



# Faith Evangelical

## Lutheran Church

### Walworth, WI

## Mission Statement

June 2021

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

### *A Message from Vicar Lily*

After a busy May I am finding some refuge in writing, reading, cleaning and trying my best to be present. I am over the moon about our congregational vote at Faith coming up. We have been through so much together and I am so excited for what is to come. I have spent much time reflecting on this pandemic which covered over half of our time together thus far. Beyond the pandemic we have had national crises, and wars around the world. I am trying to find little takeaways or learnings with me. In my search I came across this poem with an unknown author and I am just sitting with these words. I invite you to do the same.

#### Pandemic of Peace

What if peace spread like a plague  
From person to person,  
City to city, country to country,  
Where everyone was under  
A strict order to love their neighbor as themselves  
& uphold lovingkindness  
With their whole heart,  
Their whole mind,  
Their whole soul,  
& with all of their strength?

A pandemic of peace would sweep the world.

And through my understanding of God's kingdom, I believe this "pandemic of peace" to be just that.

"Lord, we ask for your kingdom come, be present here, guide us."

Let us pray this every day.

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](mailto:pastor@felcwalworth.com)





At our late April Town Hall meetings a snapshot of our congregation and community was shared with those in attendance. These snapshots are included in this month's newsletter.

They serve both as a summation of our Town Hall meeting conversations and who we are as a congregation poised to serve our community.

## ***Congregation Reflections – Spring 2021***

Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church is a congregation that has seen much change in the last decade. In the present moment there is the perception that Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church is more hopeful, feels more positive about itself and its ministry and is more welcome and open than it has been in the past five years. This hope for growth is tempered by the declining demographics of both communities and rural, mainline denomination churches like Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church. There is the fear, coupled with that perception, that we will wither at the vine or not be able to continue our present trajectory.

Reflecting back to March and April of 2020 when COVID shut things down, the congregation and leadership narrowed its focus to its three most important values: worship, Faith Formation and congregational connection, all with an eye on safety for the most vulnerable in our midst. These values and foci are reflected in many of Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church's perceived strengths and identity in the community.

Worship is the piece that supports and uplifts people in the congregation whether it is the music, the personality of the Vicar or the Wednesday evening family worship experience. The youth in the congregation feel the church is moving away from just being that "church across from the high school" to a place that is open for all youth and is offering quality relationship-building opportunities. There is a disconnect when it comes to the welcoming face that Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church would like to put forward and the actual practice of being a welcoming congregation.

The community perception of Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church is as a church that is out in the community helping wherever there is a need: food pantry, homeless shelter, free clinic, community VBS. These are some examples of how Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church pulls together around community projects. Our strengths are that we are generous, we have people who will help when asked, and we cooperate well with other community churches and community organizations. Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church also has very dedicated people who do the everyday work of running the church and leaders who are creative and innovative in many areas of church life.

Finally, Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church needs to celebrate the two-year internship we are now completing with Vicar Lily Brellenthin. We feel fortunate and look forward to having Vicar Lily become Pastor Lily. We give thanks for each other's gifts and strengths. We look forward to a future where this pastor and this congregation will meet the needs of our congregation and our community.

Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church is a congregation looking to do God's will for all people. We praise God for giving us leaders, flawed but faithful, to reform the brokenness in our world, our churches and our community.



### ***Community Reflections -Spring 2021***

The demographics of Walworth were surprising to the committee in the following ways: the average age of Walworth is lower than expected and much lower than the average of the congregation. The community is poorer than realized, and there are pockets of housing in the community that reflect that poverty. Affordable and available housing is a definite need in the community. The increase of the Hispanic population over the last decade in Walworth reflects the younger age and family size demographic of the community that is not present in the congregation. There is also relatively little mixing between the white and Hispanic communities. Like the majority of Walworth County, Walworth is primarily conservative in its political and world view. The community is more transient than it was ten to fifteen years ago.

Walworth is a community whose past identity (*The Friendly Village on the Square*) does not reflect its present reality. The square is no longer the gathering space that it once was. In addition, the community is divided as witnessed in the multiple school districts that feed into the high school which maintains a distance between Walworth and its surrounding communities.

Walworth has maintained a slow and controlled growth that has served to keep its identity as a rural community with some manufacturing. The lake, recreation and tourist identity of the Geneva Lake and Delavan Lake communities also influences the community. Like many rural areas and small towns, the high school is still at the center of the community.

The hurts and hopes of Walworth and, therefore, opportunities for ministry include a lack of unity, large areas of separation and a grief that we are not who we used to be. There is a need for leadership to guide the community into a new identity. Young Hispanic families with school-age children is a growing demographic that is somewhat isolated in the community and missing at Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church. The hopes and gifts of the congregation are its generosity and pockets of people who are willing to serve the community. Assets to the community include the new athletic complex at the high school, larger employers like Kikkoman, and established businesses that are generous with the community. The lack of available and affordable housing is being addressed by the community.

Although Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church is simply viewed, by many in the community, as “that church by the high school”. There is also the perception that Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church is known for being a community partner in service to the poor and underserved. Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church has been involved in starting the food pantry, the Open Arm free clinic and the area men’s homeless shelter. The community meal, 5K run and exercises classes sponsored through the Rec Department are well-known and appreciated by the community.



## Scripture readings for June:

### June 6: Second Sunday After Pentecost

**Genesis 3:8-15** God confronts Adam and Eve in the garden

**Psalms 130** Wait for the LORD, for with the LORD there is steadfast love. (Ps. 130:7)

**2 Corinthians 4:13--5:1** Renewed in the inner nature

**Mark 3:20-35** Doing the work of God as brothers and sisters of Christ

### June 20: Fourth Sunday After Pentecost

**Job 38:1-11** The creator of earth and sea

**Psalms 107:1-3, 23-32** You stilled the storm and silenced the waves of the sea. (Ps. 107:29)

**2 Corinthians 6:1-13** Paul's defense of his ministry

**Mark 4:35-41** Christ calming the sea

### June 13: Third Sunday After Pentecost

**Ezekiel 17:22-24** The sign of the cedar, planted on the mountain of Israel

**Psalms 92:1-4, 12-15** The righteous shall spread abroad like a cedar of Lebanon. (Ps. 92:12)

**2 Corinthians 5:6-10 [11-13] 14-17**

In Christ, a new creation

**Mark 4:26-34** The parable of the mustard seed

### June 27: Fifth Sunday After Pentecost

**Lamentations 3:22-33** Great is the LORD's faithfulness

**Psalms 30** I will exalt you, O LORD, because you have lifted me up. (Ps. 30:1)

**2 Corinthians 8:7-15** Excel in generosity, following the Lord Jesus

**Mark 5:21-43** Christ healing a woman and Jairus's daughter

# June

# Worship Servers

# July

June 6 9:00 am	
Reader	Kristi R.
Ushers	Tracey S & Rick L.
Communion Assist.	Kristi R.
Projector	Tracey V.
June 13 9:00 am	
Reader	Liz H.
Ushers	Larry & Tracy V.
Communion Assist.	Gail N.
Projector	Kristi R.
June 20 9:00 am	
Reader	Chad R.
Ushers	Rebecca R. & Tracey S.
Communion Assist.	Kristi R.
Projector	Roehl Family
June 27 9:00 am	
Reader	Penny G.
Ushers	Tracey S. & Jose M.
Communion Assist.	Karen M.
Projector	Rochelle F.

July 4 9:00 am	
Reader	Kristi R.
Ushers	NEEDED
Communion Assist.	<i>No Communion</i>
Projector	NEEDED
July 11 9:00 am	
Reader	Pam C.
Ushers	John S. & Rick L.
Communion Assist.	Pam C.
Projector	Kristi R.
July 18 9:00 am	
Reader	Liz H.
Ushers	Rebecca R. & Tracey S.
Communion Assist.	Chad R.
Projector	Roehl Family
July 25 9:00 am	
Reader	Penny G.
Ushers	Jose M. & John S.
Communion Assist.	Karen M.
Projector	TBD

If you are unable to serve on your schedule date, please try to switch with someone or find a replacement. If you are unable to do so, please contact the church office. Thank you!  
 Email: [office@felcwalworth.com](mailto:office@felcwalworth.com) or Phone: 262-275-3445





**Prayers for Continued Healing:** Jean Kovarik, Pam Clark, Kris Strehlow, Shirley Heyer, Penny Gruetzmacher

**Ongoing Prayers for Hope and Health:** Mary Jones (Tanya Butke's mother), Scott Jones (Rich and Shirely Jones' son), 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 West's), Sofia Zematis (neighbor of Christensens), Bruce Lewis, Jean Null & family, Kim Christiansen (Lisa Voss' sister), Renae Clinton (friend of Rachel West's), Marques Brugger, Reita Erickson (Rachel West's aunt), Wim Henebiens & Aria Pierce (friends of Rachel West), Miles Kadlec, Madeline Zindrick, Rebecca Blonsky-Nummelin (Rachel West's niece), Yvonne Reynolds (friend of Gail Connelly), Christine Helke-Larsen and her son, Glenn Larsen, Denise Robertson (cousin-in-law of Gail Connelly), Russel (Tracey Scott's friend), Laura Langston (a good friend of Rachel West's), Paulette (Rachel West's sister in law), Karen and Jose Martinez, Dave Woodrich, Gert Moritz, family & friends of Harold Nichols

**We also pray for...** the deepest care for people that are victims of gun violence, racist and hate crimes, we lift up those committed to serving our country, health care professionals, essential workers, and all affected by this pandemic.

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Hi Faith Family!

We are excited to announce that the day has come to have a congregational meeting to officially call Vicar Lily to become our Pastor at Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church.

**The meeting will immediately follow the church service on June 13, 2021.**

We will be serving a picnic breakfast after the meeting (weather permitting).

Mark your calendar and come if you are able. We will provide a Zoom meeting option to attend the meeting as well. We look forward to seeing you!!

Peace and Health,  
Tracy



### Going Paperless for Sunday Worship

Since we create the PowerPoint slides for the service to be on the screen, we would like to eliminate the time and cost of producing and printing the Sunday worship bulletins.

Please provide your feedback or any suggestions to Vicar Lily or the church office Email: [office@felcwalworth.com](mailto:office@felcwalworth.com) or Phone: 262-275-3445. Thank you!



# Adult Opportunities



OFFERING  
COUNTERS

**Additional counters are needed!**  
Please contact John Schwenn  
262-215-3288.

## **Are you a stamp collector?**



**If you would like a box of stamps collected over several years prior to 1992, call Christine Larson (262) 903-4888.**

## **Committee Meetings:**

**Worship Committee** Next meeting:  
Tuesday, June 8 at 6:00pm

**Learning Committee** Next Meeting:  
Tuesday, July 27 at 7:00pm

# Women of the ELCA



**Wednesdays at 9:15am**

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

**Tuesday, June 1 at 7:00pm**

Book: *The Women of the Bible Speak* by Shannon Bream

We will be reading pages 77-151.

We will be meeting hybrid fashion via zoom and in the gathering space.

All are welcome, however works for you!

Contact Rebecca Roehl for more information.

Next month's meeting: July 6 at 7pm

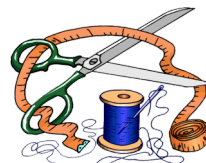


## *Faith Sew-ers*

**Wednesdays at 10 a.m.**

We are meeting at church and keeping our social distance.

*Join us for Quilt Making and Christian Fellowship*





# Children & Youth Opportunities

## Vacation Bible School

Vacation Bible School (VBS) is made possible each year by a great team of people from several area churches: St. Benedict Parish, The Community Church of Fontana, Linn Presbyterian Church, and Faith Ev. Lutheran. The churches take turns hosting VBS and the team works together to create a meaningful experience for the students.

We try to keep our cost down for the families, but to do this takes a lot of creativity and donations. If you are willing to make a monetary donation to VBS please place it in the offering plate or send it to the church office. Be sure to clearly mark the donation is for VBS. VBS could not happen without the support and generosity of this congregation.

Thank you so much!

## Faith Formation

Thank you to everyone who helped make Faith Formation a success during the 2020-2021 school year.

Our Volunteer Teachers:

Amanda Bender  
Barb Nordmeyer  
Barb Weborg  
Rochelle Freymiller  
Tanya Butke



Weekly Preparation Help:

Rose Haeni

Also, to all our families, parent helpers, substitute teachers, donors, and people who supported through prayer.

THANK YOU!!



## High School Youth Group

We will meet in August for a Movie Night. Stay tuned for more information. If you would like to be added to our group text, contact Rebecca at (608) 728-2798 Follow **CHAOS** on Instagram. @chaos\_felc

## Vacation Bible School

Theme: Who is My Neighbor

When: Monday, June 21-Friday, June 25  
9:00-11:30am

Where: At Faith Ev. Lutheran

Registration forms are available on our [website](#)

**We love because God first loved us. ~ 1 John 4:19**

If you have any questions or for more information, please contact Rebecca at (607) 728-2798 or [education@felcwalworth.com](mailto:education@felcwalworth.com)

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

**WHO IS**  
my neighbor?







- ♦ If you would like to include any announcements in the July newsletter, please provide them to the church office by June 15th.
- ♦ The church has a new range. The old range needed to be replaced due to leaking gas. Thanks to WECLA and generous donations from congregational members (and the finding of a great sales price) the church was able to purchase a new range.
- ♦ The church is updating its records. If you have an updated address, phone number, or email please contact the church office.
- ♦ Virtual worship services will continue to be available for the weeks Vicar Lily is presiding. We are in the process of getting new equipment and a new system to allow for easier streaming of worship. Links can be found on our webpage.

## Thank You

- ♦ To everyone who donated money, helped shop for, and install the new stove.
- ♦ To council and the worship committee for working hard each week to create meaningful worship experiences for the congregation during this unprecedented year.
- ♦ To the congregation for consistently supporting our Wednesday evening Faith Formation and Confirmation programs.
- ♦ Watch for weekly email communications including prayer requests and announcements
- ♦ Vicar Lily continues to be available for open door meetings Tuesdays from 10 - 11 a.m. Feel free to stop in to speak with her.
- ♦ Rebecca will be gone several weeks during the summer. Her schedule is posted outside her office for reference.
- ♦ The April - June issue of Christ in Our Home is available for anyone interested in the Gathering Space.



If you are receiving this newsletter in paper form and would prefer to receive it electronically, please contact the church office at (262) 275-3445 Also, please let us know if you no longer wish to receive communication from FELC.



## Monthly Financial Report April 30, 2021

### Cash Received:

From Envelopes, Special Contributions, and Others	\$15,424	
From Memorials/Dedicated (or transferred)	<u>40</u>	
Total Cash Received		\$15,464

### Cash Paid:

Operating Expenses*	\$8,171	
Synod Benevolence	936	
Committees	(181)	
For Memorials/Dedicated (or transferred)	<u>40</u>	
Total Cash Paid		<u>8,966</u>

Monthly Change in Cash (Cash Rec'd – Cash Paid)	(6,498)
Checking Account Balance, April 1, 2021	22,666
Checking Account Balance, April 30, 2021	<u>29,164</u>

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

\*\* Includes monthly and specific donations

## Unrestricted Cash Balance

Checking Account	29,164	
Mission Investment Fund***	100,542	
Endowment Fund (Fund A)	<u>282,568</u>	
Subtotal		412,274
Less: Memorials/Dedications/Restricted Cash		<u>10,195</u>
Unrestricted Cash Balance		402,080

## Year to Date Information

	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>
From Members to General Fund (Through Apr 30, 2021) **	37,193	40,779
Total Expenses	41,489	32,880

## Memorial/Dedicated/Restricted Information

Balance, April 1, 2021	10,195
New Dedicated	
Youth Group	40
Youth Group	(40)
Balance, April 30, 2021	10,195



# *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](http://www.felcwalworth.com)

## **Church Office Hours:**

Monday: Noon-3:00pm

Tuesday: 9:00-11:00am

Thursday: 9:00-11:00am

Friday: Noon-3:00pm

## **Staff**

Vicar Lily Brellenthin

**Pastor cell phone:** 262-812-3064

**Email:** [pastor@felcwalworth.com](mailto:pastor@felcwalworth.com)

Jennifer Vaun, Administrative Assistant

**Email:** [office@felcwalworth.com](mailto:office@felcwalworth.com)

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

**Email:** [education@felcwalworth.com](mailto:education@felcwalworth.com)

**Call or text:** 608-728-2798

## **Congregation Council 2021**

### **Executive Team**

Tracy Volbrecht, President

Elizabeth Hemmerich, Vice President

Penny Gruetzmacher, Secretary

Bill Clark, Treasurer

Congregation Council meetings are  
held at 7:00 p.m.  
on the third Tuesday of the month.

All are welcome to attend.

### **Council Members, Committee Assignments**

Amanda Bender, Youth representative, Learning Committee

Dave Freymiller, Stewardship Committee

Karen Martinez, Worship Committee

Susie Schaid, Member at Large

Diane Voss, Learning Committee

Perry Weborg, Property Committee

