



# The KEY

The newsletter of Faith Lutheran Church **July-August 2017**

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June 4, 2017



**Above:** The banner is carried along Arlington Blvd to Faith.

**Left:** The "Hate has no home here." banner is signed by the leaders and members of Faith and Etz Hayim.

**Below left:** At Etz Hayim, we share a meal while learning about the refugee resettlement process from Kianoosh Asar (LSS-NCA).

**Below right:** Members pose on the church steps before putting the banner on display near the Jackson Street entrance.



Photos by Chris Kagy, member of Etz Hayim

## July Mission of the Month: Ciudad Juárez Ministry

Contact: Pastor Yvette, [pastoryvette@flcva.org](mailto:pastoryvette@flcva.org)



Doctora San Juana Mendóza-Bruce (pictured to the left) ministers to the poor in Ciudad Juárez by providing health services to some of the most vulnerable people in Juárez. In addition to direct treatment of patients, Doctora Mendóza-Bruce educates families about safety and healthy lifestyles. Her work is a mission of Cristo Rey Lutheran Church, our Mission Partner congregation in El Paso, and our groups who travel there meet her and visit one of her two free clinics.

Doctora Mendóza-Bruce began her work in poor indigenous communities in the mountains of northern Mexico, and then moved to the city and began working in the communities that grew up around the Juárez city dump. The families living there survived by sorting through trash for recyclables, and had little to no access to health care. Doctora Mendóza-Bruce worked hard to provide medical care for the dump residents, and organized and recruited other medical, dental and related health professionals and volunteers to help her.

**Photograph by Andrew Tonn, used with permission**

Dra. Mendóza-Bruce continues to serve in some of the poorest neighborhoods in Juárez at a time when many other doctors have stopped practicing in Juárez because they fear being caught in the crossfire of violence. She operates two clinics, including one near Lomos de Poleo, the small village where we have our own scholarship program. Her clinic is the main way that the families we know are able to have health care.

Dra. Mendóza-Bruce also has her own scholarship program, which assists 95 students in all grade levels (elementary through university) with school scholarships that go towards paying a portion of public school tuition, uniforms and classroom materials. In order to receive these scholarships, students must maintain a 90% average and have no absences. Many of the students also volunteer time working in her clinics.

Dra. Mendóza-Bruce's love for the poor of Juárez, her profound faith, and her devotion to her work drive her to continue, though she faces daily risk working in the communities her clinics serve. Her ministry operates without any government funding, getting by entirely on donations and volunteers. Your donations to our Mission of the Month program in July will provide vital support for Doctora Mendóza-Bruce's ministry.

To make a donation, enclose your gifts in the Special Mission Offering envelopes in the pews on Sunday mornings, or through the GivePlus Church app, or online by clicking on the "Give" button at [www.flcva.org](http://www.flcva.org). †

## August Mission of the Month: Bridges to Independence

Contact: Kris Finney, (703)-408-5900 or [kfinney15@aol.com](mailto:kfinney15@aol.com)

Bridges to Independence ("Bridges"), leads individuals and families out of homelessness and into stable, independent futures. A private, nonprofit organization, Bridges has been working with and for homeless families since 1985, when it was founded as the Arlington-Alexandria Coalition for the Homeless. Bridges strives to break the cycle of intergenerational poverty by preparing today's struggling kids to be tomorrow's successful adults. From housing to financial literacy, from tutoring to youth development, from life skills to career counseling, Bridges tailors a continuum of aid and support for all family members, helping them attain financial security and move forward into self-sufficiency.



Sullivan House, Bridges' emergency shelter in the Lyon Park neighborhood, provides families with a safe, supportive place to stay. Sullivan House is the largest emergency shelter for families experiencing homelessness in Arlington County. The shelter, with ten one- and two-bedroom apartments, can accommodate approximately 14 families at a time. The median length of stay is 3 months. While residing at Sullivan House, individuals receive intensive assessment, counseling, and referrals.

Following their shelter stay, families participate in Bridges' Rapid Re-Housing program. The goal is to move individuals and families into safe, affordable, and permanent housing as quickly as possible. Bridges' services include housing identification, connection to mainstream resources, financial assistance, and community-based case management. Through partnerships with landlords in the community, families are able to secure and maintain a lease in their own names, which assists them in establishing a foundation for good credit.

Last year Bridges served 460 individuals; 248 through their emergency shelter and rapid re-housing programs, and an additional 212 former participants. As homelessness is often episodic, Bridges works closely with former participants to ensure they are able to remain securely housed and do not fall into homelessness again.

Sixty percent of the people served by Bridges to Independence are children. Bridges' youth participate in a busy schedule of activities, including opportunities for career exploration, community service, health and fitness, mentoring, tutoring and much more.

*continues on page 4*



*continued from page 3*

### **How you can get involved:**

- Play Kickball! Kris Finney will be sponsoring a team for Bridges' annual SAFE AT HOME Kickball Tournament. Join the Faith Lutheran team on August 5 for a fun day in the park helping our neighbors in need. Last year's team had a blast!
- Volunteer with Bridges.
  - ⇒ Be a mentor or tutor to adults and children who need assistance with school work, are studying for a certification, working to improve their English language skills, or are seeking assistance with job applications and interview preparation.
  - ⇒ Provide child care while adult clients take classes on Saturdays.
  - ⇒ Be a runner buddy for middle school and high school youth training to run 5K races.
- Donate diapers, toiletries, paper products, cleaning supplies, and nonperishable food for Bridges' emergency shelter.
- Provide a child with a backpack and new outfit for the first day of school through Bridges' Look Cool for School program.
- Make a financial gift. Bridges to Independence relies on the financial support of the community. You can donate online at [www.bridges2.org/donate-online](http://www.bridges2.org/donate-online).
- Adopt-A-Family. Join together with other members of Faith Lutheran Church to sponsor a family moving out of the emergency shelter.

For more information, you may contact Kris Finney or visit [www.bridges2.org](http://www.bridges2.org). †

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## **A Letter from the (Former) Editor: Updates from Jen Moore**

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Jen just finished her second semester at Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia, which will be merging with Gettysburg Seminary at the beginning of July to form the United Lutheran Seminary (ULS). In what should come as a surprise to absolutely no one, Jen is keeping very busy! In addition to her courses, Jen sings in the seminary choir, womans the front desk on campus evenings and weekends, and assists in worship, preaching, Christian education, and other projects at St. Paul's Lutheran church in the Olney neighborhood of Philadelphia.

This semester, Jen and two of her classmates planned a Spiritual Retreat for fellow students, worked with her peers on a new podcast called Season and Story, and is planning a four-week study on the Reformation during the Easter season at her field education church. In the coming months, Jen will be serving on a committee to grapple with ULS finances in the transition. Fun stuff!

This summer, Jen will complete 400 hours of "clinical pastoral education," which is like a crash course on chaplaincy, split between two sites near Durham, NC - the UNC hospital, and the Department of Aging, where she is learning about dementia, meeting with caregivers, and developing a training for dementia-friendly church. She is very excited about spending three full months at home with her husband, Noah (who continues to do very well at Duke)!

Jen is grateful for Faith's continued prayers and support. She also encourages you to make a financial gift to the ELCA Fund for Leaders, a merit-based scholarship program of the ELCA which supports seminary education for promising future leaders of the church (like Jen!). You can make a donation online at <https://community.elca.org/fundforleaders>. †

# The Lord's Prayer

A NEW SERMON SERIES, SUNDAYS IN JULY



Throughout the month of July, our Lord's Prayer sermon series will progress through this familiar prayer one petition at a time.

- † July 2: Our Father
- † July 9: Your Kingdom
- † July 16: Give us this day
- † July 23: Forgive us our sins
- † July 30: Lead us not into temptation

The "Not For Polite Conversation" series on politics and religion has been postponed until a later date. †

Image: *The Temptation in the Wilderness*, Briton Rivière.  
Retrieved from the Wikimedia Commons.



## Gifts of Hope—Hope for Today, Hope for Tomorrow

A Ministry of the Metro. Washington DC Synod, ELCA.  
Contact: [director@giftsofhopedc.org](mailto:director@giftsofhopedc.org)

Gifts of Hope has exciting news to share with you. First, during Advent 2016 Gifts of Hope raised \$104,337.00 from more than 60 congregations in our Synod and via our website. Thanks to the volunteers who present this alternative gift-giving option to the congregations. Second, we are celebrating 25 years in our Synod, having raised more than \$3,337,000.00 for our many beneficiaries, supporting their work in our metro DC area and abroad. Third, we are adding another organization: Lutheran Campus Ministries in our Synod area.

If you would like to support Gifts of Hope and make a difference in our community, you can choose from our 40 gifts which are available year-round via our website: [giftsofhopedc.org](http://giftsofhopedc.org). Select a gift from the online catalog and you will receive an all-purpose card to present to your honored loved one. Your support provides hope for today and hope for tomorrow. †

-Carolyn Sowinski, Director

## Vacation Bible School Reminder

Contacts: Mary Quattlebaum ([maryqbaum@gmail.com](mailto:maryqbaum@gmail.com)), Jody Manning ([business@flcva.org](mailto:business@flcva.org))

VBS will take place July 24–28, 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. We have filled most of the teaching positions, but more help is still appreciated! If you can make yourself available to help out, please complete a registration on our VBS website AND email Mary Quattlebaum.

Online volunteer registration can be found at:  
[www.myvbs.org/FLCVA/](http://www.myvbs.org/FLCVA/) †



## Upcoming Events in Brief

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- **Young Adult Gathering (YAG)**

**Tubing Trip:** Saturday, July 29th at 9:45 AM. We'll be on the Shenandoah River for 3-4 hours. Tubing is \$25 per person including taxes. Contact Allison Baker by **July 23rd** to sign up: [allison.baker10@gmail.com](mailto:allison.baker10@gmail.com)

- **eXtra Years of Zest (XYZ)**

**Tuesday, July 4**

Lunch at P.J. Skidoos. Van leaves at 11:30 a.m.

**Tuesday, July 18th—11:30 a.m.**

XYZ Annual Picnic

**Tuesday, August 1**

Lunch at Magnolias. Van leaves the church at 11:00 a.m.

**Tuesday, August 15**

Lunch at the Bavarian Inn. Van leaves the church at 11:00 a.m.

- **Meals on Wheels**

**Monday, July 28th and Monday, August 24th at 11:00 a.m.**

Contact Bruce & Kay Flatin to be added to the list of substitutes: [bruceandkayflatin@me.com](mailto:bruceandkayflatin@me.com)

- **Bagged Meal Preparation and Distribution**

**Saturday, July 8th and Saturday, August 12th, 1:00 p.m. / 5:30 p.m.**

If you would like to help, contact Paul Wengert at his new email address: [sandwich@wmalumni.com](mailto:sandwich@wmalumni.com)

- **Babies and Toddlers Playgroup**

**Wednesday, 7/5 at 10:30 am** at Bluemont Park (Meet by the baby swings)

**Sunday, 7/16 from 1-3pm:** Whole Family Event at Quincy Park (Meet by the swings)

For more information and to get on our mailing list, please contact Sarah Grawe: [saragrawe@gmail.com](mailto:saragrawe@gmail.com)

- **Babies and Toddlers Story Time**

Our monthly story time is for babies and toddlers up to 3 years old, with at least one parent or caregiver present with each child. Each session will include some group time hearing a bible story, singing and praying, and time for caregivers to spend one on one time with their children doing activities related to the story of the day. After story time participants are welcome to join the 9:30 worship service.

**July 2 at 9:35 a.m.** - Lesson: Jesus teaches and heals

**Aug 6 at 9:35 a.m.** - Lesson: Jesus feeds a crowd

If you would like to be one of the rotating volunteers who helps with story time, then please contact Rachel Ackmann ([rachelackmann5@gmail.com](mailto:rachelackmann5@gmail.com)).

- **Safe at Home Kickball Tournament**

If you are interested in joining our FLCVA-sponsored team, contact Kris Finney (703-408-5900 or [kfinney15@aol.com](mailto:kfinney15@aol.com)) or one of the Pastors.

- **Church Picnic**

Sunday, June 30th at 12:15 p.m. Look for more details to come!

- **SAVE THE DATE: Sunday School Rally Day is Sunday, September 10th**

Rally Day will include fun activities, a service project for students, and open registration for Sunday School. Look for more details to come!

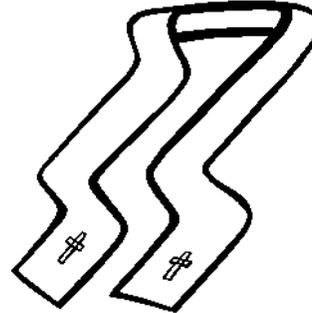
*For events, check our [online Google calendar](#). †*

**CONGRATULATIONS!**



**THE PANDYA FAMILY**

Congratulations to Julie and Brian Pandya for the birth of their daughter, Madelyn Julie Pandya, on April 15th!



**REV. BRIAN ERIKSON**

Congratulations to Pastor Brian for the 40th anniversary of his ordination into Holy Ministry of Word and Sacrament

**Narrative Lectionary: Coming this Fall**

Beginning on September 10, we will draw our readings for worship from the Narrative Lectionary, a four-year cycle of readings. Each year follows the sweep of the biblical story chronologically, from Creation through the early Christian church:

**From September to mid-December** the preaching texts begin with the early chapters of Genesis, move through the stories of Israel's early history, the exodus, the kings, prophets, exile and return.

**From Christmas to Easter** there is sustained reading of one of the four gospels (the gospel for 2017-2018 is John).

**From Easter to Pentecost** the texts are chosen from Acts and Paul's letters.

**The summer months** are open, which provides an opportunity for sermon series that dig into a particular book or books of the bible, themes that run throughout Scripture, or teachings and perspectives from our faith tradition or church history. Some examples of sermon series themes are Ephesians, Revelation, Psalms, Sacraments, Creeds, or The Ten Commandments.

**July and August Lectionary**

**Lord's Prayer Sermon Series: July 2 - July 30**

**July 2**  
4th Sunday after Pentecost  
Luke 11:1-4  
Genesis 1:26-31

**July 9**  
5th Sunday after Pentecost  
Luke 11:1-4  
Psalm 145:8-14

**July 16**  
6th Sunday after Pentecost  
Luke 11:1-4  
1 Kings 17:8-24

**July 23**  
7th Sunday after Pentecost  
Luke 11:1-4  
Second Reading TBA

**July 30**  
8th Sunday After Pentecost  
Luke 11:1-4  
Second reading TBA

**August: Readings to be announced.**

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# Faith Lutheran Church

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*Faith Lutheran Church is a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.*

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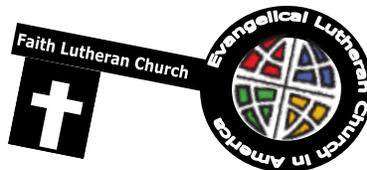
Pastor	<i>Rev. Yvette Schock</i>	<a href="mailto:pastoryvette@flcva.org">pastoryvette@flcva.org</a>
Pastor	<i>Rev. Kate Davidson</i>	<a href="mailto:pastorkate@flzcva.org">pastorkate@flzcva.org</a>
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Communications Coordinator	<i>Laura Bolger</i>	<a href="mailto:communications@flcva.org">communications@flcva.org</a>
Church Caretaker	<i>Juan Ulloa</i>	

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## *Faith's 2017 Church Council*

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President Jill Faris <a href="mailto:president@flcva.org">president@flcva.org</a>	Asst. Financial Secretary Tina Kroll-Guerch	Deacon of Education Mary Quattlebaum
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**The Key** is published bimonthly by Faith Lutheran Church for its members and friends.  
**Submit your items for the next issue (Sept/Oct) by August 18th.**

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