

# FAITH NEWS

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

January 2023

## A LETTER FROM PASTOR

Now that 2023 is in the books, let's take a moment to consider a few metrics of our ministry together.

This is by no means a full & comprehensive list. It does not include the countless hours put in by wonderful people like our choirs, quilters, or Sunday School teachers. This is simply a list of some of the events that happened in, or from, 730 Collingwood Ave.

- 52 Sundays on Zoom
- 50 Sundays in Sanctuary (we were remote only for Christmas Day, and the week I had COVID)
- 48 sessions of our Wednesday Bible study
- 11 meals shared at Men's Breakfast
- 6 community meals at Taco Sunday
- 6 times to connect at Circle Bible Study
- 5 Wednesday Lenten Series around the building
- 4 times of Advent Morning Prayer
- 4 people welcomed into the family of God through Holy Baptism
- 2 Funerals in which we said goodbye to beloved friends
- 1 Ash Wednesday gathering
- 1 Maundy Thursday gathering
- 1 Good Friday gathering
- 1 Christmas Lights Bus Trip
- 1 Synod event as we hosted the (Re)Imagine Community Synod Convention
- 1 Irregular Christmas Concert for the community
- ...and our first ever Run To Church 5k!

There may not be a partridge in a pear tree, but that is an impressive list nonetheless.

Thank you for our time & ministry together!

*Pastor Hill*

# Busy Bees



- Thanks to all our bees who made chrismons, decorated the building, and helped put up our tree in December to make the hive look great!
- Thank you to Larry & Sue Hertzog for picking up our poinsettia order last month.
- Thank you to Dee, our bus driver who took us to see Butch Bandow's Fantasy of Lights last month!



## Gretchen Risch 90th Birthday!

Help Gretchen celebrate her 90th birthday on January 11th by showering her with birthday cards.

Please send cards to

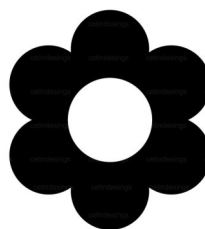
Gretchen Risch  
First Community Village #1410  
1800 Riverside Dr.  
Columbus, OH 43212

## Save The Date

January 22

Our congregational meeting will follow worship in the sanctuary. Worship on Zoom will be pushed back to 11:30AM

## Flowers



flowers in a vase before worship on Sunday morning.

Altar flowers may be sponsored on the sign up sheet by the office. Please bring



It has been noted that this year we did not celebrate the Epiphany of Our Lord within the context of worship. Though it might seem like this was because of the shuffling of our holiday schedule due to the arctic weather, that was not the case.

The Epiphany of Our Lord always falls on January 6th. It is the 13th day after Christmas. Since the 4th century the festival has come to be associated with the visit of the Magi, to the Christ child, and their bearing of 3 gifts; gold, frankincense, and myrrh (Matt 2:1-12).

In the Orthodox Church the festival of Epiphany is seen as the second most important festival of the church year, only ranking below Easter. This is because in the story of the Magi, what we see is members of foreign nations (that is non-Jews in its 1st century context) recognizing & coming to the newly born savior.

You might be asking yourself "if Epiphany is so important, why did we skip it this year?" That is a fair question. The way our lectionary works the church week runs from Thursday to Wednesday. If a festival such as Epiphany, or the Ascension, falls on Monday through Weds it can be celebrated on the prior Sunday. If the festival lands on Thursday through Saturday, it can be celebrated on the following Sunday.

As Praise Board gathered to plan the Christmas Season and time after, we decided to follow the lectionary as printed for the Sundays at hand; celebrating first the Name of Jesus on 1/1 then the Baptism of Our Lord on 1/8. That is the part that was disrupted because of the Christmas weekend ice storm.

Have no fear though, the season of Epiphany provides us a wonderful time to travel with the Magi, pondering the ways that we follow Christ in our lives, and contemplate the gifts that we bring.

## CAUSE OF THE MONTH



**Another Child**  
FOUNDATION

ACF is a Romanian based ministry that fights for the right of every voiceless child to have their own unique and God-given voice. Your gifts will be used to provide wood and propane. As the war in Eastern Europe continues, the costs and availability of energy for families is a growing challenge.

To give, please write "ACF" or "Cause of the Month" in the memo line.

### BIRTHDAYS

04 RACHEL KUHN	16 KEVIN SKINNER
11 RICHARD PAUSCH	22 JEFF CIRELLI
11 GRETCHEN RISCH	22 BRADY OLSON
13 FRED A EVANS	23 SUSAN SMITH
14 XAVIEA ABNER	31 ANDREW ALLEN

### WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

10 JON & ALICE SHERMAN

16 JOE & MARTY HAAS

### Prayer Requests

- Sue Wille, who is dealing with a cancerous tumor located in her thigh.
- Darrell & Marilyn Doupnik, who are both recovering from Covid.
- Joe Ringwalski, friend of Carol Barber, who is battling illness.
- Maria Felstead, daughter of our lawncare provider, who was diagnosed with Thyroid Cancer
- Lisa Robinson-Boyer, sister of Karen Brown.
- David Smith, father of Angela Oliva and Beckie Lantto, who has endured a leg amputation, a pacemaker, and an infection in November-December.
- Judy Batchelor, neighbor of Janice Ritchey, who was diagnosed with stage 4 Pancreatic Cancer.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>Holidays in BLUE - Festivals and Commemorations in GREEN</b>						
<b>1</b> 9:30AM Sanctuary 10:45AM Zoom  <b>New Years Day</b> <b>Name of Jesus</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> 10:00AM Bible Study (Zoom)  <b>Kaj Munk, Martyr, 1944</b>	<b>5</b> 9:00AM Men's Breakfast @ Tee Jay's 7:00PM Resource Board	<b>6</b>      <b>EPIPHANY</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> 9:30AM Sanctuary 10:45AM Zoom   <b>Baptism of Our Lord</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> 7:00PM Outreach Board	<b>11</b> 10:00AM Bible Study (Zoom)	<b>12</b> 7:00PM Council	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b> 9:30AM Sanctuary 10:45AM Zoom	<b>16</b>     <b>Martin Luther King Jr. Day</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> 10:00AM Bible Study (Zoom)   <b>Confession of St. Peter</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> 9:30AM Sanctuary <b>10:30AM Congregational Meeting</b> 11:30AM Zoom	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> 10:00AM Bible Study (Zoom)   <b>Conversion of St. Paul</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> 9:30AM Sanctuary 10:45AM Zoom	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	<h1>January</h1>			

Would you like your ministry included on the church calendar in the Faith Newsletter? Please contact the office at (614) 237-4241 (or) [faithoffice@faithwhitehall.com](mailto:faithoffice@faithwhitehall.com)



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Support Faith Online Here

**Office Hours:**  
 Monday through Thursday 7:00AM - 4:00PM