

DIVINE CONNECTIONS

The Newsletter of Faith Lutheran Church

August 2023

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Truth with Grace



Faith Lutheran Church

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Bible Study:

Sunday, 7:30 a.m.

Worship Services:

Sunday, 9:30 a.m.

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

Peter Kuritz Interim Pastor
Peggy Rapp..... President
John Lyman Vice-President
Barbara Laughlin..... Secretary
Paul Frantz Finance Committee
Ben Mroz III..... Treasurer
Phil Newlander ... Finance Secretary
Jacquie Halko... Worship Committee
Tom Hutton..... Christian Education
Don Childers
Dick Merrill
Phil Anderson



SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

Our Pocono Mountain Summer Concert Series is underway. On June 11th, Jeff Hayfield kicked off the season with a wide variety of classical music.



On July 16th, Beth Goldwater jazzed up the evening with entertainment from the 'Great American Songbook'.



August will be heating up with local vocalists, "Better Together," performing a variety of classics and more recent favorites. Come out for an evening filled with all your favorite music on **Sunday, August 13 at 7 p.m.**



Our summer concert series will wrap up on **Sunday, September 17 at 3 p.m.** with **Michael Lewis**.



So mark your calendars and join us for a foot-tapping afternoon the whole family will love!

CRAFT FAIR - August 12, 2023

The Faith Fair is almost upon us. If you would like to volunteer, there is a sign-up sheet on the wall next to the mailboxes in the sanctuary.



Members of the congregation may donate gently used household items. The items need to be clean and working if mechanical. Small items of furniture, books, puzzles, toys, dishes, knickknacks, and frames are just a few suggested items. We do not accept clothing. Bring them to the church on Friday, August 11.

With a joint effort of our church members, we anticipate another successful fair.



40th ANNIVERSARY / ANNUAL MEETING

Sunday, September 17th, marks Faith's 40th Anniversary and the Annual Congregational Meeting. Join us for brunch following Sunday's worship service.

FAITH COMMUNITY APPLE FEST

It's that time of year again! The Faith Applefest is scheduled for **September 23rd**, from 9-3, and we need your help with the "Build a Basket Project."



Baskets will be available in the church if you don't already have one. Through the summer, after selecting a *theme*, look for items to fill your basket. Filled baskets can be returned any time before the September 17th deadline. The baskets will then be wrapped with cellophane on

September 20th and topped with a bow. Apple pies will be picked up on September 21st and set-up will be September 22nd. This has always been a successful project and your participation is greatly appreciated. Thanks so much!

A SPECIAL CELEBRATION

On June 25th, we held a baby shower for our organist, Molly Finkbiner. Thank you all for attending, and wishing Molly well. Baby Penelope was born July 22. Mom and daughter are doing well!



**BOOMWHAKERS/
BELLS/SUNDAY SCHOOL**

Our weekly boomwhacker/chimes/handbell



practice and Sunday school lessons have taken a break over the

summer months and will resume in September after Labor Day.



To wrap up the school year, a lake beach party was held at the 'Tims', in Lake Naomi. Many thanks for hosting!

Sunday Children Sharing continues with vacationing families visiting.

KUDOS KORNER

Thank you to our wonderful men on the property committee for maintaining the church grounds, installing the new dishwasher, and the new portable air conditioner for the office.



Added thanks to John Lyman and Tom Hutton for filling in for our sexton, John, who is currently on medical leave. Please keep John in your prayers as he recovers from his illness.



Get WELL SOON

PRESIDENT'S NOTE



Your Church Council is working with our Synod to seek leadership for worship.

In the interim, we are very blessed to have Pastor Peter Kuritz offering home visits for Holy Communion and support for our homebound as well as a commitment to preach twice a month.

Also, we welcome back Pastor Dennis Moore who had been out on medical leave.

Thank you to the congregation—all of you who support your Council in its work of worship leadership, financial leadership, property management, as well as our Care Team who supports those in need or who are celebrating!

Special thanks to all council members, especially Phil Anderson who faithfully keeps the grounds neat, helps with property issues, and who is now a Communion assistant.

Please bring all celebrations and concerns to our attention or email Pastor Kuritz directly.

-Dr. Peggy Rapp, Council President.

PRAYER LIST

If you know someone who needs special prayers, please send



their name to the church office: Faithoffice@faithlutheranblakeslee.org

CONTACT INFORMATION

Has your address, phone number, or email changed? If so, please contact the church office so we can update our records.



WE ARE LIVE

Everyone should know that our Sunday morning services are broadcast live from our website and are downloaded on Facebook each week. Please check in if you are unable to attend live with us!



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Our Sunday gospel lessons this summer have been the parables of Jesus from the book of Matthew. Jesus uses these short and simple stories to teach us about the Kingdom of God. These stories are based on everyday life. They included stories about planting seeds, weeds, mustard seeds, hidden treasure in a field, yeast, fine pearls, and a large catch of fish. Jesus spends so much time explaining the Kingdom of God because we need to be reminded that it's there even when it seems so absent in our daily life.

The promise of these parables is that even when the Kingdom of God is not seen, it is near. That's a reassuring promise we all need to hear living in the world today.

-Pastor Peter Kuritz

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