

Walk with Faith March 2021 Newsletter



Faith Lutheran Church, LCMS
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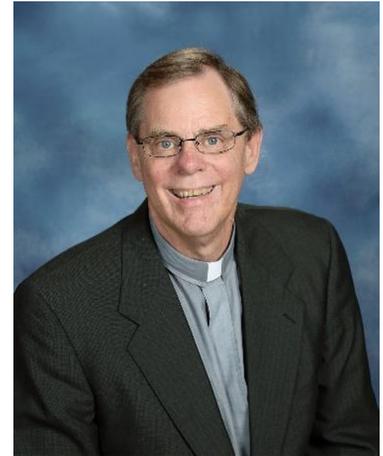
Our Mission Statement

"A HEART FROM GOD"

"A HEART FOR OTHERS"

From the Pastor's Desk

Let me begin by thanking everyone for prayers and concern during our family's illness. It was heartwarming for us and meant more than you know. God has seen us through it. The nature of the virus is that when one family member gets sick, it is hard to keep the rest of the family from also getting sick. The virus made its rounds through all of us. The good news is that we now have developed antibodies, one of God's built-in ways of protecting us, and are at considerably less risk, at least for a while.

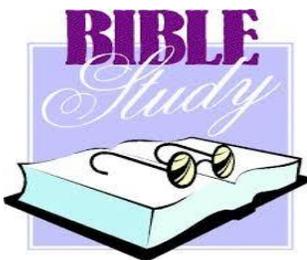


My apologies for cancelling services for two weekends. We are back in time for Lent. We need each other during these unusual times. The toll that the virus has taken physically is well known. What doesn't receive as much attention is the toll it has taken psychologically, emotionally, and I would add spiritually. God intends us in the church to be a community. We learned in our Lessons on the first Sunday in Lent that God does sometimes test us. He does it to make us stronger in our faith and realize our dependency on Him. Most importantly we always have God's strength and grace to live by every day.

Our theme for this year's midweek services is Lenten Customs. **Ashes, fasting, penitence, foot washing, the veil, and palms** will fill the six services. It is good to know what lies behind certain customs. They can then become very meaningful to us spiritually and an aid to spiritual renewal.

God's blessings to each of you. Stay close to your Lord.

Pastor



Bible study in the Fellowship Hall, Tuesday 1:30 p.m. Bible Study will resume March 2 and will continue until early May unless we are obligated to discontinue. There will not be a study on April 20. Hope to see any of you who are willing to join us. We'll be finishing Proverbs quite quickly and go on to another book of the Bible to be determined and continued in the Fall.

In Christ's Service,
Gloria Schultz

" If someone asks about your educational background, proclaim boldly that: Church is my college. Heaven is my university. Father God is my counselor. Jesus is my principal. Holy Spirit is my teacher. Angels are my classmates. Bible is my textbook. Temptations are my exams. Overcoming Satan is my hobby. Winning souls for God is my assignment. Receiving eternity is my degree. Praise and Worship are my slogan. If you are a child of God bless you!"

-BEN CARSON



CHURCH COUNCIL



Dear Members of Faith,

March is now here, and we are in the middle of lent. This is that time of year we are getting ready for Easter's arrival. Here at Faith Lutheran Church, we have a lot to be thankful for. God has blessed us with so much. I am happy to report that Pastor Lane and his family have recovered and are all well now. We had to unfortunately close our church down for a few days but thanks to our board of elders' quick response we were able to clean and sanitize the entire building and all is going well once again.

In these times we hear so much about frontline workers, whether they are nurses, doctors, police, or any of the many people who work in businesses and the likes. They all help us in our everyday lives. Here at Faith Lutheran Church, we too have our own frontline workers as well. I am going to try to list them if I can and I apologize if I missed anyone. First on my list would be Pastor Lane, Kevin Belfry our office manager, and Sharon Royalty our music director, they have all worked to keep us going. David Haas and the board of elders whose quick response and untiring devotion has been wonderful. A special thanks to Lete Connelly our amazing video technician. I would also like to thank all the ushers, altar guild, counters, trustees, sound booth people as well as all those who help in keeping our church clean and last but not least our council members.

Thank You and God Bless you all.

In Christ's name, Dale

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

April newsletter articles and updates will be due by March 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.

Newsletter and weekly updates may also be found at our church web site.
Go to <http://www.faithelecanto.com/>

ELDERS REPORT

Greeting Christian Friends:

I hope that everybody is doing fine. We are back again with worship services and hopefully there will be no more disruptions. If we failed to contact you during the period we were closed for worship, it may be because we don't have your phone number. If this is the case, contact an elder or contact the office so we can update our records.



During this special time of Lent we will be having many worship services and I would encourage you to attend as many as you can. Our Wednesday night Lenten services, starting at 5:00 p.m. will be on the 3rd, 10th, 17th, and 24th. Palm Sunday will be the weekend of the 27th and 28th. Maundy Thursday service with Holy Communion will be at 7:00 p.m. on April 1st. Good Friday service will be at 3:00 p.m. on April 2nd. Easter Sunday services will start with a sunrise service at 7:00 a.m., and our 9:30 service will be with Holy Communion.

Our regular Saturday services starting at 6:00 will be on the 6th, 13th, 20th and 27th. Holy communion will be celebrated on the 13th and 27th. Our regular Sunday morning services starting at 9:30 a.m. will on the 7th, 14th, 21st, and 28th. Holy Communion will be celebrated on the 7th and 21st.

We are asking everyone to observe social distancing and to please wear a mask. We will have masks available if you don't have one. We will continue to have services over our web page with live broadcast.

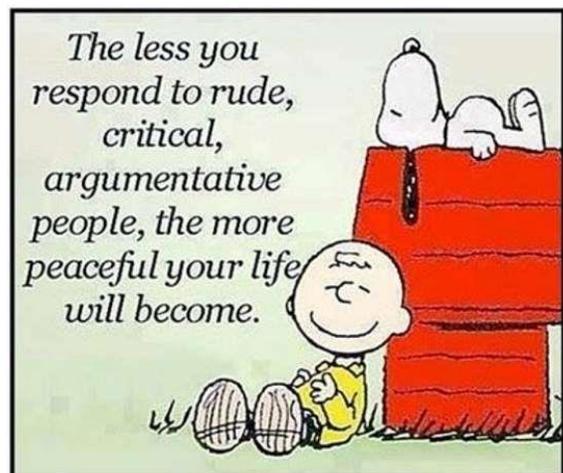
David Hass
Board of Elder, Chairman



YOUR ELDERS

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

A new teacher was trying to make use of her psychology courses. She started her class by saying, 'Everyone who thinks they're stupid, stand up!' After a few seconds, Little Harold stood up. The teacher said, 'Do you think you're stupid, Harold?' 'No, ma'am, but I hate to see you standing there all by yourself!'





While church members weren't meeting, Ladies of Faith also did not meet for our usual meeting February 3. We were scheduled to have Rachel Patterson speak to our group regarding her job as a school social worker in two schools. Rachel was understanding about the meeting cancellation and will speak at an upcoming meeting.

The next Ladies of Faith meeting is Wednesday, March 3 at 10:30 A.M. All women of the church are welcome to attend.

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



This is a belated Thank You from CUB Food Distribution whom Faith Lutheran supports. Our little wheelbarrow in the Narthex collects food that we donate every so often to CUB. At the last Congregational meeting, a request was made for food donations on a short notice to provide a better Christmas for the needy. This is to report that thru your efforts, collections in our little wheelbarrow and some other items (3 turkeys) provided over 250 pounds of food. This was given to CUB just before Christmas. They were so thankful then and again now.

Please do not forget about our wheelbarrow that is in the Narthex, it does make a big difference.

Citrus United Basket, Inc. (C.U.B.) is a 501(c) 3, is a non-profit organization. C.U.B. was created in 1978 to assist Citrus County families facing temporary hardship. They annually provide food to over 5000 households financial assistance to approximately 2200 individuals and material assistance to nearly 6000 people; Provide Christmas Dinner to over 2,000 families; Assist individuals entering the work place by providing appropriate clothing and interview guidance; Offer encouragement to people who find themselves without employment, have suffered abuse, or just need help during a crisis; Work with and collaborate with other agencies in an effort to provide for the needs of families; C.U.B. annually has been able to return approximately 88 cents of every dollar received back to the community in direct assistance.

Blessings to All!



CITRUS
UNITED
BASKET

CUB (CITRUS UNITED BASKET) SUGGESTED MARCH DONATIONS ARE NON-FOOD ITEMS AS FOLLOWS: TOILET PAPER, DIAPERS, DIAPER WIPES, Q-TIPS, DEODORANT, RAZORS AND BLADES, FEMININE HYGIENE ITEMS, TOOTHBRUSHES, TOOTHPASTE, MOUTHWASH, SHAMPOO.

Drop your donated items in the garden cart in the Narthex. Any non-perishable donation is appreciated. (You don't have to give every month. Please give when you can, what you can.)

Thank you to our members, associates and friends who donated 661 pounds of food and non-perishable items in 2020 to C.U.B. This number is down from last year but keep in mind that the church was closed for over two months and weekly service attendance thus far during this pandemic is less than normal. This obviously results in less donations to C.U.B. However, C.U.B. Is very appreciative of all donations they receive from us. Thank you!

Stitch and Tie Quilt Group

Stitch and Tie Quilt Group will resume meeting in March on the 12th and 26th. We will wear masks and practicing social distancing.

If you are interested in sewing material pieces together for quilts, you are welcome to take material coordinates with you to work at home. You can use the meeting time to select what you would like to work with.



Marilyn Jones will bring treats for us on the 12th. It will be good to see one another again.

Marilyn Richards



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

J C L JAR



Please remember to put your \$1.00 bills with the letters J C or L on them (Jesus Christ our Lord), but any bill or check payable to Faith Lutheran Church is appreciated. These donations are going towards the cost of a new fellowship roof.



2021 CHURCH TELEPHONE DIRECTORY

The 2021 Faith Lutheran Church telephone directory is now available. The directories are on the table in the narthex. Please limit one directory per household.



The next step is here! We started to live stream our in-person worship on February 20 and 21. Faith Lutheran is blessed to be able to make use of technology as part of a new means of spreading the Gospel! One important observation: We need to have as many attend worships in person as possible so the joy of our fellowship with God and other believers will benefit those who are watching through the camera.

Faith Lutheran is applying for a \$1,500 grant offered by the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod to fund this technology, which included purchasing new equipment for streaming live worship. The program is called the "Esther 4:14 National Grant Program". The program was given the name based on the account of Esther, who in her position as queen put her life on the line to plead for the Jewish people. *"And who knows but that you have come to your royal position for such a time as this?"*

We are certainly still facing many challenges and uncertainties, but we have God's promise that He is with us and will never forsake us. Deuteronomy 31:6 *"Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the Lord your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you."*

Our Outreach Committee will not meet in March. 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

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

Rachel Patterson	2
Paul Williams	3
Alex Logsdon	5
Bradley Patterson	5
Robert Staab	6
Venuto, Logan	7
Beth Lawrence	8
Marcia Pridgen	8
Gert Sullivan	10
Walter Gergely	13
Jerry Marquette	13
Patricia Connelly	17
Joanne Johnson	18
Venuto, Michael	18
Margaret Forte	22
Pat Meier	31
Alena Fakhari	31

MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

Margaret & Pete Forte	15
Jerry & Betty Marquette	19
Jack & Marilyn Anderson	26
Steve & Joanne Fetzer	28
Jane & Paul Mantey	31

SCHEDULED DUTIES



MARCH

Saturdays - Melissa Climer
Sundays – Ann Panas



MARCH

6:00 SATURDAY Bill & Joyce Engelbrecht

9:30 SUNDAY Fred & Maxine Crogue, Jack Ryan, Willis Staller, David Trout

Lenten Services Wednesday, 3/3 thru 3/24, 5 P.M Assigned Elder on Duty Each Week

Thursday, April 01	Maundy Thursday, 7 P.M.	Gary Wygle & Maxine Crogue
Friday, April 02	Good Friday, 3 P.M.	Fred Crogue
Sunday, April 04	Sunrise Service, 7:00 A.M.	Ed Stern
Sunday, April 04	Easter Service, 9:30 A.M.	Jerry & Pat Gneckow

If unable to usher on your scheduled date, please find a replacement.

MARCH 2021



Saturday

Lay Readers

Sunday

6 Tom Gottschalk
13
20
27

7
14 Tom Gottschalk
21 John Lehman
28

BATHROOM CLEANING SCHEDULE FOR MARCH



Week of:

March 07	Professional Cleaner
March 14	Marilyn Richards
March 21	Professional Cleaner
March 28	Gloria Schultz

MARCH



2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 3:00 p.m. Bible Study	2 1:30 Bible Study	3 10:30 a.m. LOF Meeting 5:00 Lenten Worship Serv.	4 7:30 a.m. Workday	5	6 6:00 p.m. Worship Service
7 9:30 a.m. Worship Service Communion	8	9 1:30 Bible Study	10 5:00 Lenten Worship Serv.	11 7:30 a.m. Workday 3:00 p.m. Elders	12 9:00 a.m. Stitch N Tie	13 6:00 p.m. Worship Service Communion
14 9:30 a.m. Worship Service 	15 3:00 p.m. Bible Study	16 1:30 Bible Study	17 5:00 Lenten Worship Serv. 	18 7:30 a.m. Workday 3:00 p.m. Council	19	20 6:00 p.m. Worship Service 
21 9:30 a.m. Worship Service Communion	22	23 1:30 Bible Study	24 5:00 Lenten Worship Serv.	25 7:30 a.m. Workday	26 9:00 a.m. Stitch N Tie	27 6:00 p.m. Worship Service Communion
28 9:30 a.m. Worship Service 	29	30 1:30 Bible Study	31			