

May 2015

Faith Lutheran Church
171 Lewis Lane
Hamilton, MT 59840

office@faithlutheranhamilton.org

FAITH HERALD

406-363-2964

www.faithlutheranhamilton.org

Office Hours:
Monday – Friday
9am – 12pm



Beyond Shame

Pastor Brenda

“So, how are you?” We hadn’t seen each other in months. Truthfully, we were still getting to know each other. “Well, I’m finally getting my hormones in order, so I’m a lot better!”

Wow! Didn’t see that one coming. But her words opened a broad and honest path to fearless conversation about health and parenting and stuff that matters—all because she wasn’t ashamed to say what was really going on.

Researcher Brené Brown studies the things that block joyful, connected, meaningful life...so that we can remove those barriers and get on with it. Turns out that shame, “the intensely painful feeling or experience of believing that we are flawed and therefore unworthy of love and belonging” (*The Gifts of Imperfection*, pp. 39-40), is a critical barrier.

Brown names the first three things we need to know about shame: 1) We all have it. 2) We’re all afraid to talk about it. 3) The less we talk about it, the more it controls us. So...

This week I received clear, honest feedback about issues that have caused a couple to move away from our congregation. It stings. I’m sad. I’m grateful they honored me with their reasons and a goodbye... AND part of me believes that if been a better person or pastor, it might have been different. In other words, I feel ashamed.

And if shame is truly a universal experience, I *know* I’m not alone. Some of you will share this very story, in fact—perhaps with this couple (Dale and Dianne Huhtanen), with others who’ve left our congregation, friends who’ve distanced themselves, or other such situations.

So what do we do with our shame? Well, shame needs three things to thrive: secrecy, silence, and judgment. It dies with exposure, conversation, and acceptance.

Let’s start with **acceptance**: Paul writes, “While we were still sinners, Christ died for us” (Ro. 5:8). God’s love in Christ doesn’t hide from our messiness, failures, or chaos. In fact, God sees us fully even when we hide, and comes in Christ to join us right where we are.

We don’t really understand we’re truly accepted until our secrets are **exposed**. Sometimes we’re caught naked, red-handed, in the act. As a kid, I snuck up on a classmate, ready to drip the last drops of my red Koolaid into her hair. I looked up to see her mom, my Sunday School teacher, staring straight into my soul. Ooo, shame! And acceptance—after the frown, a wink and a smile.

Other times, we have to expose ourselves in **conversation** with a trustworthy confidante: “I have to talk about what’s happened. It’s eating me alive. I feel so bad that...” This is the heart of the ancient practice of confession. A good confidante/confessor listens well, keeps confidence, and offers the acceptance we so desperately need: “Yes. How difficult this must be. No, you are not perfect, and you’re not bad, either. You are loved. You will get through this. I’ll stick with you.”

As I struggled this week, my husband empathized, then encouraged: “Be strong and courageous, do not be terrified [I was truly tempted!]. The Lord your God is with you wherever you go” (Joshua 1:9). A friend listened, heard my self-blame, and offered, “You need never apologize for being you.” My shame was exposed and heard; I was understood and accepted; healing began.

Dear friends, it’s my heartfelt prayer that when shame blocks you from joyful, connected, meaningful life, you’ll find courage to break its silence, tell its secrets, and experience God’s accepting love—and ours.



May Birthdays

Ainslee Carlson	May 1
Katie Exner	May 3
Nancy Osborn	May 3
Maxwell Buhler	May 4
William Heitmann	May 4
Anita Bell	May 5
Bob Mathison	May 5
Deidra Markette	May 6
Lavonne Beers	May 8
Greg Mitchell	May 8
Adam Senn	May 9
Doug Peterson	May 11
Nathan Brady	May 13
Whitney Melton	May 13
Danielle Harden	May 14
Morry Mitteness	May 15
Tom Anderson	May 18
Judy Griffin	May 18
Sage Beyer	May 22
Rohn Williamson	May 22
Darrin Heitmann	May 23
Bill Kindzerski	May 23
Lucas Brady	May 24
Dick Hoeben	May 28
Jace Whitlow	May 28
Jayden Whitlow	May 28
Pete Seifert	May 29
Walker Buhler	May 31

FLC Council Meeting Dates

Please note the following council meeting dates:

May: Thursday May 21, 2015

June: Thursday June 18, 2015

July: Thursday July 16, 2015

August: Thursday August 20, 2015

September: Monday September 21, 2015

October: Monday October 19, 2015

~~November: Monday November 16, 2015~~

~~December: Monday December 21, 2015~~

Meetings are open to visitors and guests.

SAVE THE DATE!

July 13-17

Vacation Bible School

at Faith Lutheran

Hosted by FLBC counselors

Can you help? Talk to Celeste ASAP!



Congrats to Confirmands!

I'm so proud of our 2015 Confirmation Class, and you should be, too! Don Carlson, Ani Mason, Quinn Larson, Lauren Kimzey, and Claire Matthews have completed our confirmation program. They've learned tons, and are becoming truly awesome human beings.

We'll celebrate their Affirmation of Baptism Service on Sunday, May 3, at our regular worship time. Please enjoy cake, conversation, and celebration with our kids and their families after church!

Way to go, kids, parents, and Family of Faith!

Pastor Brenda

CONNECTIONS:

- **Women's Circles:** Monthly Bible studies, contact the church office.
- **Women's Spiritual Reading Group:** Contact Pastor Brenda, 381-1919, bsatrum@gmail.com. Fourth Mondays. Clatters Coffeehouse, 5:30-7:00pm.
- **Men's Breakfast Group:** Pastor Doug Peterson, 381-0885, ingthwy@gmail.com.
- **Thurlowe's Round Table Discussion:** Weekly, Tuesdays at 7:00pm, FLC classroom. 381-9033.





Faith's Worship Rhythm

- May 3: Celebration of Grace, Gospel Liturgy
- May 10: Mother's Day. ELW 3, Traditional Liturgy
- May 17: HS Quilt/Youth Sunday. Praise.
- May 24: Pentecost. Chosen People, Contemp. Liturgy
- May 31: Holy Trinity. Hymn Service

Get Well, Lina!

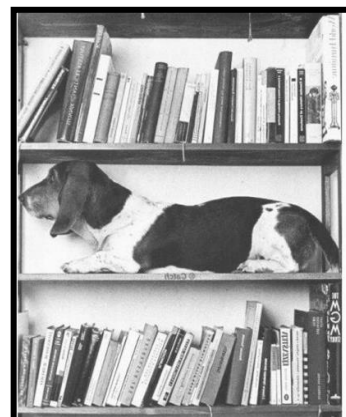
And thanks to Amber, PB, and Ross for picking up extra piano duty while Lina recovers from shoulder surgery.

Could you play piano for our services? Talk to Celeste!

FLC Book Nook

On the rolling shelf outside the sanctuary...

- SPARK STORY BIBLE \$20. Like those found in the pews. Purchase one as a gift for a special child in your life!
- GOSPEL OF MARK: Barclay's Commentary \$16. We are reading Mark in worship this year.
- NEW AND GENTLY USED BOOKS. Feel free to borrow or keep. If you keep, please place your donation in a Book Nook Envelope and add it to the collection plate. Proceeds will be used to purchase more books.



Office Update

As of this writing, our Office Manager, Adrienne Patterson, continues on leave recovering from a flare of her Multiple Sclerosis. She's feeling better, but it's going slow. To drop Adrienne a get-well card, her address is: 1748 Nighthawk Trail, Victor, 59875.

MANY, MANY thanks to all of the volunteers and staff who've helped fill in with the phones, bulletins, projector programs, record keeping and cleaning, and all sorts of other tasks.

We're not certain how the future will unfold, so we appreciate your continued patience with reduced office hours and a variety of helpers filling in. *If you're able to help out, please let us know!* A phone or email message works great: office@faithlutheranhamilton.org or 363-2964.

Lutheran Campus Ministry at the University of Montana

Year-end Banquet: Wednesday, May 6th at St. Paul Lutheran Church, 6pm-8pm.

The Bob Marshal Experience: July 7-14, A three day backpack and four day float trip in the Bob Marshal Wilderness. All ages welcome! Cost, \$550 for trip. Offered for clergy, church folks, and students of all ages.

EMMAUS
CAMPUS MINISTRY

National Day of Prayer

May 7, 2015, 12:00 noon
Bedford Bldg. Hamilton

Investing in Hope...

Transforming our Nation through Prayer!



Hear the cry and the prayer that your servant is praying in your presence this day. 1 Kings 8:28

The Youth Page

Sun 3 CONFIRMATION SUNDAY



Wed 6 GRUB AND GAMES BASH!

BBQ at St. Paul's to celebrate another wonderful year of Youth and Confirmation activities! All members

of the congregation are encouraged to come and join in the food and games! Starts at 6pm!



Wed 13 YOUTH GROUP-7pm @Faith

Welcome Confirmands! This evening will be a great way to start talking about some summer activities, and to welcome the kids that will be joining us as High Schoolers next year.

All eighth graders welcome!

Sun May 17 SENIOR YOUTH SUNDAY

This is the last Youth Sunday until the fall, and it will be a celebration of our Seniors: Beth Bitteman, Cameron Doran, Emily Heitmann, and Hannah Peteson! Come and wish them luck on their next adventure!



Mon May 25 MEMORIAL DAY

Sun May 31 HHS GRADUATION 3:30pm HHS Gym



Samantha Fife-Faith Lutheran Youth Director

406.370.8025 fifedrivel@gmail.com

Alana Cruse-St. Paul's Episcopal Youth Minister

406.381.3534 ashortcruse@gmail.com



Bible Camp News

It's not too late to sign up for summer camp, but do it soon because the early registration discount only lasts through May 1st. The 2015 activities brochure is available online (www.flbc.net) or on the counter outside the church office. The theme for 2015 is "Love that never ends."

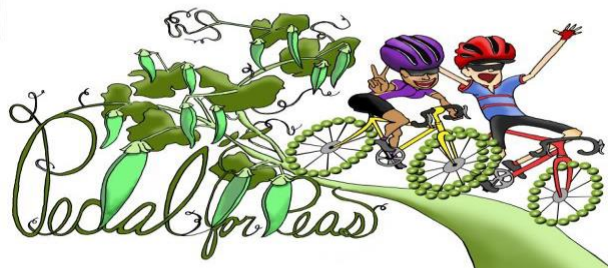
FLBC Wish List

Quilts size 60x96"
Reliable Vehicles
Sporting Equipment
Kayaks (\$800 each)
Tent Cabins (\$900 each)
Gently used Furniture
Baskets of any kind
Motor Boats, Sailboats, Rafts
Pontoon Boat
SUP (stand-up paddle boards)
12-passenger vans
Golf Carts
Hand Tools
Sewing Machines
Small Coffee Pots
Ceramic or Glass Teapots
Mirrors
Throw Rugs
White T-shirts & Bandanas
Crayons, Markers, Beads
Used Candles
Large Food Dehydrator
Canister Vacuum Cleaners
Snow Blower
Cross-Country Equipment
Snow Shoes
Washer & Dryer Set
Wooden Outdoor Chairs
Locking File Cabinets
Chain Saws
Generator
Laminate Flooring Installer

Contact the Camp Office with
any questions: 406.752.6602
Office@flbc.net

- **PB at Bible Camp...August 3-8** There's a full schedule at FLBC this week, so come up and join us for awesome times!!!
- **FLC Camperships.** Your church pays up to half your camp registration! Pick up the form on the counter outside the church office, or contact Celeste Pogachar for more information.
- **May 1: Deadline for Early Bird Discount Registration!**
- **May 22-25: Memorial Day Work Weekend.** No cost to attend. RSVP to the office at office@flbc.net or (406) 752-6602 to reserve your spot today. Assist camp in getting ready for another fantastic summer season by being a part of the Thrivent Memorial Day Work Weekend! There will be projects for people of all ages and abilities, so be sure to bring your family and friends as well to this fun and meaningful retreat! THANK YOU Thrivent Financial for your sponsorship again this year.
- **June 5-7: Women's Retreat.** This amazing retreat includes worship, great food, relaxation, spa time, and sessions with Dr. Julia Fogg. More information is available online at www.flbc.net
- **Thrivent Members!** Thrivent Choice dollars make a big impact at FLBC! If you are a Thrivent member, choose Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp to send your Thrivent Choice Dollars. Don't forget, you must choose your recipient each time since the "reoccurring" option has now ended. THANKS so much.

June 22-25, 2015



"Pedal for Peas" is a 180-mile fundraising bicycle ride to benefit ELCA World Hunger beginning on June 22 in Helena and journeying through Townsend, White Sulphur Springs, Wilsall and ending in Bozeman on June 25. Riders will come from across the Montana Synod.

To join the ride or sponsor a rider, check out the Montana Synod website - www.montanasynod.org . Make checks payable to your congregation and indicate "ELCA World Hunger/ Pedal for Peas" in the memo line. 100% of your gift will go to ELCA World Hunger. If you have questions please contact Pr. Greg Holler-Dinsmore for at (406) 650-2089 or prgreg@nemont.net



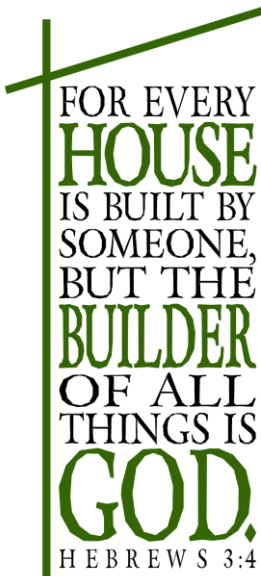
Cultural Immersion Event
Our Saviors Lutheran, Rocky Boys Reservation, MT
June 7-12

Our Saviour's Lutheran Church is located on the Rocky Boy's Reservation in north central Montana. This is the home of the Chippewa Cree tribe. Not only is Our Saviour's a congregation of the ELCA, it is part of the Rocky Boy community and serves the wider church as a place of cross-cultural learning. It is the hope and prayer of this congregation that the learning that occurs at this event will be carried to unexpected places in each person's life.

20 Contact Hours (including 5 hours of anti-racism and justice training)

\$360 (Jessica Crist Scholarship Funds available.)

Montana Synod House Update



A plan for new space for our Montana Synod staff was overwhelmingly accepted and approved by the voting members at our 2009 Synod Assembly. The economic downturn, put the project on the back burner, but in 2013, the synod council and synod assembly launched a capital fundraising campaign and began to move forward again. Full information and a building schematic can be found on the synod website: <https://www.montanasynod.org/synod-house.html>.

Do you remember **Vicar Nels Norbeck** from the early years of Faith's history (he was here in the early 1960') before a long and beloved tenure at St. John's, Helena, or his daughter, Ginny Haines, from her family's time at Faith (1990's-early 2000's)? If so, it might be fun for you to contribute to the "Norbeck Chapel" in his honor! \$56,000 in the chapel fund will name the room for Pr. Norbeck.

Scott Southwick or Celeste Pogachar would be most willing to visit with you about the details. A ceremonial groundbreaking was held in April of 2014. To date, \$400,000 of the \$1.2 million needed has been raised. Part of the proceeds from Faith's 2015 Scandinavian Dinner are pledged to this campaign.



Family Shelter of the Bitterroot Presents...

A Benefit Concert, May 3
5:00pm, Hamilton Assembly of God
Featuring Daystar & By Still Waters
Silent Auction & Bake Sale

The Family Shelter Benefit Walk, May 16
9:30am, 290 Fairgrounds Road
2.5 mile main route, shorter available
Pledge forms on the office counter

Family Shelter of the Bitterroot hosts a free Community Meal Program (Faith serves on 4th Tuesdays!), Immediate Assistance to families in crisis, and Temporary Housing for homeless families.

Our Goal is to aid families in economic crisis; helping them remain intact, while allowing them time to learn the tools they need to help rebuild their financial foundation. Every family deserves to have a safe, healthy environment in which to live.

Pray for our Military

Please remember our family & friends that have joined the military & are defending our country each and every day. Keep them in your thoughts and prayers, especially those close to our family here at Faith Lutheran:

- Lt. Colonel Mark Huhtanen, son of Dale & Dianne Huhtanen, serving at Ft. Hood, TX
- Lars E. Larson, son of Daniel Larson & grandson of Patricia Larson, recent graduate from Navy Bootcamp, now attending school in Great Lakes, IL
- S/Sgt Anthony Hunter, grandson of Carl Swanson, serving in Texas
- Mike Hebert, grandson of Don & Shirley McGourty, US Army, serving in Joliet, IL
- Major Timothy Spaulding, nephew of John Trangmoe, Air Force, Wright-Patterson AFB, OH
- Tech Sgt. Andy Wetzsteon, son of Susan & Lonnie Wetzsteon, serving at Eileson AFB, Fairbanks, AK
- Sgt. Carl J. Selby, grandson of Clara Felton, serving in Hutchinson, KS
- Tony Robertson & Gretchen Robertson, brother & sister-in-law to the Beyers, serving in Alaska
- Dea Ross, niece of Craig Hurlbert & granddaughter of Dea & Bill Hurlbert, Navy, stationed in Afghanistan
- Anna Mitteness, granddaughter of Morrie & Ann Mitteness, Cpl US Marines Corps. Now at the Marine Station in Yuma, AZ, doing communications repair.



THANKS!!! THANKS!!! THANKS!!! THANKS!!! THANKS!!!

To all who helped with the **Easter Breakfast** this year! Yummy food, fun décor, and bucks raised to send our kids on with love and support. Special thanks to the kitchen committee—Mark Livesay (Steward of Discipleship), Helen Volden, and Linda Beyer.

Thanks to the Naomi Circle: Mary and I are so very blessed to have good friends like all of you. And we thank you for the beautiful Easter basket. And may God love and bless each and every one of you.

Jerry and Mary Lewis

From Pastor Linda of Our Saviour's Lutheran Church on the Rocky Boy Reservation:

Thank you for your gift of \$200 in March! Your support of our ministry is very important to us. You are much appreciated.

Stewards & Staff of Faith Lutheran Church

President/Convener	Jack Losensky	961-3757	losensky@hotmail.com
Communication	Ann Wright	777-6901	annkatmontana@earthlink.net
Discipleship	Mark Livesay	961-5362	livesay_m@msn.com
Fellowship & Hospitality	Judy Wilson	961-4071	JudyPlus_4@MSN.com
Finance	Darrin Heitmann	370-4521	powertrip@cybernet1.com
Outreach	Judy Griffin	961-4390	idclairus@yahoo.com
Property & Grounds	Scott Southwick	360-8694	southwick.scott@gmail.com
Worship	Rick Brown	381-6329	rbrown172@gmail.com
Pastor (ex-officio)	Rev. Brenda Satrum	381-1919	brenda@faithlutheranhamilton.org
Worship Coordinator	Celeste Pogachar	239-3952	celestepogachar@gmail.com
Youth Director	Samantha Fife	370-8025	fifedrivel@gmail.com
Office Manager	Adrienne Patterson	363-2964	office@faithlutheranhamilton.org
Custodian	Richard Castor	363-2964	

We can be proud of our larger church! See this page and the next for our approach to global emergencies and a thoughtful article from *The Lutheran*, our denominational magazine. Cool fact: operating costs for both Lutheran World Relief and ELCA World Hunger and Disaster Appeal are supported by our weekly offerings, so 100% of the funds we give to particular needs go directly to their destination.

ELCA partners begin large-scale emergency response in Nepal

4/25/2015 2:00:00 PM

CHICAGO (ELCA) – Members of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) are responding to an April 25 earthquake that shook Nepal and its capital city, Kathmandu. Sections of the city's historic center lay in rubble, as aftershocks continue to rock the city valley and neighboring countries...

As news about the catastrophe continues, ELCA Presiding Bishop Elizabeth A. Eaton is requesting prayers "for people affected by the earthquake and its aftershocks, especially as they grieve the loss of loved ones and property."

"Lutheran Disaster Response is committed to long-term disaster response, so our work is just beginning," said the Rev. Daniel Rift, director for the ELCA World Hunger and Disaster Appeal. "The ELCA will accompany our brothers and sisters in the Nepal area as they navigate every part of this disaster relief and recovery process."

The Lutheran World Federation started a large-scale emergency response based in Kathmandu. Its office there has escaped the worst impact of the earthquake. The ELCA is the only U.S. member church of The Lutheran World Federation...

According to Chandran Paul Martin, consulting regional representative for South Asia, ELCA Global Mission, "ELCA partners have been in contact soon after the news flashed. I had a phone conversation with Dr. Bijaya Bajracharaya, program coordinator for The Lutheran World Federation Nepal, who described the situation (after midnight, India time). She said people were on the streets in open ground as after-tremors were felt. We also tried to establish contact with the United Mission in Nepal, one of our partners, for an update."

Communication has been made with the Nepal Evangelical Lutheran Church, a member church of The Lutheran World Federation, and the Association for Theological Education in Nepal.

Information about Lutheran Disaster Response and this church's response efforts in Nepal are available at <http://www.elca.org/en/Our-Work/Relief-and-Development/Lutheran-Disaster-Response>.

ELCA Malaria Initiative

Remember when our kids collected quarters to fill M&M tubes? FLC collected over \$600 that first summer (and more later). A filled M&M tube purchased one mosquito net in the ELCA's campaign to eradicate malaria. Our lofty goal was to raise \$15 million by the year 2015. To date, we've gathered \$13.5 million, 90% of that \$15 million goal. Generous congregations in the Montana Synod have given \$153,092.19. Great job, Montana!

To donate once again in the final stretch, write a check to "ELCA Malaria Campaign" and place in the Sunday offering. Way to go, Lutherans of the world! We have made a big difference, 25 cents at a time!



Inspired by The Lutheran's February cover story about grace, Jan Erickson Pearson writes to her daughters about the grace she inherited from her mother, their grandmother. Erickson Pearson is an ELCA pastor and writer in Littleton, Colo. Submitted by Scott Southwick.

Grace says 'yes' and sometimes 'no'

Dear girls,

Ethel Erickson Anderson Holm Olfsson Olofsdotter Magnusdotter, your grandmother, would have been 94 today. She loved to grab hold of a horse's mane, racing bareback over mountains; ride roller coasters; and sneak out to movies back when "good Christians" didn't do that.

Not the woman you remember, is she? I don't either. But you knew her, once, even before memory gifted you with that glimpse of her, a brief lovely time when all of her silliness and courage reappeared.

She even dressed up in a cowboy hat for Christmas and made you giggle. You knew her as weak, wounded, ground down. So did I. There seemed to be a little grace in her life.

My mom saw four siblings die by her eighth birthday. Her father, already swindled out of his rightful share of a prosperous family farm by a clever brother, was a broken man who never recovered. Mom's mom was gracious and clear-headed. If my mother knew anything at all about grace while growing up, it came from her mother, Hannah. My mom grew up with hellfire and brimstone sermons and, get this, she liked them. Then again, she liked scary movies. My mom was saddled with a surly, judgmental mother-in-law and a spoiled, saucy sister-in-law who made Ethel feel inferior all her life. Not much grace there in her church or family.

But mom had a hidden strength I rarely saw. Shrouded often, it emerged when required. As a child playing hide-and-seek at a friend's, she found that family's secret—Ku Klux Klan costumes in a closet. She never went back. She said, "No!" She spoke up alone, saying "no!" to her whole community when a bully tried to rout a good family, to whom she alone was given grace to say "yes!" and keep them from fleeing the neighborhood.

Mom was caught hold of, somewhere, somehow, by the loving, enveloping grace of God, enough to know when to let her "yes" be "yes!" and her "no" be "no!" Yes to justice, mercy, kindness. No to racism, bullies and false piety. She spoke up. She missed that memo about insipid niceness being next to godliness.

I honor her for teaching me to say "no!" no matter what, and "yes!" whenever possible for the sake of grace, and justice, and kindness and to walk humbly with God.

"Stop that right now!" she told her older brother at Christmas dinners in front of all of us. I was an impressionable 10-year-old one of those years. Christmas was always a misery of racist slurs and "can you top this" slanders about desegregation, busing, civil rights. It was vile and vulgar. My mom would put her elbows on the table, or stand up, and just say, "No!"

Years later she more poignantly said, "Yes!" "Yes" unequivocally to my gay brother in the face of fierce family and church pressure, and ostracization.

And that's when she really discovered grace. She found the Lutheran church soon after I did. And she was never happier in her life when she was among the people who knew in their bones that grace said "yes" and sometimes "no." God's grace enveloped her and she was true to her native strength. Grace says "yes" to unconditional love. She loved that. And grace says "no" to prejudice, racism and meanness. She was empowered by that.

Thank you, Mom. We will remember. We love you.

Faith Herald May 2015

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FLC May Dates To Remember

- 5/1 Deadline for Early Bird Discount @ FLBC
- 5/3 Confirmation Sunday
- 5/6 All Youth Grillin' Grub & Games Year End Bash
- 5/15 Faith Herald Deadline
- 5/17 Senior Quilt Sunday, Last Day of Sunday School
- 5/21 FLC Council Meeting
- 5/22-25 FLBC Memorial Day Work Retreat
- 5/30 GREAT BIG FOLDING PARTY!