



FAITH LUTHERAN
CHURCH AND SCHOOL

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Pastor Rebecca Sheridan

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Church Secretary:

Linda Boccafola

Piano/Organist:

Travis Bloom

Congregational Council:

Linda Boccafola

Ivy Chang

Fred Diekmann

Pamela Freitag

Carl Juul-Nielsen

Richard Lin

Evelyn Meyers

Ruth Minkoff

Jeanne Sofia

Stewardship Committee

Lydia Kaboolian

Evelyn Meyers

Ruth Minkoff

Treasurer

Ruth Minkoff

Financial Secretary:

Evelyn Meyers

Prayer Chain:

Lydia Kaboolian

Property Committee:

Neal Burns

Fred Diekmann

Carl Juul-Nielsen

Sunday School:

Linda Boccafola

Pamela Freitag

Ruth Minkoff

Linda Moore

Janet Phelan

Pamela Weiss

Faith Opens Doors



From the Pastor's Desk

Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.
~ 1 Samuel 3:9

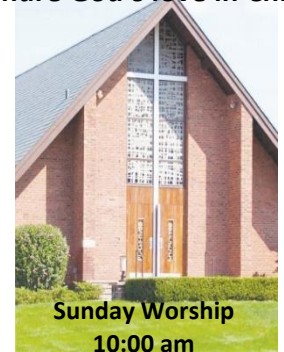
We made it! We made it to 2021, and how happy we are to turn to a new year this year! Even in the dark and cold of mid-winter, we are buoyed with hope of an effective vaccine on the horizon, the warmth of celebrating Christmas with family and friends, and the determination of annual New Year's resolutions. In the spirit of a new year with new goals, I am offering a hybrid Zoom/in-person class on the basics of the Christian faith with a Lutheran flavor called "Exploring Faith." We have been blessed with newcomers to our church, so this class is a chance to welcome them more deeply into our community, but I hope those of you who have been members of Faith for a long time will also consider joining us. Discipleship is a lifelong pursuit, and we never stop learning and growing as we follow Christ. Please contact me for information on how to join.

In addition to this class, our scripture readings for weeks leading up to Lent will support our focus on discipleship. My sermons will focus on five different aspects of what it means to be a modern-day disciple of Jesus: Practicing fellowship, worship, evangelism, service, and advocacy. We will kick this series off as we celebrate the Baptism of Our Lord on January 10 and consider what it means that we are baptized into Christ Jesus. Now that we do not have to do anything to earn our salvation, what do we do? One of my favorite Bible characters is Samuel, whose story we will read in worship this month. It takes him three times to recognize that God is speaking directly to him. We do not always understand what God wants us to do the first time, but we are surrounded by people of faith who help us discern what God is up to in our lives and in the world. We start by listening, to God and to each other, as Eli instructs Samuel to do.

In this new year, we also welcome new community members to our church in an after-school ping-pong group called Learning Trees who will be using our Fellowship Hall once a week, and in a new AA meeting for beginners on Monday nights. We have established a Nursery School Task Force to discern the viability of reopening the school in the fall. There is so much to look forward to with a new year of new beginnings as we continue to grow in faith!

Mission Statement

***We preach, teach, and
share God's love in Christ***



**Sunday Worship
10:00 am**



A Test

Just suppose, for a moment that when you opened your morning paper, right on the front page, replacing the usual

headline stories, there was a self-analysis test.

Now some of us are intrigued by these and others can not stand them. However, the one this morning is called *Test Your Christian Stewardship for the Past Year*.

Sample questions are:

1. Have you attended worship services every Sunday you were physically able?
2. If you volunteered or were appointed to a position, did you fulfill your responsibilities in such a way that you can look back on the year with no misgivings?
3. Have you offered your services when you knew they were needed?
4. Have you fulfilled your financial promises?
5. Have you assumed that since you are a member of your church that its success or failure reflected upon you?

And so on and on the questions go, filling the page. Some of us will feel the pinch of conscience and, without ever finishing the test, turn to the sports, social page, or comics.

Others will finish and find that if most of the questions are answered yes, they could surely feel that they had been good and faithful servants.

How alive was our faith this year?

How alive do we plan to make it next year?

Our stewardship is an individual thing. Our thinking about the questions should be personal, not comparisons with others.

How did we do with the test?



In January, we kick off on the 10th learning more about the three Kings. We will continue the month with the telling of some of the Old Testament stories. A Zoom session will be available for those who are not able to attend. Stay tuned for the Zoom information.

In January we will resume collecting Sunday School donations to support additional animals in the heifer International Project. The children and their families did such a great job in the first half of the Sunday School year, we are hoping to be able to financially support another farm animal that will add warmth, nutrition and earnings to those in need. Please keep the coins coming!

Council Corner



There was no Council meeting in December



The **Faith Carolers** were out and about on Sunday, December 20th providing beautiful song and cheer to many of our members who are unable to leave their homes. A wonderful time was had by all!



January

- 7th Ruth Minkoff
- 8th Anne Hickey
- 8th Pr. Dennis O'Rourke
- 16th Christine Einhellinger
- 17th Jennifer Schneider
- 20th Erich Erichsen
- 26th Patricia Cadavid
- 27th Warren Fisk



January

None this month

1. Office Door Replacement
2. New Windows Fund
3. Fellowship Hall Lighting
4. Organ Fund
5. New long tables for Fellowship Hall
6. Landscaping and Biblical Garden upkeep

Please contact Linda Boccafola, secretary, or Pastor Rebecca for further questions.



Saturday Bible Study: We are finishing our study of the book of Revelation on the first and third Saturdays of the month at

10:30am (January 2 & 16). Up next in February: a study of the book of Job and the problem of suffering. All are welcome! We will be meeting in person in the church library, but you may also call in from a phone or connect via webcam:

Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet, or smartphone.

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/543333293>

You can also dial in using your phone.

United States: [+1 \(312\) 757-3121](tel:+13127573121)

Access Code: 543-333-293

New to GoToMeeting? Get the app now and be ready when your first meeting starts:

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/install/543333293>

Like our **Facebook Page**, Faith Lutheran Church at <https://www.facebook.com/faithlutheransyosset/>.

Also check us out on our **website** at www.faithsyosset.org. Our YouTube channel is <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCz51lc5Hy6URvNyVM-AEe0A>.

Faith's Council has established a running list of designated gift priorities for our church. If you would like to give a special gift in memory or in honor of someone, or simply to support our church's ministries outside of your regular offering, the current list is below:

Don't forget! Our church is **online as an option for charitable donations** when you purchase orders through Amazon. For Faith to get .5% proceeds from your orders, you need to go to the following link: <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/11-1855652>. Or go to smile.amazon.com and search for Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church in Syosset.

You may register to give electronically on the front page of our website or mail in your offering. Thank you for remembering to support our church during this uncertain time!

Faith thanks our many members for their generous donations to the "Help Spread the Warmth" campaign. We are happy to announce that we have achieved our goal and have collected **\$_10,390_**. This campaign enabled us to install a new oil tank on November 30th as well as providing new updates to our electrical system. God bless everyone who contributed to this worthy project!



Christmas De-decorating help needed! We will be de-decorating the sanctuary and outdoors on Monday, January 4 at 10am. Please let the church office know if you will be available to help that day. Thanks!

Pastor Rebecca continues the practice begun on Sunday, September 27th of personally distributing Communion after the worship service on the way out of the Church.

Exploring Faith: Pastor Rebecca will be offering a six-week class for people interested in becoming members of Faith or who would like to go deeper in understanding their call to be disciples of Jesus starting **January 3 at 11am** on Sundays. You can join us in the church library or on Zoom.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/97974136036?pwd=ejdVMGpOWWpKWnpXeWdKN0QyZ3Fwdz09>

Meeting ID: 979 7413 6036

Passcode: 438342

One tap mobile

+16465588656,,97974136036# US (New York)

Dear Faith Family,

Thank you so much for the Christmas gift. Rich and I were overwhelmed with your generosity. Thank you also to the Bible Study group for their thoughtful gifts as well. I am blessed to serve in such a loving and caring congregation, especially during this pandemic times. I look forward to where God will lead us in 2021!

*In Christ, **Pastor Rebecca, Rich, Erin, and Grace***

Dear Pastor Rebecca and our Faith friends,

Thank you so very much for your prayers and good wishes. Leaving Long Island and especially Faith Church has been bittersweet. Thank you also for the beautiful flowers, the lovely card, and the very generous gift card. Your thoughtfulness was very much appreciated. During this difficult time with COVID we wish everyone a safe and healthy and blessed Thanksgiving. We will miss you all and hope you will visit us on the west coast of Florida

*Many, many thanks, **Nancy, and Fred Baumann***

*Our prayers are with the family and friends of **Gene Gilmartin**, a longtime member and friend of Faith, who entered eternal rest on Saturday, December 19, 2020*

Prayer Concerns

Ann Relyea (Aunt of Janet Phelan and Linda Moore),
Anthony Martillo,
Barbara Cullin (Sister of Everett Boccafola),
Barbara Krampitz,
Beth Jones (sister of Lydia Kaboolian),
Beth Speiser,
Bill Schultz,
Ed Franc,
Eleanor Sandmeyer (Sister-in-Law of Margaret Schuffenhauer),
Elish Marquart (daughter of a long-time friend of the Ahlers family),
The family and friends of Gene Gilmartin,
Gary Guarotta (in-law of Janet Phelan and Linda Moore),
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church of Levittown (church damaged in a fire on Christmas Day),
Helen Kaboolian (Mother-in-Law of Lydia Kaboolian),
Helen Shannon (Mother of Tricia Shannon and friend of Lydia Kaboolian),
Jean Amols,
Jeremy Schroeder (nephew of Lydia Kaboolian),
John (Jack) Caliolo,
Josie Shaw (granddaughter of Jan Krut, former member),
Kathryn Mortimer (daughter of Joan Jensen and a former member of Faith),
Marianna Berkowitz (friend of Margaret Schuffenhauer),
Mary Cilibrasi, (a dear friend of the Kaboolian family),
Meredith Coleman,
Olivia Melia (Sister-in-law of Linda Boccafola),
Roberta Haska (friend of Margaret Schuffenhauer),
Shirley McLaughlin (Linda Moore and Janet Phelan's Mother),
Steve Fritz and his Family (Nephew of Everett & Linda Boccafola),
Zachary & Alexandra Thomas, and their daughter, Eliana Melody (son and granddaughter of Pam Freitag).

January 2021



Happenings at Faith Lutheran Church

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27	28	29	30	31	 7:30 pm AA	2 10:30 a.m. Bible Study
3 10 am Worship	4 9 a.m. - 3 pm GPA PMA	5 9 a.m. - 3 pm GPA PMA 7:30 pm AA	 6 9 a.m. - 3 pm GPA PMA	7 9 a.m. - 3 pm GPA PMA	8 9 a.m. - 3 pm GPA PMA 7:30 pm AA	9
10 10 am Worship 10 am Sunday School 7:30 pm Conf. Class	11 9 a.m. - 3 pm GPA PMA	12 9 a.m. - 3 pm GPA PMA 7:30 pm AA	13 9 a.m. - 3 pm GPA PMA	14 9 a.m. - 3 pm GPA PMA	15 9 a.m. - 3 pm GPA PMA 7:30 pm AA	16 10:30 a.m. Bible Study
17 10 am Worship 10 am Sunday School 10:45 am Council Meeting 7:30 pm Conf. Class	 18 MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY	19 9 a.m. - 3 pm GPA PMA 7:30 pm AA	20 9 a.m. - 3 pm GPA PMA	21 9 a.m. - 3 pm GPA PMA	22 9 a.m. - 3 pm GPA PMA 7:30 pm AA	23
24 10 am Worship 10 am Sunday School 7:30 pm Conf. Class	25 9 a.m. - 3 pm GPA PMA	26 9 a.m. - 3 pm GPA PMA 7:30 pm AA	27 9 a.m. - 3 pm GPA PMA	28 9 a.m. - 3 pm GPA PMA	29 9 a.m. - 3 pm GPA PMA 7:30 pm AA	30
31 10 am Worship 10 am Sunday School 7:30 pm Conf. Class	1 9 a.m. - 3 pm GPA PMA	Notes Online Worship: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCz51lc5Hy6URvNyVM-AEe0A Zoom Coffee Hour: https://zoom.us/j/794465609?pwd=TK5wRUd6WW12RUxZT0hmNHf6VDVPdz09 Meeting ID: 794 465 609 Password: 005657				

	Acolytes	Communion Assistants	Lectors	Ushers	Counters	Sunday School Teachers
January 3rd	Ushers Support, when needed	Not Required	Neal	Carl, Richard H, Neal	Ivy/Jeanne	None
January 10th			Jeanne	Neal, Richard H, Carl	Pam/Ivy	Pam F
January 17 th			Pam	Carl, Richard H, Neal	Norma/Betty	Linda B
January 24th			Linda B	Neal, Richard H, Carl	Evelyn/Lydia	Janet
January 31st			Ivy	Neal, Richard H, Carl	Linda/Jeanne	Linda M

Altar Guild for the Month of January: Linda B and Chris D

Requirements for Use of the Faith Lutheran

Church facility

Effective date: May 17, 2020

1. We strongly suggest that **individuals who are deemed vulnerable by the State of New York stay at home until all restrictions are lifted**. You can participate with the
2. Church Services via social media. Should you need assistance in doing this please contact the Church office via 516-921-3330*.
 - a. An in-person service, outside or inside Sanctuary Hall, will be held at 10 a.m. Sunday*.
 - b. A YouTube service will be live streamed or uploaded and be available by 10am. Sunday*.
 - c. The online services can be found and accessed via the faithsyosset.com website, "Media" tab and our Facebook page*.
 - d. We will continue our Zoom Fellowship Hour at 10:45am on Sundays to nurture our community*.
 - e. Saturday Bible study and meetings will continue online*.
3. Take your temperature before coming to church, and stay home if you are exhibiting any COVID-19 symptoms including fever, coughing, diarrhea, loss of sense of smell or taste, fatigue, etc.
4. Please avoid using our church bathrooms unless you have a dire need.
5. All guests **must wear masks** while they are on the grounds or in the Church facility. You will be provided one as you enter if you do not come with one from home. Should you have difficulty with the Mask, the ushers should assist. Please use hand sanitizer provided as you enter the building and before you exit.
6. All guests **must use wipes** provided by the Church **to wipe down all areas they touched and their seats and seating area before and after their use**. In addition, our sexton will thoroughly clean all bathrooms and the sanctuary and narthex following worship.
7. All guests **must stay 6 ft or more apart** from everyone that does not live in their home. They should follow the rules of their home for their own family.
8. All guests should **enter the church through the sanctuary front doors or elevator entrance and follow the signs and requests of the ushers to proceed directly** to their seat for worship or meeting. All other doors will remain locked. An usher will escort you to your pew. Remain in your pew until an usher dismisses you.
9. During the Church service*:
 - a. **Bulletins will be provided on a seat or available for you to pick up** - make sure that you and your family are at least 6 feet apart from anyone else at Church. Should you need more please raise your hand before the service begins.
 - b. **Communion will be distributed at the end of worship by the Pastor**. Because lifting a mask contaminates it, please wait to commune until after you exit the church building.
 - c. **Passing of peace** will be done by a wave, showing of praying hands or salute to each other from your seat location.
 - d. **An offering box** will be available as you exit the Church.
10. **There will be no coffee hour/food or any other social gathering** that will bring people closer than 6 feet together. Excepting the sanctuary, narthex, and bathrooms, the church building will be off limits at this time. Please avoid socializing and join us on Zoom for fellowship later.
11. **Sunday school will be held in the Library in person or virtually**. Materials will be provided to anyone who will participate virtually. Please contact the Church office.
12. **There will be no congregational singing for in-person worship**. Recorded or instrumental music will be provided. Those who would like to sing may sing along with our YouTube worship service.
13. **The readings will be completed by walking up the center aisle to the pulpit**. All areas of the Church that are used must be wiped down before and after use.
14. **Pastor will be making arrangements for those who cannot attend worship in person to receive Holy Communion.**

**these items are specific to the Faith Lutheran Church service*