



Life of Faith

JULY 2024

224 Benton St. (P.O. Box 418) 509 548 7010

flcleavenworth@gmail.com www.flcleavenworth.com

Pastor Eva Jensen

From our president...

Solstice! The longest day, the defined change of seasons, the light overpowers the dark, a glow hangs in the northwestern sky until bedtime, magnificent! Our extended family celebrated a solstice in Norway years ago, in the mountains at the high grazing pastures of Dawn's family. There was music, barbecued mutton, a 10-foot-tall bonfire and no true darkness. We conversed through the night without need for other light and watched the eastern sky glow again in the wee hours.

Change indeed! In the past 2 years, our church has changed the roof, changed the sewer line, changed the landscaping, changed the sidewalk, changed our financial picture (for the better) and changed our Pastor. We even changed the bell rope! What now?

I think we at Faith Lutheran can take a moment to breathe, savor and enjoy our many blessings this Summer. I have watched our friends who are educators embrace the change of season as they shutter their classrooms, leave their professional togs behind and pursue the other parts of their lives with vigor. They seem transformed, glow with suntan and energy, knowing that in seizing the day and recharging their souls they will be better prepared for the challenges of Autumn.

Enjoy your own summer, take in the natural beauty set all around us and be safe. Church Council will bring you a summary of where we are with our financial planning and there will be a congregational planning session, both events to happen after Labor Day.

Praise be to God for our many Blessings!

Karl Kranz





BOOK GROUP: Each Tuesday, 9:00 – 10:00 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. Anyone interested in joining the group, contact Margaret Neighbors (509) 387-0883.

SAIL: (Staying Active and Independent for Life) Tuesday and Thursdays, 10:30 – 11:30 a.m., Fellowship Hall. All seniors 65 and older are welcome to join this free program. Contact Connie Thomassen (509) 470-8212 for information. (See page 10)

KNITTING AND CRAFTS: July 10 and 24, 1:30 – 3:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall

QUILT TYING: Each Tuesday from 2:00 – 3:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall

CHURCH COUNCIL: July 11, 6:00 pm, Fellowship Hall

EARTH STEWARDSHIP GROUP: July 23, 6:30 p.m., Fellowship Hall

OUR KAIROS MOMENT: ELCA's creation care study, July 30, 5:00 p.m. **Lutherans Restoring Creation (LRC)** is a grassroots movement promoting **care for creation** in the **Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**. Faith Lutheran has supported LRC for several years through our Annual Endowment Grants. Four on-line events are scheduled this summer. Three of them have already taken place but there is time to join *Green wallet*, *Green Earth* in July. You may participate from your home as an individual or invite a friend or small group to join you for the Zoom events.

July 30, 5:00pm Pacific Time: **Green wallet, Green Earth.**

<https://lutheransrestoringcreation.org/event/connections-call-green-wallets-green-earth/>



New email addresses have been established for the Pastor, President, and Treasurer of Faith Lutheran Church. Effective June 16th, please use the following addresses for all church-related correspondence.

These new addresses ensure a clear separation from personal emails.



Pastor: Pastor@ficleavenworth.com

President: President@ficleavenworth.com

Treasurer: Treasurer@ficleavenworth.com



CHURCH COUNCIL: Summer vacation! No meeting in June.

Next meeting: July 11



Earth Stewardship Group May 2024

- Birding Walk on April 7 was a success with 15-16 attendees. Interest in more trips.
- The Leavenworth community Earth Day Celebration on April 21/22 was attended by several Faith members.
- Devotional Series *Climate +Faith: How We Can Help Meet the Greatest Challenge in Human History* will be postponed until fall when more people will be available to attend.
- Development of a Mission Statement for Earth Stewardship Group will be developed after the *Climate +Faith* devotional series.
- Karl Kranz built bike racks out of recycled bike frames and they were blessed on May 19.
- The city of Leavenworth is retaining a consultant to design Front Street Improvements. Our group would like to work with that City to get additional bike racks installed on Front Street. More discussion about actions at future meetings.
- Low Emissions Sunday is planned for May 19. People will be encouraged to walk, bike, carpool, drive electric vehicles or take other means to have a low carbon footprint for commutes to church that Sunday. Lauren Johnson will offer a “Tesla Taxi Service”.
- Land Acknowledgement: Further development of Land Acknowledgement for Faith Lutheran is in process. Would like to connect with local tribes if possible. Acknowledgement to be short so it can go into our weekly bulletin and on our website.
- Disappearing Glaciers Project for Leavenworth Area: Consider sponsoring a *Disappearing Glaciers* art project to bring attention to climate change and the loss of local glaciers. Will invite Heather to make presentation about a similar project she was part of for Olympic National Park.
- Earth Stewardship themed Movie/Documentaries night: Could be sponsored by our group. Wintertime. Potluck? Possibly at the Ski Lodge? More planning is needed.
- Further planning is needed to bring in speakers on Earth Stewardship for the community. Someone like Katherine Hayhoe would be a big-name draw. She is a climate professional with the Nature Conservancy, an author and has a church-based focus. Barbara will check with the Icicle Fund to follow up on previous discussions about sponsoring a big speaker. Other names discussed included: Paul Roberts author of *End of Oil*, General Titlee, US military working on climate change, Dennis Hays, developed the first Earth Day and has worked for the sleeping Lady foundation.
- A Progressive Garden Tour was considered. Will discuss at next meeting.
- Arbor Day next year: The Earth Stewardship Group could identify trees we could plant on the property and develop a planting plan. This discussion moved into other planting on the property including pollinators, etc. Could advise our Church Council. Further action required at future meetings.



Next Meeting: July 23 at 6:00 PM



Immigration/Race Justice Group (I/RJG)

*“The Immigration/Race Justice Group endeavors to accompany and provide support for our immigrant community through **Education, Direct Service, and Advocacy.**”*

Education and Administration:

- Our current CVB account was reviewed. It includes a generous \$500 grant received from the Faith Lutheran Endowment. A total of \$2,550 was disbursed during the meeting leaving less than \$1,000 in our account.
- Our Leavenworth Chamber’s Recreation Ambassadors weekend will be all day Sat-Sun, August 3, 4. We need a few extra volunteers. Several Cascade High School students may also help us. Call Jill for details and your questions: 252.862.6972. A mandatory training must be completed in person at the Wenatchee River Institute on Wednesday, June 19, at 5:30 p.m. A video will be available at a later date.
- Book Reviews: Monthly, as opportunity affords, members will share from the books they are currently reading. Laurie will present at our next gathering.
- Dia de los Reyes (DR or Epiphany): A lively and engaging “debate” took place as we considered supporting the Wenatchee River Institute’s second annual DR 2025 event on Jan. 4. Last year we contributed \$100. Positive comments included the ability to provide a Leavenworth venue for an engaging cross-cultural event for the entire community. The concerns expressed included the projected increased cost of the event, it’s sustainability and how those resources could perhaps be better used on long term programs (with child care) that might more effectively meet the needs of Hispanic families within our community. The group decided to grant \$250.

Direct Support:

- English Literacy and Citizenship Classes will resume on Oct. 16.
- Cascade Migrant Graduation Program has given the I/RJG the applications (created by an I/RJG member) of 8 students seeking assistance for Driver’s Education, the cost of which has grown to \$600. Knowing the importance of driver(s) within family systems to provide transportation to jobs, school, medical appointments and sports, the group chose to give varying amounts to the applicants, depending upon the need expressed in the application. A total of \$2,200 will be given to the 8 students. This distribution combined with the \$350 grants cited have significantly diminished our financial resources to less than \$1,000. *Contributions continue to be needed and welcomed* (<https://irjgroup.wixsite.com/irjg>) Questions?: lxhappns@nwi.net

Advocacy:

- Community Rapid Response Teams (CRRT): Israel Gonzalez, the Washington Immigrant Solidarity Network (WAISN) CRRT coordinator for Eastern WA has yet to finalize details with the Wenatchee Immigration Justice group. We await their decision on a date.
- WAISN Annual Conference in Toppenish, August 7- 9. Unfortunately it appears that none of our members will be able to attend.
- WAISN support: Washington Immigration Solidarity Network is our primary advocacy agency. Since our small I/RJG group will not be assessed an annual membership fee, the group decided to send them \$100 in support.

Next Meetings: Wednesday July 17, 6 p.m. / Wednesday August 21, 6 p.m.
(for details, call Alex, 509.548.7012)

Highlights of a rainy day supporting Gaza



Faith Lutheran member Lauren Johnson continues to faithfully lead and participate in regular public protests of the war in Gaza. Here he writes of a recent experience...

First, Karen Francis-McWhite walked in the rain, but we had already given up cold and wet after a half hour. Kudos to Karen. The Mennonites showed up big, Brisa Peacock and her colleague, Danny Smith, were new recruits and my daughter Pastor Sarah Toney came to join us as part of a great Father's Day celebration for me.

It was a gloomy day with somewhat subdued drivers of all kinds. But the best one was a family with all windows down honking and cheering. The young lad in the back seat was jumping up and down and leaning out the window waving his arms. What joy.



Icicle Creek Work Group (IWG) works to conserve our rivers....

Faith member and Mayor Carl Florea was involved in the Icicle Creek Work Group, working to bring together stakeholders to conserve our river and keep water flows at a healthy level for all. Here is the link to an impressive 30-minute video providing important information and highlighting the priority of keeping minimum flow in Icicle above 100 cfs. The video features Dan Wilkinson, Carl Florea, Bob Bugert, Sharon Lunz, more!

The Icicle Creek Work Group (IWG) seeks to increase community and ecological resiliency through implementing collaborative solutions (Icicle Strategy) for water management within the Icicle Creek drainage to provide a suite of balanced benefits for existing and new domestic and agricultural uses, non-consumptive uses, fish, wildlife, and habitat while protecting treaty and non-treaty fishing interests.

<https://vimeo.com/954575061/6af4c8189d?share=copy>

Are you or anyone in your extended family looking for Vacation Bible School this summer?

Celebration Lutheran in Wenatchee is partnering with First United Methodist Church, Grace Lutheran, New Song, and more.... for Vacation Bible School, August 5-8 at Grace Lutheran Church in Wenatchee. Click the link below to First United Methodist's FB page for Movie Nights and more info.



Fall sojourn at Holden Village

Many in our community have been to Holden Village. Many have not. There will be opportunity this fall to gather with our Northwest Intermountain Synod cluster September 16 – 20. Teaching staff includes:

- Bishop Meggan Manlove - the practice of Story-linking
- Mark Schwehn - shaping identity
- Fred Neidner - believing the Bible: inhabiting its stories, trusting God's promises
- Jonathan Rundman - village musician

For more information go to : <https://nwimsynod.org/blog/2024519/the-fourth-fall-sojourn-holden-village> Contact Greg or Mary Steeber if you are interested in attending.





Faith Journeys is a booklet of reflections written by people of Faith Lutheran as part of our *Faith Moving Forward* Capital Fund Campaign. The campaign provides for affordable housing for our current and future pastors. One of these faith stories will be shared each month here in the newsletter. This month we hear from Margaret Neighbors.

Abundance

And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.

2 Corinthians 9:8

What is abundance? Here are some of the synonyms I found: Plenty, wealth, richness, copiousness, lavishness. In my mind, these are more about material abundance and not the abundance Paul was speaking of in his letter to Corinth. The word abundance isn't even part of my normal thought process. It's not that I don't fret over money and the things we usually equate with abundance but rather how to get to that "Having all things that you need" point. It's having enough and being content with that. I usually see abundance only in hindsight as I look back on events in my life and moments when I truly felt an abundant kind of joy or contentment.

I grew up the second of six kids. Dad worked in the Navy Yard in Bremerton and for my early childhood was an apprentice in the Electric shop. Mom was of the classic, 1950s stay-at-home variety. I didn't know it at the time but we were poor. While there was always enough for firsts at dinner, there was not always enough for seconds. Clothes were generally hand-me-downs.

Here is my memory of really understanding abundance for the first time:

I was eight years old. It was Christmas Day. My family was in the middle of our traditional Christmas celebration: Mom, Dad, our grandparents, kids, cats and at least one dog. Wrapping paper flying, music playing, screams of joy. I was sitting a little off to the side and out of the chaos taking it all in. At that moment I knew. I knew in my very soul that this was a holy moment. And it didn't have anything to do with stuff! I was safe and loved. Everyone in that room was safe and loved. I revisit that moment to this day. That to me is abundance. Family, faith, friends, community. These are all my abundance. You are my abundance.



The History Corner: by Danny Thomassen

PART II: Highlights of Martin Luther's Life

1521: Labeled a "heretic" at the Diet of Worms (Germany) by Emperor Charles V of the Holy Roman Empire. Luther was guaranteed safe passage back to Wittenburg but subject to death. (Age 38)

1521: Frederick III, Elector of Saxony (*aka: Frederick the Wise*) secretly hides Luther at the Wartburg Castle in the Thuringian Forest near the village of Eisenach. Luther is excommunicated from the Roman Catholic Church by Pope Leo X.

1522: Translates the New Testament into the German language during his seclusion at the Wartburg Castle from 04.May.1521 to 01.March.1522. (Age 39)

1524-25: German Peasants Revolt against the ruling classes; Luther opposes the surfs' violent rebellion calling for brutal suppression in support of the elite classes. Over 100,000 peasants killed. (Age 41-42)

1525: Luther marries former Catholic nun Katharina (Katie) von Bora (Six children). (Age 41)

1529: Luther debates Swiss Reformer Huldwyh Zwingli on the sacraments. Luther insisted on the real presence of the body and blood of Christ with consecrated bread and wine (i.e. Sacramental Union) based on Jesus words during the Last Supper. Zwingli believed God to be only spiritually and symbolically present. (Age 46)

1529: Luther publishes his "Large Catechism" for the formal training of Protestant pastors and his "Small Catechism" for teaching children. (Age 46)

1534: Translates the Old Testament into the German language. (Age 51)

1536-37: Luther writes the Schmalkaldic Articles regarding Protestant confession of faith in response to Pope Paul III issuing the "Papal Bull" for the Roman Catholic Church to crush the Reformation movement. (Age 54)

1543: *On the Jews and Their Lies*. Luther wrote Jews who convert to Protestant Christianity should be accepted with kindness; the rest denounced, persecuted, and condemned to damnation. Luther's beliefs revolved around the birth and death of Jesus Christ; that the Jews did not believe was intolerable for him. (Age 60)

NOTE: In 1982 the World Lutheran Federation denounced Luther's hostile attitude towards the Jews; declaring all Christians must purge any hatred of the Jews or contempt for Judaism

1546: Luther dies of heart failure in Eisleben, Germany, the village of his birth and baptism after completing a three-week protracted successful mediation resolution settlement concerning an inheritance dispute between mine owners and the Mansfield Mining Company that was causing civil disorder. (Age 63)



Luther statue in Worms, Germany. He stands alone surrounded by his accusers of heresy at the Diet of Worms defending his conscience and beliefs at the risk of death.



St. Petri-Pauli Church, where Martin Luther was baptized on 11 November 1483 in Eisleben.

Since 2012, the reformer's baptismal church has focused on the theme of baptism through its modern design, making it more than just an authentic Luther site. Originally built , the three-nave church building underwent several transformations over the centuries. The modern circular baptismal fountain is a central design element and the baptismal font contains remnants of Luther's baptismal font at the time.



Free Little Pantry Update

Thanks to those of you who recently purchased food for the Free Little Pantry. We continue to have a steady demand for food and other essentials. The spike in grocery costs must be very challenging for the working poor in our community. Inflation was 7% in 2021, 6.5% in 2022, 3.4% in 2023, and 3.4% so far this year. That adds up to lots of increases in food, gas, and other consumer goods.

A few days ago I was buying my own groceries at Safeway. The add-on donation was for hunger abatement. The digital display asked, "Would you like to end hunger in America?" I pressed "no" and then immediately thought of the irony. Of course I would like to end hunger in America. I commented to the cashier, "That's a really difficult question." She said, "Yes, I've noticed that and thought the same thing." I said, "Of course I want to end hunger in America. But I support that in other ways." I paused, and then I said, "I take care of a Free Little Pantry." The cashier, who I had never seen before, said, "Oh, I wonder if it is one of the pantries that I swing by." "It's at Faith Lutheran, on Benton Street," I said. She said, "Yes, I go to that one. I was there last night looking for tomato soup. I was making a grilled cheese sandwich for dinner and wanted tomato soup to go with it." She shared that she had been using food banks for years and struggles to make ends meet.

We still have grant money from several sources helping us purchase food. Some of these sources won't be sustainable long-term. So any time you feel inspired to show up with food, it is appreciated.

Breakfast foods: Oatmeal (instant packets or in containers), dry cereal, pancake mix, muffin or biscuit mix, milk or milk alternatives in aseptic packaging, canned fruit, dried hash browns

Lunch: Crackers, bread, peanut butter, jam, tuna, beef jerky, beef sticks, packaged snacks like mixed nuts, bars

Dinner: Soups, chili, noodle bowls, ramen, mac & cheese, instant mashed potatoes, beans, rice, salsa, pasta, pasta sauce, tortillas

Other Essentials: dish soap, laundry soap, all-purpose cleaner, soap, toothpaste, shampoo, tampons, feminine hygiene pads

If you stop by and see that the pantry needs restocking, feel free to restock from the shelves inside the Fellowship Hall.

Thank you for supporting the Free Little Pantry.

Lisa Therrell



Art to assist in war-torn Ukraine and Gaza

Former Faith Lutheran member, Mary Carol Nelson is seeking to help provide needed assistance in war torn Ukraine and Gaza. As an artist, she is offering to sell her paintings at a 25% discount with the entire purchase price going directly to *Doctors Without Borders*. You can view her work on display at the CTC Building, 285



Technology Center Way in Wenatchee. If you are interested in making a purchase, please contact Mary Carol at

skibikegarden2@gmail.com and she will provide specific directions on how to secure the artwork and forward your donation to *Doctors Without Borders*. The discounted price range is between \$108 and \$243. Here are samples of her work.



Thank you, Camp Family!

Online and then outdoor worship at Faith began at the time of the pandemic. Without the Camp family, this could not have happened! They worked together to sort through needed technology to record and post worship online and in addition to investing endless hours of volunteer time, they generously donated the use of their electronic keyboard when outdoor worship was possible. It has now been 4 years so Faith has purchased their own keyboard so the Camp's keyboard can be returned.

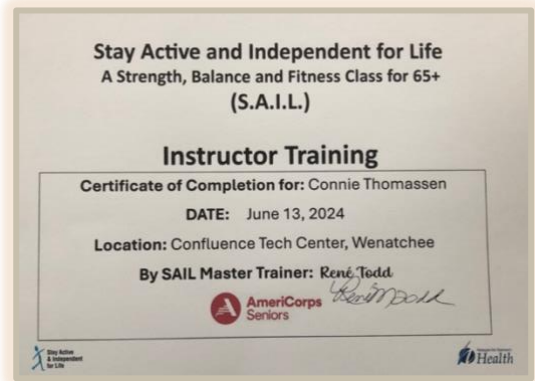
Heartfelt thanks to you, Mike, Lindsay, Grace and Ellie!

Your generosity is gratefully appreciated.



Congratulations...

Congratulations to Connie Thomassen for receiving her Re-Certification as a SAIL instructor for the program exercise classes designed by physical therapists and doctors for people age 65+. Classes are held every Tuesday and Thursday, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. at the FLC Fellowship Hall. Come join our group for some fun, smiles, and effective exercise routines that will enrich your physical well-being.



Leavenworth.

This program has widespread influence in NCW with SAIL classes being offered by dedicated Certified Instructors from the Methow Valley, to Twisp, Okanogan, Oroville, Othello, Quincy, Odessa, to Royal City, Grand Coulee, Waterville, Moses Lake, Ephrata, Chelan, Entiat, to Wenatchee, Cashmere, and

Congratulations to Faith member Leesa Broker at the birth of granddaughter Elliott Ann Marie Parton. Elliott joins her sister's Blakely 5 and Clarke 2 pictured here with Mommy Leah and Grandma Leesa. She weighed in at 9 lbs 15 oz. and 21.75 inches long. Sudden loud noises and jostling doesn't seem to affect her ability to eat and sleep. So it goes for being the third child!



Congratulations to Faith member Jan Monroe and husband Greg as they welcomed their first grandchild, Mason Lorenzo McCrary, on May 13. Mason was born to their daughter Jessica and her husband Kyle and was 9 lbs. and 21 inches long. *He is adorable and we love him very much!* All are adjusting well.

Thank you

Thank you Nadine Sanders for sharing your creativity through the weaving of beautiful new green paraments for Ordinary Times that will bless our worship at Faith throughout this season.



Our new paraments were blessed during worship on June 9.



Thank you Karl Kranz for purusing junk yards to acquire old bicycle frames and creating a solid rack for those joining worship or other activities at Faith via bicycle. Much appreciated!





Mission Statement

As disciples in Christ, we are called to incarnate the gracious, healing and reconciling presence of God through sacramental worship, congregational nurture and ministries of peace, mercy and justice for all Creation.

Vision Statement

Living in God's amazing grace, we envision Faith Lutheran Church as a diverse beacon of hope, healing and reconciliation in a broken world.



Faith Lutheran Church is a Reconciling In Christ (RIC) congregation.

We provide a safe and healing environment where people of any race, sexual orientation, gender identity, social or economic status can be nourished in their journey of faith.

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Thanks to all who contributed articles and general interest information for this newsletter! Please forward contributions to Mary Steeber at mary.steeber@gmail.com by July 22 for the August issue.

