



# ***Pathways of Faith***

---

Faith Lutheran Church

May 2023

---

## ***The Pastor's Space***

Grace, Peace and Love,

Over these concluding weeks of Easter, as we come together in worship, the faithful will continue to be reminded of its reality. Scripture will proclaim and witness Easter's reality. With the Easter Resurrection event behind, the faithful can look to the future with all the blessed confidence that faith delivers.

Lent, Holy Week and Easter brought the story of Jesus' sacrificial death and selfless work of salvation home to those that gravitate to its message of redemption. It is the message given the church to repeat over and over again to a humanity determined to have its way in and for God's created world.

The message of Lent, Holy Week and Easter is God's expression of love for a humanity that deserves condemnation. This year's journey brought two churches together, Faith and Hope Lutheran, to experience the familiar story of divine intervention once again. It is the story that Jesus commissioned his faithful church to tell.

It is true that the circumstance of change is a constant in our lives and in the life of the church. Our role as a “Faithful Church” is to maneuver through the change with the spirit’s lead and Easter’s reality. As compared to other times in history, the role of the church in the world today is vital. As change fashions its affect in almost every aspect of life, it is the role of the faithful to be an example of the values Jesus came to establish in the world through his church.

The conquering glory of Easter will take us liturgically into the Season of Pentecost, the season that acknowledges the reality of spiritual presence. There to guide and lead the faithful church in and to the will of God. Until then, we have the remaining worship celebrations of Easter to acknowledge and enjoy. The reality of Easter confirms our faith, the spirit of Pentecost empowers our faith. Our faith in the one true God of creation opens eternity to all that believe.



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

Faith Lutheran had a very meaningful Lenten and Holy Week experience this year. Thanks to everyone who helped to make it special and to Pastor Keeley for his relevant messages. I also want to thank everyone who participates in the Mats for the Homeless planning. I had someone in the community asking me some work- related social services questions and we got on the subject of the homeless and I talked about our planning ministry, and she stated she has seen the mats out and about with the homeless folks they serve. What a blessing that ministry is, so thank you again!

Faith Lutheran Church is moving forward and striving to rejuvenate our congregation and church participation. Pastor Keeley is offering additional learning opportunities, the various council members and ministry leaders are developing and executing new ways to serve our community and each other in Godly service. Change is not something I enjoy, everyone who knows me knows I thrive on routine and organization, and I love to live in the “rut”. I am not a spontaneous person! I have to PLAN to be spontaneous. That being said, Faith Lutheran needs to make some changes. Not drastic, not all at once, but we need to look toward the future. How do we bring new faces into church, what can we offer people in the mega church rock band era that they cannot get there? Faith Lutheran has a faithful and generous congregation, and we do marvelous things. Imagine what the future holds and how we can offer that “someone” a new church home.

Please let me know if you have any ideas or would like the opportunity to help with the many ongoing ministries and projects we have going on. As Uncle Sam has said WE NEED YOU!

In The Lord’s Service,

Laura Olson 386-846-1976

## ***Vice President's Report***

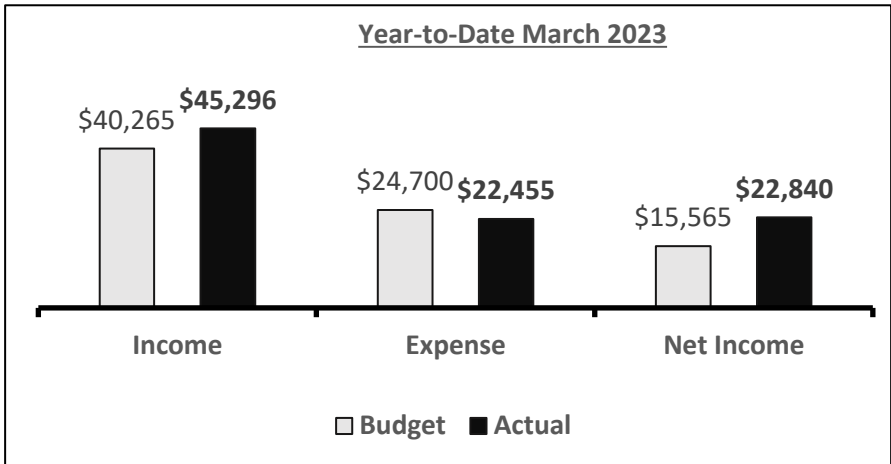
Just a few reminders as we enter into the busy season of vacations. Don't forget Faith and your offerings while you are away. You can either mail it into the church or use EasyTithe. There are other ways for you to support the church, such as signing up to sponsor fellowship after church. You can bring a goodie or two to share or help serve. Bridge of Hope is another great way to serve others. It's easy and on the fourth Monday of the month. Contact Kathy Mikulski for more details. We can always use the extra hands! How about greeting and handing out bulletins? It's a wonderful way to meet all of our members and give them a great start to their day with a happy smile. Ushering is also easy. You just help the congregation come up to communion and count the number of people in church. If one of these services is something you would like to try, contact Lynne Meinhold and she will get you on the schedule. Counting the offerings after church is another service that is available. I think Karen Otis has this year covered, but she can always use more help. Please let her know if you are interested.

Have a blessed May and thank you for considering volunteering for some of these services. We are always looking for ways to help and support our congregation and community.

Respectfully,

Wendy Eames

## **Treasurers Report**



Our financial position remains strong with actual income through the end of March of \$22,840. You continue to support our church with better-than-expected weekly offerings – thank you!!

Actual versus budget:

- Higher than expected weekly offerings - \$1,953
- Recovery of stolen funds - \$1,093
- Timing differences in payment of church insurance

Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Karen Otis, Treasurer

561-251-3594

klotis24@gmail.com

## ***Council Meeting***

The next Council Meeting will be held on Monday, May 8<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall. All are welcome to attend.

## ***Gratitude***

The Faith family expresses sincere gratitude to Marge Sykes for the years of creating our beautiful altar flower arrangements. As of May 1<sup>st</sup>, Marge will no longer be able to continue with this function. We will be forever grateful, Marge!



Beginning this month, we will be ordering altar flowers from a local florist. We will be keeping the donation amount to \$25 for the remainder of this year. However, plan for an increase beginning in 2024.

## ***Social Ministry***

On May 16<sup>th</sup>, we will be sponsoring “Pizza Day” for the Boy Scouts of America affiliated with Faith Lutheran Church. This is the night of their awards celebration and we wanted to make sure that they know how much we appreciate everything they do for our church. All church members are invited to attend.

A big thank you to all of you who have donated blankets and clothing, which have been taken to the Salvation Army. They are most grateful. As you do your spring closet cleaning, please keep in mind that any gently-used clothing may be used to help someone look their best for a job interview.

In Faith,  
Julie Hoyle



## ***Fellowship Report***

Well, the adage about April Showers did come true for us here in Florida. We surely needed the rain and hope it brings the May Flowers.

Thank you to everyone who brought something to the Easter Brunch to help fill our hungry selves. Everyone surely enjoyed all the foods and the joy of the day was apparent.

As always, the friendships and fellowship are what unites us at Faith Lutheran. Pastor Keeley feeds our hearts and souls with his wonderful messages and then we cross over into Fellowship Hall to feed our bodies.

Blessings,

Lynne Meinhold and Cathy Neuhardt





## ***Property Report***

Here we are in May and summer is fast approaching. This means all of God's creation outdoors is blooming and your property group is hard at it, keeping the grounds in good order. Along with our scout troop, we are reconditioning and painting the doors of the church, fellowship hall and utility sheds to preserve them. Council has approved the removal of some of our larger shrubs to cut our outdoor work load and create a better view of our church and fellowship hall from Granada Blvd. and Tymber Creek Road. This will also cut down on the growth of mold and mildew on the buildings. In addition, we are having lighting installed in our main utility shed by a licensed electrician. Currently it is very difficult to navigate and work in that particular shed without lighting. Other plans also include the pressure cleaning of the north side of our church. The pavers and porch in this area were recently cleaned by Ken Magill and we thank you for your hard work, Ken. On a safety note, please remember: if you are working outside, stay hydrated and drink plenty of water, wear some type of hat to cover your face and neck and wear sun screen. In addition, the beginning of hurricane season is one month away, so please remember to start planning now. The current hurricane forecast for this year is close to last year's forecast but remember it only takes one to cause major damage. Over the next several months we will be posting little tips on how to prepare for a hurricane. This month's tip: You should have one gallon of water per day per person in your home. A huge thank you to all who work so hard to keep our church and fellowship hall looking great! Our next work day will be May 13<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 AM.

Yours in Christ's service,  
Bob Neuhardt

## ***Bridge of Hope***

The next Bridge of Hope opportunity to feed the homeless will be Monday, May 22nd at 8:30 AM.

Location:        Hope Place  
                      1340 Wright Street  
                      Daytona Beach, FL 32117

Please contact Kathy Mikulski with any questions.

(410) 507-2826

## ***Pastor's Classes***

### ***Bible Study***

Beginning on May 1<sup>st</sup>, Pastor Keeley will be leading a Bible Study class on Mondays at 11:00 AM at Faith Lutheran Church. Please join your fellow Lutherans for some interesting discussions.

### ***Confirmation Classes***

Pastor Keeley will be conducting a Lutheran religion informational class on Tuesdays at 10:00 AM at Hope Lutheran Church. This class is not only for those interested in joining our church, but also for those who would like a refresher on the confirmation classes you took so many years ago! If you are interested in attending, please contact Pastor Keeley or the office.



***Altar Flowers***

- 07 Bob & Cathy Neuhardt – Lola’s 2<sup>nd</sup> Birthday
- 14 Lynne Meinhold – In Loving Memory of grandson Andrew
- 21 -----
- 28 Annabelle O’Neill – To the Glory of God

***Bulletins***

- 07 -----
- 14 Lynne Meinhold – In Loving Memory of Grandson Andrew
- 21 -----
- 28 -----

***Candles***

- Bat & Ceil Masterson – To the Glory of God



|        |               |
|--------|---------------|
| May 01 | Marge Sykes   |
| May 08 | Lois Ackerman |
| May 24 | Rich Mathis   |
| May 26 | Rita Highley  |



|        |                      |          |
|--------|----------------------|----------|
| May 04 | Steve & Dorothy Wise | 56 years |
|--------|----------------------|----------|