



Food Packaging Community Event!

Saturday, Sept. 13, 2025
Faith Lutheran Church * Auditorium
One shift * 10am - 11:45am

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.





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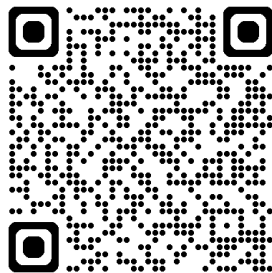
If your corporation, sports team, club, family, or you as an individual would like to sponsor and/or volunteer for this effort, please go to <http://events.riseagainsthunger.org/Faith2025> or scan the QR Code below.

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 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.



About our new sermon series, “Where Are We Going?”

This month we’re journeying through a new sermon series called, “Where Are We Going?” It uses the imagery of a roadtrip. Each week we’ll explore a different question for the trip and turn to God’s Word for direction and guidance along the way. The weekly themes will be:

-Sept. 7 – “Where are we going?”

-Sept. 14 – “How do we get there?”

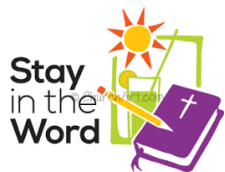
-Sept. 21 – “What do we need?”

-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! You’re invited to join us on the journey!



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.



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.



*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



A MUSICAL INVITATION - Any who like to sing are invited to join the choir in singing a familiar song for the offering on **Sunday, September 21** at the 8:30 service. There will be no separate rehearsal... just show up at **8:00 am** in the balcony to go through it together. We look forward to seeing you and making music together!

THE GENESEE COUNTRY MUSEUM

Join LIFT for SPOOKY SATURDAY October 11, 2025 | 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

The Museum was founded in 1966 with the goal of preserving the architecture of the Genesee Valley region in a recreated historic village. GCV&M is the largest and most comprehensive living history museum in New York State – and the third-largest in the United States. Enjoy the historic village, the John L. Wehle Gallery, and the Genesee Country Nature Center. Learn about rural cemeteries in the 19th-century. Enjoy fall colors and autumnal traditions in the Village. Attend a frighteningly fascinating talk on the history of rural cemeteries in America, visit our new exhibit:



Everybody's Going to be There! The American Rural Cemetery Movement.

TICKET INFORMATION – PURCHASE ON YOUR OWN

- **Tickets will go on sale Friday, September 10.** Buy online before Thursday, October 9 and save!
- **Adults: \$16 online | \$17 onsite and online after October 9. Seniors (62+) and Students (13 – 18): \$14 online | \$15 onsite and online after October 9. Youth (4 – 12): \$10 online | \$11 onsite and online after October 9.**

Lunch at **The Depot Restaurant (on site)** around noon. *Beverages (including beer, wine and cider) and lighter fare (wraps, salads, & sandwiches)*

Additional information and a signup sheet will be in the concourse.

Tickets for this event go fast!

Our suggestion if you plan on going is that you purchase your tickets the day they become available on September 10.

August 31st Worship Attendance

In-Person: 191 Livestream: 79 Total: 270

September 14th Scriptures

Gospel: Mark 4:26-32 Epistle: Hebrews 11:8-10, 13-16

Old Testament: Exodus 16:1-30

Faith Lutheran Youth (FLY) Announcements

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

Hot Dog & Burger FUNdraiser – TODAY after Worship

Help out at FLY's first FUNdraiser of the school year! We'll be making and serving hot dogs and burgers today from 9am-1pm. All money raised will support youth attending retreats and the workcamp this coming year!

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!



*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!

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

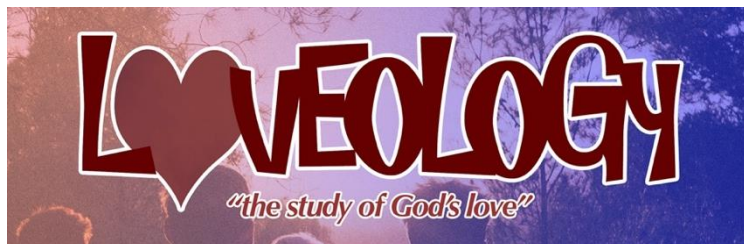
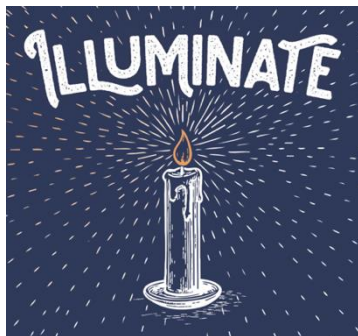
High school students are invited to check out the Sunday Morning Sr. FLY Class this year, as we'll be connecting Biblical truths to topics that are relevant to you. Join us in the FLY Room this month as we make prayer cards that are designed to help us pray – especially when we don't know what to pray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

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!

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	Variance		%	Prior Year
	Approved Budget	Actual	from 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

9/7	Ann Linder, Chelsea Muller, Joseph Sebastiano, Charlotte Zager
9/8	Dylan Fore
9/9	Robert Freitag, Brenda Lincoln, Mary Versprille
9/10	Leah Brady
9/11	Elizabeth McLean, Kimberly Nadritch
9/12	Liane Bartsch, Tracy Maschoff Doty, Avery Ebbecke, Ann Marie Schembri
9/13	Raymond Linder, Adam Schembri, Luke Sebastiano

Celebrating Wedding Anniversaries This Week

9/7	Peter & Joanne Schultz, Matthew & Jennifer Zager
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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, Beth Harstad, Jackie Johnson, LeeAnn Lagas, June Leibring, Hayden Lincoln, Aram Mangerian, Ann McEwen, Joan Moeller, 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

Alex, Cathy's Husband, George, Jeff, Jessica, Michael, Patty, Steve & Pat, Tiffany, Vincent, Joseph Alello, Vanmany Banks, Ryan Byrns, Donna Chismer, Rebecca Cronk, Frank DeJulio, Tom Didas, Natasha Doeblor & daughter, Sarah Flint, William Gwin, Elynn Haden, Michael Hall, Scott Hammond, Andy & Cathy Harman, 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, Tracy Muller, 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, Jim Robinson, Jeff Roen, Diane Schreiber, 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