

JULY 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,

High school, college and university graduations are over by the time you read this newsletter. I sat through my share of graduation addresses. I cannot remember any one of them. I do remember a couple of the speakers. One was Alex Haley, of Roots fame. His book was a bestseller at the time. The book was also under some controversy. Someone claimed Haley “borrowed” material from another author’s book. (“Borrow” is the polite term. I believe Newsweek and some newspapers used the word “plagiarized.”)

One tradition the college I attended observed was inviting the graduates to dinner with the president and his wife. This dinner was not a banquet in a large dining room. The president and his wife hosted several small parties, organized divided by faculty advisor and including significant others. It was not a tuxedo-sort of event, but it was much more than burgers and fries. The atmosphere was expected to be cordial and as far from controversy as possible.

Somehow the subject of the graduation speaker came up in conversation. A certain student who became a pastor you happen to know responded frankly. “This school has an honor code we are expected to keep. We would have to stand before the Judicial Board if any one of us faced the same questions as Mr. Haley. How do you explain the contradiction in expectations about plagiarism?” Linda quietly and firmly gripped my hand to let me know I should be quiet. The president’s wife, who sang in a choir I sang in, smiled politely with the kind of pained look that let me know I should not have spoken my mind. I think my faculty advisor tried to explain the realities of the world. I had said what I felt at the wrong time and definitely in the wrong place.

I do not feel I committed a grievous sin forty-nine years ago. Sometimes truth needs to bubble up in unpleasant and challenging ways. A congress gathered in Philadelphia in 1776 affirmed Thomas Jefferson’s statement that: “We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.” Those words have served as a creed for this nation for 250 years.

We forget most of the statements in that same declaration. It says: “The history of the present King of Great Britain is a history of repeated injuries . . . all having in direct object the establishment of an absolute Tyranny over these States.” Thomas Jefferson, Benjamin Franklin, John Adams, Roger Sherman, and Robert Livingston listed a series of grievances to explain why thirteen colonies on the east coast of North America needed to become an independent nation.

Long ago communities read the Declaration of Independence publicly on the 4th of July. The village of Homer renewed the old tradition a few years ago. National Public Radio plays a recording featuring its many reporters and commentators, each reciting a section or statement on our nation’s birthday.

If I say this out of order, forgive me. I encourage everyone in our church and community to read the Declaration this year and accept the pledge of its closing words: “And for the support of this Declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection of divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes and our sacred Honor.” I believe the pledge to our neighbors and God would please our Lord Jesus.

The grace of our Lord Jesus be with you always!

Pastor Allan

HAWAIIAN SHIRT SUNDAY

On Sunday July 5th, everyone is invited to wear Hawaiian attire to church. Bright colors, floral prints, and cheerful summer outfits are all welcome as we celebrate the season together in fellowship and joy!



SNAPSHOTS OF PASTOR'S PAST

Louis Daguerre made the first successful photograph on a silver plate in 1839. For some strange reason, the following pictures from the American Revolution and the War of 1812 reveal one pastor's checkered past. The first picture shows him with members of his old unit at Fort Niagara. The large picture was taken at Yorktown in '81. Battalion V, officers in front, camped in the siege lines around the British position. Ordnance Sgt. Ferguson (Company 8) is in the back row about 14 men from the right. The final picture proves almost anyone can go higher in the world.



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, Pat Green, 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 Winther, Jean Kelley, Joan and Lamont Hahn, Phyllis Harm, Phyllis and Francis Letizia, Ginny Gronozio, Doris Heath, Philomena and Garrett Bronner (Chuck Bronner's parents), Charlie Bullock, Alice, Lynda, Maria (Friends of Diane Monthie), Daniel Canastra and Quentin Canastra (Ri Ho's son and grandson, Don Richmond (Ralph Richmond's brother) Danny Whitney (Friend of Lynn Werner), Joe Krywalski, Katlyn Fleury.



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

The Men's Breakfast Group will be taking time out for the summer and will meet again in October. Save the date of October 10th at 9:00 for our next meeting!

The Quilters

The quilters will be taking a summer break during July and August and will resume meeting at the end of September. Wishing everyone a wonderful summer!



FOOD PANTRY

DISTRIBUTION

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

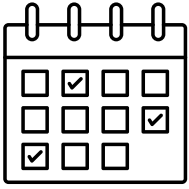


New federal SNAP (food stamp) rules, effective March 1, affect about 6,000 people in Onondaga County. Adults ages 18–64 without children under 14 must work, volunteer, or participate in job training for 80 hours per month to keep benefits.

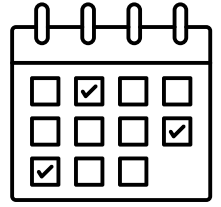
Some exceptions apply, including pregnancy and participation in treatment programs. Those affected should have received information from the county with next steps.

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



- 7/5 Hawaiian Apparel Sunday
- 7/6 Mutual Ministry Meeting 7:00 pm
- 7/13 Council Meeting 7:00 pm
- 7/19 Food Pantry Distribution 11:30 am - 1:00 pm
- 7/20 Food Pantry Distribution 4:30 pm - 5:30 pm

★ 26TH ANNUAL ★
FIREWORKS
on the River

★ CELEBRATING ★
250
 YEARS OF FREEDOM!

Join us as we honor the 250th birthday of our nation with an unforgettable *community celebration!*

BRING THE WHOLE FAMILY FOR A FULL DAY OF FESTIVITIES, INCLUDING:

- LIVE MUSIC & LOCAL PERFORMERS
- FOOD TRUCKS & CLASSIC FAVORITES
- KIDS' ACTIVITIES, GAMES & FACE PAINTING
- LOCAL VENDORS & ARTISAN BOOTHS
- FUN FOR ALL AGES!

THE COMMUNITY CELEBRATION IS HELD AT
RIVERFRONT PARK IN BREWERTON AND LIGHTHOUSE PARK IN HASTINGS
 ALONG THE ONEIDA RIVER
 WITH ADDITIONAL EVENTS THROUGHOUT THE BREWERTON AND HASTINGS AREA.

As the sun sets, get ready for the
 ★ **GRAND FINALE** ★
 A BREATHTAKING FIREWORKS SPECTACULAR THAT WILL LIGHT UP THE NIGHT SKY IN HONOR OF 250 YEARS OF FREEDOM!

BIGGER BURSTS ★ BRIGHTER COLORS ★ A CELEBRATION 250 YEARS IN THE MAKING

★ THIS EVENT IS PROUDLY BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE **GREATER ONEIDA LAKE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THE TREMENDOUS SUPPORT FROM THE COMMUNITY RESIDENTS AND BUSINESSES. WITHOUT YOU, THIS EVENT WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE.

THOSE WHO SERVE

ALTAR GUILD
Diane Monthie

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

	May 2026	2026 YTD
Income	\$10,677.00	\$65,245.99
Expense	\$9,184.62	\$57,455.93
Totals	\$1,492.38	\$7,790.06

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

7/5 Service

Worship Assistant	Bill Stevenson
Reader	Betty Winther
Cantor	Cassie & Ralph Richmond
Greeter	Kathy Newcomb

7/12 Service

Worship Assistant	Lorrie Monthie
Reader	Rose McCarthy
Cantor	Lauri Hoover
Greeter	Diane Monthie

7/19 Service

Worship Assistant	Bill Stevenson
Reader	Cassie Richmond
Cantor	Betty Gay
Greeter	Lauri Hoover

7/26 Service

Worship Assistant	Arnold Hansen
Reader	Sharon Mirizio
Cantor	Rose McCarthy
Greeter	Bill Azzoto



Nicholas Martino	07/03
Theresa Hahn	07/10
Michelle Martino	07/16
Millie Grace	07/21
Brett Helmer	07/26
Megan Hansen	07/29

Faith Lutheran Church Council Directory

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

Church Secretary: Rebecca Neider

OFFICERS:

President Patty Carter

Vice President Bill Stevenson

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 Gary Winther

Property Committee, Co-Chair Bill Grace

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 July issue of the Faith Chronicle? Please have your submission into the office by July 20th. 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.

July

2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<i>Faith Lutheran</i> CHURCH			1	2 Lakeshore Heights Mtg 6:30-7:30 pm	3	4 Saturday Groups 11-3 7 - 8 
5 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 Saturday Groups 11-3 7 - 8
12 Sunday Service 10 am	13 Council Mtg 7pm	14	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	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	31	