



FAMILY of FAITH

LUTHERAN CHURCH LCMC

September 2026

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JOINING HANDS

Vol. 16 Issue 9 №. 192

Worship

Sundays 10:00 AM
Holy Communion

- September 6 15th Sunday after Pentecost
Philippians 1:12-30
Romans 13:1-10
Matthew 18:1-20
- September 13 16th Sunday after Pentecost
Genesis 50:15-21
Philippians 2:1-11
Matthew 18:21-35
- September 20 17th Sunday after Pentecost
Isaiah 55:6-9
Philippians 2:12-18
Matthew 20:1-16
- September 27 18th Sunday after Pentecost
Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32
Philippians 3:1-11
Matthew 21:23-27

Sunday School

Sunday School
Starts September 13, 2026

From Pastor Phil

My Church

Is Family of Faith the church you attend or your church? Let me ask the same thing about football teams. Is it the team you go to watch: the team you go to watch, the team whose shirt you wear, the one you tell people about, the team you identify with if they win the championship? Or is this the team you coach or help coach, or as a trainer you help keep players healthy or healed from injury, or as the grounds crew keep the field safe and ready to play on, or from time to time donate or new uniforms, stadium improvements, or equipment? In one case you enjoy the association and get something from being around the team. In the other case you are invested in time, sweat, and resources.

So, let me ask the first question again, is Family of Faith the church you attend or your church? Is it your church of choice for worship and fellowship; or go to identify yourself as a church person; to wear the shirt or a bumper sticker; or to feel better from the week you had and the week ahead? Or is it your church, a place where you are invested in time, sweat, prayer, and resources to further the mission and ministry? Are you along for the ride, or taking a turn at the wheel and helping to keep it running?

Theologically, it is God's church. God is Lord and members are stewards taking care of the family business. Still, that task is ours and we need to own it.

Moving into a building in a new neighborhood does not lessen the need for all of us to be hands on, it expands the need. What's in it for me needs to be changed to where am I needed and what can I do. Am I getting anything out of it changed to what am I putting in. Family of Faith has always been a place where people step up and pitch in. We still are. God has given us a tremendous opportunity. An opportunity to get out of the stands and onto the field. Not to watch the team but be the team.

Worship Assistants

Communion Assistants



September 6 Randy & Amy Schwartz
 September 13 Randy & Amy Schwartz
 September 20 Randy & Amy Schwartz
 September 27 Randy & Amy Schwartz

Lectors



September 6 Jeff Shuey
 September 13 Kathy Falter
 September 20 Kathy Arnold
 September 27 Cindy Bridinger

Communion Bread Bakers



September 6 Susan Bracht
 September 13 Christine Chauvaux
 September 20 manna
 September 27 Mike Cholodewitsch

Coffee Brewers



The Java Café is open with snacks available.

Happy Birthday

September 3
 Lynn Miller
 September 8
 Mary Lou Traxler
 September 10
 Amy Schwartz
 September 11
 Dan Miller
 September 12
 Susan Bracht
 September 13
 Linda Grover
 September 20
 Wanda Heyman
 Marie Shuey
 September 22
 Dan Coppes
 September 26
 Jim Vassar
 September 30
 Don Heyman
 John Severt



The day-to-day decision making for the ministry of the congregation takes place on the Vision Team and the Ministry Teams each of them lead. Without their work behind the scenes, Family of Faith would not be able to carry out its mission or expand its ministry. Every January the congregation affirms individuals to fill a three-year term after which they must take at least a year off from Vision Team. We are starting the process to identify who God is calling and preparing in the ministries of Worship and Congregational Care. Please prayerfully consider if one off these roles is your way of furthering the work of Family of Faith.

Spiritual Growth Opportunities

Youth Sunday School

Starts Sunday, September 13, 2026



Women of Faith will meet Tuesday, September 1, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. to work on prayer bibles at the church, so please bring a bible.



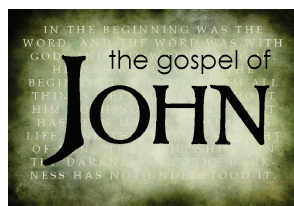
If you need a ride to church on Sundays, can provide a ride, please let David Murray know. Also, if you can visit any of our shut-ins, please let David know.



September Mission Baskets hygiene and toiletry items for First Step. First Step is a shelter for victims of domestic violence and their children.



This fall we will be reflecting on the Epistle to the Philippians during our Sunday messages. Written while awaiting trial in Rome, Paul shares insights into what it means to be a Christian congregation in mission for the Gospel and key character qualities of Christians engaging with their neighbors. Starting August 30 through the end of October, these messages will aid us to reflect upon the vision of Family of Faith and the role each of us plays in that vision.



Midweek Study Midweek Bible Study and Discussion has begun examining and talking about the Gospel of John. Sessions are on Tuesday at 1:30 PM. We are restarting an evening session on Tuesday, September 8, at 7:00 as long as there is interest and attendance for a second session.



Monday
September 7, 2026
Office Closed



Update

Members of the Family of Faith have been working diligently on the outside of the building to upgrade the main entrance and repair the damage to the front yard from pipe installation. The permit for a church sign has been submitted and plans made once all is approved. The base of a blessing box has been placed outside with the top being installed after being decorated during the open house. Final payment to the contractor is ready once a couple of details are resolved.

Thank You's

Dear Family of Faith,

Big hugs and thank you's to all of you who reached out to us with love and support during our time of loss of our mom, Janet Sellers. Her Celebration of Life Service on July 8th at your new church location was so beautiful. The setting was very peaceful, calming and uplifting. We feel very honored that our mom's service was the first funeral service held in the new church setting. We know Janet would have been very pleased and in awe of how the new Family of Faith Lutheran Church location has been magically transformed.

A special thank you to all of those wonderful individuals who helped out by serving and who donated food for the luncheon after Janet's service. This was an opportunity to serve that our mom also did for many years. The food was amazing and we were overwhelmed! To volunteer and honor a congregation member who was much loved touched our hearts so much.

We are deeply grateful for all of the love Family of Faith has shown to honor Janet Sellers. May her bright smile and love live on in the hearts of those our mother was able to touch.

With Love, Gratitude and Blessings,
Denice Baldetti and Leslie Smith
(Janet's daughters)



Friday
September 11, 2026
25th Anniversary

A Big Thank You to Everyone





Options for Giving

For years, Family of Faith has used envelopes containing check or cash given Sunday morning as the means for members to support the mission

and ministry of the congregation. If that is what is comfortable, continue to do so.

In a world of technology, many people have grown accustomed to using credit cards or direct deposits for purchasing, paying bills, and giving. To accommodate this way of handling and budgeting money, Family of Faith has arranged for an option to give through your cell phone via direct deposit to our bank account using QR codes. This is set up through our PNC local bank, is secure, provides reports of giving to both you and the church, and all members receive an end of the year report for tax purposes just as we have in the past.

The QR codes for general giving and building fund support are printed below and are also found on the front page of our website. Scanning the code with your phone will take you to the app that will walk you through a few simple steps to complete the transaction. There is an option to set up automated giving at set intervals to help with regular home budgeting and staying current with your commitment if your schedule makes weekly attendance at church difficult. See our church treasurer, Shirley Smith, if you want to establish this option.

Should you ever have someone inquire about giving to the ministry or building fund, this mode of giving is also available to non-members. Just direct them to our website to access the codes.

Ministry Donation



Phase II Building Fund



Vision Team Highlights

●Pastor's Report - Pastor Phil: Increased Ministry, Increased Involvement: thanks to those who covered worship Sunday, August 2, 2026.

Now that we are in a building, there is more to do here. Don't try to do everything yourself. You must get people involved on your team. There are things to do for our congregation to grow. If our ministry is to grow, we need to volunteer more people. We need to revisit what each team is responsible for. Jim wants each member who is going off the Vision Team to bring on board people who can learn the job.

●Finance - Dan Miller: Dan met with PNC regarding clover training. We need to get a QR code out to the world. Training is available at the bank. Dan suggests that Teresa and Shirley Smith take the training.

Internet: Dan met with OMNI Fiber regarding changing our internet service from Spectrum. The internet at the church is slow and it is very expensive. The monthly charge with OMNI Fiber is \$60 for internet and \$20 for phone. Dan will follow up.

Current Financials: Dan shared the building fund and general fund balances. Dan will make an announcement before worship or put a note in the newsletter regarding our receipts/expenses.

●Facilities - Jeff Shuey: Gutters: in the gutter along the parking lot, two of the holes will be covered and there will only be one exit point. The existing gutter will need to be realigned so the rain moves to that end.

Friday Trash Pick-up: the cleaning crew will take the totes to the curb.

Sign Update: Pastor Phil asked if we should get the permit first or order the sign first? Until we get a permanent sign, the banner will be put up.

Rear Entry Ramp: Jeff said that extra stone will be put under the wooden ramp to make it more level and secure.

Parking Lot Maintenance and Rear Landscaping: the weeds need to be sprayed or the stone surface will be damaged. It was decided to spend ~ \$200 on river rock to fill in around the back entrance. There has been an offer from a neighbor to spread the dirt free of charge.

HVAC Update: the shaft that runs the blades broke. The unit is under warranty, but there will be labor costs. The office air conditioner isn't working either.

- **Worship** - Kathy Falter: Sunday Morning Technology: only Pastor Phil and Teresa know how to turn on the screens, etc. Other people need to learn.

Plans for Thanksgiving and Christmas: the hanging of the greens will take place on November 22. We will need to decide where to put the decorations, etc. Pastor Phil will contact Pastor Doug DeVoss regarding Thanksgiving Eve service being held here.

- **Spiritual Development** - Beth Nahm & Zo Redman: Zo: Approximately 40 people showed up at the last pop-up. Some wanted to see the inside to see what we've done. We need to decide what to do after the open house.

Fall Programming: Julie's work schedule has changed so she won't be able to help with the kids during Sunday School; therefore, we need a teacher for the younger kids. It would be good to have a couple people and we need to get a curriculum together. The opening day for Sunday School is September 13.

- **Congregational Care** - Dave Murray: Anniversary Remembrance: we are ready for next Sunday. We need to set up a few tables.

Date of Oktoberfest: It was decided to have a potluck on October 25.

- **Outreach** - Julie Engle: Julie was unable to stay, but she submitted a report: July Outreach: we donated 3 totes of supplies that were dropped off to Allen Eiry Center for the United Way Stuff the Bus event. If anyone still wants to donate school supplies, they can bring them in to me or take them to the Salvation Army. They will accept supplies throughout the year.

August outreach: monetary donations for Morrison House.

September outreach: hygiene and toiletry items for First Step. First Step is a shelter for victims of domestic violence and their children.

October outreach: will be Operation Shoe Box. Last year we did 47 boxes, goal is to hit 50+.

November outreach: will be the Salvation Army Angel tree. Last year we did 20 tags, goal is 25+.

Zo reported that they are thinking about having a "trunk or treat" in our parking lot.

- **Volunteer Coordination** - Jim Vassar: as he said before, he wants each member who is going off the Vision Team to bring on board people who can learn the job.

- **President's Report** - Jim Vassar: there is a course available on how to use the kitchen sinks.

- **Other Business: 170 West Davis Update:**
Connection Team:

Open House Update: there is a meeting scheduled August 17 to discuss the open house.

Pop-Up: Zo said that we need to put up more signs especially at each end of West Davis Street. Will there be radio announcements? 591 postcards will be mailed as soon as they come in from the printer to carrier route 9, in Tiffin.



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.

Contact Information

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Praying Angels Ministry
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or e-mail: hiettgirl1@aol.com

Office Hours: The church office is open from 2-5PM, through the week.

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