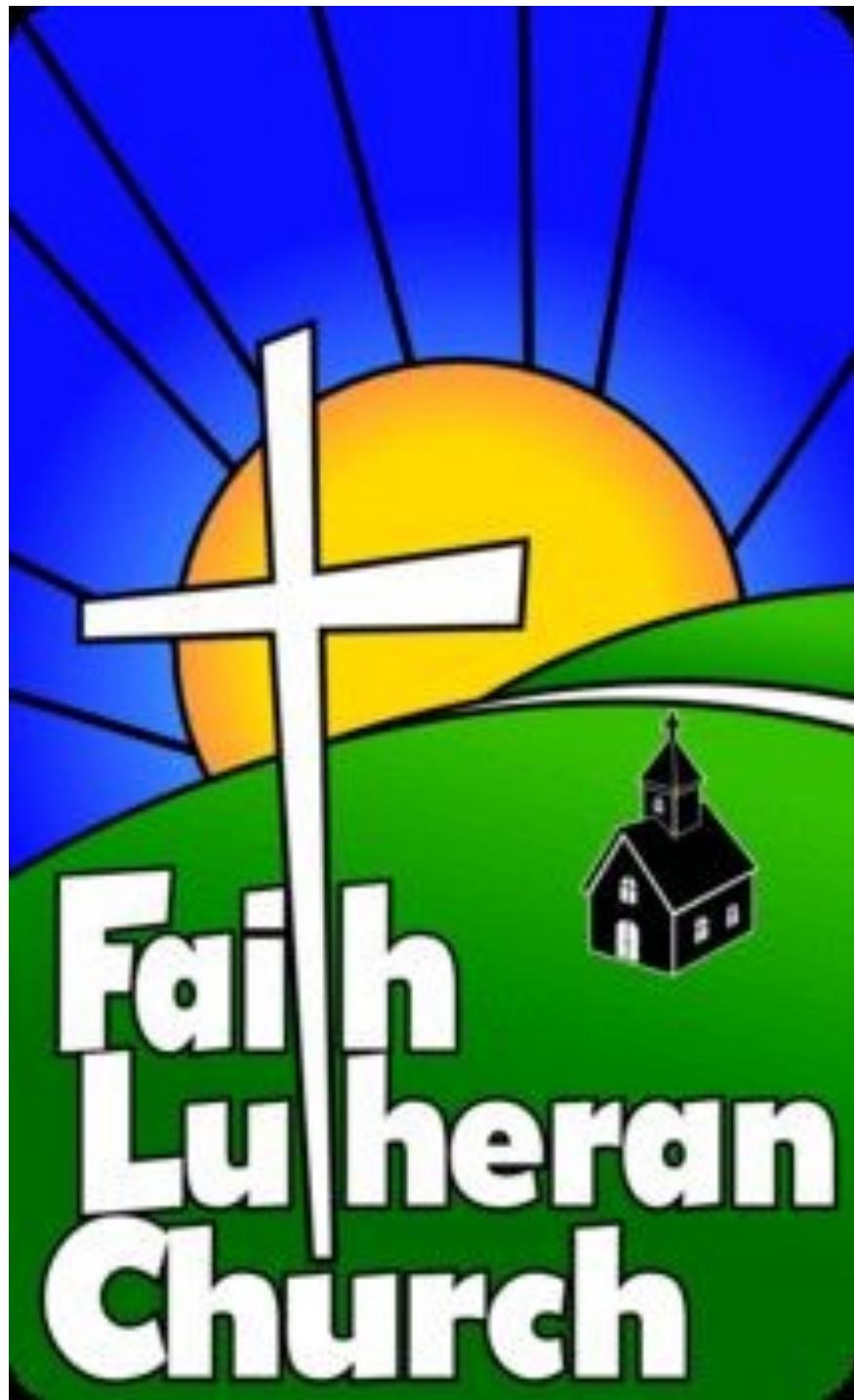


# The Grapevine

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## January 2026



# Clippings from the Vinedresser

Grace and Peace to each of you during these 12 days of the Christmas Season.

In Luke [2:8-20](#) we read,

"In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see — I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

"Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another,

"Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place,  
which the Lord has made known to us."

So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger.

When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child;  
and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them.

But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart.

The shepherds returned,

glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

In this scripture we read about how "Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart."

Christmas is often a busy time of year. It can be quite full for everyone, congregants, families, and pastors alike. It is easy to get lost in the busyness. Scripture readings, and Christmas traditions tend to stir something within the hearts of each one of us. I invite you to take some time during this season to read this scripture and ponder what it stirs in your heart.

What does Christmas mean to you? What is it that you treasure?

This year over a hundred people of all ages gathered for our 5:30 Candle-light Worship Service and people gathered at 7pm for a Candlelight Worship Service with Holy Communion. It was very humbling and it warmed my heart to see so many people gather to hear the scripture, pray, and sing hymns, as they shared the peace, hope, love, and joy of Christ on such a holy night.



# Clippings from the Vinedresser



Thank you to all of you for your help in bringing these services together.

My hope is that everyone who comes to worship feels welcomed and experiences a sense of belonging here at Faith Lutheran Church.

Peace and Blessings to you all,

Pastor Pamela

## Sunday School



This Month

January 4th and 18th

On January 4th we will again have the Sunday School class sing a few song for the congregation during service.

### Bake Sale Update

Thank you so much to everyone who supported our bake sale, whether you donated baked goods, stopped by to make a purchase, or generously did both. Your time, talent, and kindness truly made this event a success.

We are delighted to share that our *unofficial* total is over **\$700!** This wonderful result is a reflection of the generosity and community spirit we are so grateful for. Thank you all again for your incredible support.



## Choir

Happy New Year to Everyone!

Choir will start back on January 21 at 6:00 pm in the Chapel. Our first “appearance” in 2026 will be on January 25 at the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Service.

We welcome anyone who loves to sing. Come and join us.  
Laurie



## 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

## Faith Ladies Lunch Group \*TIME CHANGE\*



Join our Ladies Lunch Group, we meet on the 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 up will be the Sunday 10 days 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 January lunch will be on Wednesday, January 21st at 1:00pm at The Portly Piper, 557 King St. E. Oshawa . Please sign up no later than Sunday, January 11th.**

Please contact Pastor Pamela if you have any questions at [Pamela@faithlutheranministries.ca](mailto:Pamela@faithlutheranministries.ca) or 905-725-2755

# Congregational Budget Meeting Report

I would like to thank everyone who participated in the Congregational Budget Meeting on December 7, 2025. Both the Faith Place and Faith Lutheran Church Budgets were passed unanimously. Please be aware that the Church budget is a Deficit budget, so we all need to dig a little deeper to meet our financial requirements.

At the meeting, Vickie brought up that we need to do some fundraising in 2026 in order to meet our budget needs. This is unfortunate, but has become necessary. Some ideas that came from the meeting are: a yard sale, Christmas Bazaar, both of which we would advertise to the whole community, renewing the auction we used to hold in November. The BIG issue, is we will need members to step up to organize and run these events. Please give prayerful thought as to which events you would like to help with. Please approach any Council member to volunteer to help with any activity, or with any other suggestions you might have. These events need input from **EVERY** member of the congregation.

Also at the meeting the Congregation passed the amendment to the Constitution stating: “At its annual meeting, the congregation shall elect a Congregational Council of between 7 and 12 members with terms of two (2) years each, with approximately half the terms expiring annually. The members of the Congregational Council must be voting members of the congregation.”

This will become official once Synod has given its approval to the change.

We look forward to everyone's continued support in 2026.

Laurie Ikeda, Treasurer



## Confirmation

Are you interested in attending Confirmation Classes?

Are you 13-14 years of age?

Please feel free to be in touch with Pastor Pamela if you are interested in Confirmation Classes or have any questions.

289-321-2727 or [pastor@flmoshawa.ca](mailto:pastor@flmoshawa.ca)



# Faith Lutheran Church has a new website!

Have you visited our new Website?

If you link to the old website, you should be redirected to our new site, or you can access it directly by using our new domain name:

[www.faithoshawa.ca](http://www.faithoshawa.ca)

Please take some time to link into our new web site and share this with family and friends.

Peace and Blessings ~ Pastor Pamela

JOIN US **SUNDAYS AT 10:30AM**



[Home](#) [About](#) [Programs and Events](#) [Faith Place](#) [Contact](#)



## Welcome to Faith Lutheran Church

We are a congregation of the Eastern Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada. Our mission is to share the good news of God's love through word and action. Our ministries include Faith Place, a 12 story senior citizen's residence, and the various ministries of the church. Our worship space is non-traditional: we convert the dining hall to a worship space each Sunday morning, complete with stained glass windows.

Look around our site, and when you are in Oshawa, please plan to stop in to visit us.

[Contact Us](#)

# 60th Anniversary Celebration



FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH  
**ANNIVERSARY**

## Faith Lutheran Church 60th Anniversary Celebration Lunch

Please save the date for a very special occasion!

On Sunday, January 25th, during Fellowship Hour, we will be holding a celebration lunch to commemorate our 60th anniversary.

Date: Sunday, January 25th During Fellowship Hour  
Lunch provided Cost: \$10 per person | Children attend free

Please let us know if you are planning to attend.  
There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board.

Please feel free to be in touch with Vickie, Kathy, Carrie, Laurie or Pastor Pamela if you have any questions.

**Volunteers Needed!**  
We're looking for helping hands to assist with setup and cleanup—  
and we'd love to showcase our rich history.

If you have any photos or memorabilia from the church's past,  
please consider lending them for the celebration display.

Let's come together for this meaningful occasion filled with gratitude, reflection, community, and celebration.

We look forward to sharing this joyful meal and fellowship gathering with you.

All are welcome!

## Join us for Bible Circle

“Bible Circle” is a time of gathering when we all have an opportunity to join in conversation, with Christ and scripture at the heart of our conversations.

**When:** January 8th and 22nd  
**the Second and Fourth Thursdays of the month**

**Where:** Augustana Hall Chapel

**Time:** 10- 11am

Led by Pastor Pamela

You are invited to attend as you are able. Please feel free to invite a friend or neighbour. These are informal times of gathering where all are welcome, and no experience is necessary.

**Please bring a Bible and an open and loving heart.** I will have a few Bibles available for those who may not have one.

If you have any questions, please feel free to be in touch with Pastor Pamela.

I look forward to this time together,  
Pastor Pamela



## Worship Leader Volunteer Opportunities

First of all, thank you to everyone who has volunteered for the various positions and duties that help our congregation run smoothly. We appreciate your gifts of time and talent. We can always use more volunteers, especially in the areas of Counters, Coffee Hosts, Communion Set Up and Clean Up, and Communion Servers. The more people who volunteer, the lighter the load for everyone.

We are especially low on Counters right now. Two people are needed each week, which currently means everyone is counting at least twice a month. The task is simple, opening envelopes received during the service, recording the amounts, and tallying the totals. It usually takes about 15 minutes after the service.

At the request of our insurance company, Counters are now required to have a Level 1 Police Record Check, which is completed online and is a straightforward process. Pastor Pamela has a letter prepared for the “volunteer” rate, and the church will reimburse you for the cost.

Please give prayerful thought to becoming a Counter—or serving in another volunteer role and contact Laurie Ikeda ([laurieikeda@gmail.com](mailto:laurieikeda@gmail.com), 905-621-2004) or Arden Baechler ([robertarden@rogers.com](mailto:robertarden@rogers.com), 905-809-3162) this helps keep our congregation running efficiently.

# Christmas Food Drive

## 2025 Faith Lutheran Church Christmas Food Drive Results

Once again we would like to thank the Congregation and the Residents of Faith Place for their overwhelming generosity in supporting our FLC Christmas Food Drive. With your gifts we boxed up and delivered a new record of 520 pounds of groceries to Simcoe Hall Settlement House. Your cash donations of just over \$1,100 were divided 70/30 in support of the Gate3:16 and Simcoe Hall's missions.

Thank you so much.

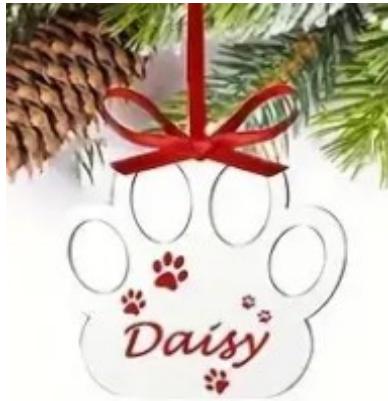
Paul & Charlotte



## Christmas Deficit Campaign

Thank you so much to everyone who participated in helping reduce our deficit, whether through this program or through additional general offerings. Your generosity and support are truly appreciated.

We are currently waiting on the final tally and will happily share the results as soon as everything has been fully calculated.





# January 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<i>Coffee:</i> 4— <b>Donna Jennings</b> 11— <b>Vickie Goddard</b> 18— <b>Vivian Roth</b> 25— <b>Fellowship</b>				1 HAPPY NEW YEAR * * * M	2	3
4 Worship & Sunday School, 10:30	5	6 9:00am Finance, Wartburg 6:00pm Council FLC, Cana Hall	7 2:00pm Council FP/ FPSS, Wartburg	8 10:00am Bible Study, Augustana	9	10
11 Worship, 10:30	12	13	14	15	16	17
18 Worship & Sunday School 10:30	19	20	21 Choir, 6:00 12pm: Ladies Lunch Portly Piper	22 10:00am Bible Study, Augustana	23	24
25 Worship, 10:30 60th Anniversary Fellowship Hour	26 Grapevine Deadline	27 Finance, 9:00 AM	28 Choir, 6:00	29	30	31
<i>Ushers:</i> 4— <b>Charlotte &amp; Paul Wolfenberg</b> 11— <b>Laurie &amp; John Molson</b> 18— <b>Donna Jennings</b> 25— <b>Vivian &amp; Bernie Roth</b>	<i>Readers:</i> 4— <b>Arden Baechler</b> 11— <b>Carrie Becker</b> 18— <b>Boni Keates</b> 25— <b>Lowell Nussey</b>	<i>Communion Set up:</i> 4— <b>Laurie &amp; Julie Molson</b> 18— <b>Carol Platth &amp; Kathy Habec</b>	<i>Counters</i> 4— <b>Paul Wolfenberg &amp; Wendy Becker</b> 11— <b>Irv Linkie &amp; Kathy Habec</b> 18— <b>Vickie Goddard &amp; Charlotte Wolfenberg</b> 25— <b>Laurie Ikeda &amp; Boni Keates</b>			