

FOCUS ON FAITH



From the Pastor's Study

Refugee Committee

The joint Refugee Committee of Faith and St. John's has been quite busy over the summer. While we all still wait for Canada Immigration to allow Zahrah, Mohamed and their loved ones to enter the country, the refugee committee decided to use the time until their arrival in a meaningful way.

Marilyn Josefsson, Bonnie Hofer along with the rest of the team started working with Wesley Urban Ministries, Hamilton in the recently created "Friends of Newcomers" program. The program connects volunteers and government sponsored refugees in Hamilton through building personal relationships. To get ready for our new friends we participated in series of mandatory and very helpful training sessions conducted by Wesley Urban Ministries.

In July our group was introduced to Ahmad and his wife Wa'ed and their three boys (7, 4 and 9 months). Since then we have met them on several occasions for coffee, sharing about each other's lives and getting to know each other better. Like most newcomers Ahmed and his wife are eager to learn English, while their children already master their first computer games. To help them with their further transition we will continue to meet weekly with the family for the next six months.

Peace
Pastors Daniela and Thomas



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**"The fruit of silence is prayer
The fruit of prayer is faith
The fruit of faith is love.
The fruit of love is service
The fruit of service is peace."**

Mother Theresa

Types of Care Services in Ontario

As we get older there are a variety of services we may require that are available in different settings. The following are services provided in Ontario.....

Assisted Living

- ◆ provides personal care services to individuals who are frail and require supervision, hands on care services, frequent assistance with activities of daily living such as bathing and dressing, and may include nursing services.
- ◆ care is often provided in a designated section of the residence.
- ◆ providers may be community –based.



Convalescent Care – Short Stay programs: Respite Care and Supportive care.

- ◆ programs offered in Long Term Care (LTC) facilities
- ◆ programs support individuals who may benefit from or require short stay in a LTC home, but are expected to return to their homes in the community within a specific period of time

Respite Care

- ◆ enables a caregiver to take a break
- ◆ maximum length of stay is 60 days
- ◆ individual may benefit from programs and services offered in the home

Convalescent care program – supportive care

- ◆ provides a supportive environment for individuals discharged from acute care settings who need to recover their strength, endurance and functioning before returning home.
- ◆ Length of stay is 90 days

Long Term Care Homes

- ◆ also called nursing homes and homes for the aged
- ◆ residences for people who are not able to live independently and require 24 hour care nursing services.
- ◆ Eligibility for placement is based on care needs, determined and arranged for by Community Care Access Centres (CCAC).
- ◆ The resident pays for accommodation
- ◆ Care and programs re paid for by the government

Retirement Residences

- ◆ provide accommodation and varying levels of service to meet the needs of individuals.
- ◆ provide meals, social and housekeeping supports, to assisted living with additional care services to those that specialize in Alzheimer and dementia, or Memory Care.
- ◆ Retirement residences in Ontario that provide assisted living services are licensed and regulated by the Retirement Homes Regulatory Authority (RHRA); those that provide only meals, social and house-keeping supports are not.



Home Health Care

- ◆ for people who need help to remain comfortably and safely at home
- ◆ services range from nursing care and specialized therapies, to non-medical services such as meal preparation and homemaking.
- ◆ certain services are eligible for funding through CCAC

Hospice Care

- ◆ aims to relieve suffering and improve quality of life for individuals and families living with a terminal illness
- ◆ may include pain or symptom control, an array of emotional, spiritual and physical supportive services.
- ◆ care may be provided in the home or in a residential setting.

Submitted by Bonnie Hofer, Parish Nurse

Bay Area Church Picnic on Saturday, June 4, 2016 at Germania Park, 4240 Trinity Church Road, Binbrook, Ontario

Faith Church was well represented at the Bay Area Picnic. We met at the church at 11 a.m. and car-pooled to the park. Upon our arrival we were warmly greeted by our dean, Thomas Mertz, and his church members from St. John's Lutheran Church in Hamilton. Between 70 – 80 people from the Bay Area were gathered at picnic tables under shady trees in the park. Our church had a good-sized representation but St. John's had the largest group there. A lively singsong,



with hymns from 'With One Voice' was led by Tom and three women, one of them our Dorothy Emmerson. We were accompanied on the keyboard by talented Heide Lang. We read Psalm 104 responsively. Each attendee was given a photo by Kjell Bloch Sandved, a Norwegian nature photographer,



with the letters of the alphabet found on butterfly wings. This demonstrates God's beautiful creation. This can be seen at www.butterflyalphabet.com/ posters. Our lunch was sausage on a bun with delicious sauerkraut and German potato salad. We then had a table of desserts from which to choose. These were provided at a minimal cost. Petra Hildendag was in charge of the children's games. All ages were present and everybody had a wonderful time. We encourage each of you to plan to attend next year.



Submitted by Bill Neeb, Faith Lutheran Brantford (used with permission)



**Birthday/Rally Sunday
Sunday, September 18th**

Join us after service for a Birthday/Rally Sunday BBQ lunch—hamburgers and hotdogs with all the fixings. And, of course, birthday cake for the September, October, November and December Birthdays.

A free will offering for lunch will be taken and proceeds will go towards the 60th Anniversary Fund. **See you there!**



The M & M's At Faith

What's Happening!.....

Prayer Shawl Meeting

The next Prayer shawl gatherings is Tuesday September 13th, from 1:30 to 3:00 pm. Join us for a time of reflection and fellowship. Meetings will also be held Tuesday, October 11th and Tuesday, November 8th. All are welcome.

Next Meeting

Our next meeting will take place Saturday, September 17th at 10:00 am in the Parish Hall. We will be doing simple crafts for our table for the bazaar. You don't need to be crafty, just come and participate—it will all be laid out for you!

We will also have our preparatory meeting for the bazaar and other events to the end of the year on Oct 2nd.

Bibles and Bagels

Join our bible study at St. John's on Saturday, September 24th. "What is so great about Grace?" by Philip Yancy. The study incorporates a DVD presentation and a guide book to investigate Grace. All women are welcome to participate. Please contact Janet Weingartner through our church office (905-527-6611).

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Celebrating in September...

September 1 Tanner Bostrom
September 1 Rochelle Beerbaum
September 7 Jennifer Calvin
September 8 Mary Svetanic
September 15 Daisy Thomson
September 15 Amanda Bennie
September 16 Bradley Weegar
September 19 Jim Spino
September 22 Donald Bennie
September 23 Liz Anweiler
September 26 Tara Bostrom
September 27 Shirley Subonovich

Celebrating in October...

October 1 Sarah Grant
October 2 Armin Paul
October 12 Faith Bennie
October 15 Margo Culleton
October 16 Gary Tanner
October 20 Margaret Slater
October 22 Tommy Culleton
October 23 Mary Lemp
October 31 Karl Svetanic

Celebrating in November...

November 19 Karen Kisneris
November 22 Evelyn Campbell

Birthdays for September, October, November and December will be celebrated on September 18th with a BBQ—all are welcome.

We wish all of the above a VERY HAPPY BIRTHDAY and God's Blessings for many, many more!



Good Food Box Program

Faith Lutheran, in partnership with The Anglican Church of the Nativity, operate the Bartonville Good Food Box as an Outreach Ministry. It operates from September to June each year.

We provide a variety of fresh fruit and vegetables at a great price of \$15/box. The fruit and vegetables are picked up that morning from the Ontario Food Terminal and delivered to Faith for distribution.

Currently we are **subsidizing 10 boxes a month to people on ODSP**. This means that we need donations of at least \$30/month to cover this cost.

We also give fresh fruits and vegetables to the local food banks. Over the past 11 months we have **given an average of 17 boxes per month**. To be able to continue providing fresh fruit and vegetables to the food banks we need \$255.00 per month in donations.



During the past year the program has been recipient of donations from the Ladies Group at both churches, a local Masonic Lodge, offerings collected at Special services and several individuals with the church and community.

Please prayerfully consider donating to this much needed cause so that we can continue to provide to those less fortunate than ourselves.

If you would like more information please contact Gail, at Faith 519-573-1258 or Laura, at The Church of the Nativity.

The GOOD FOOD BOX resumes Tuesday, September 6th and will be available also Tuesday, October 4th and Tuesday, November 1st.

Remember in your prayers these members of Faith:

Alice Bauman	Ray Bekiaris	Pastor Dechert
Harold Farwell	Mabel Gregory	Mary Lemp
Elaine Lymburner	Herta Turnevicius	Orell Setterlund
Rudolph Jaundoo	Katie Kildau-Bock	Vic & Norma Braybrook
Evy Ahlang	Stan Frost	

"Bless our sick today so that they may bear their illness and restore them quickly to health. Bless those who have grown old in your service and give them courage and strength in their faith. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives, and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen"

We also remember our refugee families, Zahra (mother), Amal, Jihan, Juhianah (daughters) Akram (son), Mohamed (oldest son) and Miriam and Nadia and Sarah (daughters) and pray that they are safe where they are now and God grant them safe passage to Canada, and to Hamilton soon.

Upcoming Events –at Faith and in the Community

Calendar Dates of upcoming events related to our Church and Community

- Week of Sept 4 – confirmation classes begin
- Sept 6 – Good Food Box
- Sept 9 – Friday Nibbles 6-8 pm
- Sept 13 - Prayer Shawl 1:30 –3 pm
- Sept 17— M & M Craft Day—10:30 am
- Sept 17 – A German afternoon at St. John’s– 2 pm
- Sept 18 – Rally Sunday/Birthday Sunday BBQ after Service
- Sept 24 – Men’s breakfast – St. John’s – 8:30 am
- Sept 24— Bibles and Bagels—St. John’s—9:00 am
- Sept 28 – Hot Lunch 11:30 am –12:30 pm
- Oct 1 - Women’s Auxiliary of Waterloo Lutheran Seminary Annual meeting
- Oct 2 – M&M meeting after worship – Bag lunch
- Oct 4 – Good Food Box
- Oct 11 – Prayer Shawl
- Oct 15 - Mom 2 Mom sale 8:30 am – 11:30 am
- Oct 16 – Lunch and Learn Health and Wellness – following worship
- Oct 26— Hot Lunch 11:30 am –12:30 pm
- Oct 29 – Men’s Breakfast - St. John’s– 8:30 am
- Oct 30— Reformation Sunday – Joint worship at Faith
- Oct 30— Lutherfest and Worship 5 pm – Faith Brantford
- Nov 1— Good Food Box
- Nov 8— Prayer Shawl – 1;30 pm –3 pm
- Nov 12 – Advent bazaar – 10 am – 2 pm
- Nov 23 - Holiday Hot Lunch Celebration
- Nov 25 – Fund raiser concert **at Grace** for St. John’s/Faith refugee effort –
- Nov 27 – Advent Sunday – Joint worship at Faith **and** Advent Dinner
- Dec 5 – Dofasco Male Chorus concert and refreshments



Chief Ava Hill
“On Missing & Murdered Aboriginal Women”

September 26th
 7:00 pm
 Grace Lutheran Church

Ava Hill, Mohawk, Wolf Clan, was elected Chief of the 56th Elected Council of the Six Nations of the Grand River on November 16, 2013. She has extensive experience working with First Nations and Aboriginal organizations, serving as the Executive Director of the Chiefs of Ontario Office, the Executive Assistant to a former National Chief of the Assembly of First Nations and the Executive Assistant to the Co-Chair of the Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples.

* Free with donations gratefully accepted

Joint Services

Reformation Sunday and Advent 1 joint services with the people of St. John’s at Faith.

Reformation Sunday, Lutherfest and joint Bay Area service at Faith, Brantford; 05:00. A Sauerbraten dinner with Spaetzle and Blaukraut for a free-will donation will be served at the Lutherfest.

Conversation Cafe

For 6 weeks each Wednesday evening in July and August, a group of volunteers welcomed newcomers to Canada to St. John's for an hour and a half of friendly conversation to help improve their English.

We started each session with snacks in the kitchen, followed by a more scripted hour of talking. Some of the topics were Education, Health and Government. Each week, one of the volunteers would host the conversation and try (often unsuccessfully) to keep everyone on track.

While the number of participants was small, the people who did come never missed a session. We had a family from Romania and two men...one from Liberia and the other from Oman.

It was truly a joy to hear their stories, have a few laughs (actually quite a few laughs), enjoy the fellowship and see the improvement over the weeks, not only in their language skills but in their comfort level.

We will be continuing to offer the Conversation Cafe on September 7th. If you are interested in helping, or if you know of anyone who might benefit from this, please contact one of the pastors or myself.

Submitted by Errin Dawson from Faith



Refugee Benefit Concert

On Friday November 25th, there will be a Benefit Concert at Grace Lutheran Church for the refugees that are to be sponsored by St. John's and Faith Lutheran churches. Special guest for the evening will be famed orchestral musician and conductor Boris Brott!



As part of this wonderful fundraising concert, we are having a **Silent Auction** where the proceeds will go to our sustainability account at Grace!! Yeah!!!

We are encouraging all our church members and friends to support this by donating new items, services, talents, etc.!



Come everyone!

Let's enjoy this special night of music, fellowship, food, and fun!

Watch for more information on ticket sales, silent auction, guest musicians, etc. In future editions of the newsletter.

Treaties Recognition Week

The Province of Ontario has proclaimed the first complete week in November **Treaties Recognition Week**, "to bring awareness to the treaty relationships between Indigenous and non-Indigenous people in the province." Along with Lutherans and Anglicans of the Bay Ministry Area and the Waterloo and Brant-Norfolk Deaneries we are invited to observe **Treaties Recognition Week** with a **Blanket Exercise** at St. Mark's Anglican Church, Brantford (Wednesday, November 9) and an afternoon of learning and worship at the **Brantford Woodland Cultural Centre** and **Her Majesty's Royal Chapel of the Mohawks** (Sunday, November 13).

Retired Lutheran pastor Peter Mogk authored seven reflections for our daily devotion during **Treaties Recognition Week**. Peter offers helpful insight into the history and meaning of the treaties and invites us to reflect upon both in light of the biblical message of God's call for peace, justice, reconciliation and healing.

Little Luthers

2017 marks the 500s anniversary of the Reformation. 500 years! 5 centuries of Lutheran ministry and witness! What an amazing anniversary and what an opportunity to commemorate the Reformation with other Lutherans around the world. Members of all Bay Area congregations have been getting together for some time now to plan a number of local events that will help us to get involved in the anniversary over the coming year. **The Lutherfest** and joint service at Faith, Brantford on Reformation Sunday (30.10. at 05:00 pm) will kick off our Bay Area celebrations. We will be invited to an afternoon with Bishop Michael and yes: we definitely will plant a tree. Actually we will plant many trees in the spring of 2017. The FOCUS and Sunday bulletin will give you more detailed information as these and other events come up. "Luther" will be our constant companion over the next few months.

And by the way you now have the opportunity to have your own "Little Luther". Playmobil has created a small Luther figurine which has become the fastest selling Playmobil toy of all time. Faith has 100 figures which we will sell at \$ 7.50 each after Sunday services. The "Little Luthers" are a great gift and the perfect and fun Reformation anniversary souvenir. Pastor Dechert already bought his. The proceeds of the sale will go to support the ELCIC Reformation Challenge such as raising funds for scholarships for students in Palestine and the Holy Land.



The Last Word

Pastor Thomas and
Pastor Daniela Mertz

Honorary Pastor:
The Rev. Charles Dechert

OUR VISION

Faith Lutheran Church is the heart of a spiritual, healthy, and vibrant community. All are welcome

OUR MISSION

The mission of Faith Lutheran Church is to provide an inclusive Christ-centered home serving the needs of our environment, the spiritual growth, physical health, and well-being of our neighbour and ourselves.

Focus on FAITH is published under the auspices of the Church Council. The Pastors, editor and Chair of Council serve as the editorial board. Submissions will be edited for clarity, positivism, adherence to our mission statement, constitution and the love of Christ as revealed in the Holy Scriptures. Please make all submissions to calvin1980@bell.net.

Deadline for the Winter Edition is November 20th, 2016.

A famous writer was in his study. He picked up his pen and began writing:

"Last year, my gallbladder was removed. I was stuck in bed due to this surgery for a long time. The same year I reached the age of 60 and had to give up my favorite job. I had spent 30 years of my life with this publishing company.

The same year I experienced the death of my father.

In the same year my son failed in his medical exam because he had a car accident. He had to stay in the hospital with a cast on his leg for several days. And, the destruction of the car was a second loss."

His concluding statement: "Alas! It was such a bad year!!!"

When the writer's wife entered the room, she found her husband looking dejected, sad and lost in his thoughts.

She carefully and surreptitiously read what he had written, and silently left the room and came back shortly with another piece of paper on which she had written her summary of the year's events and placed it beside her husband's paper.

When her husband saw that she had written something in response to his account of the year's events, he read:

"Last year I finally got rid of my gallbladder which had given me many years of pain.

I turned 60 with sound health and retired from my job. Now I can utilize my time to write better and with more focus and peace.

The same year my father, at the age of 95 without depending on anyone and without any critical conditions, met his Creator.

The same year, God blessed my son with life. "My car was destroyed, but my son was alive and without permanent disability."

At the end she wrote:

"This year was an immense blessing and it passed well!!!"

See the same incidents but different viewpoints.

MORAL:

In our daily lives we must see that it's not happiness that makes us grateful, but gratefulness that makes us happy.

There is always, always, always something to be thankful for.



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