



Faith Evangelical

Lutheran Church

Walworth, WI

Mission Statement

July 2020

Guided by the Power of the Holy Spirit, we at FELC experience God through **Worship, Learning, Service, and Fellowship.**

Message from Vicar Lily

People of Faith Evangelical Lutheran,

Believe it or not, I have been with you for just over a year! I started with you mid to late June 2019, and I continue to praise God for this opportunity. One of my first sermons here I spoke about this journey of faith I'm on, being a windy road, where my plans have continued to change and modify. My call to ministry has and continues to feel strong even when my legs grow tired, my eyes water from extra screen time. In January we planned and looked toward 2020 with so many ideas and goals, and by mid March we weren't shaking hands while "sharing the peace" during the church services. My oh my... here we are. The only moment that we are certain about is this current moment, and a hope of God's kingdom come, our eternity with Christ, and I am happy to share in this topsy-turvy moment with you. Thank you for your love and grace as we step into the unknown. Let us be united and careful.

The Church Council voted on Monday, June 15th and Pastor Dick and I agreed to work with them to slowly reopen the church. We will start with outdoor services through the Sundays of July, weather permitting. The services will be similar to the virtual, and printed ones but the music will be played from a recording, communion will be distributed at the end of the service, as a drive up and we will keep our 6ft distance. And as some might not be ready to gather just yet, you can join us "live" online. If we cannot be outside due to weather, I will still have the services "livestreamed" online for viewing, where I will be inside the church with one other to videotape, and you will watch at home as we have been, as we cannot all be together inside just yet. Since we will meet in the parking lot for the service we will start at 9am and keep it short to beat the heat.

Additionally throughout July we are allowing church sponsored groups of amounts of 10 and under to meet again, as long as they can keep the 6ft distance and clean up after themselves.

We will have more specifics regarding safety and expectations for cleaning in the small indoor gatherings that will be displayed in our gathering space. Next to that will be a generous donation of masks, if anyone needs one. As we continue to live within a pandemic please proceed with caution, please make educated and safe decisions, please reach out if you need anything! So much love to you all in these crazy moments as we continue to find beautiful ways to show up for our community. Looking forward to seeing one another again!

Love and Peace,
Vicar Lily Brellenthin

If you want to reach me by the pastor phone, call or text at 262-812-3064, or email at pastor@felcwalworth.com



A Message from Pastor Inglett

Congregational Conversation on Race Relationships from our Christian Identity Report

Approximately 20 people attended our conversation about race relationships on June 4 at 7:00 p.m.. The people who attended reported that they were primarily there to listen. This was the case for the entire evening. People were able to share insights, painful moments, confusion and personal lack of awareness and they were heard and respected. That goal of the gathering was met because of the integrity and vulnerability of the participants.

After sharing who we were and why we were present the conversation moved to sharing some basic ground rules and a reminder of our Christian identity rooted in baptism. We came together first and foremost as the baptized children of God who among other things were promised to be taught and given the opportunity to, according to our Baptism – “Strive for justice and peace in all the earth.” We also have the shared identity that we claimed when at our confirmation, we promised to “Strive for justice and peace in all the earth.” Finally, people were reminded that they called a pastor and in that call document you said the pastor “shall speak for Justice on behalf of the poor and oppressed.”

As we shared our past and formative experiences that inform how we think, feel, and behave today in connection to race relationships the vast majority of us realized we have been isolated and insulted from direct and personal interaction with African Americans. Most of what we shared was anecdotal or limited experiences. What we perceive about race in our community and nation is what we have been presented or taught not what we know and can speak of with any authority or authenticity. This was a helpful realization for nearly all of us. We do not know enough to even ask the right questions or move in any direction.

In regard to how our Christian faith informs what we think, feel and do we were nearly all in agreement on two things. First, that our faith calls us to forgive and love others as Jesus modeled forgiveness and love for the outcast, different than us, oppressed, the other. Second, we realized that we must start by examining ourselves and specifically our sinful prejudice, our bias, our racism. I found both of these insights refreshing. Forgive, love, and confession of sin are pretty basic to our Lutheran Christian faith that we all might take a little more time to practice.

Finally, we discussed where we might go from here? At least half of the participants said we need to continue the conversation with a more specific focus. Second, we need to be educated on what it is to be African-American in our present culture and time. More than half of the participants agreed that it would be helpful to partner with our sister, urban congregation Midvale Lutheran in Madison.



A Message from Pastor Inglett

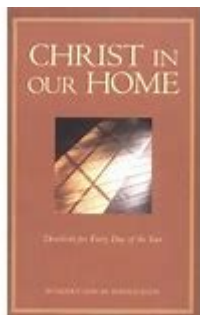
Racism and Christian Faith 101

Follow-up to our Conversation about Race relationships at Sugar Creek Lutheran as informed by our Christian Faith. As you read in the report from our June conversation one of the things that the participants wanted to move to next is education about Racism in our culture.

To meet that request I am offering a Racism basics workshop on Wednesday evening July 15 at 6:00 p.m. I have to tell you this workshop that I am leading is not out of some expertise I possess or training I have had. I will be researching and then learning along with you about topics such as race, racism, prejudice, stereotyping, implicit bias, white privilege, white supremacy (which by the way is not what I thought it was) and what it means to be white in America.

The way I look at this learning is that I have never examined who I am as a white person in our rural Wisconsin reality. This is the way I am approaching all of these subjects. First, I want to strip away my defenses and become aware. Second, I would like to have a common language and agree about common terms so that we can actually have a common dialogue. This workshop is for you if you want to learn, look at yourself and who you are and how you are in the world. This workshop will not be a defense or judgement of anything. It will be us wading in and getting to know the very water we live in and have rarely examined. As a very wise Greek philosopher (Socrates) once said the unexamined life is not worth living. I want my life to be worth living and I invite those who feel the same about their life to join me.

We will meet outside of the Sugar Creek fellowship hall doors at 6:00 p.m. on July 15. Face masks are required and you are encouraged to bring your own lawn chair. Hope to see you there for an evening of learning and growth.



“Christ in Our Home” books are available for pick up during regular office hours. Stop by to get a copy. Large print books area also available.



Adult Opportunities



Bakers Needed!

If you can help bake communion bread, please contact Gail Nelson at gdn@charter.net or (262) 745-9623.

A HUGE **THANK YOU** to Vera Maurer for her ministry to FELC in baking communion bread for worship for many years!

The church & criminal justice
Health & health care genetics
The death penalty, human sexuality

This discussion group is not planning to resume meeting at this time.

ELCA Social Statements

Church in society, Education
Race, ethnicity & culture
Gender, sexual orientation

Next Topic of Discussion: The ELCA Social Statement on Genetics

Ways to stay connected to the Church:

- ♦ Facebook: Follow our page so you don't miss a post. Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church (Walworth Wisconsin)
- ♦ Website: Links to worship services, Vicar Lily's Reflections, and Pastor Dick's Sermons. www.felcwalworth.com
- ♦ South Central Synod of Wisconsin Community Page contains messages from Bishop Rogness and many other resources. <https://scsw-elca.org/community/>



This Potluck Luncheon is an important ministry to us; however, to best care for our congregation, we will not be meeting at this time.



Wednesdays at 9:15am

When the weather is nice we will meet outside the front door of the church, under the awning. If the weather is bad, this group will not meet.

Women of the ELCA

DATE CHANGE FOR JULY



Current Book: *Expecting Adam: A True Story of Birth, Rebirth, and Everyday Magic* by Martha Beck

We will discuss Chapters 25-the end of the book on **Tuesday, July 21 at 7pm.**

We will be meeting at church, weather permitting, sitting outside.

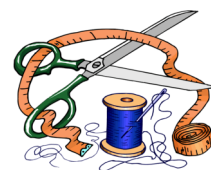
Faith Sew-ers

Wednesdays at 10 a.m.

We are meeting again, but keeping our social distance.

Sheets needed for Quilts!

Dark colors are preferred. Please bring donations to the church.





Children & Youth Opportunities



Food, Fun, and Friends
(without the food)

Thursday, July 30

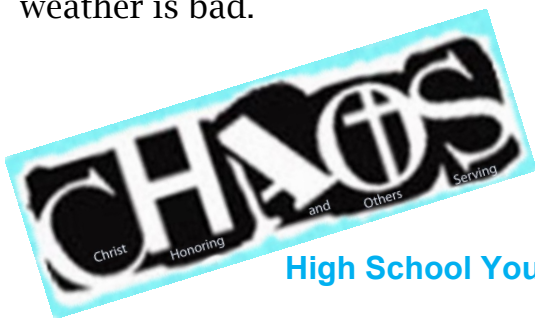
Wednesday, August 19

1-3:30pm—all outdoors

Games, Music, Crafts & More

All children 3 years old-8th grade are welcome.

**Alternative dates will be chosen if the weather is bad.



High School Youth Group

CHAOS meetings will continue on the 3rd Sunday of the month at 5pm.

Next Meeting: Sunday, July 19

Contact Rebecca if you would like the meeting information or if you would like to be added to our group text. education@felcwalworth.com or

(608) 728-2798

Also, keep an eye out for the CHAOS on Instagram. [@chaos_felc](https://www.instagram.com/chaos_felc)

Faith Formation

Back to School With God Sunday

August 23, 2020

- Blessing of bags
- Faith Formation registration
- Faith Formation schedules
- Confirmation registration

Ecumenical Community Backpack and School Supply Drive

St. Benedict's Catholic Parish has once again invited us to join in their community backpack and school supply drive.

However, instead of filling backpacks with school supplies this year, in light of COVID-19, we will only be collecting money. The money FELC collects will go directly to Walworth Elementary and Middle School to help buy supplies for students in need.

We have been in contact with Walworth school and there is a significant need for school supplies this year and all money is guaranteed to go directly to supplies for students.

Donations can be sent to FELC and marked "Backpack Drive". We will be accepting donations from now through August 10.

Thank you in advance for your generosity!

2021 ELCA Youth Gathering
Minneapolis, MN
June 29-July 3

Please contact Rebecca Roehl at education@felcwalworth.com with any questions, suggestions, or to volunteer.



- ◆ Synod Assembly is happening August 1. Kristi Reiersen and John Schwenn will represent our church and vote for bishop, synod leadership, and on resolutions on behalf of our congregation.
- ◆ You can watch bishop nominee forums at <https://scsw-elca.org/2020bishopelection/> to learn more about the four candidates being considered for our Bishop of the South Central Synod of Wisconsin.
- ◆ Usually our church fills 20 backpacks with school supplies for students in need at Walworth Elementary and Middle School. Due to the challenges presented with COVID-19 we will be collecting money this year to give to Walworth School to purchase school supplies for students in need.

Thank You

To My Church Family,

Thank you. My faith would be very different had you not been by my side. I've never felt unwanted in the loving church. I felt comfortable being myself around you all, you accept me for who I am. You reminded me of God and all His plans for me. Thank you for everything you've done.

Taylor Weborg

P.S. Thank you for the blanket!

- ◆ The wall in the sanctuary has been raised and the projection system is scheduled to be installed June 30-July 2.
- ◆ We need 5-7 people each week to help with outdoor worship. Ushers and people to direct traffic, Communion Assistants, and people to help with set-up and clean-up. Contact Vicar Lily if you can help.
- ◆ Sheets are used to back quilts. The Faith Sew-ers are looking for donations of sheets. Twin bed size or larger, flat or fitted. Dark colors are preferred.
- ◆ The church garden has been planted. Produce from this garden is donated to the Big Foot Emergency Food Pantry.
- ◆ The church office is open from 10am-Noon Monday-Friday.
- ◆ You can contact Vicar Lily via pastor@felcwalworth.com or (262) 812-3064.



Looking ahead through July with scripture:

July 5th: Fifth Sunday after Pentecost:

[Psalm 145:8-14](#): The Lord is gracious and full of compassion.

[Romans 7:15-25a](#): The struggle within the self

[Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30](#): The yoke of discipleship

July 12th, Sixth Sunday after Pentecost:

[Psalm 65:\[1-8\] 9-13](#): Your paths overflow with plenty.

[Romans 8:1-11](#): Live according to the Spirit

[Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23](#): The parable of the sower and the seed

July 19th: Seventh Sunday after

Pentecost:

[Psalm 86:11-17](#): Teach me your way, O Lord, and I will walk in your truth.

[Romans 8:12-25](#): The revealing of the children of God

[Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43](#): The parable of the weeds

July 26th, Eighth Sunday after

Pentecost:

[Psalm 119:129-136](#): When your word is opened, it gives light and understanding.

[Romans 8:26-39](#): Nothing can separate us from God's love

[Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52](#): Parables of the reign of heaven

Outdoor Worship:

As we step into something new we ask for patience and grace.

Each Sunday of July we will gather outside in the parking lot.

9am service, you are welcome to bring your own chair and maybe an umbrella for the sun.

We are encouraged to wear masks, and we will be keeping our distance.

To stay safe and organized we will only enter the Devil's Lane side, park and join us!

Communion will be served under the canopy in cars as we exit the parking lot.



Prayers for Hope & Healing: Pat Grams, Shirley Heyer, Evie Andersen

Ongoing Prayers for Healing: Fran Winston (Pam Christensen's sister), Chuck Christenson (Angie Kynell's father), Kay O'Toole (Kris Strehlow's sister), Mike O'Toole (Strehlow's brother-in-law), Rick Montag (Kris Strehlow's brother), Jonathan Carlton (grandson-in-law of Arnell's), Tom Fredrick (Stephanie Freimund's father), Steve Jacobson (Angie Kynell's cousin), Kristi Hugunin (friend of Rachel's), all service men & women, Sofia Zematis (neighbor of Christensens), Bruce Lewis, Jean Null & family, Kim Christiansen (Lisa Voss' sister), Renae Clinton (friend of Rachel's), Marques Brugger, Reita Erickson (Rachel's aunt), Interim Bishop Peter Rogness & the synod staff, Wim Henebiens & Aria Pierce (friends of Rachel), Miles Kadlec, Madeline Zindrick, Rebecca Blonsky-Nummelin (Rachel's niece), Yvonne Reynolds (friend of Gail Connelly), Christine Helke-Larsen's son, Glenn Larsen, Debbie Maresso (neighbor of Tildahls), Dorothy Eckert (Gert Moritz's sister), Tom Connelly (Gail's husband), Denise Robertson (cousin-in-law of Gail Connelly), all victims of violence

You Can Help

Can you spare an hour a month to help out area homebound seniors with a hot meal? Faith Lutheran is looking for Meals on Wheels volunteers to join our team. Every month, Faith Lutheran schedules volunteers to deliver prepared meals at the noon hour, on week days, to seniors in Walworth and Fontana. Meals are picked up at the Fontana Community Center/police station at 11am and delivered to participants within the hour. Training and mileage reimbursement are available. This program has been instrumental in keeping seniors safe and healthy in their homes, and that was never more apparent then during the Covid19 crisis. And we continue to protect our volunteers as well as participants with guidelines that were put in place to prevent the spread of the virus, early on.

Won't you consider sharing an hour of your time each month to help out your neighbors? The remainder of the 2020 dates, that Faith Lutheran is scheduled to deliver, are the weeks of: July 20-24th, Aug 24-28th, Sept 28-Oct2, Nov 2-6, and Dec 7-11th. And don't be discouraged by the "commitment", since many volunteers go away for the winter, or have vacations planned etc., we always have subs ready to drive in a pinch. Please contact Colleen Lesniak, Walworth County Volunteer Services manager at 262-741-4223 or email clesniak@co.walworth. Thank you so much.



Faith Evangelical

Lutheran Church
Walworth, WI

Contact Us:

Address: 420 Read Street P.O. Box 128, Walworth WI 53184

Telephone: 262-275-3445

Website: www.felcwalworth.com

Church Office Hours:

Monday-Friday 10 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Staff

Vicar Lily Brellenthin

Pastor cell phone: 262-812-3064

Email: pastor@felcwalworth.com

Gail Connelly, Secretary

Email: secretary@felcwalworth.com

Rebecca Roehl, Director of Children, Youth, and Family Ministries

Email: education@felcwalworth.com

Congregation Council 2020

Executive Team

Tracy Volbrecht, President

Elizabeth Hemmerich, Vice President

Gail Nelson, Secretary

Bill Clark, Treasurer

Congregation Council meetings are
held at 7:30 p.m.
on the third Monday of the month.

All are welcome to attend.

Committee Liaisons

Amanda Bender, Youth

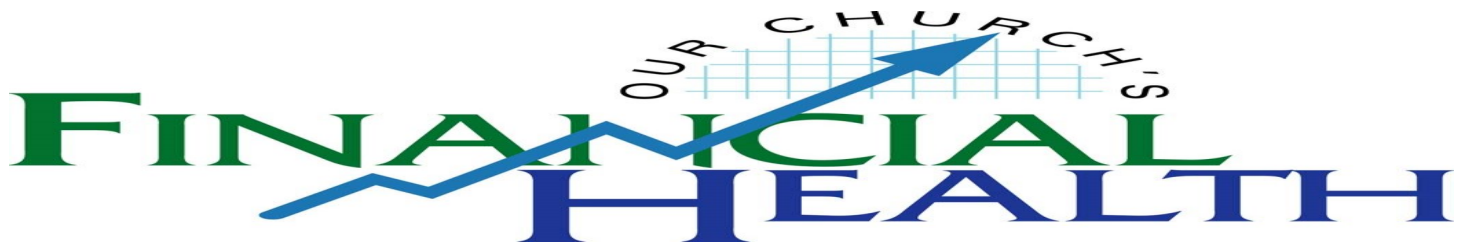
Penny Gruetzmacher, Stewardship

Brent Tildahl, Finance

Diane Voss, Learning

Perry Weborg, Property





**Monthly Financial Report
May 31, 2020**

Cash Received:		
From Envelopes, Special Contributions, and Others	\$6,921	
From Memorials/Dedicated (or transferred)	<u>0</u>	
Total Cash Received		\$6,921
Cash Paid:		
Operating Expenses*	\$5,612	
Synod Benevolence	892	
Committees	30	
For Memorials/Dedicated (or transferred)	<u>0</u>	
Total Cash Paid		<u>6,534</u>
Monthly Change in Cash (Cash Rec'd – Cash Paid)		387
Checking Account Balance, May 1, 2020		15,130
Checking Account Balance, May 31, 2020		15,517

* Includes changes in non-cash assets, current liabilities, and restricted transfers

** Includes monthly and specific donations

Unrestricted Cash Balance

Checking Account	15,517	
Mission Investment Fund***	110,092	
Endowment Fund (Fund A)	<u>270,973</u>	
Subtotal		396,582
Less: Memorials/Dedications/Restricted Cash		<u>23,150</u>
Unrestricted Cash Balance		373,432

Year to Date Information

	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>
From Members to General Fund (Through May 31, 2020) **	47,167	55,184
Total Expenses	55,143	44,039

Memorial/Dedicated/Restricted Information

Balance, May 1, 2020	23,150
New Dedicated	
Larry Volbrecht – Build Projection Wall	(400)
Balance, May 31, 2020	22,750

***Interest of \$809.21 was recorded in April 2020 but was not included in April reports.