

The Newsletter of Faith Lutheran Church
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October, 2021



As we prepare for our celebration of the Reformation, I wanted to share an article written by Brian Wolfmueller. He is an LCMS pastor and author. You can find this article and many other useful videos and articles on his website <https://wolfmueller.co>. The distinction of the difference between the Law and the Gospel is perhaps the most important doctrine in helping us understand the Scriptures.

A few days ago, someone asked me, “So what is it that you Lutherans believe?” I only had a couple of minutes, and I knew I would probably never see this person again. A question like this cuts out all the extras and invites an often-needed clarity. How, dear friends, would you answer a question? What would you say if a stranger gave you five minutes to teach them what we believe, teach and confess?

I’ll tell you what I said, “Lutherans see two teaching from God in the Scriptures: the law and the Gospel.” The law shows us what God requires, and because we do not and cannot keep the law, it also shows us that we are sinners. The Gospel, on the other hand, shows us what God has done for us in Christ, especially in His suffering and death, to win for us the forgiveness of our sins.

This distinction between the law and the Gospel stands at the heart of everything we believe, teach, preach, pray and do. It is the foundation of our worship, our church, our lives and our hope. We must then, dear saints, continue to study and learn the difference between law and Gospel. When we read the Scriptures we ask, “Is this passage law or Gospel? Is it telling me what to do (or what I have not done), or is the text telling me what Jesus has done for my salvation?”

We ask the same question when we listen to sermons and Bible lessons: “Is this law or is this Gospel?” And even more, we listen to our daily conversations, “Am I being told the law or the Gospel?” When we ask this question, we find that most of our days are filled with law, instruction, demands, criticisms, etc., and that each of us lives in a barren wilderness in which the Gospel is rarely heard, even we Christians! That which we need to hear the most is that which is least spoken: that Christ Jesus has died for us, has forgiven us, and because of Him, we are the beloved of God the Father. This promise of forgiveness for the sake of Jesus is what gives us life, salvation, forgiveness, and freedom.

This distinction between the law and the Gospel is the foundation of all that we believe, teach and confess. I hope that the next time you are asked what Lutheran believes you speak of the Lord’s law and the Gospel, and that you speak of these two teachings even when you’re not asked! And even more, that in our own lives we are always sorting out words of law and Gospel, and we continue to hold and cling to the life-giving words of the forgiveness of sins which we hear in the holy and precious Gospel. Amen.



Law	Gospel
Tells us what to do	Tells us what Jesus has done
Shows us our sin	Shows us our Savior
Always accuses	Always forgives
Brings death	Brings life
Demands perfect righteousness	Gives the righteousness of God
Kept by works	Had by faith
The Ten Commandments	The Apostle's Creed
Revealed in nature and creation	Revealed in the Scripture alone
Threatens	Promises
Demand	Gift

This difference between the Law and the Gospel is the height of knowledge in Christendom. Every person and all persons who assume or glory in the name of Christian should know and be able to state this difference. If this ability is lacking, one cannot tell a Christian from a heathen or a Jew; of such supreme importance is this differentiation. This is why St. Paul so strongly insists on a clean-cut and proper differentiating of these two doctrines. [Martin Luther, Sermon On Galatians, 1532]

As the distinction between the Law and the Gospel is a special brilliant light, which serves to the end that God's Word may be rightly divided, and the Scriptures of the holy prophets and apostles may be properly explained and understood, we must guard it with especial care, in order that these two doctrines may not be mingled with one another, or a law be made out of the Gospel, whereby the merit of Christ is obscured and troubled consciences are robbed of their comfort, which they otherwise have in the holy Gospel when it is preached genuinely and in its purity, and by which they can support themselves in their most grievous trials against the terrors of the Law. [The Formula of Concord V: On the Law and the Gospel]

Rev. Patrick Pooch

We are always delighted to welcome **new members** to Faith Lutheran Church. All we request is your completion of an application (found on a table in the Narthex), mailed to the church or given to a Church Elder. Upon receiving your application, Pastor Pooch will meet with you and encourage you to attend his Catechism Classes and then we will look forward to welcoming you as a Member of Faith. For our Snowbird Friends, you can become **Associate Members**, meaning you have a northern church home and make Faith your Church home while in Florida. You will be considered full members.



Adult Bible Class



Our Sunday Bible Class, led by Pastor Poock, meets at 9:15 am in the Great Hall . The Divine scripture readings will be discussed in depth, and allows for questions. Come and have a cup of coffee with the group and join in the discussions.

PLEASE mark your calendar for Adult Bible Class time to take place following the Sunday, October 31st. Divine Service (remembering the Divine Service is at 9:15 am)

The offerings received at this time go to benefit pastoral students at the Concordia Seminary.

Catechism Classes:

Pastor is beginning his Adult Catechism Classes on Wednesday, October 13 at 6:15 pm in the Great Hall for a period of 8 weeks.

Catechism Classes for our Youth will be on Sundays at 12:30 pm, beginning Sunday, October 3rd.

Please be sure to sign up on the blue table in the Narthex if you plan on attending so we have an idea of the number of people to expect. The classes are open to new prospective members as well as anyone who would like to review and participate in the discussions.



Religious Education

[Lifelight Bible Study via Zoom is held the third Friday of every month.](#)



Our thanks for your generous gifts to our Food Barrel that sits in the Narthex. We collect your donations of non perishable food items and paper products for those less fortunate. Please consider bringing at least one item each week to help give nourishment and bring a Smile to someone in need.



FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH
CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

September 14, 2021

The President called the meeting to order at 6 p.m.

PRESENT: President Glen Collier; VP Jim Jones; Treasurer Judy Faries; Recording Secretary Jean Roehrs; Head, Trustee David Benson; Communication Chairman Kelly Freeman; and Pastor Pook. Absent: Head Elder Mert Janovec and Financial Secretary Marilyn Howard.

Opening Devotions: Pastor shared from Psalm 27 that David cried aloud for the Lord to be with him. Prayer was offered for several members with recent or pending needs.

REPORTS

SECRETARY: Minutes of 08-10-21 approved as printed.

TREASURER: Report distributed and several areas explained.

FINANCIAL SECRETARY: Absent. Report distributed.

PASTOR: Kelly presented a calendar of events for the year. This was reviewed with changes and corrections made. Updated copy attached. Highlights include plans to invite neighbors and friends to services in Oct. and plans for the Reformation Festival Oct. 31. LWML Sunday will be celebrated Nov. 14. A new GriefShare class will begin Oct. 4.

VICE PRESIDENT: No report.

PRESIDENT: No Report.

BOARD REPORTS

COMMUNICATION: A survey of the recent adult confirmation class revealed that most of them became acquainted with Faith via the electric sign, facebook, web site, and word of mouth. None of them mentioned newspapers.

ELDERS: Absent. Refer to Pastor's report.

LWML: There were 20 ladies at the first meeting Sept. 9 Prayer Service and lunch. Hygiene kits will be packed following the Oct. 14 meeting.

TRUSTEES: Dave presented 5 bids to resurface the **parking lot**. Discussion as to just what should be paved. Jean **MOVED** Jim and Dave review the bids, select a vendor, and decide what needs to be paved. **Motion** seconded and **carried** with all voting yes.

Jim **MOVED** Dave have the **parking area across the street** leveled and more gravel added, as need. **Motion** seconded and **carried** with all voting yes. Jim **Moved** to grant Dave's request for a new **leaf blower**. **Motion** seconded and **carried** with all voting yes. The church received an A+ rating for an unannounced **fire inspection**.

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES September 14, 2021 (continued)**NEW BUSINESS**

Bookkeeper: Bookkeeping Processes, as provided by Christa Fox, were reviewed and approved. Judy **MOVED** she be hired to begin learning the process at Faith Oct. 1, 2021. **Motion** seconded and **carried** with all voting yes.

Financial Review: A member of the congregation will be asked to provide a financial review of the books before turning them over to the bookkeeper. She will also be asked to assume the position of treasurer as Judy is completing her third two-year term.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Altar Rails: The altar rails are in place and add to the beauty of the altar area. Judy offered that she would like to donate **kneelers** in memory of Bill. Jean **MOVED** that her offer be accepted. **Motion** seconded and **carried** with all voting yes.

Audio Visual: Pastor reported that the problems with the sound system and organ have been resolved.

The next Council meeting will be **October 12, 2021**, at 6:00 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m. followed by prayer.

Jean

Jean Roehrs, Recording Secretary



The Board of Elders, at their September meeting, approved the formation of a Chancel Choir, to perform at two Devine Services, and the Christmas Eve Service.

Stephen Reay will lead the choir and set up rehearsal times leading up the performances.

There will be a sign-up sheet in the Narthex for those interested in being a part of this special ministry.

Rehearsal and performance dates and times will be announced shortly after October 15th. Look for the sign up sheet at that time also.

This is a great opportunity to offer your talents to the Glory of God.



GriefShare Program

Faith Lutheran Church

WE WILL BEGIN OUR THIRD SESSION OF GRIEF SHARE

ON MONDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2021 AT 6:30 PM IN THE GREAT HALL

This 13-week Caring program features Biblical, Christ-centered teaching which focuses on grief topics associated with the death of a loved one. This DVD seminar features nationally respected grief experts, and real-life stories of people; followed by a small group discussion about what was just viewed.

Past participants have related how helpful the information, and follow-up discussions, were to them.

Many grieving people find that while they are beginning the task of healing, friends or family have already returned to their daily life routines. Too often people, including Christians, tend to suppress their grief. Instead, they need to allow themselves to learn to deal with their grief by attending this God-oriented program. Please do not allow fear of what others may think keep you from what could help you.

CONFIDENTIALITY is very much a part of this program.

Your bereavement experience may or may not be recent. You will find comfort, encouragement and help in grieving the loss of a spouse, child, parent, sibling, other family member or a friend. No matter what the cause of your loved one's death, this is an opportunity to be around people who understand what you are feeling.

You will learn how to recognize the symptoms of being stuck in grief, and that you do not need to live in bondage to uncertain emotions. You will learn valuable information about facing your 'new' normal in life, and renewing your hope for the future.

If you want to take part in this GriefShare program, please call the Church Office (941-776-1395) to let one of the secretaries know of your interest.





Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Ministry COMING SOON.... Sunday, Oct. 10

Who: Share Christmas with children in need overseas!

What do I do?: Take a decorated shoebox (or several) from the Narthex table and fill it with items for the children.

When: **October 10** is the kick off weekend! Boxes must be returned to the church by November 14.



Operation Christmas Child is one of the ministries of the Christian missionary organization SAMARITAN'S PURSE. Each November thousands of churches, groups & donors prepare and collect shoeboxes with toys, schools supplies, other small gifts & Bible story booklets. The boxes are sent to distribution sites and shipped overseas.
Thank you for your support!

For more information please contact:
Alice Bowen, alicebowen84@gmail.com

ETERNAL LIFE SEMINAR

HOSTED BY: BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

DATE: SATURDAY OCTOBER 9, 2021 TIME: 9:00 AM UNTIL NOON

Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church invites all guests and members to attend an Eternity Workshop on Saturday, October 9th from 9AM until 12PM. Have you made final plans for when God calls you home? Will your loved ones know your medical care preferences at life's end? Will they know what favorite scripture readings and songs of faith to include in your service or how and where you want to be buried? Did you know you can include a statement of your Christian faith in your will or living trust to leave as a lasting legacy that can be used by the Holy Spirit to encourage the faith of future generations? If you are interested in developing or updating your final plans and giving your loved one's peace of mind, please plan on attending our Eternity Workshop on Saturday, October 9th at 9:00 AM to 12:00PM at Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church, 7461 Prospect Rd, Sarasota FL 34243. Light refreshments will be served before the workshop.

SPEAKERS

Pastor Leavitt – Senior Pastor Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church
Lutheran Church Missouri Synod (LCMS - Foundation)

Jim Pennington

Tony Hunt

David Agee, Reid and Agee PLLC
National Cremation Society (NCS)

Terry McNeil

Tanya Parker

AGENDA

8:30AM Light Refreshments

9AM Open Prayer

Pastor Leavitt

9:05 Opening Remarks

Stewardship Committee

9:15 What does the Lutheran Church believe

Pastor Leavitt

10 15 Minute Break

10:15 What documents are needed for planning

David Agee

11 Burial Options

NCS

11:45 How can the Lutheran Church Assist

LCMS

12:30 General Questions

12:45 Closing Prayer

Pastor Leavitt

12:45 Personal Question and Answers with Presenters

RSPS would be appreciated:

Call Martha Music @ 941-260-9715 or Beautiful Savior Office at 941-355-2798

FAITH PRAYER MINISTRY

The psalmist writes *The Lord has heard my cry for mercy; the Lord accepts my prayer* (Psalm 6:9 NIV). The Lord will hear our cries for mercy, also, and accept our prayers. Please make your prayer needs known to the church office or to the prayer chairman and your requests/needs will be made known to the Prayer Partners who have joined the Faith Prayer Ministry. To be a member of this vital ministry send an email to jroehrs27@gmail.com and prayer requests will be sent to you via email. Thank You!



The **Lutheran Women in Mission (LWML)** will meet, Thursday, October 14, at 10 am. with refreshments at 9:30.

Our morning will begin with a Bible Study, short meeting and concluding with everyone helping to assemble Hygiene Kits for the Manatee County Schools' homeless children.

We look forward to seeing you there.



We are asking our church family to please help us provide: nail clippers and nail files, deodorant, and small travel size shampoo to put in our hygiene bags.

PLEASE, if you can help us out, put needed items in the bin next to the **LWML** table .

If you would like to join us for our meeting and need transportation , please call Jean at 941-417-7693

Other **LWML** requests—

Our MITES, coins and bills, add up to great things for Christ. Please remember to donate your mites change in the large mite box in the Narthex.

Please NO foreign or half dollar coins.

The LWML Prayer Service held on September 9th followed by a salad luncheon and fellowship was a great way to begin the **LWML** year and was a big success.

All Ladies of the church are welcome and encouraged to join LWML . We meet once a month on the second Thursday for Bible Study, a short meeting and fun projects . Please consider adding us to your calendar .



Prayer Service Salad Luncheon was enjoyed by all.

This Month's Privileged Servants



Altar Guild

Wednesdays, 5pm

- October 6 Monica Carezza/Susan Barber
- October 13 Alice Bowen
- October 20 Eloise Schwarz
- October 27 Gwyn Pooch

Sundays, 8:00 am /Sunday 10:30 am

- October 3 Martha Riedl / Kiah Pooch
- October 10 Meta Green / Nancy Niemi
- October 17 Gwyn Pooch / Pat Barlow
- October 24 Janie Zanella / Chris Stisser

SUNDAY (one service) 9:15

- October 31 Martha Riedl

Elders

Wednesdays, 5 pm

- October 6 Mike Freeman
- October 13 Tony Bowen
- October 20 Mike Freeman
- October 27 Mike Freeman

Assistant

- David Barber
- Jeff Sattanno
- Curt McCarty
- Joe Rawlinson

Sundays, 8:00 am

- October 3 Dennis Steinke
- October 10 Tom Weiss
- October 17 Dennis Steinke
- October 24 Tom Weiss

Sundays, 10:30 am

- Tom Barlow
- Tom Barlow
- Roy Heflin
- Tom Barlow

Assistant

- Chris Lindau
- Chris Lindau
- Caleb Pooch
- Caleb Pooch

Reformation Sunday 9:15 am

- October 31 Tom Barlow and Brad Teitelbaum

Offering Counters

- October 3 Jean Roehrs, Carol Schreiber
- October 10 John & Nancy Niemi and Marilyn Howard
- October 17 Lois Lannon, Bob Biebl and Jan Heider
- October 31 Sherry Janovec and Larry Colton

Thank you to all of you, who are assisting in this important function of our Church.
****Note**** Counting normally takes place Monday, the next day following the offering.



Look Who's Celebrating Birthdays and Anniversaries!

Happy Birthday to:

- 2 Larry Colton
- 3 Carol Dressel, Sheila Smith, Julie DuChane
- 4 Glen Collier, Janet Courtney, Susan Rawlinson
- 5 Hannah Hughes,
- 6 Phyllis Greenlee
- 7 Dorothy Kadelski, William Costello
- 8 Barb Plank
- 9 Dianne Dappen, Caroline Spirduso
- 10 Ken Scheer, Marion Sommers
- 11 Marilyn Howard, Harry Wiedenmeyer
- 12 Frank Toye
- 14 Elaine Gates
- 16 Nancy Mason
- 18 Dana Ellerbrock, Margo Reid, Frank Swain
- 23 Paulette Natzke
- 24 Karen Gibson, David Krewin, Gwyn Pooch
- 26 Patti Littlejohn, Linda Asvestas, Joseph Kaczmarek
- 30 Jacqueline Aquino
- 31 Alice Bowen

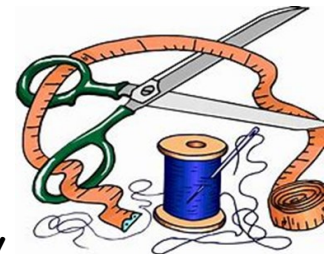
Anniversary Wishes to:

- 1 Jim & Sue Koehler (44 years)
- 4 Chris & Diane Lindau (13 years), Richard & Linda Stevenson (15 years),
Frank & Joan Toye (17 years)
- 8 Ronald & Donna Koenig (15 years)
- 10 Nathan & Jessica Kneser (1 year)
- 14 Mark & Michelle Fluegge (43 years), Mark & Cheryl Ryan (43 years)
- 17 John & Margo Reid (29 years)
- 20 Carl & Eloise Schwarz (48 years)
- 25 Rick & Jay Jean Bartelt (46 years), Uwe & Kristina Porth (38 years)

WOMEN OF FAITH



Women of Faith are making plans for distributing their quilts and toys as the year ends and plan on displaying their quilts the second week of November. They will be meeting the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month and always welcome willing hands to help in this process. Will you join us? Contact Margie Weiss at 941-757-7307 if you have any questions. or concerns.



SEWING FOR CHRIST

Gloria and Maurita are busy on Thursday mornings with their sewing and knitting projects. Gloria has completed 29 bibs for the Migrant children and Maurita is knitting squares for a lap robe. They meet at 10:00 on Thursdays and invite anyone to come and share their sewing projects.

We are truly blessed and proud of our new altar railing, created and installed by Dave Benson, head trustee, and some of his trustee members, Richard Wormald and Martha Riedl.



This month, we recognize Reformation Day on Saturday, October 31, 2020. Its history began on Halloween of 1517, when Martin Luther, a German monk, nailed his 95 Theses to the door of Wittenberg Church. These 95 Theses expressed his concerns over corruption found in the Catholic church. One of his primary concerns was the church selling "indulgences" to people in order to release them from having to serve penitence for their sins. An act which he considered to be people trying to buy their way into heaven. This act opened up a debate with religious scholars of the time that eventually lead to the Protestant Reformation.



In commemoration of Reformation Day, we are asking everyone to wear RED on Sunday, October 31, 2021

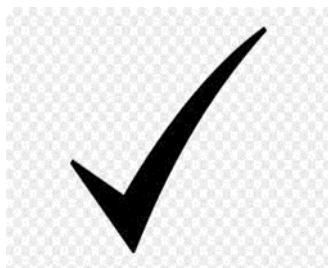
All Saints Day



They will receive blessing from the Lord and vindication from the God of their salvation. Psalm 24:5

Within the Lutheran religion and following Reformation Day on October 31st, All Saints' Day is celebrated on November 1st. For the parishioners within the religion, "the day is observed by remembering and thanking God for all saints, both dead and living." It is a day to glorify Jesus Christ, who by his holy life and death has made the saints holy through Baptism and faith.

Faith will recognize ALL SAINTS DAY on November 7th



PLEASE CHECK

Members and friends, please be aware that a number of emails come back to the church undeliverable. The email addresses are usually yahoo.com and aol.com Be sure Faith Lutheran Church is added to your email list. Also check your spam mail for emails sent from the church.

Fellowship News



We continue to host about 20 Faith members and friends on Sundays, following the 10:30 Divine Service with coffee, orange juice, cookies, pastries and lots of fellowship. It's a great time to meet new people.

On Sunday, October 31st (Reformation Sunday), we will host a light Luncheon following the 9:15am Divine Service and Reformation question and answer time with Pastor Poock.

We are looking for volunteers to make 9x13 cakes. Monica and Margaret will purchase cole slaw and potatoe salads and prepare pulled pork sandwiches for all to enjoy.

Please mark your calendars so you can join us.

Sincere thanks to our volunteers that provided coffee bites the month of September.

**Pat Barlow
Marti Katterhenry
Chris Melchior
Annette Schander**

**Sandy & Glen Collier
Patti Littlejohn
Karen Pollari
Barb Wormald**



- Sunday, October 3, 12:30 first Youth Catechism Class
- Wednesday, October 6, 2:00 Luther Movie & Pizza
- Friday, October 8, 6:30 Luther Movie (2nd showing) Pizza served at 5:30
- Sunday, October 10, 8 :00 and 10:30, Invite a Friend to Church
- Wednesday, October 13, 6:15 Adult Catechism Class begins
- Sunday October 31, 9:15 Divine Service, Reformation question and answer session and fellowship luncheon. **PLEASE WEAR RED**

A busy and exciting October has been planned and we're looking forward to seeing everyone at the above events.



Church News

Have you noticed the beautiful table runners, Arlene Gabrielson has made for our Nathex tables to make it a little easier to find information? We have a red and a green table runner on the tables with bulletins, newsletters, Welcome Packets, Loop hearing information, Luther Prayers and Portals of Prayer. The purple table runner designates the LWML information table and the blue table runner table is mostly for sign ups for Church activities. This way the Pastor can direct you to the color table to find information he is sharing with you. Please thank Arlene for taking time to share her talents for this project.

October is certainly a busy month, but is going to be followed by November and December with a variety of things taking place.

We have:

All Saints Day and Veteran's Day recognition on November 7 & 10.

LWML Sunday on November 14.

Pie Social event following the November 24 Thanksgiving Service.

Movie Nights beginning once a month. (Date not confirmed)

2022 Calendars going on sale.

Advent Services and light meal, four weeks prior to Christmas beginning December 1st and each Wednesday through December 22.

LWML packing gift bags for our Shut-ins on December 9.

Christmas Eve services on December 24.

A Christmas Day service on December 25.

Please mark your calendars so you don't miss a single event.

**For now enjoy the cooler weather and pray for peace and joy
as we approach the birth of our Lord.**

*Give Thanks to the Lord,
for He is good.
Psalm 107:1*

