



# *Pathways of Faith*

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Faith Lutheran Church

May 2022

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## *The Pastor's Space*

Grace, Peace and Love,

The Lenten Season brought us to Holy Week, Jesus' daily walk that marked his arrest, his trial, his crucifixion and his death. The despairing events of Holy Week led us to Easter, the glorious day when God's grace and forgiveness was confirmed. Jesus confirmed for humanity God's promise of grace, salvation and forgiveness to all that accept, in faith, the promises conveyed in his life, death and resurrection.

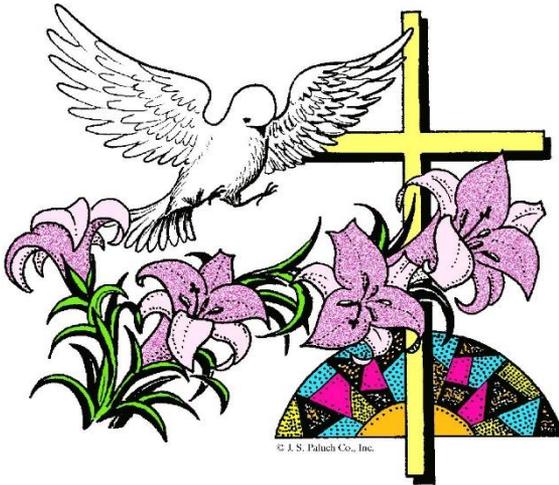
With the Easter event behind us and the message of Easter before us, the work of the faithful church is even more demanding. As we remember and reflect on the events that brought salvation to humanity, it is recognized that Jesus commissioned the church to deliver that saving message to a world that is averse to it.

The ministry that we, the church, have involved ourselves in comes at a time of cultural, societal and political challenge. Virus and disease continue to impact the ministries that we have been commissioned to serve. Social values continue to fluctuate in ways that challenge widely-held church values. Polarizing political views have driven wedges even in the fellowship of the church. We live in rapidly changing times

where societal, cultural and political values challenge the Christian witness that the church was commissioned to tell the world. These challenges are formidable to the witness that the faithful were given to convey. Ours is a time of trial.

As our mission and ministry together continue to evolve, it is always in and with the values that Jesus gave to guide the way forward. Over the years, decades and seasons, the values of society have changed for good and bad. The challenge for the church to these societal changes is to evolve with them as the faithful address and speak to their impact.

As we worship and celebrate the remaining weeks of this Easter Season, make certain that you understand what God is saying as His Spirit guides and leads you to its fulfillment.



## ***A Message from the President***

I believe I was elected to lead Faith Lutheran Church's council at a very pivotal time. To say it has been a challenge would be an understatement. But I can say, I also feel a sense of REVIVAL. Faith Lutheran is so friendly and welcoming; we are starting to see some new and some former members join us for worship on a regular basis. I believe The Lord has big plans for our church. I want to say THANK YOU to all of you who have kept Faith Lutheran your church home, during the pandemic, when something may not be 100% to your liking and just staying during the tough times. We ARE a family here at Faith Lutheran and I know I could not make it through this crazy life without all of your support; so thank you again.

I also want to make sure everyone understands how indispensable our treasurer, Karen Otis, has been during these past few months. Not only did she discover the financial betrayal of our former secretary and put an end to years long systematic embezzlement, but she has also been acting as our church's administrative assistant on a daily basis since that discovery. She has tirelessly devoted and donated her time and energy to learning the systems, streamlining and updating our protocols and creating procedures and oversight so this can never happen again. Faith Lutheran Church is stronger than it has been in years due to Karen's diligence and her dedication to our church. Thank you, Karen!

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Lastly, please spread the word that Faith Lutheran is looking to hire a part-time administrative assistant. They can send their resume to [cflutheran@cfl.rr.com](mailto:cflutheran@cfl.rr.com). We are also looking for someone willing to record and upload our services onto the website. Video would be an unsalaried position. Maybe a tech student you may know?

Praying and remembering those who have given their lives for our freedom,

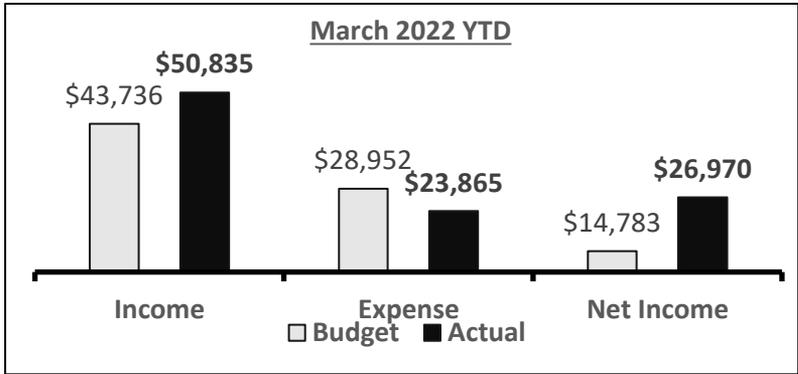
Laura Olson

386-846-1976



# President's REPORT

## Treasurer's Report



Actual year-to-date net income (income after expenses) was significantly higher than budget. Through March, we are tracking \$12,187 better than expected.

- Lower staff salaries
- Recovery of \$3,636 of stolen funds
- Higher than expected offerings

Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Karen Otis, Treasurer

561-251-3594

klotis24@gmail.com



## ***Fellowship Report***

April has come and gone, and we are fast approaching May. The year seems to be flying by. This past month we celebrated Easter with an Easter Brunch, which was well attended with many good eats. Thanks to all who helped with all the goodies. And thanks to all who have signed up to do refreshments on Sundays.

In May we are thinking of having a cake to celebrate Mother's Day, so our mothers don't have to prepare, and will have more time for relaxation. We will also plan a picnic-style brunch on Memorial Day weekend. As always, please keep in mind to sign up and or bring in goodies for our fellowship hour.

We will be coming into the heat of summer by next month, and hurricane season is fast approaching. Please make sure you make your preparations early.

Respectfully,

Cathy Neuhardt and Lynne Meinhold



## ***Property Report***

### HELLO FROM PROPERTY

The year is going by so fast...here we are in May and in full swing on our church's property. We continue to trim and upgrade the appearance of our church by pruning hedges and shrubs, mowing grass and general maintenance of our landscape. However, it doesn't stop there. Last month in preparing for Easter, we painted the railings and one door around the fellowship hall, pressure cleaned all of our sidewalks and driveway and the Mikulski family did a wonderful job in redoing the flower garden outside the church office.

Recently, we had experienced trouble with our church's septic system and had to have it serviced. This service was very costly and that cost could possibly grow. Please do not flush anything except toilet paper down the commodes and this will help us keep a healthy system and cost down.

In the month of May, we will be cleaning the gutters around the church, pruning hedges, painting and general cleaning of the property. As always, we want you to know, Faith is a safe environment with regard to the corona virus and is sanitized weekly for your safety.

Our next Property Day will be May 14<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 am.

Just a reminder, on Saturday, May 14, our Boy Scout Troop # 404 will be holding a benefit spaghetti dinner in our fellowship hall from 5 PM until 8 PM. The cost is \$10.00 per person. The dinner includes spaghetti, salad, breadsticks, dessert and beverages. The proceeds from the dinner will allow the scouts to rent a van and raise partial payment for a week at Scout Camp in Mt. Airy, North Carolina. Please

come and enjoy a good time and good food for this worthwhile cause to help our scout troop. Thank you!

Bob Neuhardt



The next Council Meeting will be held on May 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall. All are welcome to attend

## ***Loose Change***

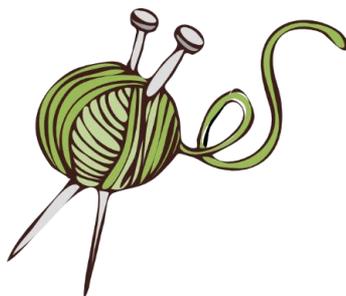
The loose change bowl is located in the narthex and all monies collected are used for the various ministries of Faith Lutheran Church. We thank you for your donations.



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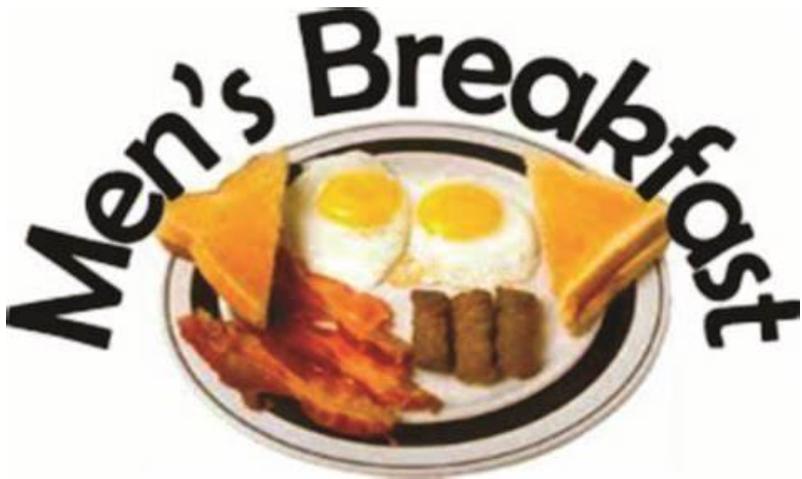
## ***Plarning***

Our plarning group makes beautiful mats for the homeless. The next meeting will be Thursday, May 19th from 1-3 pm in the church. If you are interested in being a member of this great group, please contact Barbara Neunfeldt at (386) 677-6017.



## ***Unity Breakfast***

Here is an opportunity for the men of Faith Lutheran Church to build relationships with the men of Hope Lutheran Church and All Saints Lutheran Church. A breakfast will be served at All Saints Lutheran Church on Saturday, June 11<sup>th</sup> at 8:45 am. All Saints is located at 751 Dunlawton Avenue in Port Orange. If you would like a ride, transportation will be provided. Please contact Charlie Hoyle at (386) 843-2747 for more information.



***Altar Flowers***

- 1 Given by Marge Sykes to the Glory of God and in celebration of her 80<sup>th</sup> birthday
- 8 Given by Lynne Meinhold to the Glory of God in loving memory of her grandson Andrew
- 15 Given by Wendy & Rich Eames to the Glory of God and in celebration of their sons and grandson's birthdays
- 22 Available
- 29 Given by Laura Olson to the Glory of God and in honor of all the men and women of Armed Services



***Bulletins***

- 1 Given by Laura Olson to the Glory of God
- 8 Available
- 15 Available
- 22 Available
- 29 Available

***Eternal Candles***

Given by Cathy and Bob Neuhardt to the Glory of God





May 1

Marge Sykes

May 8

Lois Ackerman

May 24

Rich Mathis

May 26

Rita Highley



May 4

Dorothy and Steve Wise