**FAITH UNITED LUTHERAN CHURCH**

**4543 DOUGLAS ROAD**

**TOLEDO, OH 43613**

**MARCH / APRIL 2021**

 **FAITH CHRONICLES**

 **Faith United Lutheran** **Church**

 **4543 Douglas Road – Toledo, Ohio 43613**

 **419-473-1369**

**Email: faithunitedlutherantoledo@gmail.com**

**Website:** [**www.faithunitedlutherantoledo.com**](http://www.faithunitedlutherantoledo.com) **or** [**www.faithunited.church**](http://www.faithunited.church)

Pastor: Pr. Tom Schaeffer Worship Services: Saturday – 4:00 pm

Secretary: Jan Weatherly Sunday – 10:00 am

Organist: Patricia Haase Sunday School – 9:00 am

Office Hours: Mon.-Fri. – 10:00-3:00 (appointment required)

*In case of an emergency, you may reach Pastor Tom at 419-481-3891 or Donna Morrin at 419-290-8997*

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**A Message from our Pastor**



Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As many of us receive our Covid-19 vaccines, I know we will become increasingly anxious for in-person worship. Believe me, I share in that anticipation. Indeed, the roll-out of these vaccines does signal an approaching end to our isolation and fear. Still, we will need a little more patience. Here in Ohio the age for vaccination is till 65+. Our governor seems to think it will be weeks before that changes. Consequently, there are members of our congregation that will be waiting weeks or months before they receive their first shot.

Additionally, we need to remember that although we may be vaccinated, the medical community is unclear as to whether we can still carry (without being ill) and transmit the virus to those who are not vaccinated. Masks and social distancing will still be necessary for some time yet. We are not yet in a post-pandemic world.

However, this does not mean we cannot and will not begin to plan for a return to in-person worship. We will begin to work on this and some form of in-person worship may be available sooner rather than later. But, our leadership will need time to devise a strategy for return and the rules that will govern that worship. Be assured, that when this does happen, we will continue to offer online worship for those who do not feel safe and/or have not yet received their vaccine.

I have told you this before, but it is worthy of repeating. I am so thankful for the grace and support Faith United has demonstrated throughout this difficult time. I speak to many other pastors and have heard the disappointing news of congregations and members who have acted badly and selfishly in response to the anguished but caring and intelligent decisions made by their leadership. I’m blessed that this is not the case at Faith United. Yes, of course, I have heard the frustration. I know we long to be back. But we have done it in a godly and respectful manner. Your patience will soon be rewarded, and I look forward to seeing you all.

United in Faith,

Pastor Tom

**What’s New at Faith United?**

**Facebook Page:** If you haven’t been to Faith United’s Facebook page yet, please visit there (and Like us.) Anyone is welcome to share photos of church activities, say hello to one another and just keep up on news. You can also share upcoming events with your Friends. It is called Faith United Lutheran Church.

**Donations to the Fish Bowl**

Each week donations to the Fishbowl will be designated to a different cause, organization or other purpose. Any and all donations are always gladly accepted.

**Web Site** – The church’s Web site, [www.faithunitedlutherantoledo.com](http://www.faithunitedlutherantoledo.com) or www.faithunited.church, is a great source for information for you and you can tell friends to check out the site to find out what is happening at Faith United!

**Church Office Hours** –The church office remains closed to visitors except by appointment. You can call the office and make an appointment to come in during office hours of 10:00 – 3:00 M-F. Like everything else connected to Covid-19, this could change, so if in doubt, call the church office.

**Church Supplies** – the church is always in need of paper towels, toilet paper, and hand soap. You can bring supplies to the church office or drop off on the next Sunday we are together.

**Our New Church Council**

We are pleased to announce the new church council for 2021. Our new council consists of the following members: Donna Morrin, Paul Nelson, Marcia Conn, Craig Bartley, Mike Fowler, Art Schroeder, Jim Gries, Frank Weaver, Art Schroeder, and Linda Bailiff The new officers for council are President: Frank Weaver, Vice President: Art Schroeder, Secretary: Linda Bailiff, and Treasurer: Paul Nelson. Council meetings are always on the second Monday of each month and are open to the congregation. They have been meeting via Zoom during the pandemic.

**News from WELCA**

It has been four months since we were able to gather in person for Bible Study and fellowship. That is such a long time without the companionship of each other on our Spiritual journey. It is my intention to work toward a gathering at church Thursday May 6, at 7:00 pm. This would be our typical gathering time, the first Thursday of each month. I have mentioned several times that all women of the church are very welcome to these gatherings that we call Rebekah Circle. We meet for Bible Study and fellowship.

Several of us have shared a Ladies Retreat at Widewater Retreat Center for many years. That retreat has been postponed twice and is now scheduled for October 29-30, 2021. If you are interested in knowing more about the retreat experience, please contact me.

WELCA celebrates BOLD WOMEN’S Sunday in February and this year we have honored Donna Morin for the leadership of our congregation as President. Among other accomplishments, she BOLDLY moved the transition of Bethany and Reformation to becoming Faith United Lutheran Church.

Living Awake,

Cindy Sauppé

**A Letter from WELCA Director – Cindy Sauppé**

Greetings my Sisters in Christ, February 26, 2021

Once again, I have unlocked my sheltering self to reach out to you as women of Faith United who have participated regularly in Rebekah Circle. While our gatherings have been suspended, I haven’t suspended my thoughts of you and how I desire to gather us together again for Bible Study and Fellowship. I am in the midst of getting approval from Council to meet again in the building May 6 at 7:00 pm. That would be our typical meeting day and time, the first Thursday of the month. We will continue the practice of Mission:

Action by contributing, time, money or gifts in kind to an entity that promotes healing and wholeness to women and children especially. Some may still not be comfortable coming together which is understandable, but I feel it is worth a try. As before, wherever we meet I will see that the area is sanitized and made so that we can be socially distant.

As Women of the ELCA celebrate BOLD Women’s Sunday on February 28 this year I have taken it upon myself to honor Donna Morrin on behalf of our WELCA Unit. I purchased a small gift and a card of appreciation for her leadership as President of Faith United. Among her other accomplishments, Donna’s leadership was especially valuable during the formation of Faith United Lutheran Church. Similarly, during the COVID shut down Donna put forth many hands-on and conversational hours in order to follow protocol. She even spent one Sunday making outside home visits and shared them on social media. The process of selling the Bethany Building also came under the purview of her leadership. Always working for the good of the congregation, Donna has served with grace, loyalty, and respect for all.

Finally, The Women’s Retreat has been postponed twice in the last year. The new date is October 29 & 30, 2021.

Living Awake,

Cindy Sauppé

**Rummage Sale Committee**

(This is a repeat from the last newsletter as reminder to continue saving items for the sale!)

Now that a vaccine seems to be offering promise of bringing Covid19 under control, we are hoping that we will be able to have the rummage sale this summer. As of now we are planning to have it on Aug. 5-7. With this in mind, we ask you to continue to save items for us. Remember, however, that we don not accept computers or televisions. We have missed seeing all of you. We look forward to hopefully being able to worship together again and then enjoying the camaraderie that we experience with this sale. Stay safe!

**From the Office Secretary**

I recently placed a post on Facebook, but I wanted to make sure it reaches as many people as possible. The church has been approached by a group called the "Tellegacy Program" seeking older members who would like to participate in their program. The idea is to connect trained college students with older individuals, especially those in nursing homes disconnected from their family and friends during the pandemic and record their thoughts and memories. You might remember the "StoryCorps" project done through NPR. I have attached a link to the Tellegacy Website so you can get more information. If you are interested, there is a contact form at the bottom of the page. This is, by the way, a legitimate program. I'm thinking of doing it myself. I can answer some questions if you have any or contact the program directly. Maybe give it some thought!!

Here is the link: [https://www.achi.solutions/tellegacy](https://l.facebook.com/l.php?u=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.achi.solutions%2Ftellegacy%3Ffbclid%3DIwAR01siMX881wiUCKOpu0dKFAm8bD4ib_gVgKZecx7rLgAblg-6XRWyluYWw&h=AT2RcL6STkRk3wkCdd388Vwbfvbd80ZKWe5NE6lGiVLrnV7WHTp-JJu_-EIpJXzXsNOd2aBHwpP7CiC4l4__L-uWoNEpDPsp05F00BZy553n7kHM13_BqZYLOTIZ5vy4kNXM&__tn__=-UK-R&c%5b0%5d=AT2Z5P2HrKyqiAqYxOe7XIamVMfWINFEim48bwlFVu2BX2yx6_eYeTbj32l77qxFQrwAXXeQfFNPcIyrjux8jrZXtCy-2Gi1FsqfwjKhj0Ee3nhIp-egRJTsDdNZ5iO91rFPwF-WZGeM80OLAUCFkCxJKdhlw7cl39SvbZ-lVfCu-ZyoFK8)

Luther Hall is being booked for events and continuing sports activities quite regularly now. As a matter of fact, weekends are booking up fairly rapidly, so if you are thinking about using the hall for some event, it would be best to get your application in as soon as possible. Folks are calling for into June already.

The April-May-June “Word in Season” is now available in the office. If you want to drop by the church to pick one up, just give me a call and I can meet you at the Luther Hall door. If you need someone to bring one to you, please call and I will make sure you get one.

Jan Weatherly

**From the Outreach Ministry**

I hope those who received the “Share God’s Blessings” packets have been using them to help out our community and get our name out. I have more of the cards if you would like to get a few more. If you have a special time you used one, let me know, or post it on Facebook.

I have another project in the works. I’ve slowed it down a little to give people time to get through our delightful weather ☹ and in hopes the Covid-19 threat starts to recede a bit. This next project will benefit the entire world.

Faith United has been approached by the Synod to have our Supply Pantry in one of their monthly discipleship spots. This is such wonderful news. They would come in and take some pictures and interview the workers. To put our best foot forward, I am seeking a couple people willing to come in for a few hours to help give the room a thorough cleaning and a little decorating before they come in for pictures. New curtains, some wall hangings, and a new set up will make a world of difference in the room. If you could help, give me a call in the office, and we can set something up.

Also, regarding the Supply Pantry, I have asked the 5 principals to hold off on passing out the postcards to the kids to take home until the fall. It’s unfortunate but the Covid-19 pandemic has pretty much put a damper on any teachers coming in. We keep it advertised, so we might see a few, but probably not until lockdowns are relaxed. This project is by no means dead.

As always, anyone wishing to be a part of the Outreach Ministry would be sincerely welcome and appreciated.

Jan Weatherly

Outreach Ministry Chairperson

**In Our Prayers**

**Home:** Corinne Oliger, Marcia Conn, Mary Ann & William McDermott, Art Schroeder, Terry Belcik, Jan Ellenberger, Wow Wagner, Randy Collier, Lois Manning, Jan Leonard, Julie & Rick Hagg, Phyllis Neeley, Char Bowlus, Judy & Al Schaarschmidt, John Bailiff, Sandy Drake, Larry & Sandy Matzinger, Gloria DeMeritt, Lori Knous, Pattie Webber, Joanna Ranes, Colleen Krebser, Shearl Schmidt, Linda Bellman.

**Hospitals/Care Centers:** Pastor Mays (Sunset House); Shirley Kennedy (Rosary Care Center); Michael Morrin; Elsie Johnson (The Waterford At Levis Commons), Daniel Young (Anne Grady).

**Family And Friends:** Lauren Schaeffer, Julie Hipple; Nicole Erdman; Paula Sanner, Gina Glover, Margaret, Tom & Jack Schonter; Violet Liest; Jeff Snow; Connie & Brandon Sondergeld & Katie Holtgrieve; Clay Wilson; Frankie Edinger, Jim Ansted; Cara, Bob & son of Jennifer Prueter; Mike Jorris; Regina, Kim; Janice Blazey, Erica Foster, Christina Loyd, Jim Lang, Sharon; Heather; Wendy & Neal; Maggie & Britany; Sandie & Keith Rabie; Karen Sauppe & Tim Cummings; Jaime Wetherald; Chuck & Shirley Skeldon; Karen Bernadino; Betsy Jaynes, Kristie Massie, Morgan Hickerson; Barbara McClintock; Noah Asher, Adeline Masters; Tony & Pam Zglinski; Vern, Joe Hoye, Jim Relford; Ryan Schaarschmidt; Mike Smith; Phil & Katie Rittner; Terry Stygles; Julie; Lou Galambos; Tom & Teri, Jim, Linda & Fritz, Betty, Nathan, Dennis & family, Lou & Barbie, Beverly, & Linda & Jim; Ann Green & Family; Marilyn & Deb H; Bev; Steve, Toni; Ian & Deb; Laura; Tom McNally; John Bailiff’s sister, Sandy; Kelly.

**In the military**: Bill Myers, Ashley and Jason Weatherly, Kyle Dietrich, Kyle Mikolajczyk, Kayla Fowler, Sean Ray, Logan Hillesheim, Chris, Tyler Coulter, Pete Christoff, Roy Oberhaus.

*If your birthday or anniversary is not listed, contact Peg Hinds or the church office.*

**March Birthdays Anniversaries**

1 Frank Weaver 21 Fred & Corinne Oliger

6 Libby Ketterman 22 Shearl & Eric Schmidt

7 Fran Oliver

9 Linda Weaver, Vikki Weaver

10 Jan Weatherly

11 Tom Titkemeier

14 Elsie Johnson

22 Dorothea Goodlet

23 Carole Haugh, Barb Links

24 Linda Bellman

29 Leslee Fowler

**April Birthdays Anniversaries**

3 Terry Belcik 18 Al & Judy Schaarschmidt

8 Sheryl Johnson 28 Larry & Sandy Matzinger

17 Dave Hinds

18 Pam Zglinski, Lana Saylor

26 Tony Zglinski

29 Jim Gries

**March Bible Readings**

1 Hebrews 1:8-12 17 John 8:12-20

2 Hebrews 11:1-3, 13-19 18 Hebrews 4:1-13

3 John 12:36-43 19 Hebrews 4:14-5:4

4 1 Peter 2:4-10 20 John 12:1-11

5 Acts 7:30-40 21 John 12:20-33

6 Mark 9:2-8 22 2 Corinthians 3:4-11

7 John 2:13-22 23 Acts 2:14-24

8 1 Corinthians 3:10-23 24 John 12:34-50

9 Hebrews 9:23-28 25 Philippians 2:1-11

10 Mark 11:15-19 26 Philippians 2:12-18

11 Ephesians 1:3-6 27 Mark 10:32-34, 46-52

12 Ephesians 1:7-14 28 Mark 14:1-15:47

13 John 3:1-13 29 John 23:1-11

14 John 3:14-21 30 John 12:20-36

15 Hebrews 3:1-6 31 John 13:21-32

16 1 Corinthians 10:6-13

**April Bible Readings**

1 John 15:1-17, 31b-35 16 1 John 2:26-28

2 John 18:1-19:42 17 Luke 22:24-30

3 John 20:1-18 18 Luke 24:36b-48

4 Mark 16:1-8 19 1 John 3:10-16

5 1 Corinthians 15:35-49 20 2 John 1-6

6 1 Corinthians 15:50-58 21 Mark 16: 9-18

7 Mark 16:1-8 22 Acts 3:17-26

8 Acts 2:42-47 23 Acts 4:1-4

9 Acts 4:23-31 24 Mark 6:30-34

10 John 12:44-50 25 John 10:11-18

11 John 20:19-31 26 1 Peter 5:1-5

12 1 John 2:3-11 27 Revelation 7:13-17

13 1 John 2:12-17 28 Mark 14:26-31

14 Mark 12:18-27 29 Acts 8:1b-8

15 1 John 2:18-25 30 Acts 8:9-25

**Reminder: Daylight Saving Time begins March 14. Spring ahead – move your clocks up one hour!**

**Holy Week Dates**

April 1 Maundy Thursday

 2 Good Friday

 3 Easter Vigil (Holy Saturday)

 4 Easter Sunday

Wishing you all a Blessed Easter

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