bottles and baby food.

The Unity House Thrift Store located at 6th and Hoosick (just under the Hoosick Street Bridge) is open Monday – Friday 9:00 A.M. to 4:15 P.M. to accept donations. Baby clothes, blankets, strollers and other baby items in new or gently used condition are always appreciated.

Carol Perrott, Missions

IN REACH/ OUT REACH COMMITTEE

The committee has held two meetings as of this posting.

The bulletin board has been updated with monthly schedules and council minutes. We have continued the card ministry to our members that are unable to attend.

We are working on updating our Church directory. If you need to update your address, phone or email information you can see any of the committee members or email to Evelyn Jarosz (wsjemj4@nycap.rr.com).

The committee members include:

Chairperson –Evelyn Jarosz, Pat Brundige, Joyce Duncan, Pam Perras, Donna & Eugene St. John and Stephanie Wagar.

Peace be with all of you,

Pat Brundige

FLOWERS for MAY

- | | | |
|------------|------------------------|--|
| May | 7th | In Memory of Shirley Webster
Given by Larry and Barbara Boord
In Memory of Bob Young
Given by Kay Young |
| May | 14th | In Honor of Timothy Martins' Baptism
Given by The Martin Family |
| May | 21st | In Memory of Gertrude Clickner
Given by Larry Lansing |
| May | 28th | In Memory of William Boord
Given by Larry and Barbara Boord |

PENTECOST

As we have in the past, flowering plants will be bought and placed on the Altar for Pentecost. Shortly after Pentecost these plants will be planted outside to enhance the beauty of our Church grounds. If you would like to contribute to this program, please see Donna Van Zandt

SERVING FAITH in MAY

May 7 th	Altar	Donna St. John and LouAnn Behrens
	Lay Assistant Ushers	Dave Truland Pat Brundige and Katie Bonnier
	Counters	Donna Gibson and Linda Hulihan
	Coffee Hour	Kathy and Doug Adamek
May 14 th	Altar	Joyce Duncan and Karen Cordes
	Lay Assistant Ushers	Rich Anderson B. Morgan, B. Speanburg, B Stevens
	Counters	Diane and Rich Anderson
	Coffee Hour	Carolyn Rouse and Donna Gibson
May 21 st	Altar	Joyce Duncan and Karen Cordes
	Lay Assistant Ushers	Aaron Cordes Carol Perrott and Stephanie Wagar
	Counters	LouAnn Behrens and Janet Walsh
	Coffee Hour	Dana and Dave Cerrone
May 28 th	Altar	Polly Hayward and Donna Gibson
	Lay Assistant Ushers	Fred Howard Bill Speanburg and Ron Turcotte
	Counters	Pat Brundige and Joyce Duncan
	Coffee Hour	Sara and John Martin

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.

*Sharon Morris, Worship Chairperson.
Schedule for Altar Guild by Pam Perras
Schedule for Coffee Hour by Heather Bull*

CHOIR REHERSAL

Choir rehearsals are generally held every Thursday at 7:00 P.M. for about an hour. Anyone interested in joining is welcome to come and enjoy singing our praises to the Lord.



At our April meeting the Bible Study Women of the Bible focused on Sarah. We were encouraged to write down the prayer petitions we asked God to help us with and then note when those requests were answered--or when the answer was NO.

The next meeting is on Tuesday, May 16th at 10:00 A.M. at church. The subject of the Bible Study is Rebekah.

Faith provided meals for Joseph's House on Saturday, May 6th. Thanks to everyone who donated food items and helped with the cooking and delivery of the food. Providing weekend meals for the guests at Joseph's House is very much appreciated by the staff and guests.

Donna Gibson

PRAYER GROUP

A few of us from the Prayer Group have been meeting together for the past year. Monthly, we have been alternating between praying at Evangelical/Poestenkill and Faith Lutheran on Tuesday at 1:00 P.M. May meetings will be at Faith. The June meetings will be held at Evangelical. Those of us who have met together value the time we have spent together and have grown in being able to pray. We have also seen

God's hand at work and have praised him for answered prayer.

We would like to encourage you to join with us as we meet There is something about the body of Christ and the power of corporate prayer. Won't you consider being a part of this group? We would appreciate your presence with us even on an occasional basis. If the time is inconvenient, let us know so that we might consider a time that is better for you.

We believe that everything starts with prayer to our Heavenly Father, in whose hands lie our well-being and our future.

JOIN US!

On May 21st beginning at 3:00 P.M., Faith Lutheran Church will host a Community Wide Service in celebration of Memorial Day. Six area churches will be involved with this service. Brunswick Methodist Church, Faith Lutheran Church, The Hoosic Valley Church, Melrose Methodist Church and Transfiguration North and South Churches will all be participating. Along with these churches and their special music, members of the Lansingburgh Veterans Club will be in attendance and participating.

Following this celebration light refreshments will be served in the Fellowship Hall for all attendees.

Many thanks to Warren ('Porky') Lansing for coordinating this event. We are looking forward to seeing you at this special celebration.

REBECCA TRULAND NOTE

We received a lovely card from Rebecca Truland who is graduating from Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago on May 21, 2017.

In God we Live and Move and have our Being

Dear Council and Members of Faith,

It's hard to believe that 4 years have passed and that I am preparing for graduation and ordination. There are still unknowns on the path before me - interviews and paperwork to determine what congregation I will ultimately be called to - but receiving my Master of Divinity degree is a huge accomplishment, and I would not be here without your prayers, love, and support. Thank you for every financial gift you have offered me. Thank you for inviting me to preach for you. Thank you for being the community of faith to raise me up and help discern my vocation. You will all be with me in spirit as I receive my diploma, and I hope to see you in person soon.

Blessings in Christ, Rebecca

We are so proud to claim Rebecca as one of our own. Please remember her in your prayers as she sets out on the next chapter of her life in faith as a Lutheran clergyperson!



DINNER CLUB

April 8th Dinner Club enjoyed a delicious chicken dinner prepared and served by Greta Daun, Joyce and Bob Duncan, Michele and Fred Howard, and Sharon and John Morris. The evening commenced with cocktails and conversation at 6:00 o'clock. We were glad to welcome the Haywards back from their travels and sad as we reminisced about our friend, Burt Benziger's, passing.

LouAnn Behrens, Pat Goyer, Mary Sloccum and Janet Walsh will be our hostesses for Dinner Club May 13th. Mark your calendar and plan to come and enjoy the evening. Everyone is cordially invited to join in the fellowship and sharing of a meal with friends just make a reservation with anyone on the committee. Hope to see you there!

NEWSLETTER

EDITOR/COORDINATOR

Barbara Boord is coordinating the Newsletter efforts. 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
shown below.

At your request, we will be happy to send you a
copy via the USPS.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The June newsletter deadline is Monday May 22nd.
Anyone with items of interest or submissions for
Among Our People please email your articles to:

barbboord@hotmail.com or call (518) 982-1250.

MAY 2017

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Council Meeting 7:00 PM	2	3	4 Choir 7:00 PM	5	6
				Home Bureau 1:00 to 3:00 PM		
7	8	9	10	11 Choir 7:00 PM	12	13
			Speigle Elders 10:30AM-2:30PM			Dinner Club 6:00 PM
14	15	16	17	18 Choir 7:00 PM	19	20
MOTHER'S DAY				Home Bureau 1:00 to 3:00 PM		
21 Memorial Day Celebration 3:00 PM	22 Newsletter Articles Due	23	24	25 Choir 7:00 PM	26	27
			Speigle Elders 10:30AM-2:30PM			
28	29	30	31			