



The Faith Herald

November 2021

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

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406.363.2964

Visit our office 9a-1p, Monday-Thursday

Faith Harald

November 2021,

Dear Members and Friends of FLC

A happy November to you all. I cannot believe it's already here. As we "All Saints Sunday" quickly approaches, verses from Hebrews comes to mind. Hebrews 12:1-2, "Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God."

What a comfort it is to know that we are surrounded by such a cloud of witnesses. We remember the witness of Jesus, who walks with us. We remember the witnesses, of the Bible, both women and men. We remember the witnesses of our early Church Mothers and Fathers. We remember the witnesses of our own loved ones, who now have gone to heaven, who have been a guide and influence to our faith. And we remember the witnesses who still walk with us on our faith journeys. I am so grateful for all of these witnesses God has given us.

My Dad was one of those witnesses for me. Even after almost 13 years of his death, and find myself, at times, grieving his loss. I also find myself comforted to know that "shalom" I learned from my dad came not from him but the God who brought "shalom" to his life here on earth, and to his life after his life here on this earth. From John Gugel's book, *Cries of Faith, Songs of Hope* he writes, "Shalom is a sturdy Hebrew word. It literally means 'peace.' But shalom has a much broader meaning than just the end of hostilities. It describes the wholeness

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that God promises for his people. It describes the totality of God's goodness to those who are God's own."

As we remember our saints who have gone on before us, I am pleased to announce that I will be leading a grief group beginning on Wednesday, November 3rd, at 1:00 PM. I will be using the book "Understanding your grief" your own stories to help each of us on our grief journey. I hope that you are able to attend.

I would like to close with this prayer of "Shalom" for all of us. "Give us your Shalom, Lord. Make us whole one more. Mend our brokenness. Restore our fractured spirit. Put the pieces back together again. Set our troubled souls at rest. Hush the turmoil within and soothe us with your own indescribable peace so that we might proclaim your goodness and be an agent of shalom to everyone we encounter." Amen.

Partners in sharing God's grace and "Shalom,"

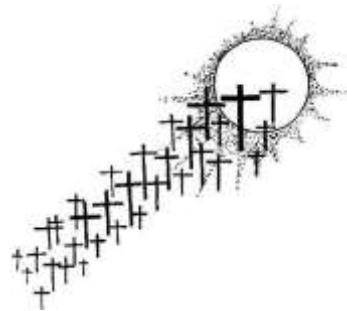
Pastor Paul

Faith's Worship Rhythm

- 11/7 All Saints Day Honor deceased and loved ones
with candles during worship
- 11/14 Youth Sunday
- 11/21 Christ the King Sunday
- 11/25 Thanksgiving Day
- 11/28 First Sunday in Advent



Remembering Our Saints Sunday, November 1st



Celebrate our new saints, and those who have passed on. During worship we will toll a bell and process with flowers for those who have died in the past year and light candles in honor of all those who have ever loved us well and gone home to God. **Please call or email the office with the name/s of those who've passed this year, so that we can list them and provide a flower. Call Jasmine at 363-2964, or email: faithlutheran59840@gmail.com**

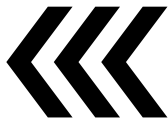


Grace and Peace to you from the Lord our God and our savior, his Son, Jesus the Christ,

There are significant changes occurring and we, the council, wish to keep the Faith family apprised. Celeste has chosen not to continue as our director of Music and Worship. Celeste's contribution as an employee has left a positive and lasting mark on Faith and its ministries. We thank Celeste for her passion and her legacy. We look forward to working with Celeste as she explores expanding her ministry beyond Music and Worship within the Faith family.

Celeste's resignation has not been easy for any of us (Celeste, Council, Staff and Pastor) involved. Everyone has spent a great deal of time in prayer and thoughtful consideration of what is best. We all are bruised and saddened. We place our faith and trust in God to carry us through to healing and wholeness. We place our faith and trust in God to lead us through the next chapter in the life of Faith Lutheran Church. We ask everyone to pray for their Faith community. We ask everyone to lean into love and grace. Worship planning will now take place via the Worship committee under the direct leadership of Pastor Paul. If you are interested in assisting in the planning of worship, long term, for a season, or for a specific day, - please contact the front office we welcome the help. If you have gifts you would like to share with the community during worship, please let the office know; these are the gifts that the Book tells us please the Lord.

Your servants in Christ,

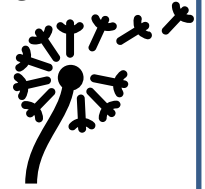


Council and Pastor Paul



Stewardship

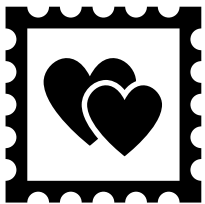
Wednesday Night Alive continues to meet every Wednesday for meal, fellowship and for those interested study. The next planned study is on Women in the Bible. We do not have fixed dates for when that will begin. We encourage you to use Wednesday afternoons or evenings for your work for the church. All are welcome and I haven't poisoned anyone yet.



During Advent the church will have Holden Evening Prayer service after the meal instead of fellowship and study. Knowing Faith folk you will easily squeeze in your fellowship time before and after the service.

I do need help on two significant issues going forward. 1) K-12 education, I need a committee to help bracket a curriculum. We need a reference point or guideline that helps shape what we teach and at what age. The world outside our walls is filled with misinformation about who we are and what we are about. The best shield against this is a strong foundation. How do we hybrid education to be more portable or take home friendly?

2) Covid restrictions put a big dent in our Youth Group. We need the committee that was helping Josie to continue meeting regularly. I am happy to do whatever leg work is necessary. We need a vision for how we will proceed, not just around Covid restrictions, but for what we want for our youth and what is possible and plausible for them to succeed with. Things to ponder: nearby mission activities, loosely structured study and discussion, how often do we meet? Youth leading youth supported by the youth committee(bottom up or flat planning). How do we serve the busy families in a way that supports and enables the vision we have for our Christian Youth. We also need to fearlessly plug our young adults into every facet of church life. I love Youth Sundays and we ought not to wait for that day to "allow" our youth to participate. Where they have gifts we need to engage. They have so much more to contribute than being an Acolyte. (and we love to have acolytes).



PAX
John



FLBC Annual Meeting Report

Pastor Paul and myself attended the FLBC annual meeting on Saturday, October 9, 2021. We had a beautiful drive through the Mission Valley and along the stunning Flathead Lake. Highlights from the FLBC Annual meeting included

1. Updates on how the camp handled the past two summers with Covid 19. They were pleased to announce that they had zero Covid 19 cases.
2. Long time staff member Jacob Kvale was celebrated as he leaves his work at FLBC and moves to Missoula, MT.
3. Last year they budgeted for a financial deficit in 2021, but were pleased to announce they did not have a financial deficit in 2021. They were even able to purchase neighboring property.
4. FLBC has started some strategic planning for the future of the camp. They took time during the meeting to seek input and will be visiting churches in the state to seek input as well.

I was glad that I had the chance to go.

Respectfully,

Jacque VanDenburg





FLBC Retreats

Crazy About Quilting Retreat

November 9-11, 2021

Join us for a weekend of quilting and fun! Bring your quilt projects and work alongside friends old and new on the shores of Flathead Lake. Evening devotions, worship, and plenty of time for conversation with delicious meals and cozy accommodations will make for a relaxing weekend away.



Family Advent Retreat

Dec 3-5

Prepare for the Christmas season by taking intentional time to slow down and enjoy the season. Make awesome crafts, cut your own Christmas tree, and soak in time for worship and prayer this Advent.

Cost: ages 12+ - \$178; 4-11 = \$89; 3& under = free, Non-refundable \$75 deposit due by Nov 16, 2021.



See the flyer on the bulletin board.

Youth Ski & Snowboard Retreat

January 8-10, 2022

\$115 / person (2 free adults per youth group) // Lift tickets not included

\$50 deposit / person & registration due by December 29th

Come for an awesome weekend filled with good food, fellowship, snow games, worship and FUN! Spend your days skiing or snowboarding at Whitefish Mountain Resort or Blacktail Mountain Resort with your youth group.



Downhill snow sports not your forte? Some of the best cross-country ski trails in the Flathead Valley are a few miles from camp, or spend the day at camp relaxing, studying and enjoying the view of Flathead Lake. Post skiing activities include hot chocolate by the fire, group games, time to relax with new friends, and worship.



Retreat begins with dinner at 6:15pm on Friday (check-in is from 5–6pm) and ends with breakfast on Sunday. Sack lunches will be provided for

both Saturday and Sunday.

[Call the FLBC office at 406-752-6602 if you have any questions or to register!](tel:406-752-6602)

Operation Christmas Child Packing Party

It's the time of year everyone can reach out to a child somewhere in the world and possibly introduce Jesus/Christianity into his or her life. Pack a shoebox...at home or come to the Faith during the week or join the Faith Shoebox Packing Party. Here's our Christmas Child schedule for the next few weeks.

Now until Shoebox Sunday, Purchase a "WOW" item for a shoebox - toy, clothing, game, etc.



October 31st Wrap the soap Sunday

Operation Christmas Child Faith's Shoebox Packing Schedule

November 3rd – Drop-In Packing Line Begins

Our goal is to pack at least 150 boxes this year

Drop-in at the church during business hours and pack one or more shoeboxes

November 7th - Packing Party Sunday

Food, Fellowship, and Packing Shoeboxes after the church service

November 12th – Drop-In Packing Line Ends

November 15th - 22nd - Collection Week

Shoeboxes are collected at Cornerstone Church and packed into larger shipping boxes to begin their journey to children around the world

Please remember \$9 per box is requested for shipping

Checks can be made out to Faith Lutheran (designate for OCC) then one check will be written and sent once the boxes are collected...or

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Cash or checks can be added to shoeboxes as the last item

NEW THIS YEAR! * * * PACK A BOX ON-LINE!

Pack a shoebox anytime of the year for \$25

(includes the filler items and shipping)

go to <https://www.samaritanspurse.org/operation-christmas-child/buildonline/>

It's easy and you can choose which suggested items to include in the box

(It does require a credit card)

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Linda Beyer 406-207-3471

Remembering Lynda Brady

Our daughter Lynda spent a few months with us last summer after retiring and before moving to the state of Washington. It was a wonderful time for our family. We were able to spend some time looking back and remembering her life growing up here.

She loved music and using her piano/organ skills at Faith was a highlight. She accompanied Sylvia Lewis's Junior Choir all her years of high school. She and her sister Lori always loved playing together at church, especially Christmas Eve. They would practice for weeks. Bob and Rachel Gerloff expressed their love for that music by gifting the girls with their organ when they moved to Sapphire. That organ will be moving from Helena to Reno NV soon. Lynda had a special love for bell choirs and was gathering information to begin one at Faith when her husband's work moved them out of state.

Her cousin Ken Loss talked about her eyes at her memorial service. What he didn't know then was that she was an organ donor and now someone else has those corneas. He didn't know as well that she almost lost one eye to a neighbor boy's new arrow. It barely missed the cornea. She was patched for awhile but her eye was saved.

She always looked forward to summer camping . . . whether it was just our family or with a friends. Both Camp Tawajaneo on Salmon Lake and Flathead Bible Camp were life highlights. She worked hard selling Camp Fire candy and wreaths in Great Falls and earned her way to Tawajaneo three years in a row, spending two birthdays there. She and her friend Janet Steele recently shared some of their special memories from Flathead Bible Camp. In later years she made sure her kids were here in summer to go to Flathead as well. Those kids, Tyson and Marysa, decided they wanted memorial money to go to camperships for Flathead Bible Camp.

Life was sometimes really hard for our Lynda but I don't remember her complaining. She seemed to always find someone else with issues needing more attention. She especially enjoyed Faith's on line worship service and always had questions or comments on Sunday afternoons. She mentioned many times how she enjoyed the Sunday the bell choir played.

Thank you Faith for your love and concern for all of us in her loss. We will always remember the gifts of love bestowed on us these last months as we said good bye to Lynda and her Dad Dale. Our hearts are heavy but full. Clairice Brady



Remembering Jim Shipman

Jim Shipman touched all who knew him. When he and Carol moved their membership from Faith we all missed his cheerful, smiling personality and his always willing hands.

We are reminded and he will be remembered long for his craftsmanship at Faith that is enjoyed by all of us. When a group of women updated the women's rest room some years ago, Jim jumped on board and built the vanity and the resting bench where the old changing table was. He listened to the 'dream' of those involved in the project and wanted it to be what we wanted and thought we needed to take care of personal needs. About that same time he built the card nook cabinet as well.

When the narthex was expanded and the offices moved, Jim was there most days helping out wherever he could. He had vision and expertise and was so appreciated by the Council Steward overseeing the project. He helped design the layout of the office as it was converted from the pastor's study to its new location. Years later he regretted not getting the door on the shelves he built for paper.

Jim was always willing to do projects for members and friends as well. Because of Carol's quilt work, designing and building sewing cabinets was his specialty. Jim Shipman liked to have fun. He and Carol traveled a lot in retirement and he was always up for a good game of pinochle. They regularly attended the game nights at Faith. The Shipmens sold their home here and lived at Sapphire awhile before their final destination in Big Timber to be near their daughter. A memorial service for Jim was held recently at the Episcopal Church here. Clairice Brady



St. Francis Bazaar

Saturday, Nov. 20th
8:30am - 2pm
Corner of South 5th
and Ravalli St.

Community Thanksgiving

Grateful Hearts Offer Thanks & Prayers!

Sunday, November 21st 6-7:30pm
Hamilton Assembly of God
601 West Main





Faith's Commitment to Providing Meals

Members of Faith have always been committed to helping those who experience food insecurity. In fact, Faith was one of the churches who provided meals through the Community Meals program the first year it was created by the Family Shelter of the Bitterroot. And, Faith has continued to support the program each year since then. Over the years thousands of meals have been prepared and served by members of Faith Lutheran. In the last two months, Faith has served over 130 meals on the fourth Tuesday of the month. Since Faith serves on the fourth Tuesday, we will not be preparing meals during November and December as the Community Meals program takes a break during the holiday weeks. Many other community services fill the holiday gap with food boxes and actual holiday meals. If you would like to help with providing food during the holidays, please consider donating to our local food banks or the major supplier to these food banks: Montana Food Bank Network, 5625 Expressway, Missoula, 59808 (www.mfbn.org). Faith will resume preparing and serving meals in January 2022.

Bitter Root Empty Bowls, Saturday, November 13th

St. Francis Pastoral Life Center

411 S. 5th St. Tickets \$25.00

Two seatings: 11am and 12:30

Tickets can be bought at Clay Works!, Chapter One Bookstore.

Funds raised at this event will support; local food banks

**A \$25 donation buys you a delicious soup and bread meal
and you keep the beautiful handmade bowl!**



Important Budget Meetings Mark Your Calendar:

Mon. November 1st Final Budget Workup Meeting 6pm

Sun. December 5th Budget Questions and Answers after worship

Sun. December 12th Congregational Meeting to approve budget

2022 Final Budget Workup Meeting

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Monday November 1st @ 6 PM

The 2022 Final Budget Workup Meeting is on the agenda for the next FLC Council Meeting. Please feel free to attend this meeting and participate in this important process. Council encourages your input!

Final 2022 Budget Q&A

Sunday December 5th after worship

Council invites you to join us in the Hospitality Room after services for a Question and Answer session on the Final 2022 Budget.

See you there!

Special Congregational Meeting

Sunday, December 12th after worship

This meeting is being held for the purpose of approving the 2022 budget.

All voting members of the congregation are encouraged to attend

Please join us as Faith Lutheran Church Celebrates its 70th Anniversary November 14, 5:00 p.m.

We will be celebrating our 70 years with a special evening of looking back, looking forward and celebrating each other. We have been given much and we want to give back with some gifts to Haven House for them to do what they do best. To assist in planning, You will be asked to pre-purchase your ticket to the celebration with a can of food for Haven House. If you would like, you can bring additional cans to honor those who have laid the foundation and those who have come before us to actively build on that foundation. We will be putting names on the cans to build a 'giving wall'. There will be invitations available for each of us to pass on to folks we haven't seen for awhile. So look around, grab a few invitations, add a personal note and get them in the mail. Please sign your name to the invitation. Pastor Paul is contacting former pastors and their families with our invitation for them to participate. Expect an evening of good food, fun in remembering and celebrating with each other. The 70th committee, Jane Mason contact person



Pray for At-Home Members and Friends...



Prayers for safety and healing: Cheryl. Charlene Riggle, Mary Schmidt, Mary Ann, Myrtle Irene Cosner, Steve Forseth, Tom Dolan, Tom Martin, Karla West, Wes and Andy, , Bertie Senn, Geri Grymes

Prayers for comfort: Family and Friends of Rod Snook, Family and Friends of Matt Hurley

Discovery:

Beehive: Yvonne Olson, Chuck Olson

Valley View: Ruth Dillon

Remington: Kathleen Gazzara

Sapphire: Bertie Senn

Incarcerated: George Davis

November Birthdays

| | |
|-------|--------------------------------|
| 11/1 | |
| 11/4 | Tom Grymes |
| 11/5 | John Serfass |
| 11/7 | Barbara Davis |
| 11/8 | Peggy Trexler |
| 11/9 | Yvette Larson, Skeet Mason |
| 11/11 | Charley Larson |
| 11/14 | Mia Mendenall |
| 11/18 | Mark Clark |
| 11/19 | Cynthia Marshall, Colter Mason |
| 11/20 | Grayden Beyer |
| 11/20 | Abigail Wetzsteon |
| 11/21 | Madi Farrenburg |
| 11/24 | Caroline Denney |





Stewards & Staff of Faith Lutheran Church

| | | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------|--------------|--|
| Pastor | Paul Anderson | 509-844-1120 | PastorPaul6@gmail.com |
| President/Convener | Dean Drake | 544-5328 | Deandrake87@gmail.com |
| Discipleship | John Marten | 231-288-0242 | Johnmarten1j4.7@gmail.com |
| Fellowship & Hospitality | Jane Mason | 363-4568 | 13LJMason@gmail.com |
| Finance | Sandy Russ | 531-0424 | catsandy12178@gmail.com |
| Communication | Jacque VanDenburg | 362-5393 | vandenburgj@gmail.com |
| Outreach | Rick Brown | 406-381-6329 | Rbrown172@gmail.com |
| Property & Grounds | Marlin Lewis | 406-375-5166 | lewism@hsd3.org |
| Co-Stewards | Shawn Boelman | 406-250-4454 | boelman4@gmail.com |
| Worship | Susan Peterson | 701-590-4064 | smpete2@yahoo.com |
| Worship Coordinator | Celeste Pogachar | 239-3952 | celestepogachar@gmail.com |
| Youth and Family Director | Josie VanDenburg | 381-0268 | youthdirectorflc59840@gmail.com |
| Office Administrator | Jasmine Meuchel | 406-214-7845 | Faithlutheran59840@gmail.com |
| Bookkeeper | Heather Wintergerst | 363-2964 | Faithlutheran59840.financial@gmail.com |

Dates To Remember



- 11/3 All Saints' Sunday
- 11/3 Drop-in Packing begins**
- 11/7 Operation Christmas Child Packing Party**
- 11/11 Veterans Day
- 11/14 70th Anniversary Dinner at Faith Lutheran Church**
- 11/13 Empty Bowls, St. Francis Pastoral Life Center
- 11/18 Faith Herald Deadline**
- 11/21 Christ the King Sunday
- 11/25 Happy Thanksgiving!!!(FLC office closed until Dec 2nd)
- 11/28 First Sunday in Advent



Faith Lutheran Church
171 Lewis Lane
Hamilton, MT 59840
faithlutheran59840@gmail.com
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Dates To Remember

- 11/1 All Saints' Sunday, **DST Ends**
- 11/11 Veterans Day
- 11/13 Empty Bowls, St. Francis Pastoral Life Center
- 11/21 Christ the King Sunday
- 11/25 Happy Thanksgiving!!!(FLC office closed until Dec 2nd)

