



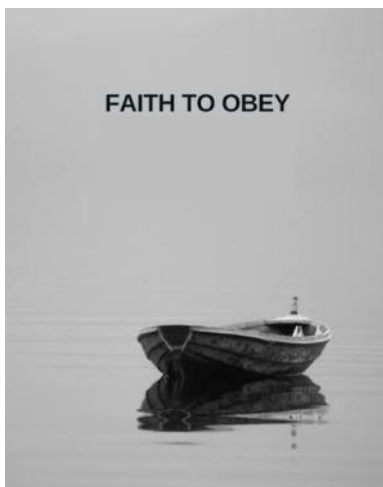
LUTHERAN CHURCH

faithct.org



September 2026

A message from Pastor Rohrs...



FAITH TO OBEY

Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water (Matthew 14:29)

I recently received an email from the Bishop. I was thinking about all of the funerals and deaths that our congregation has been touched by this year and his words were so helpful to me. Perhaps they will be helpful for you as well.

“A word of hope ... In the Lectionary a couple weeks ago, we read the

story of Jesus walking on the waves through the wind to the disciples in their battered boat (Matthew 14:22-33). Jesus called Peter to step out onto those stormy waters in faith and to walk towards him. Eagerly, Peter left the boat and walked on water as he kept his focus on Jesus, but then he started sinking into the waves when he focused instead on the power of the wind and waves.

“Now is the time, as New England Synod, to keep our eyes on Jesus who invites us to see him in one another. Now is not the time to yield to panic, abandon ship, reject [one another], and slip beneath the waves. Now is the time to trust Jesus with the power over the wind and waves as Jesus comes to us in the community of the Church into which he has called us. Now is the time to turn towards Christ in each other as we care for and listen to one another and imagine creative responses. Now is the time to embrace the Holy Spirit working in our advocacy and appeals for a more just society. Now is the time to rise as Church to be co-creators with God of the new ways God is calling us to be Church in the 21st century.

In this with you all,

Bishop Piphō”

300 Washington Street

Middletown, CT 06457

860-347-6068

faithct.org

Rev. Cathy Rohrs

Pastor

pastorcathyrohrs@gmail.com

Purpose of Faith Lutheran Church

God's purpose for our new church is to unite unconditionally, sharing God's love through our growing faith and mission with everyone in the name of Jesus Christ.

Guiding Principles of Faith Lutheran Church

- Committed to serve
- Forward thinking, future oriented
- Welcoming
- Guided by faith
- Fun, relevant, cool—a place people want to be

Our Church's Strategic Direction

- Addressing Hunger in Middletown
 - Sharing Knowledge;
 - Serving & Empowering Youth & Seniors;
- How? Coordinating assets in our Community to meet needs; and Communicating about resources & events.*

Livestream Worship

Sundays at 9am via Zoom

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82954721060?pwd=TXhxZ2ZMMnFTVHk4dkw5ZDhGUThUUT09>

Meeting ID: 829 5472 1060

Passcode: 753838

By telephone: +1 929 205 6099

Prayer Support Service

Thursdays at 7pm via Zoom

<https://zoom.us/j/92161592207?pwd=WnQ3SXdNYkxVSW5JSkpkYmw2Ukk2UT09>

Meeting ID: 921 6159 2207

Passcode: 250048

By telephone: +1 929 205 6099

Worship on the Grass Service



We have been invited to a joint Outdoor Holy Eucharist Worship Service with The Church of the Holy Trinity

On Sunday September 6 at 9:30am we will gather together at 381 Main Street, here in Middletown. Parking is beside the church.

Embers in Transit will be providing the music.

We will once again take part in
Middletown's Annual



Sat. Sept 19
10am – 2pm

You are invited to donate items that Faith Lutheran can sell at our
Tag Sale/White Elephant Room Sale.

Please contact Tom Kugeman or the Church Office if you want to participate.

Attention *Sellers-*

We have a spot for you on Middletown's Tag Sale Map!

If you want, you can rent your own table for a \$20 Donation,
so that you can sell your own items.

Please contact Tom Kugeman or the Church Office if you want to participate.

White Elephant Tag Sale update

This fundraiser's success relies on dedicated volunteers. **Please consider donating your time helping out on the Sale dates.**

September 5	October 3
November 7	December 5

We're collecting clean, usable, and gently used items for our White Elephant Sale fundraisers. Please spread the word and ask your friends, family, and contacts:

Do you have something you no longer use?
Pop it into a box or bag, label it "White Elephant," and drop it on the table downstairs just outside of the White Elephant room.

Tell your friends there are great buys to be had at FLC's White Elephant Sales!

Declutter for a Cause
WHITE ELEPHANT
Sale Donations Needed



Our 17th annual Welcome Table Wednesday was held on August 19, 2026, on the front lawn of the church. It was an absolutely amazing event. So many people came out to volunteer by making favorite picnic dishes, by carrying tables and chairs, by cooking the pasta meal, by grilling hotdogs, by serving the food, by shopping for supplies, by donating drinks, pasta, sauce, desserts, etc., by doing the dishes, by cleaning the kitchen afterwards, by talking to our guests, and just by being there. Here is a photo of our working volunteers...what a wonderful group!



What a turnout we had. We served about 80 hotdogs, meat sauce, macaroni and potato salads, tossed salads, cucumber & tomato salad, baked beans, cole slaw, corn on the cob, as well as our Wednesday night pasta dinner. And the dessert spread was fantastic! There were cupcakes, apple crisp, brownies, cookies, various chips & snacks, watermelon, pie, and water and juice boxes. I'm sure I'm forgetting things, but I assure you, there was a lot of food. Our guests were so appreciative for the spread. So many people came up and said thank you. We were also able to send food home with many of our guests.

I personally want to thank everyone who helped in any way with this event. Your support was overwhelming. I also want to thank Thrivent for the Action Team Grant we received which purchased many of the paper products, hotdog rolls, serving containers, salad, beans, etc. It was a lot of work, but I am humbled to have been a part of this event. We talked about Jesus' loaves & fishes miracle during the Sermon on the Mount when we saw the plethora of food enough to feed the 80+ people that showed up. God is Good!



Amazing Grace Food Pantry Update

You are invited to participate in FLC's food bank collection.

Please donate non-perishable, non-expired food items any time you are in our building.

There are baskets on a table in the narthex to hold these items.



Our church is part of the "Sponsor Our Shelves" program and has committed to help stock the Cereal Shelf.

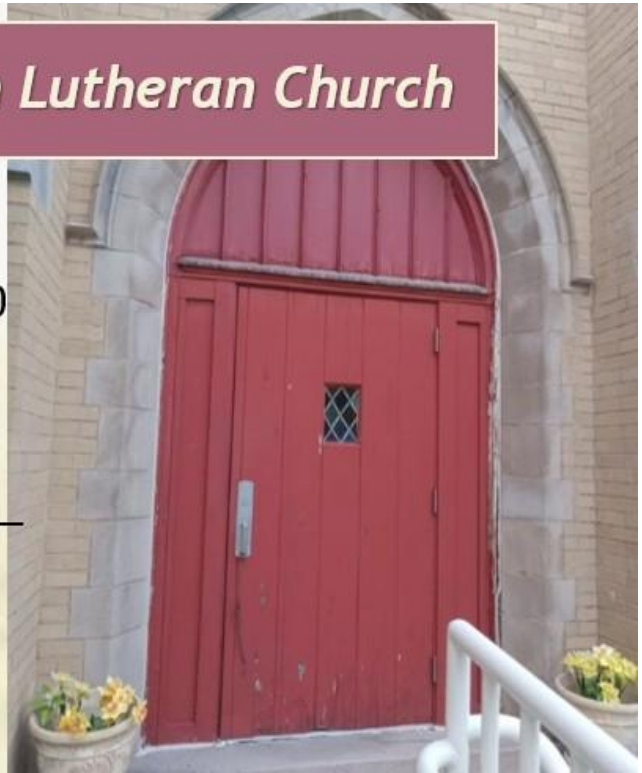
Monthly, volunteers deliver all of your donations to the Amazing Grace Food Pantry here in Middletown.

Your generosity is most appreciated!

Help Us Preserve Faith Lutheran Church

- Repair, paint, and caulk the 12 window lintels on the front of the Education Building — \$2,850
- Repair and refinish the main church door — \$1,250
- Repair and refinish three additional exterior wood doors — \$1,200

Fundraising goal is \$5,300



These repairs are important now. Delaying them could lead to further deterioration and significantly more expensive repairs or replacement in the future. Plus, the newly painted doors will add to our church's "curb appeal." Every gift, regardless of size, will help us reach our goal.

Your support does more than maintain a building. It helps Faith Lutheran Church continue its ministry and service to the community. This year, we are celebrating 17 years of providing free Wednesday pasta dinners, made possible through the generosity of people who believe in what this church does.

We hope you will consider making a donation toward these needed repairs. Please mark your gifts: "For Building Repairs." Together, we can preserve our church home and continue the work God has entrusted to us.

Thank you for your generosity, your prayers, and your continued support of Faith Lutheran Church.

In His Service.
Janet Hayn, Tom Kugeman, Steve McDermott

Please consider making a donation to the Building Repairs Fund.

During the church building survey done in June, Beverly Radziwon shared this:

"When my family first joined the church 68 years ago this fall, everything was brand new and beautiful. It's still beautiful to me but it is showing its age for sure."

Thank you, Thank you and Thank you again for your continued support of this feeding ministry! Many of our neighbors count on our weekly Spaghetti Dinners and the personal care items we give out.

We are always grateful for the donations you provide for our clients. Financial gifts are especially welcome to be used for purchasing of the ToGo containers, bags, and weekly perishables.

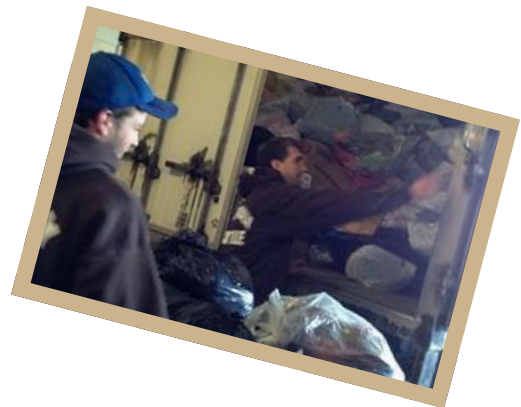


Of Special Note: The September 13th giving envelope is for WTW.

St. Pauley Clothing Shed Collection

A friendly reminder...

We host a Clothing Donation Shed in the side parking lot in partnership with St. Pauly Textiles, Inc. Your clothing donations are welcome and are redistributed to people and organizations,



It's all about reduce, re-use and redistribution.

Items Accepted:

All clothing, shoes, sneakers, belts, purses, blankets, Sheets, pillowcases, drapes and stuffed toys.

PLEASE – NO rags, fabric scraps, pillows, toys or household goods; (These unwanted items are a hardship and expense to dispose of.)

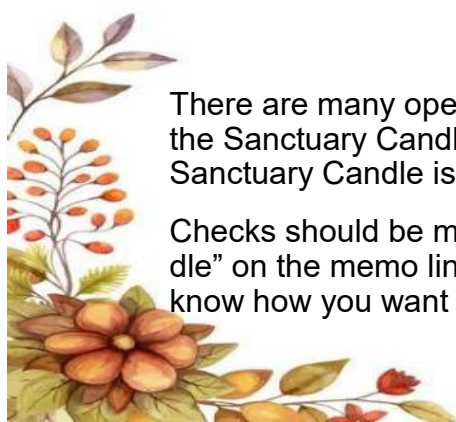
Benefits to donating:

- Sending clothing to people in need all over the US and the World.
- Help the environment by keeping your clothing out of the landfill.

*** Help us keep your donation clean and dry ***

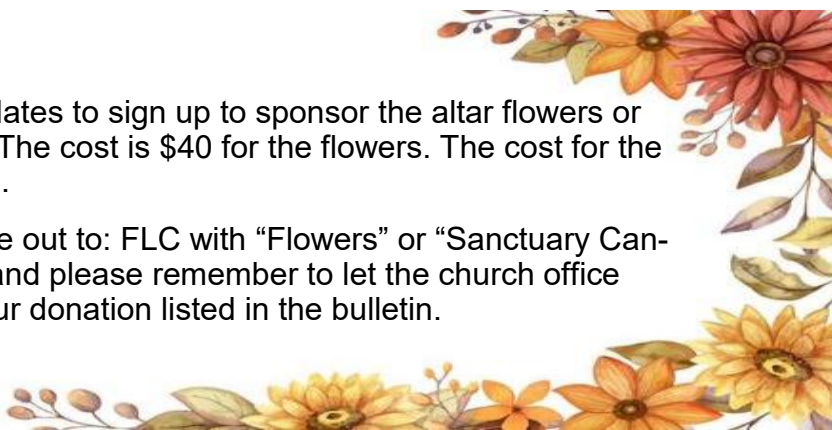
Please put your donation in closed plastic bags.





There are many open dates to sign up to sponsor the altar flowers or the Sanctuary Candle. The cost is \$40 for the flowers. The cost for the Sanctuary Candle is \$5.

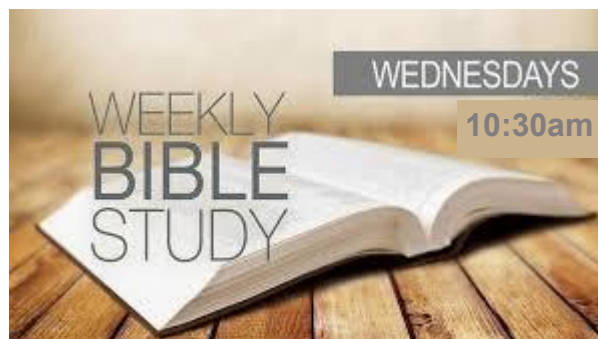
Checks should be made out to: FLC with "Flowers" or "Sanctuary Candle" on the memo line and please remember to let the church office know how you want your donation listed in the bulletin.



Luther Ridge Bible Study

Pastor Rohrs leads a bible study every Wednesday at 10:30am at Luther Ridge.

This Bible Study group is a supportive, learning environment that opens our minds to understanding God's Word and Its application in our lives.



Sessions focus largely on the coming week's Gospel. Join us in gaining more insight into the readings of our faith.

Game Night at Luther Ridge—Septuember 7th at 6:30pm

We meet in the Luther Manor Building (624 Congdon St. Middletown, second driveway, first building) on the first Monday of every month.

Heather is our event Coordinator and if you have any questions, she can be reached at heather.karpe@gmail.com.

Special Offering Request

For the month of September our goal is to raise additional funds for



Would you be able to make a special offering and give a little toward this month's goal?

Pull Tab Collection

We are still collecting pull tabs for the Ronald McDonald House Charities.

The donation jar is in the narthex as you enter the church.



Prayer Bears

Share a bear with someone in your life that is in need of comfort and joy!

Those who are hurting, healing, lonely, they are the people that need a tangible expression that God cares and we do too!



How Great Is My God!

“Give thanks to the LORD, call upon his name; make known among the nations what he has done. Sing to him, sing praise to him; tell of all his wonderful acts. Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice. Look to the LORD and his strength; seek his face always.” Psalm 105:1-4

I am thankful I have opportunities to share God’s love and the joy of Jesus especially with the children in my life. Children have brought joy to all seasons of my life with their actions and expressions of affection. It brings me so much joy when my 13-month old great-niece smiles when she sees me and lifts her arms wanting me to pick her up and be close to me. I enjoy being with her, reading books with her and singing Jesus’s songs. It has created a bond of trust. Through God’s Word and actions and attitudes of adults in her life, her faith and trust in God is being nurtured.

Trust is a reliance on God who is always trustworthy. While trust begins to develop in infancy, it continues throughout a lifetime. Trust means reliability. It means safety. God’s Word reassures me that He will be with me all of life. I know that no matter what I go through in life, I never need to be afraid, no matter how uncertain the months or years ahead of me are. My connection with God is never broken. I am a redeemed child of God.

Proverbs 3:5: “Trust in the Lord with all your heart....” John 14:1: Jesus said, “Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God; trust also in me.”

Isaiah 12:2: “Surely God is my salvation; I will trust and not be afraid. The LORD, the LORD, is my strength and my song; he has become my salvation.”

I trust in the LORD Jesus as my Savior to walk with me each day and guide me. Because of Jesus, I can move forward in my life with confidence. “For God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of power, of love and of self-discipline” 2 Timothy 1:7 (NIV). I will tell of his wonderful acts.

I look to the LORD to strengthen my mind and spirit for the work He has given me. God’s grace and mercy will keep me strong. Our LORD will bring me to my eternal life in heaven.

How great is my God! I love to sing His praises!



I Am Trusting You, Lord Jesus

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836-1879, alt.

Verse 1 I am trusting you, Lord Jesus,
trusting only you;
trusting you for full salvation,
free and true.

ABC Women's Center Prayer Gatherings



Called to Intercede



Join us, for our monthly Prayer Gathering on the first Tuesdays of each month, from 6:00–7:00 PM at 180 East Main Street in Middletown. This is a meaningful time to come together in prayer over the ministry, the clients we serve, and the life-affirming work taking place each day. If you are interested in bringing a group from your church or organization, please contact the Executive Director, Anna Montalvo, at anna@abcwomenscenter.org to coordinate your visit.

ABC Women's Center
abcwomenscenter.org

Passing of Ruth Fuchs

A former member of Christ Lutheran Church, Ruth Esther (Turnrose) Fuchs, 96, of Newington, CT, went to her eternal home on August 10th.

Funeral services were held August 20th at The Carlson Funeral Home in New Britain. Burial in Rose Hill Memorial Park, Rocky Hill. In lieu of flowers, please donate to the World Wildlife Fund, 1250 24th Street, Washington, D.C. 20037, or your favorite wildlife refuge fund. Please share a memory or note of sympathy at www.carlsonfuneralhome.com



Giving to Faith Lutheran

We are dedicated to serve and guided by faith.

As you are able, we appreciate you keeping your giving up-to-date!

Ways to donate:

- * Bring your envelope to worship on Sunday
- * Drop a check in the mail
- * Drop a check in the black church mailbox
- * Give online through your bank
- * Visit www.faithelcamiddletown.org.
- * Donate your annuity, endowment, bequest
- * Add our church as one of your beneficiaries



September Birthday List



September 01 – Michael Brooks, Sr.
September 01 – Michael Brooks, Jr.
September 02 – Bette Behm
September 04 – Jan Kurneta
September 07 – Michael Anderson
September 09 – Raymond Anderson

September 16 – George Winter
September 17 – Nancy Ahlquist
September 18 – Michael Bacon
September 25 – Daniel Botti
September 27 – Allison McDermott
September 29 – Catherine Vynalek

Where Have I Seen God Lately? - Donna Barney

I hope you all have had a wonderful summer enjoying the beautiful, though sometimes, very hot weather. I've been trying to stop each day to look around and see all of God's miraculous creations – the flowers and plants, pretty blue skies and fantastic cloud formations, thunder and lightning (although scary at times) and the awesome light shows the storms bring, bunnies, turtles, deer, skunks, squirrels, chipmunks, the smell of freshly cut lawns, barbecues, and oh so many other fun summer sights, smells, and tastes.

Our family definitely saw God this summer with something short of a miracle! As most of you know, my son, Bob, Jr., proposed to Elaine on Christmas with a gorgeous heirloom diamond ring from her grandmother. It slipped off her finger one day in the spring and after looking everywhere they could think of for weeks, the two of them let us know it was gone. They were quite sad about it and wondered how they'd ever replace something like that. One day, Elaine stopped at a gas station in Cobalt to inflate her tires as there was especially one tire that was constantly losing air. She got back in the car and was getting ready to leave and thought to herself that perhaps she should get out and put just a little more air in that one tire because she'd be driving a lot that day. She got out of the car, got the air pump hose, and bent down to inflate the tire more. Something sparkly caught her eye right by the tire. She picked it up and it was her ring! She couldn't believe it and thought that it couldn't really be her ring; but it actually was! It had the little guard on it that she had made to make it smaller until she could get it resized. Where that ring had been for so many months is a mystery...perhaps in a pocket or stuck to her sweater...perhaps it was on the floor of the car that she and Bob had searched through so many times and she knocked it out of the car the first time she inflated the tire...who knows? The amazing thing is that for some reason, she got out of the car the second time and found that ring! Such a joyous find! Thank you, God!



And this may sound like a very silly place that I saw God, but I immediately said "This is going in my article," to Bob, Sr., when I saw it. I pointed to something in the pool and said, "This is so cool! God made a yacht for that little butterfly!" He looked at me wondering what I was talking about. Our dog, Gwendolyn, loves to play fetch with her "red ball," and one of her favorite and annoying games is dropping the ball in the pool and barking at it until she can reach it or until one of us grabs it with the skimmer to throw it again. On this day, a little butterfly was riding that ball around the pool. Every so often, it would fly off and around the ball for a few seconds and then get back on the ball to ride around some more. I'm not sure why this



fascinated me so much, but I just thought it was another example of God's wondrous world! I'm including a couple of pictures (one with the butterfly flying and one with it riding on the ball), although they're not very clear, so you can imagine the sight!



And then, another place I saw God is in our amazing sunflowers. We each received a seed packet from the funeral of my two nephews' grandfather. Their grandfather had loved gardening, so the family gave everyone in attendance a little packet containing five sunflower seeds. We were to plant them and remember him as our flowers grew. I never expected the miracle of growth from the ten little seeds Bob, Sr., and I had received. The stalks are at least ten feet tall and the flowers are gorgeous! Bob put a lot of effort into planting the seeds in pots, culturing the seedlings, and transplanting them in the yard where there was the most sun. He watered them every day and nurtured them much like God nurtures us.

Where have you seen God lately?

Dear Pastor Rohrs,

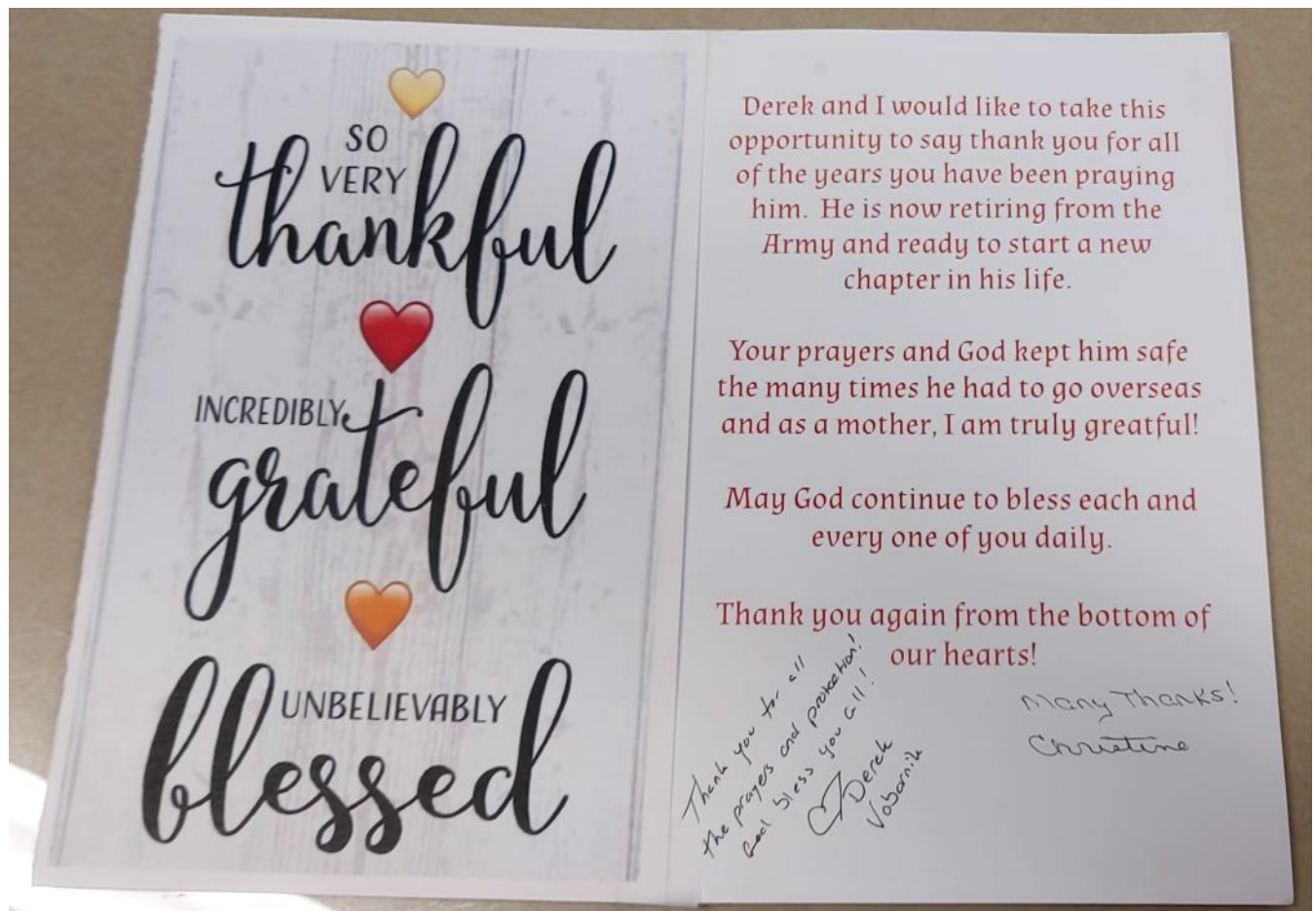
We wanted to take the opportunity to thank you again for baptizing Ellie. We are so grateful for everything that you have done for us. You have been there for our family during many of our lows and our highs, and we could think of no one better to baptize our daughter.

We also wanted to make a contribution to Faith Lutheran Church as a thank you to yourself and the community for welcoming our daughter into the church. Please find a check enclosed to use as the church sees fit.



We both find peace and wisdom in your sermons. You are such a kind and giving person. It is always such a pleasure to see you.

Best,
P.J. and Amanda Lamp-Moretti





Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

elca.org



New England Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

nelutherans.org



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of the Women of the ELCA

<https://www.newelca.org/>



LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF

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**Living
Lutheran**

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THE
LUTHERAN
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FEDERATION



<https://goodgifts.elca.org/>



The Rev. Nathan D. Pipho
bishop of the New England
Synod of the Evangelical Lu-
theran Church in America

Subscribe to his blog at [https://
nathanpipho.com/](https://nathanpipho.com/)



*Never will I leave you;
never will I forsake you*

Hebrews 13:5

September

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 10:30a Bible Study at Luther Ridge 5:30p WTW	3 7p Online Prayer Service**	4 7:30p AA	5 8:30-10:30a Boot Camp <i>if rain</i> 10a-2p Tag Sale
6 930a FLC Outdoor Worship* @ Holy Trinity Episcopal Church 11:30a New Hope Church Worship 2p United Pentecostal Worship	7 8a-4p Church Office Hours 6:30p Luther Ridge Game Night 7:30p AA	8	9 10:30a Bible Study at Luther Ridge 5:30p WTW	10 7p Online Prayer Service**	11 7:30p AA	12 8:30-10:30a Boot Camp <i>if rain</i>
13 9a FLC Worship* 11:30a New Hope Church Worship 2p United Pentecostal Worship 6-9p Gilbert and Sullivan Rehearsal	14 8a-4p Church Office Hours 7:30p AA	15	16 10:30a Bible Study at Luther Ridge 5:30p WTW	17 7p Online Prayer Service**	18 7:30p AA	19 8:30-10:30a Boot Camp <i>if rain</i> 10a-2p Town-wide Tag Sale
20 9a FLC Worship* 11:30a New Hope Church Worship 2p United Pentecostal Worship 6-9p Gilbert and Sullivan Rehearsal October Newsletter Deadline	21 8a-4p Church Office Hours 7:30p AA	22	23 10:30a Bible Study at Luther Ridge 5:30p WTW	24 7p Online Prayer Service**	25 7:30p AA	26 8:30-10:30a Boot Camp <i>if rain</i>
27 9a FLC Worship* 11:30a New Hope Church Worship 2p United Pentecostal Worship 6-9p Gilbert and Sullivan Rehearsal	28 8a-4p Church Office Hours 7:30p AA	29 7-9p Gilbert and Sullivan Rehearsal	30 10:30a Bible Study at Luther Ridge 5:30p WTW			*Hybrid **Zoom Only



**300 Washington St.
Middletown, CT 06457**

Return Address Service Requested

Do you have an email address we can send your newsletter to?

If so, please help us save on our printing and mailing costs by sharing it with the church office at churchoffice@faithelcamiddletown.org

Summer 2026

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