

Faith's Blessings

Faith Lutheran Church

6567 Glades Pike

Somerset PA 15501

(814) 443-3179

(814) 483-3097 Pastor Kathy

April 2020

Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these." Matthew 19:14



A few weeks ago our "Youth in Action" did some "hands on" learning as Clifford and Louise Spangler showed us how to prepare last year's palms for Ash Wednesday; each had a turn in putting the burnt palms through a sieve to make the fine ash that was actually used for the imposition of ashes that same week.



The learning didn't stop there as we moved to the kitchen for a lesson in bread making. Brenda Maust and I guided them through the steps of making communion bread; each of them having a turn at measuring, pouring, sifting, mixing and rolling out the dough, shaping it and putting a cross in the center before it went into the oven.

It is such a blessing to witness “holy curiosity” through the eyes of our children and youth. In teaching, I believe it is important to incorporate a variety of materials and methods of presentation that are relative to their age, their interests, their concerns, their joys and their hopes. As you have witnessed firsthand, I have employed the use of illustrations and props, physical movement, open ended questions, humor, intentional listening, and a willingness to be curious right alongside them. I have delighted in their responses, those I am “supposed to” expect and still others which surprise me yet capture my heart as we unwrap the biblical texts together. Our monthly gatherings include lots of questions! “Pastor Kathy, where...?” “Pastor Kathy, why...?” “Pastor Kathy, how come...?” Sometimes I have to tell them I don’t know an answer because we do not know all the answers and they reply, “That’s okay”...or “I just wondered”....and then we “wonder” out loud together.

I believe that asking questions is very important – no matter how young or how old you are! Did you know that the Bible contains approximately 3,294 questions? Did you know that the New Testament contains about 500 of those questions and that Jesus, himself, asks 307 of them?! Others ask Jesus 183; do you know how many times he answered them? Just three! For Jesus, asking questions was an important part of his teaching ministry...and for drawing people closer to God. With that in mind, what question in the Bible do you think is the most important?

In the coming months all are invited to join me for an hour or so of learning, conversation, asking questions and wondering out loud, together...to engage in “holy curiosity”. What is “holy curiosity” you ask? Well, Albert Einstein defines it as “a spirit of humility, an open-minded search for truth, and a transcendental wonder.” For me, “holy curiosity” means to never stop questioning...to embody childhood wonder... to be willing to talk with one another about our faith, about God...to share our faith stories...to be vulnerable, acknowledging that it is “okay” if we don’t know all the answers...to trust God...and to grow in deeper relationship with God through questions and conversation. For me, church should be the most curious, imaginative, and creative place to be! A safe space to open our hearts and our minds to the fullness of God’s abounding grace and love.

“One cannot help but be in awe when he contemplates the mysteries of eternity, of life, of the marvelous structure of reality. It is enough if one tries merely to comprehend a little of this mystery every day. Never lose a holy curiosity.” — Albert Einstein

If we are to continuously endeavor to be followers of Christ, we cannot be satisfied with information gleaned from headline news, video clips, social media, or opinions of popular talk show hosts and entertainers. The Good News of the Gospel is worthy of our conversations...our questions...and our wondering out loud - together.

I invite you to check your calendars, note the opportunities such as the Women’s Book Club, Adult Sunday School, the Women’s Bible Study, “The Next Text” Bible study, monthly Youth in Action gatherings (yes, adults are encouraged to join in these gatherings as well!)...a day trip to see “Esther” at Sight & Sound in the fall...a prayer walk around downtown Somerset...and join me! Let’s be curious together! Let’s be delighted as we share insights and perspectives! Let’s come together with “holy curiosity” and childlike wonder...

In grace and peace,
Pastor Kathy

Psalm 13

How long, Lord? Will you forget me forever? How long will you hide your face from me?

² How long must I wrestle with my thoughts and day after day have sorrow in my heart?

How long will my enemy triumph over me?

³ Look on me and answer, Lord my God. Give light to my eyes, or I will sleep in death,

⁴ and my enemy will say, “I have overcome him,” and my foes will rejoice when I fall.

⁵ But I trust in your unfailing love;

my heart rejoices in your salvation.

⁶ I will sing the Lord’s praise,

for he has been good to me.

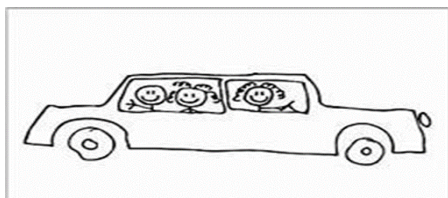
David’s cry, “How long Lord?!” took me back to my early childhood when I, and my three siblings, sat in the backseat of our parents’ yellow Ford station wagon (before there were car seat and seatbelt laws and air conditioning meant having all the car windows open) headed to a favorite state park. One of us would start by asking my parents...you know what I am going to say don’t you...yes... “Are we there yet?” and “How long?”. My mom would reply, three more towns and name them off. A little while longer, one of us would ask again... “How long?” And, again my mother would reply three more towns. Then, one of us would get up the nerve again and ask... “How long?” And by the third and fourth call out to the front seat... we heard nothing but silence. They were our parents so we trusted them. We trusted that our parents heard us...trusted that they hadn’t forgotten that we were squeezed into the backseat like sardines...and trusted we would get there like we always did, through the three towns even though we couldn’t recognize them ourselves.

This is what David realized as he lamented...that God had gotten him through many things in his life; God had been good to him and he trusted that God would be good to him again. Our life’s journey is much the same...there are things we cannot fully understand...times when we feel lost, even forgotten, and we ask questions like “How long Lord?” This is when we, too, must put our trust in God; that there are things that only God can understand.

God has been good to us, God hears our cries, God will see us through – and because of this, we, too, can rejoice.

Let us pray.....Merciful God,

There are times when we feel that you do not hear us...times when we feel lost and forgotten...times when we forget all the good things you have done for us. During these times, give us patience. Remind us that you understand the things that we do not. Remind us, that we can always call out to you. Remind us that you will hear our cries. Remind us that you are with us. Amen.



Pastor Kathy Stump
Faith Lutheran Church

Holy Week Schedule

Mark your calendars for the many opportunities to worship with us during Holy Week and then on Easter Sunday. We hope to see as many of you as possible as we observe the death of Jesus and then celebrate his Resurrection!

Sunday, April 5



Palm Sunday Worship with Palm Processional and Holy Communion ... 9 am

Thursday, April 9



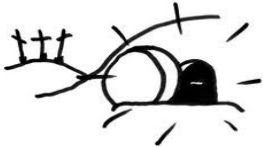
Maundy Thursday Worship with Holy Communion and Stripping of the Altar ... 7 pm

Friday, April 10



Good Friday Worship ... 7 pm
Passion of our Lord, Jesus Christ

Sunday, April 12



Easter Sunrise Worship with Holy Communion ... 6:30 am

Easter Sunday Worship celebrating the Resurrection of our Lord and Savior with Holy Communion ... 9 am

And a reminder, Easter Breakfast in the fellowship hall will follow Sunrise Service. A freewill offering will be accepted for the Somerset Ministerium.



Youth in Ac†ion

Doing God's Work with Our Hands
In Fellowship and Fun

“SPRING”
into
God's Creation!

Sunday, April 29th

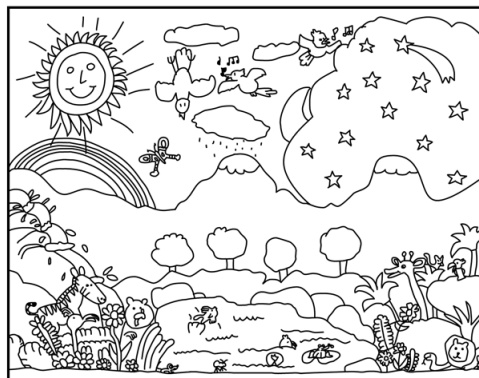
4 p.m. - 6 p.m.

CHILDREN & YOUTH OF ALL AGES....

FRIENDS welcome too!

We will be “digging into” Spring,
celebrating the Earth
and all of God's creation,
as we learn about being good stewards of all that God has given us.
So jump on in as we spring into action that includes
a service project, crafts, games, laughter and, of course, supper!

There is a sign-up sheet in the lobby at church
or just give us a call at 443-3179 and let us know you'll be here!





EGG HUNT !!!

It's no yolk!!!

WELCA is hosting this year's annual "egg"-stravaganza on
Saturday, April 11th, starting at 1:00 p.m.
for children and youth through 6th grade.
Mark your calendars and dust off your baskets
so you can be sure to join in on the hunt for
sweet treats and small treasures,
Golden Egg prizes, snacks and more!



During the month of March we lifted the following in prayer:

Kathy Triebe, Gerald Weigle, Larry Rhoads, Michael Matieszyn, Don Kenno, Steve Walters, Susan Younkin, Debbie Yoder, Jack Reed, Abby Bany and the Tornado victims

Altar Flowers and Communion Bread

Sign-up sheets have been posted if you can provide flowers or bread for our worship.

Flowers can be purchased through the florist or you can provide your own.

Thank you for helping with this part of our worship service.

Pastoral Care

Pastoral care visits are a means of bringing the presence of Jesus Christ into the lives of our community of Faith at times of acute illness, pending surgery, long-term care and rehabilitation of care, as well as hospice care. We rely on family members, friends, and neighbors to let the church staff know when someone is in a hospital or other facility; please call the church office 443-3179 and provide the name of the individual, name of hospital or care facility, and room number if known; and it is also helpful to give time/date of surgery.

Thank you,
Pastor Kathy

April Second Offering

Our April Second Offering that will be collected on April 12, is designated for expenses for Day Camp.

For the past several years, Faith has been hosting Day Camp, led by Camp Sequanota. The camp is open to members of the congregation and neighbors and friends of the community.

Your donations help make this a free experience for our children/youth. Thanks!!

Caring Workers

On April 28, the group will be having food for the election.

Sandwiches, soup and baked goods will be available.

Eat-in or take-out will be available. Please help support the group and get some good eats!

Sequanota Events

Apr. 24-26 Women's Retreat

Led by Revs. Susan Winger & Julia Sprenkle with guest Kathleen Norris on the topic of Women's Work, Liturgy and Civil Christian Conversation.

Cost \$140

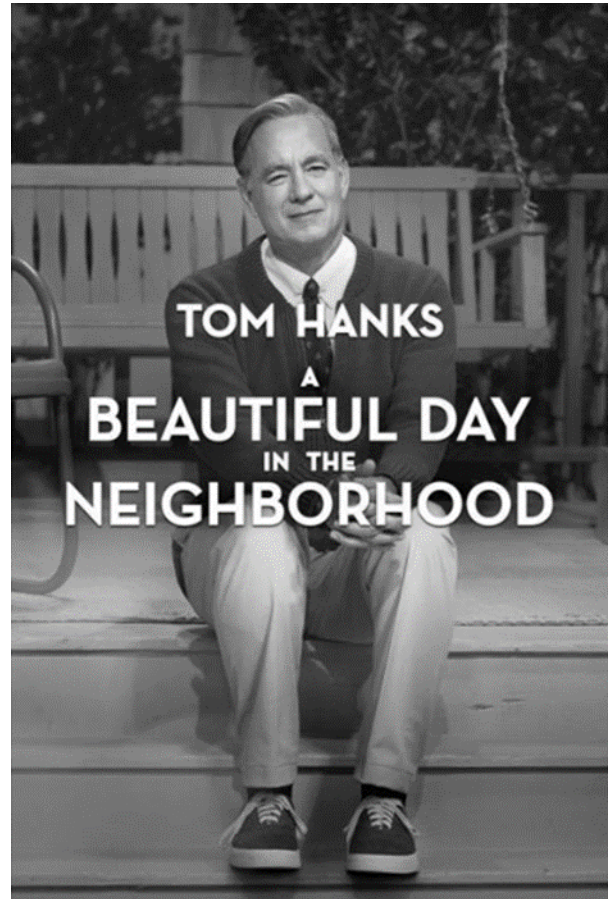
Call the camp at 629-6627 to make your reservation.

“REEL”

Faith Movie Matinee

Sunday, April 19th

at 2:00 p.m.



Let's put an end to cabin fever once and for all and come together as a community to enjoy an afternoon at the movies!

We will have ice cream sundaes, popcorn and more!

Be sure to wear your sweater, tie and sneakers so we can see who makes the best “Mr. Rogers” at Faith!

“Tom Hanks portrays Mister Rogers in a story of kindness triumphing over cynicism - based on the true story of a real-life friendship between Fred Rogers and journalist Tom Junod. After a jaded magazine writer is assigned a profile of Fred Rogers, he overcomes his skepticism, learning about empathy, kindness, and decency from America's most beloved neighbor.”

(Rated PG)

April Birthdays

Keith Rhoads	April 1	Jeff Weimer	April 12
Jacob Maust	April 2	Cadem James	April 13
Cindy Miller	April 3	Cole James	April 13
Gloria Weyant	April 4	Alan Shockey	April 13
Lloyd Shaffer 96	April 6	Jane Evans 85	April 14
Madison Trevarrow	April 6	Michelle Lake	April 14
Zac Carpenter	April 7	Angie Briskey	April 16
Robby Schrock	April 7	Justin Rhoads	April 16
Dawn Walker	April 7	Kimberly Clark	April 19
Kathy Rhoads	April 8	Kay Mostoller	April 20
Tomalee Will	April 9	Dave Custer	April 24
Caden Harding	April 11	Laura Miller	April 24
Jodi Miller	April 11	Melissa Boring	April 25
Ashley Woy	April 12	Ava Friedline	April 26
Debbra Guddes	April 12	Bernice Walker	April 29
Nicole Keller	April 12	Marian Walker 90	April 29
		Josh Zerfoss	April 29

April Anniversaries

Butch & Lori Dill 39 yrs.	April 4	Dave & Sandy Pyle 42 yrs.	April 16
Steve & Dawn Will 28 yrs.	April 11	Garen & Bobbi Black 41 yrs.	April 27
Keith & Kathy Rhoads 42 yrs.	April 15		

Please note: A card shower for Lloyd Shaffer is planned. Send birthday cards to

Lloyd Shaffer
2404 Stutzmantown Road
Somerset PA 15501

April 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	2nd offering is for Day Camp		1 Caring Workers 10 am Choir 7 pm	2	3	4
5 Palm Sunday Worship 9 am SCS 10:30 am	6 Committee Night 7 pm	7	8 Caring Workers 10 am Choir 7 pm	9 Maundy Thursday Worship 7 pm	10 Good Friday Worship 7 pm	11 Egg Hunt 1 pm
12 Easter Sunrise 6:30 Breakfast Worship 9 am; 2nd Offering (Day Camp) SCS 10:30 am	13 WELCA 7 pm	14	15 Caring Workers 10 am Choir 7 pm	16	17	18
19 Worship 9 am SCS 10:30 am	20	21	22 Caring Workers 10 am Choir 7 pm	23 WELCA to stuff eggs 7 pm	24	25
26 Worship 9 am Anointing for Healing SCS 10:30 am "SPRING INTO GOD'S CREATION" Youth in Action 4-6 pm	27	28	29 Caring Workers 10 am Choir 7 pm	30		

We thank those who are willing to serve
for the month of April:

April 5

Altar Guild	Donna & Jackie	Reader	Wendell Heil
Assisting Minister	Brenda Maust	Greeters	Mark Friedline Family
Council Person	Patti Trent		

April 9 (Maundy Thursday)

Altar Guild	Patti & Karen	Reader	Brenda Maust
Assisting Minister	Bill Hoffman	Greeters	Chris Brant Family

April 12 (sunrise)

Altar Guild	Everyone helps	Reader	Ryan Maust
Assisting Minister	Darren Walker	Greeters	Cliff & Louise Spangler

April 12 (9 am)

Altar Guild	Everyone helps	Reader	Deanna Bowers
Assisting Minister	Brock Bowers	Greeters	Bill bowers Family

April 19

Altar Guild	Donna & Jackie	Reader	David Miller
Assisting Minister	Jane Pugh	Greeters	Karen Shaffer & Lori Dill

April 26

Altar Guild	Patti & Karen	Reader	Jane Pugh
Assisting Minister	Dave Pugh	Greeters	Patti Trent & Karen Schmidt

**Please remember that if you cannot be here and have
a “job”, find a replacement!**

WE GIVE THANKS TO

- Our Altar Guild and its three newest members.
- Our Choir, Nancy and Katelynn for lifting our voices in praise and worship all to the glory of God.
- Our Church Council for their due diligence in all matters related to our community of faith and the decision-making that accompanies this ministry, especially in times such as this.
- Jane Pugh and Sandy Pyle for conducting our annual audit.
- Our Worship Committee, for flexibility and assistance in all things related to worship in this season of uncertainty.
- For each of you - for your prayers – for the sharing of your gifts, your time, and your talents – and for your support - of our homebound, our hospitalized, our youth, our visitors, our campus and our Pastor.

We give Thanks to God – for all these gifts –
shared in serving Christ and community
in community with one another.

We ARE Church – TOGETHER!

Women's Book Club

Begins April 21

6:30 pm

“The Five People You Meet in Heaven”

An informal gathering of gals to read,
share, laugh and have refreshments!

We will meet every Tuesday at
6:30 pm until the book is finished.

Faith's "Women at the Well"

A Women's Bible Study Group
is being launched May 7.

We will gather Thursday mornings during the month of May at 11:00 am

Our series for will be Women of the Bible.

Please let Pastor Kathy know you plan to attend
so that books may be ordered.

There is a sign-up sheet in the lobby
or contact the church office at 443-3179.

Yes, invite a friend!

May Birthdays

Loretta Weyant	May 1	Ricky Saylor	May 16
Whitney Johnson	May 3	Rodney Schrock	May 18
Fred Will	May 3	Cathy Smeak	May 19
Steve Matolyak	May 4	Darren Walker	May 21
Mike Trevarrow	May 6	Donald Golby	May 22
Emily Bent	May 7	Denny Rhoads	May 23
Karen Shaffer	May 7	Logan Gilbert	May 24
Josh Weyant	May 7	Alexus Miller	May 24
Zac Friedline	May 8	Charles Burk 85	May 25
Gene Hillegas	May 8	Taylor Latuch	May 25
Anthony Latuch	May 8	Garen Black	May 26
Jacob Sheeler	May 8	Clay Cramer, Jr.	May 29
Stephanie Walker	May 9	Linda Golby	May 29
Joan Walker	May 12	Landon Gilbert	May 30
Desiree Custer	May 13	Brenda Maust	May 30
Fred Rhoads	May 13	Jamie Crites	May 31
Earl Lohr	May 16	Butch Dill	May 31
		Tanya James	May 31

May Anniversaries

Gary & Karen Shaffer	May 7	5 yrs.	Fred & Barb Bill	May 18	52 yrs.
Bill & Debbie Nist	May 10	45 yrs.	Don & Mary Snyder	May 22	49 yrs.
Ryan & Brenda Maust	May 16	39 yrs.	Joe & Genette Swank	May 24	23 yrs.
Brian & Joeleen Everett	May 18	35 yrs.	Joe & Sami Swank	May 26	1 yr.

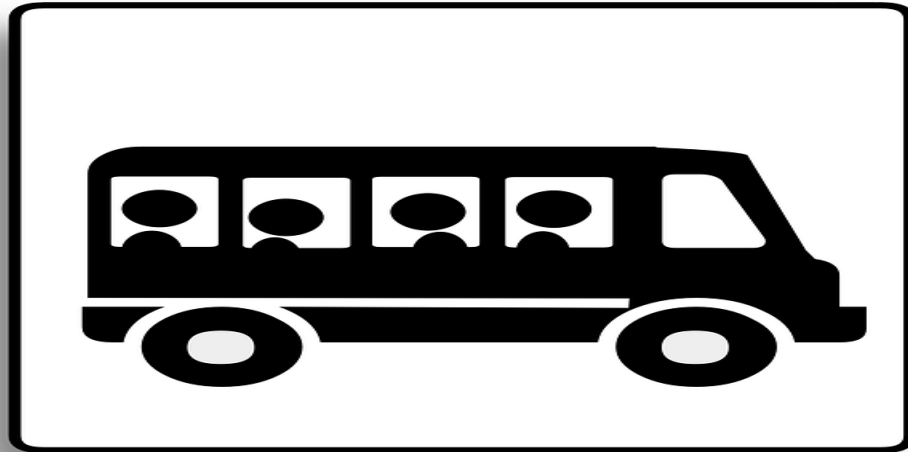
“THE NEXT TEXT”

SCRIPTURE STUDY GROUP



Beginning in June:
“Next Text” - Study Group
Thursdays at 2

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS AND WATCH FOR DETAILS
IN THE COMING MONTHS.**



Bus Trip

October 2, 2020

Sight & Sound

Queen Esther

Join us for a day of fun, travel, a show and food!

Cost is \$128/person

Only 25 seats available

Leave the church at 9 am

Stop for lunch (place to be determined)

See the show

Head home approx. 6 pm

A sign-up sheet is posted

A non-refundable deposit of \$64 is required when you sign-up

Any questions, see Pr. Kathy or the office

Deadline is April 30!



Need help with some household chores?

Complete this form and drop it in the offering plate ... we are ready, willing and able!

The mission team is looking to help our members with any things on their "to do list" such as yard work, minor repairs, painting ... hoping to begin after Easter.

Name _____

Address _____

Phone # _____

Work to be done _____

Painting Party!

Let's Make A Splash! Uptown Painting Party will be coming to Faith on Saturday, May 16 from 1-4 pm to guide us in painting a picture while we enjoy some fun and fellowship. The cost is \$35 and we will be painting a bucket of lilacs. We need to have a minimum of 10 people who want to participate.

Please contact the office to sign up so we can let them know how many supplies they will need. Light refreshments will be available.

Deadline to register is May 1

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

6567 Glades Pike

Somerset, PA 15501

www.faithlutheransomerset.org

faith@faithlutheransomerset.org

Sunday Worship 9 am

Sunday Church School 10:30 am

