

FAITH NEWS

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

October 2024

Our friends at Ethiopia Tewahedo Social Services (ETSS) celebrated the Ethiopian New Year on September 7th. Enkutatash (Ethiopian New Year) has its roots in the pages of the Old Testament when the Queen of Sheba returned from meeting King Solomon in Jerusalem and her followers celebrated her return.

It was quite the event to see: festive dress, kids performing Ethiopian dances, and food catered by Lalibela Restaurant (on the corner of Hamilton & Main). Enkutatash is a New Year like any other, celebrating the hopes and promises of the year ahead, and thankfulness and joy for safely passing through the year behind.

I was invited to represent Faith Lutheran Church as an on-going partner in ministry together. Over the past few years, ETSS has been a "Cause of the Month." When they received a gift of 30 mattresses and box springs, we provided storage until they were distributed to families in need, and this year, our Run To Church 5k raised over \$7,000 for their on-going ministries.

When asked to prepare some comments about the importance of immigrant outreach to the church, I found no lack of texts. Speaking to Moses, God says, "*Do not mistreat or oppress a foreigner, for you were foreigners in Egypt*" (Exodus 22:21). In Leviticus God decrees, "*When a foreigner resides among you in your land, do not mistreat them. The foreigner residing among you must be treated as your native-born. Love them as yourself, for you were foreigners in Egypt. I am the Lord your God.*" (Leviticus 33-34). In Leviticus 23:22, God commands that when the harvest is reaped, that the edge be left for the poor, aliens, and immigrants.

In the New Testament Jesus tells us directly that the way we treat the least of these (the imprisoned, poor, or immigrant) is the way we treat him; and St. Paul reminds us to extend hospitality welcoming the stranger multiple times in his letter to the church in Rome. I offer you this short deep dive in our Biblical responsibility to care for immigrants as Columbus is home to one of the largest Ethiopia immigrant populations in the nation.

There's an old adage "it takes a village to raise a child" but in truth, it also takes a village to be a village. For almost 100 years Faith Lutheran Church has been part of the "village" of Whitehall and the Eastside. As the realities of many Eastside communities change, our task does not change. We are here to share our love of Jesus, and care for our neighbors.

As I understand it, we are here to: **Worship God, Love People, and Serve Whitehall.** This is not to say that we ignore or refuse help to other communities, but it does acknowledge that our church was built, and has roots in this community.

At Enkutatash, Faith was awarded The ETSS "Paige Chapman-Layland Memorial Award," an award given each year to an outstanding community partner. We received it for all that we do to support their care for so many.

We have close to 100 years of ministry under our belt in Whitehall, though I have only been here for 5 of those years. However, this award sits in the office as a reminder not of what we have done, but what we continue to do: worshiping God, loving people, and serving Whitehall as the years pass and the community continues to evolve.

Pastor Hill



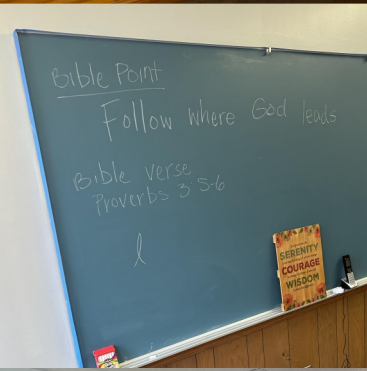
Blessing of Quilts



September Photo Dump!



Food for the Free Little Pantry collected from our food drive!



Chicken running around Collingwood Ave



New office decor



Future Youth Room



New Garth



Rainy Taco Sunday

WomenToUs



CAUSE OF THE MONTH

Our October Cause of the Month is MomenToUs, a new faith building community headed by Rev. Rebecca Grate. You can connect in both digital and in-person formats, including podcasts, pub theology, and online bible studies & discussions.



Busy Bees



- Thanks to Alan, Carol, and Resource Board for all their hard work to make our courtyard look great!
- Thanks to Countryside electric for getting our Elm street door hooked up with an automatic opener!
- Thanks to those who continue to make birthday cards and support our veterans at the commons!



BIRTHDAYS

01 AIDEN LANTTO	16 ANDREA WARD
03 BETTY JACOBS	18 DEVIN SKINNER
03 ALAN MITTERMAIER	19 TUNNEY KING
06 LISA GILLENWATER	26 KATHY BLINE
10 MARK ROFF	27 KIMBERLY SKINNER
12 LINDA LESLEIN	27 MICHAEL VEDOVATO
13 GINNY CHADWICK	29 LILLI JONES

ANNIVERSARIES

09 MIKE & JESSICA ANNABLE
15 MARK & KAREN BROWN
23 LARRY & TERI ALLEN

Prayer Requests

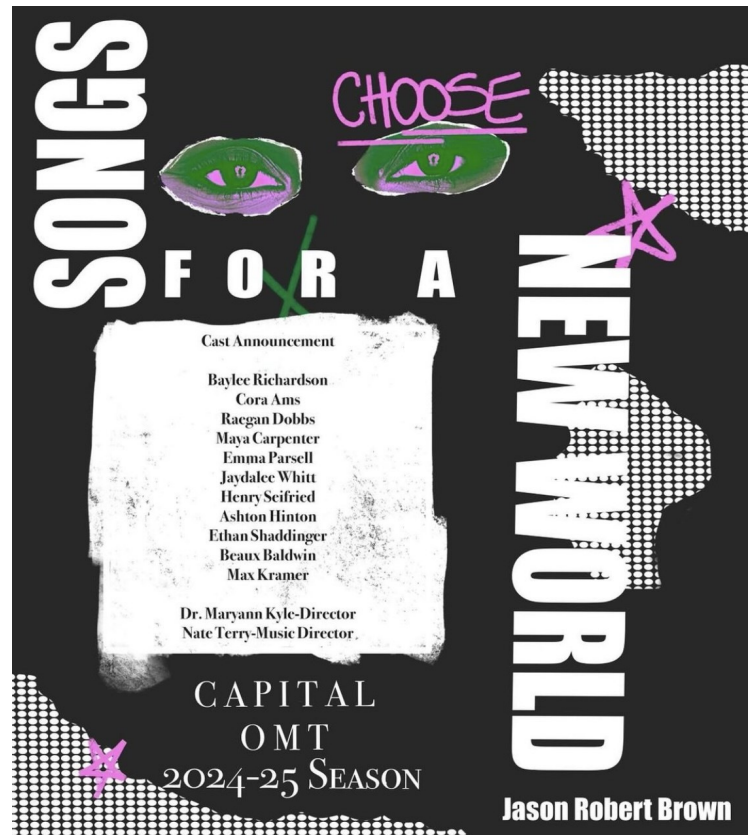
- We pray for healing and restoration for those in the South affected by hurricanes.
- Judy Pherigo, as she recovers from a broken femur.
- Jan Stamper, a co-worker of Jodie Martin-Oiler, who is battling a rare form of cancer.

Songs For A New World

Join Nate Terry as he music directs Capital University's production of "Songs For A New World"! The show will be performed at the Bexley Jewish Community Center.

Saturday, 10/26 - 7:00PM

Sunday, 10/27 - 2:00PM



Birthday Cards for Veterans!

Each month, the outreach committee will be hosting a birthday celebration for veterans at the commons. The party will be held the 3rd Saturday of each month at 11AM at the commons. We would love for you to come celebrate with them and get to know them! If you can't make it to chat and party, please write a birthday card for our vets each month and put it in the blue birthday bag.

Sunday, October 27th - Faith's Community Trunk-Or-Treat!

Mark your calendar and join the fun as we welcome the community to Trunk-or-Treat during Taco Sunday!



As Taco Sunday ends for the year, we are going out in style with tacos, ice cream, and a fun & safe trick or treating experience for our neighbors and friends.

I hope you'll get some candy, park you car, decorate your trunk, and celebrate with us!

October 27 @ 5:00pm

