



Life of Faith

November 2020

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The Pastor, The Kids and The Burial

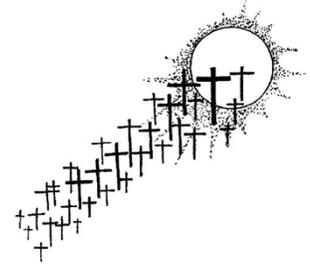
On Sunday, October 11, nine FLC children gathered to bury a time capsule in the yard of the Fellowship Hall. The young people had filled out papers dealing with the virus and how it impacted their lives. The last question on the page was "What would they ask God to do?"

The kids were amazing as they sat in a circle, listened respectfully to each other and shared from their hearts. Many comments stood out: they appreciated more time with their families; they missed school and friends; they were happy to finish schoolwork early in the day; they asked God to end the virus; they hope for the development of a vaccine; they showed concern for those who had lost jobs.

Their papers were folded up and put in the glass jar decorated with their names. Then the jar was buried in a hole dug by Zeke. The spot, marked with rocks bearing the children's names, will be dug up in ten years. Thank you Pr. Nancy, for your thoughtful and creative idea.

All Saints Day

All Saints Day is November 1. The congregation has been invited to send pictures of loved ones they wish to honor that day by October 28. If you don't have a picture to share or possibly missed the deadline, you can request that Pastor Nancy include them in the prayers that day. Please send your request to Pastor Nancy at nancytuna@hotmail.com.



Summary of Dates to Remember

- November 19, 6:30 pm: Congregational social gathering via zoom
- December 2, 9, 16, 23, 7:00 pm: Advent worship. Holden Village vespers via zoom
- Monday mornings at 9:00 am: Book Study via zoom. Call John Schramm if interested

ZOOM: If you are not familiar with zoom and would like assistance to get started, please call the church office or Greg Steeber (509.548 6471). It is really quite easy and a good way for us to connect during this pandemic.

Online Worship: Behind the scenes with the Camps

It was mid-March when Pr. Nancy had to announce that in accordance with Gov. Inslee's mandate to cease all public gatherings that the Faith Lutheran community would no longer physically worship together in the foreseeable future. The Camp's quickly asked what they could do to help. It seemed clear that the next step should be looking at how to use technology to continue engaging community worship. This challenged each member of the Camp family and began a steep learning curve in creating and producing worship services.

All along, it has been a Camp family group effort. As time went on, Grace generally gravitated towards music editing, Ellie providing direction with video recording, Lindsay doing the production pieces and as they all agree "Mike does whatever we tell him to do!" This involves primarily playing guitar, reading and intensive IT support.

Editing the music involves mixing individual vocal and instrumental tracks that have been recorded separately and sent via email. Typically there are 4 tracks. Lindsay organizes and packages the tracks and forwards to Grace who mixes them into one track and adjusts audio levels and pacing. All of the music productions are held in a library so they can be used again.

The readings for the service are recorded by volunteer readers and then sent to Lindsay.

Because they are recorded on various platforms, the files need to be converted so that they are compatible with the primary template used. Lindsay tapes Pr. Nancy's sermons in person each week in the sanctuary. It is helpful to have a live person present to preach to!

The entire service takes 3 hours to save (render) to a movie and 4 hours to upload to YouTube with the current technology available. Lindsay has written and submitted a grant proposal to the Intermountain Synod for \$2,500 to upgrade technology.

Lindsay follows analytic data to help shape services as well as to see what the patterns of participation are. The number of people watching a particular service tends to increase over time as people find time to view services or as people across the community and country find our church. Easter, for example, now has over 200 views! Online services have made it possible for many more people to experience FLC worship. "Even my friends and family who are unchurched" watch, says Lindsay.

Lindsay is excited about the new opportunities this online ministry has brought and encourages us not to let it go. She says "I'm busy with school but this focus outside of school is positive and life giving. This has become a labor of love with each other and with the community."

The Faith Lutheran Community extends gratitude and deep thanks to Lindsay, Grace, Ellie and Mike for their work and commitment to this ministry.



CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

A zoom congregational gathering for FLC will be held November 19, 6:30 pm.

Please mark you calendar and plan to attend.

- The book group is reading "Dear Church" on Mondays and quilters have resumed on Wednesdays.
- Pastor Nancy is able to once again visit friends at Mountain Meadows.
- There will be an outdoor service of dedication of the new building, assisted by Barbara Rossing, on October 25.
- Eric will be scheduling more congregational zoom gatherings, perhaps once a month.
- The council is starting to look at the challenges posed by a virtual annual meeting.
- Faith Lutheran has received \$2500 from our Synod for immigration and refugee concerns.

ADVENT WORSHIP

Advent begins on Sunday, November 29. Amy Carlson will host Holden Village Prayer vespers via zoom on each of the four Wednesdays before Christmas. The dates are December 2, 9, 16, 23 at 7:00pm. People can click in, light a candle and sing along.

TREASURERS REPORT (Greg Steeber) .

We continue to be stable with our finances as our expenses have been less than budgeted except for the building expenses. Thanks to an annual contribution received in September, donations for the last month were above budget for the first time since March. The Payroll Protection Program monies as part of the CARES act have allowed us to be within budget for the year. Additionally, many hours of volunteer labor has helped to keep renovation costs down. Thank you to all who continue to support the ministries of Faith Lutheran.

PROPERTY REPORT (Greg Steeber)

It was a very busy summer and fall. Many of the outside projects involving deferred maintenance on our sanctuary are completed or nearing completion. Painting and repair of the siding has been finished with replacement of the last of the siding pieces on the steeple.

Many hours of volunteer labor went into the main part of the building while most of the high work on the steeple and the north gable was hired out to professionals. The windows have been reglazed but the frame repair and painting will need to wait until next year due to the weather changing sooner than usual.

The new metal roof has a 50 year warranty. The front doors have been refurbished. New pew cushions are in the sanctuary and ready for us to enjoy. Volunteers and a professional tree company cleaned up and removed dead and dangerous trees and branches from the parsonage yard. Pastor Nancy has been spiffing up the parsonage and it looks charming.

All of the bills are not in yet but it looks like all of this has been done within budget thanks to all of the volunteer hours put in by members and friends of the congregation. **Thanks to all.**

BOREDOM

During this pandemic, when you ask folks how they are doing, many people, especially retired ones, say “bored.” This is often my response, too. It is not the life I am used to or want to experience.

Boredom is a pandemic reality. Consider this comment from theologian and author Fredrick Buechner: *Boredom ought to be one of the seven deadly sins. It deserves the honor.*

You can be bored by virtually anything to which you put your mind. You can yawn your way through the Grand Canyon, an afternoon with your dearest friend or a sunset that usually takes your breath away. The odds are that even the Sermon on the Mount had more than a few of the congregation twitchy and glassy-eyed.

To be bored is to turn down cold whatever life happens to be offering you at the moment.

It is to cast a jaundiced eye at life in general, including most of all your own life. You feel nothing is worth getting excited about, perhaps because you yourself don't feel you are worth getting excited about. (I wonder how God feels about this attitude?)

When we are bored, we tend to minimize such things as the love of a friend, appreciation of rain on a lawn that has been dusty for months, the anticipation of the soon-to-come beauty of snow-capped mountains, forgiveness from those who have spent these 24/7 COVID days with us, harvesting the miracle of our autumn garden.

Being bored to death isn't just a phrase. It's a form of suicide. Review again the gifts you have as one created and loved by God. Say a prayer. Look around you. Who and what needs your attention? (Mrs)



ABOUT US

Rick and Pat Thirlby have moved full-time to their home in Leavenworth. We welcome their association with FLC.

Joan Shumate is recovering from a knee replacement. We wish her well.

Greta Steeber is applying for residency positions in emergency medicine.

Trudy and Terry Leverenz visited in the Leavenworth area in October. They are happily settled in their new home in Lacy, WA. and will be scouting out churches to attend when the COVID pandemic is over. We miss them and were happy to hear they miss FLC members, too. We understand that **Bill and Judy Moody** were also in town in October and hope that some of you were able to visit with them.

Pastor Nancy is now the proud and happy owner of Peepers, a Chihuahua puppy. She takes Pr. Nancy on daily walks.

Mari Schramm is renting the Strum house across from the church. She is the granddaughter of John and Mary. Mari just moved to Leavenworth and is looking for meaningful work

The **Book Group** meets via Zoom on Monday mornings at 9 am. The present book is "Dear Church" by pastor Lenny Duncan

Quilters continue to meet on occasion, Wednesdays from 2 – 4 pm. Please call Margaret Neighbors (548-0166) for information.



NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

5 Judy Moody
9 Eric Krumland
10 Peter Spiegel
11 Brian O'Shea

12 Heather Murphy
12 Ellie Camp
15 Antje Prey
20 Karen Strom

20 Christine Cassayre
21 Carolyn Dorisdotter
21 Sherry Thompson
27 Patrick Murphy