

THE EVANGEL



FAITH EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

**421 E. Vine Street
Wilmington OH 45177
Ph: 937-382-2460**

April 2025

From the Pastor's Pen...



We are coming up to the Easter celebration later this month and finishing the final weeks of Lent. It's a time in the calendar for preparation and returning to the Lord. We look to the Christ for guidance as we will follow the Christ on the way of the cross.

This way of the cross is one of surrender and one of unconditional love. Each and every day we are called surrender our lives to God as we understand God, this path is fruitful and costly. True discipleship is always costly.

One of my favorite lines from Dietrich Bonhoeffer is, "When Christ calls, he bids one to come and die." Following Christ isn't about us. It takes letting go and surrendering to the loving will of God. As we approach Good Friday, I am reminded of the last seven words of Christ especially "Today you will be with me in paradise." A criminal asks Jesus for forgiveness and to be remembered in the kingdom. Jesus forgives from the cross. This is a powerful witness and example.

Forgiveness on the cross speaks so loudly. It is possible to already forgive someone for their actions to see the error and to engage in love. Christ forgives us even though we don't know what we do. When I was a kid and still today, I deeply pondered the crucifixion of Jesus, always wondering what it meant for my life. Jesus offers us new life in his death and resurrection. The cross always assured me that Christ was with me in the darkest hours even when I didn't feel that way.

The cross opens a door for forgiveness and reconciliation. We can stand at the foot of the cross and receive forgiveness. This forgiveness allows our lives to be restored even when we make mistakes. Forgiveness is about not drinking poison, expecting the other person to die. Forgiveness is about letting love even in the most difficult of circumstances allow us to experience new life. It is an antidote to the poison of anger and hatred.

I have experienced this in my life multiple times because of what Christ has done for us. How have you experienced? What has Christ done for you? Let's ponder over these next few weeks how Christ's forgiveness is alive in our lives. Where has Christ's forgiveness changed your life and how love is a guide for our lives? Are we sharing the forgiveness?

Here is just a tease of what happens next. He is...

I won't finish that line. The cross isn't the end. It is just the beginning. Forgiveness isn't the end. It is just a beginning to new life. We will get to the rest of the story this month.

Pastor Joel Richter

WORSHIP/MUSIC NEWS

March 17,2025

Hello everyone! Are we getting teased with this weather or what? I noticed flurries this morning and cold wind but didn't we just have 70 degree weather? It's not spring yet so keep you assortment of coats still handy. Don't forget to put attending church at the top of your "to do" list when the weather is good for you to come out. Start your week out renewed with the word of our Lord.

Here are some reminder dates as we continue through our season of Lent

March 30, 2025 Healing Service at the end of the Sunday morning service

Midweek Lenten Soup Suppers/Lent Service: March,26th, April 2nd, April 9th

April 13, 2025 Palm Sunday

April 17, 2025 Maundy Thursday 7pm (Stripping of the Altar)

April 18, 2025 Good Friday Tenebrae 7pm

April 20, 2025 Easter

June 15, 2025 Service on the Patio (start of Sunday services at 930am –one service only)

We had a Celebration of Life on Saturday, March 15th for **Carol Mohr**. Many of you remember Carol teaching Sunday School and her overall love of her church and all the youth that attended. She will be missed by her family at Faith Lutheran and the conveying of the message of love at her service, was the focus of many kind words from family and friends. Please continue to keep Dan and his family in your prayers while they grieve their loss of Carol.

We still have lots of volunteer openings so please sign up so we know that each responsibility is taken care of each Sunday. We are proud to announce that there have been a few people that have stepped up willing to learn altar guild – that is a tremendous help.

Pastor Joel and the Sunday School staff and kids will be learning some of the old standard kids songs and singing them when they are ready for the congregation. Easy songs like Jesus Loves Me; Hallelujah-Hallelujah and others. All of us older Lutherans learned songs of faith growing up and we want that opportunity for them too. Should be fun times for all!!!

In closing, remember – keep the faith – the world is still struggling with many issues and we all need the Lord to keep us on the path to him. Love one another, respect each other and always care for each other. Easter is coming soon – and we can unite and say "He is Risen"

See you in Church

Your Organist,
Tammy Maynard



Addresses for our Shut-ins & Military

Ruby Ostermeier Caroline Wesbrook
175 Cape May Drive 347 Florence Ave
Room 136 Wilmington, OH 45177

AS2 Amanda Riley, A1C Danielle Riley
1030 N.E. Cordero Place 402 9th St. Unit 51999
Oak Harbor, WA 98277 Dover AFB, DE 19902



BIRTHDAYS

Shelly McKay	4/2
Mariah Knowles	4/4
Amanda Riley	4/5
Jeremiah McKay	4/5
Dennis Ling	4/6
Ellen Christen	4/7
Amy Carter	4/8
Josh Riley	4/9
Caroline Vincent	4/10
Cindy Smith	4/11
Larkyn Johnson	4/11
William Gray	4/12
Ruby Ostermeier	4/13 (102)
Bradford Bogan	4/14
Kara Gherman	4/17
Carolyn Bauer	4/19
Jerry Griehm	4/19
Christina Kaun	4/21
Shelly Knowles	4/22
Beth Ackerman	4/24
Sue Newman	4/28
Megan Sargent	4/28
Nick Bailey	4/28

ANNIVERSARIES

Jamie & Shelly Knowles	4/1
Jeff & Judy Bennett	4/9
Gerald & Pat Schultz	4/15
Steve & Kathy Vincent	4/15
Sam & Justin Roseberry	4/27

Pastor Joel will be in the office Monday-Thursday

IN OUR PRAYERS....

Zachary Jewell
Sue Newman
The Zeckser Family
Caroline Westbrook
Donna Thorp
Carolyn Baur
Bob Minnish
Randy Gray
Lynn Ackerman
Steve Vincent

Ruby Ostermeier
Vickie Morgan
Chuck McKay
Ron & Sue Jenkins
Gerald & Pat Schultz
Shayna & Kara Spurrier
Michelle Kasten
Cathy Morrison
Harlene Rein
Rick Wilson

3/2/25

Zach Russell
Michelle Roades
The family of Carol Kurz

Co-worker Corey Giacobbi
Co-worker Corey Giacobbi
Cousin of Doug Campbell

Nicki Camp
Marcia Spack
JoAn Davis
Beth Johson
Jenny
Lynn Cowman
Debbie Holnaider
Jess and Matt Stanley
Michelle Roads
Jimmy Skuhrovec
Rick Roberts
Macey Williams
Anthony Stevens
Pat Sands & family
Pam Kuhar
Barry Thurston
Bonnie Ward
Michelle
Lori Heitzenrater
Hunter Wilson
The Lambcke Family
Bill Lewellen
Jennifer Johnson
Beth Maynard
Staff and Patients Zinga Children's Hospital
Claire Cavender
Lynn Turner

Friend of the Riley's
Cousin of Kathy Vincent
Sister of Ben Zella
Daughter in law of Terry & Madonna Johnson
Friend of David & Lani Brannum
Friend of Lynn Ackerman
Cousin of Kathy Giacobbi
Friends of the Brannums
Friend of Corey Giacobbi
Cousin of Kathy Giacobbi
Friend of FLC
Friend of the Riley's
Friend of FLC
Sister of Linda Hall
Friend of Kathy Giacobbi
Friend of Josh Riley
Friend of Diane Zella
Sister in law of Lani Brannum
Family friend of the Newman's
Friend of the Riley family
Friends of the Riley family
Brother-in-law of Kathy & Steve Vincent
Daughter in law of Ron Johnson
Aunt of Becky Riley

Cousin of Harrison Sargent
Friend of the Riley Family

Daniel Payne
Pat Cantwell
Julie Minney
Bentley, Lynne Eirons
Kristin Foster
Sue Zurface
Russ Burton

Brother of Dave Payne (Rhonda Wheasler)
Friend of Betty Pfeifer
Daughter of Vickie Morgan
Family of Donna Thorp
Granddaughter of Don & Sue Newman
Friend of Becky Riley
Friend of Josh & Becky Riley



Members, family, and friends serving in military



Danni Riley
Amanda Riley
Ben Thompson
Parker Haley
Nick Gumley
Luke Williams
Rebecca Carter
Laura Person
Derrick Izor
Isabella Grimm
Kayla Wilson
Liz Gray
Mia McCarty

Member of FLC
Member of FLC
Member of FLC
Nephew of Amy Wilson
Grandson of Ruby Fisher
Friend of Amanda Riley
Cousin of the Brannum Family
Cousin of Amanda Riley
Cousin of Michelle Kasten
Friend of Danni Riley
Friend of the Riley family
Friend of Danni Riley
Friend of the Riley Family

If you are sick for any reason – please stay home or do not come to Church if you are apprehensive about your health. If you have a temperature or do not feel well – **PLEASE** – do not come to church – stay at home. Also please stay at home if a person in your household is ill or running a fever. This is for any illness, also meaning please do not enter the building even if you think no one is here. We have vulnerable members in the congregation. You may not know the health conditions of your neighbors in the pews. With this in mind, love your neighbor by staying home.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our service will be recorded Live on Facebook and posted in Flocknote.

www.facebook.com/FaithLutheranChurchofWilmington

Your offering may be mailed or done online by going to

<https://www.flcwilmington.com/donationsofferings>

Volunteers Needed-There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex for Greeters/Ushers, Communion Assistants and Lectors. Please check the dates and see if you are available to volunteer a Sunday.

The 2025 Altar Flower Chart Has Been Posted On The Bulletin Board In The Narthex. Sign up on your preferred Sunday and indicate if they are given “in memory of...”; “in celebration of...” or “in honor of...”- A \$20 donation is suggested. Thank you!

Welca Website: The website Womenoftheelca.org has very good articles, including Daily Grace, which may be of interest to you. Check it out! Café is an award-winning web-based magazine (boldcafe.org) for young adult women who are interested in how faith relates to issues women face today.

Kroger Community Rewards Program:

11/31/24-1/31/25 \$77.99 contributed to the youth group fund.

A Kroger Plus card is needed to enroll. See office for more information or:

You may re-enroll via phone at 1-866-221-4141.

To enroll, go to: www.krogercommunityrewards.com

A successful sign-in will take you to a page with a first paragraph entitled **Kroger Community Awards**. In the text of the paragraph click where it says “click here”. You will then be on a page “Find Your Organization”. In the first box, type **QG123** or Faith then click search. **Choose Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church** and then save.

Food Pantry News For the total of the month of February our food pantry helped 42 adults, 41 seniors and 23 children (106 total people - 40 families). If you would like to learn more about volunteering for this ministry, see Jack Connor or Terri Roberts. To help supplement our Food Pantry this year, we are asking the congregation to bring a different product each month as shown below.

Food Pantry Donations 2025

April-Tissues

May-Canned Tuna

June-Hand Soap

July-Canned Fruit

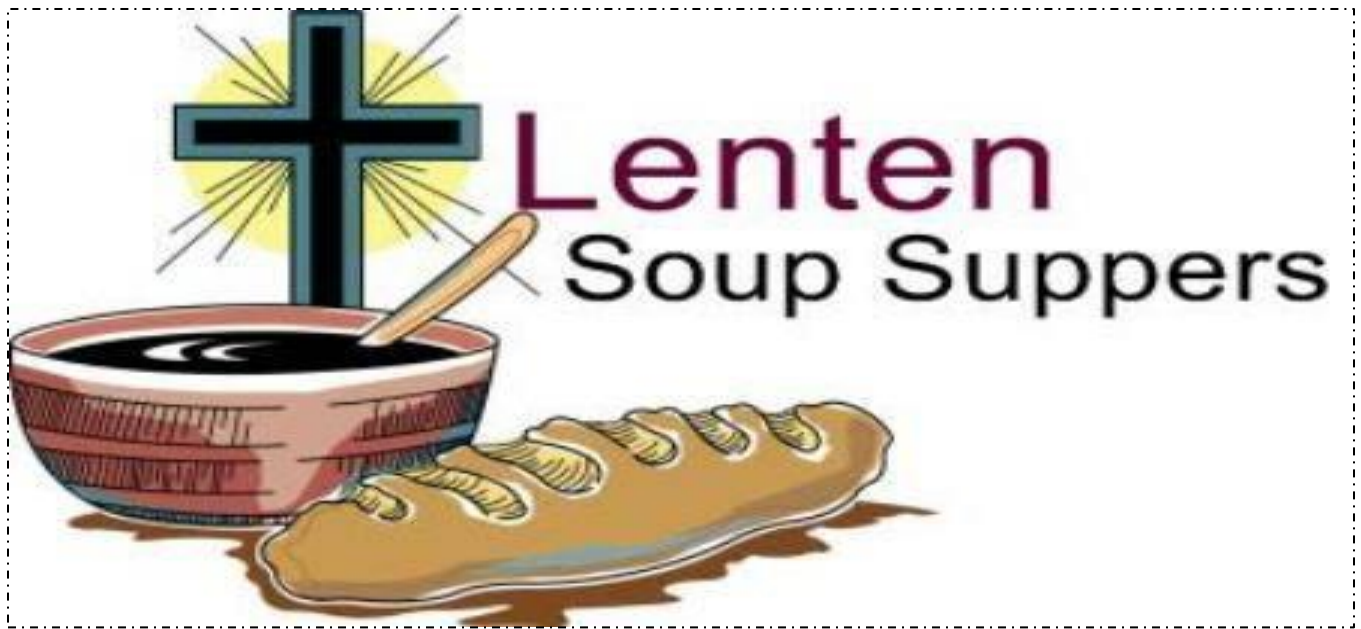
August-Dish detergent

September-Canned Pasta Sauce

October-Laundry Detergent

November-Canned Beans

December-Toilet Paper



Lenten Soup Suppers begin on Wednesday, March 12th and continue each Wednesday through April 9th.

Please use the sign-up sheet in the narthex either to provide soup or be part of the kitchen cleanup detail following the meal.

Worship Service to follow at 7pm



This year during our Lenten Soup Suppers, we will be having a craft activity every Wednesday for the kids at 6:15 pm. Come at 6 pm and have some soup. After dinner, the kids can join us for crafts at 6:15.

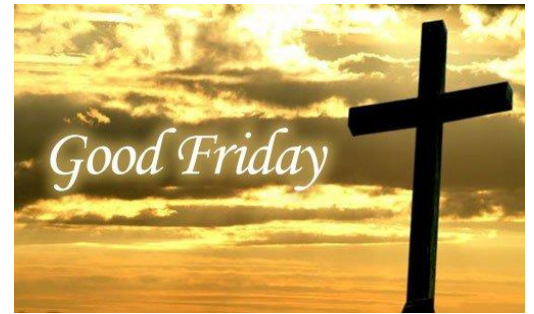
A Night of Awareness, come and join us for a conversation on March 20 at 6 pm about mental health awareness and how it relates to the church. It will be in the Fellowship Hall. Looking forward to seeing you then.



Palm Sunday
 April 13, 2025
 830am & 10:45am



Maundy Thursday
 April 17, 2025
 7pm



Good Friday
 April 18, 2025
 7pm



Easter Services April 20, 2025
 at 8:30am and 10:45am

Breakfast at 9:30am

Please join us on Easter morning for breakfast in between worship services at 9:30. We will be having egg casserole, scrambled eggs, sausage, and fruit. If you plan to attend, please let the church office know by April 13. Also, we would greatly appreciate it if you would bring a breakfast pastry to add to the menu. If you have any questions, please contact Lani Brannum or Diane Zella. Hope to see you there!





Coffee Fellowship: Come to church, stay for coffee! Although we would like to have coffee fellowship every Sunday, that hasn't been working out. No one is signing up. So, on the second Sunday of each month through the rest of the year, we will have coffee fellowship following the 10:45 service AND we will be celebrating all of the birthdays for that month. We want to celebrate you! Come join us the second Sunday of each month for cake and coffee. Of course, if you feel led to provide coffee fellowship any of the other three or four Sundays, we would love for you to SIGN UP on the sheet in the narthex.



*The fellowship committee will host a
Spring tea for all ladies
(including the young ladies)
of the church, on
Saturday, May 17, from 2-4 p.m.*

CHECK OUT FAITH'S FACEBOOK PAGE

You do not have to be a member of Facebook to access our page - just type www.facebook.com/FaithLutheranChurchofWilmington into your browser window and you will be taken directly to the page.

WEB NEWS

For congregational news, go to: www.flcwilmington.com

On-line giving now available through our website.

**Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church is in
the Southern Ohio Synod of the
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.**

For synod news: www.southernohiosynod.org

For national news: www.elca.org

ELCA Presiding Bishop: *Rev. Elizabeth Eaton*

Bishop of the Southern Ohio Synod: *Rev. Suzanne Dillahunt*

***ALL Meetings/Events/Projects must be booked
thru the office to be added to the calendar***

DEADLINES

Bulletin Announcements–Wednesday by 11:30 a.m.

Newsletter Calendar– No later than third Sunday of the month.

Email: faithelca@swohio.twcbc.com



FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH
421 East Vine Street
Wilmington, Ohio 45177

Forwarding Service requested

Moved or moving? Tell your Church

OUR MISSION:

To Share God's Love

To Care For Each Other

To Reach The World for CHRIST

WORSHIP SERVICE

SUNDAY 8:30am & 10:45am

**Youth Sunday School,
& Catechism (gr. 6-8) classes (SEP-MAY)
Adult Sunday School (All Year)**

Phone 937-382-2460