



# Friends of Faith

## 2019 Edition



### From the Pastor:

This past year I celebrated 10 years of ministry at Faith, Oak Lawn. What a joy and privilege to serve as pastor of this congregation! I have been blessed to be a part of so many life events—baptisms, confirmations, weddings, and funerals—as well as the everyday life of faith of God’s people. I can’t say enough about the incredible support that my family and I have received from the members of this congregation. It is truly a partnership in the ministry as we reach out with God’s love to all the people He places in our lives. I hope that I have the opportunity to serve here at Faith for many more years to come.

### Christmas at Faith



Our Sunday School helped to lead the service on December 23. Through readings and songs they explained the story behind our Advent wreath.

### Video Streaming Worship Services

Thanks to a generous donation, we are now able to stream our services live on Facebook. You can also go back and watch older services. Sermons and special music are often posted individually. Check it out at [www.facebook.com/faithoaklawn/videos](http://www.facebook.com/faithoaklawn/videos)

### New Statue



This beautiful angel statue was donated in memory of Gail Henson by her family. It sets in just outside the church office, in the garden dedicated in memory of Gail’s mother, Erma Johnson.

# Our New Organ

This Rogers Digital organ was a gift from St. John Lutheran Church in Wheaton, Illinois. It has 69 different voices that can be blended to produce an incredible variety of musical sounds.



The organ was dedicated on May 6, and the church was packed. Six different organists were joined by an instrumental ensemble, and Faith's adult and children's choirs in a hymn sing that covered the entire church year from Advent through the Sunday of the fulfillment. Each hymn was introduced by Scripture readings led by members of Faith and other area pastors.



## VBS 2018

This year's VBS program focused on the 10 Commandments and serving our neighbor. Instead of crafts, the kids made cards for members of the US Armed Services, blankets for a local crisis pregnancy center, and cookie mix for our Food Pantry.



## Missionary Visit

In July we hosted Pastor Jacob Gaugert, who teaches at a Lutheran seminary in Togo, West Africa. He preached and presented on his work, and we got to try some Togolese cuisine, prepared by Pastor Birkholz (with some assistance from Pastor Gaugert).





**Confirmed in 2018:**

Cheyenne Breitbarth and Katie Kampenga

**Baptized in 2018:**

Savannah Joy Bojan



**More New Members:**

Tara O'Connor, Mike Szymczak,  
Melody Kee, Jerry Scalzo



**In Memoriam:**



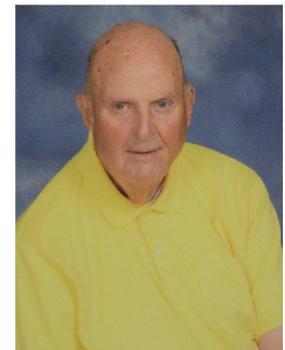
***Dorothy Blume**  
March 21 1918 -  
December 15, 2017*



***Marshall Peterson**  
December 7, 1928 -  
June 15, 2018*



***Joyce Stroh**  
December 31, 1932 -  
June 1, 2018*



***Eugene Tebo**  
August 3, 1936 -  
April 25, 2018*