



Worship

Sundays 10:00 AM
Holy Communion

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| March 1 | Second Sunday in Lent |
| Genesis 12:1-9 Romans 4:1-8, 13-17 Luke 15:11-24 | |
| March 8 | Third Sunday in Lent |
| Exodus 17:1-7 Romans 5:1-8 Luke 15:25-32 | |
| March 15 | Fourth Sunday in Lent |
| Isaiah 42:14-21 Ephesians 5:8-14 Luke 16:19-31 | |
| March 22 | Fifth Sunday in Lent |
| Ezekiel 37:1-14 Romans 8:1-11 Luke 20:9-19 | |
| March 29 | Palm Sunday |
| Isaiah 50:4-9a Philippians 2:5-11 Luke 19:28-40 | |

Sunday School

Sunday School
9:00 AM

From Pastor Phil

Remembering Lent

“It’s too bad we don’t have Lent this year” someone was overheard saying, “I miss it.”

Because of facility issues we are not holding services for Lent this year. We are not sharing fellowship around a light meal of soup and bread ahead of service. Not all of us have participated in the past. Those of us that did might feel a vacancy in our remembrance leading up to Easter.

I have a secret. Lent is still happening. The midweek services were tools to help us commemorate the season; but that’s all they were – tools. They help us remember the season, but they are essential to the season.

In the same way we don’t need to have a building to be a church, we don’t need special midweek services for Lent to happen. It may take more individual effort or discipline if not on our schedule.

The purpose of Lent is to set aside time to contemplate on the journey of Jesus to the cross as the intentional, voluntary, fully sufficient sacrifice for Sin on the cross. The whole purpose of fasting from normal routine during Lent in order to find time for that contemplation.

There are twenty-four days of Lent in March before Palm Sunday (Sundays are not included in Lent). I suggest this year that we observe Lent by reading one of the Gospels from the beginning up to Maundy Thursday.

Matthew 1:1 – Matthew 26: 35

Mark 1:1 – Mark 14:31

Luke 1:1 – Luke 22:38

John 1:1 – John 17:25

Family of Faith has never been defined by its traditions. Our observance of Lent does not need to be defined by tradition. It has always been defined by connecting with Jesus, God’s Word, and each other.

Worship Assistants

Communion Assistants



March 1 Kathy Falter & Jeff Shuey
 March 8 Kathy Falter & Jeff Shuey
 March 15 Kathy Falter & Jeff Shuey
 March 22 Kathy Falter & Jeff Shuey

Lectors



March 1 Dave Murray
 March 8 Jeff Shuey
 March 15 Jim Vassar
 March 22 Kathy Falter
 March 29 Linda Grover

Communion Bread Bakers



March 1 Christine Chauvaux
 March 8 Wanda Phares
 March 15 Gail Foos
 March 22 manna
 March 29 Susan Bracht

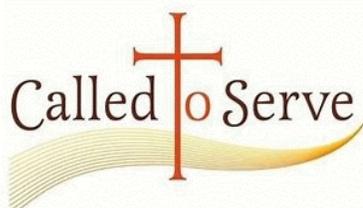
Coffee Brewers



The Java Café is open, with coffee being served Barista style and with snacks available.

Happy Birthday

| | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| March 2 Robin Dickman | March 16 Melinda Crawford |
| March 3 Barbara Berry | March 20 Randy Schwartz |
| March 4 Steve Cholodewitsch | March 23 Carl Redman |
| March 7 Don Arter, Jr. | March 24 Elliott Stine |
| March 8 Kelly Cholodewitsch | March 25 Katie Cholodewitsch |
| March 9 Julie Elchert | March 28 Brent Kline |
| March 10 Beth Nahm | March 29 Judy Coppes |
| March 11 Nancy Ringle | March 30 Danika Hitchcock |
| March 14 Beth Berglands | March 31 David Murray |
| March 15 Luke Jameson | March 31 Marisa Heldman |
| | March 31 Kevin Johnson |



Getting us into and settled into 170 West Davis is an all hands-on deck task. If you can't do physical tasks, you can do administrative tasks. If you can't be on-site, you can be on point in prayer. You can buy an empty house, but it is not a home until you settle in and have things in place.

If you hear an announcement in church or get an e-mail calling for volunteers, please be ready to step forward. There will be furniture to move; equipment to set up; boxes to be unpacked; cupboards and shelves to be stocked; a kitchen to be set up; a thousand little details to be handled.

This is our new home for all of us. All of us can be part of helping get it set up whenever we are needed.

Spiritual Growth Opportunities

Youth Sunday School

- March 1 - Parable of the Sower
- March 8 - Wheat and Weeds
- March 15 - Talents
- March 22 - Seder/The Last Supper
- March 29 - Palm Sunday



Women of Faith will meet on Wednesday, March 11, 2026, at 5:00 PM at Lynn Miller’s residence (4426 Co. Rd. 6, New Riegel, OH 44853). A mile west off of 53, first woods on the left. We will be discussing Week 2 of the Fresh Start book. If you don’t have the book, no worries—please come, enjoy food, fellowship, and group discussion with us. Please bring an appetizer to share.



If you need a ride to church on Sundays, can provide a ride, please let David Murray know. Also, if you can visit any of our shut-ins, please let David know.



Our March Mission Outreach Baskets will be Sisters in Shelter monetary donations.



Family of Faith Lutheran Church is part of an association of Lutheran Churches in the United States and Globally. Every member of the association agrees to basic Lutheran doctrines. Beyond that, congregations are free (and responsible) to govern themselves. There are no district, regional, or national authorities within Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ. The association provides a way to support and work cooperatively as congregations and to access resources within the association.

Renovation/Facility Update: When will be in the new facility? As we go to press, we don't have a specific date.

The fire inspection was conducted. There were corrections to be made and a follow-up is in progress.

A walk-through has been held with our renovation team and the contractor to make a punch list of items to be finished to our satisfaction. A similar walk-through was conducted by the architect and contractor. As is usual, some additional items were found. All these details will be addressed.

We await the government inspection for safety and code. It is possible this might identify some items to address.

All of these walk-throughs and inspections are intended to make sure the job is done as correctly as possible and everything is in place. As anxious as we are about getting in. It is best to address these details now rather than later.



Family of Faith’s Inclement Weather Policy is that we will cancel worship services when Seneca County is at a Level 3 Snow Emergency. And remember, anytime you feel that it is unsafe for you to travel, please stay home. We want our “Family” to be safe out on the roads.



Tuesday
March 17, 2026



Friday
March 20, 2026



A reminder that Palm Sunday is coming up on March 29th. Our Maundy Thursday Communion Service is 7:00 p.m. April 2nd. The Good Friday Tenebrae will be April 3rd at 7:00pm. Easter Sunday is April 5th. Please keep an eye on your email as we will be announcing any adjustments by that means. If you have changed your email, added an email, or need to be added to our list, please contact the church office.



The Vision Team is recommending we wait until August/September for our official open house for the public. This will allow for warmer weather. It will allow us to settle into the facility. It will allow us to complete some outside landscaping. It will allow us to use it to build momentum after the summer vacation season rather than losing it while many family activities happen during the summer months.

Planning will be completed by the Connections Team. Watch for calls for volunteers as we move toward that date. If you want to join the team see Beth Nahm.



Finishing Strong Together

When Peggy and I designed and built a house from scratch, people would tell us marriage could only survive one construction project. Whether or not you believe in that cliché, there is enough truth in the stress that a major project puts on the strongest of relationship to give it some truth. The magnitude and frequency of decisions, the delays and unexpected challenges, and the significance of the investment creates tension, arguments, and often anger where before there was little or none.

You may never have built a house, but now all of us have shared in the renovation of a facility. While we have so far weathered the challenges, it has not been without interpersonal tension. For both those closely tied to the project as representatives of the congregation in leadership or someone on the sidelines looking in, our connectedness has been tested and honestly sometimes seriously frayed. Not is open conflict but with a word here, a comment there, a question of integrity or competence when things got rough, an insinuation that you could do it better than those entrusted to the task.

It should not be blown out of proportion, but in a community that defines part of its mission as getting and keeping people connected and a Biblically designated ministry of reconciliation it could be a matter of some concern. You and I know if we have had moments when we have spoken words or committed an action in the stress of this longer than expected effort where we stepped over the line of productive discussion into what might have been the start of disconnecting with a brother or sister in Christ or that planted seeds of possible disunity.

This has been a long road that we pray results in an expansion of our ability to fulfill our mission. Between now and the end of that journey, let's all take some time to do two things. Seek forgiveness for adding tension by our words and actions; and giving thanks – both to God for this opportunity and those who have worked so hard to use God's resources on behalf of all of us.

Vision Team Highlights

● **Pastor's Report - Pastor Phil:** He is feeling better and has been coming into the office in the afternoon and working in the mornings at home. He has been attending CRU meetings.

Vision Team Basics: Pastor Phil passed out the description of the six ministry teams to all of the Vision Team members, and went through the job descriptions ministry by ministry. Each chair needs to put a team together and work with them. Tackle one big project and do it well instead of five smaller ones. Think about doing something different, not because it has always been done this way. The Pastor does not have the authority without the Vision Team's ok. This place is the tool to do the mission. We are answerable to the congregation.

● **Finance - Dan Miller:** Dan reported on the operating fund and the building fund. The sewer repair payment came from the general fund, but will be moved to the building fund.

The money that was borrowed from the building fund for general expenses will need be repaid to the building fund when possible.

It is still unknown what our utility expenses will be. We have spent more than what we planned to get into the building.

● **Facilities - Jeff Shuey:** Development of Cleaning Plan, Jeff reported that he has people lined up. He wants to paint the rest of the outside when the weather permits. Also, he and his team will then do some landscaping.

Pastor said that there was an agreement with the guy who worked on the parking lot. He will come back and spread and roll more stone to fill in the low spots.

● **Worship - Kathy Falter:** Lent, Pastor said that holding Lenten services is up in the air, including Easter. He hopes we are in our building by Palm Sunday.

● **Spiritual Development - vacant:** Pastor said that there will be Sunday School for youth and adults after we move in. We need to fill this position and it should be with someone who feels called to do the job.

● **Congregational Care - Dave Murray:** Getting shut-ins to opening service (develop a plan): Dave will call all of the shut-ins when we know when the opening service will take place and make plans to get them there.

● **Outreach - Julie Engle:** No Report

● **Volunteer Coordination/President's Report - Jim Vassar:** Jim hopes we can do more for veterans through our Outreach program.

Jim said that he has an idea on how to fill vacancies.

Jim would also like to do an updated church directory.

● **Other Business:** 170 West Davis Update

Renovation Update: We had a walk-through with the contractor. Some, but not all issues have been addressed.

Building and fire inspections have to be done. Need to install the fire extinguishers.

Transition Team Update: Linda Grover has a team working with her. She has done so much and has a plan on exiting the mall. She has an idea how to set things up. She needs to know when we pass inspection.

Carl Redman and his team have done a lot too.

Connection Team: Community Open House Options, the community open house by Pentecost is an option, but that time of year is busy with graduations, proms, etc. It might be best to wait until fall.

Be sure to thank Linda, Carl and Beth Nahm for all that they've been doing.



Deadlines: Bulletins - Thursday each week.
Newsletter - the 25th of each month.
Please be mindful of the deadlines, so that the production of these important materials can be done in a timely fashion.

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