**FAITH UNITED LUTHERAN CHURCH**

**4543 DOUGLAS ROAD**

**TOLEDO, OH 43613**

**MAY/JUNE 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., Tues., Thurs. – 9:00-4:00; Wed. 10:00-4:00; Fri. 9:00-2:00.

*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,

 Jesus teaches us that there is a season to abide (rest) and a season to be fruitful (do). Read John 15. The pandemic forced us into a season of abiding. This was an opportunity for each Christian and our church to reflect on what it means to be disciple and what it means to be fruitful for the Kingdom of God. Abiding is a time of preparation for spiritual growth.

 I believe we are now moving into a season of fruitfulness. This is a time to do. It is a chance to focus our attention on those things that bear fruit and to cut away those things that do not (again, read John 15). I want to lift up two ministries that I believe have an opportunity to reach many for Christ. Each of these are ministries that we are learning about and being encouraged to pursue through the Church Innovators’ Academy formed by our bishop.

The first ministry is one that has the ability to both care for long time members and reach new people for Christ. It is our hope and prayer to expand and enhance our online ministries. Through the pandemic, we discovered that online ministry can both make our church accessible for those who are shut in and otherwise unable to physically attend and significantly broaden our reach and ability to touch new lives. Rather than ceasing this ministry as in-person ministry returns, we want to expand this as a permanent facet of what we do. But in order to do that, we need people who see the value of this and are willing to be part of a team to make it happen. These individuals should be comfortable with technology and excited about the possibilities of growing our church through a quality online presence. If this is you, please email me at pastortom@faithunited.church so that we can connect you with other likeminded people.

 The second calls for all of us to think of the ways we can do church outside the four walls of our building. It challenges us to rethink our traditional definitions of “church” and consider how we might take the church to those who do not believe and may never walk through the doors of a traditional building. They are called “fresh expressions” of church. What if church “happened” at a Mexican restaurant or a dog park or a bar? These have all happened with great success in reaching people for Christ and sharing the Gospel with people far from God. If this excites you and you would like to learn more about this, then, again, contact me at the same email above. I would love to share more with you and invite you to learn with me as we pursue planting “fresh expressions” wherever we live.

 This is an incredibly important time for Faith United. What we do in the present will shape the future of our church for years to come.

United in Faith,

Pastor Tom

RUMMAGE SALE REMINDER. Just a quick reminder that, as you do your spring cleaning, please save items to be put in the August 5-7 Rummage Sale. There will be more information about the rummage sale in the next newsletter.

**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.

OUTREACH MINISTRY

An exciting new opportunity has presented itself to Faith United for our Outreach Ministry. A project has been in the planning stages for a little while, but we can potentially go full steam ahead if a grant that has become available is awarded to the church. It will be summer-long project, geared towards inviting the community to join us in several public events.

The Teachers’ Pantry has been very quiet, for obvious reasons, but it is hoped that this fall things will pick up. At the beginning of the next school year, students at 5 elementary schools will be given certificates to take home to their parents which will allow the parents to come in and get supplies they would otherwise not be able to provide their children.

Outreach, and Evangelism, is perhaps more important now than it has ever been for churches. The pandemic has dealt a crushing blow to vast numbers of congregations in the U.S. and abroad. Planning is not enough. I have at least 6 other Outreach projects on the “idea” list, but without greater involvement from the members of the congregation, none of those ideas can come to fruition.

While the above-noted items are great steps forward for the church, they cannot happen without the support of people. Wow Wagner and Trisha Haase, who I can’t thank enough, have helped me in the past with the Teachers’ Pantry. There is no one who is too old, too young, too busy, or too disabled to take part in fulfilling our Lord’s Great Commission. Please consider, as Pastor Tom spoke about in his sermon on 04/18/2021(the martyrdom of Stephen), stepping forward to show what Faith United Lutheran Church is all about.

Jan Weatherly, Chairperson

**News from WELCA**

It has been many 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. I am delighted to announce that we WILL be 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. Any questions, please contact Cincy Sauppé.

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.

Living Awake,

Cindy Sauppé

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE CHURCH SECRETARY

Hasn’t it been wonderful to be back in worship together? While things have definitely gotten a lot busier, it feels good to be working hard again. Luther Hall, the Lounge, and the rooms on the lower education level are being rented, including long-term rentals, at a greatly increased rate. We are in the process of putting a lease agreement together with a local driving school to hold their classes here.

While we have yet to start using paper bulletins, the supply of copier paper has diminished. If anyone would be able to contribute a ream or two, it would be of great help when we do go back to paper. In addition, toilet paper, paper towels, hand soap, disinfectant spray, and hand sanitizer are much needed. The bottles of hand sanitizer in the pews are coming close to needing to be changed for fresh.

Another part of getting back to worship is the need for worship assistants. Ushers, readers, counters, acolytes, and folks to help sanitize the church are all needed. It would be most helpful if anyone who is willing and able to help let the office know. Until we go back to one service, many more people are needed. It’s not possible to make schedules, so I will be grabbing folks as needed, if available.

Finally, I would like to thank all the members who helped out over the past few months. Not sure what I would have done without Paul Nelson. Others also helped us get back into the swing of worship together.

Yours in Christ,

Jan Weatherly, Secretary

GARDEN MINISTRY

Calling all persons with OR without a green thumb! On **Saturday, May 1 at 9:30am,** we need many people to help us clean out the flower beds around the entire church to get ready to plant. We have been gifted a large number of day lilies that we need to make room for. Now that’s a beautiful problem to have! As they say, many hands make light work. The more people who can help, the quicker it will get done. Please consider giving an hour or two to this project. If you can help, please bring whatever yard tools you might have to clean out the dead plants and to plant the new ones. Hope to see you on May 1!

IN OUR PRAYERS\*

Home: Art Michaelis, Nancy Taylor, Corinne Oliger, Marcia Conn, William & Mary Ann McDermott, Art Schroeder, Terry Belcik, Jan Ellenberger, Wow Wagner, Daniel Young, Randy Collier, Jan Leonard, Julie & Rick Hagg, Char Bowlus, Judy & Al Schaarschmidt, John Bailiff, Sandy Drake, Larry & Sandy Matzinger, Gloria DeMerritt, Lori Knous, Pattie Webber, Joanna Ranes, Colleen Krebser, Shearl Schmidt, Bethany Collier.

Hospitals/Care Centers: Pastor Mays (Charter Senior Living of Oak Openings); Michael Morrin; Elsie Johnson (The Waterford At Levis Commons); Phyllis Neeley (Upper Valley Med. Ctr, Troy OH).

Family And Friends: Lauren Schaeffer, Julie Hipple; Nicole Erdman; Paula Sanner, Gina Glover, Margaret, 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, Steve Kern, 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, Jeff Decker; Noah Asher, Adeline Masters; Tony & Pam Zglinski; Vern, Joe Hoye, Jim Relford; Ryan Schaarschmidt; Mike Smith; Phil & Katie Rittner; Terry Stygles; Julie; 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; Andrew & Terri Anton, Susie Grins.
**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.

\*Please read through this list carefully and let the office know of anyone that should be removed, added, or changed.

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

The following is a list of worship assistants for next month. If you are unwilling or unable to serve as noted, please let the office know immediately.

May 2

9:00 Reader – Joanne Kraus

 Ushers – Art Schroeder, Mike Link

 Acolyte – Grace Anton

11:00 Reader – Keith Flick

 Ushers – Frank Weaver, Fred Oliger

 Acolyte – Christian Hennessey

 Counters – Ruth & Roger Stygles

May 9

9:00 Reader – Grace Anton

 Ushers – Paul Nelson, Jim Gries

 Acolyte – Sage Wilson

11:00 Reader – Sue Gries

 Ushers – Art Schroeder, Don Baker

 Acolyte – Sage Wilson

 Counters – Jan Weatherly, Grace Anton

May 16

9:00 Reader – Frank Weaver

 Ushers – Paul Nelson, Jim Gries

 Acolyte – Sky Wilson

11:00 Reader – Cindy Sauppe’

 Ushers – Mike Link, Frank Weaver

 Acolyte – Grace Anton

 Counters – Joanne Kraus, Grace Anton

May 23

9:00 Reader – Paul Nelson

 Ushers – Art Schroeder, Mike Link

 Acolyte – Christian Hennessey

11:00 Reader – Grace Anton

 Ushers – Don Baker, Frank Weaver

 Acolyte – Sage Wilson

 Counters – Ruth & Roger Stygles

May 30

9:00 Reader – Sue Gries

 Ushers – Jim Gries, Fred Oliger

 Acolyte – Sky Wilson

11:00 Reader – Linda Bailiff

 Ushers – Paul Nelson, Mike Link

 Acolyte – Grace Anton

 Counters – Jan Weatherly, Joanne Kraus

PLEASE LET THE OFFICE KNOW IMMEDIATELY IF YOU ARE NOT ABLE TO SERVE WHEN SCHEDULED. OTHERS WILL NEED TO BE FOUND TO REPLACE.

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

**May Birthdays Anniversaries**

1 Larry Ray 8 Mr. & Mrs. Irv Precht

11 Bill Brown 25 Bill & Molly Brown

14 Sandy Matzinger

17 Michael Saylor

24 Larry Matzinger

31 Fred Oliger

**June Birthdays Anniversaries**

1 Amy Irons 9 Frank & Vikki Weaver

2 Sharon Taylor-Ansted 20 Art & Brenda Michaelis

12 Dolores Binkowski

17 Lon Stender

22 Eric Schmidt

24 Tom Hillesheim

29 Corinne Oliger

**May Bible Readings**

1 Mark 4:30-32 17 Philippians 1:3-11

2 John 15:1-8 18 Titus 1:1-9

3 Galatians 5:16-26 19 John 26:6-19

4 James 3:17-18 20 1 Corinthians 15:42b-49

5 John 14:18-31 21 1 Corinthians 15:50-57

6 Acts 10:1-34 22 John 7:37-39

7 Acts 10:34-43 23 John 15:26-27, 16:4b-15

8 Mark 10:42-45 24 1 Corinthians 12:4-11

9 John 15:9-17 25 1 Corinthians 12:12-27

10 1 Timothy 6:11-12 26 John 20:19-23

11 1 Timothy 6:13-16 27 Romans 8:1-8

12 Mark 16:19-20 28 Romans 8:9-11

13 Luke 24:44-53 29 John 15:18-20, 26-27

14 Revelation 1:9-18 30 John 3:1-17

15 John 16:4-11 31 Romans 9:19-29

16 John 17:6-19

**June Bible Readings**

1 Acts 15:1-5 22-35 16 Luke 6:43-45

2 John 5:1-18 17 Acts 20:1-16

3 1 Peter 4:7-19 18 Acts 21:1-16

4 2 Corinthians 5:1-5 19 Luke 21:25-28

5 Luke 8:4-15 20 Mark 4:35-41

6 Mark 3:20-35 21 Acts 27:13-38

7 Revelation 20:1-6 22 Acts 27:39-44

8 Revelation 20:7-15 23 Mark 6:45-52

9 Luke 11:24-28 24 2 Corinthians 7:2-16

10 Hebrews 2:5-9 25 2 Corinthians 8:1-7

11 Hebrews 11:4-7 26 Luke 4:31-37

12 Mark 4:1-20 27 Mark 5:21-43

13 Mark 4:26-34 28 2 Corinthians 8:16-24

14 Galatians 6:11-18 29 2 Corinthians 9:1-5

15 Revelation 21:22-22:5 30 Mark 9:14-29