



Forward With Faith

Faith Lutheran Church, Cleveland, GA

Our Vision:

As disciples of Christ,
we are inspired and
empowered by the Holy Spirit,
we are witnesses of the Gospel of Grace,
and we act boldly to serve in our community and the world.



Invite!

Nurture!

Send!

Serve!

September 2026



Worship
Every Sunday
at 10:30
Our call in connection is
717-908-1943
Participant 9988583#

Tues. Sept 1
10:00 Bible study

Sun. Sept 6
10:30 Worship Service
"Creation in Christ "Sunday

Tues. Sept 8
10:00 am Craft ministry

Sun Sept 13
10:30 Worship Service
"God's Work Our Hands"

Tues. Sept 15
10:00 am Bible study
12:00 pm Let's do Lunch Rustic
Cabin in Clarkesville, dessert at Barb
Moser's house.

Sun Sept 20
10:30 Worship Service
Congregation Council meets

Tues. Sept 22
10:00 Crafts ministry

Sun Sept 27
10:30 Worship Service

Tues. Sept 29
10:00 Crafts

Happy Birthday



September

6 Carol Rossbach*
10 Signe Erne
16 Jim Goebel
19 Penny Wacker *friend of Faith

From the PASTOR

September 2026

Dear Siblings in Christ,

We are entering the last quarter of 2026, as we grow older and wiser, time seems to move faster! Here we are eight months sharing our faith journey, we have worshiped, studied, served, had fellowship, lamented, laughed, and continued our faithful callings together. Yes, we have many questions and some answers to where we are going as a congregation, as we move forward, let us enjoy the journey as we discern a destination.

Thomas Merton (1915-1968), was an American Trappist monk, theologian, mystic, poet, social activist, and Christian writer on spirituality, I like to call him, the prophet of the "now." Some of his writings are like both a gentle reminder and a loud thunder inviting us to live more fully the present. You might have included in your reading list or have already read Thomas Merton's "No Man Is an Island (2002).

While the past and the future are relevant for our lives, the present is also, and in a task oriented pragmatic society like the one we belong to, it is the present that we sacrifice most often. Thus, as we look at our future, celebrating the past, let us be attentive to the present also. Let us keep in mind that time—past, present, and future-, the arena in which our lives unfold, have meaning because of God; the Lord of Time, who is ever present and can see our lives unfolding at once!

In Lutheran tradition, September is the month of Stewardship, we are reminded that God is the Lord of all, Lord of Creation, Lord of us and what we possess. Though we are blessed with a generous and faithful congregation, for whom I am grateful, there is always opportunity to join us and support financially our ministry.

October is the month of the Reformation! We sing aloud A Mighty Fortress Is Our God! and we are reminded of the five Solas of the Reformation: In Latin, Sola Scriptura, Sola Fide, Sola Gratia, Solus Christus, and Solo Dei Gloria. We will celebrate the history of Faith!

Last, right before Advent, following our congregation Council, we declare November the Month of Visioning and Strategic Planning. The purpose for this declaration is to discern and craft a comprehensive three-year ministry plan for our congregation, that will be our blueprint and roadmap for ministry. In this month we will pray individually and together to listen to God, we will study Scriptures that speak of vision and mission, we will listen to what you consider important for the life and ministry of our congregation, and we will set realistic and measurable goals for ongoing and new ministries. Save the month and keep tuned for more information in our Sunday bulletin, website, and social media.

With mixed feelings, I express gratitude for the lives and ministry of Tina and Andy Meyer, and say farewell, sending them with a blessings and ongoing prayers to Wisconsin. Their faithfulness, kindness, and generosity stay with us and inspire our lives to serve Christ with humbleness.

In Christ, Pastor Alfredo M Oviedo



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Family Promise



Our next week to serve will be October 18th - 24th. Watch the board in the fellowship hall for opportunities to sign up to bring a meal to the families at the house. Watch for the opportunity to support Family Promise with tickets for your Duck in the Helen Duck Race on Saturday October 24, 2026!



We have two special Services coming up in September

On September 6, 2026 Pastor Justin Eller will be with us as Pastor Alfredo Oviedo will be on vacation. We are going to have a special environmental focused service that day called "Creation in Christ". "Creation in Christ" is the ELCA's new seasonal worship theme honoring God as creator and caring for the Earth as stewards of God's wondrous creation!

On September 13, 2026 we will celebrate God's Work, Our Hands Sunday

Focusing on what we do in our community and in the world all around to serve as God's hands.

Look for information in the Service and then in the fellowship hall that Sunday

If you have a way you serve, let us know and become a part of this Sunday.



**God's work.
Our hands.**



September 13th in the liturgical calendar is an opportunity to celebrate who we are as Lutherans in America — one church, freed in Christ to serve and love our neighbor. Service activities offer an opportunity for us to explore one of our most basic convictions as Lutherans: that all of life in Jesus Christ — every act of service, in every corner of life — flows freely from confidence in God's grace! We here at Faith are continually doing "God's work, Our hands"! This month is a good way to let all of you know how we are involved in our community and beyond. Through budgeted benevolences as well as nonbudgeted opportunities, we support the following organizations:

Family Promise of White and Habersham Counties
Inspiritus (Lutheran Service of Georgia)
Sharing and Caring of Habersham County
White County Food Pantry
Community Helping Hands Clinic
Back to School Bash for local children
Youth Fund for Lutheran Camp
Clarkesville Soup Kitchen
Right Recovery
Hospice Volunteerism
Tanzania Chicken and Bee project



"Gods work Our Hands" serves as a reminder that faith calls believers into active service to love and support our neighbors and those in need. Pictured are of some of the service activities in action! We want to see more of what you all do!

From the Council President

Good day faithful friends,

Lots of things happening with the council. We have adopted a conflict of interest bylaw for inclusion in our church guiding documents. At the same time, we are working on a comprehensive church safety policy and will be sharing our findings with the congregation for input.

Gutter cleaning and screening on the office building will be happening soon. The facilities point of contact is Gary Latz. Please let us know of any facility issues you feel should be addressed.

Penny Wacker provided the council with her resignation paperwork effective Oct. 30. We appreciate her dedicated service for many years to Faith. We will begin searching for a replacement for Penny in the coming weeks after a formal review and update of the position description by an appointed committee.

My last day as your President will be the first week in September as we head to Wisconsin to be closer to family. It has been a pleasure to get to know you all. We will always be a part of the Faith family.

- Andy Meyer

What's happening at Faith

CRAFT AND OUTREACH MINISTRY



We ladies of Faith meet on the
second & forth Tuesday

September 8th & 22nd At 10:00 am

We are women of Faith who try and serve our Lord with our time and talents, some are crafty others just want to serve in any way we can. We are lucky to have women who can help us with crafts, we work on sending out cards to those in our congregation who need our support and love. We celebrate the birthdays of our members with cards. We do helpful things around church, such as decorate the fellowship hall. Basically we care for our church and community in ways of out reach. Mary Goebel was one of those who started us in the right direction. We have a new project right now Wreaths made of strips of fabric. Come and see!



Let's do Lunch

Tuesday September 8th

Join us at Noon at the Rustic Cabin in

Clarkesville

Dessert at Barb Moser's



Women's Bible Study

We meet on the first & Third Tuesday
September 1st & 15th

At 10:00 am

Consider trying out our Bible study group,
drop in any time and give us a try.



BREAD FOR THE FOOD PANTRY

**Amount we have
given to the Food Pantry
For Bread**

**Thru August 23, 2026 is 1,759 loaves
at \$2,710.98**

the cost of a loaf of bread had risen to \$1.62



Mary Goebel

*A servant of Her Lord, Jesus Christ
Went home to her Lord on August 25, 2026
Mary was born January 24, 1950*

*Our thoughts and prayers go out to our brother,
Jim Goebel and his family.*

A **big thank you** goes out to all who do the little things around church. We couldn't survive without getting those little things accomplished! From taking out the garbage, emptying the recycle containers, watering the piano, blowing leaves, vacuuming the fellowship hall to name a few. Thank you for buying all the stuff we need to have every week: paper towels, napkins TP, Kleenex, coffee, table cloth's, TV for the church, indoor and outdoor plants, the list goes on. True servants working together. We celebrate you, the behind the scenes volunteers, that truly keep our church running every week! Your faithfulness in managing the small details does not go unnoticed. Thank you for your servant heart.



SP & MS



Bible Readings from the Lectionary for September 2026

September 6
September 13
September 20
September 27

1st Reading
Ezekial 33:7-11
Genesis 50:15-21
Jonah 3:10-4:11
Ezekial 18:1-4, 25-32

Psalm
Psalm 119: 33-40
Psalm 103: [1-7] 8-13
Psalm 145: 1-8
Psalm 25:1-9

2nd Reading
Romans 13:8-14
Romans 14:1-12
Philippians 1:21-30
Philippians 2:1-13

Gospel
Matthew 18:15-20
Matthew 18:21-35
Matthew 20:1-16
Matthew 21:23-32

September



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 10:00 Bible Study	2	3	4	5
6 10:30 Service Pentecost 15 "Creation in Christ Sunday" Green	7	8 10:00 Craft Ministry 12:00 Let's do Lunch Rustic Cabin Clarksville	9	10	11	12
13 10:30 Service Pentecost 16 God's Work Our hands" Green	14	15 10:00 Bible Study	16	17	18	19
20 10:30 Service Pentecost 17 Green Faith Council Meeting	21	22 10:00 Craft Ministry	23	24	25	26
27 10:30 Service Pentecost 18 Green	28	29 Open Tuesday	30	Oct 1	2	3

Worship Help September

Let me know if you need to change your date. Marty

	Sept. 6	Sept. 13	Sept 20	Sept. 27
Worship Asst.	Bill Inman	Pam Romesser	Whitney Hutchinson	Don Waara
Reader	Chris Smith	Arline McWhinney	Pam Romesser	Bob Schmehling
Usher	Lynn Graham Marty Schmehling	Suzi Anderson Lynn Graham	Don Waara Marty Schmehling	Suzi Anderson
Altar Guild	Pam Romesser	Barb Moser Sue Falls	Lynn Graham Bill Inman	Arline McWhinney Marty Schmehling
Communion Bread	Chris Smith	Alexandra Oviedo	Marty S	Chris Smith
Service Team	Team 1	Team 2	Team 3	Team 4

Forward With Faith



Faith Lutheran Church
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Cleveland, GA 30528



Faith Lutheran Church
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Mailing Address: P.O. Box 3381, Cleveland, GA 30528
Telephone, 706-865-3925
Pastor Alfredo Oviedo's Ph.# 828-290-4041
If no answer, please leave a message
email is alfredossjc@me.com

Mission of Faith:

To *invite* all people to celebrate God's blessings,
to *nurture* them with Christ's grace, love and fellowship,
and to *send* us all joyfully to *serve*.

Core Values:

Grace

Discipleship

Inclusivity

Grow in Prayer

Worship