



Faith Evangelical

Lutheran Church

Walworth, WI

Mission Statement

December 2020

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

A Message from Vicar Lily

People of Faith Evangelical Lutheran,

I am reminded by my son's second birthday that time moves too fast and precious moments

need to be appreciated. We have been have been spending so much time together as a family through this pandemic. Some days we watch too many cartoons, some days we eat too many sweets, but we live without regrets and share in so much silliness.

When I think of the holiday parties and moments that might be postponed to next year I am learning to find the pure beauty in the simplicity. I found this image online and it moved me. When we get caught up in the "what ifs" we must remember to appreciate the "what we have's".

The first Christmas sure looked different than what we come to know as Christmas now and sometimes it pays to bring it back to the humble beginnings.

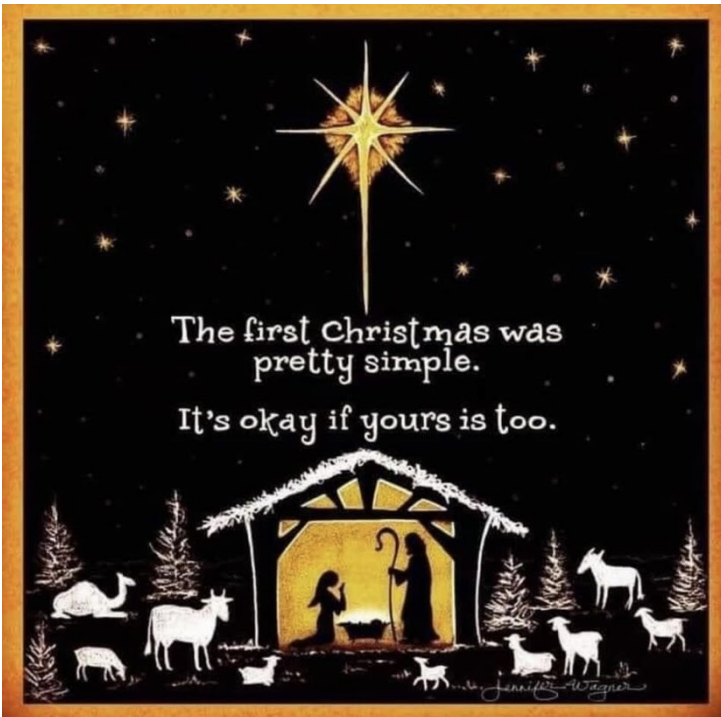
The season of Advent has begun and each week we will have a different focus:

hope, peace, joy and love. Each focus will help us prepare for our savior's birth.

All are then welcome and invited to join at the church on Christmas Eve for a live nativity. What a beautiful way to come together and share in this holy moment. Blessings as you prepare at home!

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 me at pastor@felcwalworth.com



Message from Pastor Dick Inglett and the Executive Committee

Internship Update:

It is hard to believe that at the end of December we will have only five months left in our internship relationship with Vicar Lily. It has been and continues to be a relationship that supports the life of Faith Lutheran congregation. As we move toward the end of this relationship our focus has moved to transition from Internship to called Pastor. We have been working with the Region 5 coordinator, synod office, Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago and the synod's candidacy committee to make this a smooth transition. This past month the executive committee of Faith Lutheran met with Pastor Inglett to discuss budgeting and staffing options. It was a Holy Spirit moment when the desires, plans and hopes of Faith Lutheran congregation, congregational leadership and Vicar Lily all came together. Rest assured that we are doing everything we can to finish Vicar Lily's internship relationship to be as full and focused as possible so that she can be well prepared to be an Ordained Pastor of Word and Sacrament at Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church.

We cannot thank you all enough for the generous, grace-filled, outward looking, mission focused support that the people of Faith Lutheran have given to this process.



Safety Reminders from the FELC Council

At this time, due to the rising number of COVID-19 cases in Walworth County and based on recommendations by health officials and the Wisconsin Council of Churches, Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church Council has decided to some new safety precautions.

- In-person worship will be suspended at this time. Join us for virtual worship.
- Faith Formation classes for grades preK-6 will move to virtual.
- Groups of more than 10 will not be allowed to meet/gather in the church building.
- Face coverings will continue to be required in the church building.
- Hand sanitizer will be available for your use at multiple places throughout the church.
- Continue to sign-in if you are in the building for contact tracing purposes.
- Please be mindful of social distancing.

FELC Council will reassess the COVID-19 situation in our area and our church policies at their next meeting on Monday, December 21.



Scripture readings for December:

December 6: 2nd Sunday of Advent

[Isaiah 40:1-10](#) *Good news of God's coming to a people in exile*

[Psalm 85: 1-2, 8-13](#) *Righteousness shall prepare a pathway for God*

[2 Peter 3:8-15a](#) *Waiting for and hastening the day of God*

[Mark 1: 1-8](#) *John appears from the wilderness*

December 13: 3rd Sunday of Advent

[Isaiah 61: 1-4, 8-11](#) *Righteousness and praise flourish like a garden*

[Psalm 126](#) *The Lord has done great things for us*

[1 Thessalonians 5:16-24](#) *Kept in faith until the coming of Christ*

[John 1:6-8, 19-28](#) *A witness to the light*

December 20: 4th Sunday of Advent

[2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16](#) *The Lord's promise to David*

[Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26](#) *Your love, O Lord, forever will I sing*

[Romans 16:25-27](#) *The mystery of God revealed in Jesus Christ*

[Luke 1:26-38](#) *The angel appears to Mary*

December 24: Christmas Eve

[Isaiah 9:2-7](#) *Light shines: a child is born for us*

[Psalm 96](#) *Let the heavens rejoice and the earth be glad*

[Titus 2:11-14](#) *The grace of God has appeared*

[Luke 2: 1-14\[15-20\]](#) *God with us*

December 25: Christmas Day

[Isaiah 62](#) *God comes to restore the people*

[Psalm 97](#) *Light dawns for the righteous, and joy for the honest of heart*

[Titus 3:4-7](#) *Saved through water and the spirit*

[Luke 2:\[1-7\] 8-20](#) *The birth of the Messiah revealed to shepherds*

December 27: 1st Sunday of Christmas

[Isaiah 61:10—62:3](#) *Clothed in garments of salvation*

[Psalm 148](#) *The splendor of the Lord is over earth and heaven*

[Galatians 4:4-7](#) *Children and heirs of God*

[Luke 2:22-40](#) *The presentation of the child*

WORSHIP



Watch your email or follow us on Facebook (@FaithEvangelicalLutheranWalworth) for a link to our virtual Christmas Eve worship. It is our community of faith that brings us together.



Our annual Lessons and Carols service will be held on Sunday, December 27. This worship will include music from many different voices of our church. This year you will be able to sing along and enjoy this spiritual experience from the comfort of your own home.



Prayers for Hope & Healing: Shirley Heyer, Jean Kovarik, Kris Strehlow

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), 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), 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 and her son, Glenn Larsen, Debbie Maresso (neighbor of Tildahls), Denise Robertson (cousin-in-law of Gail Connelly),

General Prayers: our siblings in Christ that are victims of violence, people committed to serving our country, health care professionals, essential workers, and all affected by this pandemic.



Adult Opportunities

Opportunities for Serving on Church Council

FELC Congregational Council is looking for three members to serve on council, each for a three-year term. Church council provides an opportunity for you to become involved in FELC in a meaningful way as a leader and a decision maker. Please prayerfully consider how you could use your gifts to serve Faith Evangelical Lutheran. Contact any council member with questions or if interested.



Please contact Rebecca Roehl, 608-728-2798, if you are interested in helping ring bells for the Salvation Army for one hour on Friday, December 11 at Daniel's Sentry Foods in Walworth.



VOLUNTEER BELL RINGERS NEEDED!
Ring a bell...help change a life

Committee Meetings:

Worship Committee Next meeting: Tuesday, December 8 at 6:00pm
Agenda: Worship planning

Learning Committee Next meeting: Thursday, December 3 at 7:00pm
Agenda: Live Nativity

WHAT MATTERS - Stay Connected To Synod Happenings, News, & Events!

Stay connected to exciting events and stories of our faith in action in our synod! To sign up for synod news "What Matters", please email Assistant to the Bishop for Synodical Life, Deacon Vicki Hanrahan at vickih@scsw-elca.org

For other great information check out our synod website: www.scsw-elca.org

Women of the ELCA



Wednesdays at 9:15am

Bring your mask and join us in the Gathering Space for conversation and Christian fellowship.



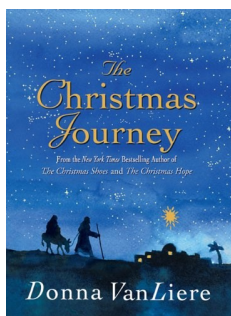
Tuesday, December 8 at 7:00pm

New Book:

The Christmas Journey
Meeting will be hybrid fashion via zoom and in the gathering space.

All are welcome.

Contact Rebecca Roehl for more information.

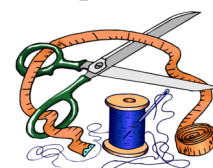


Faith Sew-ers

Wednesdays at 10 a.m.

We are meeting again, but keeping our social distance.

Join us for Quilt Making and Christian Fellowship





Children & Youth Opportunities



High School Youth Group

Cookie Baking/Decorating
Saturday, December 19 at 9am

Cookie Distribution
Sunday, December 20 4:00-6:00pm

We need all youth to help with this annual fundraiser.

CHAOS usually meets the 3rd Sunday of every month at 5pm at the church. Next "regular" meeting will be Sunday, January 17.

If you would like to be added to our group text, contact Rebecca at (608) 728-2798

Follow CHAOS on Instagram. @chaos_felc

Let us help with your
Christmas Baking



See order form at the end of this newsletter.



Confirmation Classes

Wednesday Evenings
6:00-7:00pm

Confirmation Class will continue to meet in-person at this time. December classes will be held on Wednesdays the 2nd, 9th, and 15th.

Faith Formation

Classes for students preK-6th grade are currently not meeting due to the increasing COVID-19 numbers.



Virtual lessons, including a short video and discussion prompts, will be sent via email to faith formation families on Wednesdays. The video will also be posted on FELC's Facebook page.

Please watch your email for more information as it becomes available.

Please contact Rebecca Roehl, Director of Children, Youth, and Family Ministries at education@felcwalworth.com or 608-728-2798 with any questions, suggestions, or to volunteer.

Join us Christmas Eve for the unique experience only a live nativity can offer. Drive thru and enjoy our **Live Nativity** on **Thursday, December 24 from 4:30-5:30pm**. Animals, music, prayer, lights, and more. Come prepared for an intimate encounter with Christmas.





- ♦ Church groups that are meeting indoors are limited to ten (10) people. Remember to sign the register on the counter in the Gathering Space.
- ♦ Virtual worship services will be available each week. Also look for weekly updates and special messages on-line from Vicar Lily.
- ♦ Even though FELC did not participate this year, the annual Crop Walk went on as scheduled. 82 walkers participated and raised \$13,514. This money was donated to help fight world hunger and a portion will be returned to our local food pantries.
- ♦ Watch for weekly email communications including prayer requests and announcements

Help us care for one another as we can!

- ⇒ Put a mask on when entering the church. Extra masks are available in the gathering space.
- ⇒ Sign in for accountability.
- ⇒ Disinfect main surfaces used before exiting church.



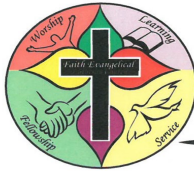
- ♦ Annual committee reports are due before the church council meeting on December 21.
- ♦ The finance committee is still working on the church budget for 2021. If you have not turned in your pledge card, please consider doing so soon.
- ♦ Vicar Lily and Pastor Dick are available for open door meetings Tuesdays from 10am-noon. Please feel free to stop by and connect with them.
- ♦ Watch for new faces taking part in worship during advent with our virtual advent wreath lighting.

Thank You

- ♦ To the Worship Team for a smooth transition to virtual worship.
- ♦ To Everyone who donated to the Walworth Elementary and Middle School Gift Card Drive. We collected \$310 worth of gift cards to help local families with Christmas this year. THANK YOU for your generosity!

It is with heartfelt appreciation and gratitude that the family of Julie Churchill wishes to thank everyone for their kindness, thoughts and prayers, following the loss of Julie. Your many expressions of sympathy were very much appreciated.

Gratefully, Grace Churchill



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:

Tuesdays 10:00-Noon

Please contact any staff member or leave a message,
and we will get back to you as soon as possible.

Thank you for your patience at this time.

Staff

Vicar Lily Brellenthin

Pastor cell phone: 262-812-3064

Email: pastor@felcwalworth.com

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

Email: education@felcwalworth.com

Call or text: 608-728-2798

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

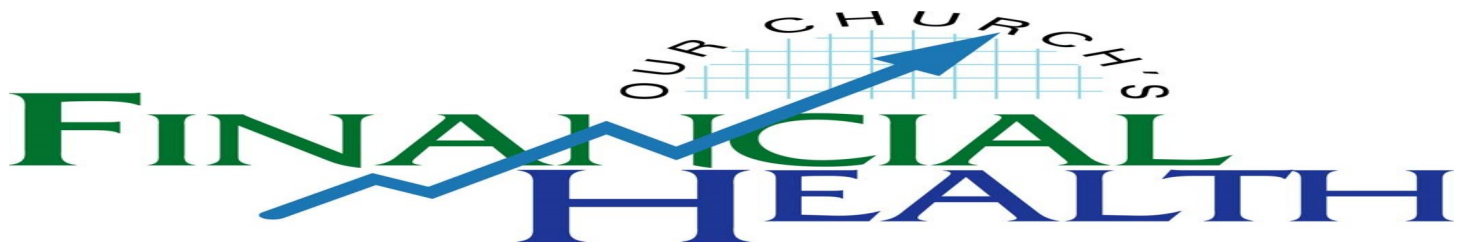
Penny Gruetzmacher, Stewardship

Brent Tildahl, Finance

Diane Voss, Learning

Perry Weborg, Property





Monthly Financial Report October 31, 2020

Cash Received:		
From Envelopes, Special Contributions, and Others	\$4,895	
From Memorials/Dedicated (or transferred)	<u>100</u>	
Total Cash Received		\$4,995
Cash Paid:		
Operating Expenses*	\$6,816	
Synod Benevolence	892	
Committees	1,140	
For Memorials/Dedicated (or transferred)	<u>400</u>	
Total Cash Paid		<u>9,248</u>
Monthly Change in Cash (Cash Rec'd – Cash Paid)		(4,253)
Checking Account Balance, October 1, 2020		6,809
Checking Account Balance, October 31, 2020		2,556

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

** Includes monthly and specific donations

Unrestricted Cash Balance

Checking Account	2,556	
Mission Investment Fund***	111,747	
Endowment Fund (Fund A)	<u>276,681</u>	
Subtotal	390,984	
Less: Memorials/Dedications/Restricted Cash		<u>9,162</u>
Unrestricted Cash Balance		381,822

Year to Date Information

	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>
From Members to General Fund (Through Oct 31, 2020) **	92,584	97,259
Total Expenses	108,618	84,307

Memorial/Dedicated/Restricted Information

Balance, October 1, 2020	9,462
New Dedicated	
Youth Group	100
Youth Group	(400)
Balance, October 31, 2020	9,162



Let us help with your Christmas Baking

Fresh baked cut-out sugar cookies available by the dozen- frosted or unfrosted from CHAOS Youth Group.



Cookies will be baked and frosted by the youth. Cookies will be ready for pick up between 4:00 and 6:00pm on Sunday, December 20. Please make other arrangements for delivery if you cannot pick up your cookies on Dec. 20.

Please return form below by Tuesday, December 15 to the church or email Rebecca Roehl at education@felcwalworth.com

Name and phone number:

_____ Dozen **Frosted** cut-out sugar cookies for \$7 per dozen

_____ Dozen **Unfrosted** cut-out sugar cookies for \$6 per dozen

\$_____ Total Amount Due

Payment can be included with order or you can pay at the time of pick up. Please make checks payable to: Faith Ev Lutheran Church with "cookies" in the memo line

_____ I will pick up cookies on Sunday, Dec. 20 between 4:00 and 6:00pm

_____ I need to make arrangements for delivery please