

VOLUME 37 • ISSUE 2

Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church

September 2017

echoes

newsletter

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- **Sewing Group**
- **20th Scouts**
- **Camp Edgewood closes**



Reformation
Five Hundred Years 1517-2017

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Magazine**
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echoes newsletter

We want to feature the news and events of the Family of Faith at Faith Lutheran Brantford. Contact us if you would like to be in future editions, have an article you'd like to submit or an event you want to promote. Submitted manuscripts accepted but may not be returned. Authors of selected materials only will be contacted. No portion of the magazine, including advertisements, pictures or editorial content may be reproduced without permission.

Member of



ELCIC

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Please submit your materials by October 1, 2017 for the next edition. Send your submissions to sandy@arndtinthehouse.com.

REMINDER:

In order to offset the cost of publishing & postage for hard copy issues of Echoes, please consider receiving your copy via email. Perhaps a friend or family member is willing to print a copy for you. Call the church office to provide an email address 519 753 3833.

PARISH COUNCIL AND COMMITTEES:

Please consider volunteering for Church Council and/or working with one of our Committees.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Income to date in 2017:	\$58,541.00
Expenses to date in 2017:	\$67,097.00
Deficit to date in 2017:	(-8,556.00)

This large deficit has occurred because of the unexpected expense of the roof repair.

The above figures DO NOT include the 2016 deficit of \$ 13, 500.00

"Please submit your Email address to the Church Office by phone (519-753-3833) or Email (faithlutheran1@bellnet.ca)

This is very important for updating our records for each household.

The majority of future communication to our members will be done using Email. Don't miss out on important information.

If you do not have Email in your household, please also let us know that."

BITS AND PIECES

• A NOTE FROM PASTOR SCHEIDT:

I want to thank the members of Faith Lutheran Church for your prayers and your expressions of concern during my 6 month stay in hospital. It has been a long journey for me but, by God's grace, I am on the road to recovery. It feels so good to be home again! You do not realize and appreciate what you have until you almost lose it.

In addition to my physical illness I also struggled with some mental illness. That is not something that we usually talk about openly but it is not something we should be ashamed of either. It is a part of life for many people.

God has been very gracious to me. While my time of illness was difficult, even frightening, the Risen One was with me, calling me to live in hope, to reject despair

and to trust in his gentle care and loving grace.

Above all, God reminded me to rejoice in all that God has given me – a wonderful family, a loving and caring wife and compassionate friends in our faith community. I rejoice in God's goodness and loving kindness.

As for the future, I will live in hope and pray that I stay healthy. Jan and I have been worshipping at Faith Lutheran Church in Hamilton and will become members there. It is not wise for a retired Pastor to stay in the Parish he or she has served. As much as we love all of you at Faith, Brantford, we will have to say farewell. The congregation at Faith, Hamilton is a warm and loving community of faith just as you are at Faith, Brantford. You have been a blessing to me and to my family.

With love, Pastor Stephen



REFORMATION CHALLENGE UPDATE : AUGUST 16, 2017
 Check out the new YouTube video at:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hJm-pcSG674&feature=youtu.be>

The Parish Council of Faith Lutheran Church has called a Congregational Meeting for Sunday September 10th, 2017 at 11:30 am (following the 10:30 Service). The purpose of this meeting is to seek approval of the Pastoral Candidate that the

Congregational Meeting



Call Committee is recommending. Please note that the identity of the candidate is confidential until presented at this meeting.

Restoration & Renewal (R&R) Fund

This dedicated account was established in 2013 to accumulate funds necessary for special projects for our building upkeep. You may contribute to this fund through your regular offering envelopes at any time throughout the year whether or not there is an existing fund-raising project.

If you have contributed to the R&R Fund on a regular offering basis Thank you!

If you responded to the effort to raise money for the STEPS project Thank you!

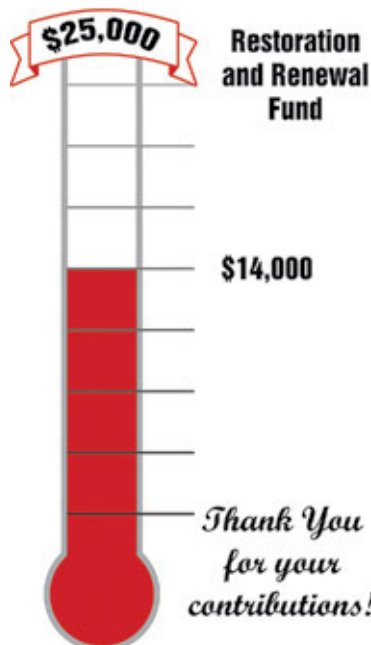
If you have already contributed to support the emergency roof repair Thank you!

Council has approved a letter of appeal to reach out to those who call Faith Brantford their home church or are connected in various ways to our congregation. You may also receive this letter and we thank you for your faithful support!

A life size graph illustration is available at the church each Sunday for ease in tracking the fundraising effort - your support is appreciated!

Thanks be to God!

Respectfully submitted,
 Gigi Todd, Parish Council Chair



HEARTFELT THANKS to Grant Bechtel, our Property Manager, for cleaning the church windows and eternal light in the sanctuary, for installing the LED lights in Luther Hall and for organizing the repair to the front steps and the roof. There are so many other things that Grant does for the church building and the parsonage that are behind the scenes. His contribution to our property maintenance is invaluable. Please say 'thank you' when you see him.



The Family of the late Lynda Pickering wish to thank members of Faith for their prayers, cards, visits and kind words during this most sad occasion. A special note of thanks to Judy Clarke and Pastor Kevin for their services.

MY FAITH JOURNEY

By Isabel Neeb

Over the years, my faith in God has grown. I need only to look at God's creation and I have faith. Let us take birth as an example. A human baby develops and is programmed. At six weeks he smiles, at three months he laughs, at six months he sits up and at one year he walks. None of this happens by chance. When I am with someone who doubts there is a God, I use this as an argument for my belief.

I was born on a farm near the end of World War 11. Young farmers were poor and trying to make ends meet with what they could produce on their few acres. The mortgages on their farms sat at 6% which was high by today's standards. I am thankful that I was born into a family where both sets of grandparents were church going people.... all farmers. They knew what a good neighbour was and were willing to share whatever they could. My one grandmother could take a man's suit, cut it apart and sew a coat for one of her grandchildren. She would never be too busy to spend time with us. She would go to the piano and play her favourite hymns in the evening.

We were surrounded by love. Both families of grandparents lived about one concession away from us.

The community church building had outgrown its life and had to be torn down. Rather than going to town which was five miles away, the members decided to worship in the school across the road. I began Sunday School when I was three years old. I am still friends with that first teacher. She says that I was very quiet and bashful. Of course, I can't remember what she specifically taught us, but I know that some seeds were planted. Sunday School was held before church. My mother would put a dime into my sister's and my hands and send us up the road to walk half a concession where my aunt, also a Sunday School teacher, would pick us up and drive the rest of the way. All the teachers were women except for the leader. Our pianist was a poor player and often we would have to start a hymn over again. Still today, my mind drifts back to those days and I find myself humming those favourite old hymns. The theme was so basic, but wonderful. What could be more beautiful than

'Jesus Loves Me,' or 'God Sees the Little Sparrow Fall'. The faithfulness of that group of teachers was very impressive. I met the leader some years later and thanked him for being there for us. It was only then that I learned that all our offerings were sent away, and he alone paid for the supplies.

I treasured those Sunday School papers. They would have a colourful picture on them along with the Bible stories. I saved each of them and kept them in a box. During the week I would line up the kitchen chairs, and pretend I had a class. I would teach that lesson all over again. I did this until I finished grade eight. By then we had small books, my teacher was a community psychiatrist, and the lessons became more difficult. Of course, by then I had a grocery box full of Sunday School material. I left home when I was seventeen to go to Teachers' College. I don't know what happened to them, but one summer when I came home again, they were gone. I did teach Sunday School for over forty years.

My parents were strict. Sunday was a Holy Day. We were not allowed to play any card games on

a Sunday. Nor did we do any farm chores, other than feeding the animals. Different than many farmers around us, my father would not harvest any crops on a Sunday, even if rain was expected for the next several days. After I enrolled in the Word and Witness Course many years later, I realized I had been raised more by the Law rather than by Grace. A meal could never begin without a prayer.

I had developed quite a faith by the time I was in grade four. That was the year the Gideons came and distributed the small 'New Testaments and Psalms' books to the students. We kept them in our desks. I had always been worried that another war would start. My father had been called to service in London in about 1942. I was not yet born, but my mother would often talk about it. He was sent home again because he was a farmer. Whenever I heard planes fly over the school, I would put my hand into my desk, touch my Bible, and pray that another war had not started.....a terrible fear for a child. During my whole life I have found short prayers very comforting. Whenever I realize that I have been

MY FAITH JOURNEY

saved from some mishap or harm, I always say, "Thank you, Jesus." Or when some bit of good news comes my way, I say, "Praise the Lord." I taught my children that if they were ever in an accident, to not start swearing or cursing, but to pray, "Please help me Jesus. Be here with me." I tell my grandchildren how important short prayers can be. I instruct them to try saying, "Jesus, I am here. I know you are also. I believe in you." How long does that take? A short prayer can lead to more prayer.

I witnessed examples of not judging others. When I was fifteen my one grandmother had leukemia and would begin hemorrhaging. More than once, the ambulance would come for her, with the snowplough going ahead of it to open the road. I should point out that our families were complete teetotallers. My grandmother had an uncommon blood type. There was only one known source for her transfusion and that was from a 'wayward drunk' in a neighbouring town. My grandfather had said he had no use for such a man. He ate his words when the hospital summoned the man to

come and give blood in the middle of the night. His visit saved my grandmother's life. My grandfather vowed never again to belittle another person. I remember our minister telling a story in his sermon about a woman who prided herself with having the whitest wash in the neighbourhood. She was always gossiping about her new neighbour's grey wash and how it could never measure up to her standard. Then one spring day, her husband washed the windows and to her surprise the neighbour's wash looked quite white hanging on the line. She had some apologies to make.

I was confirmed at the end of grade eight at Melville United Church in Fergus, Ontario. For some years, I worked every Sunday and my church attendance waned. But I never lost my faith. I became an elementary school teacher just as I had planned since my childhood. I met a man one summer at University, that became my husband. It was only about our third date, and he looked at me and said, "All Neeps are Lutherans." I am so happy to have a Christian husband. He has been the greatest influence

on my spiritual growth. We share the same faith and believe the same theology. There were two other elementary school teachers who influenced my life and made sure their students in that one roomed school got some Christian teaching.

I believe in angels. When we were vacationing in Turkey a few years ago, I fell and broke my arm. We were driven to the International Hospital for medical care. We finished at the hospital and were sent to a nearby pharmacy for a prescription. It was a very rainy evening, my arm was paining and we needed to find our own way back to the hotel. The traffic was fast and heavy. We hailed down a taxi, but the driver could not speak English. We were not keen about getting into a car with just anyone. We hailed another taxi. We handed the driver a hotel card. He shook his head. We were confused. Then quite suddenly, two women were standing beside us. They took the card and spoke to him in Arabic, then spoke to us in English and said, "Get in with him. He will safely deliver you to your hotel." We turned to thank them and they were gone, nowhere in sight. God

was there for us. We believe they were angels.

My mother died in 2004. She had been unwell for years, and we had said good bye to her more than once. I was summoned home by my sisters on a Friday evening. We kept watch at her bedside singing hymns and praying until early Sunday morning. Throughout the weekend, she lay unconscious, but I kept saying to her that when she met Jesus, she was to give us a smile. She had not responded to anything all weekend, but when we saw the end was imminent, I repeated my command. She took a deep straining breath, turned her head, opened her eyes and looked at the four of us. Then she gave the most beautiful smile!!!

I have concentrated most of my faith journey on my youth. Many years have passed since then. I have been fed spiritually by so many people over the years..... neighbours and friends who have reached out and witnessed to me and by our ministers who faithfully did their very best in teaching the Scriptures. Praise be to God.

My journey continues. There is further to go!!!

20TH FAITH SCOUTS

Scouting at Faith will be starting off very busy.

All Sections will be implementing the Canadian Path program and ensuring all standards are met and the youth are providing their wants and interests into the program.

A kick off Pot Luck Bar-B-Q at Mohawk Park on Wed. September 6th @ 6 pm.

All 5 Sections are open for new registrations 'including Adult Volunteers'. It's only 1-1/2 hrs



Kayaking



Swimming

With that being said our annual Popcorn Campaign starts off with order deadlines the end of October. Start your Christmas season shopping with us. Contact Jane Redin to place your order. Watch for flyers in the Sunday



Snorkelling



Sitting by the fire.



Gear Packed on barge to go to campsite

Pink Panther Sub-Camp September 22-24th at Camp Bel in Dorchester. We are part of the Brant Contingent of 4 Cub Packs attending.

8 Scouts & 3 Scouters

per week commitment really! OR if you wish to become more involved, a position on Group Committee, or Fundraising would be a benefit to the group.

We're currently looking for Volunteer support in Beavers and Cubs as we've had some Scouters needing personal time.

Beavers will be actively planning their Canadian Path adventures.

Cubs are preparing for their

finished off a 7 day Canoe Camp at Haliburton Scout Reserve. They got to partake in sailing; snorkeling; archery; riflery; survival; pioneering & Canoeing. Thanks to all who helped support our fundraising/bottle drive donations to make this camp a memorable one for everyone!

Venturer Company is growing and wanting their own roots to develop their adventure skills.



Rappelling



Packing to come home

bulletins.

Apple Day Campaign will come about in October again and we truly appreciate any support you give our youth.

Yours in Scouting
Jane Redin
Group Commissioner
Troop Scouter

Stitching With Love

Many, many blankets continue to be sewn for world relief by Faith's Sewing Group. It can only be due to the love of giving to those in need that these ladies work with such zeal and commitment. And, maybe they have been "illuminated" to do so much more due to improved lighting in the basement hall. They certainly have appreciated the enhanced LED lighting completed in January for the close work of cutting and stitching on Tuesdays.

For April's Ontario Baling Days, the Brantford group contributed 1,103 blankets out of a total 1,699 that were loaded on to the 20-ft. shipping container destined for Tanzania. Also contributed were 10 Teacher's Kits assembled from generous donations at last November's Coffee Hour fundraiser, which realized over \$1,300.00. (A few more kits will be made up with remaining funds for the next Baling Days.) Also sewn for this year's shipment were 200 sundresses and shorts made from donated pillowcases – yes, pillowcases. And, many miscellaneous items for We Care kits were given, which CLWR (Canadian



Baling Days

Lutheran World Relief) completes in Winnipeg.

In June, the group was, for the second time, awarded an ELCIC Women of Faith grant in the amount of \$1,500.00. And, the following month, word was received that we would receive a Brantford City grant for \$2,250.00. Needless to say, this will help immensely in the purchase of batting and sewing supplies.

An opportunity presented itself in August when many of the ladies went to Hamilton's Cotton Fac-

tory on Sherman Avenue to view the travelling exhibition of the gigantic Quilt of Belonging. This 120 ft. (36 m) 263-block work of art recognizes Canada's diversity, celebrates its common humanity and promotes harmony and compassion among people. It is the work of volunteers from Victoria to Newfoundland to the Arctic Circle who contributed their talents and ideas, reflected through the prism of their cultural backgrounds. The range of materials is astonishing, from sealskin to African mud-cloth, from embroidered silk to gossamer wings of butterflies. Hamilton is one of only three stops on the 2017 Ontario tour of the Quilt of Belonging.

Artist Esther Bryan's dream of making this artwork



Viewing the Quilt of Belonging



was born as she recognized that everyone has a story to tell, each culture has a unique beauty, each person can experience a sense of belonging and find a place in the overall design – there is "A Place for All". Together they record human history in textile, illustrating the beauty, complexity and sheer size of the human story.

Welcome Youth to a new Sunday School Year

CONFIRMATION

There will be no confirmation classes this Fall.
A starting date for 2018 will be decided in consultation with our new Pastor.

Sunday School:

Rally Sunday: September 10th
Sunday school kick off is with Rally Sunday.
From then on we will hold regular Sunday School Classes
2nd and 4th Sunday of the month
10th/ 24th September
8th / 22nd October and so forth
Age: 5 years and up to Confirmation age 12 years
Please feel free to contact the office or contact Petra Hilgendar or Christine LaPointe directly.
We look forward to seeing the little ones' come and join this fun group.

Nursery program:

If we have enough children below 5 years of age that would come regularly we could start a nursery group. Please let us know if you would be interested in that to have your child(ren) enrolled or if you are interested in helping to tend to this little group. Every helping hand is appreciated.

We look forward to seeing everyone back and Welcome any new guests to come and join us.

Best regards,
Petra Hilgendar
Youth Leader

Save the Dates

Saturday September 9th - Bay Area Picnic

Sunday October 29th - Lutherfest Dinner and Bay Area Reformation Service

Friday November 10th - Joint Lutheran-Roman Catholic Commemoration of the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation Service (originally scheduled for January 2017 but cancelled at the last minute)

Watch for further information closer to the dates.

Joint Church Picnic of the Bay Area Lutheran Congregations

Saturday, September, 09, 2017

11:00 pm –2:00 pm

at

Germania Club Campgrounds

Singing with

Leonard Turnevicius

Fun games for children, youth and all the young-at-heart,

BBQ and refreshments

(Sausage \$ 4.00, Hotdog \$ 1.50, Water/Coffee \$ 0.50, Cake \$ 0.25 - \$ 1.00)

Registration on sign-up sheet is kindly requested!

We ask for dessert donations.



Are you on PAR?

.....did you know that you can arrange for your offering to be established as an automatic payment to Faith. No more need to remember the offering envelope, your cheque book or cash on Sundays. Your annual contributions can be spread evenly over the year to assist with church budget & planning needs. Contact the church office to arrange for this form of dedicated giving and convenience.

Thank you for this consideration.

Parish Council

Walk an hour in my moccasins

Mark your calendar, tell your friends, and join us in Luther Hall on Friday, 17 November, 7:00-9:00 PM. We will participate in the Blanket Exercise.

The Blanket Exercise is an invitation to participate in a one-hour walk through history to explore relationships between Indigenous and non-Indigenous people on the northern part of Turtle Island, also known as Canada. Friends from Nations Uniting will be present to guide us through this wonderful learning experience.



The Blanket Exercise was developed jointly about twenty years ago by Indigenous representatives and KAIROS Canada. This uniquely Canadian learning opportunity has been offered hundreds of times across Canada and has a strong international reputation for enabling participants to explore the meaning of reconciliation.

A sharing circle and refreshments will follow the Blanket Exercise. We look forward to seeing you there.

Questions? Speak with Gigi Todd or Peter Mogk.

Synod Benevolence

The Eastern Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran in Canada (ELCIC) is our immediate connection to the church-at-large. You can provide financial support of the ELCIC and their national & international mission work directly through Synod Benevolence on your offering envelope or mark any envelope accordingly.

Feel free to check out the website at www.elcic.ca for more information.

Reformation Challenge

On Saturday April 29th 2017 – Earth Day – some 70 youth and adults from The Bay Area Lutheran Churches turned out at Bow Park Farm, just outside of Brantford ON, to plant 2000 trees. Bow Park Farm is almost completely surrounded by the Grand River. This project was sanctioned by the Grand River Conservation Authority (GRCA) and the trees were purchased from them with funds donated by members of the churches involved.

The trees were planted in a valley and along the banks of the Grand River on the farm, as prevention against erosion and to help stabilize the river bank.

After some of the planting was finished, participants enjoyed a pot luck lunch and some fun and fellowship, then went back out to plant some more. Planting didn't quite get finished that day but over the next week the last of the trees did get planted.

This planting was part of the ELCIC Reformation Challenge to plant 500,000 trees world-wide.

Submitted by Dorothy Emerson, Faith Brantford ON
Photos by Rev Chun Zhang, Brantford ON



WATERLOO LUTHERAN SEMINARY | THE FACULTY OF MUSIC

SING FIRES *of* JUSTICE

HOW DO WE STAY CENTRED, OPEN
and
CONNECTED *in these* COMPLEX TIMES?

SUN. SEPT. 17

FIRST UNITED
CHURCH

16 WILLIAM ST. W., WATERLOO

AN AFTERNOON WITH
**TOM
JACKSON**
SONG AND
STORY | 3 P.M.

FREE TICKETED EVENT
<https://tomjackson.eventbrite.ca>

*"You don't have to
change the whole
world, you just have to
change your world,
and the rest
will follow."*

-Tom Jackson

AN EVENING
FESTIVAL
OF WORDS
AND MUSIC
7 P.M.

DO JUSTICE,
LOVE KINDNESS,
WALK HUMBLLY

FREE-WILL OFFERING

LOCAL MUSICIANS AND MASS CHOIR
with TOM JACKSON

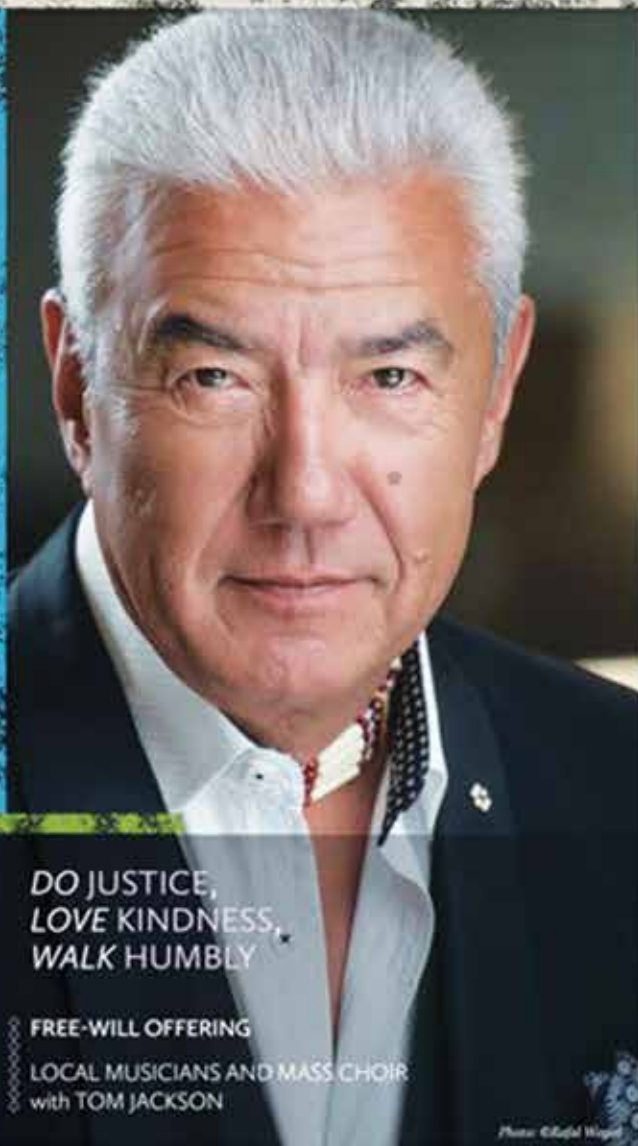


Photo: ©Egald Wigard

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Please contact Dorinda Kruger Allen at dkrugerallen@wlu.ca
or 519.884.0710 x3241

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LAURIER CENTRE FOR MUSIC IN THE COMMUNITY - DEPARTMENTS OF
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FAITH LUTHERAN EVENTS CALENDAR



September 2017 Faith Lutheran Events

October 2017

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
3 LABOUR DAY WEEKEND - ONE SERVICE AT 10 AM	4 Labour Day (All)	5	6 Parish Council at 7 pm	7	8	9
10 Sunday School Rally Sunday at the 10:30 am service	11	12	13 Food Pantry at 9 am	14	15	16 Communion at 405 Park Road North Men's Breakfast at 8:30 am
17	18 Worship Committee at 7 pm	19	20	21	22	23
24 Sunday School at 10:30 am	25	26	27 Food Pantry at 9 am	28 Last Thursday Fellowship at 1:30 pm	29	30



October 2017 Faith Lutheran Events

November 2017

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4 Parish council at 7 pm	5	6	7
8 Sunday School at 10:30 am	9 Thanksgiving Day (Many regions) Thanksgiving Day (Many regions)	10	11 Food Pantry at 9 am	12	13	14
15	16	17	18 Healthcare Aide Day (British Columbia, Manitoba)	19	20	21 Communion at 405 Park Road North Men's Breakfast at 8:30 am
22 Sunday School at 10:30 am	23	24	25 Food Pantry at 9 am	26 Last Thursday Fellowship at 1:30 pm	27	28
29 Reformation Sunday	30	31 Halloween	1	2	3	4

FAREWELL CELEBRATION

Camp Edgewood Farewell Celebration



After over 70 years of campfires, songs, laughs, and ministry, Edgewood Camp and Conference Centre has closed. Please join us to celebrate this amazing place and share our memories.

Sunday, October 1st

Where: Camp Edgewood, 49 Memorial Street, Eden Mills

Who: Everyone who has experienced Camp Edgewood

When: 2:00pm – 8:00pm (with events beginning at 3pm)

Events: sharing memories, hikes, songs, worship, campfire

Food: potluck (please bring some food to share)

BYOE - Bring your own EVERYTHING: lawn chairs, bug spray, dishes/cutlery, garbage bags, memorabilia and stories.

**Note: Outhouses will be provided as water is shut off.*