

Faith Lutheran Church



Newsletter



Greetings from your Pastor

*"I think it was Saint John Chrysostom - said, 'when you take communion, you receive fire.'
You ought to leave breathing joy, with the strength to transform the world."
- Oscar Romero May 28, 1978*

What would it mean to transform the world? Maybe it would mean global changes like resolving conflicts and creating peace, or ending hunger and poverty. Could it even be that transforming the world includes changing the way we interact with one another, or leaving a positive impact in culture, systems, and structures. And still, this all seems like an impossible monumental task to transform the whole world.

Bishop Romero spent the end of his ministry proclaiming a liberating God that showed up in the valleys of life. He held special hope for people experiencing injustice, oppression, and persecution. I dare say that his hope for a transformed world was because of living life on the margins and truly understanding the plight of God's people. Still, Romero did more than hope for transformation, he believed that holy communion would give people the strength to go out and do it!

I wonder if we hold back from using all the transformative powers within us because we lack hope and courage. If we think that there is no hope to change the world, it makes sense that we wouldn't try.
And

yet, aren't all things possible where God leads us? Won't God make a space of resounding hope and promise in the darkest of valleys? When we come to worship we are reminded of this very hope through God's word and the acclamations of song. Maybe it is that we often lack the courage to go out with that hope of transforming the world? With a world so enmeshed in violence and the presence of evil all around, it requires courage to transform. It takes our courage to risk failure, shame, hurt, doubt, and rejection. And yet are these not the exact things that Christ conquered in his own death and resurrection? Did Christ not experience hurt, shame and rejection, and show us God understands? So then we as disciples can go out with hope and courage to transform the world.

Each and every one of you has the power to transform the world. It may be a monumental idea, task, or calling you face. But also, maybe it all starts with one moment. When we gather on Sundays for communion, we are given the opportunity to leave whatever burdens we carry behind, and be filled instead with the fire of the Spirit. The world needs people who love abundantly, care deeply, advocate powerfully, and offer mercy endlessly. We are those people. Having been fed by the body and blood of Christ. Let us go out and transform the world.

Pr. Niki

JANUARY 16, 2024 COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

MEETING TO BE HELD VIA ZOOM

Present: Marcus, Pr. Niki, Dan, Jordan, Donna, Bill, Jeanne, Karen, Brian (7:15ish), Kathy, Jodi

Absent:

7:00pm: Welcome and Opening prayer

- Welcome: <President>
- Opening prayer: <Pr. Niki>
 - Council Meetings: Opening/Closing Prayer Sign-Up

7:10pm: Approve Consent Agenda and prior meeting minutes

- Prior meeting minutes
 - Council Meeting Dec 19th, 2023 Minutes - DRAFT
- Financial Secretary's Report
 - December report.xlsx
- Treasurer's Report
 - FLC Dec 2023 Financials.pdf
 - Internal conversation
 - When do we pay the equity
 - Portico contributions are paid
 - These should be reflected that they are spent
- Pastor's Report
 - Pastor's Report - December 19, 2023 - January 7, 2024
- Worship and Music Report
 - Worship and Music Agenda - Report
- WELCA
 - WELCAJan2024.docx
- Garden Committee

7:14pm: Approve Business Agenda

7:20pm: Annual Meeting

7:45pm: Recap of action items

8:00pm Important Upcoming Dates:

- January
 - 1/21 - Annual meeting

- Plan installation of new council members

- February

- 2/14 - Ash Wednesday
- Calumet Winter Fling planning
 - Pr. Niki to add to their agenda at end of the month
- Planning of council retreat
- Elect council exec team & update state documentation
- Easter flower signups
- VBS Planning

- March

- 3/8-10 - Calumet Winter Fling

Special thanks to Jodi, Karen and Brian!

8:05pm Closing Prayer: <Jeanne>

Suggested future council topics:

Suggested future council retreat topics:

2024 COUNCIL MEMBERS

Donna Flynn	President
Kathy Quirk	Vice President
Jordan Krey	Secretary
Bill Mayo	Treasurer
Marcus Hansen, Cathy Heath, Sarah Kelleher, David Krey, Dan Leone, Jeanne Minasian & Coreen Nash	

SPECIAL MEETING CHURCH COUNCIL - JAN 25, 2024

MEETING HELD VIA ZOOM

Present: Jordan Krey, David Krey, Pr. Niki, Bill Mayo, Donna Flynn, Sarah Kelleher, Dan Leone, Jeanne Minasian, Marcus Hansen

Special Guest: Donna Mayo

Absent: Cathy Heath, Kathy Quirk, Coreen Nash,

5:00pm: Welcome

- Welcome: Donna Flynn

5:05pm: Special business

Motion

A motion to authorize the Property committee to submit and present on behalf of the congregation an application for funding from the Quincy Community Preservation Act for our steeple and roof repairs. Dan Leone will be the author and representative of the application.

[FLC Community Preservation Request.pdf](#)

Moved: Dan Leone

Approved via voice vote.

5:40pm: Adjourn

Don't forget, **Daylight Savings Time Begins**
Sunday, **March 10th!**



Palm Sunday, March 24th

Maundy Thursday, March 28th

7pm Worship Service

Good Friday, March 29th

7pm Worship Service

Easter Sunday, March 31st

8:30am Easter Breakfast

Easter Egg Hunt

10am Worship Service

Sunday School and Lutheran World Relief

The Sunday School will be collecting items this Spring to assemble Personal Care Kits for those in need.

What is a Personal Care Kit? It is a collection of basic necessities sent to people in regions where those necessities are hard to come by.

In 2023 Lutherans assembled over 123,900 Kits and sent them to people in Angola, Ukraine, the Dominican Republic, Tanzania, and Turkiye.



Each week we are collecting items for these kits and will assemble them in May.

You can help us by bringing in:

- Mar 3 — sturdy combs
- Mar 17 — lightweight bath towels
- April 7 — bath-size bars of soap
- April 21— lightweight bath towels

Children's Easter Egg Hunt

If you would like to make any donations of candy or small toys/stickers to help fill the eggs for this, please bring donations to the church on **Sunday, March 10**. The youth will be filling the eggs before church on the 17th.

Youth Group - F.L.Y.

This year the youth group has been revitalized and has changed to better reflect our current youth and their faith lives. Youth group is now open to anybody in grades 6 - 12, and friends are always welcome to join. Together they decided to call their group "F.L.Y." which stands for Faith Lutheran Youth. Congratulations to David Krey who was elected by F.L.Y. as the president! Join us for the next event which is **bowling at O'Lindy's Sunday March 3rd 3:00pm**

Garden Committee



Faith Garden Committee is up and ready to start a new year of care and maintenance for our property. We have met to discuss our budget and how best to address the needs of our garden chapel and the landscape as a whole.

We are planning for two **SPRING** cleanup days. PLEASE consider coming to help on either or both days. Sunday April 21st right after the service and Saturday April 27 starting at 9:30 am. Both of these workdays will be supervised by the committee to ensure that your time and energy is helpful and productive. Bring your gloves and a water bottle – we do have rakes but feel free to bring yours! More information to follow.



Pre-Identification Form now available

The pre-identification form is now available for those individuals interested in offering the name of a rostered minister of Word and Sacrament (a pastor) in the ELCA for consideration for call to be elected Bishop of the New England Synod. Any pastor in good

standing on the ELCA roster in the United States is eligible to be named.

The form will be available from February 1-29, 2024, and will be closed permanently after that point. Individuals whose names are submitted will be contacted to determine if they'd like to discern a call to bishop, and if so, will provide biographical information that will be made available on the synod website in April.

At the start of Synod Assembly on June 6, 2024, the names of these pre-identified persons will be included on the first ballot for the bishop election, along with the opportunity for an alternative candidate's name to be written in. The remainder of the election process will follow the guidelines outlined in our synod constitution, which may be found on the synod website [here](#). Information and communications regarding the bishop election process may also be found on the synod website [here](#). Questions may be addressed to the Bishop Election Team via email to bishopelection@nesynod.org.

Stewardship

Special Offerings

We will be collecting the following special offerings in **March**;

3rd - Church Utilities

6th, 13th, 20th, - Lent

28th - Maundy Thursday

29th - Good Friday

31st Easter



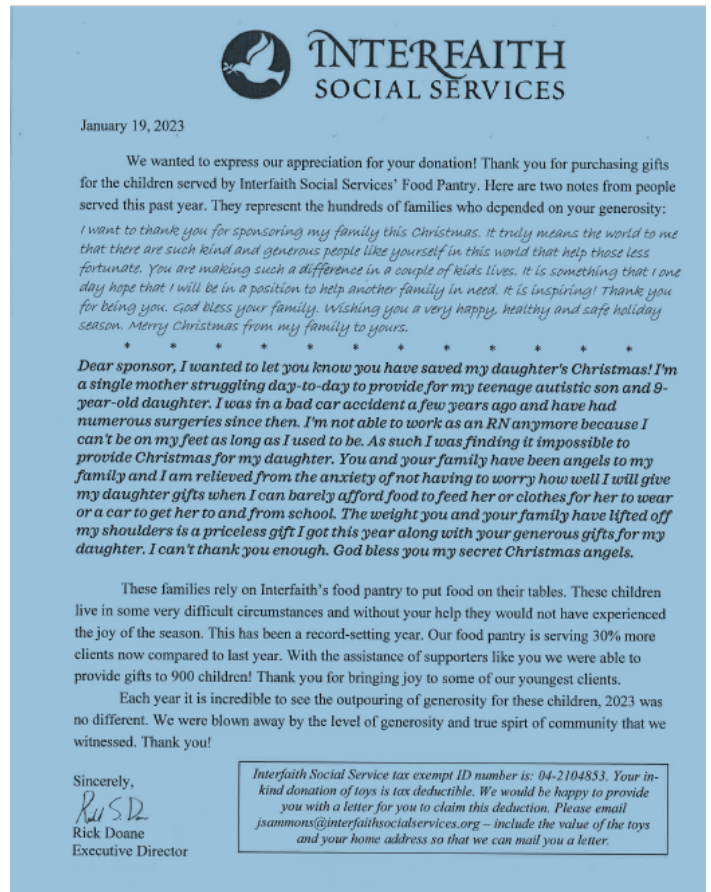
WELCA

Sunday, March 3, 2024 is Bold Women Sunday! To celebrate the Bold Women of Faith Lutheran, we will be assembling a photo board that will be on display the month of March,



Ginger Betty's Packing Event April 9 at 7pm

WELCA Will be hosting a G.I. Ginger Betty's packing event on April 9 at 7pm. We need donations to cover the postage costs of sending sweet treats to active service members. The estimated cost per box is \$20.00. Your generous contribution would be greatly appreciated. The Sunday School children will contribute drawings and letters to accompany the treats.



PLAYGROUP

Mondays 10am -1pm children ages infant to 5, with caregivers, are invited to come play and have fun! We'll meet upstairs in our nursery. This is an opportunity for children to socialize and engage in an organized and age-appropriate environment with toys and activities planned by a teacher and assisted by you, the accompanying adult. For more information contact Raija1@live.com

Trivia From the Archives!

February Answer: “no one had shown me how to get the report out of the computer.”

Bonus Answer: Maureen (*Her sense of humor in including a comic and writing the apology note for the annual meeting packet shines through nearly 40 years later, thank you Maureen!*)

March Question: When the Finnish Evangelical Lutheran Church of Quincy tried to change their name to Trinity Lutheran Church, the approval was delayed for two reasons. What were they?



Donna Chapman	3-6
John Keyes	3-17
Matthew Weiser	3-18
Shanna Weitz	3-22
Ben Brownlow	3-27
Sandra Mayo	3-27



You are invited to help adorn Faith's sanctuary this Easter season. Please send or put in the offering plate, this form along with payment. If mailing, please send to the church office at 201 Granite St., Quincy, MA 02169 by **March 17**. Please take your plant(s) home to adorn your own home or to share with loved ones after the 10:00 a.m. Easter worship service.

I am ordering a total of _____ plants

LILY (\$15.00) _____
TULIP (\$11.00) _____
DAFFODIL (\$11.00) _____

I have enclosed a total of \$ _____.

PRINT OR TYPE HERE

"In loving memory of"

PRINT OR TYPE HERE

"In honor of"

PRINT OR TYPE HERE "Given by"

My Name: _____

Phone # _____

Deadline for orders: March 17th



Interfaith Social Services

I would like to donate \$ _____ to ISS;

In Loving Memory of:

In Honor of:

Given by:

My Name: _____

Phone # _____

Faith Lutheran Church

201 Granite Street
Quincy, MA 02169