



### **A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR JES:**

Happy 10th Anniversary Faith! On, Sunday March 17th we gathered as a church to celebrate this milestone in our life together as Faith; which is hard to believe that it has been 10 years already that we have been Faith Lutheran. It doesn't feel like that much time has gone by and yet it also feels like we have been together as one church for a lot longer too.

Ten years ago, we began a journey as two congregations came together as one, trying to figure out how we would live with each other in ministry while maintaining two church buildings. At first there were a lot of opinions of how things ought be done, how things were done at this location or that one, how things "have always been" done. We saw tensions rise around what we thought was best for Faith, even if what we thought was best really was supporting our personal agendas and preferences. It has been a journey that has had a number of hardships and struggles; a financial debacle, numerous staff transitions and changes, losses of beloved members by death or choice or moving away, of choosing which site to close permanently and the grief that came along with that decision, of a global pandemic keeping us apart, and more.

While our journey as Faith hasn't been a smooth journey we have done a good job at getting to know one another and building relationships with each other. When you look back over our ten years together we have done so much more than simply worship together. We have learned instruments together, put on carnivals and festivals, and weeded flower beds. We have played kickball and gone tobogganing. We have served pancakes, pulled pork, spaghetti, and soup beside each other. We have knitted blankets, challenged each other in rounds of trivia, and camped together. We have learned in book studies, drank a lot of coffee, and jumped around in inflatables in the parking lot and in the fellowship hall. We have sung together, paddled down a river, splashed in a pool, and watched movies. We have celebrated births and deaths, baptisms and confirmations, weddings and graduations, retirements and farewells. We have painted and prayed, gone on road trips, and rummaged through people's stuff for our rummage sales. We have filled school kits for Lutheran World Relief and made staff appreciation gifts for the teachers and staff at Model Elementary. We have spent the night at the church with families in First Light (formerly GIHN) and made soups together at Soup of Success. We have laughed and cried, fought and made up, and we continue to grow in our appreciation and love for each other.

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As we look back over these past years, I thought it might be nice to share with you the Faith Top 10 List that was shared at our 10th Anniversary Celebration. Enjoy these memories and highlights of Faith! I look forward to continuing to walk this journey with you all and making more memories as we share Christ's love with all!

Together with you in Faith +  
*Pastor Jes*

### **10.) Never knowing when or where to worship!**

When we first began Faith, we worshiped between two buildings with 3 different times, which overlapped as well. We had an 8 am Traditional on GR, a 9:30 Traditional at 5M, and an 11 am Contemporary on GR. Pastor John and Pastor Jes would bounce between all three services. Whoever was preaching would start the service and then leave at the hymn of the day to go to the next. While whoever was not preaching would preside over communion, spend a little time in fellowship following worship before booking it across town for the next service. It took us 8 years but for the past two years we have been worshiping just at 9:00 am in one location.

### **9.) We have worshiped all over the place!**

We have worshiped in a sanctuary- both 5th and Madison and Greene Rd, in a chapel and library, around a fire, in a parking lot, on the back lawn, around a memorial garden, on a screen, in the fellowship hall, around tables, in the pews, FROM OUR FAVORITE PEWS!

### **8.) Four legged and two winged creatures**

When we were at 5th and Madison we had bats regularly flying around the building. Often scaring the female staff members. Pastor John always took care of catching them and when he didn't Betty Freeland would flag down police officers to get them out of the building-screaming each time the bat moved, making the police officer jump too. Bats would be hanging from the ceilings while we gave preschool tours, flying around Brosy Hall, or tucked away in a corner. We even moved some deceased bats when we moved everything to Greene Rd.

We have had a number of dogs worship with us both indoor and outdoor or even come by the church for an afternoon visit. Pastor Jes once shot off six confetti cannons on Easter Sunday that scared a service dog, who left its owner and took off down the hallway. The owner was unaware their dog ran away.

### **7.) Only call Pastors who can be referred to as PJ.**

Pastor John... Pastor Jes... even Pastor Jim Ward as interim as we became one.

### **6.) Pastor Jes' driving skills on youth trips.**

When the youth went to West Virginia, Pastor Jes almost drove the 15 passenger van over the cliff in the holler while she was trying to turn around. She also backed into a cement wall on that same trip. On the Mystery Trip to Fremont Ohio, she blew through a stop sign with a van full of girls being followed by our other van driven by the ex- Nappanee Police

Chief, Mike Anglin; who purchased her a stop sign that now hangs in her office as a reminder. Thank goodness they used charter buses for Detroit and Houston... although there are some entertaining Uber stories from Houston.

### **5.) Enduring a global pandemic!**

Who would have guessed that the first Sunday we were able to worship in the sanctuary following our remodeling, a global pandemic would cause the whole world to shut down? Not us. But we were flexible and executed with every changing requirement and recommendation that came.

### **4.) Mini Luther Travels to celebrate the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation.**

Over the summer of 2017, we sent 4 mini stuffed Martin Luthers on adventures with our members, asking you to document his travels. Martin met a Catholic Pope, traveled to West Virginia with the youth group, and went on a number of family vacations like to Alaska. He went all over Elkhart County seeing experiencing all our county offers. He ate some good meals and of course drank both wine and beer. Sadly, only 2 Martins returned to Faith!

### **3.) If there is food they will come!**

We are good Lutherans and love a good carry-in or event where food is involved. In fact, we have more people show up if we serve food. Over the past 10 years we have had... Fish Fries, Spaghetti Suppers, Chili Cook-offs, Dessert Bake-offs, Advent Brunches, Harvest Meals, Hot Breakfasts, Easter Brunches, Lenten Soup Suppers, Nacho Bars, Shrove Tuesday Pancakes, Funeral dinners, and weekly Fellowship hours.. and the church coffee makes it all complete.

### **2.) We seem to like each other**

Seriously... like a blended family we have done a lot of things together to get to know one another and grow in our relationship with each other.

### **1.) All of you!**

Honestly the best thing about Faith are the people of Faith. Our church family today and over the past 10 years. Those who are here today, those who have moved away, those who have left to try new churches, those who are in the company of saints in heaven, and those who will walk through our doors in the years to come.

We are blessed with very talented people who dedicate themselves to the life and ministry of this place. We have Sunday School teachers and a preacher, musicians and liturgical artists, handymen and kitchen ladies, altar guild members, financial wizards, devoted staff and committee members, an E-Connect team and Council leaders.

**Happy Anniversary Church!!!**

**FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH CURRENT FINANCE OVERVIEW**

Period Ending 2/29/24	<i>*this is the most up-to-date accounting we had at the time of printing the newsletter</i>				
<b>ACCOUNT BALANCES</b>		<b>MONTHLY</b>	<b>ACTUAL</b>	<b>BUDGETTED</b>	<b>VARIANCE</b>
INterra Checking	\$33,087.05	Offerings	\$19,795.00		
INterra Savings (Funds)	\$64,504.64	Total Revenue	\$21,299.60	\$20,937.50	\$362.10
<b>(\$757.83)</b>	<b>\$97,591.69</b>	Expenses	\$20,179.67	\$20,937.50	(\$591.26)
			\$1,119.93		
<b>FUND BALANCES (INTERRA SAVINGS)</b>		<b>YEAR TO DATE</b>	<b>ACTUAL</b>	<b>BUDGETTED</b>	<b>VARIANCE</b>
Building	\$14,569	YTD Offerings	\$33,134.01		
Youth	\$8,794.11	YTD Total Revenue	\$35,501.14	\$41,875.00	(\$6,373.86)
Memorials	\$32,445.68	YTD Expenses	\$40,545.91	\$41,875.00	(\$1,349.09)
Sabbatical	\$1,825.04		(\$5,024.77)		
Women's	\$1,283.90				
Discretionary	\$2,706.86	<b>GENERAL GIVING IN:</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
Funeral Dinners	\$2,786.23	January	\$13,339.01	\$16,838.00	\$13,659.00
Interest	\$68.82	February	\$19,795.00	\$19,201.00	\$13,432.00
<b>Total Funds</b>	<b>\$64,504.64</b>	March		\$13,841.00	\$16,051.81
		April		\$18,753.00	\$15,131.00
		May		\$20,390.00	\$16,100.50
<b>ELKHART COMMUNITY FOUNDATION**</b>		June		\$16,025.60	\$14,136.00
Endowment Income	\$15,257.66	July		\$20,556.00	\$14,060.00
Balance	\$381,968.96	August		\$12,083.87	\$20,247.00
<i>**This is December 2023 &amp; January 2024 income/balance. February 2024 statement are not available yet.</i>		September		\$14,465.00	\$15,752.00
		October		\$19,305.00	\$15,605.00
		November		\$13,966.00	\$13,053.58
		December		\$22,393.34	\$23,309

**Ways to Give**



text: 574-212-0404

mail: 202 Greene Rd  
Goshen IN 46526

online: [faithgoshen.com/give](http://faithgoshen.com/give)

<p><b>2024 APPROVED BUDGET</b></p> <p>\$20,937 needed per month \$4,832 needed per week to meet the budget</p>
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### WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES DURING THE EASTER SEASON



**Holy Humor  
Sunday**  
April 7, 2024

join us as we laugh in the devil's face as Jesus rose again!



**Stations  
of the  
Resurrection**

daylight hours  
through May 19

@ Pathways Retreat  
309 1/2 Hackett Rd



**Confirmation  
Sunday**  
May 19, 2024

affirming their faith:  
Lorelei & Lucy Shively  
Alec, Sam, & Charlie Wakefield

\*wear red as this is Pentecost Sunday too!



**Summer Worship**  
June 2 to August 25

**Outdoors**  
on the 1st, 3rd, 5th  
Sundays of the month

**Indoors**  
on the 2nd & 4th  
Sundays of the month

\*there will be no live-stream on the weeks we worship outdoors  
& outdoor worship will be moved indoors if there is rain

**COUNCIL MEMBERS**

Janae Kline  
Secretary  
*E-Connect Liaison*

Sam Martin  
*Property Liaison*

Susi Miller  
Vice President  
*Worship & Music Liaison*

Sue Perri  
*Community Ministry Liaison*

Sue Schrameyer  
*Christian Growth Liaison*

Dale Troyer  
President

Barry Younghans  
*Hospitality Liaison*

— — —

Steve Kercher  
Treasurer

**FEBRUARY & MARCH COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS**

*from our Council Meetings*

- We worked on the Leadership Goal for E-Connect with the support of Chris Shively- our E-Connect representative. Our goal is to encourage our current leaders, who serve in multiple ways within the congregation, to invite, train, and mentor someone in one task/role/responsibility they have. Allowing our current leadership base to spread out the responsibility and ease burnout.
- Finance shared that we are running about a \$5,000 deficit already for the year.
- Community Ministry shared that we raised \$800 for Soup of Success through our Soup Cook-off & Dessert Bake-off and \$500 for the Model Leadership on Shrove Tuesday.
- Property shared they are investigating the cost to make our front restrooms into ADA accessible bathrooms per Council's requests. We have money from Carol Ulmer's estate that we would like to use for this project.
- Pastor Jes did the funerals of Mike Wheeler and Linda Kercher in March.
- Last August, Council approved a Pastoral Renewal & Rejuvenation motion; which states that the congregation will offer to their pastor every 4 years 3 consecutive weeks, in addition to their vacation time, for Pastoral renewal and rejuvenation; acknowledging the stress and demands on our pastor and desiring their health and well-being. Susi Miller made a motion that Pastor Jes can use her Pastoral Renewal & Rejuvenation in August of 2024. Sue Perri seconded. Motion approved. Pastor Jes will be gone August 9 to August 30, 2024. Supply pastors and clergy coverage for hospital visits and emergencies are being secured for while she is gone.
- Council decided to begin looking into and creating a policy around sharing our space with congregations who may be looking to rent space as a possible source of income. We have been approached a couple of times this year and have said no as we have not thought about this possibility to the detail it needs.



Pastor Jes delivering the a check to Soup of Success for the money we raised from the Soup Cook-off & Dessert Bake-off to support this ministry.

Submitted by Janae Kline, Secretary

## E-CONNECT UPDATE

“Who is God calling us to be?”

“What is God calling us to do?”

These questions are the basis of the E-Connect (Ecumenical Connect) process. Answering them and putting the answers into practice are the outcome that the E-Connect Team is helping Faith work toward.

As God works in us to help share Christ’s love with all, we are encouraged to try new ways of sharing (while continuing the current actions that are effective.) This will mean evaluating and finding that some actions may not fit Faith’s particular gifts, but that others will become a part of our live moving forward.

Various committees at Faith address numerous areas of ministry like Outreach, Leadership Development, Stewardship, Faith Formation, Worship, Hospitality, and Communications/Social Media. Our “assignment” as E-Connect Team members has been to assist the committees in being intentional about how they can lead Faith in our mission of sharing Christ’s love with all through word and action. The committees have been working to incorporate specific goals and to evaluate their effectiveness.

The E-Connect process has involved training sessions lead by the IK Synod leaders and staff. These sessions are steeped in prayer and worship, and we are encouraged to help our congregation center our activities on God’s presence. One particle way of doing this is to begin all our church activities, meetings, etc with a brief prayer and devotion.

The E-Connect journey is ongoing and we seek and welcome YOUR gifts to help do God’s work!

~Carla Yoder  
E-Connect Team Member

## E-CONNECT TEAM

Deal Deal

Karen Gruntman

Pastor Jes King

Janae Kline

Chris Shively

Karen Steffensen

Carla Yoder

Barry Younghans

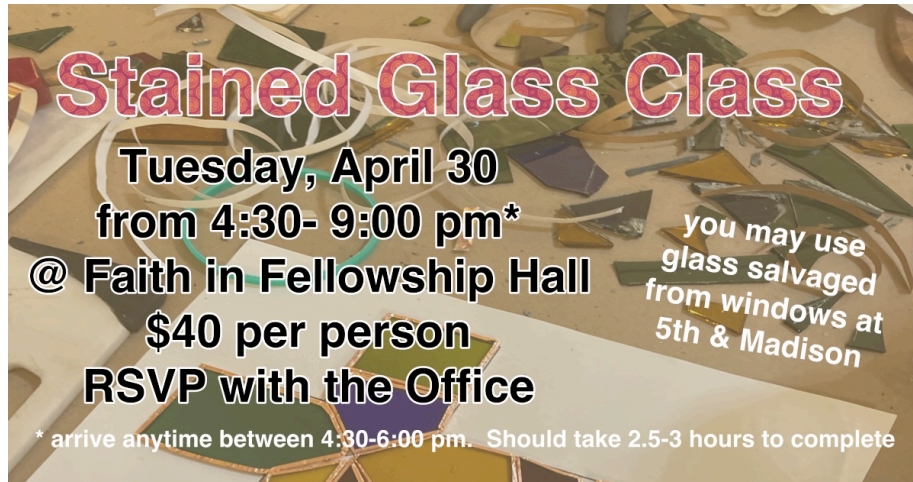
Ed Furtig (Mentor)



Celebrating our 10th Anniversary as a congregation with a carry-in meal, the Faith top 10 list, laughter and love! Thanks to all who helped make this day memorable.



## ANNOUNCEMENTS & VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES



**Stained Glass Class**  
 Tuesday, April 30  
 from 4:30- 9:00 pm\*  
 @ Faith in Fellowship Hall  
 \$40 per person  
 RSVP with the Office

*you may use glass salvaged from windows at 5th & Madison*

\* arrive anytime between 4:30-6:00 pm. Should take 2.5-3 hours to complete

# Volunteer

## May 14, 2024

### 6:00 - 7:30 pm

help make soup packets to support the Soup of Success program. 10 volunteers are needed. Sign-up in the Narthex.



## Service Project

following worship on

### April 21, 2024

help us make cards for Majestic Healthcare

## Thursdays @ Faith

### 4:30-5:30 pm

- \* \$5 a class
- \* in fellowship hall
- \* all ages & abilities
- \* a few sets of loaner equipment available

- weeding - dusting blinds - kitchen deep clean - trimming bushes - changing batteries - washing windows -

### Sunday, April 28

### 10:30 am to 11:30

## church work day



# Cardio DRUMMING



## Pints with Pastor

6:30 pm  
 @ GBCo.

315 W. Washington St.

First  
 Thursday  
 of the month





# STEPS for STEGS

*holding hope together*

AGAINST ALS



## 5K RUN / WALK SUNDAY 5/5/24

*2:00 pm @ Plymouth High School*

Please join in supporting Nathan and Haley Stegelmann in their fight against ALS. Around Thanksgiving Nathan was diagnosed with ALS, a disease that works quickly, causing those who have it to slowly lose muscle function.

On Sunday, May 5 at 2 pm at Plymouth High School a 5K walk/ run will be held to raise money for Nathan's needs as he loses muscle function. Scan the QR code to sign-up to walk or donate.



**The CHOSEN**  
SEASON TWO  
an 8 week study  
Tuesdays @ 5:30- 7:00 pm  
starting June 4, 2024

*season one available to watch at the church if you need to refresh before June 4*

**Now Enrolling**  
for the  
**2024-2025 School Year**

Jr Preschool 2.5-3 yr olds 2 days a week \$125 per month	Preschool 3-4yr olds 3 days a week \$180 per month	PreK 3 4-5r olds 3 days a week \$200 per month	PreK 5 4-5r olds 5 days a week \$275 per month
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to register go to [www.gspgoshen.com](http://www.gspgoshen.com) or contact our Director at 574-533-3773

**Walking Wednesdays**  
4:15 - 5:15 pm  
April 10th to May 22nd  
meet @ Church  
& walk Pringle Park

*contact Dena with questions*

*if raining will meet indoors and either walk or stream a workout in the narthex*

**Volunteers Needed!**

Faith is hosting a concert by the Goshen Community Chorale on Sat. April 27th

**WE NEED YOUR HELP:**  
\*set up risers after worship on Sun. 4/21  
\*reset for worship after concert on 4/27

\*sign up online or on clipboards at church

**2024 Annual Dessert Banquet**  
Tuesday, May 7 from 7-8:30 pm  
@ Nappanee Missionary Church

*Faith has a table for 8 people to attend this event. Sign up in the Narthex if you would like to attend and learn more about this valuable ministry in our community. This event is free, but there will be an opportunity to make a donation at the event.*

**coffee + conversations**  
@ Electric Brew Goshen  
thursdays 9:30- 11am  
May 2 to July 25, 2024

discussing Barbara Brown-Taylor's book 'Holy Envy'

## FAITH WAS ACTIVE DURING LENT!



On February 13 we had our Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, where we raised money for the Leadership students at Model Elementary.



Our confirmation students learning about the sacraments of Holy Baptism and Holy Communion at their last class.



Mackenzie & Scottie waving their palm branch on Palm Sunday.



On March 12 Faith hosted one of the synod's Chrism Liturgies. These were Bishop Bill's last Chrism liturgies as he is retiring this coming September.



On March 17 we celebrated our 10th Anniversary as a congregation. Prior to this celebration Lorelei interviewed members for a 10th Anniversary video. Check out the our website on the livestream page to see the video!



**CELEBRATIONS DURING EASTER**

(April 1 to May 19)

*\*if your special date was missed, please contact Dena in the office*

**BIRTHDAYS**

4/6 Polly Chevalier  
 4/7 Henry Newport  
 4/8 Colleen Gall Arnsdorf  
 4/9 Dave Hess  
 4/14 Sophia Miller  
 4/20 Bryce Kramp  
 4/23 Rick Clark  
 4/24 Mark Coleman  
 4/27 Ben Johnson  
 4/27 John Place  
 4/28 Charlie Collins  
 4/29 Andy Holloman

5/1 Sharon Welsh  
 5/3 Dale Troyer  
 5/3 Duane Troyer  
 5/8 Connie Taylor  
 5/10 Aaron Raffel  
 5/14 Ken Canen

**BAPTISMAL BIRTHDAYS**

4/10 Doris Cripe  
 4/11 Darcy Sommerfield  
 4/11 Bodie Stegelmann  
 4/18 Linda Blum  
 4/18 Cody Newport  
 4/22 Sheryl Schrameyer  
 4/23 Michelle Kercher  
 4/27 Janae Kline  
  
 5/15 Susan Doleys

**ANNIVERSARIES**

4/12 Richard & Linda Blum  
 4/13 Duane & Jeanne Troyer  
 4/20 Tom & Lauren Murto  
 4/25 Brad & Colleen Arnsdorf  
 4/29 Dick & Michele Murto  
  
 5/1 David & Courtney Williams  
 5/10 Tommy & Diane Vaughn

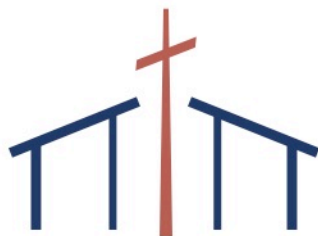


Stay Connected



@faithgoshen

Sign up for the Weekly Faithful (weekly news & updates) email [faith@faithgoshen.com](mailto:faith@faithgoshen.com)



Faith Lutheran

website: [faithgoshen.com](http://faithgoshen.com)  
 email: [faith@faithgoshen.com](mailto:faith@faithgoshen.com)  
 phone: 574-533-5760

Office Hours  
 Tues-Fri 9 am- 4 pm  
 closed Mondays

Ways to Give



text: 574-212-0404

mail: 202 Greene Rd  
 Goshen IN 46526

online: [faithgoshen.com/give](http://faithgoshen.com/give)

**REQUEST YOUR FAVORITE HYMNS FOR THE SUMMER!**



Over the summer months we plan to sing the congregations favorite hymns! Which means we need your help to know what to sing. Fill out this form below and return it to the church office by May 12th. Or email Dena ([dena@faithgoshen.com](mailto:dena@faithgoshen.com)) a list of your favorite hymns.

	Hymn Name	Hymn # (if you know it...)
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		

**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**EMAIL:** \_\_\_\_\_

We will let you know which week we are singing your favorite hymn, so you don't miss it!