

# THE FAITHFUL

## A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR JES:

This Lenten season our theme is Seeds of Joy, a series written by Barn Geese Worship. Through this season we will be taking a look at how God plants, nurtures, and nourishes seeds of joy in all seasons of life, even somber and introspective seasons like Lent. Joy is an emotional state of pleasure and delight. It seems simple and yet it is complex. Joy is more than just an emotion, it is also a conviction, practice, and promise. It mixes together other experiences like hope, sorrow, confusion, peace, and pain. It's complexities reflects the complexity of God's beauty and grace. As the authors of the series say, "Joy is a beacon that points us towards God's unfailing presence, even in the heart of fear and pain."

I have been reflecting on this understanding of joy as we are also in the midst of planning for the celebration of our 10th anniversary, on March 16. Taking time to reflect on the many transitions that Faith has undergone over the past ten years, of:

- combining two congregations into one with multiple locations
- being together yet worshipping separately for five years
- cherished staff retiring or leaving as we also welcomed new cherished staff aboard
- enduring through rocky financial moments
- making the tough decision to close and sell one of our buildings, moving into one
- holding onto the promise of the resurrection as we have grieved the deaths of many
- figuring out what it looked like to worship through a global pandemic
- exploring how God is using us in our neighborhood to share the Good News now and into the next ten years

As I remembered these times in our history, these hard moments I see how hope and joy has been present with us too. How God's unfailing presence has been with us amidst times of sorrow, confusion, peace, and pain. And how God's unfailing presence continues to be with us. Ten years ago, we planted a seed to be one congregation within this community to share Christ's love with all. Daily I see how God is nurturing and nourishing that seed to bring about God's mission in the world.

Together with you in Faith +  
Pastor Jes

**FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH CURRENT FINANCE OVERVIEW**

Period Ending 1/31/24	<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	\$32,674.46	Offerings	\$13,339.01		
INterra Savings (Funds)	\$64,082.57	Total Revenue	\$14,201.54	\$20,937.50	(\$6,735.96)
<b>Total Cash</b>	<b>\$96,757.03</b>	Expenses	\$20,346.24	\$20,937.50	(\$591.26)
			(\$6,144.70)		
<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	\$13,339.01		
Youth	\$8,794.11	YTD Total Revenue	\$14,201.54	\$20,937.50	(\$6,735.96)
Memorials	\$32,220.68	YTD Expenses	\$20,346.24	\$20,937.50	(\$591.26)
Sabbatical	\$1,825.04		(\$6,144.70)		
Women's	\$1,283.90				
Discretionary	\$2,537.35	<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	\$66.26	February		\$19,201.00	\$13,432.00
<b>Total Funds</b>	<b>\$64,082.57</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	\$16,343.50	July		\$20,556.00	\$14,060.00
Balance	\$366,711.30	August		\$12,083.87	\$20,247.00
<i>**This is November 2023 CFEC income/ balance. December 2023 &amp; January 2024 statements 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)

**2024 APPROVED BUDGET**

\$20,937 needed per month  
\$4,832 needed per week  
to meet the budget



**WORSHIP SERVICES DURING LENT &**



**Ash Wednesday**  
February 14, 2024

6:30 am Ashes to Go      6:30 pm Worship



**Maundy Thursday**  
Worship

March 28, 2024  
6:30 pm

\*service will also be livestreamed



**Good Friday**  
Prayer Walk

an experiential prayer walk of Jesus' last moments

March 29, 2024  
6:30- 8:00 pm

come walk this journey at your own pace



**Easter Sunday**  
at Faith

8 am Easter Breakfast  
9 am Easter Worship




**Holy Humor**  
Sunday

April 7, 2024

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



*sunday*  
March 17, 2024  
9 am worship  
10 am reception

**10** *years* anniversary  
CELEBRATION



**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*

**JANUARY COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS**

*from our January 18 Council Meeting*

- Pastor Jes led the Council in a time of devotions based on the document, "I am a Faith Council Member, now what?"
- We voted on Council Executive positions and appointed council members to be liaisons to our committees. Those results are listed to the left of this page.
- We reviewed the financial reports. It was highlighted that December's giving was more than our expenses. We ended 2023 with a \$21,993 deficit.
- Council and committee leaders were invited to attend the E-Connect Action Plan training on January 21, 2024.
- Pastor Jes baptized Piper Younghans on December 30, 2023. She also shared her vacation dates for 2024.
- A motion was made to have the Property Committee explore the cost of remodeling the men's and women's restrooms closest to the sanctuary into four ADA bathrooms and to use the Ulmer Estate fund as the initial funds. The motion passed.
- Council will continue to meet on the third Thursday of the month.

Submitted by Janae Kline, Secretary

A few reminders about Council:

- \* Council meetings are open to all members to attend. If you attend you have voice not vote.
- \*\* Council members will not handle anonymous complaints. If you have something you'd like discussed please speak with a Council member or Pastor Jes. If sending a note, please include your name.
- \*\*\* full minutes and supporting documents from all Council meetings can be found in the Quilt Room.



Council Installation on  
 January 21, 2024



## E-CONNECT UPDATE

As part of the E-Connect process we are asked to work on certain projects and tasks over a six month period. We were learned of our current assignment at our last training, the end of last October. We have been tasked to develop 1-2 action steps within certain areas of ministry within our church, utilizing the method of SMART(IE) goals to develop these action steps.

On January 21, we held a training for Council members and leaders from our committees to equip these leaders to develop action steps and SMART(IE) goals with their committees. Each committee will have an E-Connect member as their guide to help develop these action steps and SMART(IE) goals. The areas of ministry that we are developing action steps within are: Sharing our Faith/ Outreach, Leadership Development, Stewardship, Faith Formation, Worship, Hospitality, and Communication/ Website/Social Media.

An action step is a plan to make our mission statement come alive. Creating a plan, event, project, or activity to allow us live out our mission in our community. Our new mission statement is "Sharing Christ's love with all through word and action." In order to make these action steps become realities we are utilizing SMART(IE) goals as a why to keep ourselves accountable. SMART(IE) is an acronym which stands for: S- Specific, M- Measurable, A- Achievable, R- Relevant, T- Timely, and (IE)- Inclusive & Equitable.

While the training was for the leaders within our congregation, all members are encouraged and invited to join in this process. If there is an area of ministry that you are interested in helping with, please contact the church office and they will put you in contact with the E-Connect guide and Committee Chair for that area. All insights, creative thinking, and energy to share Christ's love with all are welcomed.

~ E-Connect Team

## E-CONNECT TEAM

Deal Deal

Karen Gruntman

Pastor Jes King

Janae Kline

Chris Shively

Karen Steffensen

Carla Yoder

Barry Youngmans

Ed Furtig (Mentor)



Janae & Karen G working on the E-Connect bulletin board, found down the hallway by the church offices.



The E-Connect team working on developing our training session for the leaders.



### ANNOUNCEMENTS & VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES



coffee + conversations  
 @ Electric Brew Goshen  
 thursdays 9:30- 11am  
 Join Pastor Jes for a cup of coffee  
 & conversations of faith\*  
 \*throughout Lent the focus will be on our Lenten theme of "Seed of Joy"



**Shrove Tuesday  
 Pancake Supper**  
**Feb. 13, 2024**  
**4:30 pm to 7:00 pm**



**Pints with Pastor**  
 6:30 pm  
 @ GBCo.  
 315 W. Washington St.  
 First  
 Thursday  
 of the month



**My Final  
 Wishes**  
 Wednesday, March 6  
 4:30 - 6:30 pm  
 Pre-planning your funeral service  
 and final wishes is a huge blessing  
 you can give to your family  
 in their time of grief.  
 Stop by anytime between 4:30-  
 6:30 pm on March 6 and Pastor Jes  
 will provide you with information  
 and resources about pre-planning  
 your final wishes.



**Cardio  
 DRUMMING** at Faith Lutheran  
 Thursdays  
 @4:30 pm  
 202 S. Greene Rd, Goshen  
 \* \$5 a class  
 \* truly for ALL abilities & ages  
 \* 10 sets of loaner  
 equipment available




**Help Support  
 Good Shepherd Preschool**  
 fundraiser begins 2/20!  
 order online or  
 use order forms  
 in church narthex  
**Order by  
 3/5**  
 \*pick up orders Thurs. 3/21  
 or Sunday 3/24



**diy  
 Easter Hat  
 event**  
**Saturday, March 23**  
**9:00 am to ???**  
 join us as we bring back a  
 European tradition marking  
 the beginning of Spring by making  
 our own Easter Hats. Whatever design  
 you choose, classic or whimsical, we  
 will have supplies available. More  
 details to come!!!  
 \*\* wear your hat on Holy Hilarity Sunday, April 7, 2024

Order Easter Flowers by  
 scanning the code  
 below or filling out a  
 paper form in the  
 narthex! Orders due by  
 March 17.



Flower Costs:  
 Tulips \$12  
 Hyacinths \$12  
 Lilies \$15



**SUPPORT GOOD SHEPHERD**

# Spaghetti Supper

& Basket Auction Fundraiser

Sun. **March 3rd**

4:30 pm to 7:00 pm

Good Shepherd Preschool  
202 S Greene Rd. Goshen

suggested donation: \$10 for adults



- come enjoy a delicious meal
- share our social media posts about the event
- shop & bid on the baskets, great gift ideas
- donate a basket or supplies for a basket
- volunteer with the cooking & clean-up

**INVITE YOUR  
FRIENDS, FAMILY,  
COWORKERS AND  
NEIGHBORS!**



## REGISTRATION OPEN NOW!

Registration for our Spring Women's Retreat is now open for all Faith women and friends. We will gather on Friday, April 19 in the evening at the Kempiski Center at Lutherwald in Howe. The retreat will end on Saturday, April 20 early afternoon.

There is a \$15 registration fee, plus your room fee (ranging from \$40-\$60 depending on a shared room or single room). Registration ends on March 24, 2024.

Contact Pastor Jes with questions.



Scan the QR code to be taken to the registration page OR you can find the registration page on our website under the Announcement tab.



## HAPPENINGS DURING ADVENT CHRISTMAS SEASON



On December 10th we “went” Christmas Caroling during worship, as we sang old carols and learned their history.



Pastor Jes & Josh in the festive spirit on Christmas Eve.



During our first service on Christmas Eve, we had an impromptu Christmas pageant with children and adults participating.



Paint with Pastor event on January 27, where artists painted a mittens hanging on an evergreen branch.



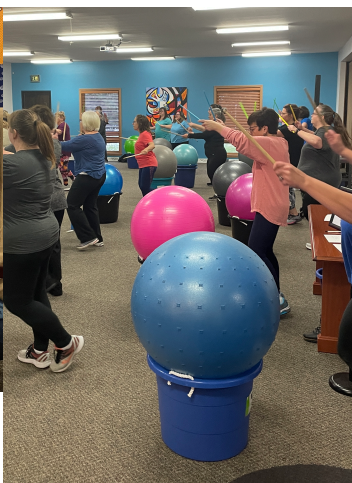
The Newport kids helping with communion.



The winners of our Soup & Dessert Cook-off on January 28. We raised \$800 for Soup of Success.



Some of our confirmation students as they learned about the Lord’s Prayer.



Cardio Drumming started at Faith in January.



February 3 we hosted a Cookies & Faith event for preschooler and their families, where they frosted cookies and posed for pictures.



**CELEBRATIONS IN LENT & HOLY WEEK**

(February 14 to March 31)

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

**BIRTHDAYS**

2/14 Rosie Miller  
 2/19 Chris Shively  
 2/25 Lily Smith  
 2/27 Susi Miller  
 2/28 Josh Kline  
  
 3/10 Brad Arnsdorf  
 3/16 Jillian Shively  
 3/20 Ron Kehr- turning 102!!!  
 3/20 Tommy Vaughn  
 3/25 Frank Piaskowy  
 3/26 Pam VanderWey  
 3/28 LaVonne Unrue  
 3/30 Julie Stegelmann  
 3/31 Linda Blum

**BAPTISMAL BIRTHDAYS**

2/14 Emily Osborne  
 2/15 Serena Kramp  
 2/19 Megan Williams  
 2/20 Lilly Younghans  
 2/22 Connor Deal  
  
 3/3 Lauren Murto  
 3/5 Carson Deal  
 3/9 Jennifer Unrue  
 3/20 Mark Coleman  
 3/20 Sue Kirkpatrick  
 3/25 Pamela Housman  
 3/29 Kathy Johnson  
 3/31 Kevin Peters

**ANNIVERSARIES**

2/18 Judy & Norris Stump  
 2/19 Arlene & Tom  
           Dettbrenner  
  
 3/14 Pam & Ryan VanderWey  
 3/19 Kevin Peters & Richard  
           Helton  
 3/21 Brian & Sally Holloman  
 3/23 Mike & Jennifer Anglin

Enrollment for the 2024-2025 school year at Good Shepherd Preschool opens in March. Classes are available for child between the ages of 2.5-5 years old. Check out our website at [gspgoshen.com](http://gspgoshen.com)



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)

## EXPLORING FAITH: SCAVENGER HUNT

*join us in a little game exploring all Faith offers*

Turn your sheet into the office by Palm Sunday, March 24 to receive a prize.

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_

#1. On the Faith website ([faithgoshen.com](http://faithgoshen.com)) there are 3 tabs specifically for members to have easy access to information. What are titles of these tabs?

#2. In the Narthex, we have a blue wall that is our source for sharing news about what is happening at Faith. Besides the bulletin board containing flyers of announcements, what also hangs on that wall?

#3. On what day of the week do we regularly (but not always) send out our weekly email with announcements and updates? And do you receive these emails?

#4. In the Fellowship Hall there are six wall hangings (not including clocks, thermostats, and mailboxes), what are they?

#5. We have a history cabinet where you can see items from our former identities, one side has items from First English and the other side from Trinity. As you look at the cabinets whose history is on the left? Whose history is on the right?

#6. We like to keep you informed in a variety of ways of what is happening at Faith. Besides bulletin boards, the weekly bulletin, pre-worship slides, the newsletter, our website and emails, where else do we share information with your? (hint it is somewhere where you sit.)

#7. What are the two social media platforms we are on? What is our username/handle?