



The Faith Herald

July & August 2019

*"Get up to a high mountain...
and lift up your voice with strength...
herald of good news!"
Isaiah 40:9*

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Visit our office 9a-1p, M-Th

Greetings to you all,

"Don't forget to breathe." Have you ever been involved with an exercise group of any kind—it may even be an aerobics exercise video? With a commanding voice the instructor will announce "Don't forget to breathe,"

I think this is exceptional advice for us as children of God who walk by faith. As we look at our busy summer schedules, it is easy for us to forget to breathe, and it's easy to lose focus that God is present with us. We become anxious and overwhelmed with all there is to do. From the song "Breathe," the words could not be more fitting. "This is the air I breathe, this is the air I breathe, your holy presence living in me." "Don't forget to breathe."

Lots of things are coming up here at FLC. We are now offering a mid-week worship service on Wednesday nights following our 5:45 meal. Worship begins at 6:30. Our Vacation Bible School will be from July 15th-19th.

I would like to invite all of you to our next council meeting on July 16th at 6:00 PM. Peggy Paugh Leuzinger, Director for Evangelical Mission, from our Montana Synod, will be joining us. She will be coming to talk with us about a "COMPREHENSIVE MINISTRY REVIEW FOR CONGREGATIONS." Please come, learn more, and ask questions. This is a program that the council and I are very much interested in and feel that it may be a good fit for us as we focus on moving forward. Hope to see you on the 16th.

And remember, "This is the air I breathe, this is the air I breathe, your (God's) holy presence living in me." "Don't forget to breathe."

Partners in sharing God's grace

Pastor Paul



Faith Lutheran Church is a family of God built on love: Worshiping, welcoming, growing and serving in Christ's name.

Vacation Bible School

Help us get the word out!

This wonderful experience is open as a Christian outreach to any young children in your life; grandchildren, nieces, nephews, neighbors etc. There is no charge to attend, however donations are gladly accepted to help with expenses.

This Year's Theme: "C.H.A.N.G.E."

July 15-19

Youngsters from age 4 through 6th grade are welcome
9:00am to 1:30pm Monday through Friday-Snacks and Lunch provided



Fun Songs, Games, Crafts, Team Building, Bible Study, Community Service

Any Questions Call Celeste 363-2964



Here is how you can help and be part of the fun!

Faith will host VBS, and we need plenty of help to pull off this wonderful ministry of our church. We are especially in need of the following:

Can you distribute posters?

Take a few from the table in the lobby and post where you place it.

Can you host counselors? (2 men/ 2 women) are in need of:

housing Saturday (13th) through Thursday (18th). They need beds and breakfast.

Evening meals on Sunday, Monday, or Thursday

Can you help organize Wednesday evening adventure at Como, July 17th

Water fun, food, worship, and campfire

Can you help out in the kitchen, craft room, or preschool?

Hours are Monday through Friday, 9:00- 1:30

Can you donate food items or sponsor snacks or a meal?

Check out the list of food items needed (please mark "for VBS" and leave in the kitchen)

\$20 covers snacks for a day, \$50-60 covers lunch for a day

Can you contribute items for our VBS Service Project: food drive for Haven House?

Please check the list for items that are need the most

VBS Snack needs:

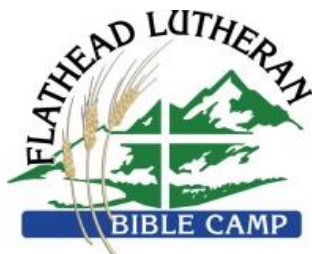
Fruit, Cheez Its, Cinnamon Toast Crunch cereal, Veggies, Cookies, Pretzels, Juice Boxes, Gold Fish, other healthy snack options

VBS Lunch needs:

Shredded cheeses, English muffins, Chicken nuggets, 10" tortillas, Pepperoni, Mild salsa
Tater tots, finger food and veggies

Haven House needs: **Items that are often in short supply and greatly appreciated*

Peanut Butter, *Canned Fruit, *Box Cereal, Tuna, Canned Veggies, Pasta, Chili,
Canned Tomatoes, Mac & Cheese, Canned Chicken, Canned Sauces, Pork & Beans



FLBC Summer Camps



*It's not too late to register, 406-752-6602, or emailing office@flbc.net
Bring a friend who has never been to camp before and save \$200!*

Labor Day Family Camp, August 31-September 2, 2019

Join us this Labor Day weekend for one last summer celebration with your family! Camp staff will lead children and youth in classic camp activities such as Bible study, worship, games, hikes, and more. Adults will gather together for special facilitated time of study and discussion led by Pr. Molly and Allen Sasser-Goehner. All join together for worship, fellowship, and games! Enjoy all that FLBC has to offer during this great family retreat: swimming, stand-up paddle boarding, crafts in the Art Barn, sailing, high and low ropes team building, and much more!

To the Mountains: An Adult Wilderness Experience, August 31-September 2, 2019

Spend your Labor Day weekend enjoying the diversity of God's creation in beautiful NW Montana! Join our trained FLBC staff both on foot & by water as we spend an overnight backpacking, a day rock climbing, and a morning sailing on Flathead Lake. Experience the glory of the wilderness alongside new friends and dive into Scripture as you see God reflected in the landscape around you. No previous wilderness experience required, all community gear and food provided.

Holden Village trip, September 22-26, 2019

Spend three nights at Holden Village experiencing fantastic food, gorgeous scenery, hiking, worship, and study time together. [Register online](#) by July 1st!

Pray for our campers:

Hank Morris, Finn and Lila DuFresne, Luken and Heidi Kestrel, Kiley McDonald, Farah Wyche, Luke Mendenall, Sage Beyer, Maizie Mendenall, Kenny and Grace Reichart

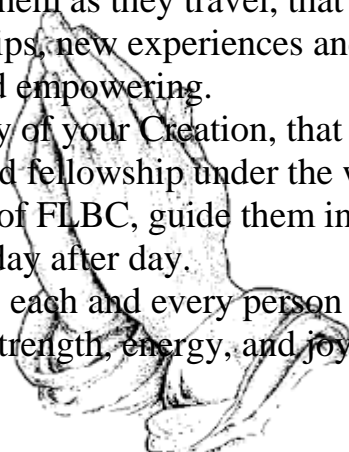
Creator God,

You have called these youth and families to new adventures at Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp. Be with them as they travel, that they might arrive safely. Encourage them in new friendships, new experiences and new conversations, that their time might be enriching and empowering.

Immerse them in the glory of your Creation, that their faith might be strengthened through worship and fellowship under the wide Montana sky. We pray for the staff and volunteers of FLBC, guide them in the work and show them your light through the campers, day after day.

Gracious Redeemer, keep each and every person safe, as they hike, swim, play, and sleep, and grant them strength, energy, and joy as they experience the love of Christ at FLBC.

In Jesus Name we pray. Amen





Faith's Summer Worship, Summer Liturgy Bread of Life

June 30th Worship will feature patriotic music.

July 14th VBS Kickoff! Counselors will be leading the music!

July 21st We will celebrate Christmas in July. If you can donate your time and talent to this service Celeste

Aug 4th 1st Presbyterian Handbell Choir at worship

Lake Como!!! Bring Friends!!!

Wednesday Worship and good food at the Lake on July 17th!!!

During the week of VBS, our Wednesday Night Alive meal and worship will relocate to Lake Como!

Enjoy food, fellowship, and worship around the campfire with the FLBC counselors.

6 pm to dark; more details to come in FLC's Thursday E-news



"Christmas in July" July 21st

Who says our favorite songs are only for December?

Come celebrate the presence of Jesus with carols and cookies!

Our Quilters will prepare delicious cookies, yum!

Join Sapphire Lutheran Homes For Free Concerts, All Music at 7PM

Come for a \$5 burger at 6pm

501 N. 10th Street, Hamilton



Bring your lawn chair or blanket, Family Friendly

♪ Friday, June 28: The Ringling 5

♪ Friday, July 6: The Tomcats, with fireworks at dark!

♪ Friday, July 12: Beatles for Sale, **Faith servers needed for the BBQ**
Proceeds benefit FLC!

🎭 Thursday, August 22 @ 6pm: Shakespeare in the Parks **Henry IV** (no BBQ offered)

Check out the poster in the lobby or Call 406-363-2800, sapphirelutheran.org

Caring Visitors of Faith are looking for volunteers

Caring visitors make time to go say hello, to bring church information to people, to sit and listen to those unable to come to church. When we help others, we improve our lives as well as theirs. Please consider joining our caring visitor meeting, (date to be determined).

To find out more information on how you may help, contact Judy Griffin, 406-961-4390





Steward of Discipleship Summer update:

Hello all,

Now is an important time for our discipleship efforts. With the resignation of Samantha this spring, it was decided to ask the members of Faith to be part of an educational focus group to consider our future options. Thank you to Helen Fessler, Gwen Anderson, Marlin Lewis, Deb Cathey, Lans Richardson and Celeste for your willingness to participate. Our first meeting was small but it was suggested we don't just replace our HS leader without doing some research. Pastor Paul volunteered to call the Synod Office in Great Falls about a congregational ministry study done free through the Montana Synod. (*See reference in Pastor Paul's letter on page one. Join this group at the Council meeting July 16th at 6pm*). Also, please consider joining us for multigenerational meals and worship at 5:45pm each Wednesday, with a special "Faith at the Lake" potluck planned for July 17th at 6pm at Lake Como.

We need your thoughts on what our education "could be" this fall, - and fall will be here before we know it, so please let me know if you are willing to be part of our faith team!

In his service,

LaDonna Grotbo

460-1994

Message from Bishop-Elect Laurie Jungling



Dear Friends in Christ,

"I dream of a Church bubbling with people who are excited about their trust and commitment in the new life already given to us in Jesus Christ. I dream of a Church that lives a responsibly risky faith, trusting in the promised gift of God's amazing grace, following Christ's journey into the changing future. I dream of a Church that says to Jesus again and again, "Yes, we can!" rather than, "No, we won't."

These are just a few of the words I shared with the Montana Synod Assembly during my speech on Saturday, June 1st during the election of the new bishop. Later that day, the Holy Spirit through the amazing work of the assembly changed my life in ways I never expected. I am honored and humbled by the vote of confidence your delegates showed in me as they elected me to be the synod's bishop.

In one congratulatory note, someone told me that as bishop, I would never be bored. While that is a little scary, I am comforted by the knowledge that I won't be alone in this role. Some of you have wondered about upcoming changes to the synod staff. I am so grateful that most of the staff have agreed to stay in their current positions for at least a year after I start my call as your bishop. This will make the transition much smoother for me and for you. Susan Hedahl, who is ready to retire, has agreed to stay through September and is willing to help train her successor as needed. Her presence and work in the office will be deeply missed. I also want to thank Bishop Crist who, over the last twelve years, has exemplified for me what a really good bishop is and does, and who is offering her much needed guidance through this transition process.

As we move forward together, I ask for your prayers. I ask for your participation in the life of the synod. I ask for your support in whatever ways you are able to provide it. I cannot be bishop alone and none of us can be followers of Christ alone. We need each other for we really are "Church Together." Thank you for this opportunity to serve Christ with you as a sheep and a shepherd, as coach and teammate, as pastor, leader and prophet. May God bless us with the new life of Christ as we journey forward into the Spirit's future. Your Bishop-Elect, Pastor Laurie Jungling



Report from Montana Synod Assembly

The Montana Synod Assembly was held in Great Falls, May 31-June 2. Celeste Pogachar and Darrin Heitmann were Faith's delegates. Pastor Paul also attended.

year's theme was "Meet the Future Boldly", which was most appropriate, as the assembly was charged with electing a new bishop. Our current bishop, Jessica Crist, has been an outstanding leader for the past 12 years. Through the process of ecclesiastical ballot, the Rev. Dr. Laurie Jungling was called/elected to serve us for the next six years. Her bio may be found on the counter outside the church office or on the synod website: <https://www.montanasynod.org/>. Churchwide representative Philip C. Hirsch oversaw the voting process.

2019 assembly was a business year, where we elected new members to the synod council & representatives to the churchwide assembly, and made changes to the constitution and by-laws (mostly house-keeping items). Again, please refer to the synod website for specifics.

The ELCA Churchwide assembly will meet in Milwaukee August 5th -10th. (They meet every third year.) Delegates will consider two social statements: an inter-religious agreement, and one on Women and Justice. Refer to the June Herald for Bishop Crist's comments on Women and Justice. Her thoughts on the inter-religious commitments can be found in this edition of the Herald. Please take the time to familiarize yourself with these important documents.

"Where Does Your Offering Go?" is posted on the lobby bulletin board. Check it out! It's enlightening to see all of the good our benevolence does throughout the world. For instance, in 2018, Lutheran Disaster Response gave \$11.5 M in aid to those in need in 33 countries internationally, and assisted with 33 emergencies in 19 states domestically.

If you have any questions about synod assembly, I'm happy to share information with you. Please feel free to consult the synod website for summaries of the sessions.

<https://www.montanasynod.org/>

~~~Celeste Pogachar

## Words from the Bishop: The ELCA and Inter-Religious Commitments

The ELCA has long had a commitment to ecumenism—relationships with other Christians. In 1991, the ELCA adopted “A Declaration of Ecumenical Commitment,” outlining our stance on ecumenism. It is often said, “To be Lutheran is to be ecumenical.” The 1991 statement, in addition to setting out ecumenical commitments, calls for us to go deeper and address inter-religious issues. Now, 28 years later, the ELCA Churchwide Assembly will be considering such a policy statement—“A Declaration of Inter-Religious Commitment.”



The proposed statement is available online at [www.elca.org](http://www.elca.org). We live in a multi-religious world. As Lutheran Christians we engage with the rest of the world, not with suspicion or hostility, but with a strong understanding of our identity in Christ. For the last 30 years ELCA Lutherans have been engaging with their neighbors of other religious traditions. As a Church we have had conversations with Jews, Muslims, Buddhists, Hindus and Sikhs.

The statement is divided into eight sections. I will share points from the statement under each:

### Historical Considerations:

Lutherans have something distinctive to say about inter-religious commitments. The document provides a common framework for the diverse ministries of the church.

### Introduction:

“In a deeply divided world, and as a faithful response to Christ’s message of reconciliation, we seek right, peaceful, and just relationships with all our neighbors, including those of other religions and worldviews.”

### Context:

“Our context, whether understood locally or globally, is multi-religious. Our Lutheran vocation both shapes and is shaped by our engagement with religious diversity.”

### Vision:

The vision in the statement is 3-fold:

A Biblical Vision

Mutual Understanding

Common Good

### Calling:

The section on Calling addresses evangelism, interreligious relations, loving our neighbor, serving alongside our neighbor, and living in solidarity with our neighbor.

Commitments: The statement lists twelve commitments for our church as we go forward:

1. Pray for the well-being of wonderfully diverse human family.
2. Articulate why we cherish our core identity, and seek to understand our neighbor's core identity.
3. Witness the power of Christ through our daily lives, and note others' rights as we share.
4. Seek to understand the world's religions better, and identify the misuse of religion.
5. Seek to know our neighbors and to overcome stereotypes and falsehoods.
6. Seek relationship with all who seek justice, peace, human wholeness and the well-being of creation.
7. Work with other Christians for inter-religious understanding.
8. Seek counsel from other religious groups in discernment and advocacy for the common good.
9. Defend the full participation of all in our religiously diverse society.
10. Defend human rights and oppose all forms of religious bigotry.
11. Confess when our words or deeds (or lack thereof) cause offense, harm or violence, and seek forgiveness and reconciliation.
12. Produce study and dialogue materials, and pastoral guidelines.

**Biblical and Theological Underpinnings:**

This section includes God's vision, and other religions in the Bible (Rahab, the Magi, etc.). It also suggests Lutheran convictions that come into play:

Theology is relational.

Grace without prerequisites.

Limits on our knowing.

Ever-dependence on forgiveness.

Acknowledging suffering.

**Conclusion and Benediction:** The statement concludes with this benediction:

"May God bless the efforts of this church as we set our sights on God's vision, as we seek to respond to God's calling in our context, and as we strive to uphold these commitments." The proposed statement is available at [www.elca.org](http://www.elca.org), and will be voted on at the August Churchwide Assembly.

Jessica Crist, Bishop



**August 4<sup>th</sup>, First Presbyterian Church's Handbell Choir  
Will perform during worship**



Faith Herald July & August 2019

**Stewards & Staff of Faith Lutheran Church**

|                          |                     |              |                                  |
|--------------------------|---------------------|--------------|----------------------------------|
| Pastor                   | Paul Anderson       | 509-844-1120 | PastorPaul.6@gmail.com           |
| President/Convener       | Darrin Heitmann     | 370-4521     | powertrip@cybernet1.com          |
| Discipleship             | LaDonna Grotbo      | 460-1994     | Obtorg4@yahoo.com                |
| Fellowship & Hospitality | Jeff Montgomery     | 546-8284     | Or 363-2580 monty59840@gmail.com |
| Finance                  | Dean Drake          | 777-7010     | Deandrake87@gmail.com            |
| Communication            | Kerry Hanson        | 240-4672     | K3thanson@gmail.com              |
| Outreach                 | Judy Griffin        | 961-4390     | idclairus@yahoo.com              |
| Property & Grounds       | Marlin Lewis        | 391-1270     | lewism@hsd3.org                  |
| Worship                  | Susan Peterson      | 701-590-4064 | smpete2@yahoo.com                |
| Worship Coordinator      | Celeste Pogachar    | 239-3952     | celestepogachar@gmail.com        |
| Youth Director           |                     |              |                                  |
| Office Administrator     | Nancy Parish        | 363-6691     | office@faithlutheranhamilton.org |
| Bookkeeper               | Heather Wintergerst | 363-2964     | flchamilton.finsec@gmail.org     |
| Custodian                | Richard Castor      | 363-2964     |                                  |

### Pray for our Military

Keep them in your thoughts and prayers, especially those close to our family here at Faith Lutheran:

- Mike Hebert, grandson of Don & Shirley McGourty, US Army, serving in Colorado Springs, CO
- Lt. Col. Timothy Spaulding, nephew of John Trangmoe, Air Force, Wright Patterson AFB, OH
- Master Sgt. Andy Wetzsteon, son of Susan & Lonnie Wetzsteon, serving at Nelli's AFB, Las Vegas, NV
- Anna Mitteness, granddaughter of Morrie & Ann Mitteness, Cpl US Marines Corps. Now at the Marine Station in Yuma, AZ, doing communications repair.
- Major Alex Stevens, MD, grandson-in-law of Dale and Clairice Brady, serving as a hospitalist at Fort Campbell.
- Capt. Kyle Frazer, son of Larry & Nancy Hansen, serving at Fort Polk, LA.
- Master Sergeant Will Rollefson, nephew of Larry Hansen, Special Forces, Seattle, WA.



***Pray for Friends of Faith...*** Chris & Emily Jolley, Heather, Bill K., Ani M.Z., J.Z., Brittany, Jason, Brooke, Mike K., Helen & Curtis and their new baby Ryan, Lonnie W., Stacy M., Dick, Timothy H., Hank, Gail, Marvin, Peter S., Larry, Suzanne Morris, Morry Mitteness, Lavonne Beers, Ruth, Betty, Virginia Rotering, Smitty Smith, Jacob Bachman, George Davis.

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Return Service Requested

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Address Label Here



# July & August

## Dates to Remember

**July 4: Happy Independence Day!**

Church office Closed

**July 8-14** Pastor Paul on vacation

**July 13:** FLC serves @ SLH Summer Concert

**July 15: "VBS 2019" Begins**

**July 16: Council Meeting 6pm**

**August 4: 1<sup>st</sup> Presbyterian**

**August 20: Council Meeting 6pm**

**August 21:** September Herald deadline



### *Memorial Service for Frank Laurence*

*Friday, August 11 am at his daughter's  
home, 512 South 4<sup>th</sup> St., Hamilton*



## Thank you

Linda Beyer, Helen Volden  
and Susan Peterson for  
weeding, planting and  
watering the flowers in front  
of the church!

*Faith Lutheran Church is a family of God built on love: Worshiping, welcoming, growing and serving in Christ's name.*