

The Saline Psalter

HOLY FAITH CHURCH

6299 Ann Arbor-Saline Road
Saline, MI 48176

734-429-2991

www.holy-faith-church.org

November 2015

A note from the Pastor



I recently spent an afternoon at the Toledo Zoo with my family. It was a beautiful day and we had an enjoyable experience.

As I watched my grandchildren delight in the antics of the red pandas and touch sea creatures in the petting tank, I couldn't help but be thankful for the opportunities they have. This

summer they visited several national parks in Utah as well as the Grand Canyon. They are students in the excellent Saline schools and can avail themselves of extra curricular activities. In the midst of my gratitude I'm also aware of children who do not have similar opportunities. Their parents need to work several jobs in order to pay the bills and don't have time or funds for zoos. There are also students who are trapped in low-performing schools. Can't we do better as a state and nation?

In September as I was touring several countries in Europe with my German choir, the stories of refugees from Syria, Iraq and North Africa occupied the TV stations in Europe. I enjoyed good hotels, meals and the pleasant company of friends while the refugees were plodding their way through eastern Europe. (The irony is that some of the choir members and their families were refugees after WWII.)

On Reformation Sunday, Clarke Flewelling shared his faith journey during worship. It was a great reminder of how varied and unique our journeys of faith can be. Jesus accompanies us on those journeys even though we might not be aware of his presence.

As we Walk With Jesus we are filled with gratitude and thankfulness. Even through the dark times we know that God is with us in Jesus Christ. Because of that we can be grateful and generous people. God's grace can flow through us to the world around us. Yes, we can write checks. But we can also serve meals at Thanksgiving, work on behalf of refugees, tutor children, combat hunger and malaria, write our state and national representatives on crucial issues, study issues to become a more informed voter, write a note of encouragement to someone or knit a prayer shawl.

As a Christian I give thanks to God for the blessings in my life. However, I also pray that I will not lose sight of the needs of the world around me or feel the need to withdraw to my own secure corner and hoard what God has provided.

As we approach the holiday season we give thanks that we are blessed by a generous God. We trust that those blessings will be shared with those who are in need.

See you in worship!!
Pastor Stan

Refugee Support Ministry

This group is newly formed and exploring ways Holy Faith can partner with area organizations to support refugees resettling in this area. Once we have explored potential partners, we will present an action plan to the PLT for approval.

Georgine Steude, Brooks Hinerman, Ann Mayers, Noelle Milkey, Molly Hilton, Kris Derman, and Christen Mitchell are all interested in helping with this. Please let Christen Mitchell know if you want to help too.

Thanksgiving Food Baskets for SASS

Again this year Holy Faith will be preparing five (5) baskets for Thanksgiving to be distributed by SASS to families in our community. There will be a sheet on the bulletin board for you to sign up for items needed to make those holiday dinners a festive event for a family.

All items for the Thanksgiving baskets need to be brought to the church by 10am on Sunday, November 22.

Thank you for your generosity.

Questions??

Rosemary Brodie, or Marianne & Brian Blevins.

Please note that we will NOT be collecting receipts.

Thrivent has changed their program structure and requirements.



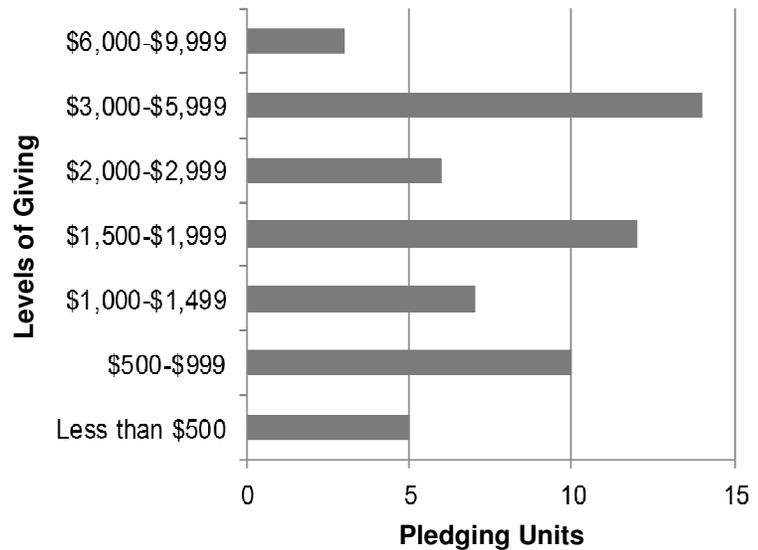
Stewardship 2016

Walk with Jesus We are in the midst of our stewardship campaign.
Walk, Listen, Give

The theme this year is "Walk with Jesus". Through letters, bulletin inserts and sermons we will strive to grow closer to Jesus as we walk together. We are asked to consider "how generously does God call on me to respond to all the blessings God has showered upon me".

Please look at the graph of giving patterns at Holy Faith. As you consider your giving as part of your walk with Jesus, you are encouraged to find your place on the chart and give thought to taking a step up to the next level

On Sunday, November 15 you will have the opportunity to turn in an Estimate Of Giving Card for 2016. After worship everyone is invited to participate in Mission Café as a part of the festivities of the day.



BEGINNING THE SEARCH

The Transition Team delivered its final report to the new appointed Search Team on Sunday, October 18. Under the direction of Pastor Stan, the Transition Team has defined who we are and where we

want to go in preparation for the formal search for a new pastor. The report contains an introductory letter and sections detailing the outcomes of events: Meaning Statements, Congregational Survey, Our Church Is Striving To, and Congregational Norms, as well as local demographic information. A copy of the report is on the shelf under the bulletin board. or you may view it online on the member page in our website.

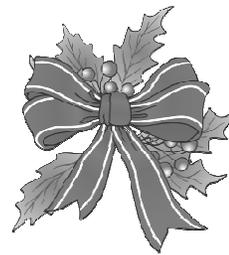
The Transition Team especially thanks the congregation for participating in the several special events held to help define our mission and expectations. Many thanks to the individuals who generously gave of their time to serve on this team: Katie Garvey, Kent Handelsman, Talle Jolliffe, Dan McGraw, Christen Mitchell, and Rick Wales.

Moving into the next phase: The PLT has appointed a search team to review, interview and help select our new pastor. The Team is comprised of Jeff Cummings (Chair), Andy Amstutz (Scribe), Molly Hilton (Chaplain), Carolyn Schneider, Clark Flewelling, Mary Fatchett and Harold Tinsey.

The Parish Leadership Team and the newly appointed Search Team met with Pastor Heather Holland from the ELCA Synod and Canon Jim Gettel from the Episcopal Diocese on October 22. The representatives informed those present about the call process and explained the Ministry Site Profile which needs to be completed before candidates are presented. The meeting was informative and the PLT and Search Team left the meeting assured of the support of the Bishops' offices.

The Search Team has scheduled three meetings for November. At this point, we are not sure how long this process will take, but be assured that the right person will be found.

Please keep the Search Team in your prayers during this time of transition.



GREENING OF THE CHURCH

Saturday, December 5th at 10:30am

Come and help decorate our church for the Advent and Christmas seasons.

We'll enjoy some fellowship and nibble on some special treats as we work. Please talk to Susan Cummings with any questions.

Holy Faith Choir

Please welcome Eric Doucette. He is our new director of the Holy Faith Choir. He is a graduate student in Vocal Performance at Eastern Michigan University.

The choir rehearses on Sunday mornings at 9:15 am. If you are interested in joining the choir please contact Eric.





We have six shawls out in the community spreading warmth and comfort from Holy Faith Church. If you are not a knitter but have friends or family who are knitters and would like to be part of this ministry, they would be most welcome. We have patterns available and people anxious to purchase yarn for knitters. We are still accepting knitted baby bonnets and quilts for the hospital.

Please call Barbara Arnold or Rosemary Brodie for more information.

ELCA Malaria Campaign

In 2011 the ELCA launched malaria programming in Malawi, Mozambique, Zambia, Zimbabwe and Tanzania. In recent years Angola, Namibia, Uganda and Burundi were added. Through the malaria programs 2 million people have been educated, nets distributed, people tested and treated for malaria and 10,000 people have been trained in prevention and treatment.

The goal of \$15 million to fund these programs was achieved this fall. By working with partners in African countries we have brought about lasting change. The campaign will officially end as of January 31, 2016. However, support to address malaria will continue through gifts to ELCA World Hunger

Episcopal Relief and Development has partnered with agencies in Africa to improve maternal and child health which includes an emphasis on malaria.

We will not be meeting on November 24, December 22 and 29, or January 5. The first class of 2016 will be January 12.

Tuesday Morning Adult Study Class
10:30-11:30am

Have you ever had questions about other denominations? Have you wondered what they believe, how they began?

This has been great fun! So far we have discussed the Amish, Christian Scientists and many others—and there are many more to go!

Join us! Everyone is welcome.
Questions?
See Tish Dersnah or Wendy Amstutz

DELONIS CENTER
Tuesday, December 29, 2015

Come help prepare or serve dinner to the homeless and/or hungry. Holy Faith helps at the Center in Ann Arbor in months that have a 5th Tuesday.

Sign up on the bulletin board to help prepare from 3:00 - 5:00 or to help serve from 5:00 - 7:00.
Please sign up by Sunday, December 20

Food Gatherers holds up to 5 spots for us from Holy Faith on each shift—they cannot take more. They need to know how many are coming a week in advance. Therefore, you need to sign up 2 Sundays before the 5th Tuesday. Numbers will be called in the Tuesday before our date.

Our next service opportunity is March 29, 2016

Altar Flowers are Given...

November 1 by Betsey Hubbard
In Memory of Marianne & Howard Grant

November 8 by the Arnold Family & Christen Mitchell
In Memory of Blake Arnold

November 22 by Bridget Baisch & Brian Marr
In Memory of Denise Baisch



Greens will be placed on the altar in lieu of flowers for Advent. Poinsettias will be placed on the altar just before Christmas.

ALL ARE WELCOME TO OUR TABLE



The Holy Faith Cookbook
Cookbooks are available for purchase They are still only \$5 each.
See Joan in the office.



Purchase a Poinsettia for the Christmas Altar

It will be announced when a sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board when we receive the pricing information from the florist.



Mission Café

Sunday, November 15 after the 10am service
This will take place in conjunction
with Stewardship Sunday.

Our emphasis for the November Mission Café is designated for Voluntary Service at the Ann Arbor VA Hospital. These services range from assistance for homeless vets to comfort items such as toothbrushes and underwear.

*There will not be Mission Cafes in December or January.
Please join us for our first
2016 Mission Café on February 21.*

Special Gifts Offering Nov. 2015 Lutheran World Relief

Once again as we enter the time when we set aside a special day of thanksgiving to our gracious Lord for all our blessings, we have the opportunity to remember those millions of people who are hungry, or homeless, or have lost all their worldly goods. Lutheran World Relief (LWR) represents us throughout the world to bring God's love and care to those who are suffering.

Last year LWR reached 4,763,589 people in 35 countries and supported 153 projects. Besides donations of water, food and supplies this includes advocating for Fair Trade that helps artisans and farmers earn a better income, and teaching people to better care for themselves, their communities, and their environment, and to be less vulnerable to natural disasters. All this is done with partner organizations in the communities they serve. Working with community partners enables LWR to remain effective and efficient.

While continuing all their programs LWR again this year has responded to natural and human-made disasters that have ravaged the lives of millions of people. LWR represents us as they respond to the wars, earthquakes, tornados, and floods around the world. Acting with international agencies LWR is providing supplies (baby kits, personal care kits, school kits, Quilts, clothes, blankets, etc.), food, health care, and assistance to the refugees in Greece and Europe.

AS we share God's blessings to those in need, put LWR in the memo line of your check made out to Holy Faith.

Mission Café

February	Food Garden	\$290
March	SASS	\$383
April	Rec Center Sign	\$224
May	Church Beautification	\$200
June	ELCA Youth Gathering	\$198
September	Campus Ministries	\$206
October	HV Human Society	\$80
Total = \$1,581		

Monthly Special Offerings

January	SASS	\$555
February	M.I.S.S.I.O.N.	\$275
March	Episcopal Relief & Devel.	\$70
April	Hope Clinic	\$175
May	Friends-In-Deed	\$85
June	SASS	\$480
July	Elle's Place	\$95
August	Habitat for Humanity	\$60
September	Therapeutic Riding	\$125
Total = \$1,920		

Special Gifts Offering Dec. 2015 Safehouse Center

Safehouse Center provides support for those impacted by domestic violence or sexual assault. Their services are free and confidential for any person living or working in Washtenaw County. The services include emergency shelter for those in danger of being physically assaulted, counseling, legal advocacy, support groups, and especially HOPE. This is all possible because of community donors, business and volunteer partners, and grants. Over 5,000 survivors are served every year. The goal is to build a community free of domestic violence and sexual assault.

Volunteers provide many thousands of hours every year staffing the 24 hour response teams, shelter, the hotline, the children's program, and the Teen Voice program. The help line, 734-995-5444 is staffed 24 hours, 7 days per week. This is an important service organization in our community doing quiet but tremendous work serving our neighbors in their pain and fear.

All donations are appreciated, well used, and necessary to keep all their services functioning. Make your check out to Holy Faith and note Safehouse on the memo line.

Fall Clean-Up Day

We had a great turnout for our Fall Clean-Up Day on Oct. 3rd. Prior to the actual event, Susan and Jeff Cummings cleaned and repainted the Holy Faith sign in front of the church. Barbara Arnold, Norlaine Tinsey and Rosemary Brodie cleaned and reorganized the kitchen.

By nine o'clock on Saturday morning, Holy Faithers were hard at work trimming trees and bushes, pulling weeds and cleaning up the flowerbeds. Chain saws and a giant chipper were roaring as the maple tree in front and the forsythia shrubs to the north of the church were trimmed. Before long there was a giant pile of wood chips next to the garden.

Later in the morning, we enjoyed cider, doughnuts and cookies in the fellowship hall. Even a light drizzle failed to dampen our spirits as we spruced up the church and its grounds. Thank you to Steve Jolliffe, Susan and Jeff Cummings, Mike Centlivre, Suzanne Buchalski, Vicki English, David Dubay, Bridget Baisch, Harold Tinsey, Clarke Flewelling and Christen Mitchell.

There were only a few items on our list that didn't get completed, such as cleaning the eaves, and we will take care of that as soon as all of the leaves are down... If you would like to volunteer some of your time to work on the building or grounds, we have a list of other jobs that can be done over the winter. Just ask Steve Jolliffe or Don Dersnah—they have the list of projects that can be accomplished by members of our congregation. We are also planning to have a Spring Clean Up Day—watch for more information and plan to join us then.

By the way...

Did you know the oldest of the three furnaces heating the church was replaced in late October? The original furnace was over thirty years old and the PLT decided to replace it before it failed on a snowy Sunday morning in the coldest part of winter. The other two furnaces are in good shape and are cleaned and safety checked each fall by Koch & White.



Working together at Fall Clean-Up Day
Harold Tinsey and Steve Jolliffe



Holy Faith Food Garden

The garden was "put to bed", with the final carrots and onions harvested on October 26. Larry Darling will do a final feeding with compost and lime, rototill it all together and we will let it sleep through the winter.

We learn new things about the garden every year. This year we found that carrots grow better as a late season planting (at least for us). We were all very impressed with our carrots.

Several weeks ago, we met with a representative from Genesis HOPE Community Development at our garden. They wanted to learn more about our community garden, "emergency food" and what worked for us here in Saline. They partner with the Southeast Michigan Synod. Below is the photo Genesis HOPE took of us in our garden.

Our final plans are to meet at Smokehouse 52 in Chelsea to celebrate a successful growing season (and maybe even to start planning the 2016 season).



The Food Garden Team—Behind the Beans
Mary Hogan, Barb Czyrka, Mike Centlivre, Vicki English, Connie DeHaan, Susan Cummings, Suzanne Buchalski

Grounds Announcement

Looking ahead to spring, the east side of the church is in need of attention. The crawspace entrance is in need of grading. Also, the garden beds surrounding it have become difficult to maintain.

One idea is to repair the crawspace entrance and then replace the existing beds with a low-maintenance hosta bed. Members could donate plants from their home gardens and create a bed with special memories. We will put together a plan, get some quotes, and then present it to the PLT for consideration.

If you are interested in making plans to correct these needs, please contact Christen at xtenmit@gmail.com or 734-474-1426.

November

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 All Saints Sunday 23 Pentecost 8:15 & 10:00am Worship 11am Coffee Hour	2 <i>Office Closed</i> AA Mtg. 7pm	3 Adult Study 10:30-11:30am	4 OA Mtg. 6-7pm	5 <i>Office Closed</i> Search Team 7pm	6	7 OA Mtg. 8:30-9:30am
8 24 Pentecost 8:15 & 10:00am Worship 11am Coffee Hour	9 <i>Office Closed</i> Lunch Bunch Noon @ Carrigan's AA Mtg. 7pm	10 Adult Study 10:30-11:30am Search Team 7pm	11 OA Mtg. 6-7pm	12 <i>Office Closed</i>	13	14 OA Mtg. 8:30-9:30am
15 25 Pentecost Stewardship Sunday Three on the 3rd Mission Cafe 8:15 & 10:00am Worship 11am Mission Cafe	16 <i>Office Closed</i> AA Mtg. 7pm	17 Adult Study 10:30-11:30am PLT Mtg. 7pm	18 OA Mtg. 6-7pm	19 <i>Office Closed</i> Search Team 7pm	20	21 OA Mtg. 8:30-9:30am Paper Pantry 9:30am
22 Christ the King 26 Pentecost 8:15 & 10:00am Worship 11am Coffee Hour	23 <i>Office Closed</i> AA Mtg. 7pm	24 Adult Study <i>cancelled</i>	25 OA Mtg. 6-7pm	26 <i>Office Closed</i>	27 <i>Office Closed</i>	28 OA Mtg. 8:30-9:30am
29 1 Advent 8:15 & 10:00am Worship 11am Coffee Hour	30 <i>Office Closed</i> AA Mtg. 7pm					

December 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3 <i>Office Closed</i>	4	5 OA Mtg. 8:30-9:30am GREENING 10:30am
6 2 Advent 8:15 & 10:00am Worship 11am Coffee Hour	7 <i>Office Closed</i> AA Mtg. 7pm	8 Adult Study 10:30-11:30am	9 OA Mtg. 6-7pm	10 <i>Office Closed</i>	11	12 OA Mtg. 8:30-9:30am
13 3 Advent 8:15 & 10:00am Worship 11am Coffee Hour	14 <i>Office Closed</i> Lunch Bunch Noon @ Carrigan's AA Mtg. 7pm	15 Adult Study 10:30-11:30am	16 OA Mtg. 6-7pm	17 <i>Office Closed</i>	18	19 OA Mtg. 8:30-9:30am Paper Pantry 9:30am

We will be publishing another newsletter in early December.

We will have details about Christmas services and events happening in early January.

Save the Date

Holy Faith's Annual Meeting will be held on January 31, 2016. It has been an eventful year. Please plan to attend.

SUNDAY MINISTRY SCHEDULE

	All Saint's Sunday 23 Pentecost November 1	24 Pentecost November 8	25 Pentecost November 15 <i>Mission Cafe</i>	Christ the King 26 Pentecost November 22	1 Advent November 29
8:15 Reader	Mike Centlivre Suzanne Buchalski	Mary Fatchett	Cicely Johnson	Art Witbart	Mike Centlivre Suzanne Buchalski
10:00 Asst. Min.	Ann Mayers	Susan Cummings	Katie Garvey	Sandy White	Lisa Reifert
10:00 Reader	Tish Dersnah	Jeff Cummings	Jean Savage	Ian Brown	Barbara Johnston
10:00 Ushers	David Dubay Ingrid Smart	Sam Proud	Talle and Steve Jolliffe	Judie and Rick Wales	David Dubay
10:00 Greeters	Tish Dersnah	Jane Darling	Tish Dersnah	Norlaine and Harold Tinsey	Clarke Flewelling Dan McGraw
10:00 Acolyte	Tim Custer	Ashley Schneider	TBD	Bethany Mitchell	Branden Amstutz
Coffee Hosts	Graham/Arnold	Jolliffe/Dubay	<i>Mission Cafe</i>	Amstutz/ Flewelling/McGraw	<i>All of Us</i>
Altar Guild	Mary Fatchett	Mary Fatchett	Mary Fatchett	Mary Fatchett	Mary Fatchett
Counters	Harold/Carolyn	Steve/Rick	Mike V./Andy	Fritz/Kent	Steve/Harold

	2 Advent December 6	3 Advent December 13	4 Advent December 20	Christmas Eve December 24	1 Christmas December 27
8:15 Reader	Mary Fatchett	Cicely Johnson	Art Witbart	TBD	Mike Centlivre Suzanne Buchalski
10:00 Asst. Min.	Harold Tinsey	Carolyn Schneider	Molly Hilton		--
10:00 Reader	Wendy Amstutz	Katie Garvey	Carolyn Schneider		TBD
10:00 Ushers	Sam Proud Ingrid Smart	Talle and Steve Jolliffe	Judie and Rick Wales		David Dubay
10:00 Greeters	Tish Dersnah Alice Kitchen	Jane Darling	Tish Dersnah		Clarke Flewelling Dan McGraw
10:00 Acolyte	Elyse Narbut	Nels Erickson	Tim Custer		--
Coffee Hosts	Darling/Smart	Braun/Tinsey	Beaubien/Berry Determan		<i>All of Us</i>
Altar Guild	Mary Fatchett	Mary Fatchett	Mary Fatchett		Mary Fatchett
Counters	Rick/Carolyn	Fritz/Mike V.	Andy/Steve		Harold/Rick

Lunch Bunch!

Everyone is always invited to Lunch Bunch!
You just have to come!

**2nd Monday of Each Month
Carrigan's in Saline at Noon**

Please see Barbara Arnold with questions.



BLOOD DRIVE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

After many years, Judie and Rick Wales are stepping down from organizing the Blood Drive we have sponsored at Holy Faith on the first Sunday after Christmas.

We have typically chosen this date because blood donations are low at this time of year, but the need remains high.

Please contact Pastor Stan if you would like to do this. Now is the time to start planning this event.

Episcopal and ELCA Lutheran
6299 Ann Arbor - Saline Road
Saline, MI 48176



The Rev. Stan Eckermann, Interim Pastor

pastor@holy-faith-church.org

The Rev. Donald Dersnah, Deacon

don@holy-faith-church.org

Joan Barbret, Office Manager

joan@holy-faith-church.org

Jesse Morgan, Church Musician

Eric Doucette, Choir Director

Claire Amstutz, Nursery Care

Samantha Bartolet, Nursery Care

Parish Leadership Team (PLT)

Steve Jolliffe, President (1/'17)

jolliffes@aol.com/944-5678

Vicki English, VP (1/'18)

vjj01@live.com/686-1883

Ann Mayers, Secretary (1/'17)

ann.mayers@gmail.com/223-7259

Susan Cummings (1/'16)

a2pinkaster@gmail.com/429-5324

David Dubay (1/'16)

doobieone@comcast.net/657-7953

Clarke Flewelling (1/'18)

cflew2@hotmail.com/944-6069

MISSION STATEMENT

Seek God Together.

Grow in Spirit and Love.

Reach Out to Our Neighbor and the World.



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