



13th Annual Celebration

and Annual Meeting

2025-2026

May 3, 2026



17701 W. 16th Ave.

Golden, CO 80401

www.faithgolden.org

Ph. 303.279.5379 Fax 303.279.4094

CELEBRATION PLAN

MAY 3, 2025

9:30 AM

Worship with Reflection by Pastor Jane

Brunch

Elections and Business

Time of Prayer

Sending

MISSION/VISION/VALUES

Our Mission: Changing lives through the power of Jesus
Our Vision: To be the hands and feet and voice of Jesus in the world
Our Purpose: To help people love God, themselves, and their neighbors

Our Focused Vision:

Imagine you're a family with kids ages preschool-5th grade trying to navigate life.

Then imagine an intergenerational community waiting to embrace your whole family and walk alongside you.

- **Think:** intentional intergenerational worship
- **Think:** a preschool focused on whole-child development with community support
- **Think:** opportunities to authentically connect, grow and serve together

That's who we are - a community focused on a mission where everyone is beloved and equipped to go where God is calling us!

Our Values

- Authenticity
- Acceptance of brokenness
- Engagement with the needs of the world
- Spiritual growth and transformation

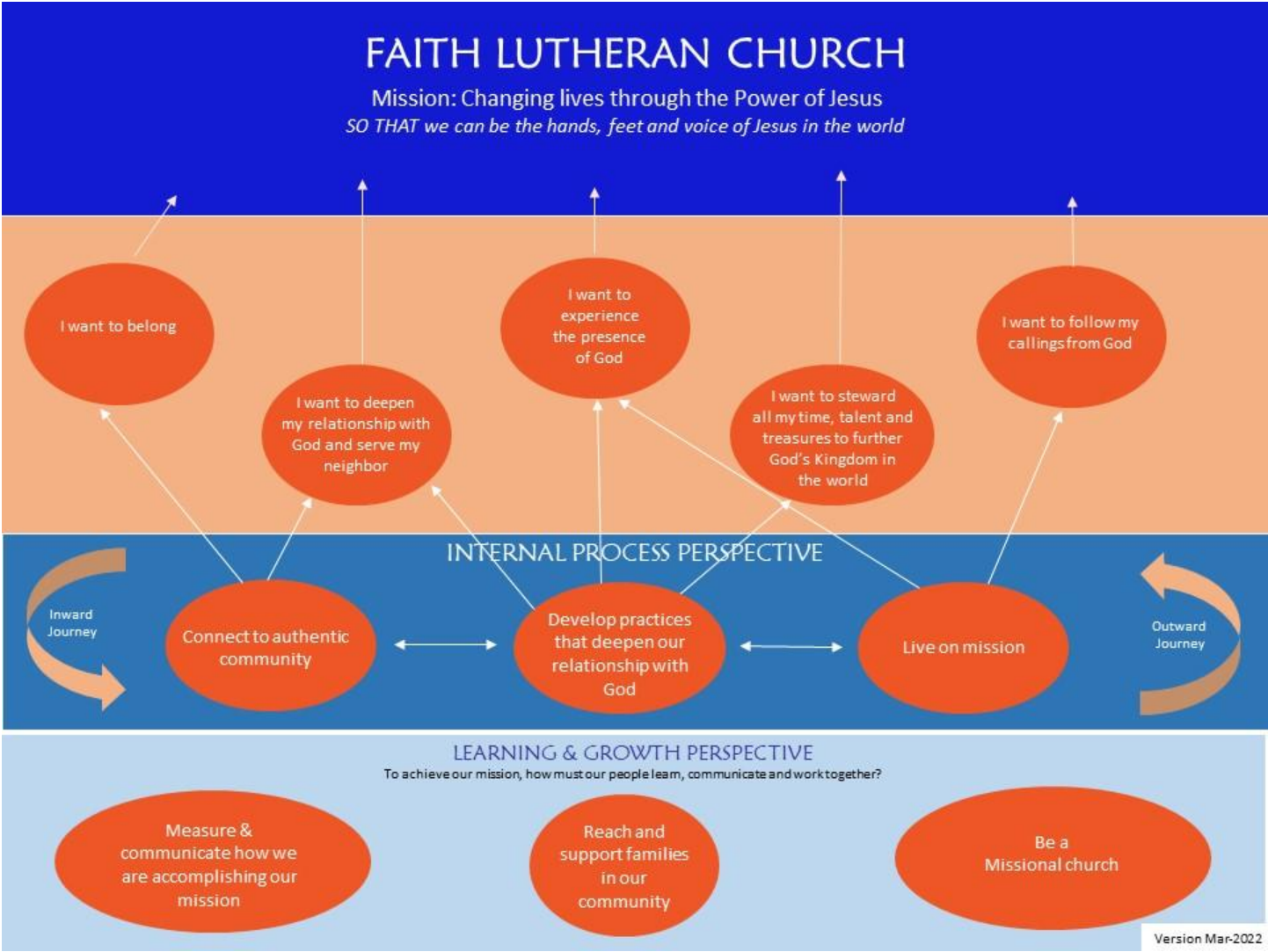
Our Ministry

We provide:

- Worship experience
- Programs for spiritual growth
- Service opportunities and resources for people on mission

Our Core Strategy

- Develop practices that deepen our relationship with God
 - Connect to authentic community
- Prepare for the mission God has for us as individuals and as a community



INTRODUCTION

*Changing lives through the power of Jesus,
SO THAT
we can be the hands, feet, and voice of Jesus in the world.*

What a powerful mission. It doesn't say, "We exist to keep Jesus to ourselves," or "We gather just to feel comfortable." It boldly proclaims that we, FAITH, exist to change lives through Jesus, with Jesus, and in Jesus. We exist to be Jesus in the world His hands, feet, and voice. Being content with "staying the same" actually, goes against our mission!

And so, year after year, we seek to follow where Jesus leads – doing things that will help us live into our mission. This happens in so many ways, at different times and all over the place! As a community we embrace the ups and downs of this journey and the gift of being able to journey together. This past year, has been no exception as we have continued to embrace our mission and our ***focused vision*** within the mission:

Imagine you're a family with kids ages preschool-5th grade trying to navigate life.

Then imagine an intergenerational community waiting to embrace your whole family and walk alongside you.

- ***Think:*** intentional intergenerational worship
- ***Think:*** a preschool focused on whole-child development with community support
- ***Think:*** opportunities to authentically connect, grow and serve together

That's who we are - a community focused on a mission where everyone beloved and equipped to go where God is calling us!

Using our 2 initiatives to help guide us, some fabulous opportunities and moments have happened this year. This spring, Council and staff have been working with the initiatives tweaking/changing/updating as we look forward to the 2026-2027 programming year. We've asked questions around what we have accomplished and where the initiatives can help spur us forward to where God is calling.

And God continues to do amazing things with our faithfulness to follow where the Spirit leads us! We continue to welcome new faces and lives of all ages! We've lived into intergenerational worship in some new ways and continue to strengthen the connection between our preschool families and the FAITH community. We continue to meet families who are excited and relieved to find a faith community that encourages their children to be with them, and a part of all things. We've welcomed older folks who love the emphasis we have and the worship we do together. And we continue to find ways to serve the world around us!

The following pages are filled with just some of the stories and pictures from this past year. Stories of people coming and being welcomed. Stories of inclusion and stretching. Stories where love and grace led, and lives were changed. We hope the stories will remind you, inform you, call you forward into the amazing future God has for us all!

The Staff and Council of the FAITH Community

Initiative: First Steps into Authentic Connection

Detailed Description of Initiative:

Imagine you're a family with kids ages preschool-5th grade trying to navigate life who potentially feel isolated, overwhelmed, and disconnected (approximately half of our preschool families do not have a connection with a faith community). Then imagine a faith community that is waiting to embrace your whole family, walking alongside you in all aspects of life. This initiative will create opportunities to authentically **connect**, **grow** and **serve** together. We will help families who lack pathways to authentic relationships:

- **Connect:** Discover & access pathways to authentic relationships (an authentic connection is a genuine connection with someone else — dropping the facade, showing vulnerability, and sharing one's true emotions)
 - Mobilize Faith community to action
 - Create structured opportunities to connect while caring for, including, and supporting children
 - Create “first steps into community” with “low risk” events
 - Intentionally introduce meaningful dialogue
- **Grow:** Build authentic reciprocal relationships
 - Spending time, listening deeply, being present with another's emotions
 - Move from transactional to relational interactions
- **Serve:** Lead, sustain and maintain relationships through service
 - Rewarding service opportunities
 - Create deeper sense of meaning & purpose

Stories from how this initiative has been intentionally lived into

A Gift of Faith Across Generations:

One of the most meaningful moments this year began when Lex, a former youth group student who is now serving as a youth leader, brought an idea to the group. She wanted to celebrate Laura and Nathan's baby, Lainey. Through brainstorming, the group decided to create a gift that would reflect the love of the youth group community.

Over the course of several months, the youth worked to create a personalized book by adding Bible verses and notes in a picture book. The evening the book was presented was filled with joy, pride, and deep connection. Youth gathered with Lainey and her parents to share what they had created, offering not just a gift, but a tangible expression of community and belonging.



This demonstrates how leadership is nurtured across generations, as youth step into roles that shape the faith of others. Parts of Initiative addressed: create deeper sense of meaning and purpose, build authentic reciprocal relationships, mobilize FAITH community to action



A Community That Shows Up:

On Palm Sunday, a day filled with energy and meaning, Sunday School volunteers (Courtney, Lori, Denise) stepped up in extraordinary ways to ensure Sunday School was a success.

Sunday School Teachers worked collaboratively with Ellyn to create a space where children from kindergarten through middle school could learn together. Through creative storytelling, interactive activities, and intentional inclusion, students were guided through the stories of Holy Week.

What could have been a logistical challenge instead became a powerful example of community in action. Volunteers didn't just fill roles; they created an environment where kids felt welcomed, supported, and excited to learn.

Parts of the initiative addressed: creating structured opportunities to connect, support and include children, build authentic relationships



All-Church Retreat

For the first time 23 FAITH families – adults and kids of all ages – including 2 families from Joshua Station, spent a weekend at the YMCA of the Rockies in Estes Park this past October! We gathered as a community, stepped away from the everyday, and enjoyed time growing closer to God and to one another. We worshipped, sat by the campfire, ate s'mores, hiked, played games (yes, BINGO was included 😊), crafted, roller skated, and prayed together, ate together, and listened to God together. It was a fabulous time filled with so much joy being community together.



Parts of the initiative addressed: low risk event, creates an easy step into community, provides opportunity for intentional conversations, discover/access pathways to authentic relationships, create structured opportunities to connect while caring for, including and supporting children. Also connects with worship Initiative: Intentionally create new: space, time, hows, connect the generations



Women's Mini Retreat

Linda TeKrony and Dee Ann Lord recently lead a mini retreat for FAITH women. It was a rich time of connecting, engaging in meaningful conversations, and food & fun with women of all ages. The theme was Fearfully and Wonderfully Made. Women enjoyed sharing and talking about what Psalm 139:13-14 and Ephesians 2:10 means to them and their lives as followers of Jesus. We also had fun crafting all while building relationships in a relaxed, welcoming setting.

Parts of the initiative addressed: low risk event, creates an easy step into community, provides opportunity for intentional conversations



Love Does Day

FAITH's annual day for all ages to serve side-by-side in and around the FAITH community and support personal missions was once again a resounding success. We served on a Sunday morning and then gathered in the evening for a potluck dinner and time of worship to share about our day. This year's Love Does Day projects served and supported hundreds of people!

- A team provided support to long-time FAITH community member, Lisa Young, with some house projects and cleaning.
- FAITH Youth Group made almost 100 sack lunches and distributed them to people in need in downtown Denver.
- Jim Barber was on hand to answer tech support questions for some of our community members.
- We tied 6 fleece blankets for Children's Hospital of Denver and 30ish T-shirt bags for the Action Center.
- Peter Ewers spent time with Jess Wisehart who had recently had major surgery.
- A team also built a small retaining wall in John Balzer's yard.



Love Does Day con't: We also supported many personal missions of our FAITH community...



- we made 72 “Jesus Loves You” gifts of encouragement for clients served by Natasha Hurt’s mission, Light of Love
- collected non-perishable food items for Linda Clefisch’s mission, Golden Pantry and Thrift
- built snack baskets for refugee students for Michele Santi and Linda Wallen’s mission, Lutheran Family Services
- filled dozens of “Bags of Joy” for seniors served by Sharon Keating’s mission, Joyful Noise
- made over 120 stress/fidget bags for Kids Matter, for Betty and Doug Ball’s daughter’s mission

Parts of the initiative addressed: low risk event, creates an easy step into community, lead, sustain and maintain relationships through service, rewarding service opportunities, helps create a deeper sense of meaning & purpose

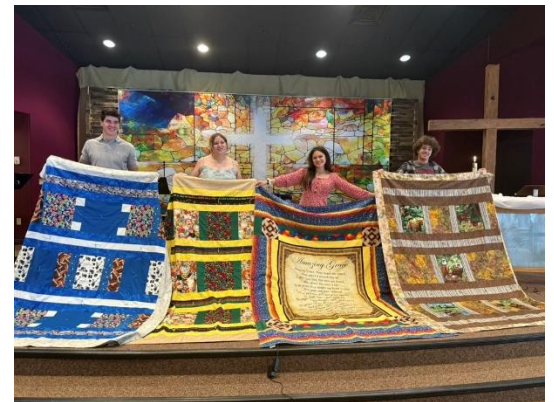
Other Happenings that feed this initiative:



Care Team - This team provides support to the FAITH community and beyond in many ways as they serve as an extension of pastoral care alongside Pastor Jane. This team and many FAITH community members pray for and with people for many reasons such as having surgery, hospitalization for an extended time, or have lost a loved one. The team also visits community members who are homebound or anyone who needs a dose of joy. Dozens and dozens of cards are sent to people for encouragement, well wishes, and simply “thinking about you”. Many people in the FAITH community help the Care Team provide meals

for families who could use a little extra support. FAITH is known within our larger community to have a great supply of durable medical equipment...wheelchairs, crutches, bath seats, etc for use after a surgery or accident. Our Care Team and our FAITH community show the love of Jesus with simple gestures to many throughout the year.

Quilts for High School Seniors - The FAITH Knotters created a new tradition a couple of years ago for our graduating high school seniors. They sew and knot beautiful quilts with so much love and attention to detail for each graduate. Information is gathered about what the graduate interests, hobbies, favorite colors, etc to make a quilt that is specially made for that student. Four of these quilts were presented last year.



Baby Blankets for New

Babies - A small group of talented ladies that call themselves “Knit One Pray One” meets twice monthly to knit baby blankets and hats, prayer cloths, and prayer shawls. Several new babies in the past year have been recipients of beautiful hand-knit blankets. Blankets were blessed in worship recently for two of our STMP families and their new babies.

Initiative: Inclusive and Intergenerational Worship

Detailed Description of Initiative:

Create a worship culture at Faith, which focuses on our theology of worship and our mission/vision focus while exploring new practices which include people of all ages. This initiative seeks to reframe our Faith community's understanding of "Lutheran" worship. It will keep Faith's worship relevant, while connecting the generations, providing space and time for deepening our relationship with God, growing in our understanding of worship while exploring new ways to combine ancient and modern practices within worship times with an eye for inclusion of all ages not only in participating/being present in worship, but also of worship leadership.

- Create new culture of worship
 - Looking beyond what is familiar (contemporary/traditional)
 - Inviting differing ages into planning and creating process
 - Intentionally create new: space, time, hows
 - Connect the generations
- Deepening relationship
 - Provide opportunities in differing faith languages, ancient modern, etc – in order to help people experience the presence of God
 - Learning not everyone worships/learns the same ways
 - Providing creative space/place to encourage new practices, systems
- Worship leadership
 - Expand understanding of leadership
 - Diversify groups leading, planning worship, sharing gifts/talents
 - Create deeper sense of worship through leading

Stories from how this initiative has been intentionally lived into

Not Just Singing and Listening

For many, the word worship is synonymous with sitting still and listening. At FAITH we are trying to expand our understanding of what worship is and where it can happen. We are doing this through ideas such as moving more and more so the leadership of worship includes all ages, having many different voices preach including our youth, bringing service into our worship times, worshipping in different places, as well as bringing regular life" into worship.

Over the past year we have worked on this through times such as Back-to-School Blessings, Jammie Sunday and service project, All-Church retreat worship, Thanksgiving Eve worship, and more. We continue to discover new and innovative ways to grow our understanding and practice of what it means to worship God! And it's about so much more than just being "in church"!

Parts of the initiative addressed: intentionally creating new space, time, of worship, connecting generations, providing creative space/place to encourage new practices, create deeper sense of worship through leading, expand understanding of worship leadership





Jammie Sunday and Service Project

This has been an annual worship service between Christmas and New Year's where we get to wear our jammies and eat yummy brunch provided by FAITH council and staff. For this year's service project, the FAITH community put together 200 Hygiene Kits for Golden Pantry and Thrift. All ages participated in putting the kits together, helping everyone learn that a part of worshipping God is acts of service for others.



Children Leading Worship on Christmas Eve:

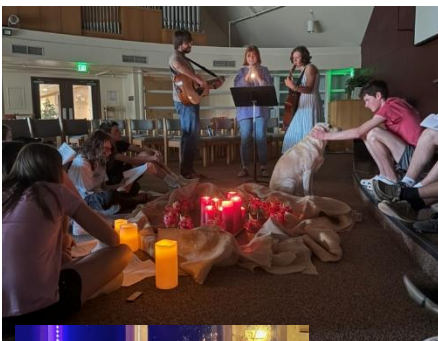


This Christmas Eve, children and families didn't just attend worship; they learned how to lead it together.

Through practice and preparation, families stepped into real leadership roles with confidence. Children served as narrators, read scripture, led songs with motions, assisted with communion, ushered, and helped guide the flow of the service.

This experience reflects our commitment to forming leaders of all ages and creating space for families to grow in faith and leadership together.

Youth Group Worship:



FAITH's youth group takes time to worship, often doing "Rainbow Trail" style worship – as in worship the way they do at camp. These nights allow the youth to keep learning how to create and lead

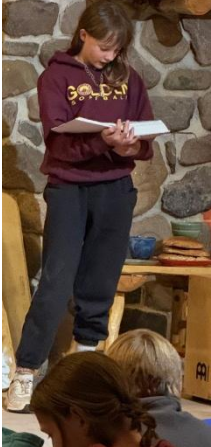


worship as well as with the help of FAITH's youth leaders, leaning into their faith in styles and ways they love. Rainbow Trail Lutheran Camp (one of FAITH's partners) plays a huge role in many of our children and youth's growing understanding of how you can worship God in many places and many ways.



Parts of the initiative addressed: create deeper sense of worship through leading, expand understanding of worship leadership, leading, planning worship, sharing of gifts/talents

Other Moments that Feed this Initiative:





An exciting opportunity came our way when FAITH was selected to partner with Vibrant Faith (*an organization whose vision is to help congregations with faith formation systems cross generationally*) and their "Raising Faithful Kids" research project. This exciting opportunity is helping us reimagine how we support families in raising children who love and worship God.

The heart of this project: It has long been known that parents serve as the primary disciplers of their children, but they're often overwhelmed and longing for support. Plus, a good number of parents either didn't grow up in a faith community or walked away from the faith of their childhood. This project helps us create a church culture that equips, empowers and encourages families in making worship, prayer, and faith conversations a natural part of home life. It does this through teaching authentic, everyday practices that draw children and parents into a deepening relationship with Jesus.

This grant work is guiding a lot of our ministry with parents and intergenerational opportunities. To begin with it has introduced a prayer practice called the Presence Project into the leadership of FAITH. Coming up next are evenings of food and guided conversation with parents – to listen to their hearts and desires around raising their children in faith. This fall there will be a time when our whole FAITH community will look at elements of worship during church worship as well as at home – be prepared to have some fun!

We know our children need us to be faith-filled people in their lives and at FAITH we are excited for this opportunity to grow in the ways we can faithfully follow Jesus and the mission we have of raising faithful kids!



**"We become what we love and who we love shapes what we become."
- Saint Claire of Asissi**



South Table Mountain Preschool

STMP has had another wonderful year and plays an integral part in the carrying out of our focused vision here at FAITH. And because of this focus and the great work of both STMP and FAITH, we were able to celebrate and support Preschoolers and their families in many ways this year:



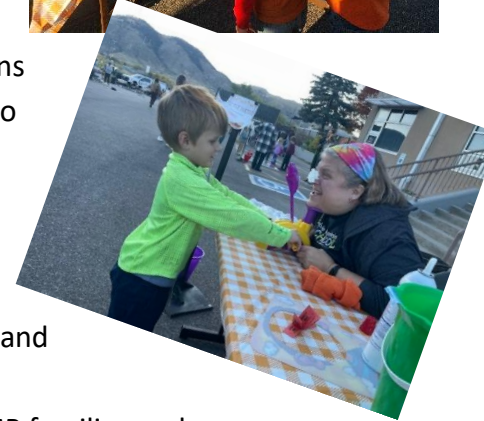
- STMP is often the lucky recipient of Eagle Scout Projects from the Boy Scout Troop. Our new sign is one of those projects!

- Fall Festival was a hit for STMP families and FAITH members alike! FAITH staff, council and families came out to help run games, grill food, participate and have fun!



- STMP has had the privilege of honoring our Veterans by thanking and recognizing the Veterans groups who meet at Faith each Monday. We joined them in saying the Pledge and Allegiance and making thank you cards and flags.

- STMP's annual Trunk or Treat is another opportunity for STMP and FAITH families to support and celebrate with our STMP kiddos.



- Coffee Connections is a Meet N Greet opportunity for STMP families and an opportunity for FAITH groups to come say hi and offer options for connection.

- Chapel is a special time where once per week STMP kiddos learn the love of Jesus through stories, songs and the chance to act out some of the stories as well. It's a special time with Jane as well as other FAITH staff!

- birth of Jesus. It's always standing room only! STMP and FAITH families are always welcome!



- STMP's annual Crock Pot Challenge is a time for good food and community across both the STMP and FAITH communities! We have a great time and eat a lot of delicious food each year!

- We have amazing volunteers from FAITH who help in the school on a regular basis. Ms. Sandy is one of those volunteers! We also had the chance to meet Tortie, Ms. Sandy's niece's tortoise.
- STMP kiddos made "Snowman Soup" care packages that they handed out one Sunday at service.
- STMP is doing a school book drive where we've been the recipients of many wonderful books donated by the STMP and FAITH community members



We have many families who start in STMP and make their way to becoming part of the FAITH community as well, creating lasting friendships. The FAITH community has the chance to continue to walk alongside these families and kiddos and watch them grow!

Working with our Partners – Joshua Station

While the initiatives help steer and guide us, keep us moving in a forward direction, things connected to the specific initiatives are not the only thing that happens. Often, what we see going on is the ideas, thoughts, and principles behind the focused vision, come to play out in all kinds of amazing and beautiful ways. And some of those ways are found in the way we connect with our ministry partners – organizations which help us live our vision in ways we couldn't do alone. This year, in particular, our relationship with Joshua Station grew in amazing ways!



We continue to serve Community Dinner one Thursday a month. This is authentic time with families over a meal provided by our FAITH team. It's fun to learn what dinners they love the most and then to see how happy they are when we serve one of their favorites. Many of the families are in the lobby of Joshua Station before dinner – parents having conversations and kids running around and playing. When we arrive, we are greeted with hugs and excitement because we've built relationships.



FAITH had a Spruce-a-Room team that turned a double room space into a new home for a mom and her three children to get a fresh start. We met this family at April's Community Dinner, and they expressed so much gratitude for their new home. The mom said she couldn't believe how much time and care went into it. We received feedback from two staff members at Joshua Station about the room...



From Amy Jackson, Chief of Staff Mile High Ministries... *This spring we are welcoming our largest new group of residents ever. What an exciting time for them and us! The joy on their faces, upon walking into their residence for the first time, is indescribable. "Oh. My. Gosh. I can't believe how it looks!" exclaimed a mom this week. "Can you please say thank you to every single person who made this possible?" Her teen daughter proudly shows off her bedroom nook, with a door to close for her own private refuge. A younger daughter scampers up the ladder to her new loft bed. The baby has an elegant wooden crib, and high-end, homey décor graces the entire home.*



From Shana Waldinger, Volunteer Coordinator at Joshua Station... *One of the Joshua Station staff members said this about 207-208, and I wanted to share: "That room is incredible and brought tears to my eyes when I saw it. I felt so proud of the volunteer team that understood the assignment and went all in for this new family!"*

All of this was made possible through generous contributions and special gifts from our FAITH community, and the hard work and time put in by the SAR team. Parker Carlson, one of our FAITH youth, and her Girl Scout Troop will be assigned a Spruce-a-Room project in the coming weeks. Earlier this year, they decided to do this for their annual troop project.

Steve and Diana Hoppin recently assisted Grace Dean, Youth Advocate at Joshua Station, in a wonderful after-school enrichment activity. Each child created a custom designed T-shirt with personal feelings and images of importance in their life. Materials and snacks were made possible through a



Thrivent Action Team Card. Kids displayed their shirts proudly. This activity facilitated relationship building, and applied artistic and social emotional skills with an emphasis on faith-based values such as gratitude, cooperation, patience, and self-awareness.



One of the most joyful parts of our connection with Joshua Station is being a part of a family's graduation celebration. After two plus years of dedication, diligence, and patience working through the amazing Joshua Station



program with their family advocate, families leave Joshua Station prepared to move into their own new home and to take on the world with courage and confidence. FAITH celebrated with six families in the fall. Our community helped us provide dinner and a housewarming basket for each family filled with supplies for their new home.

More Joshua Stations moments:



MINUTES FROM MAY 4, 2025, ANNUAL CELEBRATION/MEETING

9:30am – Worship: Theme of the annual celebration is “JOY”.

11:17am – Jane introduced the Faith in a Glance video.

11:23am - Children were dismissed for activities.

Faith Trivia – played as a Team at the table throughout the celebration.

11:25am - Deb Barber, Council President, gave instructions for the meeting. Thanked the council committee for the meal and decorations.

11:27am - Deb Barber called the meeting to order and the congregation joined in a vocal prayer.

Approval of the 2024 Annual Celebration Minutes

Betty Ball moved to approve the minutes from 2024 meeting. The motion was seconded by Nathan Cooper. Motion passed.

Nominating Committee Report (for Council members)

Betty Ball and Linda Jones explained the selection process and gave an overview of the work the Nominating Committee has completed. The 2025 nominating committee consisted of Linda Jones, Bruce Lowder and Betty Ball. Council terms begin September 2025. Following are the recommendations from the committee:

Council Members	Council Officers (1 year term 2025-26)	2026 Nominating Team
Rick Barnard (3 years 2025-2028) Brent Leu 2 nd term (3 Years 2025-28) Bruce Lowder (3 Years 2025-2028)	Dayna Dowdy, President Brent Leu, Vice President Deb Barber, Secretary	Molly Quinlan Todd Noles Carolyn Berg

Nomination of Council Members and Election of Officers

For the Nominating Committee, Betty moved to elect all 3-year term nominated members to the Council and the motion was seconded by Paul Santti.

Deb Barber explained that voting will be performed electronically with paper ballot as needed. Results will be tabulated and announced at the end of the meeting. The motion to approve the new council members passed.

For the Nominating Committee, Linda Jones moved all nominated officers (see above table) to be elected for a 1-year term. The motion was seconded by Christen Johnston. The motion passed.

For the Nominating Committee, Betty Ball moved that the slate of individuals for the 2026 nominating team be elected (see above table). Lois Foster seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Financial Update

Linda Drury, Council Treasurer, thanked the audit team (Linda Jones and Diana Hoppin). She noted that this is not the budget meeting. The update is for information only. Bill Ernstrom was not at the meeting so there were no questions on the financial portion of the annual report, which was distributed as hard copies on the tables. Linda noted the capital improvements made over the past year with excess funds from last fiscal year, however, weekly giving is down. The annual Business Meeting will be held in August.

The State of Faith

Jane provided the state of Faith with the Mission and Focused Vision which promotes authentic community, intergenerational Worship and focusing on families with kids ages preschool – fifth grade. Jane pointed to the handout for stories about how the vision is impacting people and showed pictures and stories on the screen. The community has embraced the Vision and where the Spirit is leading us without fear.

Closing

Jane invited each table to pray at their table. And then all prayed the Prayer of Good Courage together.

Deb Barber adjourned the meeting at 12:33pm.

Attendance: 60 in person

1 online

Meeting minutes by B Klamerus, Council Secretary

NOMINATING TEAM REPORT 2026

Our community thrives on faithful, committed servant leadership. One of the places this leadership is abundantly present is in our FAITH Council. Leaders in this role are thoughtfully and prayerfully considered and then offered as nominations by the Nominating Team. This year the team consisted of elected members Carolyn Burg and Molly Quinlan along with Pastor Jane. Todd Noles was originally elected to this team but then was appointed a position on Council. The nominating team meets on multiple occasions to pray over solicited names of potential nominees, then asks people to consider serving. They share the qualifications and responsibilities of the Council, review completed questionnaires, prayerfully considered candidates, and make the following nominations:

For 3-year Council positions running September 2026-August 2029:

Carolyn Burg
Todd Noles
Rachel Zinanti

For a 1 year Council position to finish out an open position:

Dayna Dowdy

For Council leadership – a 1-year term – September 2026-August 2027:

Dayna Dowdy - President
Brent Leu - Vice President
Linda Wallin - Secretary

Additionally, the nominating team is responsible for nominating next year's Nominating Team. These new nominations are for a 1-year term in 2026:

Sean Mayo
Michele Santi
Molly Quinlan

Balance Sheet (As of March 31, 2026)

ASSETS	
Current Assets – Checking & Savings	\$ 451,761
Fixed Assets – Building, Organ	\$ <u>4,433,278</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 4,885,039
LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS	
Current Liabilities	\$ 3,315
Total Equity	\$ <u>4,888,354</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS	\$ 4,885,039

Profit & Loss Statement - Aug '25 – Mar '26

INCOME	
Regular Offering	284,267
Capital Contributions	5,027
Designated Giving	5,049
Preschool	418,094
Other Income	<u>29,645</u>
Total Income	\$ 742,082
EXPENSE	
Ministries	\$ 218,300
Families	47,826
Preschool	<u>371,360</u>
Total Expense	\$ 637,486
NET INCOME	\$ 104,595
