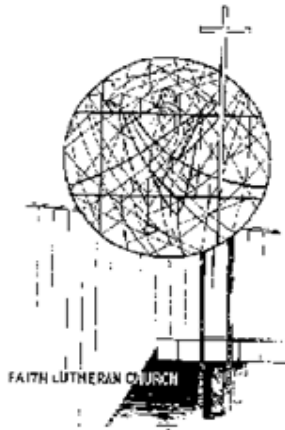


FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH  
50 LEVERSEE ROAD  
TROY, NEW YORK 12182



# ***FOLLOWING FAITH***

***SEPTEMBER 2017***



## HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Yes, I know this is not the January version of the newsletter at the time we change the calendar from one year to the next and make New Year resolutions.

Yes, I know this not the December version of the newsletter at the time when the Sundays of Advent mark the beginning of a new liturgical calendar.

But it is the time of year when church activities and ministries resume after a brief summer rest. Most vacations (if you were lucky enough to take one) are over. School is scheduled to welcome back students from summer break. So also, Sunday School is preparing to welcome back students at church on Sunday mornings and committees resume their regular meetings. I heard a comment at worship yesterday about how much the coffee hour time of fellowship has been missed over the summer.

So, Happy New Year! And let's all make some resolutions to worship more regularly, pray more diligently and give of our time and treasures more joyfully. Having just seen the musical, "Godspell," once again, I am reminded of the three-fold responses in the familiar song, "Day by Day." In our worship, in our praying, and in our serving, we are invited to "see Jesus more clearly, love him more dearly, and follow him more nearly" day by day.

*Alive in Christ,  
(Transitional) Pastor Jim*

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

[www.faithlutherantroy.com](http://www.faithlutherantroy.com)

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

**The Rev. James Slater, 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)  
Ben Wagar (Property)**

## AMONG OUR PEOPLE

Pastor Bill Hempel, Pastor Jennifer Wegter-McNelly, Ben Wager and Dave Cerrone continue their road to recovery. Please keep them in your prayers.

Please welcome Mr. and Mrs. Warren Truland. They joined our Faith Lutheran congregation in August. Mr. and Mrs. Truland are the parents of Dave Truland.

## **COUNCIL SUMMARY**

The Covenant Council has continued to meet and has decided on an 8 person call committee (4 members from each congregation). Although this is technically a violation of the church constitution, this exception can be handled by including in the Covenant agreement the need for an 8 person call committee for a joint call.

There was additional discussion about the Ministry Site Profile. The Council feels assistance or dispensation from Synod is needed to get started. Pastor Slater will reach out to the Dean to coordinate assistance.

For any concerns or problems, please advise us. We will discuss and address issues at our next meeting on Monday September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at 7pm.

***Diana Rieker,  
Secretary***

## **OUR FAITH at WORK**

Our mission for the month of September will be in support of Habitat for Humanity Rensselaer County.

Founded in 1988, Habitat for Humanity Capital District has been providing homeownership opportunities for families in need of decent housing for more than 25 years. They serve Albany, Rensselaer and Southern Saratoga Counties and have built over 115 homes in partnership with local families.

Much of the support for Habitat comes from churches, schools, and civic groups.

Volunteers provide most of the labor, and individual and corporate donors provide money and materials to build houses. Selected families contribute 400 hours toward construction and pay the full cost of their mortgages, insurance, and taxes. Loans are interest free.

Your continued support is appreciated.

***Carol Perrott, Missions***

## **COVENANT AGREEMENT**

The Covenant Council, consisting of four members from Faith's Council and four members from Evangelical's Council, met on August 2 and August 23 to finalize the Partnership Agreement between the two congregations. The meetings went well and the result is an understanding of how our two congregations will interact and cooperate going forward as we call and share a new pastor.

The agreement must be approved by both church councils and then ratified by each congregation at specially called Congregational Meetings. It is our plan to have our Congregational meeting on Sunday, September 24, 2017 following morning service. Copies of the proposed Covenant Agreement will be available prior to the meeting for you to examine. In large part, the agreement reflects our existing relationship with additional details as to how future changes will be worked out. There will be an informational meeting Sunday September 10, in Fellowship Hall where the proposed agreement will be reviewed, and members will have the opportunity to become familiar with its provisions. The Council will consider the proposal the next night at its September 11 regulate meeting.

I anticipate that the Special Congregational Meeting will be brief, with the Covenant Agreement the only item of business I urge you to mark your calendars and attend.

## **CALL PROCESS**

**Several weeks ago, we were privileged to have Rev. Norma Malfatti, Director for Evangelical Mission and Assistant to the Bishop, preside over our Sunday service. Pr. Norma was a joyful, enthusiastic leader. Afterwards Ruth Frazee and I met with her to seek clarification on steps yet to be taken in the call process. As this is something that Pr. Norma is directly involved with at our Synod, it was good to be speaking with someone who is intimately familiar with the actual process and personally involved at the level where decisions affecting us are made.**

**We still must complete our Ministry Site Profile which is submitted on line. Each Congregation will submit its own MSP, but they are forwarded automatically directly to our**

synod office where our Bishop is intimately familiar with the partnership that we have with Poestenkill. This was a relief, as we were concerned with the seeming impersonal aspect of something that is actually filed through the ELCA server in Chicago. We have coordinated the basic pieces needed to complete this submission – CAT survey, joint Discernment Committee work and conclusion, agreement on the Pastoral budget, and Covenant Agreement to be adopted in September.

In September, the Council will work to select our representatives for the Call Committee. We will have 4 members working with 4 members of ELCP. Schedule for making the actual call will depend on candidates available, present circumstances of the selected candidate and numerous other variables. The guidance that we received from Pr. Norma was that it may well be the spring of 2018 before we have a new pastor in place.

So where do we go from here? Pastor Slater will be leaving us at the end of September. We will have another Transitional Leader appointed, but this person will probably not be the person leading our weekly Sunday Worship. Again, we will be having Supply Pastors leading our service, which gives us the opportunity to experience and learn from a variety of different clergypersons. Please continue to hold our Call Process in prayer!

**Fred Howard**  
**President**

### FLOWERS for SEPTEMBER

Sept. 3<sup>rd</sup> To the Glory of God

Sept. 10<sup>th</sup> To the Glory of God

Sept. 17<sup>th</sup> In Memory of Ceil Boomhower  
Given by Joyce and Bob Duncan

Sept. 24<sup>th</sup> In Memory of Bill Niles  
Given by Marilyn Niles

### SERVING FAITH in SEPTEMBER

Sept. 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Altar	Janet Walsh and Joyce Duncan
	Lay Assistant Ushers	Errol Bull B. Morgan, B. Speanburg, B. Stevens
	Counters	Bill and Evelyn Jarosz
	Coffee Hour	In Summer Recess
Sept. 10 <sup>th</sup>	Altar	Janet Walsh and Joyce Duncan
	Lay Assistant Ushers	Rich Anderson Diana Rieker and Jim Peters
	Counters	Polly and Bob Hayward
	Coffee Hour	In Summer Recess
Sept. 17 <sup>th</sup>	Altar	Roberta Hayward and Sharon Morris
	Lay Assistant Ushers	Aaron Cordes Carol Perrott and Stephanie Wagar
	Counters	LouAnn Behrens and Janet Walsh
	Coffee Hour	In Summer Recess
Sept. 24 <sup>th</sup>	Altar	Roberta Hayward and Sharon Morris
	Lay Assistant Ushers	Fred Howard B. Speanburg and Ron Turcotte
	Counters	Rich and Diane Anderson
	Coffee Hour	In Summer Recess

*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

Choir will resume Thursday rehearsals starting on September 14, 2017. Please consider joining in raising our voices to the Glory of God. All voices are welcome.

## YOUTH GATHERING 2018

The closing day of the Synod Assembly in Rochester Pastor Scott Hannon presented an inspiring video of a youth gathering for 2018 to be held in Houston, Texas

Imagine the opportunity to be among thousands of Lutheran high school students all on a journey to embrace their faith.

The theme of the week of June 27<sup>th</sup> through July 1<sup>st</sup> will be "This Changes Everything". Check out the Gathering web site [www.elca.org/YouthGathering](http://www.elca.org/YouthGathering) to learn more about the week. You'll be able to see videos and testimonials from previous Gathering attendees.

Your church council would like to speak with any of our high school students that would be interested in attending a week which will be full of fun and adventure. Time is of the essence. To be among your peers, you must act now for Faith is a bit late in getting ready for this event. So, check the web site out, become excited about the opportunity of Faith sending you to the 2018 Youth Gathering and let the council know you want to go!

## PRAYER GROUP

Prayer Group will meet at Faith Lutheran on Tuesdays at 1:00 p.m. during the month of August.

Please consider being a part of the group? We would appreciate your presence with us even on an occasional basis. Everyone is most welcome to join the group

Please contact Michele Howard with any questions or for directions.



## DINNER CLUB

September Dinner Club will be held at Faith on the 11<sup>th</sup>. All are welcome to join the group for an evening of good food and fellowship. Please see committee members to let them know if you can make it.

## SEPTEMBER CALENDAR EVENTS

September 10, 10:00 AM, Fellowship Hall – Informational Meeting to learn about the Proposed Covenant Agreement

September 11, 7:00 PM – Council Meeting, Observers welcome.

September 17, Special Dedications

September 24, 12:00 PM – Special Congregational Meeting; Farewell to Pastor Slater.

## 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.faithlutherantroy.com](http://www.faithlutherantroy.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 October newsletter deadline is Monday September 18<sup>th</sup>.

Anyone with items of interest or submissions for Among Our People please email your articles to:

[barbboord@hotmail.com](mailto:barbboord@hotmail.com) or call (518) 982-1250.

# SEPTEMBER 2017

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	<i>CREATIVE THREADS 10:30AM</i>			Home Bureau 1:00 to 3:00PM		<i>DINNER CLUB 6:30PM</i>
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
COVENANT AGREEMENT INFORMATIONAL MEETING 10:00AM	<i>CREATIVE THREADS 10:30AM</i> COUNCIL 7PM	WELCA	Speigle Elders 10:30AM-2:30PM	<i>CHOIR 7:00PM</i>		
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
<i>SPECIAL DEDICATIONS</i>	<i>CREATIVE THREADS 10:30AM</i> Newsletter Items			<i>CHOIR 7:00PM</i> Home Bureau 1:00 to 3:00PM		
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
<i>SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING FAREWELL PR. SLATER</i>	<i>CREATIVE THREADS 10:30AM</i>		Speigle Elders 10:30AM-2:30PM	<i>CHOIR 7:00PM</i>		