



# *Pathways of Faith*

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Faith Lutheran Church

July 2023

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## *The Pastor's Space*

Grace, Peace and Love,

As we move further into the Season of Pentecost, the liturgical season that lifts and recognizes the presence of God's Spirit at work in the world today, the times in and through which the faithful have been called to be God's church in the world is full of those "What Would Jesus Do?" moments. With progressive, modern technology ever advancing in areas that were once only imagined, our world is changing. With a 7 billion+ diverse world population growing, our world is changing. Where the impact of religion appears to have lessened over time, our world is changing. Our world is changing but our faith commitment/conviction remains the same. With renewed spiritual vision, our church prepares for the spirit-led task ahead.

It is my hopeful desire that the church will and can be known more fervently as the place of spiritual calm amid the turbulence of modern 21st Century living. It is my hopeful desire that with a ministry of the dedicated faithful, the church can and will reclaim its place as the bastion of honest, truthful and virtuous Christian values held in and with highest esteem.

It is for those “What Would Jesus Do?” moments that our worship, study and fellowship together reaffirm the faith that we collectively possess together. Going through those ‘Questionable Times Together’ brings meaning to our collective ministry together as God’s church in the world.

With the questionable times of past ministry behind, the sure foundation of church renewal has given way to God’s will and God’s spirit to lead us in it. Paul reminds us in Philippians 1:6 “that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion.” The new beginning given us since Covid has brought with it a renewed spirit in the ministry that we share together. Thank God for the confidence given our church to be God’s church in these most interesting and changed times.

For now, as summer extends its presence until fall, enjoy what the season brings. Also, as the Spirit of Pentecost provides opportunity to touch the lives of those we encounter, enjoy the Spirit’s lead in building the beloved kingdom here as it is in heaven.



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

WELCOME to all our new members! Please reach out if you have any ministry ideas or if you would like to assist any of our current ministries. Many hands make light work.

Thank you to everyone that helped remove our old shrubbery to make our landscaping a little easier to maintain for the future. Special thank you to Corine, who rescued a tiny kitten that had apparently been dumped on our property.

Back to school will be here before you know it. You will see our yellow school bus in the Narthex very soon. We are asking for new school backpacks for local children in foster care. This is a ministry that Faith has been participating in for 13 years!

Please take a name sheet (as many or a few as you like) and get a backpack and supplies for that child. Return the filled backpack to the Narthex with the name paper stapled/taped to the backpack. Yvonne will be sending out lists of items each grade may need in case you are unsure. PLEASE NOTE: you do **not** have to purchase everything on these lists for the backpack. Kids basically need notebooks and pencils, anything else is a bonus. If you would just like to purchase some supplies or just the backpack, please do so and toss it in our school bus. If you would like to make a cash donation and have us do the shopping for you, there is a SpongeBob metal lunchbox in the Narthex where you can leave your donation.

**The last day to drop off backpacks in the Narthex will be Sunday, August 6, 2023.**

It is my continued pleasure to serve as your Council President and look forward to finishing the work for this year as needed. Please call or text me anytime.

Blessings,

Laura Olson

386-846-1976

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

Happy 4th of July and the heat of the summer. Please remember to drink plenty of water and wear sunscreen if you are outside. Pastor Keeley continues to refresh us and bless us with inspirational messages. These will help us keep our spirits up and strong during the summer. Don't forget to watch the weather forecasts to be aware of bad storms and possible hurricanes.

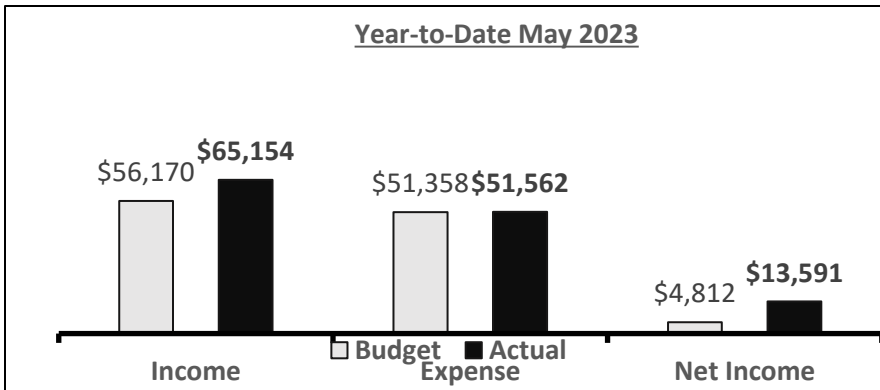
Stay Safe,

Wendy Eames

Vice President



## ***Treasurer's Report***



The financial picture continues to be favorable versus budget.

- ◆ Actual net income through May was \$13,591
- ◆ Actual versus Budget:
  - Higher than expected weekly offering - \$4,400
  - Recovery of stolen funds - \$2,214

Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Karen Otis, Treasurer

561-251-3594

klotis24@gmail.com

## ***Council Meeting***

There will be no council meeting in July or August. The next meeting is scheduled for September 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm.

## ***Social Ministry***

Another 86 lbs. of food to the Salvation Army pantry! Thank-you all for the donations this past month to the Grocery basket for items provided. Much appreciated!

The 'nearly new' clothes donated to the Salvation Army are greatly appreciated to provide the homeless people in our community with attire for upcoming job interviews. Thank-you!

As we look forward to August, we will be providing 'Backpacks' for the Foster Children in Volusia County. It is never too early to start shopping. Details about needed items will be in the weekly church bulletins.

As the summer moves forward and the temperatures rise, let's contact a Rehabilitation Center or Group home and offer to buy Ice Cream sandwiches (for example) to share with residents and staff. If anyone at Faith has a place near their home that would be a great place to deliver an extra treat, please advise.

We continue to collect items for 'Blessing Bags'. October will be a great time to share the Blessing Bags from Faith Lutheran Church. The bag should not be viewed as a "gift". Instead, it's an opportunity filled with a few simple resources such as toiletries, water, food, and warmth to help someone get through the day.

<p>Using a gallon Ziplock bag: Directions to community kitchen or homeless shelter</p> <p>Bible verses / Bible</p> <p>Pen, pencil, and notebook</p> <p>Plastic rain poncho</p> <p>Shampoo and lotions from hotel stays.</p> <p>Hat (for sun protection)</p> <p>Emergency whistle</p> <p>Instant warmers (for cold nights)</p> <p>Used watch.</p>	<p>Gum</p> <p>Granola bars</p> <p>Protein bar</p> <p>Tuna</p> <p>Plastic utensils</p> <p>Cookies</p> <p>Nuts</p> <p>Beef jerky</p> <p>Water</p>	<p>Antibacterial wipes</p> <p>Antibacterial ointment</p> <p>Toilet paper/tissues</p> <p>Toothbrush and toothpaste, dental floss</p> <p>Deodorant</p> <p>Socks</p> <p>Gloves</p> <p>Comb</p> <p>Small file (for fingernails and toenails)</p> <p>Shaving cream and disposable razors</p> <p>Ibuprofen</p> <p>Lotion</p> <p>Chapstick</p>
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***Whoever is generous to the poor lends to the Lord,  
and he will repay him for his deed.  
Proverbs 19:17***

## ***Fellowship Report***

Well, welcome to the official summer Florida weather – beautiful and sunny one minute and then humid, thundering and raining the next. Nonetheless, enjoy yourselves.

June had us assisting the Men's Unity Group with their Breakfast and celebrating Father's Day with a delicious cake and other foods. I am sure the spread you will see on July 2<sup>nd</sup> will be yummy and appropriately patriotic.

Please join your fellow members for sharing friendships each Sunday.

Please share any suggestions you might have.

May God Bless all our members and our Country as we celebrate our Independence this July 4<sup>th</sup>.

Lynne Meinhold and Cathy Neuhardt

## ***Property Report***

We are now entering the third quarter of 2023 and our property group is very busy finishing up the removal of shrubs and hedges around the fellowship hall and parking lot. This was done to enhance the property and building and to cut back on the amount of labor used to maintain the property. Our thanks to Jerry Mikulski, Rich Eames and Bob Culgin for their very hard work. Soon we will be pressure cleaning and washing the north side of the church and fellowship hall to remove mildew and dirt. Our grounds continue to be groomed to present an appealing appearance. All of our exterior doors have been painted with two coats of Rust-oleum paint and are now protected against weather, sun and dampness. Our sprinkler system has been updated and marked for location thanks to the efforts of Bob Culgin and Harold Neunfeldt. Thanks to Lynne Meinhold and Cathy Neuhardt for their hard work in keeping the inside of our church and fellowship hall clean and neat.



July Tip for Hurricane season....Generators....I have heard the statement more than once, "A generator is the most useless piece of equipment you'll ever own, until you need it." Unfortunately we never know when a hurricane will strike and do major damage, including knocking out our power supply. Then it may be a week or longer before power is restored. Therefore, it is up to us to supply our own power. If you already own a generator, you know or should know the rules and regulations behind these life-saving machines.

If you do not own one and are considering purchasing a unit or borrowing one, you should be aware of the safety rules and regulations. First, please read the directions thoroughly and follow them closely. Next, only fill with regular gasoline and specified oil, and never while the engine is hot or still running. Never run the unit in a closed area of your house or garage. A well-ventilated area for the escape of carbon monoxide gases is imperative. Never run it in the rain as this could cause the unit to not function properly. Only use specified power cords with the unit which are stated in the manufacturer's specifications of your user manual. Never overload your unit with electrical devices. These are also mentioned in your user manual. These are just a few of the important and required rules for safe operation of generators.

Finally, when storing your generator after the season is over, please keep it in a dry space free from dirt and debris to maintain safe operation for next year and always store your generator with no gas in the tank. For further questions, you can contact Bob Neuhardt.

Side note: The Boy Scout spaghetti dinner will be on Saturday, July 15, 2023 at 5:30 pm in our fellowship hall. It will be open to the public. The cost of the tickets will be \$10.00 per person at the door. This will include spaghetti with homemade sauce, salad, bread, drinks and a dessert. Looking forward to seeing you there. Have a great month.

## ***Bridge of Hope***

The next Bridge of Hope opportunity to feed the homeless will be Monday, July 24th at 8:30 AM.

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

Please contact Kathy Mikulski with any questions.

(410) 507-2826

## ***Planning***

Our planning group makes beautiful mats for the homeless. The next meeting will be Thursday, July 20th from 1-3 PM in the church. If you are interested in being a member of this group, please contact Barbara Neunfeldt at (386)677-6017.

## ***Game Night***

Join your fellow church members for a fun evening out. Our next game night is scheduled for July 28th at 5:00 PM in Fellowship Hall. Come enjoy some pizza, play some games and share good company!

## ***Men's Unity Group***

We met at Faith Lutheran on Saturday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>. We are taking a short break for the summer and will resume meeting in September at a time and place to be announced. Please consider attending, as everyone seems to enjoy the food, fellowship, devotions and discussions. Contact Jerry Mikulski with any questions.



### ***Altar Flowers***

- 02 Joe & Pat Cromwell – Celebrate Joe’s 84<sup>th</sup> Birthday(6/18)
- 09 Gisela Schafer – Celebrate Daughter Madeline O’Connor’s Birthday
- 16 Marge Sykes – Celebrate Jim’s Birthday
- 23 Annabelle O’Neill – To the Glory of God
- 30 Bob & Judy Culgin – In Memory of Toby

### ***Bulletins***

- 02 Laura Olson – Thankful to All Who Serve and Protect
- 09 Lynne Meinhold – Celebrate Son Tim’s Birthday
- 16 Rich & Wendy Eames – Thankful for God’s Blessings
- 23 Lynne Meinhold – Celebrate Granddaughter Katharine’s Birthday
- 30 Laura Olson – To the Glory of God

### ***Candles***

- Lynne Meinhold – In Memory of In-laws Elise & Willy Meinhold



July 13

Bob Neuhardt

July 14

Dorothy Wise

July 17

Jim Sykes

July 26

Julie Hoyle



July 04

Bob & Judy Culgin

July 12

John & MaryEllen Meehl