



Faith Family News

May 2024

*In response to God's grace flowing
through Christ, we grow in faith
and show Christ's love.*

Thank You

Thank you for a second opportunity to serve as an Interim Pastor at Faith. Of the 20 congregations and one campus ministry that I have served, Faith is the only one that was not facing a crisis or major problem when I began. While my calling as a parish pastor has been to do creative problem solving, I have really enjoyed being at Faith because my service here has been like a sabbatical from solving crises.

I've been blessed to be here twice and to complete my full-time pastoral ministry here. I am aware that after 54 years, I am slowing down and not able to do what I have done, so it is time for me actually to retire. I am committed to four Sundays in May at St. Jordan's United Church of Christ in Missouri. Then after the Central/Southern Illinois Synod assembly in June, Ann and I plan to travel to visit relatives.

A second thank you to all of you. And may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit continue to support and guide you in the very good ministry that you've been doing for 75 years.

*Pastor Paul Schwartzkopf
Sabbatical Pastor and Storyteller*

Dichsen Family Returns

May 5

May 5th is going to be a day full of joyous reunions, heartfelt gratitude, and meaningful reflections as we welcome back Pastor Adam and the Dichsen family AND celebrate Pastor Paul and Ann Schwartzkopf's contributions to our Faith Family. Also, some members of Faith will share their sabbatical experiences and aspirations for the future.

After the 9:30am service, a **potluck lunch** will be served. After all, what better way to look ahead than with family, food, and faith by your side? See you all at 9:30am for the service! Don't forget to **sign up for the potluck on the counter outside the sanctuary.**





Thank You!
We had a wonderful Lent, Holy Week, and Easter!
Thank you to:

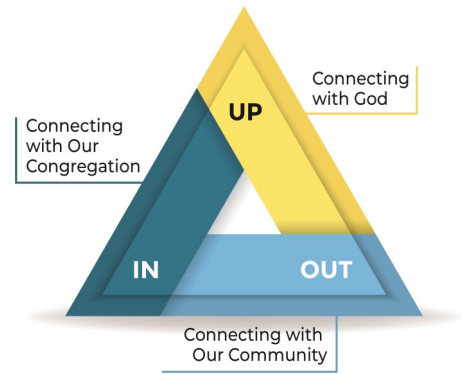
- Monica Proefrock for organizing the Lenten workshops with a service project on the final Wednesday;
- Patty Nelson and Karen Dean for the beautiful display of plants and flowers at the altar on Easter Sunday;
- Jean Welch and all the musicians for the beautiful music;
- the Children's Choir who offered their sweet voices in praise;
- and Kevin and Martha Krohe for organizing the delicious Easter breakfast and all who donated food items and helped with set up and clean up.

Christ is Risen — Indeed!



Reaching Up... Connecting with God through Worship

Total ministry is a balanced ministry as we reach up, in, and out... connecting with God, our congregation, and our community



Bells in Motion Concert at Faith

Bells in Motion will be presenting an *Out of this World* concert on **Sunday, May 5 at 4:00 pm**. This is a free concert, but a donation would be appreciated. Some of the music they will be ringing is the Star Trek theme, Star Wars medley by John Williams, music from Lord of the Rings, plus other favorites such as Fly Me to the Moon.

If you want to be entertained and mesmerized by awesome bell ringing, you need to come to this concert. The kids and grandkids will love it as well.

Doorbell Dinners

Our next times to deliver are **May 27-31**. A sign-up sheet is available in the gathering area on the counter by the Coffee Sales. May 27 is Memorial Day, but we will still deliver meals that day.

Summer Youth Camps

Performing Arts Camp (PAC) at Green Pastures Christian Retreat Center is for youth entering grades 5-12 and will take place on June 14-15, 21-22, and 28-29. Cost is \$50/camper.

Fire in Our Hearts (FIOH) at Green Pastures is for youth entering grades 5-12 and will take place on July 8-12 and 22-26. Cost is \$135/camper.

If needed, scholarships are available.

Registration link:

<http://www.greenpasturesretreatcenter.org/registration>.

For more information call: 217-584-1374

Email: contact@greenpasturesretreatcenter.org

Prayer Chain

If you would like to be added to the email Prayer Chain to be kept up to date on prayer needs for our members and friends, please let us know in the church office at faithlutheran62650@frontier.com and we will add you to the email list.

Bells in Motion of Central Illinois Present
MAY THE FOURTH BE WITH YOU
Saturday, May 4, 2024 at 7PM
First Presbyterian Church
204 W Prairie Ave
Decatur, IL 62523
AND
REVENGE OF THE FIFTH
Sunday, May 5, 2024 at 4PM
Faith Lutheran Church
1385 W Walnut Street
Jacksonville, IL 62650
Suggested donation \$15 for attendees over 13
www.BellsInMotion.org

Music is a great way to connect!

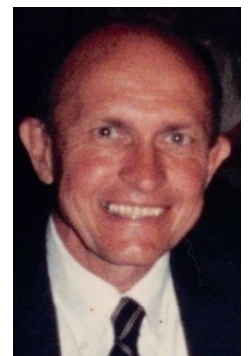
We are also always looking for people to sing or play special music for a prelude or a stewardship offering.

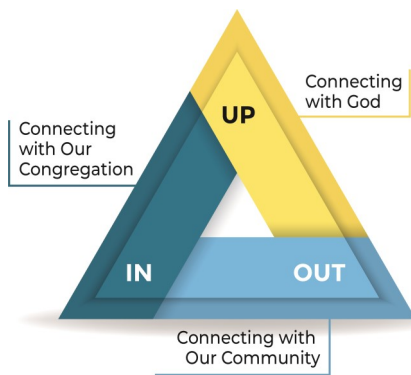
jrwelch53@msn.com or 217-652-7009 (phone/text)



We Remember George "Jack" Mann

Jack Mann died on April 7, and a graveside funeral was held on April 19 at Diamond Grove Cemetery. We give thanks to God for our partnership in ministry and for the hope we share in eternal life.





Reaching In... Connecting with our Congregation through Discipleship and Fellowship

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Discipleship Group

Join our monthly discussion at 10:00am on **Wednesday, May 15**, in the Faith Library. We will explore the Bible, enjoy some tasty treats, and continue to strengthen our relationships. For more information, please contact Kelly Hartz at (217) 502-1979 or by email at khartz@sompo-intl.com.

Youth Group Help Wanted

One of the hats worn by Pastor Adam is youth leader. In his absence, we are looking for people willing to lead an event, host a meal, or lead a youth Sunday school class. If you are interested, please let Kelly Hartz know. We have a wonderful group of youth, and you would be blessed by your time with them!

Women of Faith Fellowship Night

Join us on **Wednesday, May 8th** at 6:00pm at El Patron for some delicious food and fun conversation. Please RSVP to Monica Proefrock at 217-737-0475 by Sunday, May 5th if you're planning to join us.

Men's Breakfast

Come and connect with other men as we share our faith and enjoy some good food on **Saturday, May 4**. At 8:00, we hang out in the kitchen, helping to cook, drink coffee, and visit. At 9:00, we sit down for some conversation and discussion on a specific topic.

Men's Prayer Group

While Pastor Adam is away, the Men's Prayer Group is seeking to grow our group! You can meet in person at Faith on Wednesday mornings at 7:00, or on zoom. Contact one of the guys to let them know you are coming: Gilbert Joehl, Kevin Krohe, or Larry Kuster.

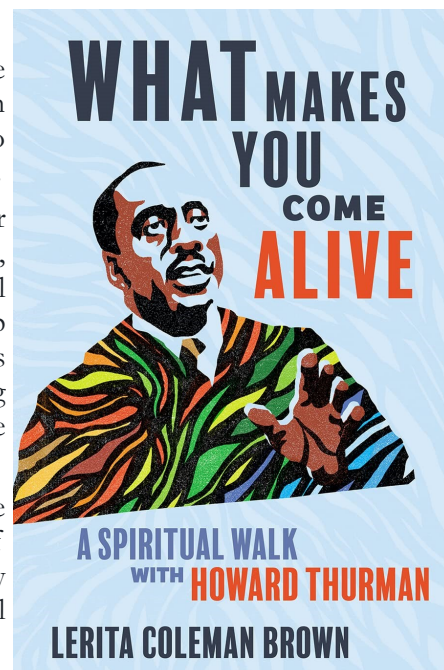
Sabbatical Book #3 - "What Makes You Come Alive"

by **Lerita Coleman Brown**

Pastor Adam has selected a number of books to read on sabbatical, but would like to invite you to join in reading some of them with him. We will discuss them together, then, when he returns, he will host a series of discussion sessions to share what we have learned. **Join Karen Dean on May 19, 10:45am, Justice Room.**

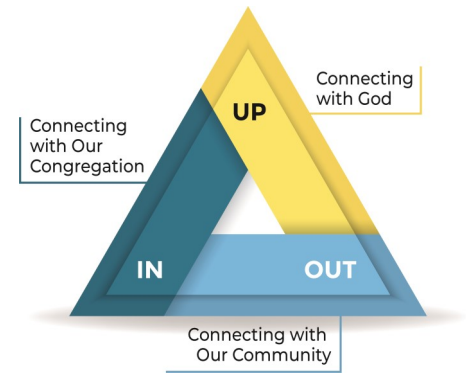
Our third book is about Howard Thurman, a spiritual adviser to Martin Luther King Jr. and other leaders and activists in the 1960s. He championed silence, contemplation, common unity, and nonviolence as powerful dimensions of social change. Lerita Coleman Brown beckons readers into their own apprenticeship with Thurman, walking us through Thurman's inimitable life and commitments as he summons us into centering down, encountering the natural world, paying attention to sacred synchronicity, unleashing inner authority, and recognizing the genius of the religion of Jesus.

From Pastor Adam: "As I seek renewal during this sabbatical time, I will be looking to learn from others. I am eager to read this book to grow the diversity of influence as I ask the Spirit to breathe new life into me. We are living in very polarized times of division and hatred where we all need this breath. I'm hopeful that Thurman's life and teachings will enrich us all as we come alive in Christ."



Reaching Out... Connecting with our Community through Outreach

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Rescheduled 75th Anniversary Service Project

Back in the fall, our planned 75 minutes of service for our 75th anniversary was postponed due to weather. Now that temps are rising and spring is here, we'll be setting a new date and sending out information soon. Anyone is welcome to join us, even if you weren't able to previously. Stay tuned for more details to come!

Thank You!

To Faith Lutheran, Bishop, and Pastors, After blessing me with your prayers for the past 3 years, I feel that it is your right to know the update of the outcome, as of now. The doctors say that I am in remission; however, I will have to continue with CT scans every 3 months to be certain there is no new tumor growth. So far the original tumor (baseball size) is dying — a tumor that attached itself to a rib bone and another one that was close to my spinal cord have been killed off with more radiation therapy. I want to express my sincere thanks to each and every one of you — Prayers Work! Great people are members of Faith Lutheran. Love In Christ!

Lloyd Kleinlein

Thank You!

Mary and I want to thank everyone for your prayers during my recent health event. I am very thankful for everyone's concern and support. I am happy to report that I have a very positive prognosis.

Larry Kuster

Crisis Center Foundation Supply Collection

Thank you to all who donated items and/or money to the drive sponsored by the Jacksonville Area Conference of Churches for The Crisis Center Foundation. The Crisis Center is a shelter for women, men, and their dependents looking to get away from their abusers while receiving the care and help they need to process their trauma while striving towards independence. Located in Jacksonville, IL, the facility is open 24/7 and provides a wide selection of services to help transition those in need to a safe and happy life. Trained staff is available on their 24-hour hotline at 217-243-4357 to discuss our services and to plan a path forward. And Thank You to Pat Glyshaw for organizing our Faith collection.



Jacksonville Food Center

The Food Center is now supplying food orders every three weeks, instead of every two weeks, to hopefully stretch food supplies a little further. The statistics for March are as follows: 441 families were served food orders, a total of 923 people, at a cost of \$78,255. For once-weekly walk-in bakery/produce, a total of 278 people were served at a cost of \$2,385. Meat cost for bakery/produce customers was \$696.

Donations of foods and money come in from various organizations, and that is very helpful. The churches contributed \$5,762.38 in money and \$1,778 in food donations. Faith Lutheran donated \$265 in money in March. Please remember those in need with much-needed donations of money and food items.

Lillian Korous and Pat Glyshaw

Worship Assistants

Chancel Committee

May 5 Pat Glyshaw
May 12 Mary Jane Esslinger
May 19 Kris Roth
May 26 **need volunteer**

Communion Assts.

May 5 Hallie Mayner
May 12 Pam Devlin
May 19 Kay Schnitker
May 26 **need volunteer**

Readers

May 5 Barb Davenport
May 12 Carol VanderKloot
May 19 John Williams
May 26 Patty Nelson

Coffee Hosts

May 5 **need volunteer**
May 12 Verla B. & Laura S.
May 19 Kay Schnitker
May 26 **need volunteer**

Greeters

May 5 Lynette Hamilton
May 12 Hallie Mayner
May 19 Barb Fishback
May 26 Lillian Korous

Ushers

May 5 Larry Kuster
May 12 Hallie Mayner
May 19 Pat Glyshaw
May 26 Hallie Mayner

If you would like to help with assisting for the 9:30am worship services, please contact the church office (faithlutheran62650@frontier.com) or **sign up in the gathering area** at the podium by the east doors.

Altar Plants

(\$15 donation appreciated)

Plants are placed in the chancel that remain for an extended period of time.

If you would like to donate, please call or email the church office (245-8919 or faithlutheran62650@frontier.com) or **sign up in the gathering area at the podium by the east doors**; please make checks payable to Faith Lutheran Church (1385 W. Walnut St.).

May 5 **Open for donation**
& **Open for donation**

May 12 **Open for donation**
& **Open for donation**

May 19 **Open for donation**
& **Open for donation**

May 26 By Vicki Robson & Judy Dillard in memory of Dave Robson & Chuck Dillard's birthdays
& **Open for donation**

Financial Assistants

May 5 Patty Nelson & Kelly Street
May 12 Ken Devlin & Kelly Hartz
May 19 Greg Kimler & Kelly Street
May 26 Malinda Carlson & Kelly Hartz

Friends From Faith

A ministry team led by Naomi Hahn: on the last Sunday of each month — everyone is welcome to send a greeting card. **On May 26**, visit the tall white table just outside the sanctuary where you can select a card, sign a card, or deposit a card in the mailbox to send. Cards and stamps are provided for your use. If you have extra cards or stamps to spare, please bring them and donate them in the provided jar.

Newsletter Deadline

May 19

Plastic Caps & Lids

We stopped collecting caps in December, but the Jacksonville Public Library is now accepting caps and lids.