



This week's altar flowers are donated by:  
Amanda, Samantha, and Hannah Guffey  
In honor of Shawn's birthday



### SEPTEMBER Birthdays

5 – Becky Miller, 9 – Diane Redieske,  
10 – Shawn Guffey, 19 – Kelly Miller,  
20 – Ellen Olson, 22 – Erika Stinson  
22 – Vallerie White, 25 – Gerry Cliffe



### **FREE Training – Sunday, Sept. 16 – 11:30-2:30**

**Details: South Beloit Fire Department will be coming to Faith Lutheran. CODE BLUE TRAINING will go over these important skills:**

- \*CPR (cardiopulmonary resuscitation) and First Aid**
- \*How to use our new AED defibrillator**
- \*Added bonus: how to use a fire extinguisher**

**This is open to anyone of our church members, and there is no cost. You may also come to observe and listen, rather than participate. There is no limit on the number attending. But, you must sign up by Wednesday, September 12th - sign up sheet is on the bulletin board. You may also sign up on the front of your WELCOME SHEET. So far we have 14 coming!**

***The life you save may be someone you love!***



## Faith Lutheran Church

*Faithfully Growing, Welcoming, and Caring through Christ*

Sunday, September 9, 2018 ~ 9:30 am

16th Sunday After Pentecost

### PRELUDE

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS



**P:** Blessed be the + Holy Trinity, the one who fashions us, the one who heals us, the one who reforms us again and again.

**C: Amen.**

**P:** Let us confess our sin, calling for God's transforming power. *(A brief silence.)* Source of all life,

**C: we confess that we have not allowed your grace to set us free. We fear that we are not good enough. We hear your word of love freely given to us, yet we expect others to earn it. We turn the church inward, rather than moving it outward. Forgive us. Stir us. Reform us to be a church powered by love, willing to speak for what is right, act for what is just, and seek the healing of your whole creation. Amen.**

**P:** God hears our cry and send the Spirit to change us and to empower our lives in the world. Our sins are forgiven + God's love is unconditional. And we are raised up as God's people who will always be made new, in the name of Jesus Christ.

**C: Amen.**

**OPENING HYMN**    **Earth and All Stars!**    **Verses 1,4,5**



1 Earth and all stars! Loud rush - ing plan - ets!  
 2 Trum - pet and pipes! Loud clash - ing cym - bals!  
 3 En - gines and steel! Loud pound - ing ham - mers!  
 4 Class - rooms and labs! Loud boil - ing test tubes!  
 5 Knowl - edge and truth! Loud sound - ing wis - dom!



Sing to the Lord a new song!  
 Sing to the Lord a new song!  
 Sing to the Lord a new song!  
 Sing to the Lord a new song!  
 Sing to the Lord a new song!



Hail, wind, and rain! Loud blow - ing snow - storm!  
~~Harp, lute, and lyre! Loud hum - ming cel - los!~~  
~~Lime stone and beams! Loud build - ing work - ers!~~  
 Ath - lete and band! Loud cheer - ing peo - ple!  
 Daugh - ter and son! Loud pray - ing mem - bers!



Sing to the Lord a new song!  
 Sing to the Lord a new song!  
 Sing to the Lord a new song!  
 Sing to the Lord a new song!  
 Sing to the Lord a new song!



*Refrain*  
 God has done mar - vel - ous things.



I too sing prais - es with a new song!

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

**Today's Worship Leaders**

**Altar Guild - Carol & Roger Frey**

**Computer Tech - Mike Banker**

**Offering Video - Helen Meier**

**Reader - Alice Olson**

**Counters - Carol & Roger Frey**

**Fellowship - Pat Wicks; LAST WEEK: TERRI SCHOEPSKI**

**Greeters - Liz Shockley, Teresa Moffit, and Ruth Anderson**

**Musician - Betty Comins**

**Ushers - Doug Congdon & Ray Wendell**

**Pastor - Rev. Dr. Richard J. Meier**



*We pray for the homeless, unemployed, those with mental struggles, our shut-ins & all of our students, military personnel & their families. We pray for friends, families & our loved ones:*

Alberta, Austin Wagner, Barb, Bev, the Betty's, Bev Hedrington, Bill, Bonnie, Boyd & Inez, Cindy, Claudine, Daniel Mears, Debi, Denise, Dick, Don, Don & Harriet, Eloise, Emily & Family, Eric, Florence, Gary, George, Heather Hageness, Iris, James Funk & Family, Janie, Jean, Jeff, Kathy Mears, Kenny, Kevin, Kim, Kim & Pete Schnack, Kris, Larry, Linda, Lyla Williams, Marshall, Mary Ann Mueller, Matt Dunaway, Michael, Nancy, Pat Wicks, Patricia Sarabia, Penny, Rich, Ruthann, Ryan, Brynn & Ellis McGuire, Sandy, Sara & Family, Sharon, Sheri, Suzanne, Ted, Tim, Todd, Tom, Vicki, Violet, Vivian, Zach Blay-Stahl

**A Very Merry Craft Show**

**\*\* Crafters & Vendors Wanted \*\***

**Saturday, November 17 10am to 3pm**

**Held at Didier Hall, South Beloit**

**Call 815-389-1824 for a registration form**

**\$25 Booth TABLES PROVIDED; Friday Set-Up**

**There will be a church booth for donated crafts!**



The OUT TO DINNER Group will be going to Bravo's Restaurant, 376 Prairie Hill Rd., South Beloit on Friday, Sept. 21 at 6 pm. Please sign up on the board by Sunday, Sept. 16. All are invited - join us!

# Welcome to Faith Lutheran Church

**We are happy to have you worship with us today!**

Please join us for beverages, snacks and conversation after worship.

**Communion** is by intinction. Come forward to receive the bread with an open hand then dip in the wine (dark) or juice (light). Gluten-free wafers are available - indicate to Pastor when it's your turn. If you eat the bread before dipping or drop it, please ask for another piece. You don't have to be a member of Faith or be Lutheran to take Communion. Christ is the host of the meal ~ ***all baptized believers are welcome to participate.***

**Offering** ~ If you are unable to attend worship, please make sure to catch up with your **offering** next week. Mail it to the church office and write "offering" on the envelope to be included in that week's offering, seen only by designated counters. Thanks for being so faithful in giving generously to God's work at Faith Lutheran.

**Financials Sunday, September 2, 2018 - Week #35**

**Attendance - 80**

<b>Actual Offering</b>	<b>\$2,791.00</b>
<b>Weekly Offering Budget</b>	<b>\$2,176.00</b>
<b>2017 YTD Actual Offering</b>	<b>\$77,709.55</b>
<b>2017 YTD Offering Needed</b>	<b>\$76,160.00</b>

**In case of a pastoral need, please contact Pastor Rick**

**Cell: 815-566-5247 Home: 815-227-4679**

**Email: [pastorr1@comcast.net](mailto:pastorr1@comcast.net)**



**Church Council** If you are interested in serving a 3-yr. term on the Church Council, please contact Pastor Rick or Council President Craig Miller. There will be 2 openings for Parish Life beginning in January.



### Sunshine Committee

Graduation, Sympathy and Get Well cards will be sent upon notification. Please call Karen Murr at 815-389-2353, or Patti Dunaway at 608-751-1666



**CELL-FREE  
ZONE**

**Please turn OFF your cell phone.  
Even on Mute, an incoming call will  
cause a problem with the frequency of  
our new microphones. Thank you!**



**CELL-FREE  
ZONE**

## INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

**P:** James tells us to stop showing favoritism in the assembly, treating the rich visitor with more honor than the poor one. Jesus himself seems to show partiality in his first response to the Syrophenician woman in today's gospel. Was he testing her faith in saying Gentiles don't deserve the goods meant for God's children? Or was he speaking out of his human worldview, but transcended those limits when she took him by surprise with her reply? Either way, the story tells us that God shows no partiality. Everyone who brings her or his need to Jesus is received with equal honor as a child and heir.

**C: Amen.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

**P:** Let us pray. *(A brief silence.)* Gracious God,

**C: throughout the ages you transform sickness into health and death into life. Open us to the power of your presence, and make us a people ready to proclaim your promises to the whole world, through Jesus Christ, our healer and Lord. Amen.**



**Join us in Children's Church!**

## FIRST READING: Isaiah 35:4-7a

A reading from Isaiah, the 35<sup>th</sup> chapter.

Say to those who are of a fearful heart, "Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you." Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water.

**R:** Word of God, word of life.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## A Responsive Reading From Psalm 146

P: Hallelujah! Praise the LORD, O my soul!

**C: I will praise the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.**

P: Put not your trust in rulers, in mortals in whom there is no help.

**C: When they breathe their last, they return to earth, and in that day their thoughts perish.**

P: Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help, whose hope is in the LORD their God;

**C: who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them; who keeps promises forever;**

P: who gives justice to those who are oppressed, and food to those who hunger. The LORD sets the captive free.

**C: The LORD opens the eyes of the blind; the LORD lifts up those who are bowed down; the LORD loves the righteous.**

P: The LORD cares for the stranger; the LORD sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the way of the wicked.

**C: The LORD shall reign forever, your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. Hallelujah!**

## SECOND READING: James 2:1-10 [11-13] 14-17

A reading from James, the 2<sup>nd</sup> chapter.

My brothers and sisters, do you with your acts of favoritism really believe in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ? For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in, and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, "Have a seat here, please," while to the one who is poor you say, "Stand there," or, "Sit at my feet," have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts? Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? But you have dishonored the poor. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into court? Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you?

## ~ THE LORD'S PRAYER ~

### ~ COMMUNION ~

#### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: Holy and compassionate God, in bread and wine you give us gifts that form us to be humble and courageous. May your words come to life in our serving and in our witness, that we might speak a living voice of healing and justice to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our rock and our redeemer.

**C: Amen.**

#### BLESSING

P: God, creator of all things, speaking reformation into being; Jesus Christ, savior of the world, raising the dead; Holy Spirit, living voice, calling and enlightening the church: Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

#### CLOSING HYMN

### Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing



1 Oh, for a thou-sand tongues to sing my great Re-deem-er's praise,  
2 My gra-cious Mas-ter and my God, as-sist me to pro-claim,  
3 The name of Je-sus charms our fears and bids our sor-rows cease,  
4 He speaks, and lis-t'ning to his voice, new life the dead re-ceive;



the glo-ries of my God and king, the tri-umphs of his grace!  
to spread through all the earth a-broad the hon-ors of your name.  
sings mu-sic in the sin-ner's ears, brings life and health and peace.  
the mourn-ful, bro-ken hearts re-joice, the hum-ble poor be-lieve.

5 Look unto him, your Savior own,  
O fallen human race!  
Look and be saved through faith alone,  
be justified by grace!

6 To God all glory, praise, and love  
be now and ever giv'n  
by saints below and saints above,  
the church in earth and heav'n.

#### DISMISSAL

P: Go forth into the world to serve God with gladness.

**C: Thanks be to God.**



P: Welcoming God, you set a table for us. Embolden this congregation to seek new ways of inviting others to the feast of all creation. Lord, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: You bless us with throngs of saints who witness to your compassion. With gratitude, we recall the lives and deeds of those who proclaim lovingkindness to a needy.

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: Into your wide embrace, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your boundless mercy through Jesus Christ, our Redeemer.

**C: Amen.**

### SHARING THE PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

~ VIDEO DURING OFFERTORY ~  
*"Lord, I Need You"* by Matt Maher

*We give thee but thine own, whatever the gift may be  
All that we have is thine alone, a trust, o Lord, from thee.  
May we thou bounties thus, as stewards true receive,  
And gladly as thou blessed us, to thee our first fruits give.*

### OFFERING PRAYER

P: God of life, you give us these gifts of the earth, these resources of our life and our labor. Take them offered in great thanksgiving, and use them to set a table that will heal the whole creation; through Jesus Christ, our savior and Light.

**C: Amen.**

### DIALOGUE

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

**C: We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks and praise to the Lord our God.

**C: It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

~ WORDS OF INSTITUTION ~

You do well if you really fulfill the royal law according to the scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it. What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, and one of you says to them, "Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill," and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

R: Word of God, word of life.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

### ALLELUIA

*Alleluia! Lord and Savior open now your saving word!  
Let it burn like fire within us; Speak until our hearts are stirred.  
Alleluia! Lord we sing for the good news that you bring.*

### GOSPEL: Mark 7:24-37

P: The holy gospel according to Mark, the 7<sup>th</sup> chapter.

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice, but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. He said to her, "Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." But she answered him, "Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs." Then he said to her, "For saying that, you may go - the demon has left your daughter." So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone. Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis.

They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, “Ephphatha,” that is, “Be opened.” And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. They were astounded beyond measure, saying, “He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak.”

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

### SERMON

#### “Opening Up to Speak and Serve “

### HYMN OF THE DAY

#### How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds



1 How sweet the name of Je - sus sounds in  
 2 It makes the wound - ed spir - it whole and  
 3 Dear name! The rock on which I build, my al -  
 4 By thee my prayers ac - cep - tance gain



a be - liev - er's ear! It soothes our sor - rows,  
 calms the heart's un - rest; 'tis man - na to the  
 shield and hid - ing place; my nev - er - fail - ing  
 though with sin de - filed. The dev - il charg - es



heals our wounds, and drives a - way all fear.  
 hun - gry soul and to the wea - ry, rest.  
 trea - sury, filled with bound - less stores of grace.  
 me in vain, and I am owned a child.

### The Apostles' Creed

*I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
 creator of heaven and earth.*

*I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
 who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
 born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
 was crucified, died, and was buried;  
 he descended to the dead.*

**On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven,  
 he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
 and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

*I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
 the holy catholic church, the communion of saints,  
 the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body,  
 and the life everlasting. Amen.*

### PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P: Freed by God in Christ to live and love and serve, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's beloved creation. *(A brief silence.)* Gracious God, you call your church to proclaim the love of Christ to a needy world. Embolden us to be your risen body by welcoming strangers and serving our neighbors. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Creative God, small sprouts and tall trees proclaim your majesty. Give us clear eyes to see nature's beauty and wise minds to protect our home, this earth, from misuse and harm. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Sovereign God, you draw order from chaos. Watch over the nations of the world. Bless citizens and leaders who strive toward the beloved community for which you long. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Loving God, you give us all that we need. When your children suffer from hunger, poverty, loneliness, persecution, injury, or illness, send generous helpers and companions. We pray especially for . . . Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.