



Food Packaging Community Event!

Saturday, Sept. 13, 2025
Faith Lutheran Church * Auditorium
Two shifts * 10am * 11:30am

Rise Against Hunger is a 4-star rated international charity whose mission is to end world hunger within the next ten years.

In September Faith Lutheran Church will be hosting ***Rise Against Hunger*** for a start-to-finish meal packaging event. A combination of soy, rice, dehydrated vegetables, and a packet of minerals and vitamins will be packaged in a way that stores easily, transports quickly, and has a long shelf-life to help meet the immediate nutritional needs of people facing food insecurity.

If you have never attended this event, you need to see it to believe it! All ages and groups are welcome to volunteer – children must come with adult supervision. The various tasks at the event are not difficult, but the work is very fast-paced and health protocols must be followed.





Food Packaging Community Event!

Saturday, Sept. 13, 2025
Faith Lutheran Church * Auditorium
Two shifts * 10am * 11:30am

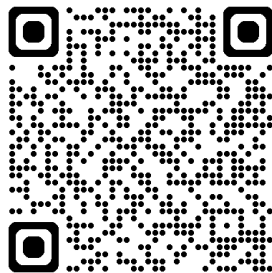
If your corporation, sports team, club, family, or you as an individual would like to sponsor and/or volunteer for this effort, please go to <http://events.riseagainsthunger.org/Faith2025> or scan the QR Code below.

Suggested donation per individual is \$25 or \$75 for a family. Those who choose to donate \$250 or more, please complete a sponsor dedication available in the concourse.

The donation you make will help defray the cost of food supplies, packaging, and transportation, as well as support **Rise Against Hunger's** efforts to teach sustainability in impoverished communities. Donations are made directly to the event website or via check payable to "Faith Lutheran Church" with "RAH 2025" in the memo line.

Every penny raised will go directly to **Rise Against Hunger**.

If you have any questions or need help registering, please contact the Ministry Chair for this event:
Meredith Tindall
unity125@yahoo.com
(585) 704-7105.



Thank you!



Faith Lutheran Church

Rally Sunday

~ Sept. 7 ~

10am Outdoor Worship

w/ New Member Welcome,
Blessing of the Backpacks,
3rd Graders Receiving Bibles,
and a New Sermon Series called,
“Where Are We Going?”

11am Carnival

w/ Hot Dog & Burger Cookout,
Rosco the Clown, Crafts,
and Facepainting!

*Join us as we begin a year
of Connecting, Growing,
and Serving together!*

Faith receives \$344,000 Employee Retention Credit

Faith has been fortunate to have finally received a determination from the IRS regarding the Employee Retention Tax Credit (ERC) filing. The ERC is a tax credit to entities for payroll taxes paid during the time period that they were restricted from regular operations and/or experienced a reduction in revenue/donations during the time period of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Through the efforts of Faith's Finance Team (primarily Kay Gerlach) along with assistance from Paychex, Faith filed for this credit and recently received a total of approximately \$344,000 to date with one more quarter's tax credit still under review.

Pastor & FLB thank Kay Gerlach for her leadership and countless hours spent in applying for the ERC funds. We also thank past and present Finance Team and FLB members for their support and contributions in determining our eligibility for this grant. We also thank God for our incredible staff and leaders who led our congregation through a period of great uncertainty and restrictions that impacted the way we carried out God's mission.

FLB is under prayerful consideration of how best to utilize these funds to accomplish God's work in the mission of our Church and faith community. The timing of the receipt of these funds along with the consideration of engaging in a strategic plan under the guidance of Mission Driven Development will be discussed with our congregation as we lead up to our October 5th voters meeting. We are thankful for the gifts God has provided and have a duty to plant seeds in God's garden as He calls us to do.



Q&A with FLB on Sept. 17

Our Faith Leadership Board is proposing that our congregation partners with Lutheran Church Extension Fund (LCEF) to develop a church-wide vision through its Mission Driven Development process (MDD). There will be a Special Voters Meeting on Sunday, Oct. 5 to vote on whether or not Faith should begin this MDD process. FLB will be providing more info and hosting a Q&A about the proposal on Wednesday, Sept. 17 @ 6:30pm @ Faith. Come with any questions you have or reach out to our FLB Chair Russ Hignett directly at russhignett@gmail.com or 585-773-8035.



Pastor Peter will conclude the New Member class on Sunday – **August 31** from 9:45 a.m. to 10:40 a.m. in the Community Room. This is an informal class designed for newcomers, inquiries, and prospective members of our congregation. The class is a time of discussion, discovery, presentation, and inclusion.

We will be officially welcoming anyone who would like to become an official member of Faith on Rally Sunday, September 7.
Any questions, call the office at 381-3970.

New 7-week Adult Bible Class Starting Sept. 14

Pastor Peter will be leading a new Bible class titled, **“Making All Things New – the Resurrection of Jesus and the Kingdom of God.”** In this series we will look at a key phrase throughout the New Testament: “the Kingdom of God.” We’ll be studying the relationship between Jesus and His Kingdom and what His Kingdom looks like in the present day. The class will include videos by Rev. Dr. Jeff Kloha.* Bring your Bible and let’s dig into God’s Word together on Sundays @ 9:45am!

**About Pastor Kloha:*

Dean at The Center for Missional & Pastoral Leadership; Associate Pastor at our Savior Lutheran Church in Arlington, VA; former Chief Curatorial Officer of the Museum of the Bible; and former Provost and Professor of Exegetical Theology at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis.

Faith Lutheran Church is offering the Christ-centered 13-week program, **“Grief Share,”** again this fall. Donna Kaser will lead 13 Monday evening sessions at 6:30pm at church, **starting September 8th and ending**



on December 1st. Each session will include a 30-minute video with discussion afterwards. The videos have a lot of guidance and information and the discussion afterwards within the group is healing. Participants will receive a free participant guide that will provide Bible verses, space to take notes, and strategies that can help you in your grief journey. All discussions within the group will remain confidential.

If you would like to attend, please register by emailing Kris Cronk @ secretary@faithpenfield.org by August 31st.



Thank you to everyone who has supported the **Back-to-School Drive!!** We have plenty of school supplies now but are **requesting the following:**

- *New socks and underwear. Sizes 4yrs thru adult (high school kids can be adult sized)
- *New jeans for boys and girls. Size 4yrs thru adult.

We will be accepting clothing through August 31st

Please contact Chita McKinney with any questions



Our Mission Team has completed the matching fund drive to help those impacted by the horrific flooding in Texas. Our congregation members contributed \$4,100 which was matched by our Mission Team resulting in a total contribution of \$8,200 donated to the Lutheran Disaster Response for their relief efforts. Our hearts break for the families who have lost loved ones including children. Thank you for your support and continued prayers for our neighbors in Texas.

Kittleberger Florist “12 Months of Flowers” FCCNS Fundraiser begins September 7th!

Grace your home with a bouquet of fresh flowers for each month of the year for \$50. Proceeds will be used for an outdoor “Music Garden” and new steps up to the Playscape. Cards will be available for purchase after Sunday services on Sept 7th, 14th and 21st or contact the FCCNS office. Payment can be made by cash or check made out to FCCNS.



Men’s Breakfast Group

Join us as we join together in fellowship!

When: Tuesday, September 2nd @ 7am

Where: **Browncroft Diner**, 2501 Browncroft Blvd,
Rochester, NY 14625



It is intended to gather men of all ages together at the beginning of the day. We are encouraging you to gather on the first Tuesday of each month from 7am to 8am, for a time of **fellowship, encouragement, a brief devotion and of course breakfast.**

*please
join us*

Please join us in the pavilion to recognize and give thanks to Cheryl Speisman as she moves to Connecticut at the end of September to be closer to her family. Her dedication to all things “Faith Oriented” has been an inspiration to all of us.

Date: Monday, September 15th

Time: 5:30 – 7:30 PM (potluck dinner starting at 6:15)



Please see the sign up in the concourse

Absolutely no gifts, but cards are welcomed.

Questions? Contact Jackie Welk 749-7343 or jwelk@rochester.rr.com

Faith Lutheran Youth (FLY) Announcements

Dunkin' Sunday

FLY is meeting at Dunkin' (Four Corners) today from 9:45-10:30am. It's the final Dunkin' Sunday of the summer! Please bring money for food. Youth Advisors are able to transport youth to and from Dunkin'.

9th Grade Confirmation Project Meeting – TODAY at Noon

On Aug. 31 at noon, incoming 9th grade students and their parents are invited to the FLY Room to discuss the 9th grade Confirmation projects that will be due later in Sept. At the meeting, the students will choose which Sunday in October they'd like to present their Faith Art & Faith Statement Projects. The project syllabus is available to download at faithpenfield.org/youth. Please let Pastor Peter know if you'll be missing this important meeting. Thanks!

Hot Dog & Burger FUNdraiser – Sept. 7 @ 11am

Help out at FLY's first FUNdraiser of the school year! We'll be making and serving hot dogs and burgers on Sunday, Sept. 8 from 9am-1pm. All money raised will support youth attending retreats and the Youth Gathering this coming year! Sign-up on the FLY bulletin board to volunteer!

Jr. FLY Info Meeting – Tuesday, Sept. 9

7th & 8th grade students and parents are invited to a mandatory info meeting on Tuesday, Sept. 9 at 6:30 in the Faith Auditorium. We will discuss Confirmation Class curriculum, expectations, and hand out materials. Pastor Peter and our Youth Advisors will also share important info about: Sunday Night FLY, retreats, FUNdraisers, service opportunities, and much more! Other new FLYers (of any age) who would like an orientation of what we'll be doing this year in FLY are welcome to attend!

*NEW this year: high school students are *not required* to attend.

Sunday Night FLY KICK-OFF – Sept. 14 @ 7-8:45pm

Invite your friends to this CRAZY FUN SNFLY KICK-OFF!! Get ready to team up and compete in some crazy games! We'll also enjoy snacks, prizes, worship, and our famous Birthday Wheel – all under our Faith Pavilion! Come kick-off an AWESOME year of growing, connecting, and serving with each other in FLY! YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS THIS EPIC EVENT!

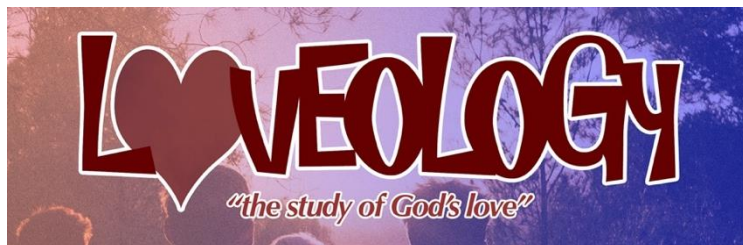
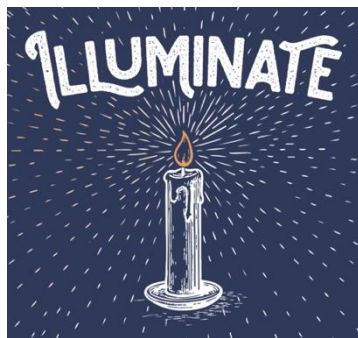


Incoming High School & College-age Students are invited to our 2026 Group Mission Trip to Grosse Pointe Woods, Michigan (near Detroit)!

Join us as we serve God and serve other people through painting, roofing, and other home repair projects!

*More info, including the cost, application, deposit deadlines and more will be shared at the **Sept. 21st Workcamp Info Meeting at Noon!** Lunch will be provided at the meeting.*

Pray how you can be involved in this mission trip!



2025 Jr. FLY Fall Retreat – Oct. 3-5 @ Camp Stella Maris

7th & 8th graders are invited to enjoy outdoor activities, night games, and Bible lessons at our annual **Jr. FLY Fall Retreat on Oct. 3-5 at Camp Stella Maris!** It's going to be an awesome weekend and a great way to start our year together! We have the entire Wegman House reserved for our group! Friends are invited to attend, too! The online registration and \$160 deposit are due to the FLY Registrar's mailbox in the Church Copy Room by Sunday, Sept. 28. Financial help is available upon request. Register online at: <https://faithpenfield.org/resources-forms/> The packing list can be found on the retreat poster. We hope you can join us!

August 24th Worship Attendance

In-Person: 196 Livestream: 73 Total: 269

September 7th Scriptures

Gospel: John 14:1-6

Epistle: Colossians 3:1-4

Old Testament: Jeremiah 29:11-13a

Children's & Family Ministry Announcements

Children's Ministries is excited to resume Sunday School classes this Fall! You're invited to join us as Faith begins a new school year together on **Rally Sunday, Sept. 7** with an outdoor worship service at 10am. The service will include a New Member Welcome, Blessing of the Backpacks (school age children are asked to bring their backpacks to Church), and our 3rd grade students will receive new Bibles. We'll also begin a new sermon series called, "Where Are We Going?" A fun carnival will begin after the service featuring a hotdog & burger fundraiser for FLY, Rosco the Clown, crafts, and facepainting! Join us as we begin a new year of "Connecting, Growing, and Serving" together in the name of Jesus!

Sunday School will resume on September 14th and is available to children age 4 through 6th Grade from 9:45am-10:40am. Children will learn Bible lessons through crafts, games and videos. Please see the schedule located on the Children's Ministries bulletin board in the concourse for your child's classroom location. Please email Shannon Wolf at Sundayschool@faithpenfield.org to register your child(ren) for Sunday School.



We are in need of more Volunteers for Sunday School. If you are interested in volunteering as a rotation leader or a shepherd, please contact Shannon Wolf at Sundayschool@FaithPenfield.org

Nursery services are available to children birth - 3 years old from 8:30am-11:45am.

Kids Time will be offered the 2nd and 4th Sunday immediately following the Children's Message during the late service. Children age 4 through 6th grade are welcome to participate in an activity focused on the message and will return to the Sanctuary before the end of service.



Our **Rise Against Hunger** event will be on Sept. 13 at 10:00am and 11:30am. We are looking for corporate and family sponsors to help fund the packing of at least 40,000 meals! We need volunteers, too! Check out the website [here](#) to sign-up to volunteer and/or donate.

STEWARDSHIP MESSAGE FROM THE FAITH LEADERSHIP BOARD

The ongoing operations of Faith rely entirely on the generosity of the congregation to provide the funding support for the ministries that are so important to us and the community in which we serve.

We give thanks to God for your gifts to the general operating fund. We were blessed with a 30% favorable variance in envelope giving for the month of July resulting in a year-to-date favorable budget variance of \$24,328 or 6%.

We encourage you to prayerfully consider how God is calling you to be a faithful steward of the many gifts He has given you. We deeply appreciate any way in which you choose to participate in and support the many ministries and outreach of Faith that allow us to continue to “Connect, Grow and Serve”.

God reminds us in 1 Peter 4:10, “Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God’s grace in its various forms.”

FAITH'S STEWARDSHIP RESPONSE FOR PRIOR MONTH:

ENVELOPE GIVING					
July 2025	Voter Approved	Actual	Variance from	%	Prior Year
	Budget		Budget	Variance	Actual
Monthly Total	\$47,000	\$61,095	\$14,095	30%	\$52,245
Year-to-Date Total	\$406,000	\$430,328	\$24,328	6%	\$406,233

2025 Update for Qualified Charitable Distributions

As many of you know, IRA owners age 70 1/2 and older can make tax-free charitable donations during the year through qualified charitable distributions (QCDs). The distribution remains tax-free if sent directly to a qualified charity by the IRA trustee. Starting in 2024, the QCD limit is subject to an annual adjustment, based on inflation. For that reason, the annual QCD limit has risen from the \$105,000 for 2024 to \$108,000 in 2025. Please refer to the QCD article in the March issue of Faith Notes or contact Kay Gerlach, Director of Finance, in the church office for more information. We appreciate all the ways in which you support our ministries at Faith and wanted to share this update with you.

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Celebrating Birthdays This Week

8/31	Henry Gerlach, Geoffrey Kaeuper, Jeff Kurzrock
9/1	Deborah Nohle
9/3	Randy Longhenry, Katherine Talarczyk
9/4	Dennis Leinenbach, Margaret VanAuken, Benjamin Vogt
9/5	Sharon Phillips, Meredith Tindall, Natalee Wilder
9/6	Brian Coughlin, William McKee

Celebrating Wedding Anniversaries This Week

8/31	John & Allison Cappellino-Boyle
9/1	Douglas & Lois Smith
9/3	Gregory & Shannon Gerbasi
9/4	Sam & Kelly Hartley, Todd & Kimberly Nadritch
9/6	Steve & Jackie Welk

Ongoing Prayers

Faith Members and Friends

Tim Albert, Cory Alberti, Sandi Banning, Liane Bartsch, Dan Behnfeldt, Diann Berndt, Sue & Guy Brown, Darlene Byrns, Lori Davis, Sam Falzone, Dick Feasel, John Glenn, Jackie Johnson, June Leibring, Hayden Lincoln, Aram Mangerian, Ann McEwen, Donna Pellnat, Daryl Pichan, Lois Ronnenberg, Robert Ronnenberg, Wayne Samuels, Catharine Schmidt, Mary Schutte, Ellen Smurthwaite, Ida Stiner, Eric Sykes, Diane Wagner, Terry Wheeler, Suzanne Wheeler, Bob Wyman

Those in Care Facilities

June Leibring	Baywinde (Webster)
Ed Lindskoog	Baywinde (Webster)
Bert Lux	Heathwood (Penfield)
Barbara Riethmeier	Heather Heights (Pittsford)
Sally Schooley	Maplewood (Webster)
Cathy Schmidt	The Jewish Home (Rochester)
Ida Stiner	Brentland (Henrietta)

Serving in the Military

Ryan Brink	Nephew of Terry & Penny Wheeler
Will Brown	Friend of Charlie Arnone
Sean Dempsey	Nephew of Ed & Marsha Freeman
Thomas DiMiero	Son of Paul DiMiero
Elizabeth Flint	Niece of Jon & Terry Allen

Michael Flint	Nephew of Jon & Terry Allen
Jasigha Garrett	Nephew of Taylor Saunders-Garrett
Aaron Johnstone	Godson of Lisa Sykes
Ben Krenzer	Son of William & Barbara Krenzer
Paul Krenzer	Son of William & Barbara Krenzer
Andrew Lindskoog	Son of David & Cathy Lindskoog
	Grandson of Ed Lindskoog
Alexander Mangerian	Son of Peter Mangerian & Laura Mangerian-Smith
	Grandson of Elisabeth Mangerian
Lauren Marcum	Niece of Dick & Roxanne Leschhorn
Marques Marion	Former Assistant Teacher at FCCNS
Tim Monczynski	Son-In-Law of Ed & Marsha Freeman
Mattie McDonough	Son of John & Carolyn McDonough
Alana Nicole Neves	Niece of Dick & Roxanne Leschhorn
Quaysean Odom	Relative of Elisabeth Mangerian
Omar Parkinson	Son-in-law of Sharon Davenport
Kayla Petteway	Relative of Elisabeth Mangerian

Extended Family and Friends

Cathy's Husband, George, Jeff, Jessica, Michael, Patty, Retta, Steve & Pat, Tiffany, Vincent, Joseph Alello, Vanmany Banks, Ryan Byrns, Donna Chismer, Tony Cook, Rebecca Cronk, Frank DeJulio, Tom Didas, Natasha Doeblor & daughter, Sarah Flint, Kevin Fries, William Gwin, Elynn Haden, Scott Hammond, Andy & Cathy Harman, Beth Harstad, Ruth Hartung, Karen Keiter, Kris Kessler, Don Kot, Tom Kurzrock, Jeremy LaFond, Sheila Latulipe, Scott McCarthy, Elizabeth Samuels-McGahey, Thelma McKee, Ed McMaster, Edward Menzies, Scott Menzies, Trey Michel, Cliff Milner, Dick Milner, John Mirabito, Rick Monczynski, Lisa Nawrocki, George New, Glenn Neumann, Lizbeth Nickel, Mark Niemeir, Ed Oliver, Donny & Pat Oshker, Domenica Panichia, Kevin Patterson, Nancy Perry, Nancy Porcellio, Barbara Pratt, Sue Provencher, Mike Radigan, Heikki Rantakari, Risen Christ Lutheran Church, Jeff Roen, Tom Scott, Susan Spano, Jason Stagliano, Mike & Nancy Stirling, Cathy Storm, Janice Sullivan, Elvira Tausch, Emmylynn Toth, Jim & Jacquie Van Auken, Ken Wilson, John Woods