

FAITH NEWS

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

December 2024

For as long as I can remember, following worship on Sundays I have picked up Chinese take out, eaten it for lunch, and followed it with a long nap.

As a student at the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago, during my year as a Ministry in Context student, I would order from Nicky's Chinese Food in Hyde Park. At my first call in Connecticut I would order from Lucky Dragon in Unionville. Since moving back to Columbus, on Sundays I find my way either to Ko Sheng on Cleveland Ave., or Wang's Chinese Kitchen on 5th Ave.

A few weeks ago I picked up my usual order from Wang's when I noticed the words "Tastes like home" on their sign. This got me thinking... Who makes Chinese food at home? (A quick google search informed me that Chinese residents make up 1.2% of Columbus' population.)

So what does it mean for something to "taste like home?"

For me Chinese food is a ritual, one that is associated in my brain with those years of graduate school and my first call when I would barely sleep on Saturday night, and then be exhausted on Sunday after worship, Adult Forum, and all the other things that happen on a Sunday morning. Now, like the way I drive home, getting Chinese food is simply what I do, and "the way I've always done it."

I spent that week trying to think of my earliest memories of Chinese food, when it finally came to me. I was a child, probably 3rd or 4th grade, when my dad took me to a Chinese Restaurant in Goldsboro, NC. My Mom is not a fan of the cuisine and was out of town with my brother, so Dad took me. I don't remember what he ordered for me, if I tried it, or liked it, but what I do remember was the feeling of being with him, and safe, and not having to worry about anything. I think that's why I started getting take out after church so many years ago, because after the preparation and the work, the highs and the lows of being a student, an intern, and a new pastor, here was a reminder of feeling safe and protected, not having to worry about anything... a childlike joy, wrapped in a paper bag.

That's what home tastes like to me— safety, security, & joy.

Among these days of festivity, between Thanksgiving, Christmas, and all the meals between, I hope that you will all receive a "taste of home."

May you be blessed with safety, security, joy, family, memories, and love both this season, and forever more.

Pastor Hill



Toy Drive with Whitehall Fire Department!



Sunday School Kids enjoying the new Youth Room!



Little Free Pantry items collected from our food drive!

November Photo Dump!



CAUSE OF THE MONTH



LDR Carolinas

Our December Cause of the Month is Lutheran Disaster Relief in the Carolinas. In response to recent hurricanes, LDR provides support to rebuild communities, especially service bridges and connecting roads that are vital to public safety



Busy Bees



- Thanks to all our bees who supported our toy and food drive! We delivered over 100 toys to the Whitehall Fire Department to be distributed to children in need this Christmas season!
- Thanks to all who helped remodel our Sunday School room!



BIRTHDAYS

06 BECKIE LANTTO 23 HERB SCHOLLES
09 JUDY PHERIGO 26 CAROL BARBER
17 CHERLENE COY 27 EMMA SOUTHWARD
21 MARY MARTIN-THOMAS 29 ANGELA OLIVA
23 HUDSON KUHN

ANNIVERSARIES

09 CHUCK & MARY MARTIN-THOMAS
19 DEAN & TERESA CHAPPELLE
30 BILL & JUDI BRENNING

Prayer Requests

- Jan Mulford, friend of Jane Ahrens, as she recovers from a brain bleed.
- Jerry Ahrens, as he recovers from a broken arm.
- 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.
- Sue Parr, as she battles diverticulitis.



Faith Lutheran Youth Sunday School is an amazing and energetic group of youth, grades 6 - 10. Our students include: Emberlynn Annable, Paige Oliva, Madi Oliva, Aiden Lantto and Ethan Lantto. Please let us know of any students who could join us. All are welcome to share in our ministry. Our staff includes Angie Oliva, Susan Millwater and Alice Appel.

Here are the community projects our students have been involved in:

- Preparing signs and boxes for the collection of our Toy Drive in partnership with the Whitehall Fire Department.
- Collecting food items for our Free Little Pantry and filling the pantry each Sunday.
- Collecting monies to be contributed to Lutheran World Relief, last year collecting over \$500. In addition, our students are now assuming roles during worship such as assisting ministers, readers, acolytes and the carrying of the crucifix in and out of the sanctuary.

In addition, our students' parents have assisted in updating our youth lounge. Angie and Kevin Oliva painted the room and assisted with removal of furniture. Carol Barber offered her truck for the transport of furniture. Decorating was assisted by Beckie Lantto, Susan Millwater, and Angie Oliva. Larry Allen is our technology specialist with a new TV to be hung on the wall in the future. Many hands made this project reach its completion. Please stop in to see our new room and join us for class! We delve into topics each week that are pertinent to our students' lives and we reflect how our faith leads us down the right path. Our students display a great love of the Lord and help us all have confidence in the future of our congregation.

October 2024 Treasurer's Report

Linda Mittermaier

Operating Fund Results	Monthly		
	Oct 2023	Oct 2024	Budget 2024
Support and Revenue	\$ 13,638	\$ 16,977	\$ 17,063
Expenses	18,423	18,496	18,830
Surplus or (Deficit)	\$ (4,784)	\$ (1,519)	\$ (1,767)

Year-to-Date		
Oct 2023	Oct 2024	Budget 2024
\$ 152,937	\$ 168,950	\$ 165,130
180,814	182,830	187,778
\$ (27,876)	\$ (13,880)	\$ (22,648)

Commentary:

In the month of October, we had a deficit of \$1,519, which was about \$250 less than the budgeted deficit. Both offerings and expenses were slightly lower than expected. On a year-to-date basis, our results are better than anticipated; our deficit so far this year of \$13,880 is about \$8,800 lower than expected and almost \$14,000 lower than at the same point last year.

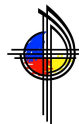
Although our deficits are smaller than expected, they still mean that our Operating Fund income is smaller than our expenses. We cannot operate with deficits indefinitely, but at the moment we are able to draw cash from the Young Fund to make sure our bills are paid and to maintain a small positive balance in the Operating Fund.

October offerings for other funds included \$920 for the Property (Loan) Fund, \$415 for the Then, Now, Forever Fund, \$1,000 for the Veterans Fund, and \$385 for the Cause of the Month (MomenToUs).

Copies of the detailed financial statements are available on the bulletin board in the hallway outside the office.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Holidays in BLUE - Festivals and Commemorations in GREEN						
1 9:30AM Sanctuary 10:35AM Bible School 10:45AM Adult Forum 11:40AM Zoom	2 7:00PM Praise Board	3 10:00AM Bible Study (Zoom) 7:00PM Resource Board	4	5 9:00AM Men's Breakfast (TeeJay's)	6 2025 Budget Due	7 Ambrose, Bishop of Milan, 397
8 9:30AM Sanctuary 10:35AM Bible School 10:45AM Adult Forum 11:40AM Zoom	9	10 10:00AM Bible Study (Zoom) 11:30AM Faith Circle (MCL Cafe) 7:00PM Budget Team Meeting	11 Lars Olsen Skrefsrud, Missionary, 1910	12	13	14 John of the Cross, Renewer, 1591
15 9:30AM Sanctuary 10:35AM Bible School 10:45AM Adult Forum 11:40AM Zoom	16 7:00PM Council	17 10:00AM Bible Study (Zoom)	18	19	20	21
22 9:30AM Sanctuary 10:35AM Bible School 10:45AM Adult Forum 11:40AM Zoom)	23	24 Christmas Eve 7:00PM Prelude 7:30PM Worship 11PM Zoom	25 Christmas Day Office Closed	26 Office Closed St. Stephen, Martyr	27 Office Closed St. John, Apostle, Evangelist	28
29 9:30AM Sanctuary 10:35AM Bible School 10:45AM Adult Forum 11:40AM Zoom	30	31 New Year's Eve Office Closed	<h1>December</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



Faith Lutheran Church

faithwhitehall.com

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Support Faith Online Here



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