

# FAITH NEWS

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

May 2024

Since the age of 8, every year I have eaten Cap'n Crunch cereal on my birthday. When I was growing up my parents did their best to avoid sugary cereals, but the weekend before my birthday I was allowed to pick a cereal. From my first bite of Peanut Butter Crunch I was hooked.

Birthdays are funny, they are a celebration that we have made it around the sun again. They are an opportunity to remember how far we have come, and to set our sights on what we want to happen in the next year. As I enter into the excitement of another year of life on the 21st I will again remind myself that we as people often overestimate what we can do in one year, and underestimate what we can do in 5. In a silly way (I suppose) Cap'n Crunch reminds me that I have come this far, and now I get to go further. Life is about playing the long game.

This past January we began our strategic planning sessions, and May is the last full month of these sessions. Thank you to everyone who has added memories, assets, & dreams to the cross in the sanctuary. Thank you to all those who have attended our sessions following worship, added their voice through our online channels, and reached out directly to understand and support this process.

As we enter into this last phase of the planning sessions I'm reminded of the toy that I used to find near the bottom of a box of Cap'n Crunch. It was a reminder of my favorite cereal, but it was also a reminder of my birthday, the year behind, and the promises of the year ahead.

Obviously our strategic planning sessions have not generated a 2 inch plastic toy of the Cap'n, but they have generated other things, more useful things.

As we enter into May we have a tapestry of memories that people cherish, a testament to the rich history of this community. We have an amazing list of the assets of our congregation: community partners, physical spaces, and areas of expertise to mention a few. We have many dreams for our congregation that include hopes, desires, and passions that will aid in plotting the course of our future.

It's here I would like to offer you my yearly reminder to myself, we as people often overestimate what we can do in one year, and underestimate what we can do in 5.

Once our planning sessions end, the Leadership Council will comb over the input received, and with prayerful consideration, begin working with the congregation as we set our course into God's future. This is not a one year project to "save the church." The church has been saved, we know that's true because the tomb was left empty. In truth, May 2025 might look very similar to May 2024. However, trusting God Almighty, the prayerful diligence of Leadership Council, and working together in this community of Holy Spirit I know in 2029 we will be celebrating how far we have come, with excitement to see where God is leading us next.

*Pastor Hill*

# April 2024 photo dump!



**Elm St. glass door has been replaced.**



**FAITH Youth @WWE Raw!**

## TOP to BOTTOM

**TACO SUNDAY is back for 2024!**

**There's a new PASCHAL CANDLE in the sanctuary.**



**Pr. Hille's fathead on TV.**



**Pastor Hille speaking at CAPITAL UNIVERSITY'S Honors Commencement**





# Women of the ELCA

Central Ohio Conference's Spring Gathering will be held at 2:00PM, May 5th at Peace Lutheran Church (455 Clark State Road Gahanna, OH 43230). There will be a presentation by guest speaker Mary Miller! Registration starts at 1:30PM.

## Busy Bees



- The hive has been busy with strategic planning during and after worship. Thanks to all the bees who have contributed to the future of Faith! 
- The little free pantry is still going strong and serving the Whitehall community thanks to support from our hive!
- Thanks to Cas Szczepaniak for running sound and PowerPoint for us in worship while Larry Allen was away! 
- Uncle Will is back feeding the community for Taco Sunday!

### March 2024 Treasurer's Report

Linda Mittermaier

Operating Fund Results	Monthly		
	Mar 2023	Mar 2024	Budget 2024
Support and Revenue	\$ 18,520	\$ 17,145	\$ 16,146
Expenses	18,524	18,614	18,743
Surplus or (Deficit)	\$ (5)	\$ (1,468)	\$ (2,597)

Year-to-Date		
Mar 2023	Mar 2024	Budget 2024
\$ 51,400	\$ 57,334	\$ 48,438
54,838	55,569	56,229
\$ (3,438)	\$ 1,765	\$ (7,791)

### Commentary:

In the month of March, the Operating Fund performed better than the expected budget deficit of \$2,597, although it's reasonable to expect better results because March was a five-Sunday month and included Easter Sunday. Although we had a deficit in March of \$1,468, we have a surplus of \$1,765 for the year-to-date compared to a budgeted deficit of \$7,791 for the same period. The balance in the Operating Fund at the end of March was \$6,181.

One area where we are spending considerably more than budgeted is building and equipment repairs. So far in the Operating Fund, we have incurred various repairs, each under about \$400, amounting to \$933. In addition, we have spent \$3,727 of Legacy funds for more substantial repairs. More repairs or improvements are expected in the coming months, including installation of a new set of doors at the Elm Street entrance and repairs related to vandalism that occurred in April.

March offerings for other funds included \$355 for Cause of the Month (Ethiopian Tewahedo Social Services), \$1,246 for the Property (Loan) Fund, and \$395 for the Then, Now, Forever Fund.

## CAUSE OF THE MONTH

Our May Cause of the Month is LSS Food Pantry. The food pantry, located on Champion Avenue, provides our local community with meals/food support to those who are in need and unable to access proper nutrition. Join us in supporting this great community outreach.



Faith Lutheran Church  
3<sup>rd</sup> annual **5K Run/Walk** will take place  
**Sunday July 7th.** All  
proceeds of this event will  
be supporting Ethiopian  
Social Services, a

wonderful resource for our Ethiopian brothers and sisters right here in Whitehall. The run/walk will be mostly on neighborhood roads and a loop around Lamby Lane Park before heading back to the finish line. The course is flat and on paved surfaces.



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### BIRTHDAYS

01 DAVID APPEL	18 DORRIE MAYER
01 VICKIE SCHMOLL	19 GLENN SOUTHWARD
03 SADIE FORD	20 DANIEL HILLE
05 PAT VONVILLE	22 GEORGE LESLIN
08 SUSAN MILLWATER	31 AMANDA ALLEN
11 JOAN PURPURA	31 KAREN EVANS

### WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

09 HERB & BEV SCHOLES  
31 KEVIN & ANGELA OLIVA

### Prayer Requests

- Jennie Brown, mother of Sue Parr, as she deals with health issues.
- Sadie Ford, for healing from a blood clot.
- The Southward & Williams families, as they mourn the passing of Roger's cousin Sherri Williams
- Aaron Acuna, friend of Sue Parr, who tore his Achilles Tendon.
- Bonny Timko, for medical complications.
- Alan Ratcliff, friend of Roger Southward, who is battling liver cancer.
- LeRoy Pherigo, who is recovering from a fall.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>Holidays in BLUE - Festivals and Commemorations in GREEN</b>						
<h1>May</h1>			1 12:00PM Quilters	2 9:00AM Men's Breakfast (TeeJay's) <b>Athanasius, Bishop, 373</b>	3	4
5 9:30AM Sanctuary 10:35AM Sunday School 10:35AM Strategic Planning 11:40AM Zoom	6 7:00PM Praise Board	7 10:00AM Bible Study (Zoom) 7:00PM Resource Board	8 12:00PM Quilters	9	10	11
12 9:30AM Sanctuary 10:35AM Sunday School 10:35AM Strategic Planning 11:40AM Zoom	13	14 10:00AM Bible Study (Zoom) 1:00PM Circle Bible Study (Church Lounge) 7:00PM Outreach Board	15 12:00PM Quilters	16	17	18 <b>Ascension of Our Lord</b> <b>King Erik, Martyr, 1160</b>
19 9:30AM Sanctuary 10:35AM Sunday School 10:35AM Strategic Planning 11:40AM Zoom	20 7:00PM Council	21 10:00AM Bible Study (Zoom) <b>John Eliot, Missionary, 1690</b>	22 12:00PM Quilters	23 <b>Ludwig Nommensen, Missionary, 1918</b>	24 <b>Copernicus, Teacher, 1543</b>	25
26 9:30AM Sanctuary 10:35AM Sunday School 10:35AM Strategic Planning 11:40AM Zoom 5-7PM Taco Sunday	27 <b>John Calvin, Renewer, 1564</b> <b>Memorial Day</b>	28 10:00AM Bible Study (Zoom)	29 12:00PM Quilters	30	31 <b>The Visitation</b>	

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)

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Online Here



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