



The Herald Faith Lutheran

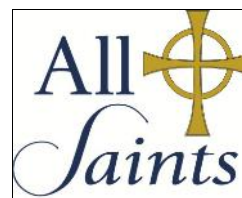
November, 2019

November Events



Church Bazaar
Sunday, November 2, 8 a.m.-1 p.m.
Activity Center
see p. 9

All Saints Sunday
Sunday, November 3, 10 a.m.
Worship Center



Thanksgiving Worship
Followed by Thanksgiving Feast with CDC
Thursday, November 21, 4:30 p.m.
Worship Center & Activity Center
see p. 8

WELCA Thankoffering Service
Sunday, November 24, 10 a.m.
Worship Center



From Pastor Tom

Years ago I read and saved an article in *Column* magazine that asked noted Lutheran theologian Martin Marty: "What is the greatest hope for organized religion to thrive, not just survive, in the years ahead?" I shared Pastor Marty's response with my previous congregation and now share it with you. He replied, "A re-involvement with the story of the prophets and Jesus. We must settle neither for individualized self-congratulating spirituality or routinized piety."

Simply stated, in order for the church to thrive, Christian people must be involved in worship and Bible study. No one can force us to make God's word a regular part of our lives. Consequently, churches sometimes leave the impression that worship and Bible study are optional for church members. They are not, if we are to "thrive, not just survive."

Why do so few people attend church regularly? Why are so few involved in Bible study groups and Sunday School? Perhaps we come to be stimulated and entertained and to feel better about ourselves and find that church and Sunday School just don't fulfill our needs. The music does not suit our individual taste; the worship and teachers do not excite us. Perhaps what we really seek is "individualized self-congratulating spirituality." We would prefer to focus on ourselves and what we like and what we can do and how we feel. Lutheran worship which focuses on what God has done in Christ seems irrelevant and out of touch with contemporary religious trends in a society which entertains us better than ever before.

That may sound like a harsh critique, but neither should worship and Bible study be merely "routinized piety." Simply going through the motions and coming to church to participate in routine rituals and recite memorized words doesn't feed our souls any more than do raised hands, tingly goose bumps, and ecstatic tears prompted by state-of-the-art music performers displayed on giant screens by engineers at massive digital sound boards.

The word "liturgy" literally means "the work of the people." Our Sunday morning "work" is intended to prompt "a re-involvement with the story of the prophets and Jesus" so that, by the grace of God and power of the Holy Spirit, God's word becomes meaningful and central in our whole lives. God the Holy Spirit gives us insight for living in relationship with God and one another through involvement in God's word. That's a promise! The Lord assures us through the prophet Isaiah, *"My word ...shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and succeed in the thing for which I sent it."* (Isaiah 55:11)

Worship and Bible study. Your life and the life of Faith Lutheran Church will thrive on it. Together, let's pray, invite, and encourage one another to regularly participate in worship and Bible study. The coming holiday season is a great time to do so!

2020 PROPOSED BUDGET

- The council asks that you prayerfully consider the proposed budget for 2020, which is enclosed.
- The income reflects the level of giving to the unified budget in past years as well as an increase in pass-through from the CDC/SYP.
- Expenses include outlay for Call Committee and possible moving expenses for a new pastor.
- The \$100,000.00 budgeted for a senior pastor is the most we feel we can spend for a new pastor. This amount includes salary, social security, 10% pension, and health insurance for pastor and family.
- For the last 7 years we did not pay for health insurance as Pastor Gary was covered by the military.
- Please attend the congregational meeting on December 1, and vote on the budget; see next page for meeting agenda.

Call Committee Update

The Call Committee has been installed and is meeting regularly, but it's important to understand what a "call" is. From Martin Luther's *The Augsburg Confession* and the ELCA handbook, "certain Christians are specifically called to the ordained ministry of Word and Sacrament," and the call process is "an effort to discern what God wants for the local church and for the whole Church in order that the Gospel may be proclaimed and the sacraments administered in accordance with the Gospel."

The Call Committee is working along the following plan:

- 1) The Call Committee is established and installed...done
- 2) The Call Committee meets with the Office of the Bishop...done
- 3) The Call Committee develops and submits to the Office of the Bishop a Ministry Site Profile...ongoing
- 4) The Office of the Bishop determines potential candidates
- 5) The Call Committee receives names of candidates and begins the interview process
- 6) The Call Committee recommends a candidate to the congregation and sets a congregation meeting date
- 7) The congregation votes to extend a call to the candidate pastor
- 8) The candidate pastor has 30 days to decide on the call

For anyone interested in more information on the call process, please visit www.elca.org/call-process.

If any member of Faith would like to share opinions regarding the call process, there are several channels of communication:

- 1) Find members of the committee at church on Sunday (before/after service, coffee hour, etc.)
- 2) Submit a request in the Call Committee box in the narthex. A request can be either an anonymous recommendation for what traits are important in a potential pastor or a request for a phone call from a committee member.
- 3) E-mail us at flcaustin.call@gmail.com.

Call Committee Members:

- | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| - Ben Noyes III | -Sue Saathoff |
| - Karen McGuire | -Mary Beth Meiske |
| - Steve Zwernemann | -Felix Jarrett |



Semi-Annual Congregation Meeting December 1, after worship Activity Center



Agenda Items:

1. Approve 2020's proposed budget.
2. Appoint two lay delegates to the 2020 SWT Synod Assembly, June 5-7, in New Braunfels.
3. Approve constitution amendments required by the churchwide ELCA.
4. Receive an update on the call process.

Several copies of the constitution amendments are available in the narthex; please review them on church premises and return them to the narthex immediately for others to review.

You may also visit the SWT Synod website at www.swtsynod.org. Go to the Congregations tab (upper right), then Constitutions and Bylaws (upper left). Click "Amendments to Model Constitution (2019)," mid-page on right in blue font.



FAITH RINGERS
Adult Handbell Choir

Practice time: Wednesdays
7:00-7:45 p.m. in room 210
November 6, 13, 20
No practice November 27

Play for worship: November 24

BELLS OF FAITH
Youth Handbell Choir

Practice during Sunday School,
11:15 a.m. in room 210
November 3, 17, 24
No practice November 10

Play for worship: November 10

If you have an interest in ringing
with these groups or want to know
more about ringing, contact:

Karen McGuire
512-585-4558 or
mckarenk@yahoo.com.



WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

September 29	58
October 6	57
October 13	70
October 20	65
October 27	63

**Retirement & Nursing Center
on Burnet Lane**

On October 3, thirteen residents and
staff plus five members of Faith
worshiped together in services
conducted by Pastor Tom.

The next service will be held on
November 7, at 10:30 a.m.
All are welcome!

MONTHLY FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Month	Income	Expenses	Difference
Jan.	\$ 14,778	\$ 19,882	-\$ 5,104
Feb.	\$ 17,680	\$ 19,750	-\$ 2,070
Mar.	\$ 19,141	\$ 21,187	-\$ 2,046
Apr.	\$ 18,771	\$ 19,731	-\$ 960
May	\$ 16,222	\$ 20,189	-\$ 3,967
June	\$ 18,488	\$ 19,728	-\$ 1,240
July	\$ 15,256	\$ 20,130	-\$ 4,874
Aug.	\$ 20,395	\$ 21,627	-\$ 1,232
Sept.	\$ 16,344	\$ 15,009	+\$ 1,335
YTD	\$157,076	\$177,234	-\$ 20,158

Members Serving in Worship November, 2019

All Sundays in November

Head Usher: Dennis Diedrick
Greeter: Verlene Schoen
Tellers: 2 needed
Altar Guild Saturdays: Therese Doss, Karen Noyes
Altar Guild Sundays: Helen Diedrick, Wanda Muehlbrad

November 3—10:00 a.m.

Assisting Minister: Kim Kieke
Lay Reader: Karen McGuire
Communion Helpers: Misty Dush, 2 needed
Acolyte: 1 needed

November 10—10:00 a.m.

Assisting Minister: Lynn Davidson
Lay Reader: 1 needed
Communion Helpers: 3 needed
Acolyte: 1 needed

November 17—Praise Worship—10:00 a.m.

Guest Preacher: Brad Fuerst
Assisting Minister: Praise Team
Lay Reader: Praise Team
Communion Helpers: Misty Dush, Emily Dush, 1 needed

November 24—WELCA Thankoffering—10:00 a.m.

Guest Preacher: Carol Roberts
Assisting Minister: Carol Roberts
Lay Readers: Ladies of the Church
Communion Helpers: Wanda Muehlbrad, Charleen Schneider, Cathy Zwernemann
Acolyte: Sue Saathoff



WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

**give thanks
to the LORD,
for he is good;
his LOVE endures
forever.**

PSALM 107 1

Save the Date!

**December 8, 10 a.m.
Christmas Festival of Music
during worship,
followed by our annual
Christmas banquet.**



**Church Council will provide
main dishes
(ham, sausage, lasagne, tamales).**

**Congregation members are invited to
bring a favorite side dish or dessert.**

**Let's enjoy some Christmas
fellowship together, as we celebrate
our Savior's birth!**



Let the Little Children Come to Me



Learn about Mariposa Family Learning Center

Sponsored By Austin City Lutherans

**All are welcome to an afternoon
of thanks, information, and support!**

Saturday, October 26, 4:00—5:30 pm

Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church
3525 Bee Cave Rd, Austin, TX 78746

Saturday, November 16, 4:00—5:30 pm

Abiding Love Lutheran Church Activity Center
7210 Brush Country Rd, Austin, TX 78749, 512-892-4040

Meet & greet at 4:00 pm; program from 4:30—5:30 pm; reception to follow

- Learn more about Mariposa Family Learning Center, ACL's 2-Generation approach to early childhood education.
- Hear the importance of Early Childhood Education and the tools needed to help students and families succeed.
- Understand the community we seek to serve and our next steps to opening the Mariposa Family Learning Center in January, 2020.
- Meet fellow ACL and community supporters, and hear more about exciting plans for this enhanced ministry in S.E. Austin.

Great things are happening with Austin City Lutherans.
Be a part of this ministry supporting our extended Family of God!

Contact Pr. Tim Anderson, tca.blueocotillo@gmail.com.



Upbring Angel Tree Coming Soon!

More than 2,000 Texas children depend on Foster In Texas every year to provide safe, loving foster homes. Foster parents have the unique opportunity to give a child a second chance at childhood, helping them to heal and move on from the circumstances that brought them to foster care.

We have the opportunity to help make Christmas extra special for these children who have been through so much in their young lives. **A tree containing the names and wish lists of 30 special angels will appear at the back of the church in mid-November.** Watch for more information in upcoming bulletins.

ELCA Good Gifts Catalogs will soon be available at the back of the church. Consider giving gifts that make a difference. Give animals. Give clean water. Transform lives.

ELCA Advent Calendars will soon be available at the back of the church. Each day is a reminder of the reason for the season, with hymns, prayers, Bible verses, and stories of how ELCA Good Gifts make a difference in the world. Enjoy!



Council Highlights from September 23, 2019:

- ◆ Committees' budget requests for 2020 have been submitted; the Finance Committee will prepare and present their proposed 2020 budget to the council at its October meeting.
- ◆ The semi-annual congregation meeting to adopt FLC's 2020 budget will be held on December 1, after worship. Other business will include ratification of ELCA constitutional amendments and selection of Synod Assembly representatives.
- ◆ Flu shots will be offered to FLC members and staff on October 8; arrangements were made by the Outreach Committee.
- ◆ Council approved transferring \$750 from the Accumulated Interest Fund to WELCA for funding bereavement meals.
- ◆ FLC raised \$2,105 for Upbring via the golf tournament.

Youth & Parish Education



Sunday, November 3, All Saints Day

We will continue the tradition of collecting and reading names of departed members and family and light candles in their memory during the service.

Sunday, November 10, 12:00 p.m.

Youth/PE committee meeting. We'll have lunch and make gifts to take when we go caroling to the homebound in December.

Sunday, December 1

No Sunday School. All will attend the congregation meeting.

Sunday School is at 11:15 a.m.

Kinder and elementary will be led by Misty in room 209.

Middle and high school will be led by the HS youth in room 201.

Confirmation and HS combined will be every 3rd Sunday in room 201.

All youth and visiting youth are welcome.



Happy fall from the CDC! We are very excited about the cooler weather coming. We are planning for children to be a part of our Thanksgiving feast, so be sure to attend on November 21, starting with a worship service at 4:30 p.m. On an educational note, the teachers are really striving for excellence in the classroom. Through the Texas Rising Star program, we are evaluated on quality and have been awarded the highest level which makes us a 4 star center.

We have been able to help a few parents in need of help with tuition over the past year, which has depleted the scholarship fund; any donations would be greatly appreciated. Thank you to the congregation for always making sure we are able to help families in need.

Melissa
Center Director
Faith Lutheran Child Development Center



Church Bazaar - November 2

Bazaar setup will start at noon on Friday, November 1, and help is needed from congregation members in putting out items for the sale to get ready for the bazaar which will be Saturday, November 2, from 8 a.m. until 1 p.m. CDC staff as in past years will be allowed to purchase items from the bazaar starting at 3 p.m. Friday. Anyone who will be working at the bazaar and any items--handmade, sewn, embroidered, painted, cooked, baked, or whatever-- for the bazaar should be in the activity center by 7:30 a.m. Saturday. The kitchen will be serving breakfast tacos and other breakfast items so you can take time to eat while you rest from shopping. We have many items for this year's sale and hope to have a great bazaar so we can hopefully plan for another bazaar in 2020, which will greatly depend on help received this year from Faith's members. The bazaar is an important project of the women of the church as it is the only way they--along with the help of church members--raise money to provide financial assistance to the local community and the church. As in past years, the bazaar will be open Sunday morning after church for congregation members to make last-minute purchases before the women and Boy Scouts pack up the leftover bazaar items that will again be picked up by a pastor from a church in East Austin.

Thanks for Pricing White Elephant Items

Pricing of White Elephant items for the upcoming bazaar was done on Fridays, October 18 & 25; the women are thankful for all those who participated in this undertaking. It was great to have so many helping with this task!

Upcoming Events

November 24: Rebecca Circle will be this year's host and plans are being made for the **Thankoffering Service**. If needed, other women of the congregation will be asked to help.

December 7: **The Christmas Brunch/Social** will also be here before you know it. Mark it on your calendars and plan to come! Linda and Sissie Jackson have volunteered to plan the program for this event which is hosted by both the Lydia and Rebecca Circles and is for all women of the church and anyone you wish to bring with you. Please bring a brunch dish to share. There will be a Prayer Partner Gift Exchange for those who drew names last December; Prayer Partners will also be drawn for 2020. Hope to see you there!

March 7: Capital North/Capital South Conference will be held at Abiding Love, Austin, on Saturday, March 7, 2020. Mark your calendars now so you won't forget to attend.

Faith Lutheran Women's Bible Studies

Ladies, if you aren't a member of either the Lydia or Rebecca Circle, we would love to have you join us for a monthly Bible Study with a short meeting afterwards to keep circle members updated on the status of ongoing projects. Following are dates, times, and places for the circles:

Lydia Circle with Ree Nurnberger as chair meets the 2nd Monday of each month in the resource center (January & February @ 4 p.m.; March-October @ 5 p.m.; November & December @ 4 p.m.).

Rebecca Circle with Charleen Schneider as chair meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month in the resource center @ 9:30 a.m.

MEMORIALS AND HONORARIUMS

October, 2019

Emergency Reserve Fund

Bertha Emshoff

Rhonda Kunze

Johnnie, Dorothy, & Jon Mogonye

Ben & Karen Noyes

Rodger Stagman

Ronnie & Linda Stancik

Bea Templeton

*In Honor of Angeline Harrison's
90th Birthday*

In Memory of Flo Thompson

*In Honor of Angeline Harrison's
90th Birthday*

*In Honor of Angeline Harrison's
90th Birthday*

In Memory of Nathan Hein

In Memory of Ernest Spradling

*In Honor of Angeline Harrison's
90th Birthday*

Flowers

Anna Bell Zwernemann

In Memory of Melvin Zwernemann



**Better Together:
Mental Health Workshop for Family & Friends**

Have a friend or loved one with a mental health condition? This FREE workshop is for you!
Learn about mental health conditions and the resources available.
Presented by National Alliance on Mental Illness.

**November 16
1-5 p.m.**

Gethsemane Lutheran Church
200 W. Anderson Ln.
Austin, TX 78752

Register at gethsemaneaustin.org

Dear Faith Friends,

I want to thank my Faith Lutheran Church family for the cards, phone calls to Mom and Dad, and kind words during my hospitalization.

I also greatly appreciate Transition Pastor Kesselring's visit to me in the hospital. I am on the mend and hope to see y'all soon.

Sincerely,
Leslye Allen



Thank You, LORD!

Dear Faith Lutheran Church Members:

Just a note to thank you for your donation to Drive A Senior North Central Austin. Without the financial support of the faith community, we could not help the seniors that call on us to get them to their doctors, the grocery store, or pharmacy.

So thank you,

Mary Anne Longenecker
DASNCA Board President



Friends Update

Death:

Former FLC member Nathan Hein died October 19. His funeral service was conducted at Faith by Pastor Tom Kesselring on October 27. Pastor Gary Hein, uncle of Nathan, assisted.

Reminder to Faith members with building keys:

Please do not lock the building or interior doors when you leave after a meeting or worship, unless Karen Noyes has asked you to. When this happens, renters and other building users cannot get in for their scheduled meetings and events. Then they call Karen and she has to find someone with keys who lives nearby to return to church and open the building. Our cleaning service works Monday-Friday nights and locks the building on week-nights; our sexton locks it on Saturdays/Sundays. If in doubt, please always call or text Karen at 512-289-8217, before locking the building. Thank you.

**Daylight Savings Time
ends Sunday, November 3,
at 2 a.m.**

**Remember to set your clocks
back one hour before going to
bed Saturday night!**

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH
6600 Woodrow Avenue
Austin, Texas 78757
Office: 512-451-1116
Website: *FaithLutheranAustin.org*
Faith is a Reconciling in Christ Congregation

Worship & Bible Study
Sunday 10:00 a.m.
Bible Study (all ages) 11:15 a.m.
3rd Sunday Praise Service 10:00 a.m.

Transition Pastor: Tom Kesselring

Organist/Choir Director: Sam Bauer

Director of Handbells: Karen McGuire

Accountant: Lynn Davidson

Administrative Assistant: Karen Noyes

CDC Director: Melissa McCoy

Sexton: Norbert Gardner

**MISSION STATEMENT OF
FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH**

**We at Faith Lutheran Church believe in Jesus Christ
as Lord and Savior of all life and creation.
In response to His grace and love toward us,
we are called to share His love by reaching out to all people.
We are called to be a worshipping, caring, learning community.**

Faith Lutheran Church
6600 Woodrow Avenue
Austin, Texas 78757-2596
November, 2019