



# FAITH NEWS

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

February 2024

## A LETTER FROM PASTOR

With the annual meeting behind us, we are looking ahead to the next few months of strategic planning. For those unable to attend that meeting in person we are including a copy of the 2024 planning sessions in this months newsletter.

Our time of planning will be built around 1 hour sessions that follow worship in the sanctuary running from February 4th through June 2nd. It is by design that these sessions will wrap up leaving Leadership Council time to reassess the financial realities of ministries and present a July-Dec budget for congregational approval by the end of June. Our time of strategic planning is broken into 3 phases.

**First**, we will use February to celebrate who we are. During these sessions, we will share favorite memories of Faith, our personal call stories, and begin to consider what we want to do in the future.

**Second**, we will identify our internal assets, our community assets, and how the community of Whitehall is constantly evolving.

**Third**, we will examine the intersection of our congregational identity, core values, and assets to frame short, mid, and long term goals for ministry.

**The intent of this process is to assemble a list ministries and initiatives dreamed up by the congregation, that excites the congregation about the future where God is calling us.**

I do not “know the ending” that is to say what this list might contain, and that is a good thing.

What I do know is that the efficacy of this process is dependent on the participation of each and every member, as often as possible.

I know that there will inevitably be conflicts with schedules, 5 months is no meager amount of time. However, the questions being asked are “we” questions, that no one person can answer.

We are building our tomorrow together at Faith.

We are building our tomorrow together with faith.

**We are building our tomorrow together in faith.**

I hope you will make these strategic planning sessions a priority as we moved through this process.

*Pastor Hill*



## Living Lutheran

Living Lutheran (formerly “The Lutheran”) magazine is now exclusively an online publication. You can sign up for the e-magazine by clicking the link below!

[Living Lutheran E-Subscription](#)

## Welcome to Emily Hutcheson!

Through the next few weeks, we will welcome Emily, a student from Capital University, as she completes field work requirements for her minor. She is majoring in biology/pre-veterinary and minoring in youth ministry and Christian education. She is the president of Embrace Ministries at Capital. She is excited to become involved here at Faith!



## Wednesdays in Lent

Join us Wednesdays in Lent at 7:00PM for evening vespers as we study Bodies of Water in the Bible. Each week, we will be joined by a guest presider from Trinity to lead worship!



- 2/21 - Rev. Sem. Albie Nicol (Sea of Galilee)
- 2/28 - Rev. Sem. Seven O'Ridoran (Kishon River)
- 3/6 - Rev. Sem. Nicole Kiefer (Jordan River)
- 3/13 - Joel Wildermuth, M.Div (Gihon River)
- 3/20 - Rev. Sem. Tim Jordan Ph.D. (Zarqa/Jabbok River)



## CAUSE OF THE MONTH

Our February Cause of the Month is The Community & Church for All People. They provide a myriad of much needed services to our neighbors in need, including a free store, job training, hygiene, and much more. Join us in supporting this growing community outreach!



### **Busy Bees**

- Thanks to all who engaged in our annual meeting in January!
- Thanks to Alan Mittermaier for clearing the snow off of the hive!
- The December cause of the month was a huge success, with over \$1,900 of new shoes and socks distributed to Faith Mission!



### **New Office Hours**

The church office hours are changing! As always, you can reach Nate in the office by phone (614)237-4241 or email [faithoffice@faithwhitehall.com](mailto:faithoffice@faithwhitehall.com)

Monday & Tuesday 7:00AM - 4:00PM  
Wednesday 7:00AM - 1:00PM

### FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

01 TERI ALLEN	07 STEVE CHAPPELLE
02 JIM BLINE	18 MARTY HAAS
03 SHELLY OLSON	19 ROGER SOUTHWARD
04 LARRY HERTZOG	21 MARK BROWN
05 JEANNE BOYKIN	25 ALICE APPEL
07 ROBERT CHAPPELLE	26 JODIE MARTIN-OILER

### FEBRUARY WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

11	JAMES & JANET BAKER
16	DANA & CHERYL HEFNER

### Prayer Requests

- Bonny Timko, for medical complications
- Dave Barrett, as he recovers from a successful heart operation January 8th.
- Doug Connor, grandson of Jane Ahrens.
- Family of Dean & Teresa Chappelle, who recently lost their infant grand-niece.
- Alan Ratcliff, friend of Roger Southward, who has been diagnosed with liver cancer.
- The Wilber-Flint Havens Family, friends of Pastor Hille, whose child Raleigh is at Nationwide Childrens Hospital.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>Holidays in BLUE - Festivals and Commemorations in GREEN</b>						
<h1>February</h1>				1 9:00AM Men's Breakfast (TeeJay's)	2	3  <b>Ansgar, Archbishop, 865</b>
4 9:30AM Sanctuary 10:35AM Sunday School 10:35AM Strategic Planning 11:40AM Zoom	5 7:00PM Praise Board  <b>Martyrs of Japan, 1597</b>	6 10:00AM Bible Study (Zoom) 1:00PM Circle Bible Study (Church Lounge) 7:00PM Resource Board	7 12:00PM Quilters	8	9	10
11 9:30AM Sanctuary 10:35AM Sunday School 10:35AM Strategic Planning 11:40AM Zoom  <b>Transfiguration of Our Lord</b>	12	13 10:00AM Bible Study (Zoom) 1:00PM Circle Bible Study 7:00PM Outreach Board	14 12:00PM Quilters  <b>7:00PM Ash Wednesday</b>  <b>Valentine's Day</b>	15	16	17
18 9:30AM Sanctuary 10:35AM Sunday School 10:35AM Strategic Planning 11:40AM Zoom	19 7:00PM Council	20 10:00AM Bible Study (Zoom)	21 12:00PM Quilters <b>7:00PM Lenten Midweek (Sea of Galilee)</b> 7:30PM Choir	22	23  <b>Polycarp, Martyr, 156</b>	24  <b>St. Matthias, Apostle</b>
25 9:30AM Sanctuary 10:35AM Sunday School 10:35AM Strategic Planning 11:40AM Zoom	26	27 10:00AM Bible Study (Zoom)	28 12:00PM Quilters <b>7:00PM Lenten Midweek (Kishon River)</b> 7:30PM Choir	29		

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)



## Faith Lutheran Church

[faithwhitehall.com](http://faithwhitehall.com)

**Pastor:** Rev. Daniel W. Hille, [pastor@faithwhitehall.com](mailto:pastor@faithwhitehall.com)

**Council President:** Teri Allen, [terikall@aol.com](mailto:terikall@aol.com)

**Choir Director:** Teresa Chappelle, [chappelles5053@yahoo.com](mailto:chappelles5053@yahoo.com)

**Organist:** Kathy Pautsch, [rich155@aol.com](mailto:rich155@aol.com)

**Office Admin:** Nate Terry, [faithoffice@faithwhitehall.com](mailto:faithoffice@faithwhitehall.com)

Support Faith  
Online Here



**Office Hours:**  
Monday 7:00AM - 4:00PM  
Tuesday 7:00AM - 4:00PM  
Wednesday 7:00AM - 1:00PM



## Building Our Tomorrow Together In Faith 2024 Strategic Plan

### Introduction

1/28 Annual Meeting.

- Our Covenant Together
  - We will be: Present, Punctual, Prayerful.
- Journey rooted in...
  - Prayer
  - God's Word
  - Spiritual Practices
  - Faith Formation
  - Personal Call
  - Theological Framework
- BIG CROSS (a visual tool for our process)
  - Memories on one side.... Dreams on other... keep center beam clear
  - **Memories:**
    - Earliest, first memory?
    - What year did you join?
    - Favorite pastor, teacher, friend?
    - Favorite celebration, or event that sticks out?
    - Someone you love who is no longer here?
  - **Dreams:**
    - What can you imagine us doing?
    - What is something we should try?
    - What is something we should bring back?
  - Eventually our **assets** will be the bridge between our memories & our dreams.

## **[Phase 1] Celebrating Who We Are**

### 2/4 Mission Dei/ Three D's/ God's Missions in the World

- Discover, Discern, Debrief
- Mission is not the primary act of the church, but an attribute of God
- Send home "Planning Worksheet" [extra copies are available throughout]

### 2/11 Personal Call

- Earliest memories of Faith (or home church)
- Add to big cross

### 2/18 Understanding Faith Formation

### 2/25 Review "Planning Worksheets"

- Sharing Priorities/Dreams sheets
- Add new priorities to cross (visual of abundance)
- Discuss who we are/were, and what are priorities going forward
- Method/Strategy of success laid out on worksheets

## **[Phase 2] Identifying What We Have & Where We Are**

### 3/3 "Enough is Enough" by Walter Brueggemann Abundance.

- Understanding the biblical mindset of abundance
- Add "Things we have...." To cross between memories & dreams

### 3/10 Discovering Assets

- Internal inventory of our assets at FLC
- Add assets to cross on the center beam between memories & dreams

### 3/17 Asset Mapping

- Focus on Whitehall community at large, and the communities people live in.
- Add assets to cross

### 3/24 Asset Mapping

- Reflect on internal/external
- Create "Action Ideas"
  - Connect assets by actions not similarity
  - What inspires the congregation (Vote with our feet)

### 3/31 [EASTER] (no session)

- 4/7 Community Engagement / Community Mapping
- Draw the neighborhood you remember faith being in.
  - Draw the same map and fill in who / what is there now.

- 4/14 Community Listening Skill
- Set timeline for meetings

4/21 Missions Planning

4/28 Report back from Community conversations.

### **[Phase 3] Visioning & Change**

- 5/5 Hidden Norms
- Hidden Norms
  - Simon Sinek -> Questions & reflections
  - What do you want to see?
    - Add to cross on the "dreams" side.
  - What Obstacles do you see?
    - These will be post somewhere in opposition to cross as a reminder that there will be challenges.

- 5/12 Understanding Change
- 3 Key Factors of Change
  - 8 stages of Change
  - Technical / adaptive change

5/19 Cong. Identity & Core Values

5/26 Cong. Identity & Core Values

- 6/2 Setting the future
- Nail Down Purpose Statement
  - Missional Objectives (short, mid, long term)
    - Use Planning Worksheet for supporting this goals.