

BUILT ON FAITH



Church Council 2025

Cindi Bixler, Ted Caudill, George Davis,
Kathy Jennings, John Perkins, Brenda Stevens
Treasurer - Annie Caudill,

Pastor-The Rev. Logan Dysart, Administrative Assistant: Kim Taylor
Director Chancel Choir: Julie Froude, Director of Music/Organist: Mary Alice Mawer
Director of Christian Life: Lara Haines
Custodian: Joy Tipton, Campus Ministry Interns: Lindsay Stevenson, Mason Santalucia

Faith Lutheran Church & Lutheran Campus Ministry
420 S Campus Ave Oxford OH 45056
513-523-3808 faithlcm@woh.rr.com www.faith-oxford.com

Agencies We Support:

Talawanda Oxford Pantry & Social Services www.topss.org
Oxford College Corner Clinic www.oxfordfreeclinic.org
Family Resource Center www.frcoxford.org
Coalition for a Healthy Community www.facebook.com/healthyoxford
ELCA: World Hunger www.elca.org/hunger
Adult Day Service www.oxfordsenior.org
Lutheran Disaster Relief www.ldr.org.



FAITH FOCUS

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 4 Naomi Wanko
- 12 Sue Mavis
- 16 Patrick Mullally
- 25 Ann Mortimer

ORGAN FUND

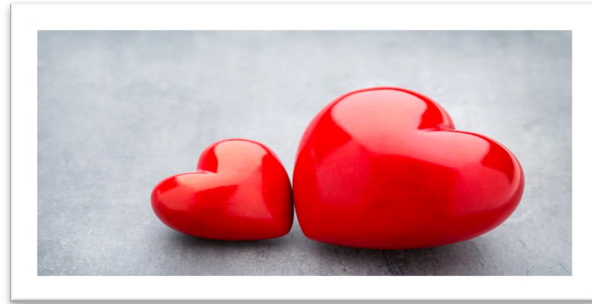
Organ information as of 12/31/2024:

Total amount collected: \$137,510.12

Total expenses paid: \$113,814.31

Balance as of 10/31/2024: \$23,695.81

Annie Caudill, Treasurer
Faith Lutheran Church and Campus Ministry



Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for reports or news items for the next month's newsletter need to be submitted to the Church office on or by Friday February 14, 2025

You may do this by emailing them to the church office at faithlcm@woh.rr.com If you have comments or suggestions, we want those too!



FROM THE PASTOR

February 2025

Dear Members and Friends,

*What does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness,
and to walk humbly with your God? (Micah 6.8)*

It seems to me that the people of Faith have gotten the year off to a great start! We recently shared an annual congregational meeting, reporting on the missions and ministries of the year now past and focusing upon what we must address to build anew as we plan for the year ahead. We elected members of Church Council, we accepted a financial plan, and we shared prayer, thanking God for providential care as well as for guidance in the future. And, it was announced that the outstanding balance for the pipe organ purchase and installation was completely paid in full by a generous donor. We thank God, we thank them, and we give thanks to everyone who participated so wholeheartedly in our annual congregational meeting.

As president of our congregation, Jeff Wanko led our annual meeting with the very same leadership he has given to this congregation and this pastor throughout his time as a member of Church Council. His dedication, knowledge, faith, and humor have guided us well. His inquisitive nature, respect for others, personal drive, and his focus have been beneficial beyond measure. He certainly will be missed as his term in office concludes.

Ted Caudill and John Perkins were elected to full terms on Church Council. They will be serving along with Cindi Bixler, Kathy Jennings, Annie Caudill, and George Davis, our 2025 Church Council. The Installation of our representatives will be on February 2nd. This is also **Celebration Sunday**, which brings the opportunity to give God thanks and praise for the abundance of blessings our people have committed to share in the year ahead! We trust that many people will join us for our potluck lunch after worship, downstairs in the Fellowship Hall.

Classes at Miami University began on January 27th, so students have returned to campus. Former undergrad and campus ministry intern Olivia Waits graduated in December, and we celebrate her achievement. We also celebrate that Lindsay Stevenson will continue to serve as our intern, along with Mason Santalucia. Mason's participation in our activities and events, his faithfulness in worship, and his worship leadership have demonstrated his dedication to the Lord and his suitability for this new role.

As the days, weeks, and months of 2025 unfold, let us dedicate ourselves to use the gifts, skills, and resources with which we have been blessed to bless not only the people of Faith, our community, and the world in which we live.

Serving Christ with you,



COUNCIL PRESIDENT JEFF WANKO

Church Council reviewed the recommended budget from Annie, noting that while December was a good month for giving, our total giving for the year did not cover our expenses. Our investments helped to cover the shortfall, but we are in real need of increased giving over the next year. Council approved the budget for presentation at the annual meeting. We also heard a report that ADS has agreed to an increase of \$100 per month, which is greatly appreciated in lieu of the additional electricity costs.

We also discussed the plans that have been outlined by the assistant to the Bishop, Bob Abrams. Rev Abrams suggests the following schedule:

- In March, begin scheduling supply preachers for approximately six weeks after Logan retires. (Annie Caudill will oversee this.)
- In April, he and the Bishop should meet with Council (excluding Logan) to discuss what the congregation may be looking for in the call for a new pastor. At our congregational meeting, it was suggested that we should be setting up listening sessions with congregation members before then so that Council has some direction from the congregation on this issue.

The Bishop will then make a recommendation for an interim pastor who would start some time after Logan retires (we would be using supply pastors in the meantime). The interim pastor would serve our congregation while we conduct the call. At our congregational meeting, the suggestion was made that we should be establishing the call committee before that to help lead the listening sessions. I am reaching out to Rev. Abrams with this request.

February 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 10 a.m. Worship/ Communion	3 6:00 p.m. Property Committee	4	5 8:30 a.m. Bible study 6:30 Knitting Circle 6:30-7:30 p.m. Zoom Bible Study	6 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice	7	8
9 10 a.m. Worship/ Communion	10 6:00 p.m. Stewardship	11	12 8:30 a.m. Bible study 5:30 p.m. Faith's Table 6:30-7:30 p.m. Zoom Bible Study	13 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice	14 Newsletter Deadline	15
16 10 a.m. Worship/ Communion	17 6:30 p.m. Christian Ed.	18	19 6:30-7:30 p.m. Zoom Bible Study 6:00 p.m. Church Council	20 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice	21	22
23 10 a.m. Worship/ Communion	24	25	26 6:30-7:30 p.m. Zoom Bible Study	27 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice	28	

February 2025



Through the baptisms of Darlene, Cate, Cohen and Jesse let us all pause and reflect on our own faith journeys as Children of God. What excitement for the Kingdom of God! What is stirring in you? How are you growing closer to the Lord? Why does renouncing the powers of sin and the devil matter? Do you have a repentant heart ready for revival?

Find another baptized family member or friend and pray over them this month.

I give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you have given _____ new birth, cleanse him/her from sin, and raise him/her to eternal life.

Sustain _____ with the gift of your Holy Spirit; the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge, the fear of the Lord, and the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever. AMEN

2/2 – 4th Sunday of Epiphany

2/9 – 5th Sunday of Epiphany

HS class meets after church

2/16 – 6th Sunday of Epiphany – President's Weekend

2/23 – 7th Sunday of Epiphany

HS class meets after church

God's Work our Hands:

Thank you: Big thanks for all the support and joy poured over Darlene, Cate, Cohen, and Jesse baptized in January. Cate, Cohen and Jesse have already made the long trip to Manhattan, Kansas where Aaron has taken a job. Keep them in prayer.



Evening Zoom Bible Study: We have started a new study on the Minor Prophets. These 12 books of the Old Testament are only minor due to the fact that they are shorter, but definitely rich in history and messages applicable for today. If you would like to join online, please contact Micheline Kidwell (mmkidwell@gmail.com) for more information.

Wednesday Morning Bible Study: Meets at 8:30-9:30 am Wednesdays at Faith, but a Zoom option is available too. Currently discussing the life of Christ chronologically across the Gospels. Please contact Beth Baer (BAERME@muohio.edu) for more information.

CAMPUS MINISTRY

MASON SANTALUCIA

Hello! My name is Mason Santalucia, and I'm happy to be the newest Campus Ministry Intern. I'm a junior here at Miami with a Games and Simulation Major, meaning I'm learning how to develop video games! I'm also both Studio Art and Emerging Technology in Business and Design Minors, which both help me round out my skill set for my future career. In my free time, I'm part of the Miami Striders Running Club, and am training to run a half marathon in Cincinnati this spring. I come all the way from Wisconsin where I also go to a Lutheran church, and have been since I was young. Back in 2018 I went with a group to the ELCA Youth Gathering in Houston, and would frequently volunteer at the community meals we would host. Unfortunately in recent years, especially since the pandemic, my church at home had not really been feeling right anymore. It took forever to bring back things such as in-person worship, real communions, and even after restrictions had been lifted there were often times readings or other parts of the service would be skipped for time's sake.



When I first came to Faith, all of the things I had been missing were suddenly happening again, and the community here welcomed me with open arms. I felt far more connected to God than I had in the past year, and during the tough times of a first semester at college, Faith (both the church and my faith in God) provided me with a rock I could hold on to, something steady and familiar in an unfamiliar place. The people of this congregation are very important to me, and especially the Campus Ministry members helped make sure I felt included, inviting me to sit with them during worship and providing much needed rides back to my dorm when I lived far away. There is something special about this community that makes sure I wake up every Sunday and come to church, rain or shine, hot or cold, even when I would have to walk twenty minutes in the cold to make it. I hope that I can be there for anyone who is in the place I was two years ago, hope that I can make them feel included and wanted, and maybe help them form a deeper relationship with their faith. I'm hoping to bring back even more of the things I used to do such as volunteer work, and me and Lindsay are working on planning many events for both Campus Ministry students and the congregation as a whole. See you on Sunday!

HOLY BAPTISM



PRAYERS FROM WORSHIP



With the Spirit of Christ shining upon us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

As heavens declare your glory and the sky proclaims your work, we lift our voices in awe of quarks and atoms, vast stars and solar systems. Guide us to speak on behalf of your handiwork. God, we beseech you to bring an end to the destruction and sheer waste of the wildfires in California. Be with all who seek to help, aid, and rescue people in desperate need. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

As Jesus proclaimed life and freedom in his community, energize communities and nations to eliminate poverty, engage in prison ministry and transformative justice, and envision new ways of working together for your promised reign. We pray for people who are homeless, people who have no food, and people who need your providential care.

God of grace,
hear our prayer.

As your word and presence revive the soul, accompany all experiencing depression, anxiety, or eating disorders; be a source of strength for all affected by memory loss and their caregivers; draw near to all undergoing medical treatment or surgical procedures. We pray for all members of Faith Lutheran Church and Campus Ministry, especially Mary Muckler, Marc Dovenmuehle, Bob Baer, Pauly Zody, Sarah Driver, Jordan Seubert, Patrick Hellman, Mary Bausano, Kim, John, Sue, and Liam.

God of grace,
hear our prayer.

As students return to Oxford and to campus, we ask your blessings on the new semester. Be with educators, administrators, support staff, and all who work to make this campus – and institutions of higher education all around the world – function well. Bless our Campus Ministry and our interns Lindsay Stevenson and Mason Santalucia.

God of grace,
hear our prayer.

You call us by name and form us. We give thanks for the gift of baptism. We praise your name for four people baptized in worship this morning! Bless each one and every one! Nurture all the baptized and equip people sent to proclaim the good news, especially Young Adults in Global Mission and international congregations.

God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Help all who have no helper. Draw near to persons who have no one to advocate for them and all who feel forgotten. Deliver healing to all who call to you. Precious are they in your sight. God of change, you accompany us through life's transitions. Be near to all who are changing jobs, moving, welcoming children, or facing the loss of loved ones. In times of change, keep us ever mindful of your steadfast love.

God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Prince of Peace, we give you praise and thanksgiving at the ceasefire agreement with Israel and Hamas. We pray for peace in the warring between Ukraine and Russia. We pray for peace wherever blood is being spilled by violence. We pray for genuine peace in our homes and our hearts.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Voice of the oppressed, you call prophets throughout time. We remember the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., a voice for racial and economic justice and for peace. Guide our nation in continuing to heed your prophetic call. Help us as the Inauguration brings different leadership into our national government. Nurture our shared commitment to embody Jesus' love, justice, and healing.

God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Your glory fills the earth. Bless the work of all who engage in dialogue with people of other traditions and faiths. Bridge our differences with a shared mission of revealing your boundless love to the world.

God of grace,
receive our prayer.

Liberate this congregation from a yearning for the past that forgets the future. Fuel in us a passion for discovery. Give us the boldness to dream and to imagine our ministries in new and different ways.

God of grace,
hear our prayer.

God, we thank you for another year. May this be a year of hoping, believing, and rejoicing. A year of helping others... in the mighty name of Jesus. A year of learning your Word, your will, and your ways. A year of growing... like a tree planted by streams of water. A year of praying, casting our cares upon you. A year of waiting; knowing that your timing... is always best. A year of trusting in your promises and in your faithfulness... And may this be a year of overcoming, because even in the darkness, the light shines. Whatever we face this year, we know we'll never have to face it alone because you're always with us and for us, in Jesus' name. So, we commend these prayers to you, O God, trusting your grace made known to all, through the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

SCRIPTURES FOR WORSHIP

FEBRUARY 2025

Presentation of Our Lord

February 2, 2025

Malachi 3:1-4	My messenger is a refiner and purifier
Psalm 84	How dear to me is your dwelling, O Lord. (Ps. 84:1)
Hebrews 2:14-18	Jesus shares human flesh and sufferings
Luke 2:22-40	The child is brought to the temple

Fifth Sunday After Epiphany

February 9, 2025

Isaiah 6:1-8	Isaiah says, "Here am I; send me!"
Psalm 138	I will bow down toward your holy temple. (Ps. 138:2)
1 Corinthians 15:1-11	I am the least of the apostles
Luke 5:1-11	Jesus calls the disciples to fish for people

Sixth Sunday After Epiphany

February 16, 2025

Jeremiah 17:5-10	Blessed are those who trust the Lord, they are like trees by water
Psalm 1	They are like trees planted by streams of water. (Ps. 1:3)
1 Corinthians 15:12-20	Christ has been raised, the first fruits of those who have died
Luke 6:17-26	Jesus speaks blessings on the poor and hungry; woes on the rich and full

Seventh Sunday After Epiphany

February 23, 2025

Genesis 45:3-11, 15	Joseph forgives his brothers
Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40	The lowly shall possess the land; they will delight in abundance of peace. (Ps. 37:11)
1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50	The mystery of the resurrection of the body
Luke 6:27-38	Love your enemies



PRESIDING BISHOP EATON ISSUES STATEMENT ON IMMIGRATION EXECUTIVE ORDERS

When an alien resides with you in your land, you shall not oppress the alien. The alien who resides with you shall be to you as the native-born among you; you shall love the alien as yourself, for you were aliens in the land of Egypt: I am the Lord your God" (Leviticus 19:33-34).

Dear church,

I write to you today with grave concern. Over the past few days, ELCA leaders and ministry partners have shared with me the immediate impacts of recent executive orders focused on immigration. I have heard about families frightened of being torn apart and from congregations fearful that their churches can no longer offer safety or support to their immigrant neighbors. I have heard from faith partners ordered to stop services to refugees and from businesses upended by workforce disruptions.

Many of us in the ELCA come from immigrant peoples. As Lutherans, we have a long tradition of hospitality, dating back to the end of World War II, of helping displaced Lutheran refugees, assisting subsequent refugee groups and welcoming new immigrants. Our church has long called for compassionate, just and wise immigration reform. ("Toward Compassionate, Just and Wise Immigration Reform" social policy resolution).

Today, recent immigrants, refugees, asylum-seekers and displaced people are members of our congregations, communities and leadership. The presence of newcomers heightens our awareness of issues of relevance to the church so we can take part in faithful deliberation on public policies, like the ones that have come out in recent days. Our church's grave concerns grow out of these experiences with the people being affected.

From these experiences, people in our church have learned that the decision to leave one's home country is not made lightly. Many have arrived fleeing persecution because of how they worship, their political views, or their race and nationality. Political instability, environmental catastrophes and lack of opportunities have also compelled many to seek a more dignified life. Out of our own Lutheran experience of knowing many refugees, we have long stood against exclusionary attitudes and policies toward successive newcomers.

Among the policy changes to which our church's social teaching objects include:

- Orders to suspend all refugee resettlement.
- New and sweeping enforcement priorities.
- The summons of military personnel to the border.
- The decision to revoke special guidance regarding enforcement activity at or near sacred or protected places.

Keeping communities safe and supporting the well-being of all people is a goal shared by the ELCA. Yet it's worth naming that these executive actions are increasing fear and division within our society. Some people, including U.S. citizens, are alarmed about immigration enforcement at churches, schools and playgrounds. Some are afraid to seek care at hospitals or to access essential services.

The Scriptures are clear. We are called to see anew the image of God in our immigrant neighbors. Following God's call in Leviticus 19 that is echoed throughout Scripture, the time is now.

It is my sincere hope as bishop that various harmful actions will be reconsidered. It is my fervent prayer that we, as church together, will be bold in our witness and actions. ELCA churchwide ministries will continue to provide resources to protect the most vulnerable among us.

Let us together join in:

- **A Call to Prayer** alongside and for immigrants and sojourners, our communities and for our leaders, that they will act wisely and justly, protect all people and not cause harm.
- **A Call to Learning**, using resources such as the ELCA social message "Immigration"; the ELCA's strategy for Accompanying Migrants with Protection, Advocacy, Representation and Opportunities (AMMPARO), including "[Know Your Rights](#)" information; and companion resources from [Global Refuge](#)

(formerly Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service) and [Church World Service](#) on the policy changes. Join ELCA AMMPARO and Global Refuge for a webinar, "What Now—Resources for Faith Communities after Executive Orders," on Thursday, Jan. 30, 4-5 p.m. Eastern time. Registration is required. Register [here](#).

- **A Call to Personal Witness** by speaking out against rhetoric that dehumanizes and demonizes anyone made in the image of God, and by promoting accurate information about neighbors and issues of public concern, in the spirit of the [Conference of Bishops statement](#) on the need to speak the truth.
- **A Call to Public Witness**, using the resources of ELCA AMMPARO, [ELCA Witness in Society](#) and State Public Policy Offices, and joining with our ecumenical partners as we offer faithful, direct witness to government.

As a [sanctuary denomination](#), the ELCA proclaims walking with immigrants as a matter of faithfulness. The ELCA does not call for activity contrary to the law but for congregations, leaders and individuals to explore resources addressing how to interpret this memorial to their own contexts. Most of all, I encourage all to discern together how to live our faith, excluding none from God's overflowing love.

God calls us to welcome the stranger and love the sojourner as we love ourselves. I pray for God's grace to increase understanding of and mercy toward immigrants in these days.

In Christ,
The Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton
Presiding Bishop
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

[Presiding Bishop Eaton Issues Statement on Immigration Executive Orders](#)

About the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America:

The ELCA is one of the largest Christian denominations in the United States, with 2.8 million members in more than 8,500 worshipping communities across the 50 states and in the Caribbean region. Known as the church of "God's work. Our hands.," the ELCA emphasizes the saving grace of God through faith in Jesus Christ, unity among Christians and service in the world. The ELCA's roots are in the writings of the German church reformer Martin Luther.

For information contact:
Candice Hill Buchbinder
Public Relations Manager
Candice.HillBuchbinder@ELCA.org

WHO WE ARE

▶ OUR MISSION

Our mission at Faith Lutheran Church and Campus Ministry is to learn, live, share, and celebrate God's word, love, and grace with all.

✝ OUR BELIEFS

- We believe in the Triune God.
- We believe in God's grace.
- We believe in welcoming everyone.
- We believe in building strong faith through Christian education.
- We believe in worshipping together.
- We believe in serving others.

♥ WELCOME TO ALL

As we look to Jesus as our model for inclusive love, we invite all and encourage everyone to attend our worship services, to participate, to serve, and to contribute with their time and talents as the Holy Spirit guides and directs.

🤝 SERVING OTHERS

As we reflect the compassion, love and justice of Jesus Christ, our congregation is committed to serving our church family, our local community, Miami University students, and the world.

VISIT US



**FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH
AND CAMPUS MINISTRY**

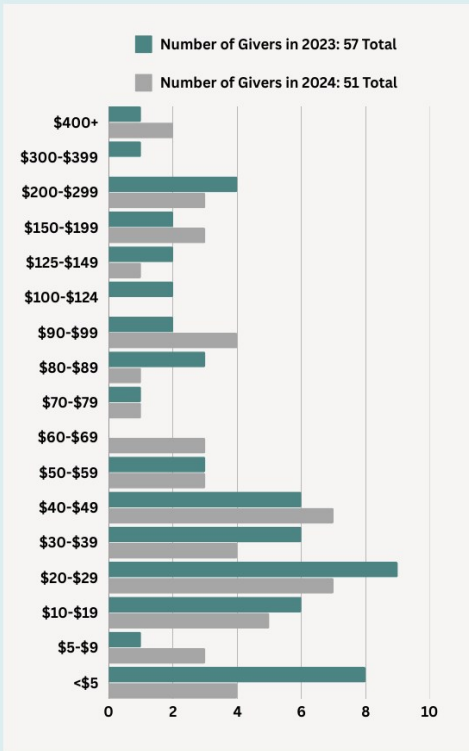
**420 SOUTH CAMPUS AVENUE
OXFORD, OH 45056
513-523-3808
WWW.FAITH-OXFORD.COM**



ONE FAITH ONE FAMILY ONE FUTURE



**STEWARDSHIP APPEAL
2025**



This graph displays two years of our giving at different levels. The first bar shows how many gifts were received at each level in 2023. The second shows how many gifts were received in 2024.

As you look over the charts, prayerfully ask yourself the following:

- How does my giving level compare with other ways I use my money?
- How adequately does my giving reflect my gratitude to God for all the blessings I have received?
- Where would I be if I doubled my offerings? And can I consider doing that?
- How much more could I give if I really wanted to?

The following is helpful in calculating weekly or monthly giving to Faith Lutheran Church for a 12-month commitment.

Per Week	Per Month	Per Year
\$2	\$9	\$104
\$5	\$22	\$260
\$10	\$44	\$520
\$15	\$65	\$780
\$20	\$87	\$1,040
\$30	\$130	\$1,560
\$40	\$174	\$2,080
\$50	\$217	\$2,600
\$75	\$325	\$3,900
\$100	\$434	\$5,200
\$200	\$867	\$10,400
\$300	\$1,300	\$15,600



MAKING YOUR COMMITMENT

In response to God's grace and love in Christ Jesus and in appreciation of Faith Lutheran Church's ministry, I/we intend to give this offering during 2025 in support of the congregation's ongoing ministry. I/we understand that this amount may be changed if necessary.

Amount to be given:

\$ _____ weekly OR
 \$ _____ monthly OR
 \$ _____ annual total

This offering begins:

January 2025 OR
 _____ (date)

I/We would like to use the convenience of online giving to make this offering: Yes OR No

If Yes, would you like to receive additional help creating an account? Yes OR No

Name _____

Address _____

Preferred email address _____

Preferred phone _____

There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all. (Ephesians 4: 4-6)

PRAYER VENTURES ~ FEBRUARY 2025

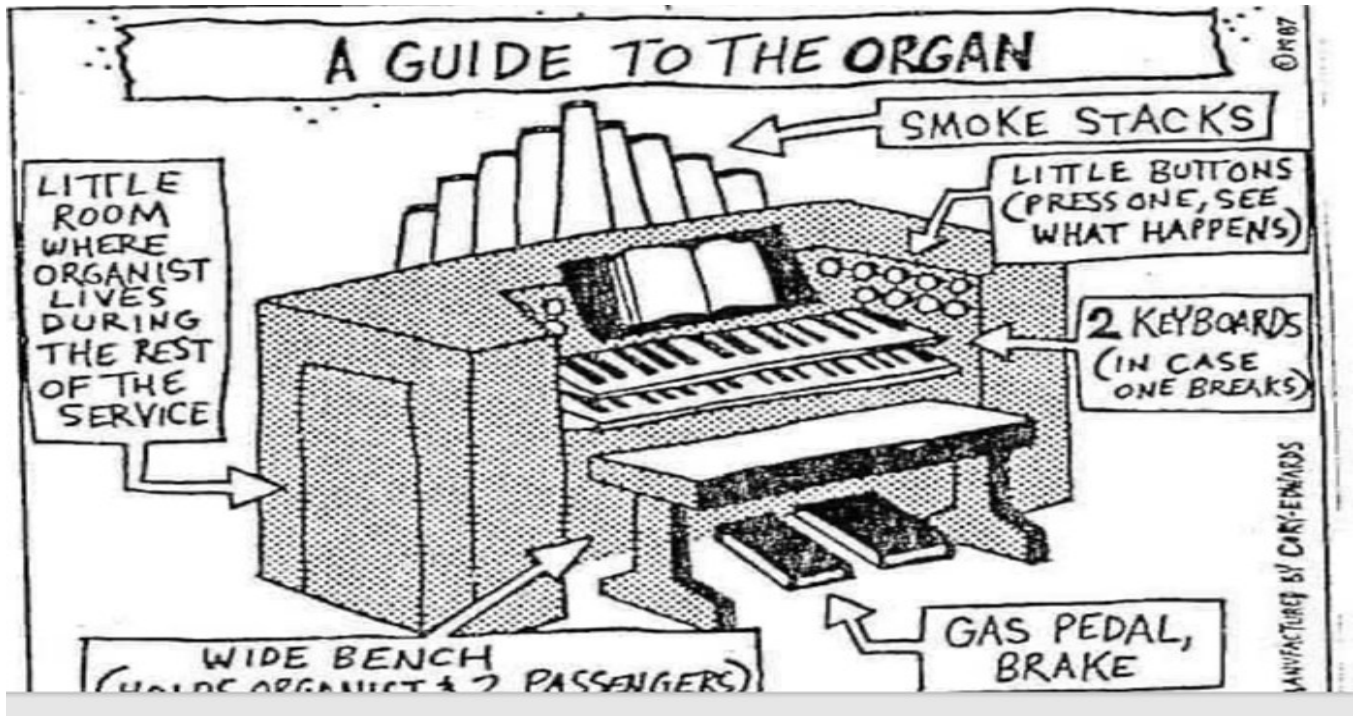
1. World Interfaith Harmony Week (U.N.) Ask the Spirit to help congregations create opportunities for dialogue and learning with people whose religious beliefs and traditions are different from our own, for the sake of peace, harmony, cooperation and mutual understanding.
2. The word of God brings joy and comfort to us yet is sometimes difficult to hear. Pray that we will reflect on how God's word strikes us, especially when it challenges what is safe, familiar and comfortable in our lives.
3. Ask God to help us move beyond our apprehensions, anger and entrenched beliefs so that we might confess and address deeply rooted aspects of racism that poison relationships, workplaces, society and the church. Pray for the Spirit to remind us that we are children of God who live in grace and are called to love, respect and serve one another complexities, differences and all.
4. Among all our gifts and abilities, the most important is love for God and our neighbors — family, strangers and siblings in Christ alike. Praise God for teaching us what love entails through the selfless, unreserved and undeserved love of Jesus Christ for humankind.
5. Pray for Federal Chaplaincy Ministries of the ELCA, which seeks, supports, nurtures and sends pastors and seminary students to serve as federal chaplains and chaplain candidates for the U.S. military, Veterans Affairs hospitals and federal correctional institutions. Give thanks for chaplains and the gifts that the Spirit nurtures within them as they serve in unique contexts.
6. Lift up prayers and songs of praise to God for being the bright light in the world that illuminates the one true and enduring source of hope, guidance and eternal life — Jesus Christ.
7. Use the words of Psalm 71:3 in your prayer to God today: “Be to me a rock of refuge, a strong fortress to save me, for you are my rock and my fortress.”
8. Pray for our neighbors and siblings in Christ who labor in one or more jobs to meet basic daily needs for themselves and their families. Ask God to strengthen and sustain their spiritual and physical strength and to help us be supportive, caring and generous neighbors.
9. Ask God to help us be attentive and responsive to how God speaks to us through Scripture, the life and teachings of Jesus Christ, the work of the Spirit and the encouragement and admonition offered by our siblings in Christ.
10. Give thanks for the ELCA's commitment to accompany and work with interreligious partners, including the Shoulder to Shoulder Campaign, an initiative that connects, equips and mobilizes leaders and members of faith communities to address anti-Muslim discrimination and violence, foster greater understanding and shift attitudes about Islam and Muslims in our country.
11. What tasks feel overwhelming to you right now? Ask God to renew your spirit for undertaking those things that are difficult to work through and accomplish.
12. Remember in prayer our ministries in nine African countries. Pray for ELCA Global Mission personnel, International Women Leaders and Young Adults in Global Mission who work alongside companion churches to help spread the gospel, equip leaders, grow the church and respond to community needs.
13. We are recipients and beneficiaries of the good news of Jesus Christ, who died for our sins and imperfections and defied the finality of death so that we could live with newfound freedom in this world, and forever in the kingdom of God.
14. Give thanks to God for the leaders of our church who respond to God's call by serving as ministers of Word and Sacrament and ministers of Word and Service. Ask the Spirit to sustain their faith, inspire their joy in ministry and equip them with gifts and skills for serving in diverse and challenging contexts.

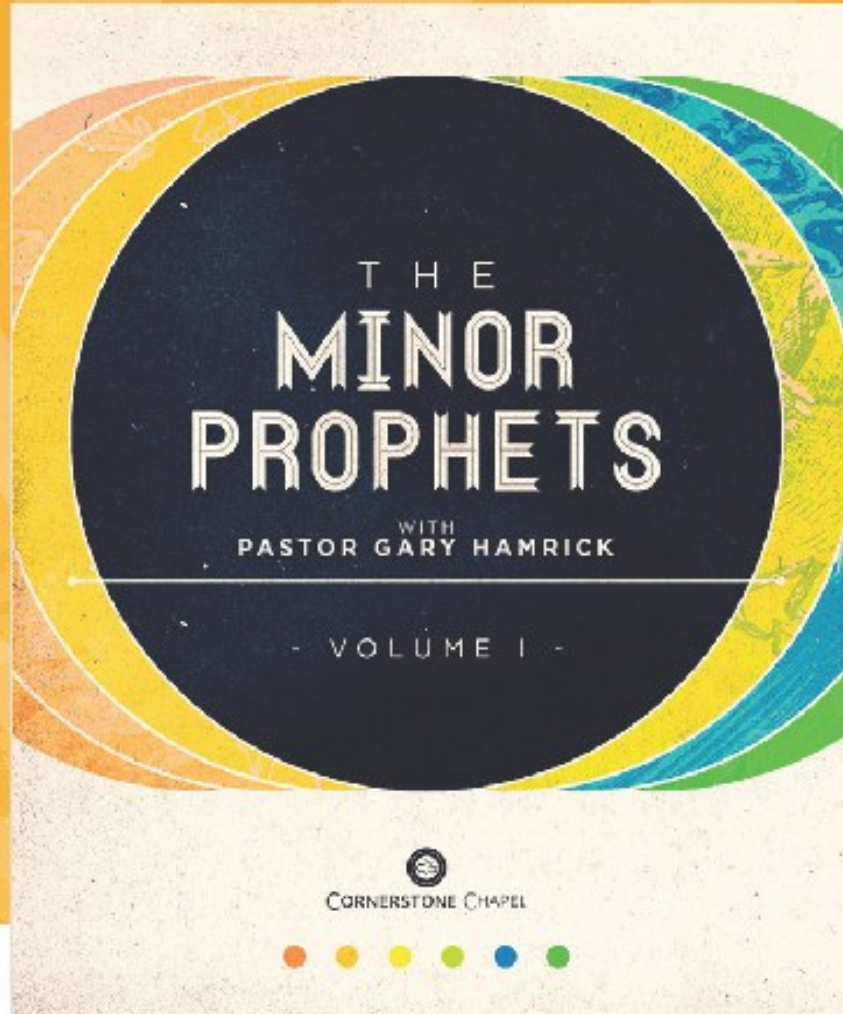
PRAYER VENTURES ~ FEBRUARY 2025

- 15.** Pray for peace, healing and justice, especially in the critical contexts of Ukraine, Russia, Haiti, the Middle East, troubled regions of Africa and wherever conflict and war exist in the world.
- 16.** Remember in prayer those impacted by the wildfires in Southern California and by severe winter weather, and those involved in long-term recovery from disasters. Give thanks for Lutheran Disaster Response and for synods and congregations that provide financial support, resources, volunteers and encouragement.
- 17.** Pray for the 300 health and human service organizations that form the alliance of Lutheran Services in America and serve more than 6 million people every year in the United States and the Caribbean. Pray that our work together through these organizations will provide us with abundant resources and skills to respond to the unique needs of people of all ages.
- 18.** “I have called you by name; you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you, and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you” (Isaiah 43:1-2). Give thanks and praise to God for being our ever present help in every circumstance of life.
- 19.** Praise God for the work of the Spirit, which creates and nurtures our faith and hope in Jesus Christ, our risen Savior, whose love has no limits and endures through our ups and downs.
- 20.** *World Day of Social Justice (U.N.)* Ask for God’s help to advance social justice everywhere, to foster healthy societies and economies, to end inequality and discrimination, and to increase inclusion — issues critical for the well-being of our neighbors and communities.
- 21.** Thank God for the ELCA’s special relationship with the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), a full communion partner since 1997. Pray for the church, its members and its leaders, that together we will find strength and resources for the work of sharing the gospel and serving our neighbor.
- 22.** Remember in prayer our ministries in nine countries in Latin America and the Caribbean. Pray for ELCA Global Mission personnel and Young Adults in Global Mission volunteers, who help deepen relationships of accompaniment with companion churches and who work to develop leaders, strengthen education and health ministries, and confront issues of migration and gender justice.
- 23.** “Love your enemies; do good to those who hate you; bless those who curse you” (Luke 6:27-28). Pray for humility and courage to love our neighbors as God has loved us.
- 24.** In the dreariness of winter, when nature seems lifeless, give thanks to God for the people and little things reminding us that life endures, though we might think it depleted. God’s ability to create, revive and sustain life even in us is cause for joy and thanksgiving!
- 25.** Pray for synod bishops gathering for the spring Conference of Bishops in Itasca, Ill., that the Spirit will guide and enrich their time together for worship, study, mutual sharing, and conducting business. Give thanks for their guidance of our church and ask God to equip them for leadership, service and responding to the growing challenges of ministry in our 65 synods.
- 26.** Give thanks for the work we do together through programs, ministries and initiatives of the ELCA and our synods. Pray that our church will thrive and that we will inspire faith and hope wherever we share the good news of Jesus Christ.
- 27.** “Esteem [the Bible] as the precious fountain that can never be exhausted” (Martin Luther, *Table Talk*). What stories and texts in the Bible are most familiar to you? Pray for the Spirit to help you discover something new and revealing each time you read or hear those familiar texts.
- 28.** Pray for the ministries unique to your community, that we will consider the people and needs they serve, value their staff and volunteers, and generously support their work.

PIPE ORGAN FACTS

It feels like we are on an airplane and the pilot has just announced that we are in a “holding” pattern (ie: flying around in circles”). Our organ console (keyboard) is in South Carolina being “digitized”. The person doing the work on our instrument fell off a ladder and broke his leg so we are in a “holding pattern” while he recovers. Let’s all pray for his quick recovery. Yes, it’s a bit self-serving however this is where we find ourselves. Our organ builder thinks that on-site work will begin sometime this summer. More information about the organ follows.





ONLINE BIBLE STUDY

WEDNESDAY 6:30-7:30 PM

Starting in January

CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE FOR INFORMATION

513-523-3808

February 14, 2025 12:15-1pm

**Holy Trinity Episcopal Church
25 East Walnut Street
Oxford, OH 45056
12:15pm - 1 pm**

**Red
Door
Community
Concerts**



Miami professor Bruce Murray has worked in the music world as performer, teacher, presenter, producer, administrator, broadcaster, critic, and author. To date he has performed in more than one thousand public concerts. These include more than thirty solo programs in Oxford in the past decade, as Murray has aimed to present important music to his community and emphasize composers who have been under served. During the COVID lockdown he created a series of fifty-two music videos, "Musical Snacks," recorded mostly at the Oxford Community Arts Center and published by Miami University's Performing Arts Series. This concert marks Murray's second appearance on the Red Door Community Concerts series. As a Steinway Artist he is delighted to perform a Valentine's Day Concert on Holy Trinity's fine Steinway instrument.



VISION 2020

Vision statement:

Building on our faith in God, growing in grace, and serving with love.

Mission statement:

Our mission at Faith Lutheran Church and Campus Ministry is to learn, live, share, and celebrate God's word, love, and grace with all.

Belief Statement:

- We believe in the Triune God.
- We believe in God's grace.
- We believe in welcoming everyone.
- We believe in building strong faith through Christian education.
- We believe in worshipping together.
We believe in serving others.

Value Statement:

Our Triune God:

God is the creator of all and Father of all.

Jesus is the Son of God, our Savior, and our Redeemer.

The Holy Spirit is actively living in us as our enabler and source of hope and grace.

God's grace and forgiveness:

By the gift of grace, God has forgiven our sins and loves each of us fully and completely as we are. God's love is unconditional.

Welcoming all:

As we look to Jesus as our model for inclusive love, we invite all and encourage everyone to attend our worship services, to participate, to serve, and to contribute with their time and talents as the Holy Spirit guides and directs.

Building strong faith:

We are all invited to grow in our faith and share God's love through our daily lives.

Christ-centered worship, meditation, prayer, Bible study, education, and fellowship activities are essential to develop and nurture faith and devotion to our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Worshipping God together:

Worship is an expression of our faith, our praise, and our thankfulness; designed to be meaningful to each person wherever they are in their life's faith journey.

Serving others:

As we reflect the compassion, love and justice of Jesus Christ, our congregation is committed to serving our church family, our local community, Miami University students, and the world.

**FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH AND
LUTHERAN CAMPUS MINISTRY
420 S. CAMPUS AVE.
OXFORD, OH 45056
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

♥ *happy* ♥
Valentine's
♥ *day* ♥

FEBRUARY 2025

Sunday, February 2, 2025

Worship 10:00 a.m.

Sunday, February 9, 2025

Worship 10:00 a.m.

Sunday, February 16, 2025

Worship 10:00 a.m.

Sunday, February 23, 2025

Worship 10:00 a.m.

OFFICE STAFF

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513.523.3808
Monday - Friday 8am - noon