



the Banner of Faith

FAITH-LILAC WAY

LUTHERAN CHURCH

NOVEMBER 2020

EVENTS

CELEBRATE FAITH-LILAC WAY'S ANNIVERSARY WITH PIE!

SUNDAY, November 22

After 9:30 Parking Lot worship
Even the pandemic can't keep us from celebrating Thanksgiving and the 77th Anniversary of Faith-Lilac Way.

However, we are making a change and will celebrate on Sunday, November 22 following the Parking Lot Worship (about 10:15 AM). Whether you come to Parking lot worship or not, you are invited to drive by the Parking Lot doors to receive a slice of pie in honor of our Anniversary.

FORWARD IN FAITH

We are moving Forward in Faith. Our theme for 2020 was: "20/20 Vision." But, with 20/20 hindsight, we realize we had no idea of the challenges that would come with the pandemic. Of necessity, our plans changed. But we did not give up. We got creative, and together, we persevered. And, we are going Forward in Faith, planning and preparing for 2021.

As we look to the future, our 2021 theme verse is Micah 6:8:
"He has told you, O mortal, what is good, and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?" Micah reminds us that God has already given us more than we could imagine. Our response is to act with justice and loving kindness in our relationships with one another and with God, joyfully supporting God's mission with the time, talents and treasures that God has first given us.

You should have received a stewardship letter and an estimate of giving card in the mail. If you did not, please contact our church office. If you would like to fill out the estimate of giving card online, please go to:

<http://www.faithlilacway.org/give>

And click the
ESTIMATE OF GIVING CARD button.

Thank you again for your generous and faith-filled response!

Together - despite the challenges - we can go Forward in Faith!



A WORD FROM

VICAR KRISTIN

On the eve of the election, I took comfort in meeting up with a couple of my two dearest friends. My friend Deb had just finished a project to upgrade her patio and she was eager to “COVID-entertain” during the brief respite we seemed to be having from the cold weather. We sat ten feet from one another in camp chairs, covered by warm woolen blankets, and enjoyed our favorite college staples: blue cheese bites, copious amounts of chocolate, a little red wine, and the Indigo Girls playing in the background. The sunset was gorgeous that night, and candles lined the steps going up to her porch. We chatted about our kids, our parents, our country. We laughed and held space for all to vent frustrations too. Our get togethers are so few and far between now, not only because of busy family schedules, but now because of COVID. I felt present to my friends and to the joy of being together in a new way, somehow.

Perhaps that is how I have come to understand how to walk with gratitude during this time of pandemic. Gratitude has become less about a posture or an aspiration or perfect words for God, and more about presence: being truly present and in the moment with my loved ones, my church family, the people I encounter when I am out, even the wildlife and plants I see on my walks. Offering my presence to the world has become my prayer of thanksgiving to God.

Because of COVID, I don't know if I will be able to be with my older parents this Thanksgiving to enjoy the one dish my Dad relishes preparing each year: the turkey! But if we are all healthy and it is safe to gather, I won't miss it. I will be physically present, spiritually present...and so grateful to God.

Friends, may your Thanksgiving be filled with simple moments of joy, presence, and gratitude.
In Christ,



PASTOR PAM

I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus 1 Corinthians 1:4

Paul was writing to the people who lived in Corinth, Greece, and these are the words that come to mind when I am writing to you, dear friends in Christ. This has not been an easy year and we are all yearning to get “back to normal” - especially when it comes to going to church.

The Safe Return team has been working hard to find a way to allow us to do just that -- and to do it without endangering our own health or someone else's with the coronavirus. As you know, a person who gets infected with Covid19 may be asymptomatic - they may not know it - and as a result, that healthy-feeling person can infect others who then do get sick. See the council adopted guidelines on page 5.

I was hoping by the time of this letter to be able to definitively state when we would open. Unfortunately, just as I was to make the call, the coronavirus numbers began to spike and so I do not want to put a schedule into print. Please contact me or the church office if you want to be a part of an experimental in-person, in the sanctuary, group of people **when the time comes**.

In the meantime, we will be continuing our other worship options: online, zoom communion, mailed bulletins, and parking lot services. I look a bit like a snowman after I put on four layers of clothing and wear my big sorrel boots for the parking lot service (feel free to chuckle) - but I'm not cold!

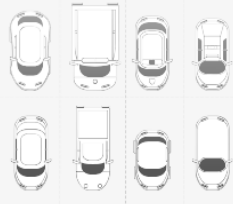
Again, I thank God for you - for your patience and for your resilience in this time. I look forward in faith - that's our theme for 2021! I also look forward with hope for the time in which we can all safely gather under one roof to sing and worship God together! Until that time...

Faithfully yours in Christ,



NOVEMBER WORSHIP OPTIONS

PARKING LOT WORSHIP!



SUNDAYS AT 9:30 AM
(Unless it is below 10 degrees)

As it gets colder... You can be safe and warm in your car, worshipping and singing God's praise. The pastors will be outside - just dressed more warmly!

Bring your own communion elements and bulletin or pick up a prepackaged cup/wafer and printed bulletin.

Park your car facing the church building and tune your FM radio to the station listed on the white board or crack your window to listen through the speakers.

Several Worship Options available in November due to the pandemic. See the Safe Return Plan on page 5 for in-sanctuary worship return.

Sanctuary Worship!



INDOOR SANCTUARY WORSHIP IS NOT YET AVAILABLE.

Please contact the church office on Wednesdays or Thursdays to check to see if sanctuary worship is able to happen that week. If yes, please register because seating is limited. See Council adopted guidelines on page 5.

ONLINE WORSHIP!



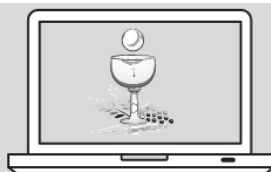
We will continue to offer online worship services complete with liturgy, scripture, a message and music. To access, go to our website: <http://www.faithlilacway.org/online-worship>.

ADVENT BIBLE STUDY **Reflect with the Preacher on the Sermon and Scripture** **Sundays at 11 AM by Zoom**

Did something catch your attention in the sermon? Would you like to explore the scripture in a deeper way? Do you have questions about the direction that the sermon took? Would you like to be a part of a Bible study? If you said "YES!" to any of those questions, then we have an opportunity for you!

Pastor Pam and Vicar Kristin spend a lot of time thinking, praying and writing their sermons - and would love to reflect on the message with you. And, because the sermons are available in written form, you can reflect on them too.

See the website or the weekly email for the zoom link.



HOLY COMMUNION BY ZOOM!

Mini-Services with Communion available via Zoom Sundays at 10:30 AM

See the website <http://www.faithlilacway.org/online-worship> or the weekly email for the zoom link.

SAFE RETURN TO WORSHIP

SANCTUARY SAFETY PLAN

As we work to welcome our congregation back into the sanctuary for worship, your safety, and the safety of others, is our guiding principle. We will continue our online worship experience, parking lot worship (weather permitting) while also transitioning slowly and safely to onsite worship. Onsite worship will require two volunteers for service to take place. We will follow the guidance of the Minnesota Department of Health, the Center for Disease Control (CDC), and the Governor and his team. We welcome your return to the sanctuary when you are ready.

Please read through the following:

1. If you are not feeling well please stay home and worship with us online or in the parking lot.
2. Registration for onsite worship will be requested as we manage the occupancy limits.
 - Registration for the current week's worship will be on Wednesday and Thursday through email office@faithlilacway.org or by phone 763.537.4523
 - When registering please provide the names of all household members planning to attend and a main contact phone number.
 - Worship attendance will be determined and capped depending on case numbers being reported for Hennepin county.
3. Two volunteers are needed for worship to take place. One worship volunteer will check you in at the parking lot doors and invite you in by household groups. A second worship volunteer will take your temperature prior to entering the sanctuary.
4. All worshipers must wear masks, securely covering the nose and mouth.
5. Hand sanitizing stations will be available in the narthex.
6. We know that the virus is primarily spread via aerosols (tiny airborne particles) therefore, all music will be performed by the musicians only and may be recorded rather than live. Congregational singing is a high-risk activity that we will refrain from at this time. Enjoy our talented musicians.
7. Offering will be received by offering plates made available by the sanctuary doors.
8. Please choose a pew marked FLW, keeping physical distance from non-household members.
9. A bulletin will be made available in the narthex.
10. Restrooms on the main floor will be available for your use.
11. Please honor physical distancing practices and remain 6 feet apart from other people.
12. After worshipping you will be dismissed by rows through the back doors, from the back to the front of the sanctuary. Please exit the building and practice physical distancing.

Please contact Pastor Pam or the church office with any questions and concerns.

CHRISTMAS TOY DISTRIBUTION

Due to COVID-19 the event is being modified this year to ensure the utmost safety and still make Christmas brighter for children after this difficult year.

Following are suggestions for church members who would be willing and able to help. Make cash donations to be used to purchase Target gift cards for children. (NEAR has arranged to receive a 15% discount by buying in bulk from Target.)
OR

Make a donation of a Target gift card in denominations of \$10 or \$20.

Small Stocking Stuffer bags will be given to clients when they come in to receive their food between Nov. 23 and Dec. 23.

YOUTH CORNER

CONFIRMATION & HIGH SCHOOL

Confirmation and High School youth meet on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 PM in person when possible and then will meet on zoom. See Pastor Pam or Vicar Kristin for updates.

FACEBOOK

TUESDAY MORNING MEDITATION ON FACEBOOK WITH VICAR KRISTIN



SCAN ME

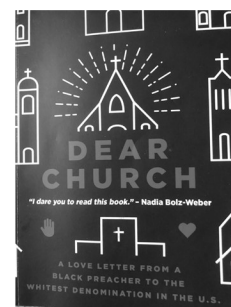
You are invited to make space in your week for a brief online time of meditation with Vicar Kristin. She will light a candle and share prayers that speak into our current uncertainties and ground us in God's presence. Look for a video link on our Facebook page on Tuesday mornings. Here is the QR code for Facebook. Take your phone out, open your camera, scan the code, and click the link. Here is the link to our Facebook also: www.facebook.com/faithlilacway

THURSDAY PRAYERS WITH PASTOR PAM

Join Pastor Pam in November on Thursdays at on Facebook for Prayers of hope, peace and thanksgiving to God. In this time in which there is so much division and challenges - we need to come together as God's people in prayer.

RETURN TO BOOK CLUB... ON ZOOM!

On Wednesdays, 7:30 PM - 8:30 PM, we are reading Lenny Duncan's letter to ELCA congregations: Dear Church. Contact Vicar Kristin at vicar@faithlilacway.org if you would like to join.



THANK YOU

ELCA World Hunger— Dear Faith-Lilac Way, thank you for your gift of \$873.00. As the church grows we believe that God's grace is freely given to us. This brings us peace and hope. You are helping people around the world feel the transformational power of God's love. Thank you for your gracious gifts.

Cherish All Children — Dear Faith-Lilac Way, we are grateful for your gift of \$150.00. Your partnership makes it possible for us to train youth as well as adults to recognize red flags and common tactics predators use. Every child deserves to be loved and protected from anything that can harm them. Thank you so much for your most recent gifts to Cherish All Children.

Luther Seminary — Dear Faith-Lilac Way, thank you for your recent gift of \$200.00 to Luther Seminary. We deeply appreciate your generous support and the impact that it will make! Your gift, helped 101 students graduate, 78% of students didn't have to apply for financial aid, and all M.A. and M.Div. students received 100% tuition jubilee scholarships. We couldn't do it without you! Thank you.

HEALING GOD,

We place in your care all who are ill or in need of health and healing. Protect all who have COVID-19 including Craig Blackman and all of the front line workers who are exposed to the coronavirus. Provide healing and comfort to all who are ill and all living in care facilities, including:

Bev, Beverly, Bob, Brad, Carolyn, Cori, David, George, Helen, Herb, Jacqueline, Jane, Larry, Linda, Lois, Lucas, Margaret, Ramona, Ruth, and Sandy.

We remember with love and care all those who have died in this past year including Bob Putnam, Elizabeth (Betty) Bolte, Edmund Edjie Hajder, who was a long time member and the uncle of Linda Fernelius, and James (Jimmy) Dolence. Comfort and care for families with loved ones who are dying and those who are mourning.

Amen.

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

Pray for, call, email, send a note to these members as they celebrate their birthdays this month. To correct or add a birthday, call the office (763.537.4523) so we can update our records. Thank you.

1st Dennis Engquist

Rol Flom

Colleen Foster

Scott Edstrom

4th Clint Grev

David Peloquin

6th David Wietzke

7th Jessica Swanson

9th Lionel Charboneau

12th Josephine Lindgren

Brianna Overman

13th Evan Kuder

19th Thea Pease

24th Heather Davis

25th Zachary Evans

26th Diane Hesslund

28th Jackie Mueller

Elaine Schmidt

Trevor Shaw

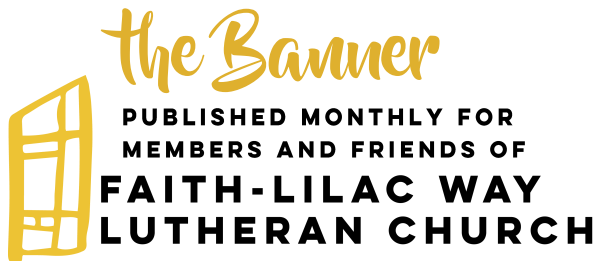
Brendan Shaw

29th Joey Bahneman



Happy
Birthday!





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SUNDAY WORSHIP
ONLINE:
www.faithlilacway.org
PARKING LOT:
9:30 AM

NOVEMBER MISSION



ELCA World Hunger
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

ELCA World Hunger is our November 2020 mission of the month. In our world today more than 820 million people go hungry each day. As members of this church and of the ELCA we are called to respond, and help these people that are in need of nutrition. Let's help to feed the world.

Hunger facts

821 million people around the world - that's more than 1 in 10 - can't access the food they need to live active, healthy lives.

According to the most recent estimates, 736 million people live in extreme poverty on less than \$1.90 per day. That's 10% of the world's population.

At some point in 2017 (the most recent year available), more than 40 million people in the United States were unsure where their next meal might come from.

39.7 million Americans were living in poverty in 2017. For a family of four, this means their annual household income was below \$25,094.

With your giving you are breaking the cycle of hunger and poverty. You are providing sustainable resources to those in need which include health clinics, water wells, community meals and more. Thank you for your generosity.