

Faith Notes

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



Join us for
Thanksgiving Worship
Wednesday, November 26th at 7:00pm



CONNECT * GROW * SERVE

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

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Stephanie Johnson - Interim VBS

Director

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Taylor Saunders - Nursery

Dave Young - temporary Education

Assistant

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DIRECTOR OF MUSIC/ ORGANIST

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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



"The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit," -Psalm 34:18
"Jesus wept," John 11:35

Throughout history, God's people have gathered to grieve together. In Job 2:11-13, Job's friends mourned with him in silence for seven days. In 2 Samuel 1:11-12, David and his men grieved the passing of Saul and his son Jonathan. In John 11, many friends – including Jesus - grieved alongside Mary and Martha over the death of Lazarus. In Luke 23:27, many people grieved Jesus as he was led to His crucifixion. In Acts 8:2, the early Christian church mourned Stephen – the first martyr of the church.

God's people grieve together and there are many Biblical reasons for this:

1. God created us for community. "It is not good that the man should be alone," Gen. 2:18. Even before sin entered the world, God saw that isolation was not good. When we grieve together, we live out God's design for human connection.
2. Shared grief is part of our shared life in the body of Christ. "Rejoice with those who rejoice, mourn with those who mourn," Rom. 12:15. We reflect God's empathy when we enter another's sorrow.
3. God's comfort flows through His people when we're together. "Blessed be the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to comfort others in their affliction," 2 Cor. 1:3-4a.
4. Grieving together honors the one we've lost. The passages in the first paragraph above point us to instances in the Bible when God's people gathered publicly to express their love and grief of a loved one who had died.
5. Our tears confess faith in the resurrection. "We do not grieve as others do who have no hope," 1 Thess. 4:13b. In the middle of our grief, the hope of Christ still flickers in our heart. God's people share this hope with each other and the world.

Throughout this month, our community is invited to grieve together on the following days:

Sunday, Nov. 2 – "All Saints' Sunday" worship at 8:30 & 10:45am – We will gather to hear and read the names of the saints who went to be with Jesus this past year. Join us to remember them and worship our risen Lord together.

Wednesday, Nov. 5 – "Miscarriage Memorial Service" at 7pm – Everyone who has experienced the grief of a miscarriage, stillbirth, or death of a young child are invited to this special worship service of remembrance.

Friday, Nov. 14 – "Surviving the Holidays" GriefShare event at 5:30pm – Grief is harder around the holidays and we want you to know that you're not alone. Join us for a meal catered by Joey's Pasta House and a 30 minute video & discussion led by Donna Kaser and Pastor Peter. Please sign-up by Nov. 9.

At Faith, God's people continue to grieve together. If you need additional one-on-one spiritual support, please reach out to Pastor Peter or our Stephen Minister Team. We are here for you. God is here with you. And He cries with you. And He saves the crushed in spirit. Praise our risen Lord who has blazed a way through death for you and all those who believe in Him. Together, we look forward to the day when He will wipe away every tear from our eyes and there will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain (Rev. 21:4). What a glorious day that will be!

And all God's children said,
Amen!

For September

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 experienced a 1% unfavorable variance in envelope giving for the month of September but were blessed with a year-to-date favorable budget variance of \$24,146 or 5%.

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					
September 2025	Voter Approved Budget	Actual	Variance from Budget	% Variance	Prior Year Actual
Monthly Total	\$52,000	\$51,222	(\$778)	-1%	\$49,741
Year-to-Date Total	\$497,000	\$521,146	\$24,146	5%	\$490,988

Adult Education

Adult Bible Class Continues

Pastor Peter is leading a Bible class titled, **"Making All Things New – the Resurrection of Jesus and the Kingdom of God"** which wraps up on November 9th. In this series we are looking 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.

Meet Local Missionaries to Romania!

Our congregation is sponsoring two LCMS missionaries to Romania: Benjamin and Ella Goehring. They are both from Rochester and their home congregation is St. Paul's in Clarence Center, NY. Ella attended FCCNS when she was young! Now they are both leaving to Romania soon to share the Gospel of Jesus with our neighbors there. Ben and Ella will be sharing their story with us at Faith on **Sunday, Nov. 16 @ 9:45am** in the Faith Auditorium. More info about their upcoming mission work is available in the Concourse. Please keep them in your prayers as they minister in Romania!

Nicene Creed - 11/23, 12/7 & 12/14

The Nicene creed is now 1700 years young as it was initially written in 325 A.D. We will study about the history and culture of the time, why it was written, the controversies that lead to its writing, and how and why it caused a split in the church. We will further look into why we use today and its foundation for our faith.

"Lives of Worship" - Stewardship Series on Nov. 9 & 16

Our two-week stewardship series, "Lives of Worship," invites us to see all of life as a response of praise to the God who first loved us. Jesus calls us to worship the Father "in spirit and truth," offering our whole selves to Him as living sacrifices and faithful stewards of the Gospel. Throughout this series, we'll see how our worship continues not only in song and prayer but in every act of love done in Jesus' name.

Miscarriage Memorial Service – Wednesday, Nov. 5 @ 7pm

All who have experienced the grief of a miscarriage, stillbirth, or death of a young child are invited to a special Miscarriage Memorial Service at Faith on Wed, Nov. 5 @ 7pm. Together, we will bring our grief before the Lord who "knit us together in our mother's womb" and who welcomes the little children into His loving arms. Through Scripture, prayer, music, and a moment of remembrance, we will find comfort in God's loving presence and His promise of the resurrection. All are welcome to come and rest in the truth that nothing – not even death – can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

From our Faith Leadership Board:

Many thanks to everyone who attended and voted at the October 5th Special Voters' Meeting. The motion was approved to spend \$20k and begin phase one of Mission Driven Development (MDD). This cost will be taken out of our Ministry Expansion Reserve. We will keep the congregation informed on any MDD updates. We are excited to see where God leads us through this visioning process! Please feel free to contact Russ Hignett (FLB Chair) if you have any questions.

From the Mission Board

It is a busy time of year for Missions!!

Thank you to everyone who participated in the church wide service project on October 26th. The **CompassioNate Care Bags** show our love, and Jesus' love to those who receive them.

Our annual **Thanksgiving basket** project has begun! We are filling 60 baskets!! **Please let the church office know by Nov 17th if you, or a family you know, need a basket.**

The sign-up is online at faithpenfield.org or

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0544AF2EABFD0-59551001-mission#/>

and will close on Nov 16th. All items must be at church by Friday, Nov 21st. Black bins will be in the Concourse where donations are to be placed. Items can be dropped off in the Concourse beginning Nov 2nd until the final drop off day of Nov 21st by 4pm.

We will be packing and delivering the Thanksgiving baskets on Sunday, Nov 23rd at 10am.

If you would like to volunteer, please



The annual **Angel Tree** project will begin Sunday, November 16th. Cards with gift requests will be on a table in the Concourse. Gifts will be due by Sunday December 7th to church.

We could use several Thrivent Grants this year. If members have one of their Action Grants available, please contact Beth Camann.

Thank you for helping be the hands and feet of Jesus to the community!

We will be hosting a **Dinner for the Veterans at Nucor House** on Wed. November 19th at 5:30. The theme will be **"Thanksgiving"**! 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!!



Operation Christmas Child



Thank you for helping boys and girls around the world who live in countries where famine, power and national disasters have impacted their lives. Boxes will be available at church on Sunday, November 2nd and during the week in the office. Children in foreign countries will be so excited to feel Jesus' love when they open your box of hygiene, school supplies, and personal items. Operation Christmas Child, a project of Samaritan's Purse, will deliver the boxes that you have filled to children in communities around the world. Operation

Christmas Child Boxes will be collected at church on Sunday November 9th and 16th or in the church office during the week. You may follow your box to see where it has gone by recording the numbers on your box sticker and then looking online under Samaritan's Purse, Operation Christmas Child, in January.

You may contact Karen Wright, 377-4414, or Laurie Ebbecke, 671-7285, for additional information.

Service Projects

Hebrews 10:24-25 “And Let us consider how to stir of one another to love and good deeds, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another and all the more as you see the day drawing near.”

UPCOMING SERVICE PROJECTS:

Thanksgiving Basket collection will begin Nov. 2nd

Angel Tree Christmas gift collection will begin Nov. 16th

The Mission Board is looking for others to help continue and improve the long lasting mission of our church.

Please see Pastor Peter, Liz Wood or Chita McKinney if you want to chat about the Mission Board.
Call, text or email!!



In order for worship to run smoothly we need participants 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 participants.

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 participants 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)

Goings on at Faith



Dear Faith family,

My sincere thanks and appreciation to everyone who attended and brought food for the potluck dinner on September 15th. It was a perfect gathering under the pavilion with good weather, great food and fellowship. I was glad my sister, Sue, was able to be there to share in this memorable evening with me. I was deeply moved by all the cards, flowers and personal touches that went into planning this cherished evening.

Special thanks to Jackie Welk for coordinating and planning this event, as well as Nancy Alvut, Jane Coryea, Laurie Ebbecke and Betty Porter. It was so special in every way.

This has been a long journey and I'm so grateful to many of you who encouraged, supported and lifted me up in prayer through this process. It meant more than words can convey.

I will always cherish the wonderful years of worshiping and serving with you. May you continue to connect, grow and serve our awesome God.

God bless each and every one of you and may He always keep you in his tender care.

Cheryl Speisman
5004 Heartwood Lane
Danbury, CT. 06811
ces01nd@hotmail.com
585-261-3930 (cell)

A poster for a holiday event. The background is a stylized winter scene with snow-covered hills, evergreen trees, and a small cabin. The text is in a warm, brown, serif font. The title "SURVIVING THE HOLIDAYS" is at the top. Below it, the event details "Catered Meal ~ Video ~ Discussion" and "5:30-7:30pm ~ Friday, Nov. 14th" are listed. A message "Grief is harder around the holidays. You're not alone this season." is followed by "Sign-up at Faith by Nov. 9th." The logo for "GRIEF SHARE" is at the bottom left, and the text "Led by Donna Kaser & Pastor Peter at Faith Lutheran Church" is at the bottom right.

**SURVIVING
THE
HOLIDAYS**

**Catered Meal ~ Video ~ Discussion
5:30-7:30pm ~ Friday, Nov. 14th**

**Grief is harder around the holidays.
You're not alone this season.
Sign-up at Faith by Nov. 9th.**

GRIEF SHARE™

Led by Donna Kaser & Pastor Peter at Faith Lutheran Church

Calling all Bakers!

Time to start baking! Get ready for the **Annual Bake Sale to be held on Sunday, November 2nd**! Donations of baked goods are welcome for this fundraiser, the proceeds of which will be to support FLY for their missions trips, as well as a contribution to the Lutheran World Relief efforts. Please mark your donations as to the content and price and drop them off that morning or the day before. There will be IOU's at the sale if unprepared with checkbook or cash. Questions? Contact Jackie Kuipers or Stella Reschke.



Prayer Shawl Ministry



Our next meeting will be on **Monday, November 10th** 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.

Men's Breakfast Group

Join us as we start the day together in fellowship!

When: **Tuesday, November 4th @ 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.**

The Dorcas Group is meeting on **Thursday, November 6th** 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, November 7th** at *Bill Gray's*, 964 Ridge Rd, Webster. 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, November 18th** at 6:00pm at *Red Lobster*, 1515 West Ridge Rd, Greece. **This is a revised date due to the Thanksgiving Holiday.**

November L.I.F.T.



November 7th for those already registered
Any questions, please see Stella Reschke

December L.I.F.T. (save the date)

L.I.F.T. Celebrates Christmas with a Soup Supper & Caroling at The Atria!

All are invited to join Faith's brothers and sisters in celebrating Christmas together on Friday, December 19, at 5:30 pm at the home of George & Jackie Kuipers at 2012 Five Mile Line Road, Penfield. The Atria Adult Home is in their backyard, so there is plenty of parking in their lot.



Soup will be provided and guests can sign up to bring a snack, dinner item, or dessert.

- 5:00pm Soup and Potluck/Holdovers
- 7:00pm Caroling at The Atria
- 8:00pm Desserts & Fellowship

More information to follow in the December Faith Notes

The L.I.F.T. 2026 Sign-Up Sheet is now available in the concourse book, so don't hesitate to take a month in 2026 and plan the fellowship activity for that month (samples are listed on the sheet). It's a great way to get involved, learn about and support each other, and just have fun together. Some months are more popular, so sign up today!





Children's Ministry

Our Sunday School Classes are in full swing! We hope everyone is having a good time learning about the Bible and Gods word through fun games, crafts and videos.

There are plenty of ways to give back to those in need this Thanksgiving season:

Please consider signing up to donate food for Thanksgiving baskets. The link can be found on Faith's website or below:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0544AFAF2EABFD0-59551001-mission#/>

This month our **Kidz Konnect** group will be doing a service project to honor the Veterans at Nucor House in honor of Veteran's Day. The project will be completed during Sunday school class.

Save the Date: Wednesday, December 10th

Our Annual Gingerbread House Event will be held on Wednesday, December 10th! A Pizza dinner will be served at 5:45pm followed by Gingerbread House decorating. We ask that each family bring a bag of candy and contribute \$15 per house. Families are asked to RSVP on the sign up sheet located in the book in the Concourse by December 1st to ensure we have enough houses.



Faith's annual **Christmas Pageant** will be held on Sunday, December 14th during the 10:45am service. Sunday School students will practice for the pageant during Sunday school classes beginning in November, so please try to attend as many classes as possible.

There will be **no Sunday School** December 21st or 28th. There will also be **no Kids Time** during the month of December. Sunday School will resume on January 4th.





Thank you..

-To the 39 students who attended our **200th Sunday Night FLY** celebration on Oct. 12! We enjoyed a glow dance party, glow games, karaoke, snacks, and making new friends! Many thanks to our awesome Youth Advisors for helping to lead it! We thank God for all He continues to do in FLY and in our lives!

-To everyone who attended our **Jr. FLY Fall Retreat** last month! May you continue to share the love of Christ to all people!

-To Joe Alello, Jennifer Deutsch, Matt Hoad, Jolynn Keller, and Mari-Beth Schembri for leading our Jr. FLY Fall Retreat!

-To our incredible **9th grade Confirmants** for sharing their baptismal faith with us this last month through their *Faith Art & Faith Statement* projects!



Meet our new DCE Intern: Ella Gilzean!

-Ella is arriving this January for a year-long Director of Christian Education (DCE) Internship!

-She'll be helping to lead our Children's & Youth Ministries!

Some facts about Ella:

-Favorite Bible verses: Philippians 4:7 and Isaiah 40:6-8

-From northern California

-Attends Concordia University Nebraska

-Loves ministry, music, hiking, Ren Faires, reading, martial arts, mission trips, and more!

-Led a VBS while on a mission trip to Guatemala last year!

-Used to be an Animal Science major and her favorite animals are pigs!

-Led a campus ministry praise band at Concordia!

-Professionally trained in Taiko (traditional Japanese drumming) and even played in Japan!

-Her practicum was at Christ Lutheran Church in Lincoln, NE which has a huge youth ministry!

-Planned and hosted an on-campus Biblical Engagement Conference with 11 guest speakers at Concordia!



Her philosophy of ministry:

"The mission of my ministry is to share the love of Christ by equipping believers of all ages to serve others and share their faith, walking alongside them to teach God's grace and what it means to live as maturing disciples of Christ."

We can't wait to meet Ella and have her join us at Faith in 2026! Stay tuned for more details about her arrival in January. Please join us in praying for Ella...

Heavenly Father,

We thank You for leading Ella here to Faith this coming year! We can't wait to get to know her and have her join us in ministry here. Prepare Ella for her internship, bless her with wisdom, patience, and joy in serving You and Your Church. May her internship be full of holy moments filled with new friendships and opportunities for her to point people to Christ. Prepare the hearts of everyone at Faith, as we welcome her, encourage her in the faith, and support her in ministry. May all that we do together bring glory to Your holy name and draw hearts closer to Jesus. And all God's children said, Amen!

Sunday Night FLY – "Cookies for College Students" – Nov. 9 @ 7pm

Help us send boxes of cookies to our FLY college students all over the country! We ask every FLYer to bring 2 dozen homemade cookies to SNFLY on Nov. 9. We'll write care cards and fill boxes with cookies & other items for our college students. Then we'll play games together for the rest of the evening! Bring friends and cookies to this awesome event!

ATTENTION COLLEGE STUDENTS!

We need your college addresses so we can send you cookies! Please email your address to Kris Cronk (Faith's Secretary) at: secretary@faithpenfield.org. Thanks!

**Sunday Night FLY – "Armor Up!" – Nov. 23 @ 7pm**

Join us for an exciting night as we dive into "Spiritual Warfare" and what it is, what it's not, and how God equips us to stand firm in His armor! Bring your friends and get ready to wear a ton of tinfoil... You don't want to miss it!

***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 6:15-9 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! *Come early at 6:15pm for dinner and games!

Jr. FLY Confirmation Class – Sundays @ 9:45-10:40am

7th & 8th grade students are journeying through Luther's Small Catechism on Sundays with Mark Harstad in Room 204.

Sunday Morning Sr. FLY Class – Sundays @ 9:45-10:40am

High school students are invited to check out the Sunday Morning Sr. FLY Class this year in the FLY Room, as we're connecting Biblical truths to topics that are relevant to you. Our Youth Advisors and FLY Interns are leading the class.

Bake Sale – Sunday, Nov. 2

Drop-off baked goods on Fri, Oct. 31 & Sun, Nov. 2 for our Bake Sale in the Church Concourse! All proceeds will benefit FLY and Lutheran World Relief. FLY volunteers can sign-up on the FLY Bulletin Board. Thank you!

**Jr. FLY Switch Party – Sunday, Nov. 9 @ 5:30pm**

Come play Mario Kart & Gang Beasts in the FLY Room on Sunday, Nov. 9 from 5:30-7pm! We'll play tournament style and there will be prizes for the winners (& losers)! We'll enjoy pizza, too! Bring your friends to this fun party in the FLY Room and it will lead right into Sunday Night FLY that evening!

**FLY Ornament Sale – Nov. 30 & Dec. 7**

Purchase your very own Faith ornament and hang it on your Christmas tree or gift it to someone you love! Each ornament was 3D printed by Faith member, Matt Bernhardt, and this year the ornament features the Faith logo. All proceeds from the sale benefit our youth attending FLY trips this year! Visit our table in the Concourse. Thanks for your support!

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>.

JOIN FLY's "Remind" Communication Service!

Sign-up to receive reminders, announcements, and other info about upcoming FLY events right to your Remind App here: <https://www.remind.com/join> and join this class: [flyouth](#).

Mark Your Calendars...

Nov. 30 & Dec. 7 – FLY Ornament Sale

Dec. 14 – Sunday Night FLY "Christmas Party"

Dec. 21 – Sr. FLY & Young Adult Progressive Dinner

Jan. 11 – Sunday Night FLY "Improv Comedy Night"

Jan. 25 – Sunday Night FLY "REMIX"

Jan. 28 – Coffee House Stage & Lights Setup

Jan. 30 – 33rd Annual Coffee House Variety Show!

Faith Child Care and Nursery School (FCCNS)

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

Our Themes for this month are Community Helpers and Thanksgiving

We will be working on our Numbers, The Color Brown, The Diamond Shape and Letters E, F and G

Our Faith Character words for the month are Friend, Brave, Throne and Obey

Our Bible stories will be David & Jonathan Are Friends, David and Goliath, David Becomes King, and Jonah

Our Christian Trait is Responsibility

Special Activities:

- **Penfield Schools Closed** — November 11th, 24th – 26th (School Age here all day)
- **Thanksgiving Feast** – Tuesday, November 25th
- **Thanksgiving Holiday** – FCCNS Closed Nov. 27th and Nov. 28th



Thankful November

November invites us to slow down, reflect, and give thanks. As the leaves fall, the days grow shorter, the air turns crisp, and our hearts are drawn toward gratitude. With Thanksgiving approaching, it's the perfect time to pause and take stock of the blessings God has placed in our lives—not just the big, obvious ones, but also the quiet gifts we often overlook in the busyness of our days. True gratitude is more than a moment; it's a posture of the heart. It's a daily choice to notice God's goodness and trust His faithfulness, even when life feels uncertain. Scripture reminds us,

"Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus" (1 Thessalonians 5:18). Gratitude doesn't depend on what's happening around us—it flows from our confidence in God's unchanging love.

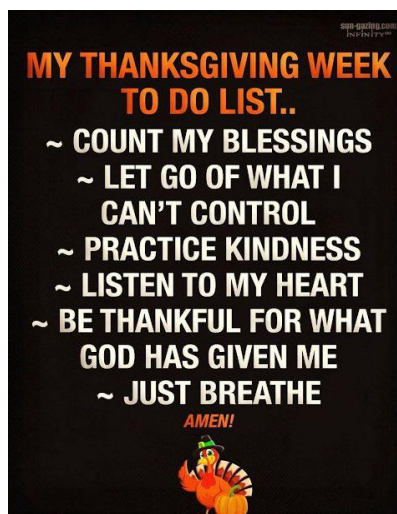
One of the most powerful ways to nurture a thankful heart is to remember. Throughout Scripture, God's people are called to look back—to recall His faithfulness, His provision, and His promises kept. *"Remember the wonders He has done, His miracles, and the judgments He pronounced"* (1 Chronicles 16:12). When we reflect on the past, we see how God carried us through seasons we once thought we couldn't survive. Every answered prayer, every small mercy, becomes a reminder of His constant presence.

But gratitude doesn't end with remembering—it moves us to action. A thankful heart naturally overflows into blessing others. *"Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord"* (Colossians 3:23). Whether it's lending a helping hand, offering encouragement or simply sharing a smile, each act of kindness becomes an expression of worship and thanks.

As we enter this season of gratitude, I invite you to join me for **Thankful November**. Take a moment to look back over the past year. Where did you see God's hand at work? Maybe it was an answered prayer, a moment of unexpected peace, or a door that opened just when you needed it most. Perhaps it was in a friendship, a healing, or the quiet assurance that you were not alone. Write it down, share it with someone, or whisper a simple prayer of thanks.

Gratitude shifts our focus—from what we lack to all that we've been given. And as we remember all that God has done, our hearts are filled with hope for what He will continue to do.

May this November be a season of reflection, gratitude, and joy as we celebrate the faithfulness of our God—yesterday, today, and forever.



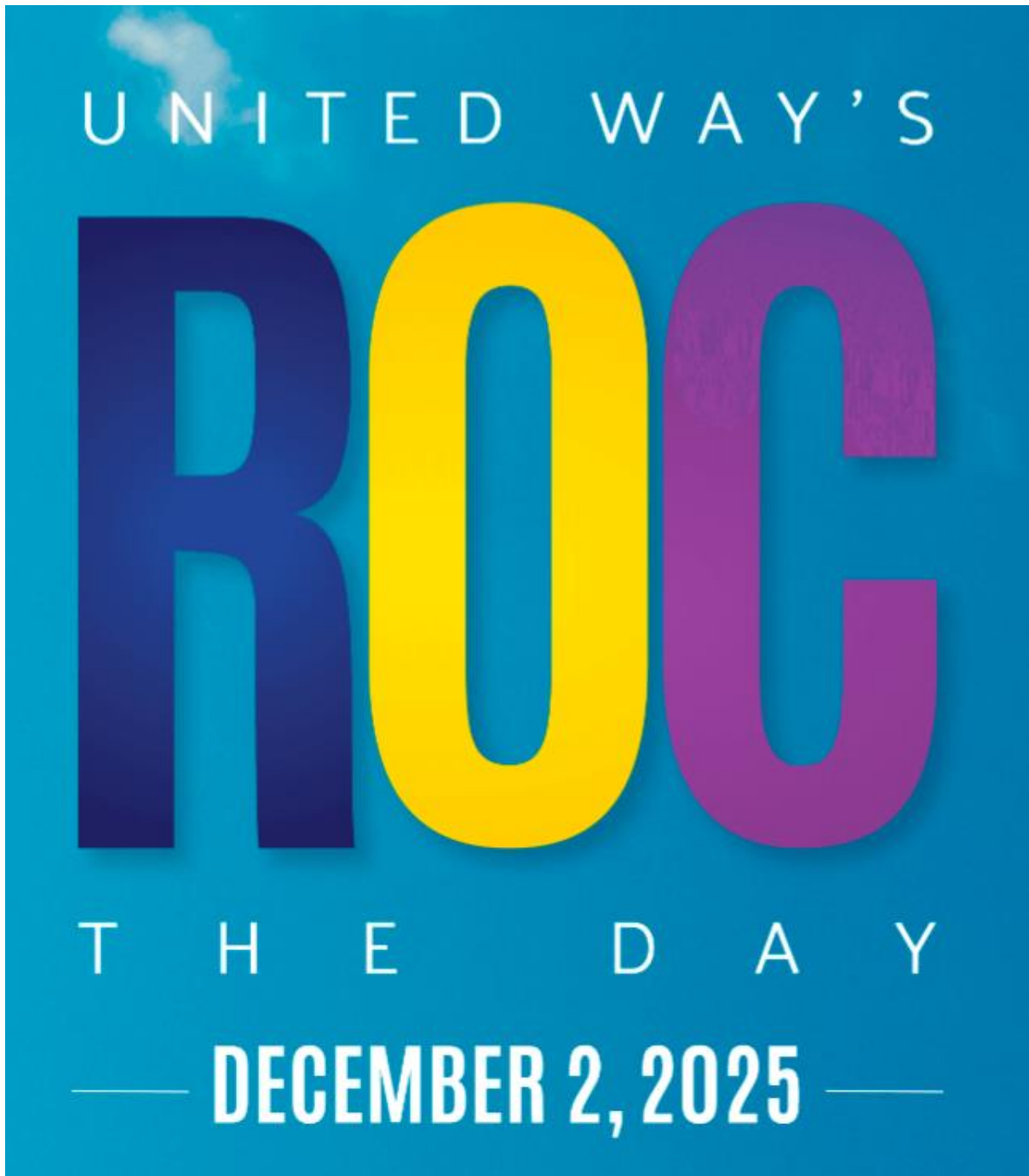
Support Faith Child Care and Nursery School for ROC the Day on 12/2/25.

All donations go toward our Tuition Assistance Program to help families in need.

Donate using the link below:

<https://roctheday.org/FCCNS>

FCCNS United Way #1523



Faith Child Care & Nursery School
Year to Date Income & Expenses Compared to Budget
As of 9/30/2025

	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Fav/(Unfav) Variance	Prior YTD	Board Approved 2025 Budget
Operating Income					
Fees	698,007	699,865	(1,858)	706,940	924,830
Interest/Misc./Other	28,545	25,327	3,218	33,995	31,433
Total Operating Income	<u>726,552</u>	<u>725,192</u>	<u>1,360</u>	<u>740,936</u>	<u>956,263</u>
Expenses:					
Program	34,832	36,898	2,066	34,026	47,586
Employee Related	590,172	609,454	19,282	602,699	816,088
Property & Equipment	49,260	51,928	2,668	44,392	67,840
Supplies	11,384	10,550	(834)	9,868	14,000
Operating Expenses	<u>685,648</u>	<u>708,830</u>	<u>23,182</u>	<u>690,985</u>	<u>945,514</u>
Net Operating Income (Loss)	<u>40,904</u>	<u>16,362</u>	<u>24,542</u>	<u>49,951</u>	<u>10,749</u>

End of September Enrollment 70 children

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
9/30/2025

	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Fav/(Unfav) Variance	Prior YTD	Voter Approved 2025 Budget
Operating Income					
Envelope Offering	521,146	497,000	24,146	490,989	680,000
Plate Cash	7,561	5,000	2,561	5,340	8,000
FCCNS Facility Cost Sharing	21,000	21,000	0	18,750	28,000
Fund Distribution-Endowment	0	0	0	0	8,000
Interest/Misc./Other	14,359	9,825	4,534	11,441	12,500
Total Operating Income	564,066	532,825	31,241	526,519	736,500
Expenses:					
Education	12,071	17,675	5,604	15,783	20,300
Employee Related	316,110	322,759	6,649	279,758	432,728
Mission & Outreach	49,170	54,375	5,205	48,861	68,800
Music	4,156	5,900	1,744	4,319	7,675
Other Expense	8,873	10,050	1,177	6,421	12,750
Property	119,977	114,656	(5,321)	109,682	153,325
Supplies	21,989	23,226	1,237	22,898	31,295
Operating Expenses	532,347	548,641	16,294	487,722	726,873
Net Operating Income (Loss)	31,719	(15,816)	47,535	38,797	9,627
Employee Retention Credit	512,616	0	512,616	0	
ERC Funds Expenses	(6,850)	0	(6,850)	0	
Net Surplus (Deficit)	537,485	(15,816)	553,302	38,797	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.

December Faith Notes Articles due Friday, November 21st and should be directed to our Church Secretary, Kris Cronk (secretary@faithpenfield.org). Thank you!

Marriages:

- **Elisabeth Price and Carson Novotny** (9/21/25), daughter of Paul & Barbara Price, granddaughter of Elisabeth Mangerian

Births:

- **Poppy Joy** (9/30/25), daughter of Allison Johnson, niece of Pastor Peter & Stephanie Johnson

Baptisms:

- **Tenley Helen Crouse** (9/28/25), daughter of Jeremy & Colleen Crouse, granddaughter of Al & Noreen Crouse

- **Violet Althea Wood** (10/26/25), daughter of Christopher & Victoria Wood, granddaughter of Mark & Liz Wood

- **Merton Alan Fernaays** (10/26/25), husband of Charlene Fernaays

Called to Glory:

- **Jim Lindskoog** (8/29/25), cousin of Ed and David Lindskoog

- **Samuel Falzone** (9/23/25), husband of Marilyn Falzone

- **Edwin Lindskoog** (10/6/25), father of David Lindskoog (Cathy Lindskoog)

- **Bob Mindler** (10/23/25), friend of the Hutchings family

New Temporary Address:

- Kathi Rickus **GREENFIELD HEALTH & REHABILITATION CENTER**
Room 104, 5949 Broadway, Lancaster, NY 14086

Birthdays

1	Kerry Cauwels	13	Harper Brooks	22	Mari Alfieri
2	Adalbert Lux		Patrick Gerlach		Stephen Balentine
	Gene Trimble		Jennifer Kohlmetz		Cooper Hall
3	Ben Krenzer		Kendyl Mosko	25	Ruth Feasel
	Maizey Mitchell		Rhea Oaks		Charlene Fernaays
	Amelia Natemeier	14	Noah Forma		Matthew Hoad
	Lois Smith	15	Makayla Hoad	26	John Glenn
4	Sandie Palmer	17	Gretchen Buck		Ida Stiner
5	Jeffrey Hermanson		Jennifer Cook	27	Shannon Gerbasi
6	Paul Aspenleiter		Marnee Eddy Burke	28	Molly Schultz
7	Charles Arnone		Joanne Schultz	29	Terry Allen
	Francesca Foster	18	Shannon Wolf		Jill Bernhardt
	James Gerlach	21	Elizabeth Balentine		Nicholas Gallina
11	Daniel Nuijens		Nancy Saresky		Ava Siracusa
12	Elissa Brownell		Penny Wheeler	30	Andrew Nohle
	Paul VanHorn				



Wedding Anniversaries

2	Jeremy & Colleen Crouse	12	Tommy & Christina McEwen
5	Martin & Kathy Hardisky	15	Peter & Stephanie Johnson
	Dick & Roxanne Leschhorn	16	Daniel & Kristin Nuijens
7	Lance & Dana Schultz	23	Lawrence & Dianne Christensen
8	Raymond & Ann Linder	28	Jon & Terry Allen
9	Mark Trova & Rachel Maschoff Trova		

November 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2 All Saints Sunday 8:30am Traditional Worship 9:45am * Education Hour FLY Bake Sale 10:45am Contemporary Worship 6:00pm Faith Connections (Freitags) 	3 10:00am Embroidery Guild (Rm204) 6:30pm Grief Share (CmRm) 7:00pm Lyric Chorale (Aud)	4 Election Day 7:00am Men's Breakfast (Browncroft Diner) 10:00am FLC Bowling Lgue 10:30am FCCNS Chapel 1:00pm Worship @ The Addison 2:00pm Women's Small Group (Lib) 7:15pm Choir Rehearsal (Music Rm)	5 10:00am Church Staff 7:00pm Families Grieving Children Service (Sanc)	6 11:30am Dorcas Group (Rm204) 6:00pm Girl Scouts (CmRm)	7 11:30am SOLA Lunch <i>Bill Gray's Webster</i> 7:00pm LIFT Event Lancaster, PA "Sight & Sound Theater" 	1 7:00pm Sr FLY Bonfire 8 1:00pm Fiddlers Rehearsal (MusicRm)
9 Stewardship Sunday 8:30am Traditional Worship 9:45am * Education Hour 10:45am Contemporary Worship 5:30pm Jr FLY Switch Party 7:00pm Sunday Night FLY Cookies for College Kids	10 Veteran's Day 1:30pm Prayer Shawl (Rm204) 6:30pm Grief Share (CmRm) 7:00pm Lyric Chorale (Aud)	11 10:00am FLC Bowling Lgue 10:30am FCCNS Chapel 4:00pm Stephen Ministry (CmRm)	12 10:00am Church Staff 7:15pm Choir Rehearsal (Music Rm)	13 9:30am Property Board (CmRm) 5:30pm Board of Ed Mtg (CmRm) 7:00pm Music & Worship (CmRm)	14 10:00am Keepers of the Cupboard (CmRm) 5:30pm "Surviving the Holidays" w/ Dinner (CmRm)	15
16 Stewardship Sunday 8:30am Traditional Worship 9:45am * Education Hour Missionary Presentation (Aud) 10:45am Contemporary Worship 6:00pm Faith Connections (CmRm)	17 8:00am Joseph Guild 10:00am Flower City Rug Hook Group (CmRm) 6:30pm Grief Share (CmRm) 7:00pm Lyric Chorale (Aud)	18 10:00am FLC Bowling Lgue 10:30am FCCNS Chapel 2:00pm Women's Small Group (Lib) 6:00pm SOLA Dinner <i>Red Lobster, Greece</i> 7:00pm FLB Mtg (CmRm)	19 10:00am Church Staff 5:30pm Nucor House 5:45pm Girl Scouts (CmRm) 7:15pm Choir Rehearsal (Music Rm)	20	21	22
23 Christ the King 8:30am Traditional Worship 9:45am * Education Hour 10:00am Thanksgiving Baskets Packaging (CmRm) 10:45am Contemporary Worship 7:00pm Sunday Night FLY Armor Up	24 6:30pm Grief Share (CmRm) 7:00pm Lyric Chorale (Aud)	25 10:00am FLC Bowling Lgue 10:30am FCCNS Chapel "Thanksgiving Gathering"	26 10:00am Church Staff 7:00pm Thanksgiving Eve Worship (Sanctuary)	27 Thanksgiving Church Office/FCCNS Closed 	28 Church Office/FCCNS Closed	29
30 Advent Begins FLY Ornament Fundraiser 8:30am Traditional Worship 9:45am * Education Hour 10:45am Contemporary Worship 12:00pm Hanging of the Greens w/ Pizza						*Education Hour 9:45 Adult Bible Class (Aud) Children Sunday School <i>(locations on bulletin</i> <i>board)</i> Jr FLY (Room 204) Sr FLY (FLY Room)

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH
2576 Browncroft Blvd
Rochester NY 14625-1530

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED