



VOICE OF FAITH

Our Mission: "Reaching, Teaching, Serving, and Sharing Christ"

December 2025



**For to Us a Child is Born,
to Us a Son is Given**

Isaiah 9:6

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH LCMS

2012 Sullivan Trail, Easton PA 18040

(T) 610-253-1625 (E) faithlcms@outlook.com

(W) faithlcms.com (F) facebook.com/faithlcmseaston

(Y) youtube.com/faithlcmseaston

FAITH LUTHERAN PRESCHOOL

2012 Sullivan Trail, Easton PA 18040

(T) 610-253-1572 (E) faithlcmspreschool@gmail.com

(W) faithlcms.com/faith-lutheran-preschool

(F) facebook.com/faithlcmspreschool

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH LEADERS

Hon. Rev. Scot Kerns

618-920-3479

kernsds@gmail.com

CHURCH OFFICE

Office Administrator	Jean E Wehrle
Hours - Mon to Fri	9:00 am - 4:00 pm
Phone	610-253-1625
Email	faithlcms@outlook.com

ELECTED COUNCIL

President	John Murdoch
Vice President/Ministry Chair	David Hanson
Secretary	Jackie Morrow
Treasurer	**Position Open**
Finance Board	Deb Paolini
Elders Board	Greg Pioppi
Property Mgmt Board	**Position Open**
Preschool Board	Janet Murray
At-Large Cong. Member	**Position Open**
At-Large Cong. Member	Lorraine Varela
At-Large Cong. Member	Donna Lugg

MINISTRIES

Children	Jackie Morrow
Youth	Bambi Guptill
Adult, Fellowship & Social	Jeanne Iacono
Assimilation & Stewardship	**Position Open**
Evangelism	**Position Open**

CHURCH CONTACTS

Faith Lutheran Preschool	Jenny D'Angelo
Financial Secretary	Kyle Garon
Organist	Sue Tucker
Security	Greg Pioppi
Sunday School Superintendent	Carrie Midgley
Ushers	Gary Sandt
Voice of Faith Editor	Jean E Wehrle
Worship Committee	Greg Pioppi



NOTE:

Meeting dates, times and location may change.
Please call ahead to confirm. See contact below.

55+ BIBLE STUDY

Pastor Kerns kernsds@gmail.com
11:00 am Tuesdays in Fellowship Hall

ALTAR GUILD

See Judy Dilts

ACOLYTES

Confirmants - Talk to Pastor Kerns

CHOIR

7:30 pm Tuesdays in the Sanctuary

LCMS READ-ALONG BOOK CLUB

Pastor Kerns kernsds@gmail.com
12:00 noon Mondays in Fellowship Hall

LWML - Lutheran Women's Missionary League

See Janet Murray or Pastor Kerns
12:00 noon Fourth Sunday in Fellowship Hall

MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST

Ted Cheung
8:00 am First Saturday at Nazareth Diner

THRIVENT

See Pastor Kerns

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Mary Ruth Murdoch
11:30 am Thursdays in Fellowship Hall



ELDERS

HEAD ELDER
Greg Pioppi

Ted Cheung
Gary Sandt
Frank VandeVeegaete

Erik Wendt
Tom Zaro

Using AI (Artificial Intelligence)

For many the use of artificial intelligence, or AI as it is known, is a foreign sounding concept. A concept that sounds like it is out of some sort of science fiction author's brain or something akin to flying cars or giving life to the artificial Frankenstein monster. Yet AI is most definitely real and used in a whole host of different ways right now and will be further developed into the future. From internet search engines to Amazon product suggestions to automated telephone systems, AI has been growing into something that is hard to get away from.

Sometimes, it is not even perceptible that AI has been used. In fact, did you notice something different about last month's newsletter? You probably did not notice that both the cover image and the contents of my Pastoral newsletter article were created using AI. To be clear, this was done on purpose and, at least for my Pastoral newsletter article, will not be used again. While the contents of the newsletter article were definitely read and scrutinized by me, it was not me. It is the expectation that the articles in the newsletter are written by the people to whom they are attributed. Anything not attributed to the person who wrote it is plagiarism. Thus, last month's article will be corrected with proper attribution now that the point has been made. A related point was also to show both an AI generated image and an AI generated article can serve a valid purpose as well.

The article last month detailed the early history of the Lutheran church from 1517 to 1580. (Still worth a read if you have not read it yet!) At the same time as AI grows in prevalence and sophistication, it is important to consider what effective use of AI might look like in the church and also what uses of AI should be out of boundaries for our church. This is something not just our local church is grappling with, but also our church body at large. In fact, at the Eastern District Convention held in June of this year in North Tonawanda, NY, a resolution was brought forward and adopted to propose that the Synod form "a task force to further study the use of artificial intelligence (AI) technology in ministry and the general life of God's people, requesting a joint document from the LCMS Council of Presidents, the Office of the President and the Commission on Theology and Church Relations for practical guidance for individuals and congregation in the use of AI".

While we wait to hear if the Synod will adopt our Eastern District resolution in July 2026, further study and consideration should be given. As I was preparing to write this article, I found a very interesting article in Lutheran Witness (<https://witness.lcms.org/2020/artificial-intelligence>) centered on artificial intelligence. While this article is dated as it relates to new and emerging technologies, ie, it is five years old, still some of the principles remain true for us to consider. One of the facets of the article that I found particularly interesting and applicable was their proposed "neighbor test". The neighbor test asks of AI technology and how it affects our neighbor. The article outlines the questions as: "Does our use of AI benefit or hurt our neighbors? Is this technology being deployed to the health, well-being and flourishing of all our neighbors or just a few of them? Will this technology help our neighbors in the short term and then harm them in the long term?"

Ultimately, the question must be asked, will these tools be used to help or harm our neighbors? Or a related question, will these tools cause us to rely more on our own knowledge or understanding rather than looking to God and what He has done and said to us. Especially as we hear Him in Job 28:28, "And he said to man, 'Behold, the fear of the Lord, that is wisdom, and to turn away from evil is understanding.'" May we always look to God for all comfort and assurance that He alone can bring. With repentance and humility we are called from our evil ways back to God. It is in God that He then indeed works in us to care for and help our neighbor. The omniscience of God (God's wisdom) is most clearly expressed in that He sent His only begotten Son to save us. May we always trust in this knowledge for it leads to eternal life. Amen.

MIDWEEK OF ADVENT WORSHIP & SOUP SUPPERS

**Wednesdays
December 3, 10, 17**

Please join us for Midweek of Advent worship at 7:00 pm. This includes Soup Suppers starting at 6:00 pm in Fellowship Hall.

If you would like to donate soup and/or bread for a meal, please sign up on the bulletin board across from the church office. Plan to bring soup and sliced bread to Fellowship Hall by 5:45 pm. Thank you!



CHRISTMAS CAROLING at **LOCAL SENIOR LIVING HOMES**

**Sunday, December 14
2:00 pm to 4:00 pm**

All members welcome; no singing experience needed! Meet at Faith Lutheran at 2:00 pm and join us as we visit three local senior living homes and spread the reason for the season through song!

COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS NOVEMBER 10, 2025

Council President John Murdoch called the meeting to order at 7:10 pm. Council members present were John Murdoch, Pastor Kerns, Greg Pioppi, Jackie Morrow, Debra Paolini, Janet Murray, and Lorraine Varela.

The following resolutions(s) were passed this month:

- Council voted in favor of the slate of nominees to Council positions, to be voted on at the November Voters Assembly.

Other items of note this month are the efforts to begin to compile documents for an

up-to-date Standard Operating Procedures binder, adjusting the language of Article 10.2 in the current constitution to comply with Eastern District requirements, and various upcoming events are the church.

Complete meeting minutes are available by request in the church office after their approval at next month's Council meeting. The next Council meeting is scheduled for Monday, December 8, at 7:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall.

Respectfully submitted,
Jackie Morrow, Council Secretary

RAMBLINGS FROM THE HEAD ELDER

This month's rambling is partially authored by two people that are not me. For those of you that have not sat in on the weekly "Coffee and Catechism" that follows Sunday worship at Faith, this might be new information for you. The following is just one of many topics that we have very lively discussions about each Sunday. The comments below by Dr. Alvin Schmidt came across my Facebook feed the other morning and after reading it I thought to myself that it could have been a conversation that might have taken place in Fellowship Hall. And Jason Nota's comments makes a great follow-up to Dr. Schmidt's since Jason's Blog is written in a manner that even I can understand.

So, I thought I would share it with you all. The next time you find yourself wondering about what makes Lutheranism different, here is one piece of the matrix.

"In Lutheran parlance, Word and Sacrament are readily understood and, at times, have become a cliché. It is not a phrase you hear outside of Lutheran theological circles. Word and Sacrament basically sum up the Lutheran conviction, belief that we are converted through the Word and strengthened in faith in Christ through the Word and Sacraments, basically baptism, which not only makes us a member of Christ's Church, but also a daily repentance and forgiveness as we drown the old Adam. Likewise, with the Sacrament of the Altar, we receive the body and blood of Christ for the forgiveness of sins, strengthening, and for the perseverance of our faith in Christ.

There are two Sacraments. Luther, in his early writings, spoke of three (confession

and absolution), but later of only two, and not seven, because the Lord did not institute things like confirmation, or the other four added by the Catholic Church. Luther was influenced by St. Augustine, who defined a Sacrament as having a visible element connected to God's Word. Obviously, Luther, being once an Augustinian monk, picked up on that. It's a good definition."

Dr. Alvin Schmidt

The term "Sacrament of the Altar" is unique to Lutheranism. According to Dr. Schmidt, it had basically replaced the word "Mass" in referring to the Lord's Supper after 1580. Most Protestants refer to the Lord's Supper as an "ordinance," and they receive the meal in their pews. Many Protestant churches don't even have an altar, let alone an altar rail; instead, they have a raised platform with a pulpit.

Dr. Schmidt doesn't like having the name "Lutheran" subsumed under "Protestantism," and for good reason, but that's how our society operates - Protestant, Catholic, and Jew are the three categories often spoken about. The word "Protestant" was taken by the people who departed from the Lutherans, particularly on the Sacraments. Most Protestants don't accept the means of grace as we teach them in our churches. Right there, we have two major reasons Lutherans are not the same as other Protestants, and why they shouldn't be subsumed under that name. Jason Nota

IHS,
Greg Pioppi,
Chairman Board of Elders

Faith Lutheran Preschool Newsletter December 2025



**Christmas Program for all Classes
Thursday, December 18 – 6:00PM**



Christmas Break

December 22 through January 2
The preschool staff would like to wish all the preschool families a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Preschool reopens on January 5.



Gingerbread Mangers for Seniors

**Monday, December 8
9:30 AM**

The Senior students will be making Gingerbread Mangers. We would like to have a parent/grandparent come in to work with your child on this tasty Christmas activity.

Looking Ahead

Monday, January 19

**No Preschool
Martin Luther King Holiday**

**No Lunch Bunch:
12/8, 12/19**

Polar Express for Seniors

Pajama Party for Juniors

Friday, December 12

Students wear pajamas to school.



**Happy Birthday, Jesus Celebrations
during school**

Tots – Thursday, December 18
Juniors – Friday, December 19
Seniors – Friday, December 19

Snow Days

Faith Lutheran Preschool follows the Easton School District for school closures due to inclement weather. In the event of inclement weather, please tune to local TV and radio stations and look for EASD closings. The following applies...

EASD Closed
Preschool Closed



EASD 2 hour delay
**Preschool opens at 10:00 a.m.

EASD- FID (Flexible Instruction Day)
Preschool Closed

KIDS' CORNER



Welcome to the “**Kids’ Corner**,” where families and congregant members can stay up to date with Sunday School material and Children’s Ministry offerings!

Sunday School continues to meet at 8:30 am each week (it’s early, but so worth it!). Students in grades K-5 meet in the upstairs preschool room and students in grades 6-12 meet in the Annex. We hope to see your kiddos there!

We are looking forward to **Gingerbread House Decorating** coming up on Saturday, December 6, from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm. Registration for this event is now closed. Donations of candy are appreciated!



For questions about Children’s Ministry offering, please contact Jackie Morrow at jmorrow1103@gmail.com or 215-262-1895.

PARENTS NIGHT OUT

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2025
5:00 PM TO 8:00 PM

RSVP TODAY!
Call: 610-253-1625
Email: faithlcms@outlook.com

\$20 PER FAMILY
Ages 3 to 10

POPCORN
CINEMA
CINEMA

Faith Lutheran Church

Pizza Included!



You are Cordially Invited

Thursday, December 18 at 6:00 pm

All are welcome to enjoy this annual Faith Lutheran Preschool tradition. And singing along with the children is encouraged! Show our young students what the Christmas Spirit is all about by attending this wonderful event and showering them with love and appreciation for all their hard work and practice.

COFFEE & CATECHISM

**Every Sunday after Worship
Fellowship Hall**

ALL MEMBERS are highly encouraged to join us weekly after Sunday worship in Fellowship Hall as we learn about our Faith - what we teach, believe and confess. Ends by noon!



55+ BIBLE STUDY

**Tuesdays at 11:00 am
Fellowship Hall**

All are welcome to join Pastor Kerns weekly on Tuesdays for Bible Study specifically for adults age 55 and older.



ALTAR FLOWERS

Sign Up Poster in Narthex

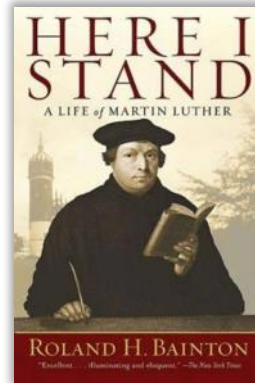
Cut flower bouquets beautify the altar while reminding us of the fragility of life. Dedicate flowers in memory of loved ones or in honor of a special family occasion such as birthdays, retirements, or anniversaries! Please make \$30 check payable to: Faith Lutheran Church, Memo - Altar Flowers



LCMS READ-ALONG BOOK CLUB

**Mondays at 12:00 pm
Fellowship Hall**

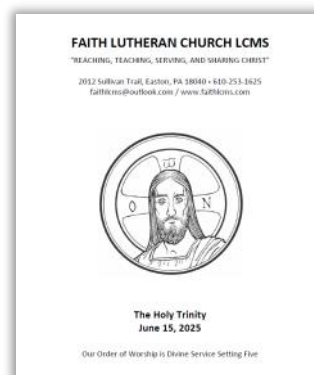
Read only during book club meetings. Join us every Monday at noon. Come as you are and enjoy the current story. There is always time to catch up on chapters. Join anytime!



SPONSOR A BULLETIN

Sign Up on the Bulletin Board

Help defray the cost of printing by sponsoring Faith's weekly bulletin! Dedications and anonymous Sponsors are welcome. Sign up on the Bulletin Board. One sponsor per week. \$20 per Sponsor. Cash, or Check written out to Faith Lutheran Church. Credit Cards accepted via your Realm Profile under the Giving tab (be sure to select the Bulletin Sponsor Fund).



MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST

Saturday, December 6 at 8:00 am
The Nazareth Diner

Held the first Saturday of every month, join Ted Cheung and your fellow Faith Lutheran members for fellowship and prayer.

Men's Prayer Breakfast held at:

The Nazareth Diner
581 South Broad Street
Nazareth, PA 18064



WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Thursdays at 11:30 am
Fellowship Hall

**** No Study on Dec 25 or Jan 1 ****

Join Mary Ruth Murdoch for Bible Study in Fellowship Hall on Thursdays from 11:30 am to 12:30 pm. Current study topic is the **Book of Psalms**.

See Mary Ruth for more details or email mrmurdoch@windgap.com.



FAITH LUTHERAN FAMILY PRAYERS

Please include the following families in your prayers this month. They will also be remembered in a special way during Sunday Worship.



Faith Families

12/07	Barbara Loomis	Donna and Al Lugg
12/14	Carrie Midgley & Keelan and Fion Mackey	Gloria and Karl Miller
12/21	John, Mary Ruth and Annie Murdoch	Jackie and Ryan Morrow
12/28	Janet and Bob Murray	Deb and Ed Paolini

Military Families

Kevin Jiorle	Stephen Sargent
Justin Muhlbach	Zachary Tolson
Spencer Muhlbach	



December

[REDACTED]

Faith Lutheran Members - Did We Miss Your Birthday?

Update on Realm or email faithlcms@outlook.com

December



[REDACTED]

Did We Miss Your Anniversary?

Update on Realm or email
faithlcms@outlook.com



Next Meeting is
Sunday, JANUARY 26, 2026
No Meeting in December
at 12:00 pm
in Fellowship Hall

Do you desire to share the Gospel message, and have a heart to serve? Join us to *Serve the Lord with gladness! (Psalm 100:2).* LWML meetings held the fourth Sunday of the month at noon in Fellowship Hall.

Visit [Lutheran Women's Missionary League \(LWML\)](#) for more information.

REMEMBER OUR SHUT-INS

with Prayers and Cards

VISITATION TEAM

Pastor Kerns & Gary Sandt



[REDACTED]

WORSHIP



Wed, Dec 3

Officiant:
Assistant/Reader:
Organist:

7:00 pm

Hon. Rev. Scot Kerns
Erik Wendt
Sue Tucker

Sun, Dec 7

Officiant:
Assistant/Reader:
Greeter:
Organist:

9:45 am

Hon. Rev. Scot Kerns
Ted Cheung,
Darlene Garon
Sue Tucker



Wed, Dec 10

Officiant:
Assistant/Reader:
Organist:

7:00 pm

Hon. Rev. Scot Kerns
Erik Wendt
Sue Tucker

Sun, Dec 14

Officiant:
Assistant:
Reader:
Greeters:
Organist:

9:45 am

Hon. Rev. Scot Kerns
Frank VandeVeegaete, Tom Zaro
Alyssa VanEmburch
Sharon and Jack Smickle
Sue Tucker



Wed, Dec 17

Officiant:
Assistant/Reader:
Organist:

7:00 pm

Hon. Rev. Scot Kerns
Erik Wendt
Sue Tucker

Sun, Dec 21

Officiant:
Assistant/Reader:
Greeters:
Organist:

9:45 am

Hon. Rev. Scot Kerns
Greg Pioppi, Frank VandeVeegaete
Sirma and Kyle Garon
Sue Tucker

Wed, Dec 24

Officiant:
Assistant/Reader:
Organist:

5:00 pm

Hon. Rev. Scot Kerns
Gary Sandt
Sue Tucker

7:00 pm

Hon. Rev. Scot Kerns
Greg Pioppi
Sue Tucker

Thu, Dec 25

Officiant:
Assistant/Reader:
Organist:

9:45 am

Hon. Rev. Scot Kerns
Ted Cheung, Gary Sandt
Sue Tucker



Sun, Dec 28

Officiant:
Assistant:
Reader:
Greeter:
Organist:

9:45 am

Hon. Rev. Scot Kerns
Erik Wendt, Tom Zaro
Tom Gorman
Colleen Conrad
Sue Tucker

* WORSHIP SCHEDULE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Please check the website and/or weekly bulletins for the most up-to-date information.

WORSHIP NOTES

If you feel unwell, please stay home and worship with us on YouTube. Thank you for helping us keep our members and guests healthy!

FAITH NURSERY

When little ones worship with us, our heavenly Father is thrilled! If any parent feels the need, the childcare room will be open for parents to accompany their child ages 5 and younger during worship.

INCLEMENT WEATHER REMINDER

Decision to cancel or hold worship will be determined by officiant and head elder. Check WFMZ 69 for updates!