

Faith Notes

2576 Browncroft Blvd. Rochester, NY 14625 Office: (585)381-3970 faithpenfield.org



 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 Lutheran Church Faith Child Care and Nursery School

2576 Browncroft Boulevard, Rochester, New York 14625-1530

Phone: (585) 381-3970

Phone: (585) 385-2360

Office Hours: Mon-Thur, 9am-4pm; Fri, 9am-12pm

Hours: 7:00am-5:30pm

Website: www.faithpenfield.org

Website: <https://faithpenfield.org/faith-child-care>

Church Staff and Faith Child Care Staff

PASTORAL and EDUCATION

PASTOR

Rev. Peter Johnson

ext. 16

flypenfield@gmail.com

Direct Line 485-0146

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School Director

sundayschool@faithpenfield.org

Stephanie Johnson - Interim VBS

Director

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Dave Young - temporary Education

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OPERATIONS

Lori Connolly

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Traditional Worship---8:30 AM Sundays

In-House and Livestreamed

Contemporary Worship---10:45 AM Sundays

In-House and Livestreamed

Holy Communion Celebrated on the 1st, 3rd, and 5th Sundays

Christian Education Opportunities

Sunday School Classes (Age 3 through Grade 6), Sundays, 9:45-10:40am

Jr. FLY Confirmation (Youth in grades 7-8), Sundays, 9:45-10:40am

Sr. FLY Bible Class (Youth in grades 9-12), Sundays, 9:45-10:40am

Sunday Night FLY (Youth in grades 7-12), 2nd & 4th Sundays, 7-8:45pm

Adult Bible Study Class – Sundays, 9:45-10:40am

Pastor Peter's Perspective



"By faith Abraham, when called to go to a place he would later receive as his inheritance, obeyed and went, even though he did not know where he was going," - Hebrews 11:8.

I'm sure Abraham was a little nervous, excited, and scared as he left home toward the land God had promised him and his descendants. He set out on a journey without seeing the destination, trusting that God would guide his every step along the way. Abraham lived as a pilgrim on the road, fully depending on God's provisions and promises. He eventually did reach the land God had promised him, but Abraham never "owned" the land in his lifetime, except for a lone burial cave. He lived as a pilgrim, always waiting on God's larger promise. Hebrews 11 emphasizes that Abraham, "was looking forward to the city with foundations, whose architect and builder is God," (Heb. 11:10). Abraham's ultimate destination was a heavenly destination. And the same is true for us Christians today.

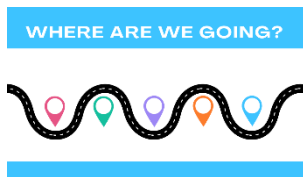
Just as Abraham went on a road trip to the destination that God had in mind for him, we too are on a road trip through life. The moment you were born, God had a plan – a roadmap – all planned out for you. And thinking back on our lives we can see how God led us through different stages of the journey to bring us where we are today.

Almost every year, my family takes a road trip to Minnesota to visit family and friends. There are steps we have to take in order to prepare for the trip, like choosing our destination and stops along the way, packing our luggage, filling the car with gas, and making sure everyone is buckled in and has their car snacks. And as every traveler knows, you have to plan for the unexpected detours, construction zones, and moments when the kids in the backseat say, "Are we there yet?"

In many ways, our life of faith and our journey together as a congregation is a lot like a road trip. God has given us the ultimate destination: eternal life with Him through Jesus Christ. Along the way He provides everything we need: His Word, Spirit, people, and promises. Sometimes the road is smooth, sometimes it's rough and bumpy. But the Lord is always with us, guiding our every step, and leading us home to Him.

On Rally Sunday, Sept. 7, we'll be starting a new sermon series using this road trip analogy called, "Where Are We Going?" Each week we'll focus on a different question and turn to God's Word for direction and guidance. The weekly themes will be:

- Sept. 7 – "Where are we going?"
- Sept. 14 – "How do we get there?"
- Sept. 21 – "What do we need?"
- Sept. 28 – "What if...?"
- Oct. 5 – "Let's hit the road!"



This sermon series will highlight the importance of traveling the road of faith together as a congregation. It will also emphasize the need for a church-wide vision that could guide our congregation for many years to come. On Oct. 5, our Faith Leadership Board will be presenting a proposal to the congregation to begin a formal visioning process in consultation with Lutheran Church Extension Fund (LCEF). Our church has a history of developing and following strategic plans, and this potential partnership with LCEF could help us do so with greater clarity and renewed focus on the needs of our congregation & community.

We already know our ultimate destination: eternal life with our Lord Jesus! And while we are on the road, God has given us the privilege of inviting others to join the journey and to know Him. That is the heart of our congregation's purpose: that more people would come to know Jesus, travel with us in faith, and share the joy of reaching our heavenly destination together. So let's prepare, let's trust in the Lord, and let's hit the road, confident that God Himself is leading the way!

And all God's children said,
Amen!

For July

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 Budget	Actual	Variance from Budget	% Variance	Prior Year Actual
1st Sunday	\$6,000	\$6,990	\$990		\$3,277
2nd Sunday	\$6,500	\$13,469	\$6,969	107%	\$7,946
3rd Sunday	\$6,500	\$14,672	\$8,172	126%	\$5,124
4th Sunday	\$6,000	\$3,740	(\$2,260)	-38%	\$3,303
5th Sunday	\$0	\$0	\$0		\$10,600
Online Giving	\$22,000	\$22,224	\$224	1%	\$21,995
Festival Giving	\$0	\$0	\$0		\$0
Monthly Total	\$47,000	\$61,095	\$14,095	30%	\$52,245
Year-to-Date Total	\$406,000	\$430,328	\$24,328	6%	\$406,233

Adult Education

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.



FCCNS Families: You're invited to a Baptism Class!

Is your family interested in having your child baptized? We warmly invite your family to a special **Baptism Class on Thursday, Sept. 18 from 5:30–6:30 PM**, hosted at Faith Lutheran.

Led by Pastor Peter and Mari-Beth Schembri, this one-hour class will include a free meal and is designed for both parents and children. Together, we'll explore the meaning of baptism, what it signifies in our Lutheran faith, and what it means for your child's life in Jesus. God loves your family so much!

Whether you're just curious or ready to take the next step, we'd love for you to join us for this welcoming and informative evening!

Please **sign-up in the FCCNS office** and select which class date works best for your family - so we can plan for food and materials. Following the class, you may schedule a time to meet with Pastor to plan your child's baptism.

We look forward to walking with you on this meaningful journey!

Contact Pastor (peter@faithpenfield.org) or Mari-Beth (mbschembri@fccnschildcare.com) if you have any questions. Thank you!

*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 Leadership Board

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.



Ah, September, society's conditioned time of new beginnings. The new school year, the freshest boxes of crayons and pens, crisp notebooks – I looooooove some fresh office supplies, whether they are needed or not. 😊

This fall some new music will be phasing in, and I hope you will enjoy it as much as I do. In other communications from FLB and Pastor Peter you are hearing about our Vision Sermon Series that will begin on Rally Day. There is a song from WALi (Worship Arts Leadership Initiative: an annual conference I attend) that will be serving as our “theme

song” for this series. “Take Me With You” is a song that has been scheduled on Pentecost since its publication in 2023. It was first integrated this way because this song talks about the role of the Holy Spirit, which we usually cover in worship on Pentecost, when the Holy Spirit descended like tongues of fire on the disciples. I love how this song reflects the role of the Holy Spirit in creation and on Pentecost, and still brings home the continued role today “Our Counselor and Comforter.” If you want a sneak peek, or a reminder, you can listen to the song here: <https://youtu.be/mAjFAk8EoWE?si=SjqlHvOIFYtudyMT>

One of the things I have come to look forward to at these WALi conferences is the debut of new music from the song writers. Last year, there were so many amazing songs that were shared and I was just dying to see when they would be released. “House on the Rock” was my stand out favorite, and it was finally released this summer. It takes the concept of the children’s song: “the wiseman built his house upon the rock and the rains came tumbalin’ down” and gives it a modern flair and some explicit Lutheran theology. My favorite line in the chorus is: “You called my name and something unlocked. You moved me in, into a House on the Rock.” Here’s a link for listening, and fair warning it is delightfully infectious. <https://youtu.be/XNOtD6FQojM?si=EY0Nb6AiQSfxFUE3>

The most recent release that I love is entitled “Here in the Water.” Released a couple weeks ago, this is a beautiful song about baptism. “The Jordan song, goes on and on, my morning dawns here in the water. Evil depart from my new heart, new mercies start here in the water.” The Jordan song, referring to the baptism of Jesus by John the Baptist. The song bridges the current act of someone being baptized, and reflecting on our own baptisms. https://youtu.be/M9nTJVOKlAs?si=C0hgi5NDtSK_N1Q0

The Song Writer Initiative is a branch of WALi and the way they have organized and mobilized in the last couple years is incredible. Each year they hold a song writing retreat and over 50 song writers attend, and the catalogue of music continues to grow. Under the leadership of Kip Fox they are producing and sharing music that is written in a modern and accessible manner that also reflects our Lutheran Theology. My hope is that as they continue to release music it can break strongly into the CCM music scene and share some deeper truths with other congregations that need it. May the Holy Spirit continue to work and inspire them, and us, as we live our lives for the Lord.



From the Mission Board

Missions wants to thank all those who contributed to the Back to School Drive!

We were able to pass along the much needed clothing and supplies to Bethlehem Family Services, Willow House, ESWA and Community Ministries.



We will be hosting a **Dinner for the Veterans at Nucor House** on Wed. September 24th at 5:30. The theme will be in future announcements. No time for food prep? A case of water is always appreciated! Please join us in sharing a meal and Christ's love with these Heroes who served our country so bravely!!

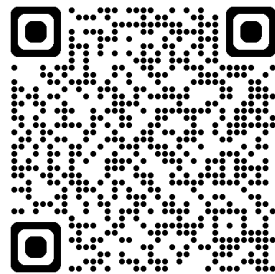
Registration is open! Missions is again leading our big Rise Against Hunger community wide event. It will take place on **Saturday, September 13th**. We are going to have two shifts this year instead of one shift. The shifts will be 10am and 11:30am. Our goal is to package 40,000 meals to help fight world hunger. We are looking for individual and corporate sponsors to help raise the \$16,000 needed to fund this great and fun event - \$25/person with max of \$75/family. Those who choose to donate \$250 or more, please complete a sponsor dedication available in the Concourse.

We are in need of many more people to register.

Should you have any questions, please contact Meredith Tindall @ unity125@yahoo.com.

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.

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.



Goings on at Faith

Men's Breakfast Group

Join us as we start the day 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. Whether you are on your way to work, enjoying retirement, dropping the kids off at school or just taking a mental health day, we all deal with a variety of stresses in this life. It is for that reason 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.**

Prayer Shawl Ministry



Our next meeting will be on **Monday, September 8th** at 1:30 in Room 204. Marie Ferner, one of our prayer shawl ministry members, is very accomplished both in knitting and crocheting and would be happy to work with anyone who is interested in participating. If you would like a shawl, please contact the church office or Sue Hutchings. Prayer squares are available on the information desk in the concourse.

The Dorcas Group is meeting on **Thursday, September 11th** at 11:30 am in Room 204. Please bring your lunch and join us for some socializing and making of pillows, bears, walker bags and shirt savers. Everyone is welcome to join us. Contact Laurie Ebbecke at 671-7285 or Karen Wright at 377-4414 with any questions



SOLA – Strength of Living Alone

We will meet at 11:30 for lunch on **Friday, September 12th** at *Fairfield's Restaurant*, 2600 Baird Rd, Penfield. Everyone will pay their own bill. Donna Kaser will send out an email to let you know the specific restaurant. We will need to know if you are coming so we can alert the restaurant and have enough seats for everyone. ***If you are interested, please email Donna to get on the contact list.*** If you have any questions or want more information please email Donna Kaser at dontshop@gmail.com or call or text 259-6488.

We will also be meeting for dinner on **Tuesday, September 23rd** at 6:00pm at *Perlo's Restaurant*, 202 N Washington St, East Rochester.

For the fall, the **Women's Book Group** is reading the contemporary novel, ***People We Meet on Vacation***, by Emily Henry. It centers around two best friends, Poppy and Alex, who take a yearly summer vacation together.

Join us in the Community Room on Thursday, October 2nd for another lively discussion! For more information contact Rae Usinger (585 738-9345 cell; 585 381-1391 home).



L.I.F.T. (Lutherans in Fellowship Together)
Erie Canal Afternoon Lock Cruise
Saturday, September 20, 2:30-5:30 pm

**Celebrate the Erie Canal's 200th Anniversary
aboard the Colonial Belle!**

The Colonial Belle is the largest tour boat operating on the historic Erie Canal. The vessel is U.S. Coast Guard certified to carry 149 passengers with a fully accessible enclosed lower deck and an upper open-air deck. The enclosed first deck offers comfortable seating, a full-service bar and two restrooms. The upper deck provides seating, scenic viewing and the experience of "ducking down" for low bridges. Cruises depart from Packett's Landing in Fairport. Located on the southeast side of the canal, the Colonial Belle cruises west to Pittsford and returns back to Fairport, a 14-16 mile historic narration tour.

Cost: \$39 for seniors 60 +; \$40 for adults under 60

For more info or for payment, contact **Stella Reschke, 607-624-0036 or stellareschke@gmail.com**

In order for worship to run smoothly we need volunteers to serve in different roles. We know life is busy, and that is why we have the Sign-Up Genius so that you can choose when you serve based on your schedule. If everyone signed up to help once per quarter in some way, our list would be overflowing with volunteers.

For *Lay Readers, Acolyte, Crucifer, Greeters, Communion Assistants* sign up here or the button on the homepage of our website:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b0544afaf2eabfd0-worship1>

For all others:

Altar Guild: Preparing communion and the chancel area for worship.

Ushers: Greeting your Faith Family, handing out bulletins, and helping them get situated in the sanctuary as needed.

Livestream Producers: Running the worship services online every Sunday.

Joseph Guild: Maintaining, fixing & painting our beautiful church facility on a regular basis.

Gardeners: Weeding & maintaining Faith's gardens once or twice a month.

Stephen Ministry: Lay congregation members trained to provide one-to-one care to those experiencing a difficult time in life.

Prayer Shawl Ministry: Knit or Crochet prayer shawls for people needing comfort due to illness or personal issues in their lives. Meet with the group on the second Monday of the month at church and/or work at home to complete your projects.

Dorcas Group: Please bring your lunch and join us for some socializing and making of pillows, bears, walker bags and shirt savers. Everyone is welcome to join us the second Thursday of every month.

Visitation Team: Keeping in touch with and/or visiting our older members

Missions Team: Meet monthly to create and organize opportunities for Faith members to serve our community.

FCCNS: Looking for volunteers to rock babies, classroom readers, classroom project helpers, craft/basement organizer.

If you are able to assist in any of these areas, please contact Kris Cronk and she can direct you accordingly (381-3970 or secretary@faithpenfield.org)



Children's Ministry

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.



FLY

**Thank you..**

- To all of the Sr. FLY & college students who volunteered at VBS last month! You ALL are leaders in our church and community – thanks for sharing Jesus with our children!
- To Heather Hoad and Pastor Peter for leading our Jr. FLY VBS Class last month!

We welcome incoming **7th graders** into FLY! We can't wait to get to know you better and grow with you in youth group!

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!

Sunday Night FLY REMIX – Sept. 28 @ 7pm

Anytime we do a "REMIX" event, it means that our awesome FLYers will be voting for one lesson and one game we'll do together! It's going to be a FUN night! Bring your friends! All are welcome!

***About Sunday Night FLY (SNFLY):**

Youth in grades 7-12 meet on the 2nd & 4th Sundays of the month from 7-8:45pm in the FLY Room from Sept-June! We worship together, read God's Word, talk in small groups, play large group games, eat lots of food, and more! The nightly topics are always relevant for teens as we grow together in our relationships with God & others. The FLY Café is open from 6:30-9 where youth can purchase candy, soda, t-shirts, and other FLY merch. (Popcorn is always FREE!) Spin the Birthday Wheel for a fun birthday surprise! The Nintendo Switch, air hockey, and foosball games can be played before and after Sunday Night FLY. Friends are always welcome!

9th Grade Confirmation Project Meeting – Sunday, Aug. 31

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.

Jr. FLY Confirmation Class – Starting Sunday, Sept. 14 @ 9:45-10:40am

Starting Sept. 14th, 7th & 8th grade students will go through Luther's Small Catechism on Sundays with Pastor Peter and Mark Harstad. All classes will be in-person in Room 204. If you miss a class, you can download the PowerPoint presentation online at: faithpenfield.org.

Sunday Morning Sr. FLY Class – Starting Sunday, Sept. 14 @ 9:45-10:40am

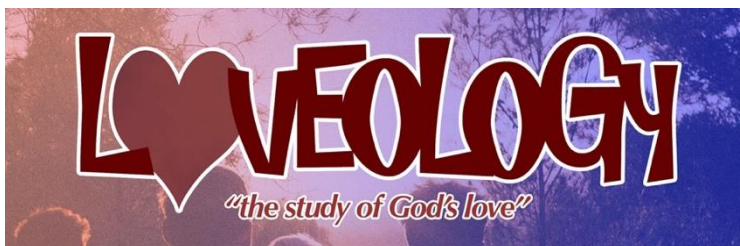
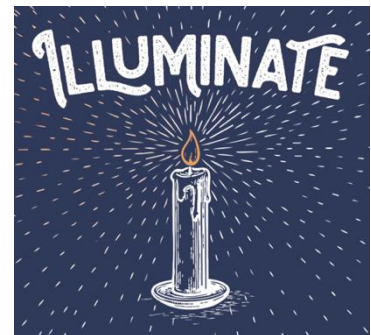
High school students are invited to check out the Sunday Morning Sr. FLY Class this year, as we'll be connecting Biblical truths to topics that are relevant to you. Join us in the FLY Room this month as we make prayer cards that are designed to help us pray – especially when we don't know what to pray for. You don't want to miss these awesome opportunities to grow in your faith in Jesus with other Sr. FLYers!

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!

Youth Advisors are Here for YOU!

FLY is blessed to have adults serving as Youth Advisors who walk alongside you – helping you to grow in your relationship with Jesus Christ! We are all here for you, no matter what you’re experiencing in life. But more importantly, God is always with you – loving and forgiving you every single day! The list of Youth Advisors and their phone numbers are on the back of the new FLY brochure.

Online Contact Form/Activity Participation Agreement

Our church’s insurance company asks every youth to complete the following online form to participate in FLY activities on our church property this school year. We also included some questions about the type of activities and topics you’d like FLY to cover this coming year.

<https://faithpenfield.org/resources-forms>.

Mark Your Calendars...

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

Oct. 12 – 200th Sunday Night FLY Party!

Oct. 19 – Confirmation Service at 9:30am

Oct. 26 – Sunday Night FLY “Scary Stories of the Bible”

**Check us out on YouTube!**

You can watch hilarious Coffee House videos, FLY promos, and more on our YouTube page?!

www.youtube.com/faithlutheranyouth

**Connect with FLY on Facebook! Join our group today!**

Search for “Faith Lutheran Youth (FLY)” on Facebook or type out this link...

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/flypenfield/>

**Follow FLY on Instagram!**

<https://www.instagram.com/flypenfield/>

Faith Child Care and Nursery School (FCCNS)

"Where your child can grow in body, mind and spirit"



Our theme for September is Back to School, Me and My Family, and Feelings. We will also be working on The Color Blue, The Square Shape, Letters A & B, as well as Numbers 1-10. Our Faith Character Words for the month will be Create, Image, Promise, Dream, and Provides. Our Bible Stories will be: God Creates and Gives Life, The Fall into Sin, God's Promises to Abram, Joseph's Coat and Dreams, and Joseph Forgives and God Provides. Our Faith Character Trait is Brave.

- FCCNS Closed - Labor Day - September 1st
- Penfield's First Day of School - September 3rd
- FCCNS Ice Cream Social -September 5th @ 4-5:30 - Under the Pavilion
- Rise Against Hunger Service Event- September 13th @ 10am or 11:30am – in the Auditorium

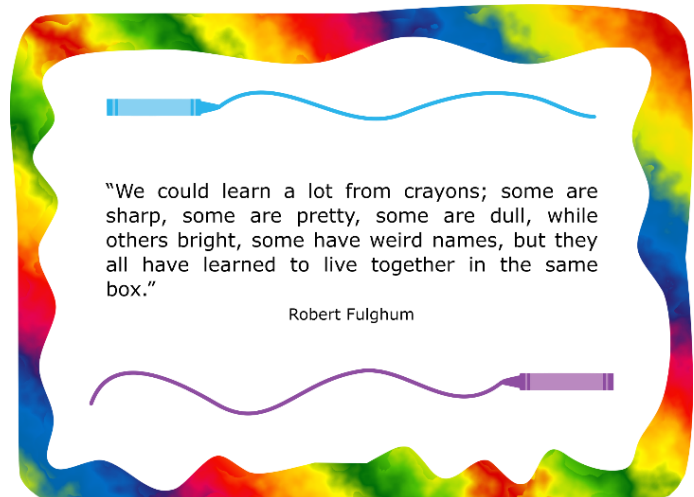


I remember spending hours as a child coloring—sometimes carefully inside the lines of a coloring book, other times creating my own imaginative designs, often with a house and dog. I wasn't always gentle with my crayons; I pressed too hard, snapping tips or even breaking them in half. Yet even when the crayons were broken, they still brought color to the page and created pictures worthy of hanging on the refrigerator.

We're a lot like those crayons. Even in our brokenness, God continues to use us as part of His masterpiece. Each of us adds a unique shade to His canvas, and His creation wouldn't be complete if even one color were missing. Whether you're someone who prefers to stay neatly inside the lines or someone who colors freely, God has a place for you in His design.

A brand-new box of crayons reminds me of a new school year—full of fresh possibilities, opportunities to grow, and chances to create a brighter world together. We are called to love every crayon in the box and to teach our children to do the same.

As we step into this new school year, we ask for your prayers for the students, teachers, and families of FCCNS and the communities we serve. May God watch over all our children and hold them tenderly in the palm of His hand.



12 Months of Flowers FUNDRAISER

On Sale - Sunday, September 7 - 28, 2025

**\$50 buys 12 bouquets of flowers, 1 per month,
from Kittelberger Florist & Gifts**

TO REDEEM: Present flower card once a month to receive a wrapped
bouquet of fresh flowers.

263 North Avenue, Webster, NY 585-216-1700

Faith Child Care & Nursery School

**PROCEEDS WILL BE USED FOR AN OUTDOOR "MUSIC GARDEN"
AND NEW STEPS UP TO THE PLAYSCAPE**

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

MARI-BETH OR LORI AT 585-385-2360



Made with PosterMyWall.com

Faith Child Care & Nursery School
Year to Date Income & Expenses Compared to Budget
As of 7/31/2025

	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Fav/(Unfav) Variance	Prior YTD	Board Approved 2025 Budget
Operating Income					
Fees	549,966	529,886	20,080	551,400	924,830
Interest/Misc./Other	22,119	19,849	2,270	22,320	31,433
Total Operating Income	572,085	549,735	22,350	573,720	956,263
Expenses:					
Program	25,482	27,499	2,017	24,993	47,586
Employee Related	459,705	475,349	15,644	484,430	816,088
Property & Equipment	36,858	39,221	2,363	34,301	67,840
Supplies	9,176	8,150	(1,026)	7,797	14,000
Operating Expenses	531,221	550,219	18,998	551,521	945,514
Net Operating Income (Loss)	40,865	(484)	41,349	22,199	10,749

End of July Enrollment 74 children

Online giving just got easier!

If you have established an online user account through the Giving tab on Faith's website at faithpenfield.org, you can now edit your recurring transactions online! Simply log in to your account, view Scheduled Transactions, and click Edit to change any of the following giving criteria:

- Amount
- Frequency
- Associated tile/fund
- Start and end date
- Associated payment method

If you originally set up your Vanco electronic giving account through the church office, any changes must be made through the church office. If you prefer to manage your electronic giving on your own, please contact the church office to cancel your electronic giving account managed by our office. You can then create an online electronic giving account by visiting Faith's website at www.faithpenfield.org. Click the GIVING button on the top menu and then the "Start Giving" button. A secure webpage powered by Vanco Payment Solutions will open and provide instructions and giving options for your gifts to Faith. You will have the option to create an online account and manage your electronic giving at your convenience. Please contact Kay Gerlach, Director of Finance, at 485-0142 if you have any questions or need assistance.

Thank you for your continued participation and support!



Faith Lutheran Church
Year to Date Income & Expenses Compared to Budget
7/31/2025

	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Fav/(Unfav) Variance	Prior YTD	Voter Approved 2025 Budget
Operating Income					
Envelope Offering	430,328	406,000	24,328	406,233	680,000
Plate Cash	5,879	3,900	1,979	3,970	8,000
FCCNS Facility Cost Sharing	16,333	16,333	0	14,583	28,000
Fund Distribution-Endowment	0	0	0	0	8,000
Interest/Misc./Other	8,426	6,575	1,851	7,795	12,500
Total Operating Income	460,967	432,808	28,158	432,581	736,500
Expenses:					
Education	7,080	11,825	4,745	9,874	20,300
Employee Related	245,299	247,984	2,685	217,481	432,728
Mission & Outreach	33,098	42,092	8,993	40,629	68,800
Music	4,005	5,350	1,345	3,917	7,675
Other Expense	7,507	8,592	1,084	5,657	12,750
Property	93,877	88,115	(5,762)	87,677	153,325
Supplies	17,231	18,080	849	17,839	31,295
Operating Expenses	408,098	422,038	13,940	383,073	726,873
Net Operating Income (Loss)	52,869	10,771	42,098	49,507	9,627
Employee Retention Credit	43,762	0	43,762	0	
ERC Funds Expenses	(6,850)	0	(6,850)	0	
Net Surplus (Deficit)	89,781	10,771	79,010	49,507	9,627

GIVING AT FAITH

At Faith Lutheran, giving is something we do with a spirit of joy in response to the love and forgiveness we have freely received in Jesus. "Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver," (2 Corinthians 9:7). Your gift blesses Faith's continued mission to "seek and save the lost," (Luke 19:10).

There are a number of ways you can choose to give to the many ministries and outreach efforts at Faith.

(Please contact Kay Gerlach, Director of Finance, at finance@faithpenfield.org or 485-0142 if you have any questions.)

1) TEXT GIVING:

*Simply enter Faith Lutheran Church's own dedicated number which is **833-958-1685**, enter the amount of your gift as your text message, press send and follow the remaining easy steps to make your secure one-time or recurring contribution.*

2) ONLINE GIVING:

*Visit Faith's website at www.faithpenfield.org. Click the GIVING button on the top menu and then the "Start Giving" button. A secure webpage powered by Vanco Payment Solutions will open and provide instructions and giving options for your gifts to Faith. You will be given the opportunity to create an online account, if desired. ***NEW*** Online users can now log in to their account, view Scheduled Transaction and click Edit to make changes.*

3) VANCO PAYMENT SOLUTIONS (previously SIMPLY GIVING):

If you originally set up your Vanco electronic giving account through the church office, any changes must be made through the church office. If you prefer to manage your electronic giving, contact the church office to cancel any scheduled transactions. You would then follow the Online Giving instructions in item (2) above to create an account and manage your electronic giving at your convenience. Please contact Kay Gerlach in the church office if you have any questions or need assistance.

4) ENVELOPE GIVING:

Our traditional method of receiving a box of offering envelopes for the year which allows you to mail your offering to the church office at 2576 Browncroft Blvd, Rochester, NY 14625 or place it in the collection plate during our worship service.

5) GIFT OF STOCK OR IRA QUALIFIED CHARITABLE DISTRIBUTION

Both of these methods of gift giving offer additional tax advantages that can best be explained by your tax advisor or IRA trustee. Please contact Kay Gerlach directly at 485-0142 for assistance on how to make these types of contributions.

Endowment Fund:

The Faith Lutheran Church Permanent Endowment Fund was established in 2004 to provide members and friends the opportunity to make charitable gifts to Faith that will become a permanent endowment providing financial support for the ministry and mission of the Church. The custodian for the Faith Lutheran Church endowment fund brokerage account is Charles Schwab & Co, Inc. If you would like to make a contribution to this fund, please contact Kay Gerlach directly at 485-0142 or finance@faithpenfield.org for assistance.

From the Church Office

Faith Leadership Board Officers

Chair – Russ Hignett

Vice Chair – Bruce Oaks

Secretary – Nancy Alvut

Treasurer – Beth Bird

Nominating Committee Reps – Karoline Trojian, Greg Gerbasi, Amanda Ebbecke, Bill Mosko



Altar Flowers Form: Help beautify our sanctuary on a Sunday morning by giving altar flowers in honor or memory of a loved one. We will be utilizing silk altar flowers unless someone orders fresh flowers for a Dedication. Any orders need to be in to the Church Office by the end of the **3rd week** each month for the following month.

* Either complete a new online form and pay the \$75 fee at our online giving page here:

<https://faithpenfield.org/resources-forms>

* Or contact Kris Cronk (secretary@faithpenfield.org) and send a check to the Church Office made out to "Faith Lutheran Church" and Altar Flowers in the memo line.

* Or Utilize the sign-up book on the Information Center in the concourse and followup with a check made out to "Faith Lutheran" Church with Altar Flowers in the memo line

Announcement Request Form:

If you have an announcement that you'd like to include in our bulletin announcements or monthly newsletter "Faith Notes." Please submit an Announcement Form either in the Church Office or online here: <https://faithpenfield.org/resources-form>

This form will help us streamline our communications within our congregation and to our community. Thanks for understanding! Please contact the Church Office if you have any questions.

October Faith Notes Articles due Friday, September 19th and should be directed to our Church Secretary, Kris Cronk (secretary@faithpenfield.org). Thank you!

Called to Glory:

- Janice Sullivan, 94-year-old friend of Lisa Hutchings
- Ralph Dintruff (7/22/25), good friend of Glenn Collins
- Christine Loperfido (7/23/25), wife of Tony and member of Faith
- Jody Sebastiano (7/27/25), father of Joseph & Luke Sebastiano
- Vincent Poromon (8/9/25), brother of Sunny Poromon
- Keith Gierman (8/13/25), husband of Debra Gierman, brother-in-law of Yvonne Saner
- Kay Bonggren (8/13/25), friend of Ryan Byrns
- Ronald Uecker (8/21/25), grandfather of Pastor Peter



Jackie Johnson

62 Oak Avenue

Shelton CT 06484

Birthdays


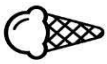

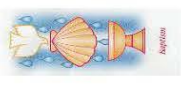
1	Deborah Nohle	11	Elizabeth McLean	21	Linda Aloï
3	Randy Longhenry		Kimberly Nadritch		Kathleen Mielke
	Katherine Talarczyk	12	Liane Bartsch	22	Emory Ford
4	Dennis Leinenbach		Tracy Maschoff Doty		Sara Love
	Margaret VanAuken		Avery Ebbecke		William Mosko III
	Benjamin Vogt		Ann Marie Schembri	23	Christie Pichan
5	Sharon Phillips	13	Raymond Linder	24	JoAnn Aspenleiter
	Meredith Tindall		Adam Schembri		Karoline Trojan
	Natalee Wilder		Luke Sebastiano	25	Sandy Hoffarth
6	Brian Coughlin	14	Ronald Cappellino		Betty Porter
	William McKee	15	Aaron Kurzrock		Jamaahl Singleton
7	Ann Linder		Bill Sykes	26	Laura Ricketts
	Chelsea Muller	16	Anthony Alberti	27	Barbara Bruning
	Joseph Sebastiano		Richard Hoffarth		Mark Saresky
	Charlotte Zager	17	Teresa Ali		Chelsea Zayas
8	Dylan Fore		James Messner	28	Mark Wood
9	Robert Freitag		Philip Sudore	29	Lucy Resch
	Brenda Lincoln	18	Jeanne Kurzik	30	Davis Bird
	Mary Versprille		Parker Zager		Judith Hull-Bricklemeyer
10	Leah Brady	19	Jane Sandgren		Seth Trojan
					Joseph Trova



Wedding Anniversaries

1	Douglas & Lois Smith	7	Peter & Joanne Schultz
3	Gregory & Shannon Gerbasi		Matthew & Jennifer Zager
4	Sam & Kelly Hartley	14	Charles & Jennifer Kohlmetz
	Todd & Kimberly Nadritch	15	TJ & Kathleen McEwen
6	Steve & Jackie Welk	22	Matt & Christy Coles
		27	Scott & Kristina Cronk
		30	Matt & Taylor Mason

September 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Church Office / FCCNS Closed 	2 FCCNS Fall Program Begins! 7:00am Men's Breakfast (Browncroft Diner) 10:00am FLC Bowling Lgue 10:30am FCCNS Chapel 1:00pm Worship @ The Addison	3 10:00am Church Staff	4	5 5:00pm FCCNS Ice Cream Social (Pavilion) 	6 10:00am Altar Guild Mtg (CmRm)
7 Rally Sunday 10:00am Combined Worship Vision Sermon Series (Pavilion) 11:30am Rally Day Carnival with Hotdog/Hamburg FLY Fundraiser & Kittleberger Fundraiser Kick-off	8 1:30pm Prayer Shawl (Rm204) 6:30pm Grief Share (CmRm) 6:30pm Girl Scout Mgrs (Rm204) 7:00pm Lyric Chorale (Aud)	9 10:00am FLC Bowling Lgue 10:30am FCCNS Chapel 4:00pm Stephen Ministry (CmRm) 6:30pm Jr. FLY Information Mtg (Aud)	10 10:00am Church Staff	11 11:30am Dorcas Group (Rm 204)	12 10:00am Keepers of the Cupboard (CmRm) 11:30am SOLA Lunch <i>Fairfield's Restaurant</i>	13 10:00/11:30am (Aud) Rise Against Hunger 1:00pm Fiddlers Rehearsal (MusicRm)
14 Vision Sermon Series 8:30am Traditional Worship 9:45am Adult Bible Class Sunday School Jr FLY in 204 / Sr FLY in FLY Rm 10:45am Contemporary Worship 7:00pm Sunday Night FLY Kick-Off 	15 10:00am Flower City Rug Hook Group (CmRm) 5:30pm Speisman Pot Luck (Pav) 6:30pm Grief Share (CmRm) 7:00pm Lyric Chorale (Aud) 7:00pm FCCNS Board Mtg (Rm204)	16 10:00am FLC Bowling Lgue 10:30am FCCNS Chapel 7:00pm FLB Mtg (CmRm)	17 10:00am Church Staff 5:45pm Girl Scouts (CmRm) 6:30pm FLB Q&A for Vision Process (Aud)	18 5:30pm Baptism Class (Pavilion) 	19 9:30am Property Board (CmRm)	20 2:30pm LIFT on the Erie Canal (Packett's Landing)
21 Vision Sermon Series 8:30am Traditional Worship 9:45am Adult Bible Class Sunday School Jr FLY in 204 / Sr FLY in FLY Rm 10:45am Contemporary Worship 12:00pm 2026 Workcamp Info Mtg (FLYRm)	22 8:00am Joseph Guild 6:30pm Grief Share (CmRm) 7:00pm Lyric Chorale (Aud)	23 10:00am FLC Bowling Lgue 10:30am FCCNS Chapel 6:00pm SOLA Dinner <i>Perfo's Restaurant</i>	24 10:00am Church Staff 7:15pm Choir Rehearsal (Music Rm)	25 7:00pm FCCNS Staff Mtg (CmRm)	26	27 10:00am Gierman SOV 11:00am Memorial Reception (Aud)
28 Vision Sermon Series 8:30am Traditional Worship 9:45am Adult Bible Class Sunday School Jr FLY in 204 / Sr FLY in FLY Rm 10:45am Contemporary Worship Crouse Baptism 7:00pm Sunday Night FLY	29 6:30pm Grief Share (CmRm) 7:00pm Lyric Chorale (Aud)	30 10:00am FLC Bowling Lgue 10:30am FCCNS Chapel				

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH
2576 Browncroft Blvd
Rochester NY 14625-1530

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED