



# *Pathways of Faith*

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Faith Lutheran Church

November 2024

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## *The Pastor's Space*

Grace, Peace and Love:

November places us in a new month, a new liturgical season, an open and renewed time to see God in different ways. As we prepare to enter the new liturgical season of Advent, we are provided two additional weeks to close the long season of Pentecost, preparing the spirit of the faithful to enter into "Advent", the new Season of renewal. Those closing two weeks begin with the celebration of the **Reformation and All Saint's**. These two celebratory weeks ask the believer to acknowledge the spiritual growth received, the experiences that led to that growth by giving thanks to the God of Creation for the experiences that helped shape our personal growth.

**Reformation** - reinforces and reminds the church of the important work of Martin Luther. Luther's attempt to bring truth/meaning to what scripture teaches and conveys as we

live out our faith. Luther tells us: “that our faith is justified by the grace that God provides His faithful.” That grace frees the spirit to live and pursue the will of God in life. Luther’s effort to reform the Catholic Church has given Christendom truth about religious authority, how to achieve salvation that brought about the “Protestant Reformation”.

**All Saints** - The Celebration of All Saints Sunday honors all the Saints of the Church, whether they are known or unknown. We remember with thanksgiving those blessed fellow believers who died in the faith and are now at rest even as we wait with them for the last day and the resurrection of the body to eternal life with Christ.

These celebrations close the season of spirit and place the faithful in the season of preparation for a new opportunity to know and see God in the many ways he can be seen and known. My advice to you “members of Faith Lutheran Church” is to prepare yourself and be open to the many new spiritual discoveries that will come your way in this new Season. Be open to the direction that the spirit leads, new discoveries that strengthen faith for the journey that we, the faithful, all must walk together.

Our summer-time leisure experiences are now being changed to fall/autumn preparation for personal renewal. Be renewed and know that God’s will is done through the faithful like you and me.



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

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

Thank you to our Administrative Assistant 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 Neuhardts are also leading the Basket Brigade so we can share our blessings with others. As we look forward to gathering with family and friends for the holidays, let us not forget how valuable our Faith Lutheran Family is.

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?

Christmas Angel Project will be starting soon. Again, 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.

Prayerfully,  
Laura Olson  
386-846-1976

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

November is the month to be Thankful. I am very Thankful that Hurricane Milton was not as bad as it could have been for us and that so many people heeded the warnings to evacuate. You can replace things but you can't replace people. I am Thankful for my Faith family and my friends and family. I am Thankful that I live in the United States of America and have the freedom to worship, work and live freely. I am Thankful for the abundance we have been given and the ability to share that abundance with others less fortunate. Don't forget to bring what you are able to help with the Thanksgiving Basket Brigade and even if you can't shop, they will happily take donations and shop for you.

Thank you and remember to count your blessings!

Wendy Eames  
Vice President

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

As of the end of September, net income (income less expenses) was \$29,177. Year-to-date income was \$119,841 and year-to-date expenses were \$90,664. Our financial results continue to be better than expected versus the budget.

Please be sure to turn in your Time and Talents and pledge cards for 2025. This will help me as I begin to work on the budget for next year. Thank you.

If you have any questions regarding our financials, please feel free to contact me at 561-251-3594.

Blessings,  
Karen Otis-Treasurer

## ***Social Ministry***

**Backpacks** - Thank you again for your contributions to the “Backpacks’ for Foster Children in our area! Blessings to you all!

**Gently used Jackets/Clothing and Blankets.** - As the weather starts to cool, let’s think of those that may need a gently used jacket or an extra blanket to take the chill out of the air. Please leave any clothes/blanket donations in the Fellowship Hall. The donations to Salvation Army are greatly appreciated.

**Planning Group** - A ‘big Thank-you’ to our Planning group that provides mats for the homeless. The mats are ‘Blessed’ in a church service before sharing with the community. Members of the Planning group: Barbara Neunfeldt, Marge Sykes, Elisa Amaro (mother of Nancy Sykes), Marge Cullen, Ceil Masterson and Bat Masterson. I also want to thank the people who make anonymous planning balls for this ministry.

**Angel Tree** - Faith Lutheran will provide Christmas presents to Foster children of families, Community Partnership for Children in Volusia, Flagler and Putnam Counties. The ‘Angel Tree’ will be available in the Narthex in November, details to be announced.

## ***Stewardship***

### **The Parable of the Mustard Seed**

[Matthew 13:31-32](#) “The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed, which a man took and planted in his field. Though it is the smallest of all seeds, yet when it grows, it is the largest of garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds come and perch in its branches.” –

The parable of the Mustard Seed emphasizes the power of **small acts of stewardship that can have a significant**

**impact.** The mustard seed, though tiny, grows into a large tree that provides shelter and sustenance for birds. This parable teaches us that even the **smallest acts of stewardship** can bring about positive change and blessings for others.

It encourages us to recognize the value of our actions, no matter how seemingly insignificant, in the grand scheme of stewardship.

### ***Council Meeting***

The date for the November council meeting is Monday, the 11<sup>th</sup>, at 6:30. All members are welcome to attend.

### ***Plarning***

The Plarning group will not meet in November and December due to the holiday season. We will resume in January 2025.

### ***Fellowship Report***

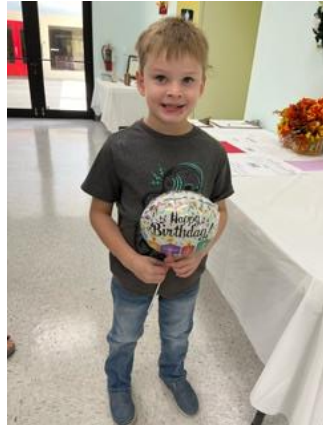
We certainly hope, first of all, that all members of our congregation and their families and all of our regular churchgoers fared that terrible Hurricane Milton with only minimal debris issues. May we never see the likes of him again. Now, to a more pleasant weather topic- don't you all just love the lower temperatures!

We were able to honor two of October's adults who had special days this month. We also celebrated our first child's birthday-that was so cool! Thanks, Copper, for making your day known to us.

Now, about Reformation Sunday's German Feast. After a wonderful service (thank you, Pastor Keeley) with so many wearing red, we followed the aromas to Fellowship Hall. Thank you to the large number of attendees and to each and every one who brought a yummy dish to share. Such good cooks and bakers we have!!

Don't miss the Thanksgiving sign-up sheet!

God's Blessings to all,  
Lynne Meinhold and Cathy Neuhardt



## ***Daniel Perkins Smith Day***

October 20th was certainly a great day for expressing our gratitude to our organist, Dan.

Starting with the beautiful collaboration of Dan on organ and Tina on flute to all the accolades from Pastor and Laura and the most unique, inspiring service led by John (who also gave lovely praise to Dan) and Barbara to Cathy and Lynne for pulling it together along with Dorothy, Kathy and Wendy, it was quite a service. Fellowship Hall was decorated in

Dan's favorite color in case you couldn't tell and filled with much memorabilia from his well-lived life. Again, thank you to all who prepared foods to make Dan happy- what a spread! Bless you, Dan, for sharing your love of music with us.

## ***Game Night***

There will be no game night for the months of November and December. The fun will return in January 2025!

## ***Bridge of Hope***

The next Bridge of Hope opportunity to feed the homeless will be Monday, November 25th at 10:30 AM.

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

Come join us for a very rewarding experience!

Please contact Kathy Mikulski with any questions.  
(410) 507-2826





## ***Thank You***

I want to express my appreciation to all the members of the congregation for your best wishes, cards and especially the delectable food for the vegetarian buffet made the celebration of my tenth anniversary observance at Faith Lutheran Church a memorable day.

Daniel Perkins Smith  
Organist

## **Autumn in NYC**

Summer, grudgingly, is being nudged into an  
Impatient Autumn in Riverside Park.  
Dry curled leaves, golden and brown,  
Spared by joggers, accumulate in the wet  
Grass and under wooden benches.  
Morning has come to the park with a  
Cool stillness while the steadfast  
Hudson River emerges through the trees.

**Daniel Perkins Smith**

**September 2017**



## ***Property***

On Thursday, October 24<sup>th</sup>, Terry Smith's Tree Service cut down 6 trees that had either fallen down or were in danger of falling down in the parking lot areas and were endangering the sheds. This was cleanup that was needed as a result of Hurricane Milton.

On Saturday, October 26<sup>th</sup>, the Boy Scouts offered to pick up the debris that was scattered around the property as a result of Hurricane Milton. This is separate from the work done by the Tree Service.

## ***Gratitude***

A special thank you to the Masterson's for the generous donation that has enabled us to purchase a new lawn mower.

## ***Looking Forward***

Nov. 17 - November Birthdays

Nov. 24 - Thanksgiving Feast

Nov. 30 - Decorate Church

Dec. 1 - 1st Sunday in Advent

Dec. 8 - December Birthdays

Dec. 15- Holiday Brunch



### ***Altar Flowers***

03 Tad Wicklander & Cheryl Masloski – Our 1<sup>st</sup> Date in 2012

10 Bob & Marylou Aldrich – To the Glory of God

17 -----

24 -----

### ***Bulletins***

03 Lynne Meinhold – Celebrate Daughter Lisa's 50<sup>th</sup> Birthday

10 John Meehl – To the Glory of God

17 -----

24 -----

### ***Candles***

John Meehl – To the Glory of God



November 24

Gisela Schafer

November 28

Ken Ackerman



November 15

Jerry & Kathy Mikulski