

Faith's Happenings...

July, 2022

Happy Birthday

Carl Despreaux	4th
Barb Sturrock	6th
Bernita Bulwan	7th
Jean Matz	8th
Margaret Murphy	12th
Jonathan Armen	22nd
Debbie Porter	29th
Jack Fitzgerald	30th

Happy Anniversary

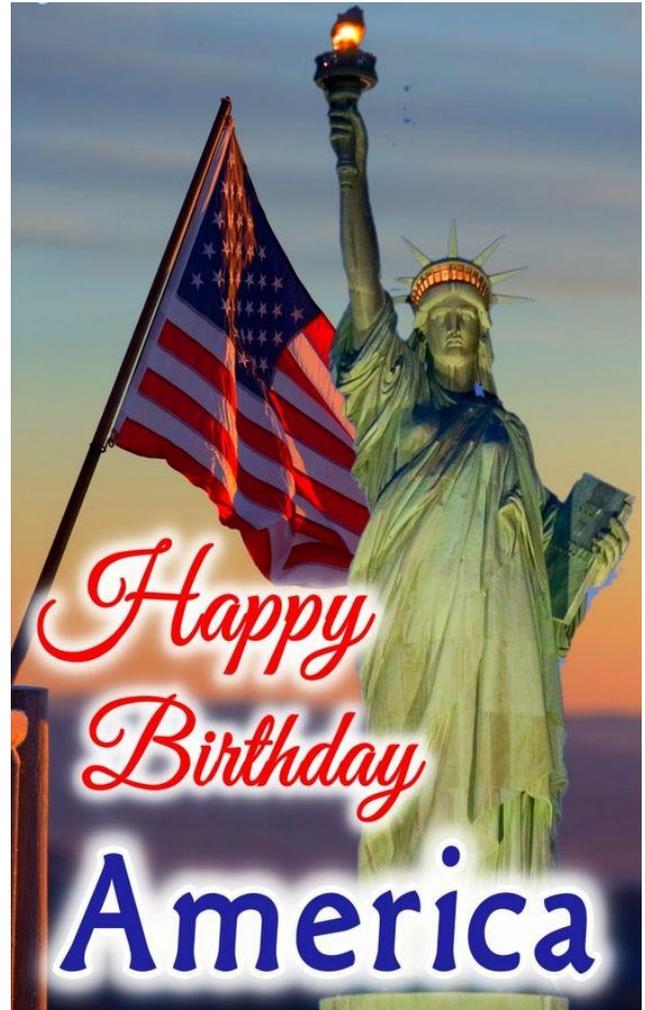
Jim & Autumn Hardenstine	1st
Les & Cathie VanAllsburg	8th
Gary & Jennifer Boehler	19th
Harold & Linda Schultz	22nd
Bill & Sara Speth	25th
John & Laura Kohler	28th

If we missed your name/date, we're sorry.
Please notify Barbra in the church office
to have your special dates added.

July at a Glance

Mark your calendars now!
Men of Faith Breakfast: July 5
Ladies Luncheon: July 20

*Prayer is asking God to align you with
His will rather than asking Him to be
aligned with yours.*



July 4, 1776 – July 4, 2022

Bookkeeper Position Filled!

Please welcome Karen Potts to our Faith community as our new bookkeeper. She recently moved to Rotonda from Ohio and has been attending Faith Lutheran.

Pictorial Directory

A coordinator is still needed to arrange the scheduling of photos and follow through. We will begin the process in the fall. If you can serve, contact Barbra in the church office (941-697-3313).

Men's Breakfast

Men, we invite you to join us for our monthly breakfast at Stefano's restaurant. We will meet at 7:30 am on Tuesday, June 7th. Please join us!

Stephen Ministry in Our Congregation

Could you benefit from the confidential, one-to-one care and support of a Stephen minister? Call (941) 681-0297.

Long Term Prayer Update

This prayer list is for those who need continued, long-term prayer. We try to keep the weekly prayer list short, so people named may be moved to the newsletter after a few weeks in the bulletin. If you want to add someone to this list, contact Barbra in the church office (697-3313).

Please keep these folks in your prayers: Ralph Crites, Sarah, Hester and Carter Newton, Joanne Best, Kathy Kanak, Sandy Honeycutt, John Schleede, Jack Myers, Carl Jaspers, Lois Howell, Rick and Roberta Luckow, Ethel Hunn, Jackie Magee

Available Online

The Stewardship inserts that used to be in your bulletins on the first Sunday of each month are no longer available in printed format, but you can still read them online in the "newsletter" section of the church website.

July Ladies Luncheon

On Wednesday, July 20th at 11:30 am, the ladies of Faith Lutheran will meet for lunch at Arturs. Located on Indiana Avenue, just north of Dearborn (used to be Howards). A relatively new restaurant in Englewood, they carry a variety of foods guaranteed to appeal to all. We will order from the regular menu with separate checks. Please sign up in the narthex if you can attend – and include your phone number. Deadline to sign up is Sunday, July 17th. Questions? See or call Kathie Wiley (941-662-5383).

Did You Know?

Did you know we update the church directory often – usually a few times a month. That means, if you picked up a directory at the beginning of the year, it's likely outdated or missing some necessary information. New directories are available in the narthex under the bulletin board. Pick one up next time you come to worship.

Thank You to the Work Crew

Have you noticed that the church sign is much more readable than it used to be? That's because the Tuesday work crew replaced the plastic sides and painted and updated the top. These guys do a lot of work to keep our building and grounds in top shape throughout the year. Be sure to thank them when you see them in church.

Need a Walker?

The church has several walkers (different kinds) and wheelchairs if you need to borrow one at any time. Check with one of the work crew guys or call Barbra in the church office for details.



June 24, 2022

He (Jesus) said to them, "Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves and rest a while." For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat. And they went away in the boat to a deserted place by themselves. Mark 6:31-32

From July 4 through August 31, I will be following Jesus' invitation to "come away.... and rest a while." My last Sabbatical was 9 years ago and I remember what a renewing time those three months were, a time to engage in activities that provided for spiritual renewal, service and education. I am grateful for the opportunity you have extended to me for two months of Sabbatical.

Many pastors I know spoke of the challenge they faced during the pandemic. How they were drained and feeling empty, yet kept pushing forward. Some of those same pastors were able to take a Sabbatical last year, some will be taking that time this summer. Those who went, then returned to their congregations, did so renewed and strengthened in faith, life and ministry. Those preparing for a Sabbatical this summer, like myself, anticipate the benefit of the time away for renewal and a refreshed perspective on things.

My focus for this sabbatical will be on the 7 types of rest needed to actually feel recharged. I referenced an article in a previous newsletter which highlighted them: physical rest, mental rest, social rest,

creative rest, emotional rest, spiritual rest and sensory rest. My plans include visiting The Chautauqua Institute for a week of focus on creation care and living in harmony with our natural world, a church camp/revival in a non-Lutheran tradition, a retreat at the Abby of the Genesee (a Catholic community) and time in/with nature, as well as an opportunity to study and read. One of the books I will read is titled Sabbath: Finding Rest, Renewal and Delight In Our Busy Lives by Wayne Muller.

Pastor Autumn will be covering pastoral care and worship leadership during this time. Thank you, Pastor Autumn! Please contact the church office and/or Pastor Autumn if you have any pastoral need.

At Faith we are blessed to have a congregation full of gifted leaders who are willing to use those gifts to the glory of God, and for our work together in the congregation, community and world. As God blesses our time together, God also blesses our time apart for his purpose of rest and renewal. In this way, God continues to invite us to move forward in our walk of faith.

I look forward to sharing my reflections when I return in September. I look forward to resuming the work God has called us to do together. And I look forward in gratitude to God blessing this time during which we can renew and be renewed for the work he will have us do.

Blessings,
Pastor Brian

