

## LIFE TOGETHER This Week



When it comes to building updates, some weeks are "flashier" than others. Windows, paint, walls, new rooms . . . pictures help us see just how the building will look when we are walking through it in person.

This week may not seem flashy, but when there is a Sunday morning rain storm and you are dropping your loved ones off under the porte cochere, or there was a Saturday 2-foot snowfall and the lot is clear, remember that the work this week was oh so important!





A stone base is being laid in the excavated parking lot. Facing west toward Santa Monica.



The layers of a parking area are important to maintain a level surface as well as proper drainage.

The driveway is being sloped to meet the doorway under the porte cochere. It will be as high as the yellow arrows in the picture to the left.



New chandeliers will help light the sanctuary, seen here with their protective covers.



Drywalling continues in the chancel area. The left side of the picture is the back wall.

FPLC Office Hours Monday–Thursday from 9 am–3 pm See our webpage for all information regarding virtual worship, outreach, and children & youth programs. Click  $\rightarrow$ 







#### **FPLC's Afghan Refugee Resettlement Group**

Our group is forming and growing! We are working with Lutheran Social Services (LSS) to help settle Afghan refugees coming to the Milwaukee area.

If you are moved to offer your time, talent, and/or resources to the Afghan refugees, please contact Lana, Cindy, or Stacia Hickey (in the church office) to be added to the working group. We currently have 40 members interested in this work!

We are going to be sending specific information to members of the group with general updates in our publications and on our website.

May God bless our efforts and those we aim to serve.

Lana Wiese: lana@studiogear.net Cindy Bohlen: cbohlen@wi.rr.com Stacia Hickey: stacia@foxpointchurch.org

If you would like to learn more about how LSS is assisting refugees and the other efforts of LSS in our community, please visit their website Lsswis.org

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH of Whitefirth Bay

### **SIGN UP TODAY!** FREE BREAKFAST & PROGRAM



With former Wisconsin Governor

MARTIN SCHREIBER

Author of *My Two Elaines*: Learning, Coping and Surviving as an Alzheimer's Caregiver

#### Sat. November 6 - 8:30-10:00 am

UMC of Whitefish Bay - Fellowship Hall 819 E. Silver Spring Drive

#### **ALL ARE WELCOME!** Sign up by October 29 by calling the church at 414-964-2424.

The first 30 to sign up will receive a free copy of the book, compliments of the Foundations and Memorial Committee of the UMC of Whitefish Bay (one per couple, please). Additional copies will be available for purchase.



# **What is Breeze?** Breeze is our online directory

and it's available to you! It coincides with our office

database, also by Breeze. Breeze is an online database system for those who are part of Fox Point Lutheran Church and allows you to...

View an online church directory

- Update your family's contact info
- View your giving history
- Email or call members directly from the mobile app

#### Why use Breeze?

Breeze is a system that our entire staff, finance, and communications teams are using to help us stay organized; and you benefit from that as well! When you update your contact details, you help staff have accurate information. When you give, you are able to track your giving. You also have access to our church directory right from your smartphone.

#### **Need access?**

If you already have an account through FPLC, log in through our website: Log In.

If you don't already have an account, visit this link: Sign Up and click "Request a Breeze account". We'll send you your login credentials within 24 hours/Monday – Friday.

#### The Breeze App



Do you want to look up information from your smartphone? Go to your phone's app store and download the Breeze app!

Please do not use any Breeze database information for solicitation purposes!





#### **Serenity Inns Celebration of Recovery Dinner**

On September 30, Serenity Inns held its annual Celebration of Recovery. The annual event honors the residents and graduates who live in recovery; it is also Serenity Inns' biggest fundraising event of the year.

Thank you to all of the guests, volunteers, sponsors, graduates and residents who made the evening special. Mike Strehlow of CBS 58 was the emcee, as in the past.

Graduate Keunn Bellinger received the 2021 Alumnus of the Year award. Keunn said, "My seven-month stay at Serenity Inns was a blessing. The program is excellent, especially the people who embody the spirit of the program – an empathy and a decency that over the years I had forgotten existed." Keunn currently lives at Alumni House and is attending MATC through Serenity Inns' donorfunded alumni scholarship program.

Recently retired Executive Director Ellen Blathers received a Lifetime Achievement Award. Longtime Serenity Inns Board members, and now Ambassadors, were honored for their



commitment as well; Ambassadors are Dave Romoser, Rick Deines, Pastor Joe Ellwanger and Dr. Bill Martens. Serenity Inns resident Orlando spoke about his journey at Serenity Inns.

Elements of Dinner Fellowship were incorporated into the evening; each guest was able to take home a placemat crafted by area congregations who are Dinner Fellowship partners. Thank you to the Fox Point Lutheran youth who participated in the placemat effort!



#### Dinner Fellowship with Serenity Inns Residents

Take a meal to the men at Serenity Inns and stay to

enjoy the meal with them. They share their stories with the group while experiencing valuable social interactions which were often lost during addiction. This is a great activity to do with your middle and high school-aged youth so they can hear the anti-drug/alcohol message.

Serenity Inns provides a safe home for men in Milwaukee to recover from their addiction to drugs or alcohol. FPLC volunteers provide 3 dinners a month for the residents. You can also drop off a meal or order a meal to be delivered.

To sign up click the button to the right. Do you have questions? Lorraine Buehler, FPLC member & long-time Serenity Inns volunteer can help! Email Lorraine at Icbuehler@cs.com.

*The dates available through December 2021 are:* **Fridays:** December 17; **Wednesdays:** December 22

Click the button to sign up!





#### We've Got News!

We are looking forward to beginning Confirmation in person as soon as we can gather in our wonderful new building.

All families with 7th and 8th grade students should have just received

registration materials, the Confirmation handbook, permission slips and service opportunity/worship note forms from Pr. Bruce.

If you have any questions, or didn't receive your packet, please contact Lori Barrieau; lori@foxpointchurch.org or 414-352-8990.

We look forward to seeing you all soon!







#### Let's Talk Turkeys!

Every year members have signed up to cook turkeys for The Gathering's Thanksgiving

meal and this year is no exception! We'll be transitioning to our new space with no freezer while this is going on. Are we going to let that stop us? No way! Read on for details:



We are asking members to purchase their own turkeys this year. Not only does this alleviate the storage issue, but it helps The Gathering save funds they can use toward the rest of the meal—especially important this year!

- Sign up to cook a turkey(s) HERE
- Purchase your turkey(s)
- Once you have cooked your turkey(s), de-bone and slice the meat, pack it in gallon-sized Ziplock bags and freeze. (You have the option to freeze the juices; they will use it for gravy, but it's not required.)
- Deliver your frozen bags to our temporary FPLC office at 8050 N. Port Washington Rd.
  Monday, November 22; 9 am 12 pm.
  FPLC and long-time Gathering volunteer Joe Graf will take them straight to The Gathering.

#### **NEW Mobile App**

On September 30, we switched to the new Vanco Mobile app and said goodbye to the GivePlus app.

What does this mean for you?

You'll use the same login credentials as before; all you need to do is download the new app.

Our new Vanco giving app makes giving simple and easy. Simply click the HOW TO INSTALL button below to view its simple set up instructions. We thank you for your ongoing and continued support.





#### **Fall Decor and More!**

Now is a wonderful time to purchase Bayside Garden cards

to decorate your home and garden for fall! Flowers, corn stalks, pumpkins, gourds . . .

Fifteen percent of every garden card sale goes to our Tanzania scholarship fund. The cards must be purchased at the church office, not Bayside Garden Center, to benefit this fund.

Bayside Garden cards make wonderful birthday, Christmas, housewarming and thank you gifts too!

#### **Devotional Booklets**

The 4th quarter devotional booklets are available in the office and during our in-person worship services. We have both large and regular print versions available.

Don't forget, if you plan to pick up a devotional book in the office, we are in our temporary space at 8050 N. Port Washington Rd.





#### **Infant Massage**

This one-hour class is a way for parents and their babies (birth to 6 months old) to connect. Be prepared to Zoom—all you need is yourself in comfy clothes, your baby(s) and a blanket.

You'll be taught the head-to-toe infant massage techniques that parents need to comfort, reduce irritability, help baby sleep faster and sleep longer, and to overall connect with baby. Please contact Angie Biersach, FPLC member, parent, and certified infant massage instructor with questions or to RSVP.

Dates: Oct 22, Nov 19, Dec 17 Time: 2 – 3 pm Instructor: Angie Biersach, MA, CCLS, CFLE, CIMI; angiebiersach@gmail.com or 414-207-2808

#### **Monday Evening Adult Small Groups**

#### **Ruth & Esther**

Please join us on Monday evenings for our new topic on Ruth and Esther. We are working with the *Be Committed* book and study guide from Warren Wiersbe.

We are hybrid now, in person at our homes and Zoom if not comfortable in person.

Date: Started October 11, but please join us! New members are welcome! Time: 7-8:30 pm; every other Monday Leaders: Lori & Eric Lorenz Contact: Lori Lorenz, lorenzlh92@gmail.com, with questions or to sign up

#### The Holy Spirit

This ongoing group started a new topic this week and is welcoming new members. We will mainly be using the Bible and a video series developed by Rick Warren and other Bible study leaders at Saddleback Church.

Our meetings for now are through Zoom.

Date: Started Monday, October 11 but please join us! We meet through December 19. Time: 7:00 - 8:30 pm; every Monday Leaders: Andy & Lori Barrieau Contact: Andy Barrieau, andrew.barrieau@felins. com, with questions or to sign up

## Gathering

#### **Volunteer At The Gathering!**

The Gathering is committed to serving their guests, even during Covid-19. They've adjusted their methods of sanitizing, preparing & distributing food to ensure safety. They need your help!

If you are healthy and willing, they'd love to have your help packaging bag lunches. This is a great opportunity for Confirmation students to give to their community. We request that an adult either volunteer with each student or that you arrange for them to join another confirmation family attending the event who can get them home or stay with them until they are picked up.

We have dates in November and December. The FPLC dates fill up quickly but check for cancellations: <u>FPLC</u> <u>Volunteer Dates</u>. The hours are 10 am – 1 pm. Dates will be added for 2022 shortly.

If these dates are full, dates that aren't specifically for FPLC can be found on their website: Community Volunteer.



#### In-Person Worship: October 24

There is no longer a need to pre-register for our in-person services. You are welcome to just show up for the

service! There are some guidelines to review before attending. Click the button below and scroll down the page to "On-Line Worship" to read those.

Questions? Please call the church office at 414-352-8990.

**Guidelines** 







First, let me start by saying, *I miss you! All* of you! Seeing your children on Sunday mornings was the highlight of my week—every week.

Sunday school has always been a wonderful experience for our kids at FPLC. It

provides a chance for kids to get together in ways that they can't elsewhere to learn about God, Jesus, and each other in a safe—and often fun—way.

Nothing can truly compete with our physical connection, which is why this past year has been so difficult. As of today, with the current surge in Covid-19 and lack of safe classroom space, we are still not able to offer in-person Sunday school. The health of all our members will always be paramount in any decisions we make. It's a hard decision, but we believe it's the right and only decision we could make.

Please know that we are monitoring the situation closely and will offer in-person kids' activities or Sunday school classes as soon as it is possible.

Meanwhile, we are offering a new video series: **FPLC from A to Z.** Each week we will open our special dictionary to help us answer questions that your kids (or you!) may have always had about the church, the Bible, Jesus, or being a Christian. For example, what is a messiah, why do we use water in baptism, what is a narthex, why do churches have steeples? Check it out beginning September 12. If there are topics your children have questions about, send them in an email to me at julie@foxpointchurch.org.

Coming soon: We are also starting to build a **Parents'** Corner on our website to answer difficult questions you, as parents, may have. For example, how do I talk to my child about death and heaven, how do I recognize depression or anxiety in my child, how do I help my child through a divorce? We will include brief videos from a variety of experts—including Pastors Bill and Bruce. If you have any issues you would like us to address, please email me at julie@foxpointchurch. org.

If there is anything else I can do to help you and your children bridge the gap between now and when we can meet in-person again, please let me know!

In God's Love, Julie Schlifske

What Do Our Partners Need?

These are items most in need:

Food Needs: Nutritional, non-perishable soups, stews, canned meats (tuna, chicken, Vienna sausages, spam), canned fruits & vegetables, cereal, boxed milk, peanut butter Personal Care Needs: Diapers, toilet paper, soap, shampoo, deodorant, body wash, toothpaste and shaving cream Cross Lutheran: Cross has a special request for the 4th quarter: full size deodorant, shampoo, razors (men's and women's), hand soap, toilet paper, paper towels, soap, and cleaning supplies

#### Food Donations Are Back at Our Temporary Office

You can drop food donations M – TH, 9 am – 3 pm. The cart will be in our offices at 8050 N. Port Washington Rd. Please use the West door (on Port Washington Rd.) to enter our offices. There is parking on that side of the building.

If you cannot bring your donation inside, call us and we'll come out to get it!





### PRAYER LIST All in The Family

We will see you on Sunday, October 24 for an in-person service or you can watch online for the virtual service. If you or your family need anything we can help you with, call the office at 414-352-8990 or email church@foxpointchurch.org!

Carlynn Alt Angie Harry Beaumont Karen Berg Bernie Doreen Bill Cameron Carol John Chamberlain Chris Claire Jane D. Pr. Dan Deb Sheila Dlugi **Cammy Endres** John Endres Frin Jessie Etheridge

Lu Farwig **Rick Frank** Kathy Gebel Harry **Steve Heronemus** Elnamae Heyman Dan Holtz Alice Horton **Ben** lammartino Jan Jim Joan John Jon Don Jones Julia Jim Jurack Chuck Knapp Nadene Kramer

Ludvik Krejci Barbara Kuehn Lane Pat Lawless Ken Lein Leslie Alison LoCoco Lynn Mary MaryAnn Andy Meser Michael Michael Miriam Monica Ned Bill Nell **Robert Palmer** 

Riley Geoff Rose Mark Schmahl Jim Schmidt Kathy Schwartz Peter Stauber Stephen Tom Brenda Trier Zuza

#### Military

Alex Cooper David Grant Ian Matthew Prayer Requests Now you can make a prayer request through our website. Click Prayer Requests to submit a form or submit a request through email—church@ foxpointchurch.org.

#### Congratulations Wedding

Best wishes to Sarah Ethington and James McMullen who were married October 9.

#### Baptism

Adam Russell and Charlotte Lynn Russell were baptized Saturday, October 16, 2021. Charlotte is the daughter of Adam and Melanie (Lorenz) Russell.

#### **The Office Has Moved!**

The FPLC offices are in our temporary space until the new building is ready. The address is: 8050 N. Port Washington Rd. We've got signs and banner flags out front.

- We have the same phone number (414-352-8990)
- Important: Continue to mail anything to the 7510 N. Santa Monica Blvd. 53217 address. The mail will still be delivered to our current location and picked up by staff
- Please use the West door (on Port Washington Rd.) to enter our offices
- Food drives have resumed in this space
- Office hours are: M Th 9 am 3 pm; closed Friday



#### **Calling All Babysitters**

Thank you for sending in your babysitting information. If you are in middle school through high school and interested in babysitting for FPLC members, click the link and fill out the form. We'll add your name to the list of sitters.

If you would like a copy of the sitter list, contact Lori Barrieau, **lori**@ **foxpointchurch.org**. <u>Baby Sitter</u> <u>Form</u>

See our webpage for all information regarding virtual worship, outreach, and children & youth programs. Click  $\rightarrow$ 





#### Hello!

"But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you." – John 14:26

What do these three items have in common? A dog named Ruby...a flower growing out of a weed... and a little girl saying, "That talking was nice!" We encountered all three while taking a walk this week. Totally unexpected...totally

sweet...totally needed...and totally provided by the Holy Spirit in fine form on a beautiful day.

"Behold, I am the Lord, the God of all flesh; is there any thing too hard for me?" – Jeremiah 32:27

Totally unexpected. We never know what we're going to find—might be a branch waiting to trip us up, might be some slippery mud on a sidewalk, but the Holy One gave us eyes to see and hopefully we can avoid some of these pitfalls.

Totally sweet. Ruby is a tawny colored labradoodle of the most darling disposition. Today she was walking with two sisters, one holding the leash, and the other about 5 years old, talking a mile a minute about going swimming as she twirled in her sundress. As we parted, she said "That talking was nice!"...it sure was! Then we spotted a flower sprouting up from a nasty looking weed at the edge of some old concrete...delicate ecru color with a yellow center...exquisite! Totally sweet, indeed!

Totally needed. Especially today as we learned this morning that a friend of ours very much needs our prayers right now. Totally provided. How carefully and strategically God provides the Holy Spirit to intervene in our daily routines. The walking part is happily a routine gift for us, the fruits of the spirit this morning were anything but routine. Our Heavenly Father provided them just for us. Now it becomes our turn to pay it forward, to meet someone else's needs with His help.

"And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus." – Philippians 4:19

#### We pray together-

Holy One, thank you for always providing exactly what we need, from the littlest flower to the most powerful healing. Help us to always remember that your domain runs through every single part of our lives and our being. Remind us that we only need to look to you for comfort, repair, and recovery. Let us fully embrace your love for us in how we reach out to our neighbors with the same love. Amen.

Let's claim the beauties of God's presence this week. - Mary