

Faith Lutheran Church

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Long Live Halloween!

Sort of. During my vicarage year I remember some contention over a festive October party at the church, involving children in costume, candy, and decorated trunks. In trying to navigate the issue, my supervisor at the time shared a journal article with me that I'm mostly summarizing here. The concern was that all these things too closely mirrored a pagan celebration, a "devil's holiday" if you will. So great effort was expended in trying to host a celebration for the community, while avoiding the comparisons to *Halloween*.

The decorated trunks could only depict biblical stories. Candy could only be distributed attached to Christian tracts. Costumes would not be scary. No ghosts, witches, wizards, or vampires. Nothing too secular or closely linked to paganism. This meant Captain America was ok, but not Thor. Those in "violation" would be asked to change or not to participate. Many chose not to participate.

(In a way it reminded me of the Sunday school class that was taught that when Jesus went to the wedding at Cana, he changed the wine into water.)

Does this really invoke the confidence we have in the victory Christ won for us on the cross over sin, death, and the power of the devil? Or is that victory immediately muted because a child has dressed up as a fictional wizard?

The first commandment teaches us we are to fear, love, and trust *in God* above all things. How quickly we would erect not only false gods but also a false devil in which to fear and crusade against, all while leaving a life unguarded to the real Satan.

Ephesians 6:14 - For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places.

See, there is another celebration this month where we will sing:

Though devils all the world should fill,

We tremble not, we fear no ill...One little word can fell him. (A Mighty Fortress is Our God, stanza 3)

Let us not be so naïve as to think we can effectively battle the devil by banning jack-o-lanterns and tearing up decorations of bats and black cats. We resist the devil when we remember the claim that is made on us in Holy Baptism. We resist the power of sin in our lives when we wear the whole armor of God that equips us in the Word of God; the Word that makes us free and forgiven. We resist death itself when we confess "the resurrection of the body and the life of the world to come!"

If you have doubts about Halloween's place in the life of a Christian then by all means avoid it. But don't let such doubts cloud your confidence that Christ, and not Satan, is in control.

Pastor Moyer

Living Faith Stewardship Campaign

Applying Biblical Teachings

“Give to Caesar what is Caesar’s, and to God what is God’s” (Matthew 22:21).

Jesus’ response to this carefully laid trap by the Pharisees was immediately understood by those who heard it. “When they heard this, they were amazed. So they left him and went away” (Matt. 22:22). These were the descendants of the same people of Israel who cried out to God, “Give us a king.” God gave them their king, but He warned them that they would neither be satisfied with or appreciate what they were to receive, for true people of God have their King, and no earthly ruler need intervene.

Here, in these few words, Jesus set apart from each other the temporal kingdom and the kingdom of heaven. Jesus the Christ, as King of Kings and Lord of Lords, grants the temporal kingdoms, the ruling governments of this world, authority over people and property. Jesus the Christ, as King of Kings and Lord of Lords, rightfully reigns supreme in the kingdom of heaven, the kingdom of the soul.

Power has been granted to governments for protection from those who would do great harm to others. That’s why Romans 13:4 boldly proclaims, “For he is God’s servant to do you good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword for nothing. He is God’s servant, an agent of wrath to bring punishment on the wrongdoer.” Indeed, the laws of government over people and property are needed to teach, constrain and encourage people to do what is good and what is right.

Because of Christ’s redemptive act for all and by the working of the Holy Spirit through water and the Word, we have been given the kingdom of heaven. We have been brought into righteousness to glorify God through our words and deeds. We go far beyond just obeying God’s Law, for we put it into action. And this is also the case with the government God has placed over us. Where and when the government does not infringe on the kingdom of heaven, we do more than just obey the law of the land. In Christ, we gladly serve and assist our government, for it benefits our neighbor.

The same Christian generosity which we show to our families, our church and those near to us, we also show to our government. We use the blessings God has given us to support and advance that which God has placed over us. We gladly use our wealth, our time, our talents, and yes, even our lives in the service of our government. By the guidance of the Holy Spirit, working through the Word, we do this for the good of all and for the glory of God.



Minutes From Faith Lutheran Church Voters Meeting

September 19, 2019

In attendance— Dean Ayers, Tom and Chris Buckthorpe, Pastor Moyer, Sherry Hanovich, Bill Kiley, Bill Erfourth, Laura and Neil Hornbacher, Bob Holloway, Guy York, Kathy VanGordon, Karen Cowart, Jacqueline Rhodes and Sharon Vogel.

The Voters Assembly was called to order by President, Dean Ayers at 7:35 p.m. Tom started the meeting with our Opening Prayer. Pastor led a short devotion by reading the first article and explanation of Luther's Small Catechism.

Previous meeting minutes were read by Sherry Hanovich. Chris motioned to accept minutes, Karen seconded and all approved.

Pastor's Report – ~Pastor Moyer spoke about our Faith Legacy program at the circuit meeting. Other Lutheran churches within our circuit expressed interest in joining our program. ~Peace of Waterford and St. Mark of West Bloomfield are talking about merging churches. This is a good thing, Pastor requests our prayers for these churches. ~Pastor is adjusting the way we reach out to inactive members by seeking better tracking and follow-up. ~Pastor read a letter from he and Lisa thanking the congregation for our continued support.

Board of Education – ~Laura reported that Tracy is organizing a lock-in for youth 6th grade and up. Tracy is working with Patricia and they are hoping to have it in November. Other churches within our circuit are interested in joining. ~First youth group meeting went well. Two new faces joined the meeting. Next youth meeting is at Spicer's on October 13th, right after late service. ~Friday, September 27th is youth game night, from 7-9p.m. ~The youth would like to collect gently used purses and wallets for Purses with a Purpose. The purses will be filled with products for women and then donated to Carriage Town (Flint shelter for families). Collection will be November 1st through December 8th. ~Patricia will be conducting a bible study for confirmed youth, Purpose Driven Life. ~Our confirmation class is huge! ~Instead of bible study on December 1st, there will be an Advent learning event with all attendees receiving an Advent calendar. ~A new TV will be purchased and permanently mounted in the conference room.

Board of Elders – Bill Kiley reported for the board. ~Some changes were made to our Funeral policy. The changes will be discussed at the next Elders meeting. Work continues on our Emergency plan. ~\$150 will be allocated towards the Advent service bulletins.

Board of Outreach – Kathy announced Pastor Garrison will preach October 13. He will bring a Mobile Unit for touring, discussion and exhibit Faith's contribution to this mission. ~Trivia night will be October 19th from 5p.m.-8p.m. Proceeds will go to the youth group.

Board of Trustees – Dean announced there will be a work-bee October 19th to get the church ready for winter.

Treasurers Report -The treasurers report for July was presented by Bill Erfourth. Bill Kiley motioned to approve the report, Dean seconded and all approved.

Steven Ministry – Guy reported that training has begun. There are five (5) people going through the training: Stan and Geri Nelson, Mike Bockelman, Kathy Lemke and Jo-Ann Ruczynski. The group has completed two sessions.

Music – Jacqueline announced the adult choir will begin practicing for Christmas. Practices will be held at 7:00 p.m. November 6, 13 and 27th.

Old Business – The Bible Sale is going well - the final day to order is Sunday. ~The photo directory is still on target for first week in October. ~Pastor and Linda will discuss possibility of moving the weekly announcements from the Sunday service bulletin to a separate sheet.

Chris announced the dates and times for the following events:

October 27th at 2:00 - Pumpkin Festival

November 23rd at 5:00 – Harvest Dinner

December 4, 11, and 18th at 5:30 – Advent dinners

Dean requested use of community room on Thanksgiving – November 28th. Chris motioned to let the Ayers family use the facility on the 28th, Sharon seconded, all approved.

Guy requested use of the meeting room for the Stephen Ministers on Sunday, September 29th from 1-3:30 p.m. The Stephen Ministers will use Pastors office on October 19th, the day of the work bee.

New Business - Bill Erfourth announced that 2020 will be his last year as Treasurer. ~B&B's will be conducted when Bill is in town. ~The 2020 Budget worksheet was distributed to the chairs. It is due back in October. ~The Altar Guild proposed the purchase of a new Christmas candelabra to replace our old rickety one. Chris motioned to purchase the new candelabra, Sherry seconded and all approved. ~Bill is requesting help with the planning meetings. Bill reminded us that Senior Fit starts this Friday. It is important that the room be set up every Monday, Wednesday and Friday, as there are 40 participants. ~Karen purchased 50 Christmas stockings at the end of year sales. The stockings will be filled with goodies and handed out to children on Christmas Eve. ~Bill Kiley announced we have another endowment request. We can spend 5% of the fund balance every year for someone going into the ministry. After contributing \$5,000 to Evan Tino, we have a balance of \$80,366.19. The request comes from Carl Petzold, Faith Grand Blanc for the purpose of studying for the ministry. After discussion Bill Erfourth proposed we give Carl \$2,000 per year for his four years of study. Neil seconded, and all approved. ~ Our next Voters Assembly Meeting on October 17th will start at 7:00, instead of 7:30. ~Chris motioned we accept Amelia Thurm to membership as a newly confirmed member. Kathy seconded, all approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:53 p.m. by Dean. Tom closed the meeting with our closing prayer and the Lord's Prayer.

NEXT MEETING: October 17th, 2019 – 7:00 p.m.

Respectively submitted,

Sherry Hanovich, Recording Secretary



Congratulations to those celebrating birthdays in October:

2 Karen Genson	19 Madeline Broe
3 Scott Behr	21 Debbie Cubr
3 Marcella Diatchun	22 Michael Ennis
4 Dawne Claus	24 Shawn Trainer
4 Emersyn Mars	24 Kathy VanGordon
5 Beccie Oltesvig	25 Tanner Behr
7 Karen Cowart	25 Mary Strang
8 Ethan Duffy	25 Keith Wilson
10 Sandy Rilett	26 Faye Ambrozy
10 Justin Thurm	26 Jerry Ambrozy
11 Lucas Mars	26 Stacy Sawdon
12 Bob Jones	27 Ashley Holland
12 Lydia Thurm	27 Diane York
14 Reid Eriksen	31 Charlotte Lowe
14 Tammy Hagle	31 Amelia Thurm
14 Katie Tino	



Congratulations to those celebrating anniversaries in October:

Mike & Shannon Shaw	10-01-2016
Jim & Marlene Steck	10-09-1971
Jamie & Andrea Rakestraw	10-10-2002
John & Linda Zabik	10-15-1977
Steve & Debbie Tino	10-16-1976
Dean & Artie Ayers	10-19-1985
Mike & Janet Kramb	10-21-2006
Steve & Bonnie Delor	10-27-1990



Our Heartfelt Christian Sympathy to the family of one of our long time members, **Valerie Dicks**, who passed away on September 7, 2019. Valerie is the sister-in-law of Marilyn Dicks. May this family find peace in knowing Valerie is with her Lord in a beautiful heaven.

Congratulations to Amelia Thurm Confirmed Sunday, September 15, 2019



On Sunday, September 29th, during the 11:00am service, we welcomed **Caroline Marie Kirchner** into our Faith family by baptism. Caroline is the daughter of Brendan & Kathleen Kirchner. Godparents are Jacob Flight and Amy Gallagher. Proud grandparents are Steve & Shelley Kirchner. Blessings on this new little lamb of Jesus.

Mark Your Calendars for Upcoming Events at Faith:

- **Sunday, October 27, 2:00pm—
Pumpkinfest/Trunk-r-Treat**
- **Saturday, November 23, 5:00pm—
Harvest Dinner**
- **Wednesdays, December 4, 11 & 18—
Advent Dinners 5:30, Service 7:00pm**



Just Plant It

As the church year wraps up, many Bible readings address the end times and Jesus' return at an unknown date (unknown to all but God the Father, that is). Specific beliefs about the Second Coming vary throughout Christendom, but our attitude about that momentous event affects how we live right now.

"Even if I knew that tomorrow the world would go to pieces," Martin Luther reportedly said, "I would still plant my apple tree." Instead of constantly despairing about this broken-down world, we can remain determined to serve God and our neighbors, planting seeds of life and hope in the process.



Church Work Bee

October 19th
9:00am

There will be a "work bee" beginning at **9:00 am on October 19th** to get the church ready for winter. We can use all the help we can get! Plan to spend an hour or two helping to spruce up our church and get it ready for winter and the holidays to come!!!

All hands are welcome and appreciated !!!



MISSION
Statement

Our mission is to welcome and unite God's people to nurture faith through the Gospel, and provide opportunities and commitment to serve Christ through our ministry within the congregation and the community.



Family Game Night
October 25th
7:00—9:00pm



Join us for some fun & games!
Bring a favorite game and a snack to share.
ALL ages welcome !!!

Post these other upcoming Game Night dates on your calendar:
January 31, February 28, March 27 & April 24



October 19th
5:00—8:00 pm

Cost is \$30 per table or
\$5 per individual.

We will be opening this up to the public, so space will be limited. Save your table early.

There will be a sign-up sheet in the Coffee Room at church. If you would like to pay early, please see either Janet Hannewald or Bonnie Delor.

There will be a 50-50 raffle and cash prizes.

Free pizza, chips, and pop.

We really hope you can join us for this fun night out while also raising money to help fund Outreach Events.

The Feste Burg

“A Mighty Fortress,” the hymn written by Martin Luther in 1529, is powerful in English but even better in its original German. Historian Michael Streich notes that Luther compares God not only to a fortress but to a completely secure stronghold, or Feste Burg.

“A burg was a fortified town,” Streich says. “When invaders approached, the surrounding populace fled to the safety of the walls” — sometimes to layers of walls within walls. Luther’s hymn compares God to the most powerful of all burgs, with eternally unbreakable walls.

When we need a place of refuge, God offers his Mighty Fortress, his Feste Burg. Within this refuge, with our value based on our relationship to God rather than on earthly achievements, we’ll never be put to shame. Inside this fortified town, the God who desires an eternal relationship with us delivers, rescues and saves us.

—Homiletics





Upcoming F.L.Y. Events:

Penny Challenge

Start saving those pennies!!! Our annual MSU vs U of M Penny War **begins October 6th, 2019 until October 27th**. We will announce the winner on Sunday, November 3rd. This year's winnings will be disbursed between FLY and the charity we chose this year, which is Carriage Town Ministries.



Fall Clean-Ups

We will be doing our annual fall clean-ups for anyone who needs help. Please contact myself and I will coordinate that with our group. (Patricia Hartsell—810.625.7466)

Youth Trip to Spicer's Apple Orchard

I would like to invite each FLY member and their family to Spicer's Apple Orchard at **1:00pm on October 13th** for cider and doughnuts. If you cannot make it as a family, but your Youth would like to go, please let me know and we will work out rides.

Spicer's Apple Orchard

10411 Clyde Rd., Fenton, MI 48430

<http://www.spicerorchards.com/>



Gently Used Purses

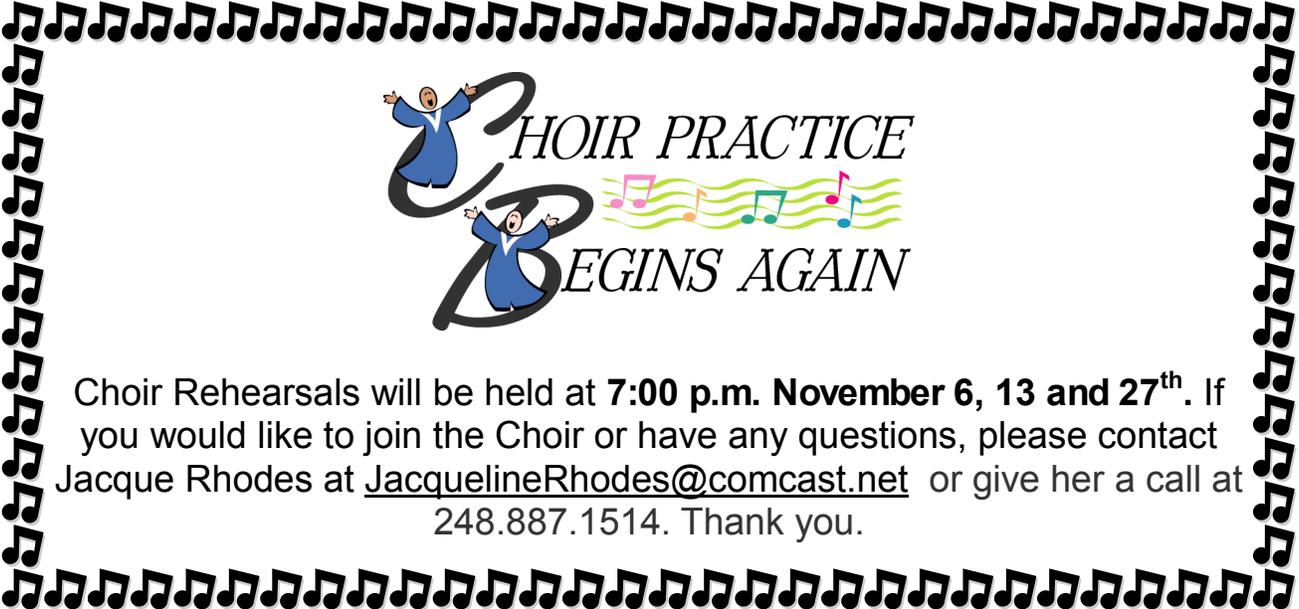
Outreach to Women's Shelter

Please consider donating your gently used purses and wallets and items to fill them for an organization called Purses for a Purpose. (See donation boxes in the entry way for a list of donation items.) Our goal is to collect 100 purses and wallets.

Collection will begin November 1 and end December 8 when we will fill the purses and then deliver them.

Please Note:

FLY now meets on the Second Sunday of each month from 1pm to 3pm.



**CHOIR PRACTICE
BEGINS AGAIN**

Choir Rehearsals will be held at **7:00 p.m. November 6, 13 and 27th**. If you would like to join the Choir or have any questions, please contact Jacque Rhodes at JacquelineRhodes@comcast.net or give her a call at 248.887.1514. Thank you.



The Senior Ministry at St. Matthew—Walled Lake has invited you to attend the following events:

Bus Tour to Frankenmuth—A one day tour to Frankenmuth on **October 10th**. The day will include a tour of the Historic St. Lorenz Lutheran Church and Museum, dinner at Zehnders, followed by your choice of shopping downtown Frankenmuth or at Bronners Christmas store. The bus leaves St. Matthew at 9:00 am and returns at 4:30 pm. Cost per person is \$45.00. You can register at www.st-matthew.org/Frankenmuth or call the church office at 248.624.7676. All ages and guests are welcome.

Medicare Seminar—The Senior & Foundation Ministries of St. Matthew in Walled Lake are hosting a free seminar, open to the public, to help interested individuals understand the components of Medicare Parts A, B, C, D, Advantage Plans, Supplement Plans, deadlines and more. Medicare is no longer a simple health insurance plan for Seniors. Come learn about the upcoming changes in the 2020 plans. Please join us on **Monday, September 30th, at 6:30 pm** in Room 304 at the Walled Lake campus. Please pre-register at 222.st-matthew.org/medicare or call the church office at 248.624.7676.

Senior Living—Options and Resources—The Senior Ministry of St. Matthew in Walled Lake is hosting a seminar entitled, “Senior Living—Options and Resources.” This free seminar will provide valuable information for Seniors and/or their families considering transitioning from their present living situation to an alternate living situation. Topics will include Senior Housing Options, Hospice Care Providers, Eldercare Attorneys, Senior Realtors, Estate Sales, and Downsizing. Please join us on **Saturday, November 9th, beginning at 9:30 am** in Room 304 at the Walled Lake campus. Please pre-register at 222.st-matthew.org/seniorliving or call the church office at 248.624.7676.

October 2019



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Elders Tom Tesolin Stan Nelson 	Trustees Steve Kirchner Justin Thurm 	1 12noon AA 8:00pm AA & ALANON	2 9:30am Women's Bible Study 11:00am Senior Fit	3 9:00am Sewing 7:00pm Boy Scouts	4 11:00am Senior Fit 	5 8:30am Outreach
6 Communion 8:30 Worship 9:45 Adult Bible Study, Sunday School & Confirmation Class 11:00 Worship	7 11:00am Senior Fit 6:45pm Huron Valley Community Chorus (HVCC) in Fellowship Hall 6:30pm Stephen Ministry Meeting	8 12noon AA 8:00pm AA & ALANON	9 9:30am Women's Bible Study 11:00am Senior Fit	10 9:00am Sewing 7:00pm Trustees 7:00pm Boy Scouts	11 11:00am Senior Fit	12
Pastor Moyer at Pastor's Conference			Pastor Moyer and family on vacation Oct 9—14.			
13 8:30 Worship 9:45 Adult Bible Study, Sunday School & Confirmation Class 11:00 Worship 12:00 Elders	14 11:00am Senior Fit 6:45pm Huron Valley Community Chorus (HVCC) in Fellowship Hall 6:30pm Stephen Ministry Meeting	15 12noon AA 8:00pm AA & ALANON	16 9:30am Women's Bible Study 11:00am Senior Fit 11:00am Card Ministry	17 9:00am Sewing 7:00pm Voters 7:00pm Boy Scouts	18 11:00am Senior Fit	19 9am Stephen Ministry Meeting 9:00am Church Work Bee 5-8pm Trivia Nite  
Pastor Moyer & family on vacation.						
20 Communion 8:30 Worship 9:45 Adult Bible Study, Sunday School & Confirmation Class 11:00 Worship 12:00 Brd of Ed.	21 11:00am Senior Fit 6:45pm Huron Valley Community Chorus (HVCC) in Fellowship Hall	22 12noon AA 8:00pm AA & ALANON	23 9:30am Women's Bible Study 11:00am Senior Fit	24 9:00am Sewing 7:00pm Boy Scouts	25 11:00am Senior Fit 7:00pm Family Game Nite 	26
27 Reformation Sunday 8:30 Worship 9:45 Adult Bible Study, Sunday School & Confirmation Class 11:00 Worship  	28 11:00am Senior Fit 6:45pm Huron Valley Community Chorus (HVCC) in Fellowship Hall 6:30pm Stephen Ministry Meeting	29 12noon AA 8:00pm AA & ALANON	30 9:30am Women's Bible Study 11:00am Senior Fit	31 9:00am Sewing	 Reformation Sunday October 27, 2019	



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October 2019

!!! Mark your Calendars !!!

Church Pumpkinfest/Trunk-r-Treat

Sunday, October 27th

2:00pm



Look for a sign-up sheet in the coffee room at church. Come join the fun !!!

Pumpkinfest
Trunk or Treat