



Pathways of Faith

Faith Lutheran Church

November 2023

The Pastor's Space

Grace, Peace and Love:

The month of November has arrived and we are well into Autumn's temperatures and fall colors. In my opinion, colors along the interstate are not as vivid as in past seasonal cycles. In a few months, winter will bring us to a new calendar year. In November, we will celebrate, in worship, the few remaining Sundays of the liturgical year while finalizing year-end activities. As we make preparations for another spiritually-productive calendar year, in the opening celebrations of a new liturgical church year, we ask the spirit's lead for the work that is before us.

The changing times in which the church is given to advance the message of salvation is our primary-ministry objective. It speaks to the certainty, the motivation, the satisfaction from which we derive comfort. In turn, it is our (the church) task and calling to release that message into a world of changing scenarios, conditions, values and interest. The strength derived from our own personal-spiritual journey prepares us (the church) for the task that Jesus calls his church to.

As the challenging high Covid numbers were reduced, the work of our continued and determined ministries has been steady, productive and spiritually rewarding. Spiritually, we are poised for an even more productive and promising ministry future. As we continue to bring normalcy to the once active-weekly routine of worship, may your spirit continue to grow and be increased for the work we are called to do from the church that we have been called to serve.

The remaining celebrations of the liturgical year reassure and acknowledge the faith that we are called to take into the new church year; as well as, into the world we're called to serve. The story of Advent restates the salvation narrative, come in the person of Jesus. Its message is transforming, its spirit is renewing and its duration is forever. The message of salvation is ours to acknowledge, ours to enjoy and ours to give to the world.

Christmas will be here before we know it.





President's REPORT

Message from the President

Thank you to all who returned your Stewardship packets and Time & Talent sheets. This helps your Council with so many aspects of running the church and preparing next year's budget. We appreciate YOU!

Welcome back to our Office Administrator, Yvonne Magill! She is a blessing to our church.

Please prayerfully consider serving on the Church Council next year or perhaps becoming a ministry leader. If you have any questions, please reach out.

November is the time for Thanksgiving, and I am sure that the fellowship team will be planning something yummy. The Neuhardtts are also leading the Basket Brigade so we can share our blessings with others. I am thankful for my Faith Family every day.

We now move into our season of Advent, the time of preparation. How will Faith Lutheran PREPARE for the future? How will we, as members of Faith, shine our light into our community?

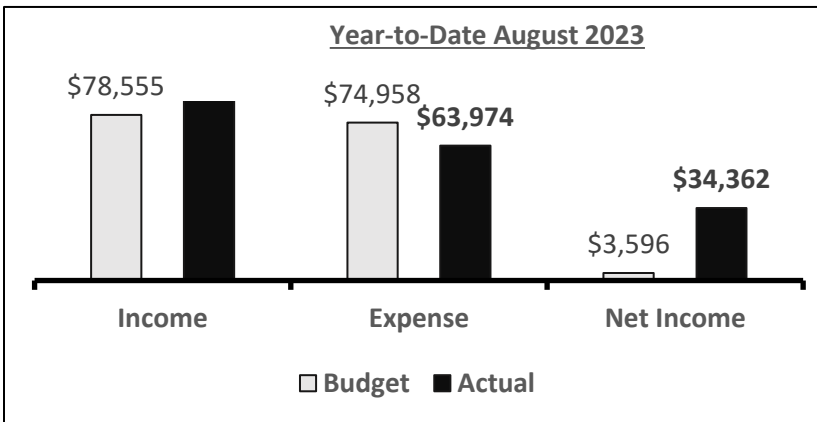
The Christmas Angel Project will be starting soon. This year we will be providing Christmas Gifts to families who have been successfully reunified through the local foster care system. Many parents often struggle to provide Christmas for their children and Faith will be there to help! Look for our Christmas Angel Tree in the Narthex coming soon. Members of Faith Lutheran Church will pick an angel off the tree, purchase items from children's wish lists, wrap them up and bring them back to church (with the angels on the packages) and these gifts will be distributed to parents who have successfully turned their lives around and been reunified with their children. Details coming soon.

In God's Service,

Laura Olson

386-846-1976

Treasurer's Report



Through the end of August, net income of \$34,362 was significantly higher than our original budget. This helps to put us in a position to absorb the high expenses we experienced in September, which will be reflected on next month's graph. Those expenses included property insurance, a new roof for the Fellowship Hall and cleanup costs due to water damage caused by a flood in the restroom and offices. It has been quite a month!

But as always, we have much for which to be grateful. We have a loving and giving congregation, many of whom made donations to help defray these costs. Thank you for your unselfish generosity.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Karen Otis, Treasurer

561-251-3594

klotis24@gmail.com

Property Report

Hello from Property;

We have had a remarkable, yet challenging, 11 months and it goes without saying that you must take the bitter with the sweet!! We have a new roof on our fellowship hall, new AC in the fellowship hall and new lighting in our rear storage shed compliments of Boy Scout Troop 404. Our church restoration from the flood is proceeding very well and all final repairs will be completed this month.

I would like to send out a huge thank you to the Mikulski family for their time, talent and use of resources in laying new mulch around the church and fellowship hall, planting plants and removing excess weeds and debris. Bravo! This month's property day will be on Saturday, November 11th at 8 AM. We will be trimming hedges, weed trimming and cleanup. Thank you all who participate in keeping our church, fellowship hall and grounds looking great. Have a great month!

The Thanksgiving Basket Brigade is proceeding nicely and we have started with a good collection of non-perishable food items (reference list in your bulletin on Sunday.) If you can't donate food, \$10.00 gift cards are welcome. Our goal this year is 70 cartons and I believe we can do it!! Your food contributions are literally heaven's gifts to those less fortunate, so thanks so much. We believe we will be packing boxes Wednesday, November 15th at 3:30 PM in our fellowship hall. Please join us if you can!

Yours in Christ's service, Bob Neuhardt



Social Ministry

Thank you for your contributions to the “God’s Work Our Hands” in reference to sharing a meal, blessing bags and Teddy bears with Ormond Beach Police Department on September 25th.

Especially thank you to Lynne Meinhold and Cathy and Bob Neuhardt for their assistance with this project! Blessings to you all!

We are closing in on the Christmas holidays. More information will be coming about our annual Angel Christmas Tree, helping children less fortunate.

In Faith,
Julie Hoyle

Fellowship Report

We feel we can now safely say Florida's fall has arrived. As we stated recently, our fellowship time attendance has increased along with church attendance. How exciting to have welcomed five new members in October.

You all outdid yourselves for Reformation dinner. So many hearty, authentic German dishes filled the tables. Deliciousness abounded. Thank you all!

The next two months will continue with more special eating opportunities. Keep your eyes out for new chances to participate.

Blessings to all!

Lynne Meinhold and Cathy Neuhardt

Altar Flowers

We all know how expenses continue to climb. Every time you go into the grocery store, prices have gone up again! Unfortunately, altar flower arrangements are no exception. Earlier this year we began using a florist to create our Sunday arrangements. In order to cover this cost, beginning in January, we will be increasing the charge for sponsoring flowers to \$35 – the amount we pay the florist. Thank you for your understanding.

Karen Otis – Treasurer

Plarning

Our plarning group makes beautiful mats for the homeless. The next meeting will be Thursday, November 16th 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.



Bridge of Hope

The next Bridge of Hope opportunity to feed the homeless will be Monday, November 27th at 8:30 AM.

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

Please contact Kathy Mikulski with any questions.

(410) 507-2826

Game Night

Game night is being suspended until January. I am sure we will all be busy over the next two months. Enjoy the season and we will get back to fun and games in January!



Council Meeting

The next council meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 13th at 6:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall. All are welcome to attend.



Altar Flowers

- 05 Tad & Cheryl – In celebration of the 11 year anniversary of our first date
- 12 Rita Highley – To the Glory of God
- 19 ----
- 26 Laura Olson – In loving memory of my father Richard Olson

Bulletins

- 05 Lynne Meinhold – In celebration of daughter Lisa's birthday
- 12 ----
- 19 ----
- 26 ----

Candles

Bob & Cathy Neuhardt – In honor of son Justin's birthday



November 28

Kenneth Ackerman



November 15

Jerry & Kathy Mikulski