



Pastor's PONDERINGS

A FEATURE OF **FAITH HAPPENINGS E-NEWS** | FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH, GRAND BLANC, MI

JUNE 12, 2025 EDITION

The Holy Trinity—Anything BUT Boring

I find the human body to be fascinating, but as soon as some physician begins to try to explain to me how the body functions (using all those big words I don't understand) I instantly get bored. I am fascinated by those who think God is boring, or the times I get bored at lectures about God. God is not the problem—we are. He is TOO BIG for our understanding.

This Sunday we consider the Triune nature of God—how he is three persons and yet ONE God. I pray you will not find this to be a boring topic. We will not try to understand Him, we will simply seek to understand how we might best see the wonders of such a great God. Let us marvel at the one who paints the beautiful sunset and loves me so much He chose to die for me. May we fall to our knees to think that this great God—invites us to call Him, Father.

Eyes on Jesus,

Pastor Heimsoth



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Use this list as a daily reminder for your prayer time. If you would like a prayer noted in upcoming weeks, please contact the church office at 810-694-9351 or churchoffice@faithgb.org. Requests may be made for you, a family member, or a friend. Those noted on our urgent prayer list will remain for a period of two weeks, and those noted on our ongoing prayer list will remain for a period of two months; after that, they or a family member may call to remain listed for an additional period of time.

THOSE IN NEED OF URGENT PRAYER

Anne Frank

THOSE FAITH MEMBERS ON ACTIVE MILITARY DUTY

Ella McEnrue

Other active Military  Rochelle Gober,  Zachariah Gober,  Michael Reinke,  Michael Wayne

THOSE IN NEED OF ONGOING PRAYER

Jean Bambach
Linda Buggia
Hope Helton

Dennis Carlson
Myrna Kasemeyer
Gennadij Khonin

Judy McLaughlin
Laura Morgan
Barb Rietsch

Kristen Shiveley
Ron Shiveley
Jacob Wind

FAMILIES OF OUR CONGREGATION

During the year, we remember in prayer each of the homes of our congregation. Please hold these specific children of God in your prayers this week.

Derek and Gretchen Sommer
Ken and Christa Duetsch
Trey Duetsch
Kara Duetsch
Kailey Duetsch

David and Joanne Panzlau
Greg Baehr
Scott and Lisa Burau
Adam Burau
Ellie Burau

Lucy Burau
Beryl and Sandra Sedrick
Margot Riegel
Jonathon and Holly Hovis
Catherine Hovis

THIS SUNDAY'S ALTAR FLOWERS...

are in celebration of their 35th wedding anniversary by Paula and Jerry Martz

Pray without ceasing.
1 THESSALONIANS 5:17

Stewardship

GIVING AT FAITH

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STEWARDSHIP VERSE OF THE WEEK: *Psalm 8:6-8a “You have given him (man) dominion over the works of your hands; you have put all things under his feet, all sheep and oxen, and also the beasts of the field, the birds of the heavens, and the fish of the sea.”*

2025-2026 GENERAL FUND TITHES & OFFERINGS SUMMARY

Last Week's Offerings (General Fund)	\$20,215.00
Weekly Amount Needed for 2025/26 Budget (2/1/25-1/31/26)	\$17,308.00
Month to Date Offerings (General Fund)	\$33,255.00
Monthly Budget	\$75,000.00
Year to Date Offerings (General Fund)	\$318,916.00
Year to Date Target (General Fund)	\$328,846.00
Annual Budget	\$900,000.00
Endowment Fund as of 5/31/25	\$208,593.89



STEWARDSHIP NEWS

Appreciated Securities Donations: If you are donating appreciated securities (mutual funds, stocks, etc.), please call the office at 810-694-9351 and ask for Alicen Dub. She will give you instructions on making the transfer.

QCD Donations: If you have donated a Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCD) from your IRA or the like to Faith Lutheran Church and have not received a letter of confirmation, or if you still plan to donate with a QCD, please call Alicen Dub at 810-694-9351.

Save on Taxes While Giving to Faith! If you are at least 70 ½ years old, you can give directly from your IRA through a Qualified Charitable Distribution to the church, without needing to pay taxes on the distribution. This transfer will also count toward your annual RMD. If you are interested in learning more or have questions, please call Ken Duetsch at 810-287-7002.

Another tax-savvy way of giving is to donate appreciated stock or mutual funds. This can be done by families or individuals of any age. If you are interested in learning more or have questions, please call Ken Duetsch at 810-287-7002.

Easy Estate Planning. A very easy and inexpensive way for individuals to include the church in their estate planning is to simply add Faith Lutheran Church as a Beneficiary of their IRA. If left to individuals, this money would be taxable, but the church would receive this gift tax-free. If you are interested in learning more or have questions, please call Ken Duetsch at 810-287-7002.

ONLINE GIVING OPTIONS

Via text: Text “FaithGrandBlanc” to 732-56.

Online: Set up automatic withdrawals by signing in to your member account [here](#).



Covering the Next Generation

Psalm 48:12-14

Walk about Zion, ... consider well her ramparts, that you may tell the next generation that this is God, our God forever and ever.

JUNE 12, 2025 EDITION

COMMITMENTS

Total amount pledged to date	\$1,002,297.50
Percentage of goal	73%

FUNDS RECEIVED

Total funds received to date	\$919,505.00
Percentage of commitments	92%
Percentage of goal	67%

WHAT IT IS:

Covering the Next Generation is a 3 year capital campaign (October 2022 kickoff) with the goal of renewing and improving our building and facilities to provide the next generation with a place to unite with Jesus . . . for eternity.

Funds will be used for constructing a pavilion, replacing carpet in the church (*Narthex and hallways completed April 2023*), replacing the roof over everything but the preschool (*shingled roof over the sanctuary and Heins Hall replaced September 2023*), asphalt replacement for the main parking lot (*completed August 2024*), replacing the sanctuary lighting dimmer system, and paying off our existing mortgage (*completed January 2024*). Total project cost is estimated at approximately \$1,377,200.

Faith's mission statement says we're seeking to unite everyone with Jesus for eternity. Most of our activity toward this end takes place on the church grounds.

To have facilities to "cover the next generation," we'll need well-carpeted floors, a well-covered parking lot, a well-covered roof, and a well-lit sanctuary. By renewing these aging areas, we're providing an enduring place where the Gospel will be proclaimed, the Sacraments will be received and relationships will grow.

We'll also ensure future growth by bringing and welcoming newcomers into Jesus' love. A great place to do that will be in a new well-covered picnic pavilion on the back lawn. Working with many community connections, we'll be known as the place that welcomes everyone into our sheltering care for bodies and souls.

Our investment now will be "Covering the Next Generation" with a place to unite with Jesus...for eternity.

Psalm 48:12-14, "Walk about Zion, ... consider well her ramparts, that you may tell the next generation that this is God, our God forever and ever."

Visit www.faithgb.org/covering-the-next-generation, text "generation" to 810-207-3060, or grab a brochure from the displays near the church entrances for more information. Commitment cards for *Covering the Next Generation* can be found near the tracking puzzle on the baptismal font and are included in brochures in campaign displays. The campaign is still actively seeking contributions, and we encourage those who may not have made a commitment to prayerfully consider making one.



Home

FAITH OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE HOME

We will have several FREE beautiful artificial TREES for the taking after VBS. Please stop by and pick one out or call the church office for more information. They will be available Friday, June 27, after 11:00 a.m.

"THANK YOU TO OUR PASTOR'S WIVES!! At the 2023 Synodical Convention, Resolution 6-09 was unanimously adopted: "To Recognize and Honor the Pastor's Wife" to mark the 500th Wedding Anniversary of Martin and Katie Luther married June 13, 1525. Katie established the role model of the pastor's wife. We will recognize Karen Scott, Nancy Heimsoth, and Nancy Cottam, at the beginning of the 8:15 and 10:45 services THIS SUNDAY, June 15, 2025 and thank them for continuing to follow Katie's example of love, support and encouragement. We also want to acknowledge their wedding anniversaries:

Pastor Jeffrey & Nancy Heimsoth June 21, 1980

Pastor Robert & Karen Scott August 6, 1977

Pastor Joe & Nancy Cottam August 9, 1969

May God continue to bless them in their ministries and marriages.

Preschool Summer Camp - Faith Lutheran Preschool will be holding a summer camp for 4 and 5 year olds, July 21-25 from 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. The cost is \$90 for the week. The camp theme this year is Stellar, Shine Jesus' Light! At camp the kids will sing songs, do arts and crafts and play outside with water toys. If you are interested in signing up your 4 or 5 year old please contact Cindy LaFontaine at clafontaine@faithgb.org or call the church office at 810-694-9351.

Book Donations - Please donate any slightly used books to Faith Lutheran Church through September 14th, 2025. We will be selling them in Fall 2025 at a nominal price to help fund Advent By Candlelight (ABC) - Women's Ministry. When you bring your books in please place them in the earmarked DROP BOX located in the coat room off the Narthex. If you have any questions or would like to help, contact Donna Nitschke at 248 884-7130 or Connie Green at 586-917-5983.

Church

FAITH OPPORTUNITIES INVOLVING THE CHURCH

WELCOME, KELLY! Please join us in welcoming Kelly Cradit to our office staff! Kelly and her family have been members here since 2014. She will be working a couple days per week in the office doing various tasks. We are so excited to have Kelly with us.

LCMS SET APART TO SERVE YOUTH SURVEY: The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod is asking the youth of our Synod to help us improve Set Apart to Serve, the LCMS church worker formation initiative. The survey is open to seventh-graders through recent high school graduates. All responses are anonymous and confidential. It only takes about 5-10 minutes to complete and the questions are very simple multiple choice. Please click on one of the following links, [online survey](#) or lcms.org/set-apart-to-serve-youth-survey to participate. Your input would be greatly appreciated as we continue to form “Laborers for the Harvest.” ***Please note that Concordia Ann Arbor is listed as a possible choice on the survey for church work programs and that is incorrect. They no longer offer church work programs. Any of the other universities are fine choices.***

Dear Faith family,

Thank you so much for your kindness and generosity in celebrating my 40 years of ministry. It is a great gift to be able to serve Jesus every day in my work. I love talking about what He has done for me and how much He loves all of us. I pray that I allow His light to shine through me for the rest of my life.

Love in Jesus,

Cindy LaFontaine

Vacation Bible School - Supplies, Decorating, Food, Clean-up and more!

Please check the list below to see if there is something you could provide or do.

SUPPLIES: Medium and large boxes

DECORATING: Tuesday, June 17th 5-8 p.m., Thursday, June 19th 10 a.m. -12 p.m., Sunday June 22nd 12-2:30 p.m.

CLEAN-UP/RESTORATION: Friday, June 27 11:00 a.m.

*Please contact Andrea Mertz at 810-280-4123 or the church office for supply or decorating questions. **Please also RSVP** to Andrea, or the church office, if you would like to take part in the PIZZA lunch on Friday during clean-up/restoration time. That way we will know how much pizza to order.

SNACK DONATIONS FOR VBS STAFF: Please consider providing snacks for the more than 80 VBS volunteers who teach the love of Jesus during the week of June 23-27. The list of items needed and sign-up sheets are at the south Welcome Center. Mark food items "VBS Hospitality" and place in Heins Hall kitchen through Sunday, June 22. Perishables should be placed in the Heins Hall kitchen refrigerator. Please contact Chris Gibis at 810-275-5539 or email at cgibis@sbcglobal.net. Monetary donations are also welcomed and checks can be made payable to Faith Lutheran Church. Thank you for being a blessing to this ministry!

VBS Volunteer orientation opportunities are Wednesday, June 18th from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. and Sunday, June 22nd, from about noon to about 1 p.m. Pick one! All volunteers 18 years and older, please order a background check as soon as you can at www.faithgb.org/forms/.

Church Extension Fund (CEF) is a unique ministry where LCMS members can invest their funds and earn interest. In turn, these funds provide a source of low-cost loans for new church sites and upgrading current facilities. Visit with Faith's Congregation Representative, Greg Baehr, view CEF's [FAQ page](#) or website www.mi-cef.org, or call 800-242-3944 and learn how your invested dollars make a difference! CEF's interest rates for June can be found [HERE](#).

Youth Calendar: A 2025 Calendar of youth events can be found [HERE](#). Printed copies are available at the Youth Bulletin board and Welcome Centers.

World **SERVICE, OUTREACH, AND OPPORTUNITIES BEYOND OUR DOORS**

DISTRICT CONVENTION INGATHERING TO BENEFIT LOVE YPSI DIAPER PANTRY: The Love Ypsilanti Diaper Pantry is a joint ministry between Cross and Resurrection and Faith Lutheran Churches in Ypsilanti. They provide approximately a week's supply of diapers or pull-ups, wipes, and diaper cream to families in need on the second Saturday of every month. The Michigan District Convention is hosting an ingathering of the following supplies to support this ministry:

- Diapers and Pull-Ups
- Diaper Cream
- Pacifiers, Teethers and Teething Toys
- Baby lotion, body wash and shampoo
- Onesies, swaddlers, any handmade baby blankets or quilts

There will be a bin available in Heins Hall to collect items through the morning of Sunday, June 22. These will be delivered to the Ingathering at the Convention by Carol Koke and Pastor Scott. If you have any questions, you may contact one of them.

Sunday's Cool for youth of all ages happens through August 17th, 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.! Youth are invited to hangout in the youth lounge. We have fun recreational equipment and games! Each Sunday will include a brief time for some Bible memory. Sign up for each Sunday, but youth are always welcome to just show up to these hangouts! Sign up [HERE](#).

High Ropes Challenge for youth in 6th grade and older! Youth will build strong Christian relationships together on Tuesday, June 17th from noon to 4 p.m. at Base Camp in Flint. The final deadline is Sunday, June 15th for [Sign up. Click here for more information.](#)

Vacation Bible School is June 23rd-27th! - Registration for children and volunteers is available at www.faithgb.org/vbs! Sign up today! This year's theme is True North. Each day's Bible lesson is about Jesus and His ministry including his baptism, death, and resurrection. Children 4 years old through children entering 6th grade are welcome to register as participants. Youth 6th grade and older

are welcome to participate as a volunteer. We also need adults to help! Volunteer needs include: decorating the week before, serving as a crew guide, leading and assisting with the stations (such as Wild Bible Adventures and Glacier Games), and more. If you have questions, you may contact Mr. Joel Zander at jzander@faithgb.org.

Calendar

EVENTS THIS WEEK

Office Hours: 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Monday-Friday.

SUNDAY - June 15

8:15 a.m. - Worship/Communion

9:30 a.m. - Coffee, Chat, Laugh, Pray...with Faith Elders (Heins Hall)

- Bible Study: Selection from weekly Scripture readings: Sanctuary
- Sunday's Cool for youth of all ages (Youth Room)

10:45 a.m. - Worship/Communion - [Click here for the live stream.](#)

MONDAY - June 16

TUESDAY - June 17

8:00 a.m. - Men's Morning Bible Study (Heins Hall)

12:00 p.m. - Youth Base Camp

5:00 p.m. - VBS Decorating

WEDNESDAY - June 18

6:00 p.m. - VBS Orientation Meeting (Heins Hall)

7:00 p.m. - Worship/Communion - [Click here for the live stream.](#)

THURSDAY - June 19

FRIDAY - June 20

10:00 a.m. - VBS Decorating

SATURDAY - June 21

SUNDAY - June 22

8:15 a.m. - Worship/Communion

9:30 a.m. - Coffee, Chat, Laugh, Pray...with Faith Elders (Heins Hall)

- Bible Study: Selection from weekly Scripture readings: Sanctuary
- Sunday's Cool for youth of all ages (Youth Room)

10:45 a.m. - Worship/Communion - [Click here for the live stream.](#)

12:00 p.m. - VBS Orientation Meeting (Heins Hall)

Readings: Proverbs 8:8:1-4 & 22-31, Psalm 8, Acts 2:14a & 22-36, John 8:48-59

Upcoming Dates TO REMEMBER

June 17 - Youth Ropes challenge
June 18 & 22 - VBS Orientation
June 23 - 27 - Vacation Bible School

Sunday Morning LINKS

ONLINE COPIES OF OUR **WORSHIP BULLETINS** AND OTHER HELPFUL LINKS.

Our Sunday morning 10:45 a.m. service can be viewed [HERE](#).

NOTE: To keep in compliance with copyright laws, our services can legally be live-streamed, but we are not able to keep recordings of several parts of our services. Our Sunday service is streamed at 10:45 a.m. and Wednesday nights at 7:00 p.m. After this, the full service will not be available; however, the pastor's sermons will be archived on our [YouTube channel](#) after the service.

The complete order of service for Sunday, June 15, can be found [HERE](#).

We also have Sunday morning children's bulletins for the children in our Faith family. You can print them from the following links:

- 3-6 year old [HERE](#)
- 7-12 year old [HERE](#)

Other ministry LINKS

VOLUNTEER SIGNUPS AND OTHER HELPFUL LINKS TO KNOW.

ALL FAITH LINKS:

- Event Signups
- Volunteer Signups
- Social Media

CAN NOW BE FOUND AT faithgb.org/links.