

A message from Pastor Dan:

Dear Member of Faith,

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!

Giving is the language of love, and Christmas epitomizes God's awesome love and giving to us. God knew what we needed the most, so, at this time approximately 2,000 years ago, He gave us the most indescribable gift: *"But when the time had fully come, God sent His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those under law, that we might receive the full rights of sons"* (Galatians 4:4). God's gift of His Son is the greatest gift that we will ever receive. God's gift truly keeps on giving for, through Jesus, we receive full rights as children of God.

As God's children, we know that Jesus is the reason for the season. We rejoice knowing that God has given us His Son. God has sent Him into the world to be the only gift that we need. Jesus took on our own flesh and walked among us, and He willingly laid down His life in order to save our lives for eternity.

How do we respond to what God has given us? Shouldn't we be asking, "What have I given to Him?" Certainly, we don't go to the malls to shop for Jesus, but we do know that we please Him by our faithful acts of love and obedience. The best gift that we can possibly give Him is our hearts and to show Him our love by faithfully and obediently doing what He asks of us. Our Heavenly Father is pleased when we seek to please Him by doing His will. In fact, we do His

will by merely allowing Him to work in us. As the Apostle Paul wrote, *"I can do everything through Him Who gives me strength"* (Philippians 4:13).

During this Christmas season, remember that, even though we don't gift-wrap gifts for Jesus, we can give Him the gifts of our love and obedience.

May God's blessings be upon all of you as you rejoice and stay focused on the most indescribable gift, the gift of Jesus. Have a blessed Christmas! Pastor Dan

PASTOR'S WINTER BIBLE CLASS:

You probably have questions about the Christian faith that you are afraid to ask, such as: How does a "relationship" with God really work? How can I communicate with a God who is invisible? Why don't I feel the presence of God that others seem to experience? Fortunately, best-selling author Philip Yancey has dared to ask these questions about the Christian faith. In this powerful volume Yancey will explain how your doubts and questions about the Christian life can be a means of **Reaching for the Invisible God**. This book is a wonderful guide for those who love God and are looking for more than pat answers to life's imponderables. The class will meet on **Wednesday mornings at 11 AM**, beginning on **January 20**, and **Thursday evenings at 7 PM** beginning on **January 21** (This Thursday evening class will be a zoom class only). Please sign up in the narthex. Book cost is \$13 and checks can be made to Faith.



SUNDAYS:

8 AM - Traditional Worship

8:45 AM - Sunday School
(ages 3 through Grade 6)

9 AM - Adult Bible Class

10:15 AM - Contemporary Worship
(Communion 1st and 3rd Sundays)

WEDNESDAYS:

6 PM - Blended Worship
(Communion 1st and 3rd Wednesdays)

7 PM - Confirmation Class

Sermons available via



Call 715-438-4100 at the time of the worship service to listen live!



Prayers

Those in need of healing: Helen Arntzen (mom of Susan Cassellius); Sharon Braunberger; Cathy Corbeil; Stan Davidson; Jane Elwood; Marion Frank; Sue Herman (cousin of Braunbergers); David Johnson (son of Lyle Johnson); Mark Koenig; Janet Langteau; Lori Ramus; John Strand; Glen Vetterkind; Chelsea Whelan; and Heather Wirth.

Those who mourn: The families of Wally Braatz; Dora Hansen; David Jones; Violet Kastel (mom of Elaine Twerberg); Gene Moldenhauer; Martha Myers (cousin of Wally Smith).

Minutes from Mission & Ministry Council - November 9, 2020

Opening Prayer: Pastor Dan gave opening prayer.

Approval of Minutes from October 12, 2020 meeting: Motion by Jack Halbleib to approve minutes as submitted, seconded by Mark Erickson; motion carried.

Approval of Treasurer's Report: Motion made by Bill Musser to approve Treasurer's Report as submitted, seconded by Bryan Vogels; motion carried.

Pastor's Report: In December, Reader's Theater will begin on Wednesday nights. Early communion training has begun and they will receive first communion on Dec. 6th. Pastor wondered if we are we going to keep Christmas Eve services at 4 PM and 7 PM as we have in past years. Council felt this would be fine to leave as is. Motion made by Bill Musser to go with two Christmas Eve Services at 4 PM and 7 PM, seconded by Kathy Butak; motion carried. Pastor states we are still having issues with shortages for screens, worship assistance, etc. Attendance has been pretty much about the same. Last week 108 people watched his YouTube services.

Office Chair: Amy states her back is doing better, so going to hold off on purchasing a new chair for now.

Capital Fund Drive: Pastor states they are meeting tomorrow with members from LCEF, along with Pam Pfankuch and Kathy Butak. They will plan out the next steps for the Campaign process. Vision Team did an excellent job, so we are doing very well with this process.

Outside Work Position: Mark Erickson talked to Rick and he's not able to plow/shovel snow. Sidewalk on Woodward Avenue and all sidewalks

will need to be shoveled. Mark Erickson and Jack Halbleib have been looking at this, all the guys on the facilities team are older folks, so they are looking for volunteers to take this on. We will ask Amy to post something in the Messenger and Newsletter in attempts to hopefully find 3 people to take care of this. Volunteers are needed for the entire season. Jack Halbleib states he would be willing to be one of the volunteers. Motion made by Larry Bohl, seconded by Bryan Vogels; motion carried.

Nominating Committee for Council

Positions: Bill Musser states Alice Helgeson and Pam Pfankuch are helping with this. Members at large: Alice Helgeson is interested in this position and Lyle Hackler wants to remain on as well. Tresa Juedes is going to step down. Treasurer: Larry Bohl wants to step down. Bill Musser is wondering if we should possibly find an outside firm to take this over. There are a couple of people from the congregation who are interested, and it was recommended that they meet with Larry Bohl to discuss the details.

Annual Meeting: Bob Normand states the meeting date would fall on January. 24, 2021 after second service.

2021 Budget: Council went over proposed budget for 2021, Bob Normand states he kept budget as Pre-Covid era as hopefully things will return to normal. Will finalize this at the December meeting.

M&M Council Responsibilities

Finance/Budget – Larry Bohl, Bob Normand: Addressed earlier this evening. We have excess loan funds and Larry Bohl was wondering if we should apply this to the loan. Maybe address this down the road.

Human Resources – Jack Halbleib: Nothing new.

Stewardship/Time & Talents – Kathy Butak: We now have 3 members who have stepped up to volunteer with slides, Del Braunberger and Mark Koenig for 8 AM Sunday services; and Sharon Volrath for Wednesdays at 6 PM.

Facilities – Mark Erickson: H & R will be in November 30 to finish installation of 9 smoke alarms. Del Braunberger and Randy Cassellius will be putting LED lights in the fellowship hall. Parsonage: Del Braunberger recommended to just keep heat on; install remote sensor in case something happens. Xcel fixed light in parking lot this last Thursday as it kept going off and on. Water sensor/alarm is working.

Evangelism - No report, all on hold due to virus.

Pre School/Christian Education/ Sunday School – Bob Normand gave report stating that Pre-School and Pre-K doing well, now at 18 students. Sunday School Update emailed to those who have email; also in Messenger from Sue Smith.

Ministry Support – Worship Assistance Team – Bill Musser, Bryan Vogels: Pastor states we have Randy Knapp as an Elder.

Youth - Bryan Vogels: Pastor has a potential person who is interested in working with the Youth; her name is Rachel Huss.

Other: N/A

Closing Prayer: Given by Pastor Dan.

Respectfully submitted by: Kathy Butak

Next Meeting – **Monday, December 14, 2020**

Pastor Dan is available for **private communion**. Please call him at 715-723-7754 or 715-514-4191 or email him at danwonderly@yahoo.com

Welcome New Members! On Sunday, November 8, the following people were welcomed into membership at Faith Lutheran Church: Marjorie (Marjie) Buckner; Cathy Corbeil; Terrence & Alisha Klemish & family; and Marc Oliver.

Congratulations to James Oliver Wilson, who was baptized in a private ceremony with his family on November 12.

Advent begins November 29

Advent—the season of anticipation of Christ’s birth—the time leading up to Christmas. Our Reader’s Theater series will be offered on Wednesday, December 2, 9 and 16 at the 6 PM services. We look forward to this joyous time of year in preparation for Jesus’ birth.

Thanksgiving Care Boxes/Turkey Drive:

A sincere note of thanks to all who contributed items or monetary donations for the Thanksgiving Care boxes/Turkey Drive. Thirty boxes of complete Thanksgiving meals were distributed to Chippewa County families in need on November 23. Thanks to Faith’s preschool, Clarence Glamann and Bryan Vogels for their help in facilitating this venture. As per Laura Kilde, Social Services representative, “our community is in need more than ever, as the usual Thanksgiving meals will not be served in public.” Praise God for providing Faith Lutheran Church with this opportunity!

Spirit of Christmas: Tags for the Spirit of Christmas are available in the Narthex. Unwrapped items need to be brought back to church no later than **Tuesday, December 1 at 8 AM**. Thank you!

Congratulations to the following 5th and 6th graders who have completed their early communion training class and will be receiving their **first communion on Sunday, December 6**: Colton Bowe, Wyatt Bowe, Mason Chittendon, Adelyn Dreger, Emilio Garduno, Kendal Musser, and James Wilson.

The 2020 Christmas Bazaar has been cancelled due to Covid-19. We deeply appreciate your past support and pray we will be able to have it next year.

With heavy hearts, the **Women of Faith Christmas Potluck** has been cancelled due to COVID-19. We’re praying the situation will be better in the spring and maybe we will have an Easter potluck instead!

Christmas Poinsettias! If you would like to purchase a poinsettia to decorate our sanctuary during the Advent/Christmas season, please sign up in the Narthex. Cost is \$8 for a 6” plant and you may take the plant(s) home with you on Sunday, December 27. Please make checks payable to Faith Lutheran Church and indicate “poinsettia” on the memo line.

Dealing with Grief During the Holidays Seminar:

Join Pastor Tim Heupel for a discussion on grief at Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Altoona on **Saturday, December 5 at 10 AM or Tuesday, December 8 at 6 PM**. (Both sessions will cover the same material.) If you are interested in attending, please call Bethlehem at 715-832-9953.

Faith’s monthly **Grief Support Group** will be meeting on **Thursday, December 10**, at 1 PM, here at church. If you cannot make it in person, call **715-438-4100** to listen in instead!

Faith’s Sunday School Christmas Program

will be held on **Sunday, December 13**, during the 10:15 AM Service. Please note, there will NOT be Sunday School on December 20 or December 27.

Christmas Eve Worship with Candlelight and Communion will be held on **Thursday, December 24 at 4 PM and 7 PM**.

Volunteers Needed: We are seeking 2 to 3 people to clear church sidewalks and entryways of snow/ice during the upcoming winter season. Contact the church office if you can help.

Thank you to **Bonnie Schimmel** for being our Women of Faith “Sunshine Person” for the past several years! And thanks to **Alisha Klemish** and **Patricia Smith** for taking over the ministry!

GivePlus Mobile Giving: Download the app, search for Faith Lutheran Church and donate! You can also now donate to LWML through GivePlus.

The 2021 Flower Chart is now available on the News Bulletin Board (first hallway from parking lot entrance).

Would you like to crochet or knit items for area children in need? If so, please contact Peggy Denning at 715-214-7794.

Earrings found! Contact church office to claim.

Memorials & Special Offerings (October 19 – November 15)

Ed & Betty Solin: M/M John Pederson (Women of Faith), M/M Larry Marquardt, Lois Kloss, M/M Lloyd Benner, M/M Gene Moldenhauer, M/M Rich Wirth (phone ministry), Lucille Yauch (loan), Ilene Zien, M/M James Meyer, Anonymous (kitchen fund)

Violet Kastel: M/M Dell Braunberger (phone ministry)

Harold Zempel: Cleo Zempel (Sunday School)

Arlene Melville: M/M Dell Braunberger (phone ministry)

Laura Hills: M/M John Pederson (preschool)

Marv Schroeder: M/M Gene Moldenhauer, Lois Kloss, M/M Bernie & Cheryl Wendt

Robert Romsos: M/M Dell Braunberger (phone ministry)

Eldor Metcalf (brother of S. Larson): M/M Rich Wirth (phone ministry)

Eugene Moldenhauer: M/M John Pederson (loan), M/M DellBraunberger (altar guild)

Thanksgiving Boxes: M/M Robert Bernhardt, Lyle Johnson



Faith Lutheran Church
733 Woodward Avenue
Chippewa Falls, WI 54729

**Return Service
Requested**



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 2—Jerry Sorensen
- 3—Marjorie (Marjie) Buckner & Jordan Simmerman
- 5—Zachary Voigt
- 6—Judy Drivas & Carol LaGrander
- 8—Emily O'Connell, Lila Scheidler & Jennifer Tumm
- 9—Nichel Andersen
- 12—Raylynn Lenz, April Peters, & Cole Schindler
- 13—Tresa Juedes
- 14—Beverly Goettl, Camryn Ramis & Carson Ramis
- 15—Scott Swoboda & Bryan Vogels
- 16—Garnet Mathwig
- 19—Aaron Chittendon & Shirley Schroeder

- 20—Andrea Borck & Nancy Krebs
- 21—Clarence Glamann & Adam Kern
- 22—Kelsey Hackler & Sharon Volrath
- 23—Caryn Ericksen & Barbara Glamann
- 28—Ryan Dallas & Cindy Schroeder
- 29—Lorraine Benner & Shirley Gormley
- 30—Bill Borck & Laura O'Connell
- 31—Janice Wirth



DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

- 7—Barbara & Clarence Glamann
- 26—Sandy & Jack Bornsen
- 30—Pamela & Ronald Pfankuch
- 31—Roxanne & Jerry Hallman

**CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:
9:30 AM - 2:30 PM, M-F**

***FAITH EXISTS SO THAT
EACH DISCIPLE WILL KNOW
JESUS,
GROW IN HIS WORD, AND
SHARE HIS LOVE WITH
OTHERS.***

Faith's Monthly Newsletter is distributed via email through Constant Contact and via USPS mail. Extra copies are in the Narthex. If you didn't receive a copy and would like to, please let Amy know. Also, please update the church office if there are errors in birthdays, anniversaries, or if you've had a change to your mailing address, email address, or phone numbers. Thank you!