

Walk With Faith February 2021 Newsletter



Faith Lutheran Church, LCMS
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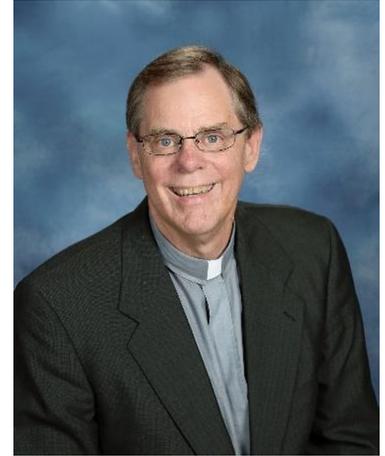


Our Mission Statement

“A HEART FROM GOD”

“A HEART FOR OTHERS”

From the Pastor's Desk



A Church School teacher was teaching the story of Lot. She told how God told Lot to take his wife and flee out of the city. Unfortunately, she looked back and was turned to a pillar of salt. The teacher paused and a small girl asked, "What happened to the flea?"

Sometimes we think we are communicating only to find out that our words really haven't been understood. Here's a thought to ponder. Are we communicating with God? Do we understand what he is telling us? Are we talking to him? Those are deep questions. They are good questions to consider as we find ourselves in the days before Lent. (Ash Wednesday is rather early this year, February 17th.)

So how do we communicate with God? Any misunderstanding is not on his part. We are certainly capable of misunderstanding. In fact, we often don't know just what he might have in mind for us. Francis Schaeffer, a Christian author, wrote a book entitled: He Is There and He Is Not Silent. Schaeffer was right. Still, communication between God and us is not always easy. The writer of Psalm 83 said: "O God, do not remain silent; do not turn a deaf ear, do not stand aloof, O God."

In order to communicate it is important to do two things, express our thoughts and listen. The first is done to God in prayer. The listening is done most importantly as God speaks to us in His word. Those are two things that I am suggesting for Lent. I have never been someone who urges giving up things for Lent. I'm suggesting adding something to those 40 days. Why not add a time each day for prayer and Bible reading. It doesn't need to be long. You might discover that communication is very important. God bless you as you ponder your Lenten journey.

Pastor

Bible Study



Bible study in the Fellowship Hall.

Just in case you weren't aware, we are meeting on Tuesdays at 1:30 to study verses of Proverbs (not all of them) and we have plenty of room to space ourselves. Join us when you can and you'll hear some very "wise" comments also! God willing we'll meet until May.

In Christ's Service,
Gloria Schultz

When GOD solves your problems, you have faith in HIS abilities; when GOD doesn't solve your problems, HE has faith in your abilities.



CHURCH COUNCIL



Dear Members of Faith,

So far, the year 2021 has been filled with more questions. Will we get the vaccine? How long will we be using masks? Who needs to wear them? When will things get back to normal? If you are like me, you are trying to find places that have the vaccine and that can be frustrating however in time with patience everyone will get it if they so choose. We may be stuck with masks for awhile or at least till most people are vaccinated. As you may know we have had to stop church services for a week due to COVID. We are deep cleaning and sanitizing the entire church and have hope that we will return to normal very soon.

I ask everyone to stay safe help each other, pray and with God's help we will get thru this.

In Christ's name, Dale

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|------------------|---------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| Dale Schluckbier | President | Kathy Ferneding & | Co-treasurer |
| Jerry Gneckow | Vice President | Joanne Fetzer | Co-treasurer |
| Vacant | Stewardship | Carol Wygle | Financial Secretary |
| Lu Ann Cooke | Recording Secretary | David Haas | Head Elder |
| Maxine Croggle | Coordinator | Ann Panas | Outreach |
| Lu Ann Cooke | Newsletter | Melissa Climer | Education |
| Linda Holthaus | Publicity | Kevin Belfry | Security Head |

March newsletter articles and updates will be due by February 24th. Please send them to Lu Ann Cooke at bluann@tampabay.rr.com. Remember to view the calendar and make sure I have your meetings up to date schedules. Newsletter and weekly updates may also be found at our church web site. Go to <http://www.faithlecanto.com/>





Greeting Christian Friends:

As everyone is aware, we cancelled services for January 30th and 31st. Pastor Lane self-guaranteed because of his contact with someone who tested positive for the Corona virus. Without adequate time to prepare service without Pastor Lane, and as an added safety measure for the congregation we decided to cancel the service. We are looking forward to resuming our normal schedule in February. As an added safety measure, we will be requiring face coverings for all church services and all activities in the church and fellowship hall. We will have face coverings available for church services.

Our Lenten season will be starting in February. Ash Wednesday will be observed on February 17th. Holy Communion will be observed as well as distribution of ashes. Regular Lenten service will be held on February 24th. All Wednesday night services will start at 5:00 p.m. Our regular Saturday night services beginning at 6:00 p.m. will be on the 6th, 13th, 20th and 27th, with Holy Communion on the 13th and 27th. Regular Sunday services starting at 9:30 a.m. will be on the 7th, 14th, 21st and 28th with Holy Communion being on the 7th and 21st.

Thanks for everyone in observing social distancing, wearing face coverings and using sanitizing procedures. We will continue our present worship procedures for seating, Holy Communion, and sanitizing for the near future.

David Hass
Board of Elder, Chairman

YOUR ELDERS

David Hass, Chairman	Fred Cogle
Chuck Davey	Jack Ryan
Jerry Gneckow	Ed Stern
Walter Gergely	Jerry Marquette
John Lehmann	



How great is our God! We continue to greet new guests at our worship services. People are searching for peace and comfort and God continues to add new members to His church on earth! Special thanks and acknowledgement to Pastor and Lete Connelly for the weekly video messages they created. God is using the internet to reach people. We are excited to take the next step and begin live-streaming our worship sometime in February, God willing.

Our Outreach Committee will not meet in February. We are available to assist with any current activities and look forward to finding new projects to take on!

If anyone has thoughts or ideas for outreach, please feel free to speak with me or Pastor Lane.

Respectfully submitted, Ann Panas



Ladies of Faith met Wednesday, January 6, 2021. We were pleased to welcome a new LOF member Linda Holthaus and welcomed back Suzanne Lane's mother Dorothy, who is in Florida for a couple months.

Maxine Crogge volunteered to be temporary Secretary, as Betty Marshick moved away. We are grateful to Maxine, as she also "wears many hats" in our church.

One of the main topics discussed was a possible fundraiser. Due to Covid, we decided not to do a fundraiser. Normally we would be having two fundraisers a year. Due to having less money in our treasury because of no fundraising, a motion was made and passed to send \$1,000 to our seminarian this year, instead of \$1,500. The installments will be sent in February, August, and December.

Another topic discussed is saving stamps for missions. Marge Sawyer, our Treasurer, who also "wears many hats", sent in 775 stamps in a three-month period. If one would like to save stamps to help the cause, there is a container in the Narthex. Please cut the stamps with a 1/4-inch border. We do this to help mission projects and to honor Jane Mantey.

Vice-President Nita Haas gave a devotion on the topic of Epiphany. The presentation was historically interesting and timely.

We are pleased to have Rachel Patterson scheduled to speak at our meeting February 3. She will speak about being a social worker in a primary school and a middle school.

We sang "Happy Birthday" to Marjorie Lane and Linda Holthaus.

We were just invited January 18 to an LWML Prayer Service on Saturday, January 31 at First Lutheran in Inverness.

Our next meeting is Wednesday February 3 at 10:30 A.M. All women of the church are invited. We hope to see some new members also, as we welcome Rachel as our speaker.

In fellowship and God bless, Carla Nicklas President of Ladies of Faith



CITRUS
UNITED
BASKET

CUB (CITRUS UNITED BASKET) SUGGESTED FEBRUARY DONATIONS ARE PASTA, SPAGHETTI SAUCE (no glass) & MAC & CHEESE

Drop your donated items in the garden cart in the narthex. Any non-perishable donation is appreciated. You do not have to give every month. Please give when you can. Thank you!

All things in life are temporary. If going well, enjoy it, they will not last forever. If going wrong, don't worry, they can't last long either.

Stitch and Tie Quilt Group

We are meeting twice a month instead of weekly. We work at home and at our meetings and are continuing to make quilts. In February we will be meeting February 5th, and the 19th, starting at 9:00 AM. Marilyn Jones and Marilyn Richards have signed up for treats.



At our meeting we voted to give the church \$500 for their fund to live stream videos for church services. This is not only a good idea for our church family but also for the community.

When we make quilts, we take the scraps and put them in a bag which has been sewn to make a dog bed. After we fill a bag, we put it on or under a table in the narthex for anyone who would like one for their pet. They are free.

If there is anyone who has fabric they do not want we could use large pieces for our projects. We have a large selection of small pieces.

We want to compliment the people who repaired the closet we use to store quilts, the kitchen ceiling and the cupboards in the Fellowship Hall after it was damaged by a leak. We enjoy working in a facility that is well maintained. Thank you.

Marilyn Richards, Member

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS		FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES	
Melissa Climer	4	Chris & Henry Striegl	14
Anna Grissino	5	Bill & Marcia Pridgen	25
Ed Stern	6		
Karen Wille	6		
Alan Benner	7		
Connie Weiss	11		
Charles Countryman	12		
Gust Cougias	22		
Richard Pruefer	24		

Live simply. Love generously. Care deeply. Speak kindly. Leave the rest to God.



To my fellow members:

Please continue to make your offering even if you are not attending church in person. Consider sending your envelope with another member or mail it into the church office. Better yet, begin submitting your offering electronically by E-Giving. Call Jerry Gneckow at 352-621-0675 and I will mail you the required application. Thank you for your continued generosity which makes it possible for Faith Lutheran Church to do the Lord's work here in Citrus County.

I continue to pray that a member of Faith Lutheran Church will step forward to accept the unfilled position of Stewardship Chairman.

Jerry Gneckow
Vice President

J C L JAR



Thus far we have received over \$1,300 towards the fund to replace the fellowship hall's roof. This is a long-term goal, but if everyone can drop the bills or checks into the jar from time to time, we will get there. On the \$1.00 bills be sure to look for the letter J C or L which stands for Jesus Christ our Lord and drop the bills in the jar also.



Usually in January each year we ask members and associates to complete a Time & Talent form. This year we plan to do it in November in conjunction with the pledge commitment on stewardship weekend. In the meantime, we are short of volunteers overall but especially in these specific noted areas:

Altar Guild: We have a serious shortage for women (husbands can assist also) to do holy communion at either the Saturday or Sunday services. This would involve volunteering two different months for a total of four times a year. The sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board near the sanctuary doors. You may also contact Ellen Davey, 352-382-1526 for more details.

Trustees: There are currently only three trustees on average maintaining the church property. When spring comes, there will be more yard work and a definite need for more volunteers. The trustees usually work every Thursday morning. Contact Steve Fetzer at 352-794-6457 if you can help or have questions?

Vacuum: There is an opening for another person to be part of a team to help vacuum on average five times a year. Contact Carol Clayton, 352-527-2809.

Bathrooms: There are two openings to help clean church property bathrooms. Commitment is two times a year. Contact Maxine Crogue, 352-637-4649.

Counters: Need two counters to help count the weekly offering. Commitment is every Monday morning for two different months in a year. Contact Carol Wygle, 1-989-954-5918.

SCHEDULED DUTIES



FEBRUARY

Saturdays - Melissa Climer
Sundays – Maxine Crogle



FEBRUARY

6:00 SATURDAY Kathy & Danny Walker

9:30 SUNDAY **BILL MOELLER**, Ray & Naning Bangel, Sylvia Decker, Betty Marquette, Marlene Nordquist

USHERS FOR ASH WEDNESDAY and LENTEN SERVICES

Wednesday, February 17	Ash Wednesday, 5 PM	Chuck Davey & Dave Trout
Wednesday, February 24	Lenten Service, 5 PM	Elder on Duty Each Week Is Also Usher

Ushers for Holy Week and Easter to be assigned at later date.

FEBRUARY 2021



Lay Readers

Saturday

6 Candy Lott
14
20
28

Sunday

7
13
21 Gloria Schultz
27

FAITH'S 2021 TELEPHONE DIRECTORY



We are in the process of updating Faith's 2021 telephone directory. Please look at you're listing to see if everything is correct (name, address, telephone #, birthday and anniversary with month and day only and email address). If you have an email address that is not currently listed and you are willing to share it, please call Kevin Belfry at the church office or email Kevin at cfaithlutheran@gmail.com. Please notify Kevin no later than February 15.



2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4 7:30 a.m. Workday	5	6 6:00 p.m. Worship Service
7 9:30 a.m. Worship Service Communion	8 3:00 p.m. Bible Study	9 1:30 Bible Study	10 3:00 p.m. Bell Practice	11 7:30 a.m. Workday 11:00 a.m. Choir 3:00 p.m. Elders	12	13 6:00 p.m. Worship Service Communion
14 9:30 a.m. Worship Service <i>Valentine's Day</i> ♥♥	15 	16 1:30 Bible Study	17 3:00 p.m. Bell Practice 5:00 Ash Wed. Worship Serv.	18 7:30 a.m. Workday 11:00 a.m. Choir 3:00 p.m. Council	19 9:00 a.m. Stitch n Tie	20 6:00 p.m. Worship Service
21 9:30 a.m. Worship Service Communion	22 3:00 p.m. Bible Study	23 1:30 Bible Study	24 3:00 p.m. Bell Practice 5:00 Lenten Worship Serv.	25 7:30 a.m. Workday 11:00 a.m. Choir	26	27 6:00 p.m. Worship Service Communion
28 9:30 a.m. Worship Service						