

The Grapevine

October 2026

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Clippings from the Vinedresser

Grace and Peace to each of you.

It is now the beginning of October and the world around us is changing before our eyes. The mornings are cooler. Leaves are starting to turn colour and gather at our feet. Gardens are giving their last harvest. We begin to notice again the quiet gifts that have carried us through the year: a meal shared, a neighbour who checks in, a safe place to sleep, work to do, family and friends, and the ordinary beauty of creation.

One lovely hymn #829 “*Have You Thanked the Lord?*” from our ELW hymnal asks a simple question: “Have You Thanked the Lord?”

Have You Thanked the Lord?

Refrain Have you thanked the Lord? Have you praised God's name?
Don't you know that no tomorrow is quite the same?
Have you thanked the Lord? Have you knelt in prayer,
and rejoiced that, rain or sunshine, our God is there?

- 1 Hallelujah! Thank the Lord for sun, sand, and sea,
ev'ry star at night that shines for you and me.
Blessings so many come our way: have you thanked the Lord today? *R.*
- 2 Hallelujah! Paradise we taste where we are;
summer breezes, winter warmth are never far.
God's love is ever on display: have you thanked the Lord today? *R.*
- 3 Hallelujah! Joy and peace the Savior will bring.
Grace amazing! So we lift our voice and sing,
grateful when clouds are bright or gray: have you thanked the Lord today? *R.*

Text: Bill LaMotta, 1919-1980 Text © Bill (Wilbur) LaMotta, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

It begins with gratitude for “sun, sand, and sea,” then keeps widening our lens. The hymn names the gifts of the natural world and the people beside us. It does not suggest that life is always easy. Rather, it calls us to notice that, even in complicated and difficult times, God’s goodness has not disappeared.

Thanksgiving can be a complicated holiday. For some, it is full of warm memories, familiar food, and a busy table. For others, it brings loneliness, grief, strained family relationships, or the memory of someone who is no longer present. Some of us live with worries about health, work, housing, or the future. We should not pretend that gratitude means ignoring these realities.



**FROM OUR
PASTOR**

Clippings from the Vinedresser

Christian thanksgiving is not denial. It is trust. It is the decision to notice grace even when life is not simple. It is the prayer that humbly says, “God, I do not have everything figured out, but I receive this day as a gift.”

This is why thanksgiving belongs so naturally in worship and our fellowship gathering times. Each Sunday we gather around God’s word and table. We bring our whole lives: joy and sorrow, certainty and questions, abundance and need. We do not come because we have earned a place. We come because Christ welcomes us. At the table, Jesus gives himself for us, and we are reminded again that the deepest gifts of life cannot be bought, achieved, or controlled. They are received.

Faith Lutheran Church is one place where such gratitude takes ordinary, practical shape. It happens whenever people work to bring together the worship service, make music, teach, visit, send a card, share a meal, offer a ride, pray for another person, share the peace, give a hug, offer a warm handshake, or simply notice when someone needs encouragement. Much of this work is not dramatic. Yet it is the daily life of the church. It is one of the ways God cares for people.

Thanksgiving also turns us outward. When we recognize that our lives are sustained by gifts, we become more ready to share. We can offer time, food, patience, money, attention, and prayer. We can support those who are grieving, make room for a newcomer, care for creation, and speak with kindness in a world that often rewards anger.

We give thanks not because everything is perfect, nor because everyone has enough, but because God remains faithful. The harvest reminds us that life depends on gifts we did not make: soil, rain, sunlight, seed, and the labour of many hands. Even the food on our tables points beyond itself, reminding us that we are dependent creatures, sustained by God and bound to one another.

The hymn’s question is not meant to make us feel guilty. It is an invitation. Have you thanked the Lord? Perhaps the answer begins very simply: for one person, one meal, one small moment of beauty, one act of kindness, one more day.

This Thanksgiving, may we receive God’s gifts with open hands. May we remember those for whom the season is difficult. And may our gratitude become visible—not only in words, but in generosity, hospitality, and care for our neighbours. Thanks be to God for all good gifts.

Peace and Blessings,
Pastor Pamela

All Saints Sunday–November 1st

We are reaching out to you for your help again this year, with gathering all the names of people who will be recognized during “The Liturgy of Remembrance” within the All Saints Sunday Worship Service.

Please inform us of the names of loved ones who died during this past year, since the previous All Saints Sunday in November 2025 until November 2026.

Each of these names will be read during the All Saints Worship Service and a candle will be lit in Memory of each loved one whose name has been submitted to us.

We will also light a few candles in memory of loved ones who have died in previous years.

Feel free to be in touch with me if you would find it helpful to have a conversation and/or have any questions. We are here for you.

Peace,
Pastor Pamela
pamela@faithlutheranministries.ca Mobile: 289-321-2727



Pre-Confirmation

Calling youth grade 7 to 11.

Starting on Sunday September 20th and meeting every 2 weeks, we will delve into the basics you will need for Pastor Pamela's confirmation classes next year.

Classes will be held in Cana hall during regular Sunday School time frame. We combine class work and service activities such as preparing and serving at Church and Residence activities (Christmas supper, Pancake Tuesday, Easter breakfast).

As a bonus, some of the time spent counts as High School Community Service hours.

If you have any questions, feel free to call me.

John Molson 905-668-1810 (home) jlmolson@sympatico.ca



Blessing of the Animals

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS, CREATURES, AND CREATION AROUND US



October 4th is the day of commemoration for Francis of Assisi who died on
October 4th, 1226.

Francis had a spirit of gratitude for all of God's creation.

Many view Francis of Assisi as an inspiration and guide for those who protect Creation.

October 4th at 12:30pm, we will gather on the patio outside Faith Place, for a time of
“Blessing of the Animals, Creatures, and Creation around us”, with Pastor Pamela leading this
time together.

Please spread the word to friends and family, all are welcome as we gather again this year!

Blessings to each of you,
Pastor Pamela

*If you are bringing your pet, please make sure they are on leash and/or in a carrying case. You
will be responsible for your pet's well being and behaviour as well as any clean up.*

Sunday School



Welcome back to a new and exciting year of Sunday
school.

Sunday School will be held on the first and third Sundays
of each month. **We will be on Sunday, October 4th and
18th, 2026.**

Students will go directly to Cana Hall to begin their lessons. We will offer three different classes this year. One for students up to grade 2, a class for grades 3-6, and a Pre-Confirmation class. This one will be for those interested in Confirmation and will be led by John Molson, prior to Confirmation classes led by the Pastor. Mr. Molson's class will be held in Cana Hall during the service. If you have children interested in Confirmation (generally grades 7 & up) please reach out to Pastor Pamela.

If you would like to help with these classes, please get in touch with either Vickie Goddard or Lisa Bachewich. The more volunteers, the more we can do to teach our students God's word and all the wonderful stories there are to tell.

Ladies Lunch Group



Join our Ladies Lunch Group, we meet on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 1:00pm, at a different restaurant. The restaurant for the next month will be chosen each month at our lunch. ALL ladies are welcome!

There will be a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board. Please sign up as we will need to know numbers so we can reserve a spot at the restaurant we have chosen. The last day for sign will be the Sunday prior to the lunch. Please indicate on the sheet if you NEED a ride and also one if you are able to GIVE a ride. We will do our best to accommodate everyone.

Our lunch will be on Wednesday, October 21st at 1:00pm at, Melanie Pringles 80 Thickson Rd S, Whitby, ON L1N 7T2 . Please sign up no later than Sunday, May 10th.

Please contact Pastor Pamela if you have any questions at Pamela@faithlutheranministries.ca or 905-725-2755

Choir

We have been off to a slow start with choir. We did meet Sept. 16 and sang at our Kick Off Sunday on September 20.

We hope everyone enjoyed our selection for the day.

Our numbers are down somewhat, so we would welcome any new singers who would like to join us.

We are changing our practice schedule this year in that we are going to skip practice on the 4th Wednesday of each month, to give everyone a little break. We will see how this will work with everyone's schedules. For October, our week off will be October 28.

We look forward to meeting and singing on Wednesdays, with a view to making a Joyful Noise to the Lord during worship on some Sundays.

Feel free to contact me or any choir member if you have any questions.

Laurie Ikeda, Director



Bible Circle



Bible Circle Returns This October

Bible Circle will begin again on **Thursday, October 22nd.**

We will gather on the first, second, and fourth (and fifth if the month includes one) Thursdays of the month from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. in Augustana Hall.

You are warmly invited to attend whenever you are able.

These are informal and welcoming times of gathering, conversation, and reflection on God's Word.

All are welcome

whether you have studied the Bible for many years or are simply curious and would like to learn more.

No experience is necessary.

Please bring your Bible and an open, loving heart.

A few Bibles will also be available for anyone who needs one.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Pastor Pamela. We hope you will join us as we listen, learn, share, and grow together in faith.

Pint Night

Join us for a fun and relaxed evening of connection at our upcoming Pint Night on the fourth Wednesday of each month at 6:30pm: **Wednesday, October 28th!** This is a great opportunity to step away from the usual routine and enjoy some good conversation, laughter, and fellowship in a welcoming setting.

We'll be gathering at Wendell Clark's on Simcoe St. N., where we can share some cheer, catch up with familiar faces, and get to know others in our church community a little better. Whether you come for the conversation, the food, or just a chance to unwind midweek, there's a place for you at the table.

There's nothing like a good get together with friends to make you appreciate life a little more.



Times and Talent Auction - RETURNS

The countdown is on! One of Faith Lutheran Church's favourite events is just around the corner, and we can't wait to welcome everyone back for the **Times & Talents Auction!**

Sunday, November 8

Immediately following the worship service

Join us for an afternoon of delicious food, wonderful fellowship, exciting raffles, and a lively auction filled with fantastic items and unique experiences.

Of course, the menu will bring back the **famous Pulled Pork Sandwich Lunch** that everyone looks forward to each year! Lunch will be available for purchase before the auction begins.

We're Still Looking for Donations!

Do you have something you'd like to contribute? We are gratefully accepting donations such as:

- New items or gift baskets
- Gift cards
- Handmade creations
- Event tickets
- A talent or service you can offer, such as baking, gardening, sewing, woodworking, photography, music lessons, handyman services, or another special skill

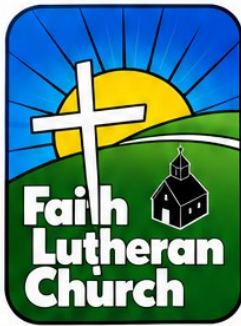
Every donation helps make the auction a success and supports the ongoing ministry of Faith Lutheran Church.

If you're out shopping or visiting local businesses and know of a business that may be willing to support our auction, we'd love your help! The Auction Committee can provide a donation request letter for you to share with them. Simply speak with one of the committee members to pick one up.

If you have questions or would like to donate an item, service, or business contact, please connect with any member of the Auction Committee: **Lisa, Vickie, Will, Debbie, Pastor Pamela, or Dayna.**

We look forward to seeing everyone on **November 8** for an afternoon of food, fun, fellowship, and friendly bidding!





Save the Date!!

The Fall Auction & Raffle is back.

Sunday, November 8th

immediately after the service
in Cana Hall

There will be lots of items to bid on, or simply buy a few raffle tickets for the raffle prizes.

Lunch will also be available for purchase. We will be offering pulled pork sandwiches and hot dogs.

*All are welcome!!
Bring the whole crew!!*

PRICES



Raffle tickets
are \$1 each or
7 for \$5



Lunch
Pulled pork sandwiches are \$5 each
Hot dogs are \$2

— All proceeds from the auction, raffle & lunch will go to support Faith Lutheran Church. —

Christmas Food Drive

We hope everyone had a great summer and fall season. We greatly appreciate the support that you have given over the past several years for our Church's Food Drive in support of Gate 3:16 and Simcoe Hall Settlement House. We plan on running our collection starting **October 25th through to December 6th** so that we can deliver your donations to these charities by Dec 11th.

Unfortunately the new normal seems to be everyone struggling with the cost of living and uncertainty. We ask that you only give if you can to help those that find it difficult to put food on the table and provide a clean home environment during the Christmas season.

Our plan for the Christmas Food Drive is the same as before, we will be accepting your food and monetary donations at our Sunday Church Services **until Dec 6th**. Please put Christmas Food Drive on your Offering envelope if you wish to support in this way.

If you would prefer, you can also give financially by e-transferring funds to:

envelopesecretary@faithlutheranministries.ca

Please make a note within your transaction that your donation is to be allocated to the food drive.

We will still be accepting calls to make an appointment to have your food donation picked up from your doorstep, simply call us at 905-242-2939 **before Dec 4th**. If we don't answer, please leave your name and phone number, and we will return your call.

The current grocery needs for Simcoe Hall foodbank are listed below: **please check all of the Best Before dates on each item, unfortunately EXPIRED PRODUCT WILL BE DISCARDED**. We ask that you place nonperishable canned and dry goods in a bag or a box.

- Small Drinks (individual drink boxes)
- Peanut Butter/Jam
- Cereal/Oatmeal & Pancake Mix
- Snack Cups (Apple Sauce, Fruit, Jell-O, Pudding, Etc.)
- Granola Bars/Cookies/Crackers
- Packaged Side Dishes (Sidekicks, Potatoes, Mac&Cheese, etc.)
- Dry Pasta and Sauce

Canned Goods

Meat
Pasta (ravioli, Alphagetti, etc.)
Baked Beans
Fruit
Vegetables
Soups Large and Small

Personal Care Items

Toothpaste and Adult Brushes
Deodorant
Toilet Paper/Baby Wipes
Laundry Detergent
Bar Soap/ Body Wash
Shampoo and Conditioner

Thank you for your continued support.

Take care and God bless.

Paul and Charlotte Wolfenberg



Harvest Table



As we prepare to celebrate Thanksgiving, we invite members of the congregation to help decorate our altar with the beauty and abundance of the season. If you are able, please consider bringing a harvest donation such as gourds, fresh vegetables, apples, or other fall items to share in our display of gratitude.

Your contributions will create a festive and meaningful altar décor for our Thanksgiving weekend service. Following the service, you are welcome to take back your items to enjoy at home.

Thank you for helping us make this Thanksgiving a joyful and colorful celebration of God's blessings!

Remembrance Day Service

Faith Lutheran Church and Faith Place Residents Council are working together to bring you a Remembrance Day Service.

Please join us November 11th at 10:40am in Augustana Hall as we are gathering for a Remembrance Day Service.

Please feel free to invite your family and friends.

If you have questions, please contact:

Pastor Pamela Kormano, Faith Lutheran Church

Nancy Bowness, President of Faith Place Residents Council



Worship Leader Volunteer Opportunities

A Call to be a Servant of God in our Faith Community

There are many ways to serve our God, our church and each other. Taking the time to delve into the scriptures to reflect on God's Holy Word and the life of His Son, Jesus Christ is one way. Using the life of Christ as our model for daily living is another. Taking the time to understand and reflect on our God-given gifts and talents and how we use them is also another.



Finding our "servant" heart through prayer, interaction with other believers; and non-believers; stretching out to help others in need; supporting your church; and most of all sharing the Gospel of Christ with all those you meet will bring you closer in faith and to a daily walk with Christ.

Starting in September, we are going to try something a little different, as it pertains to the fellowship hour following Sunday Services. The **first Sunday** of the month, we will **NOT** be having a fellowship/coffee hour. This is due to a number of factors: 1) the current lack of volunteers, 2) the higher cost of providing the refreshments and; 3) the difficulty for some to carry the number of items required to provide the refreshments (to & from vehicles).

Therefore, until more volunteers step forward to help out, a decision has been made that we will make up teams of 2 with the existing volunteers, for helping each other to provide the fellowship/coffee hour. This will be for two to three times a month with the last Sunday of the month continuing to be a potluck lunch.

Responsibilities of the teams:

- be a little early to church to set-up Cana Hall for fellowship/coffee hour
- bring light refreshments (milk, cream, juice, cookies/cake, etc.)
- clean up after and put away coffee maker, etc.



Other critical areas that are needed for additional "helping hands" are for communion set-up/clean-up, communion servers and offering counters.

Why not begin this new church calendar year by renewing your commitment to serve God and your church by becoming more involved at Faith Lutheran? There are many ways to use a variety of talents and gifts within and outside of the congregation and the walls of the church building. Your servant heart and willing hands are needed.

We will be putting out a new 2026-2027 Ministry/Volunteer List for Signup in September.

Do you hear the call?

Mutual Ministry Committee

Greetings from your Mutual Ministry Committee
(Pastor Pamela, Arden Baechler, Tammy Becker, Donna Jennings, Angela Hauke)

The Mutual Ministry Committee seems to be one of those more obscure committees whose function can seem unclear. In order to offer some clarity and illumination, I will reiterate that we are here to provide a supportive place of trust and relationship building within our Church Family. We are here for Pastor Pamela and we are here for You. Our mandate is relationship building and fostering respectful, clear communication in a NON-Judgement environment. We essentially are another avenue of support and healthy open communication.

If you have concerns, reach out. Dropping a letter into our church mailbox or emailing us are all accepted avenues of communication. If you wish to precede your written communication with conversation, we can be available for a conversation.

In accordance with our policy FL011, part of the Committee mandate is to conduct a Performance Review “in order to better assess the needs of Faith Lutheran Church and its Pastor”. To that end we have had several meetings to accomplish this goal. Once completed, we will decide as a committee as to the frequency of our meetings in order to address any communicated matters that have been brought to our attention.

We are here to support each other and grow together.

Respectfully Submitted,
Angela Hauke
September 25, 2026

Let's Get Social!

Your Social Committee has been a little quiet lately...

...but we're ready to shake things up!

Keep your Eyes Open for the More information on.....

- Carol Singing
- Bowling Night
- Crafternoon
- Valentines Day
- Spaghetti Dinner



ELCIC's 40th Anniversary

National Worship Service to celebrate the ELCIC's 40th anniversary

AUGUST 21, 2026 CARTER BROOKS NATIONAL BISHOP, NATIONAL CHURCH, NEWS, YOUTH



As the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada celebrates 40 years in 2026, members and congregations from across the church are invited to come together for a special National Worship Service on Sunday, October 25.

Led by National Bishop Larry Kochendorfer, the service will be livestreamed from Camp Kinasao at Christopher Lake, Saskatchewan, where youth from across the Saskatchewan Synod will gather for a weekend retreat.

Congregations across the ELCIC are encouraged to join the livestream as part of their Sunday morning worship (as timing and technology allow). Individuals and households are also invited to join the wider church in worship.

“This year marks 40 years in the life of our church,” said Bishop Kochendorfer. “This milestone not only invites us to remember our story, but also to reflect on who we are today and how God is calling us forward as a church *Living out God’s grace and unconditional love.*” The National Worship Service falls on Reformation Sunday and will centre on the theme ‘*One Body*,’ drawing from Ephesians 4:1-6: “There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling.”

ELCIC's 40th Anniversary

“Our worship’s focus, *One Body*, reminds us that in a fragmented world and church, we are called to unity in the one body of Christ,” Bishop Kochendorfer said. “One body rooted in the love of Christ, centred in the cross of Christ and united in service to God’s creation. One body rejoicing together, liberated by grace, reaching out to the world in Christ’s reconciling love.” Youth participating in the Saskatchewan Synod retreat will help lead the service as the synod continues preparations for the 2027 Canadian Lutheran Anglican Youth (CLAY) gathering, *Safe Harbour*, taking place August 19-22, 2027, at Vancouver Island University in Nanaimo, B.C.

Reflecting on the service’s theme, Kochendorfer points to Ephesians as a reminder that the church is called to live into the unity God has already given in Christ.

“Ephesians reminds us that our witness binds us to mutual nurture, care and peace toward one another,” he said. “Ephesians reminds us that we are called to be a diverse, inclusive community that celebrates all people. Ephesians reminds us that this growing up into Christ necessitates a changed life: a way of living characterized by love, by humility, bound to peace and to justice.”

As the ELCIC marks four decades of ministry together, the October 25 service will offer an opportunity for the whole church to worship as one, across congregations, synods, communities and homes all over the country.

Blessing of Your Home

Luke 10:5 “ Whatever house you enter, first say, ‘Peace to this house!’

If you just moved or even if you have lived in your current dwelling for many months or years, have you ever thought about a “Blessing of Your Home”, the people who live within your home, and those who visit within your home?

Proverbs 24:3-4

“By wisdom a house is built, and through understanding it is established; through knowledge its rooms are filled with rare and beautiful treasures.”



Please feel free to be in touch with me, Pastor Pamela, if you would like to have a conversation regarding having your home blessed.

Wishing you all the best,
Pastor Pamela

DIRECTORY

Faith Lutheran Ministries

We Worship Sunday at 10:30 a.m.

Church Office 905-725-2755
email office@FLMoshawa.ca

Pastor

The Rev. Pamela Kormano 905-725-2755
Emergency Pastoral Care 289-321-2727
pamela@faithlutheranministries.ca

Ministers

People of Faith Lutheran Church

Faith Place Administration ..905-576-8619
Dayna Graham, Administrator

Support Services 905-436-1309
Sabrina Wakely, Manager

Faith Council

Vickie Goddard..... 905-432-7444

Chair

TBD

Vice-Chair

Secretary

Carrie Becker 647-987-7716

Treasurer

Laurie Ikeda 705-357-3488

Ed Albrecht 905-579-6803
Kathy Habec 905-723-6690
Angela Hauke 905-723-3717
Boni Keates 905-433-0384
Shelly Klimtschuck 905-391-9213
Marty Schieman 905-576-6051

Sunday School

Lisa Bachewich 905-433-1606

Choir

Laurie Ikeda 705-357-3488

Youth

Tammy Becker 905-720-2444

Envelope Secretary

Charlotte Wolfenberg 905-433-0265

Communications Committee

Finance Committee

Laurie Ikeda 705-357-3488

Social Committee

Dayna Graham 416-803-6335

Stewardship Committee

Vickie Goddard..... 905-432-7444

Mutual Ministry Committee

Altar Guild

Property Committee

Paul Wolfenberg 905-433-0265



October 2026



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Counters 4 - Laurie I & Kathy 11 - Irv & Wendy 18 - Kathy & Laurie I 25 - Vickie & Charlotte				1	2	3
	5	6 6:00pm Council	7 6:30pm Choir	8	9	10
4 10:30am - Worship & Sunday School 12:30pm Blessing of Pets—Patio						
11 10:30am - Worship	12 Happy Thanksgiving	13	14 6:30pm Choir	15	16	17
18 10:30am - Worship & Sunday School	19	20	21 6:30pm Choir 1:00pm Ladies Lunch at Melanie Pringles	22 10:00am Bible Circle Augustana Hall	23	24
25 10:30am - Worship & Fellowship	26 November Grapevine Deadline	27 9:00am Finance	28 6:30pm Pint Night At Wendall Clark's	29	30	31
Food Drive Starts						
Ushers: 4 - Ken & Kathy 11 - Vickie & Valerie 18 - Maureen & Donna 25 - Irv & Helen		Readers: 4 - Lowell 11 - Tanny 18 - Chick 25 - Arden	Communion Set up: 4 - Donna & Marneen 18 - Laurie I & Wendy		Communion Servers: 4 - Laurie I & Kathy 18 - Arden & Carrie	