**FAITH UNITED LUTHERAN CHURCH 4543 DOUGLAS ROAD**

**TOLEDO, OH 43613**

**JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2024**

**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: Sunday – 10:00 am

Secretary: Jan Weatherly Choir Director: Rick Napierala

Organist: Patricia Haase Vicar: Frank Weaver Office Hours: Monday through Friday, 10:00 am – 3:00 pm

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

# Faith United Lutheran Church Mission Statement

We are committed to seeing every member grow as a “disciple who makes disciples.” We profess that the church is not a building but is the people of God sent into the world to proclaim the Gospel. We do this through both words and actions with the hope of seeing more and more people come to faith in Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior.

**A Message from our Pastor**

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I am really looking forward to Lent and Holy Week this year. To some, it may sound strange that I am looking forward to a season of repentance and self-denial. But since I was young, I have always loved the focus that observing Lent has given to my discipleship and the subsequent growth I experience in my faith. I’m sure many of you feel the same. But whether Lent is your favorite time of year or if this will be your first time observing Lent, I hope you will join me in the journey.

This year, we will again be splitting services between two of our sister churches- Our Savior and St. Luke’s. Ash Wednesday falls on February 14 and will be celebrated at The Lutheran Church of Our Savior. Maundy Thursday is on March 28 and will be at St. Luke’s in Temperance, MI. Good Friday will be at Faith United on March 29. This will be a Tenebrae service entitled Song of the Shadows that will be lead our choir and directed by Rick Napierala. The times of these services has not yet been established.

At Faith United, we will also be having midweek Lenten services each Wednesday following Ash Wednesday. I am still working on the theme. But I am confident these services will be a positive addition to your Lenten journey. The starting time of these services will be at 7 pm. Please join us.

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.

**Web Site** – The church’s Web site, [www.faithunitedlutherantoledo.com](http://www.faithunitedlutherantoledo.com/) or [www.faithunited.church,](http://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 is fully open to visitors again. Office hours are 10:30 – 3:00 M-F.

**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.

**Lenten Schedule**

Wed., Feb. 14

Ash Wednesday at Our Savior

Time to be announced

Wed., Feb. 21, Feb. 28, Mar. 6, Mar. 13, Mar. 20 Mid-week Worship at Faith United 7:00pm

Sunday, Mar. 24

Thursday, Mar. 28

Friday, Mar. 29

Sunday, Mar. 31

Palm Sunday 10:00am

Maundy Thursday at St. Luke’s in Temperance

Time to be announced

Good Friday Tenebrae Service at Faith United 7:00pm

Easter Festival Worship at Faith United

10:00am

# WELCA (Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America)

Our Winter/Spring 2024 Bible Study is entitled “Scripture and Nature: Teaches of Faith”, the Rev. Sara Olson-Smith At our January 6 gathering the focus was scripture and weather, and as God would have it, has given us some mighty apparent weather. Weather is “a powerful force for change. We cannot control the weather, but we can learn from it.

Storms, rain, draught and wind shape the lives of human and non-human beings, both in scripture and today. As we face catastrophic storms and the weird weather of climate change biblical stories of extraordinary weather convict and humble us. They show us how to live faithfully, moving us to act even when we feel powerless.”

On February 3 we gather again in the lounge at 10:00 am and discuss, “Creatures: Our siblings in praise and trust. Jesus invites us to consider the birds, but we will get to know biblical critters beyond the sparrows. We will look at biblical animals (some adorable, some terrifying) from ravens and lions to a big fish, paired creatures on the ark, and the sneaky serpent in Eden. Storie of human and animal interactions in Scripture help us to reorient our relationships with the non-human world, while pulling us into deeper trust in God.”

Thank you to all for the donations to the Toledo Gospel Rescue Mission. Each item was gratefully received.

On February 3, after our Bible Study, we will distribute socks and snacks to folks participating in the Saturday give away ministry near the downtown library. Your donations to this effort will be graciously accepted until Sunday, January 26. Our next Mission:Action outreach project collection for February and March will support Rebekah’s Haven. Located on Phillips Ave., this shelter from the storms of life offers a safe haven for mothers with their small children. We will be collecting toilet paper, paper towels and forks and spoons.

It seems like a whole lot of asking, right? Well, though it is, it is also a whole lot of love given in the name of Jesus. Looking Ahead:

March 4 - Bible Study and Fellowship, 10:00 am in the Lounge March 23 – WELCA Communion Breakfast, 10:00 am

Living Awake, Cindy Sauppé

# January-February 2024 Report from Office Secretary

For those of you who remember Lydia Latsch, she has not been able to attend for a number of years now, we received a very nice letter from her daughter-in-law thanking the members of Faith United for remembering her during the recent Christmas season. Our Member Care group took the time to contact her. She has been living with her son and daughter-in- law for some time now. She appears to be doing well health-wise, although she does have dementia, which, as dementia does, is slowly becoming worse.

The church also received Christmas cards from Julie Boesenhofer, Kathryn Bryant, Libby Ketterman, and Lydia. Speaking of Christmas, Rick Napierala, his father, and the members of our choir and congregation did an amazing job decorating the church. Christmas Eve was truly meaningful.

# January-February 2024

**Report From Outreach/Evangelism Ministry**

I completely forgot to put in a notice about the upcoming TGIF Food & Fun night in January. Along with the monthly free community meal, our fun night will be held on Friday, January 28th. Dinner is served from 6:00-7:00, and the entertainment portion will begin after dinner. There are a number of new games for all ages, including bowling, table-top games, board games, and group card games.

It is the hope of the Outreach ministry to grow this community Outreach program in 2024. We will continue to hold the meal and fun night on the last Friday of each month. Dinner is 6:00-7:00, and everyone, and invited guests, is welcome to join in. There is also a possibility of a new event, which, hopefully, will become another regular monthly activity.

I personally would like to invite every member of the congregation to join us, and to invite someone to join them. Yours in Christ,

Jan Weatherly, Outreach/Evangelism Ministry Coordinator

# Annual Congregational Meeting and luncheon – Sunday, Jan. 28 after worship!!!!

**Winter Weather Cancellation Policy –** If Wood County (where Pastor Tom lives) is at a level 3, church will be cancelled. If Lucas County is a Level 3, church is cancelled. If either counties go to a level 2, we will have worship but please use your best judgement about attending. We will announce any closures on Channels 11 & 13 on Sunday mornings.

**Thank you** to the many members who stayed after worship and took down the Christmas decorations. It was amazing to watch! It was all down and put away properly in one hour!

**Flowers for Easter**

At the time of writing this, we do not have a price list for the spring flowers for Easter. This will be sent out in a separate email and order forms will be in the bulletins on Sunday mornings.

# Your 2024 Church Council

The Church Council for 2024 is as follows: President – Jim Gries, Vice President – Paul Nelson, Secretary – Peg Hinds Grace Anton, Mike Fowler, Sheryl Johnson, Sarah Monnett, Donna Morrin and Art Schroeder.

At this time we would like to recognize and thank Donna Morrin for the outstanding job she did as Council President for the past two years. Not once, but twice, Donna oversaw the merger of what was once three separate churches into Faith United. This was a huge job. It took hundreds of hours of work on her part as well as her steady leadership to make this all happen. Faith United owes Donna a huge debt of gratitude. Donna can now rest and be a “regular” council member in 2024.

# Regular Building Use Schedule January-February 2024

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Monday | 11:00-1:30 | Open-Minded AA | Lower Education Wing |
|  | 4:30-9:30 | Driving School | Lower Education Wing |
|  | 5:30-8:30 | Kylie & Co | Luther Hall |
| Tuesday | 11:00-1:30 | Open-Minded AA | Lower Education Wing |
|  | 4:30-9:30 | Volleyball Practice | Luther Hall |
|  | 4:30-9:30 | Driving School | Lower Education Wing |
| Wednesday | 11:00-1:30 | Open-Minded AA | Lower Education Wing |
|  | 5:30-8:30 | Kylie & Co | Luther Hall |
|  | 7:00-8:00 | Zoom Bible Study | Online |
|  | 7:30-10:00 | 12-Step West | Lower Education Wing |
| Thursday | 11:00-1:30 | Open-Minded AA | Lower Education Wing |
|  | 5:30-7:00 | Basketball | Luther Hall |
|  | 4:30-9:30 | Driving School | Lower Education Wing |
|  | 7:00-9:30 | Volleyball Practice | Luther Hall |
|  | 6:00-6:45 | Bell Choir | Sanctuary |
|  | 7:00-9:00 | Choir | Sanctuary |
| Friday | 11:00-1:30 | Open-Minded AA | Lower Education Wing |
|  | 4:30-9:30 | Volleyball Practice | Luther Hall |
| Saturday | 11:00-1:30 | Open-Minded AA | Lower Education Wing |

**Special Building Use January-February 2024**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Saturday | 01/20/2024 | 9:00-10:00 | Softball Practice | Luther Hall |
| Wednesday | 01/24/2024 | 11:00-1:00 | Document Ministry | Luther Hall |
| Friday | 01/26/2024 | 6:00-?? | TGIF Food & Fun | Luther Hall |
| Sunday | 01/28/2024 | After Worship | Annual Meeting | Luther Hall |
| -------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------- |
| Saturday | 02/03/2024 | 10:00-12:00 | WELCA | Lounge |
|  |  | 9:00-10:00 | Softball Practice | Luther Hall |
| Saturday | 02/10/2024 | 9:00-10:00 | Softball Practice | Luther Hall |
|  |  | 12:00-10:00 | Private Event | Luther Hall |
| Wednesday | 02/14/2024 | 11:00-1:00 | Document Ministry | Luther Hall |
| Saturday | 02/17/2024 | 12:00-9:00 | Private Event | Luther Hall |
|  |  | 9:00-10:00 | Softball Practice | Luther Hall |
| Sunday | 02/18/2024 | 12:00-10:00 | Private Event | Luther Hall |
| Saturday | 02/24/2024 | 12:00-10:00 | Private Event | Luther Hall |
| Sunday | 02/25/2024 | 10:00-10:00 | Private Event | Luther Hall |
| Wednesday | 02/28/2024 | 11:00-1:00 | Document Ministry | Luther Hall |

**IN OUR PRAYERS**

Home: Nancy Reynolds; Corinne & Fred Oliger; Nancy Robinson; Ann Krebser; Don Baker; Carol Meyer; Sue Kusz; Mike Fowler; Dave & Nancy Reynolds; John & Linda Bailiff; Sarah Monnett; Bethany Collier; Karen & Mike Isbell; Tom & Mike Hillesheim;, Joanna Ranes; Molly Brown & family; Rob Young; Carole Haugh; John Kusz; Freider Kempf; Carol & Chuck Dolt; Marcia Conn; Bill & Mary Ann McDermott; Art Schroeder; Julie Boesenhofer; Randy Collier; John Bailiff; Sandy & Steve Drake; Larry Matzinger; Lori Knous; Lydia Latsch;

Hospitals/Care Centers: Gloria DeMerritt (Kingston on King Rd); Libby Ketterman (Swan Creek); Pastor Nick Mays (Charter Senior Living of Oak Openings); Michael Morrin.

Friends & Family: Marlene Dugan, by Jan Ellenberger; Valerie, Kay, & Dan; Gary & Lois; Margaret Schonter; Baby Mya; Debbie Gautz; Doug & Steve, by Wow Wagner; Paige, Eric, Mick & Renee; Paul, Mary Jane, Karen, Alice, Nancy, Vicki, Zeams family, & Grzybowski family; Kenneth, Lucive, Bill, Kathryn; Rene, Mick, Ronnie; Paul, Karen, Alice, Nancy, Beth, Nancy; Chad Wells; Nolan Vasek; Palmer Family, Dave Krolak; Denise James; Jim Householder and the Householder Family; Ann Marie Montgomery & Family; Joy & Jim McGuchey, The Brown Family, Lauren & Bill, by Karen Schaeffer; Donna Skiver, by Craig’s Keyboards, Mark Baker, by Diana Coyne; Tom Montgomery, by Margaret Nelson; Sandy & Lea Ann; Bill K.; George Siegrist, by Joanna Ranes; Bauman & Saunders Families; Jim Coyne; Sue & Gary, George, Linda & Fritz, Devan & John, Dana & Tabb, Patti, Jenny & Hunter, David, Kim & Dan, Al, Bryan & Lisa, Tom & Teri, Dennis, Dawn, Naomi & Delano, Barbie, Sue & Mike Hosler, Adam Burgess.

In the military: Roy Oberhaus, Bill Myers, Ashley and Jason Weatherly, Kyle Dietrich, Kayla Maher, Sean Ray, Logan Hillesheim, Chris, Pete Christoff, Nicholas Kerchvall, Andrea Perry

**December Income and Expenses**

This information is compiled from the weekly offering control sheets

**Accounting of Income:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| L/R New Life | 1,300.00 |
| Loose | 561.00 |
| Online Giving | 1628.50 |
| Currency/Checks | 18,513.00 |
| Rental | 2,210.00 Rental deposits not refunded yet |
| Building Fund | 40.00 |
| Synod Benevolence | 4.00 |
| Misc. Flowers/Outreach | 264.00 |
| Misc.Christmas, Holidays | 1015.00 |
| LWorld Hunger Lutheran DisasterFYN/Comp refund | 150.00737.31 |
| Kroger Rewards | 195.15 |
| Memorials to be transferred. | 474.70 Not used for budgeted expenses |
| Income Deposited**Expense Paid** | 26,992.66 |
| 1. Synod Benevolence
2. Parish Ministry
 | 10,002.31 | (Paid quarterly) |
| C. Worship | 4,343.81 |  |
| D. Christian Ed | 0 |  |
| E. Programs | 315.92 |  |
| F. Parish Administration | 4,272.87 |  |
| G. Maintenance | 6,180.63. | Semi annual taxes paid quarterly and qtly insurance |
| H. Building Mortgage | 1,829.00. |  |
| Total Expenses | 26,944.54 |  |
| Income Over Expenses | 48.12 |  |

# Happy Birthday to…! Happy Anniversary to…

Jan. 4 Rose Taylor, Abigail Wells

1. Benjamin Pushka
2. Jan Ellenberger
3. Kristen Ray
4. Paul Haase, Mike Hillesheim

14 Jack Bartelheim

18 Marcia Conn, Christina Bartelheim

22 Wilson Collier, Lynne Jacobson

25 Amy Thompson

# Happy Birthday to the following who celebrate their birthdays in February!

2 Diana Coyne, Joyce (Wow) Wagner, Molly Brown, Frank Navarre

5 Joanne Kraus, Jane Mullikin, Tyrone Rupp

7 Shearl Schmidt, Michele Flick

1. Caroline Dolt
2. Harper Paluga
3. Richard Kaetzel
4. Colby Wells
5. Tonya Schmidt, Danny Jaques
6. Madison Smith, McKenna Smith
7. Gale Rose
8. Kenleigh Carmony

# Happy Anniversary to the following couples who celebrate in February!

12 Mike and Barb Link

15 Phil and Nancy Sieja

**Bible Readings for January**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1 | Luke 2:15-21 | 17 | Luke 18:15-17 |
| 2 | James 3:13-18 | 18 | Revelation 18:11-20 |
| 3 | James 4:1-10 | 19 | 2 Peter 3:1-7 |
| 4 | James 4:11-17 | 20 | Luke 10:13-16 |
| 5 | Luke 6:27-31 | 21 | Mark 1:14-20 |
| 6 | Matthew 2:1-12 | 22 | 1 Corinthians 7:17-24 |
| 7 | Mark 1:4-11 | 23 | Acts 5:33-42 |
| 8 | Romans 4:1-12 | 24 | Mark 3:13-19a |
| 9 | Acts 22:2-16 | 25 | Romans 9:6-18 |
| 10 | John 1:29-34 | 26 | Revelation 2:12-17 |
| 11 | 2 Corinthians 10:1-11 | 27 | Matthew 8:28 – 9:1 |
| 12 | Acts 13:16-25 | 28 | Mark 1:21-28 |
| 13 | Matthew 25:1-13 | 29 | Acts 21:17-26 |
| 14 | John 1:43-51 | 30 | 1 Corinthians 7:32-40 |
| 15 | 2 Corinthians 6:14 – 7:1 | 31 | Mark 5:1-20 |
| 16 | Acts 5:1-11 |  |  |
| **Bible Readings for February** |
| 1 | John 5:19-29 | 16 | 2 Timothy 4:1-5 |
| 2 | Romans 3:1-8 | 17 | Matthew 9:2-13 |
| 3 | 2 Peter 1:1-11 | 18 | Mark 1:9-15 |
| 4 | John 7:53 – 8:11 | 19 | Ephesians 2:1-10 |
| 5 | 2 Corinthians 1:23 – 2:11 | 20 | 1 Peter 3:8-18a |
| 6 | 2 Corinthians 11:1-15 | 21 | Matthew 4:1-11 |
| 7 | John 3:22-36 | 22 | Romans 3:21-31 |
| 8 | 2 Corinthians 2:12-17 | 23 | Romans 4:1-12 |
| 9 | 1 Timothy 1:12-20 | 24 | Mark 8:27-30 |
| 10 | Luke 19:41-44 | 25 | Mark 8:31-38 |
| 11 | Mark 9:2-9 | 26 | Hebrews 1:8-12 |
| 12 | Acts 3:1-10 | 27 | Hebrews 11:1-3, 13-19 |
| 13 | 1 Corinthians 10:14 – 11:1 | 28 | John 12:36-43 |
| 14 | Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21 | 29 | 1 Peter 2:4-10 |
| 15 | 1 John 1:3-10 |  |  |