

Faith Lutheran Church
1187 C.R. 128
Fremont, OH 43420-9797

APRIL
2025

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2025 Church Council

President: Dave Kocsis **Vice-President:** Marie Reiselt

Secretary: Laurie Krynock **Treasurer:** Ann Waggoner

Elders: Carol Trick, Amy Wagner

Trustee: A.J. Green

Deacon: Mike Fought

Endowment: Randy Koch, Larry Leow, Debra Clark, Mike Schneider, Roy Burgoon, Marie Reiselt, Pastor Tim Miller

The Messenger

Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church
www.faithfremont.org



APRIL 2025

From the Pastor's Desk...

Greetings children of God.

One of my favorite contemporary Christian songs is *The Lion and The Lamb* by Big Daddy Weave. Aside from it being just a great, uplifting song, I truly love the chorus as it draws us in to see Jesus, our Lord and Savior, in the image of both of those animals. Until April 20, we journey to the cross with Jesus, singing with other disciples, serving those in need, and giving God all the praise. We journey to the cross, finding out again that only in the death and Resurrection of Jesus, do we find life, hope, and joy. Jesus is the Lion. He is the Lion of Judah, the leader of God's people from before the beginning of time. As an apex predator in creation, the lion symbolizes strength, leadership, and majesty. In the C.S. Lewis series, the *Chronicles of Narnia*, God was portrayed as the lion, "Aslan." It's the Lion who protects us from Satan. It's the Lion who keeps us safe, and it's the Lion whose very appearance is majestic.

But we also know that Jesus isn't just all powerful. Even though he is all powerful. Even though all things have come into being through Jesus. Even though Jesus holds all things in his hands of grace, including you and me. Even though Almighty God has no beginning and will have no end, that God is all knowing, all giving, all love, all power, all grace, all everything, there's more to God than this. We see it throughout the scriptures. That this Mighty God of ours stooped down to become one of us, wrapped in human flesh, touching the sick, forgiving the sinner, raising the dead, and washing our feet. Here we also see Jesus as the Lamb, who takes away the sin of the world. In the sacrificial death of Jesus, as lambs were once sacrificed, Jesus has cleansed the entire world of its brokenness and sin. We have been washed into the amazing gift of Jesus-the-Lamb; we feed on his very body and blood, given and shed for the whole world.

No matter where we are, or what we have done, or what has been done to us, God's forgiveness given to us in Jesus knows no boundaries. We are loved and adored by God, more than we can ever fathom and believe. May this time, full of the fears of our world, but even more so full of the fullness of God's grace, be one for you in which you are renewed in your faith, strengthened in your service, and blessed by God's favor. May you remember as the chorus of the song says, that Jesus is the Lion of Judah, roaring with power and fighting our battles. That Jesus is the Lamb who was slain for the sin of the world and that his blood breaks the chains of sin and death, freeing us from Satan's grasp, so we can live an abundant and joyful life. All praise and thanks be to God and our Savior and Redeemer, Jesus Christ, the Lion and the Lamb.

God's blessings,
Pastor Tim

OHIO SUMMER YOUTH RETREAT – Save the date: **June 29th-July 2nd**.

This year, there is going to be a statewide youth summer retreat at **Hopewood Pines (LMC)**, in Marengo, OH, which is about 1 1/2 hours south of us. This will include youth from all three synods. If you have a child that will be entering 6th grade through 12th grade next school year, they are eligible to attend.

The retreat will be from Sunday June 29 to Wednesday July 2. Check in is June 29 from 2:30-4:30 and check out is Wednesday July 2 at 1pm. There will be programming, worship, and campfires. And the youth will be able to sign up for activities like kayaking, low ropes, archery, climbing wall, hiking, ziplining, etc.

We would need at least 1 adult per every 10 kids, and it would be great to have 1 male and 1 female leader, but that's not an absolute. Each adult will need to have an updated background check done. The kids will be grouped together in cabins. I'm guessing by age but I do not have that information yet. **The deadline to register is tentatively set for May 31** but since the camp can only accommodate so many people at a time, the sooner we can register, the better. The cost is \$150 per youth and will be paid for by Faith Lutheran Church. Adult chaperones are free. If this is something your child would be interested in doing, or if you would be interested in being an adult chaperone for this, please let Pastor Tim know as soon as possible.

CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY is extended to the family of Patsy Copley. She joined the church triumphant on March 22, 2025.



CHURCH COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS – MARCH 18, 2025

- Discussion regarding the leak in the ceiling of the men’s bathroom – Damschroder Roofing was called in to inspect the roof and found no evidence of a leak. Next step is to have Zimmerman Construction open up the wall to search for the cause of the leak.
- Discussed age of existing roof (installed in 2007 and out of warranty). Options for eventual replacement include new roof or a coating. Costs and warranties vary and will need to be addressed in the future.
- Spring clean-up scheduled for April 5th depending on weather. Alternate date is April 12th if necessary.
- Engineers have been contacted regarding design plans for the proposed door/ramp project.

HERE ARE THE GUIDING STATEMENTS for Faith Lutheran Church.



Core Values –

F aithful fellowship
A ffirming worship
I ntentional service
T ransformative growth
H onoring tradition

Mission Statement – Equip all to become God’s agents of change in the world.

Vision Statement – A community freed in Christ to serve and love our neighbor.

Tagline – Gather, Grow and Go

Narrative Paragraph – At Faith Lutheran Church, we honor tradition by immersing people into faithful fellowship, affirming worship, intentional service, and transformative growth, to equip all to become God’s agents of change in the world, so all may gather, grow and go, creating a community freed in Christ to serve and love our neighbor.

FAITH FILLED TRAVELERS TRIPS

Deadline dates for trips are changing from what you received in February. You need to watch the trip papers in the coat room area and the Fellowship Hall board for the latest. As always, you will receive a “final balance” letter 3 weeks before all money is due.

All deposits must be given with the following information – Name, Address, Phone Number, type of room, roommate’s name(s), which trip(s), need of handicapped room.

The 1000 Islands Trip (Days on the St. Lawrence) has a date of April 16 for a rooming list. That means we need deposits very soon, NOW.

The Noah Trip (Water, Water Everywhere) has over 25+ travelers thus far, so if you want a seat, deposits are coming in quickly.

The Day in the Country Trip in Wayne County, Ohio is limited to 30 people because of a venue only having room for 30. Jump on board quickly on this one if you want to be a part of it.

American River Roots Trip needs a July 1, 2025 passenger list and may have a change of hotel.

\$300 deposit per person for multi-day trips and \$100 deposit for day trips per person. Deposits needed NOW so I have rooming list information and can guarantee trips. Any questions – Yvonne Vogel, 419-307-1774.

LIGHT SUPPERS FOR LENT 2025: Light suppers will be provided prior to the Lenten services on Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m., between Mar. 12th-Apr. 9th. **THANK YOU** to the following groups that have volunteered to provide a meal before the Wednesday Lenten services in the Fellowship Hall!

March 12	Faith Church Council
March 19	Both Adult Sunday School classes
March 26	Faith Fellowship Group
April 2	Faith Women of the ELCA
April 9	Christian Worship Committee

Many hands make light work. **Please join us and consider bringing a dish to share!** A sign-up sheet to assist these groups with additional salads, sides, and desserts will be posted on the bulletin board in the central gathering area for anyone who wishes to share their culinary talents.

Thank you for sharing with others your bountiful blessings from God!

SPRING CLEAN-UP will be **Saturday, April 5th at 9 a.m.** with a rain date of Saturday the 12th. Sign-up sheet will be on the bulletin board in the coat room area.

THE YOUTH & GROWTH COMMITTEE is in need of a Sunday School Teacher for the 1st thru 3rd grade class. Thank you.

WE WELCOMED THESE YOUNG PEOPLE RECEIVING THEIR FIRST COMMUNION ON MARCH 30, 2025:



Kendra Lee Paeth
Zade N. Zweifel
Emilia J. Haar
Aubree E. Nehls
Riley M. Nehls

FIRELANDS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA CHORALE WILL PERFORM FAURÉ REQUIEM on **Sunday, April 6, 2025** at 4 p.m. at St. Mary's Catholic Church, Sandusky, Ohio. Michael Shirtz, Director and Conductor. For tickets call 419-621-4800 or go to FIRELANDSSYMPHONY.COM/TICKETS.

THE CHOSEN, SEASON 3

- The viewing of *The Chosen, Season 3* will begin in the **Faith Lutheran Church Sanctuary** Wednesday, March 12th at 5 p.m. and will continue **Wednesdays at 5 p.m. through Lent** (March 12, 19, 26, April 2, 9, 16, 23rd (after Easter)).
- These episodes are longer therefore, there will not be time for a discussion.
- You can find *The Chosen* at a library or stream through Chromecast, Amazon Firestick, Apple TV, and Roku or TheChosen.tv/app for more information.

Questions should be directed to Cheryl Paeth at 419-205-3659.

2025: THE YEAR OF LISTENING MEMORY VERSE: ISAIAH 55:3A

“Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live...”



ON BEHALF OF OUR MOTHER, Dorothy Swedersky, we would like to extend our gratitude to everyone at Faith Lutheran Church for your love and support over the last several years of her life. The many visits, cards, and at home communion and pastoral visits she received meant so much to her. We would also like to acknowledge and thank Pastor Tim for officiating at her funeral and to the women of the church who provided the delicious food and excellent service at her funeral luncheon on February 22, 2025. We are eternally grateful for your kindness, fellowship and support of her faith over these many years.

With profound gratitude, Karen Swedersky, Lisa & Terry Arrasmith

THANK YOU – I need to thank Pastor Tim for entering the germ-infested hospital to pray with me before surgery. Thank you to all who sent cards, flowers and lifted me up in prayers, for strength and healing this past year. All was greatly appreciated. The card ministry is a true blessing on a ‘bad day’! I received GREAT food from friends and a surprised hospital visit. Knowing people pray for me is a big comfort!! And I can’t Thank You all enough for your prayers and concern. With much gratitude, Connie Diekman.

THANK YOU to the women for all the cards and visits these past months. Also, thank you to Pastor Tim, Amy Wagner and Carol Trick for their visits and bringing me communion. It is all very heartwarming and very much appreciated! Millie Fetterman.

THANK YOU from the family of Patsy Copley to all who helped, donated food, or was involved in any way with her luncheon. Thank you also for all the times you lifted her up in your prayers, visited and/or sent her cards. It is very much appreciated! Patsy’s family.

THANK YOU to all our Faith Members who so generously supplied snacks during the month of March for Atkinson School for their testing weeks. I know that they appreciate it very much! You are so awesome! Sincerely, Randy J. Brown.

THANK YOU – Pontifex, a non-profit 501 (c)3, thanks you for your contribution of many coats and winter items. Bless you!

MEMBERS OF FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH – On behalf of the entire Terra State Choir, I would like to thank you for your hospitality and for allowing us to rehearse in your space. I have experienced your warmth and kindness several times and this is no exception. Thank You!
Stacey Depner, Director.

EARTH-SHAKING VICTORY

On Ash Wednesday in 2001, a 6.8 magnitude earthquake shook the Seattle area. Charlie and Ann Lewis, co-pastors in Snohomish, Washington, reflected on the timing:

“While most years we prefer to think of Lent as a contemplative journey of faith as we walk with Jesus toward Jerusalem and the cross, this year we are thinking of how God turned the world upside down at Calvary. From the cross, Jesus cried out with a loud voice, and his life was finished. Then the earth shook violently, the curtain in the temple was torn in two and rocks were split apart. The God who identified with us in our humanity in the incarnation of Jesus Christ demonstrated in that moment the depth of divine love for us — a love that leads God to choose the path of suffering and sacrifice.

“Three days later, the earth shook again — another violent earthquake, and the stone in front of the tomb was rolled away. Then the crucified Christ threw aside the burial cloths, emerging from the darkness of the tomb to walk in the dew of the grass as dawn was breaking across the sky. God had declared victory over sin and death itself. That victory was for us. ... God has given us a glorious life that extends into eternity.”

ON TUESDAY, MAY 6 AT 6PM, you are invited to come and learn about important **end-of-life planning** and things that you can do now, to ensure your family doesn't have to make those difficult decisions on one of the hardest days of their lives. Information will be shared by **Kari Arnold with Herman Funeral Homes** on several important subjects with a question-and-answer session to follow. You will learn about advanced funeral planning and why it is so necessary for creating a healing and meaningful celebration of life. With the knowledge gained, you can make a decision you will feel good about today, and your family will be comforted in the future. **Please sign-up** on the sheet in the coatroom if you plan to attend.



ALTAR GUILD:

Expressing Gratitude to Brianne Harder & Ginger Walker for your service on the Altar Guild during the month of March - Thank You!

April's Altar Guild Members are Sandie Reed & Sarah Wilson.

Ginger Walker - Altar Guild Chair

KNOW WHO (AND WHOSE) YOU ARE

Actor Kirk Douglas once picked up a hitchhiker. After the man got settled in Douglas's car, he turned to look more closely at the driver. Surprised to recognize the famous man at the wheel, the hitchhiker exclaimed, "Do you know who you are?!"

We would do well to ask ourselves and each other the same thing. Often, we seem to forget — or perhaps we never knew.

Through much of life, we behave as if our identity depends on our occupation, wealth, family line, daily accomplishments or good deeds. But none of these — not even the last one — determines the core of who we are. All that matters is our Creator's opinion, and God loves us with abundant, unconditional love.

Do you know who you are? You are God's beloved child! And so is everyone else. May we live out that knowledge, treating one another as such.

—Heidi Hyland Mann

"Resurrection means that the worst thing is never the last thing."

—Frederick Buechner

"Where [humanity] sees but withered leaves, God sees sweet flowers growing."

—Albert Lighton

"It's not about the bunny; it's about the Lamb."

—Unknown

"There are always flowers for those who want to see them."

—Henry Matisse



FELLOWSHIP & SERVICE SEW DAY

Come out and join the fun. We meet the first and third Thursdays of the month and begin at 9:00 a.m. and end at 3:00 p.m. but come and leave whenever you wish. We work on quilts, health kits and sewing kits. Greeting cards are made and are available for purchase in the Fellowship Hall for a donation. Come join the fun!



PRAYER CHAIN IS AVAILABLE FOR YOU!

Please remember that we have a working prayer chain ready and waiting to pray for you or your loved ones in whatever way you would like. Our prayer warriors will lift you up in prayer to receive God's Blessings. To request prayer or to be a prayer

warrior, please contact Barb Kocsis at 567-219-2603 or e-mail her at dbkocsis@gmail.com. Thanks.



PRAYER REQUESTS: Please contact the Church Office to include or continue an individual prayer request. Each prayer request will remain in the bulletin for 4 Sundays. At that time, you may contact the Office to continue. Thank you for your assistance.



NOISY OFFERING UPDATE –

“Change for Change” The Noisy Offering collected on March 16th, was \$126.02. The Noisy Offering is given so Children from our Companion Parish of Bumila Lutheran Church have the opportunity to attend school in the Mpwapwa Region. Thank you for your support of the children of our sister congregation in Bumila, Tanzania.

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH WOMEN NEWS

SAVE THE DATE: May 3, 2025 at 10:00 a.m.

Come with us to the home of President Hayes and First Lady Lucy Hayes. We will take a tour through the beautiful home and grounds. We will learn about the home and the 1700 trees. Some of the trees date back to before President Hayes time on the property. Hear about George Washington's tulip poplar seed and many more interesting facts. Touring the home is \$7 and the tour of the trees is \$10. Afterwards, we will go to lunch at a surprise destination. We look forward to seeing you on our adventure.

ALL ARE WELCOME!!!

The next FLCW Board meeting will be May 5th, 2025 at 7 p.m.



EASTERN CONFERENCE – WOMEN'S SPRING GATHERING

- Our spring gathering of the Women of the ELCA will be held **Saturday, April 26, 2025** from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at St. Mark Lutheran Church, 902 E. State St., Fremont. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. with In-Kind Gifts of bed pillows for *Let's Build Beds* project. Registration fee is \$10.00 payable at the door.

Please RSVP by April 19th to Annette Moore at 419-680-4381 or j88a62m60@aol.com.

YOU'RE INVITED TO THE SPRING MEETING of the Portage Valley Federation of Lutheran Men & Pastors on **Saturday, April 12, 2025** at 9:30 a.m. at the Genesis Community Center, 4400 Woodville Rd., Northwood, OH 43469. Join us in singing hymns and learning their history – “The History of Hymns” by Dave Baker.

CHECK IN AT FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH! Faith has WiFi for everyone to use – find Faith (guest) and the password is: *welcometofaith* Be sure to like the Facebook **Faith Lutheran Church - Fremont, Ohio** page and keep up to date with all of the latest happenings.

Open House

April 4, 2025
2 - 4 pm

New Day Program

You're invited to Luther Home of Mercy's new day program on April 4, 2025. Join us any time between 2 pm and 4 pm for a tour and refreshments.

Emmanuel Lutheran Center Day Program
3557 US-20
Lindsey, OH 44420

Emmanuel Lutheran features beautiful outdoor areas for activities and relaxation. Inside you'll find spaces for activities, quiet time, worship, arts and crafts, job skills and more.



Luther Home of Mercy
A Ministry Enriching Lives
And Individual Abilities

**Emmanuel Lutheran Center
Day Program**
3557 US-20
Lindsey, OH 44420

www.lutherhome.org

Luther Home of Mercy serves individuals of all abilities at day programs in Sandusky, Ottawa, Wood & Lucas counties. Programs focus on enrichment, work, socialization and community integration that is tailored to each individual's goals.

For more information on day program services, please contact Amanda at 419-704-1375.



APRIL BIRTHDAYS - 2025

- 1-Donna Fought, Caleb Seibert
- 7-Jonathan Hetrick
- 9-Robert Schneider
- 12-Scott Miarer
- 13-Gloria Root
- 15-Mason Harder
- 18-Whitney Norris
- 20-Christina McBride, Nancy Root, Ruth May, Judi Neill
- 21-Cindy Zorn
- 22-Jerie Young
- 23-Marcia Roberts
- 24-Carnetta Weber
- 25-Rebecca Esker, Gary Overmyer, Angi Miller
- 26-Steve Harder
- 28-Kim Smith
- 30-Samantha Durnwald





Happy Anniversary!

April 2, 2010	Marcia & Gregory Roberts	15 years
April 5, 1986	Dean & Chris Schneider	39 years
April 8, 1978	Laurie & Thomas Krynock	47 years
April 9, 2022	Shawn & Alexis Brickner	3 years
April 18, 2015	Brian & Sarah Quaintance	10 years
April 24, 1982	Dean & Ruth May	43 years

The "50" and Over Club - Happy Anniversary!

April 20, 1963	Robert & Sandra Reed	62 years
April 27, 1973	Michael & Brenda Tooman	52 years



A Birthday Card Shower is being given for those members age 90 and over whose birthdays are in April. Nancy Root will be 90 on April 20th.

*Please send your birthday wishes to Nancy At:
1100 W. County Rd. 73
Fremont, OH 43420*



Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church

1187 CR 128 Fremont, OH 43420

Please call the church office if you need
Pastoral Care.

Church Office: 419-332-6820

Pastor Tim Miller

E-mail: pastortim.L.miller@gmail.com

Church E-mail: faithchurch@amplex.net

Website: www.faithfremont.org

Facebook: Faith Lutheran Church-Fremont, Ohio

Office Hours:

Pastor's schedule – Monday thru Thursday

Secretary's schedule – Tuesday thru Thursday

9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.



Worship 8 and 10:30 a.m.

Sunday School at 9:15 a.m.

Holy Communion Celebrated: Every Sunday

Newsletter Articles Due: 3rd Sunday of the Month

Core Values –

Faithful fellowship

Affirming worship

Intentional service

Transformative growth

Honoring tradition