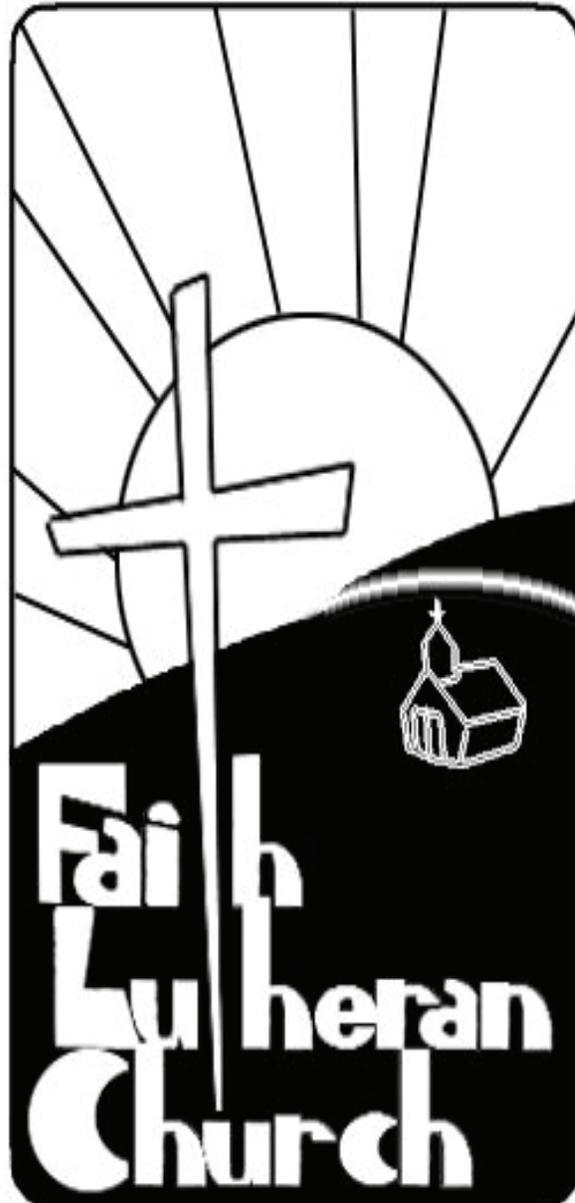


# The Grapevine

September 2016

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## Clippings from the Vinedresser

*“Bless the LORD, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name.” Psalm 103:1*



*“The beauty of it all, is that God extends the concept of family to include all who are called by God’s name.”*

I can’t tell you how many times I have been told by a retired person, “I am busier now than when I was working.” How can that be, I wonder. Then I am told, “Time seems to go faster as we age.” Nonsense. There are still sixty minutes in an hour, 24 hours in a day, 365 days in a year (give or take the earth’s wobbly trip around the sun.)

Well, then this summer came. No, I haven’t retired, but I did take some holiday time. And time flew by so quickly that I can’t believe it is now September. My head is still spinning. Where did the time go?

Well, there was recovery from a minor surgery. There were babies born, baptized, and children married. There were endless ringing of the doorbell as family arrived for dinner and conversation. Time flew. Fast. Faster than normal. If this is a harbinger of retirement, I’ll stay working for a while yet!

But it is all good, isn’t it? I mean, family with all the births and deaths, the laughter and arguments, the coming and going. Isn’t it great? One of God’s greatest blessings is family. It is within family that we can be ourselves, let our true selves be known, knowing that we will be loved and accepted no matter what. It is in family that we learn how to celebrate new life and life at its end. What a blessing.

The beauty of it all, is that God extends the concept of family to include all who are called by God’s name. That puts us within a huge family. Everyone you see at worship on Sunday morning, whether you know their name or not (and why not get to know those ones) are our brothers or sisters. But it doesn’t stop there. Every Christian person, of whatever denomination, whatever worship tradition, whatever colour or language is our brother or sister. But that isn’t all, either. Every Jewish person, who is part of God’s chosen race, part of God’s holy covenant, who wor-

ships God whose name they reverently refuse to utter, is our brother and sister (St. Paul goes to great lengths to explain that we Christians have been grafted onto the Jewish tree.) And it doesn’t stop there. Every Muslim, who worships the God of Abraham, whom they call Allah, is our brother or sister. And I suspect it goes much wider than that too, but this at least is outright fact.

We know all about family squabbles. Within the Christian community we continue to break into smaller and smaller groupings because “we are right in our belief about this or that, and you are obviously wrong.” This has happened just recently within our Lutheran ELCIC family. How very sad it is.

Not only that, there are many family members who firmly believe that Jewish folks are not “saved” or whatever terminology we use; that they are not God’s people. We are, they’re not. How very sad this is.

And don’t even mention the Muslims. It seems that we in the West, even we Christians, have a real hate on for the Muslims. How very tragic this is.

The process to bring all these disparate brothers and sisters together is so huge that it seems impossible. I mean, if we refuse to worship with and love those within our Lutheran family who accept/don’t accept same sex couples, how in the world can we expect to love and accept our Catholic, Pentecostal brothers and sisters, or our Jewish brothers and sisters, or our Muslim brothers and sisters. How?

It starts small, like everything else. Love those within our community; reach out to connect with those that we see on the block or at the store. Pray for open hearts and minds so we will be open to those who are different.

How did I get here from my busy summer? Well, family. If we treat our brothers and sisters in faith as family, love will come. That is the work of God’s people today: to be the genuine loving family of God, following our big brother Jesus’ example. Are we in?



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## Sunday School

### HELP WANTED!!

We are in need of Sunday School teachers. We would like to get at least two more teachers to take on classes for the grades 1 - 3 range. Depending on how many volunteers we get, teachers would only need to do one class a month. We will do a more formal lesson the 2nd Sunday of each month, a music class on the 4th Sunday. We would like to add another session bringing us to three classes a month. But we need your help to make that happen. Experience is not necessary, just a desire to

help share the word about Jesus and his love for us. We have resources to help you out. If you have any questions, please talk to Lisa Bachewich or Vickie Goddard

Sunday School begins this fall on Sunday, September 11.

See you there!

Lisa



## Kick Off and Mortgage Burning

Faith Place is **MORTGAGE FREE!!!!**

Paired with our Kick Off Sunday, we will be celebrating our Mortgage Burning Event!

Following Church on Sunday will be a Potluck Lunch! Bring you Favourite main, side, salad or dessert (Cake and beverages will be provided).

As this is a whole Faith Place celebration, residents will be invited and joining us as well. We look forward to Celebrating with you!



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## Choir

Sing to the Lord a new Song! (Psalm 96:1)



Calling all Altos, Tenors, Basses, Sopranos – come join the choir as we start a new year. Not sure what voice you are – that's ok too. We welcome all who enjoy singing!

I hope that everyone has had a wonderful summer and is looking forward to a new year of singing. As always, the choir will strive to enhance our worship experience with anthems, both old and new. We hope to participate in the Christmas Carol Sing again, if it will be held – that has always been a highlight for us.

Our first practice of the fall season

will be on September 7 at 6:30 pm in the chapel. We will start our year with singing for the Mortgage Burning service on Sept 18.

We are always looking for new members, so please come and give it a try – all we require is your voice and enthusiasm, along with a commitment to attend the practices. If you have any questions about choir, please feel free to contact me at [likeda@wcshighspeed.com](mailto:likeda@wcshighspeed.com), or by phone at 705-357-3488, or ask any choir member.

We look forward to seeing you on September 7.

Laurie

## Faith Lutheran Women



You are invited to a Women's Retreat September 23-25 in Moffat, Ontario (just outside of Guelph).

Come Friday night or Saturday morning. We'll have some fun, do a study on prayer, be creative together and enjoy the grounds and meals.

For more information contact Elke

Rosenau.

The women's first meeting this fall will be Thursday, October 6, 5:30 p.m., at Club Lorelei. All women welcome for an evening of good food and conversation.

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## Nursery News

There will no longer be assigned Nursery attendants supervising the Sunday Nursery. In order to run the Nursery, a minimum of sixteen volunteers are needed. This was a commitment of every other month. At present, we had only six volunteers.

The nursery will be open each Sunday as a crying room. Parents are welcome to take their child into the Nursery during service. The service

is broadcast and is on the TV in the Nursery.

I want to thank all those who gave their time to assist in the nursery care over the past few years.

Vickie Goddard



## Bible Study

Bible Study will begin on Tuesday, September 13 at 9:45 a.m. We will be looking at Paul's letters to the Galatians and Ephesians.

We meet every second Tuesday at 9:45 a.m. The discussion is lively, the comradery deep, and the learning life and thought changing.

You'll surely want to join us, right?



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# Thanksgiving Food and Clothing Drive

Beginning on Sunday September 11 and running through Thanksgiving Sunday, October 10, we will be collecting food and gently used clothing and shoes (adult) for Gate 3:16.

Drop off your contributions at the church on Sunday mornings.

Thank you for your generous support.

## ITEMS NEEDED AT THE GATE:

- Coffee, tea, sugar, coffee whitener, powdered milk
- Jam, peanut butter
- Pasta, pasta sauce
- Ketchup, mayonnaise
- Canned soup, beans (no dried beans), tuna
- Styrofoam plates, bowls, cups (7oz)
- Plastic forks, knives
- Paper Towels, toilet paper, napkins, tissues
- Tin foil
- Dish and laundry detergent
- XL heavy duty garbage bags

## Food Drive



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Thank you for giving me the opportunity to share in the causes that your congregation supports in order to build a better world. On behalf of FaithLife Financial, I am pleased to provide a Matching Grant to support your Chapter's fundraising efforts. As a FaithLife Financial Representative, I am committed to helping my Members protect their financial futures. Please call me today for insurance and investment solutions.



*FaithLife Financial is a Member-directed financial services organization. Christian Members blend faith and finances to be wise with money and live generously – strengthening families, churches and communities.*

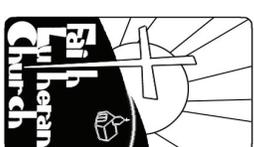
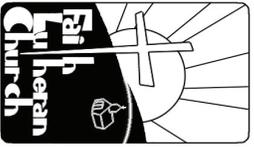
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# September 2016

<p><i>Readers:</i> 11: B. Roth 18: C. Plath 25: A. Hanke</p>	<p><i>Ushers:</i> 11: Bernie and Yvian Roth 18: Eber and Carol Plath 25: Phil and Janice Plath</p>	<p><i>Communion Set-Up:</i> 18: Wendy Neas Wendy Becker</p>	1	2	<p>3 <i>Coffee:</i> 11: H. Linkte 18: Kirk-Off 25: L. Wilson</p>
<p>4 <i>Worship, 10:30</i></p>	5	<p>6 <i>Faith Council, 6:30</i></p>	8	9	<p>10 <i>Flowers:</i> 11: V. Goddard 18: E. Rosman 25: W. Becker</p>
<p>11 <i>Sunday School, 10:30</i> <i>Worship, 10:30</i></p>	12	<p>13 <i>Bible Study, 9:45</i></p>	15	16	17
<p>18 KICK OFF <i>Worship, 10:30</i> <i>Mortgage Burning</i> <i>Pollock</i></p>	19	<p>20</p>	<p>21 <i>Choir, 6:30</i></p>	<p>22 <i>Pint with the Pastor,</i> <i>7:00 p.m.</i></p>	<p>23 <i>Women's Retreat</i> ————— 24 ————— ↓</p>
<p>25 <i>Sunday School, 10:30</i> <i>Worship, 10:30</i></p>	26	<p>27 <i>Bible Study, 9:45</i></p>	28	<p>29</p>	<p>30 <i>Counters:</i> L. Ikeda W. Bachewich</p>

*Communion Servers:*  
18: P. and C. Wolfen-berg