

APRIL 2026

# FAITH CHRONICLE

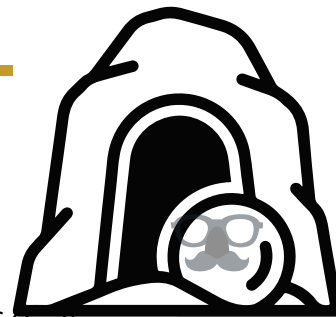
The monthly newsletter of Faith Lutheran Church



**Faith Lutheran Church**  
**6142 State Route 31**  
**Cicero, NY 13039**

# Pastor's Page

**SISTERS AND BROTHERS OF FAITH CHURCH,**



I hope you have gotten used to my sense of humor—and my understanding of God's sense of humor. For example, I hear God laughing loudly whenever Easter falls on April 1.

I have heard many people say Easter when it falls in late-March or early April is “early.” In a similar way, people call Easter “late” whenever it falls after the middle of April. Long ago I made my peace with the changing date and weather for Easter. I have seen mud, rain, sunshine, and daffodils and forsythia in bloom on Easter. I have also had to scrape ice off the car, add an extra sweater (for an outdoor sunrise service), and shovel snow from the sidewalk on Easter Sunday. Our resident meteorologist, Arnold Hansen, will affirm ANY kind of weather can happen on Easter in Central New York. For me, Easter simply is—unless it falls on the first day of the fourth month.

Go ahead and ask yourself why I love Easter when it falls on April 1. (Note: we miss that date by just a few days this year, but I think it is close enough to excuse my newsletter message.)

April 1 is always April Fool's Day in North America. We play pranks and silly jokes on one another. Think whoopee cushions, handshake buzzers, and slapping a piece of notepaper on someone's back saying “kick me.” April Fool's is the most juvenile holiday on the calendar. God gets the last and loudest laugh on us when Easter falls on April Fool's.

People, ordinary people like you and me, thought they could stop God's word and saving love nearly two thousand years ago. People not very different from you and me thought Jesus made obeying God too easy by saying all we need to do is love God with all our heart, mind, soul and strength, and love our neighbors as ourselves. Ordinary people voted with their shouts to have Jesus crucified. The powers that be made the crucifixion happen. Their efforts seemed to work for three days. The gospels say the sky turned dark as night as Jesus died. All creation suffered as death cast its shadow over all people and every creature. Jesus, the Word of God in human flesh, died. His friends buried his body in a borrowed tomb.

And on the third day God declared with a loud voice: “April Fool! You cannot turn away my love or forgiveness. Sin and death have no power where I offer love and life. Go to the tomb where you laid Jesus' body. It is empty. He has risen and lives again to shower your lives with my love and hope for you and your loved ones.”

I pray your life mirrors God's April Fool's message to the universe. Where darkness and grieving rule, God's reassurance and light arrive to shine brightly. Where hate speaks loudly, Jesus shouts “I live and love you as you are!” over the noise. Where limitations and fear stifle compassion from doing its best, God's Spirit fills us with the courage to overcome our fear with a holy foolishness and boldness that declares Jesus is risen and God's will triumphs over all sin and death.

Blessing for you as we celebrate Jesus' victory this Easter,

*Pastor Allan*

## 40 DAYS FO \$40.00

It's time for our 40 Days for \$40.00 Lenten Challenge. If you would like to make an extra \$40.00 offering now through Easter, please be sure to write it on your check or include a note. Anyone doing the challenge will be entered to win a prize. All funds received will go into our General Fund account. Any questions, please reach out to Lauri Hoover . Thank you for taking on the challenge.

# 40



## DIAPER DRIVE

As we journeyed through the season of Lent, we were reminded of Christ's call to love and serve our neighbors, especially those in need. This time of reflection, prayer, and compassionate action has been made even more meaningful through your generosity. Thank you for your donations to the CNY Diaper Bank. Your support is a true blessing to families in our community who are facing hardship. Because of you, diapers which cannot be purchased with assistance benefits are being provided for households with young children. Your kindness is a beautiful example of living out our faith in action. Thank you for making a difference.



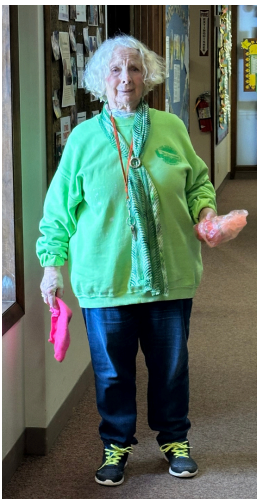
## LCM CHILI LUNCH

Thank you to everyone who participated in our Chili Lunch! It was a wonderful afternoon filled with delicious chili, warm conversation, and meaningful connection. A great time was had by all as we gathered in fellowship and supported Lutheran Campus Ministry.



## CLEANING THE CHURCH

Thank you to everyone who came out to help spruce up our church in preparation for Easter! Your time, energy, and willingness to lend a hand made all the difference. Because of you, our worship space is ready to welcome the joy of the season.



*Our mission: As a Community of Faith in Christ, we Live in Grace and Share the Gospel of Salvation.*

*Adopted by the Congregation, September 28, 2008*

## In Our Prayers

### OUR FRIENDS AND RELATIVES

Ayden (Diane Senzarino's grandson), Toni, Patricia Fosdick, Mary Swanson (Friend of the Bronners), Pat Green, Rich LaMonte, Gary Schumacher, Arnold Hogan (Dawn Spink's father), Betty Craner, Ann Grim (Patty Carter's mother), Nick, Clara Long, Pamela Strohl (friend of Kathy Newcomb), Betty and Gary Winther, Jean Kelley, Joan and Lamont Hahn, Phyllis Harm, Maureen Anderson, Phyllis and Francis Letizia, Ginny Gronozio, Doris Heath, Elaine and Dell Blume (Friends of the Winthers), Philomena and Garrett Bronner (Chuck Bronner's parents), Joe Houser, Charlie Bullock, Alice, Lynda, Maria (Friends of Diane Monthie), Daniel Canastra and Quentin Canastra (Ri Ho's son and grandson), Rose (friend of an AA member), Don Richmond (Ralph Richmond's brother) Danny Whitney (Friend of Lynn Werner), Joe Krywalski, Katlyn Fleury, Chuckie (friend of parishioner)



### MILITARY & THEIR FAMILIES

Leah Bratt (Sarah Bratt's sister), Sam (Leah's husband), Zachary & Daniel Rosney (Pat Green's great nephews), Jackie, Kenny and Isaac Bowne (Betty Gay's grandchildren), Eric Currier (Dan Currier's son), Sam Yonkers (friend of Barb & John Snyder)



**FLOWER CHART:** The Altar Guild has placed this year's Flower Chart on the bulletin board in the Narthex. We all love having live flowers on the altar for Sunday morning worship. Please consider providing flowers for a memorial or special occasion. Sign up on the chart, then bring the flowers to church on Sunday morning or call Linda Keller or Diane Monthie for information or to make special arrangements. Also, you can request live flowers by placing a donation in an envelope with your name and information in the collection plate at least 2 weeks before your selected date. And, of course, we will be most grateful for any donation to the general flower fund.

*Our Guiding Principles: Jesus is Lord; We are a Community of Faith; We Invite All People to Share in God's Grace; We pray First; We Act on the Holy Spirit's Guidance; We Give Generously of Ourselves as God has given to us.*

*Adopted by the Congregation, September 28, 2008*



## **The Men's Breakfast Group will meet April 11 at 9:00 am**

We gather to share a meal, build friendships, and grow in faith together. Look for a sign-up sheet on the narthex bulletin board.

## **The Quilters Will Meet In April**

We enjoy not only sewing, but also wonderful fellowship together. We are happy to teach anyone—no experience needed. Come join us!



## **FOOD PANTRY**

### **DISTRIBUTION**

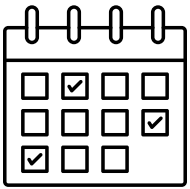
Sunday April 19: 11:30am - 1:00 pm  
Monday April 20: 4:30 pm - 5:30 pm



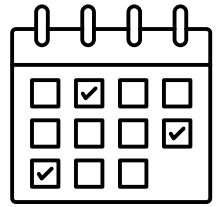
New federal SNAP (food stamp) rules, effective March 1, may affect about 6,000 people in Onondaga County. Adults ages 18–64 without children under 14 must work, volunteer, or participate in job training for 80 hours per month to keep benefits. While the rules are now in place, impacts may not be felt until June. Some exceptions apply, including pregnancy and participation in treatment programs. Those affected should have received information from the county with next steps.

The food pantry always appreciates donations of nonperishable items.

If you can volunteer, please let Tracy know. If you might be interested in taking over this role of the Food Pantry coordinator, contact Tracy. She is willing to go over all that is involved with the Food Pantry.



## Calendar at a Glance



- 4/2 Maundy Thursday Service 7:00 pm
- 4/3 Good Friday Service 7:00 pm
- 4/5 Easter Breakfast 8:30 am
- 4/6 Mutual Ministry Meeting 7:00 pm
- 4/11 Men's Breakfast 9:00 am
- 4/12 Choir Cantata Service 10:00 am
- 4/13 Council Meeting 7:00 pm
- 4/19 Food Pantry Distribution 11:30 am - 1:00 pm
- 4/20 Food Pantry Distribution 4:30 pm - 5:30 pm

### CHILDREN'S SERMON

Through stories and smiles, our children's sermon brings God's word to life for all ages.



### CHURCH DIRECTORY

We are currently updating our church directory and would love to include your information! If you haven't yet completed a form, copies are available on the table in the narthex. If you prefer, we'd be happy to email you a form, just reach out to [flchurch31@gmail.com](mailto:flchurch31@gmail.com). Please feel free to share as much or as little information as you're comfortable with. Thank you for helping us stay connected as a church family!



# THOSE WHO SERVE

## ALTAR GUILD

Lorrie Monthie and Jeanne Bronner

## MUSICIANS

Lindsay Brown, Barb Schwartz

## TELLERS:

### Week 1

Linda Keller and Rose McCarthy

### Week 2

Maria Scheuer and Barb Stevenson

### Week 3

Ralph and Cassie Richmond

### Week 4

Barb Stevenson and Maria Scheuer

## Financial Report for 2026

	February 2026	2026 YTD
Income	\$12,080.00	\$28,681.72
Expense	\$11,278.30	\$23,418.02
Totals	\$801.70	\$5,263.70

A copy of the monthly financial report to the Church Council is available in the Church office.

### 4/2 Maundy Thursday

Worship Assistant      Arnold Hansen  
Reader                      Lorrie Monthie  
Greeter                      Lauri Hoover

### 4/3 Good Friday

Worship Assistant      Bill Stevenson  
Reader                      Multiple  
Greeter                      John and Barb Snyder

### 4/5 Easter Service

Worship Assistant      Lorrie Monthie  
Reader                      Barb Snyder  
Cantor                      Betty Gay  
Greeter                      Diane Monthie

### 4/12 Cantata Service

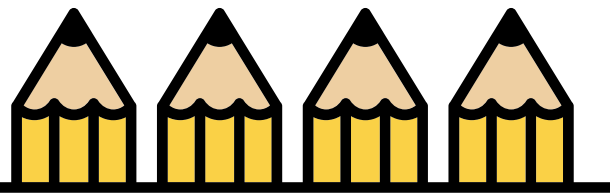
Worship Assistant      Bill Stevenson  
Greeter                      Kathy Newcomb

### 4/19 Service

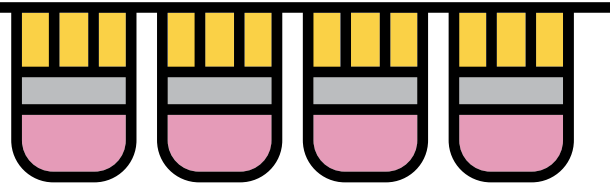
Worship Assistant      Arnold Hansen  
Reader                      Sharon Mirizio  
Cantor                      Lauri Hoover  
Greeter                      Linda Keller

### 4/26 Service

Worship Assistant      Lorrie Monthie  
Reader                      Betty Winther  
Cantor                      Cassie & Ralph Richmond  
Greeter                      Bill Azzoto



## Nursery School Notes April 2026



Spring is here and we are very excited about that! Our month begins with School Spirit Days on April 8 and 9. Other special days here at the Nursery School this month are Teddy Bear Day on April 15 and 16, and Beach Day on April 29 and 30 (it might not be summer yet, but we'll be wearing our shorts and sunglasses and enjoying a picnic treat)! We will also have a safety presentation from a parent who works for the Sheriff's Department on April 22 and 23.

We are so grateful to the nursery school families and church members who have helped us with fundraisers we've had so far this year. Thank you so much for your contributions that support our program and keep it going strong! We are also very thankful to those who have donated to our "Star Supplies Board" with items such as paper towels, sanitizing wipes, etc. Your kindness goes a very long way.

Our enrollment for Fall 2026 continues. We are happy to have received a number of registrations already (we especially have spots remaining in our three year old class). Please spread the word to those who may be interested in their child attending Faith Lutheran Nursery School. They can visit our Facebook page, call our office at 315-699-6087 or email at [flnsnsyr@gmail.com](mailto:flnsnsyr@gmail.com). We will be putting our signs up in the community soon, as well.

It is hard to believe that we only have two more months to go before our school year comes to an end. At this point in the year we reflect on all that our students have worked so hard to accomplish and see how much they all have grown over the year. We are so proud of all of them!



<b>Maria Scheuer</b>	<b>04/02</b>
<b>Joan Hahn</b>	<b>04/07</b>
<b>Fran Smith</b>	<b>04/08</b>
<b>Katelyn McCarthy</b>	<b>04/22</b>
<b>Maida Freytag</b>	<b>04/30</b>

**Faith Lutheran Church Council Directory**

**CHURCH PHONE: 315-699-5224 flchurch31@gmail.com**

**Church Secretary: Rebecca Neider**

**OFFICERS:**

**President Bill Stevenson  
Vice President Patty Carter  
Council Secretary Barb Snyder  
Treasurer Kathy Newcomb**

**CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL VOTING MEMBERS:**

**Pastor Allan Ferguson  
Financial Secretary Barb Stevenson  
Christian Education  
Mutual Ministry, Co-Chair Cassie Richmond  
Mutual Ministry, Co-Chair Chuck Bronner  
Mutual Ministry, Co-Chair Bruce Hahn  
  
Property Committee, Co-Chair John Snyder  
Property Committee, Co-Chair Jim Kelley  
Property Committee, Co-Chair Gary Winther**

**Congregational Life Diane Monthie  
Community Outreach/Evangelism Jeanne Bronner**

**STEWARDSHIP**

**COUNCIL NON-VOTING POSITIONS:**

**Superintendent of Sunday School  
Co-Chair Diane Monthie  
Co-Chair Lorrie Monthie  
Bookkeeper Maria Scheuer**

**If you need to reach any of the Council members, please contact  
the church office for the person's contact information**

Please call or email the office when you or a member of your family is sick or in the hospital.

If you have given up your land line telephone and would like your cell phone indicated in the church records. Please notify the office.

Please call or email the office if your telephone # or email address has or is changed.

The Church number is 315-699-5224 – email address is flchurch31@gmail.com



If you are unable to make it to the Sunday morning service stream the service on the Church's Facebook account on your computer and phone.

Service starts at 10am.

Facebook: @FaithLutheranChurchCiceroNY

You can also follow Faith Lutheran Church on Instagram: @FLC.Cicero



Do you have any news or notes you would like for the members of the Congregation to see in the May issue of the Faith Chronicle? Please have your submission into the office by April 22nd. If you would like to see other things in the newsletter, please let the office know and we will see what we can do to get it in. Thank you.



**If you would like to unsubscribe to Faith Lutheran's newsletter or bulletin distribution. Please notify the office at flchurch31@gmail.com and we can remove your name from the lists.**

# April

## Faith Lutheran CHURCH

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2 Lakeshore Heights Mtg 6:30-7:30 pm  Maundy Thursday Service 7:00pm	3 Good Friday Service 7:00 PM	4 Saturday Groups 11-3 7-8
5 Easter Breakfast 8:30 am  Sunday Service 10 am	6 M&M meeting 7pm	7 Choir 6:30-7:30	8	9 Lakeshore Heights Mtg 6:30-7:30 pm	10	11 Men's Breakfast 9:00 am  Saturday Groups 11-3 7-8
12 Choir Cantata 10 am	13 Council Mtg 7pm	14 Choir 6:30-7:30	15	16 Lakeshore Heights Mtg 6:30-7:30 pm	17	18 Saturday Groups 11-3 7-8
19 Sunday Service 10 am  Food Pantry 11:30-1:00	20 Food Pantry 4:30-5:30	21 Choir 6:30-7:30	22	23 Lakeshore Heights Mtg 6:30-7:30 pm	24	25 Saturday Groups 11-3 7-8
26 Sunday Service 10 am	27	28 Choir 6:30-7:30	29	30 Lakeshore Heights Mtg 6:30-7:30 pm		

# 2026