



December Edition VISIT US ONLINE www.flc-s.org

Presidential Ponderings: Singing with Gratitude

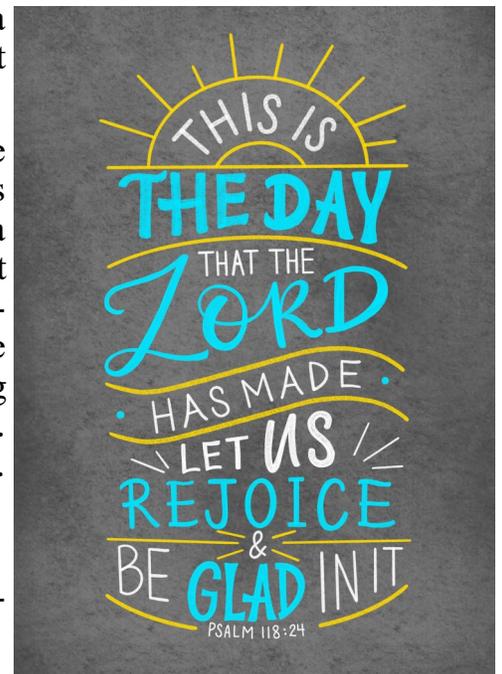
“This is the day the Lord has made; let us be glad and rejoice in it!” That verse is easy to apply on a day of fair skies when plans go as expected. “Oh, what a beautiful morning! Oh, what a beautiful day! Oh, what a beautiful morning; everything’s going my way!” This chorus played in a jewelry box I had as a child. Its cheerful words are easy to sing, flowing from a grateful heart, on days when doors open and the road to what I want is unobstructed.

I don’t know about you, but I have had many days in my life where I did NOT feel like singing that chorus. The past few months as church president have been difficult and often sad. I reached a point in mid-October where I didn’t think I could go on. I was not singing that day. But, whether I feel like it or not, words of thanksgiving and praise need to come out of me. In fact, I need to give thanks and praise to God ESPECIALLY when I don’t feel like doing so. God made each day of my life before one of them came to be. Each day is filled with good gifts from Him. That is true for me. That is true for each of you!

Please join me in praising God for the good gifts He has placed in our lives as members of Faith Lutheran Church. We have a beautiful facility in a lovely north Springfield location. We have the religious freedom to come together to worship without fear of imprison-

ment. We have the printed Word of God in our hands and on our devices. We have hymns and new songs to sing together during worship. That’s just a start of a long list!

Thank you, Lord, for today and its many good gifts. Thank you, also, for the tough times that drop us to our knees, crying out to You. Thank you for the season of Christmas, a season of hope and joy. Our times are in Your hands.



In Jesus, **Cindy**, President,
Faith Lutheran Church

Summary of the Nov. 21, 2021 Voters' Meeting

In addition to the regular reports from the pastors, boards, committees, and auxiliaries, the activity of the voters meeting included several important items of business. A tentative budget for 2022 was approved; an amended budget will be presented in early 2022. *Bylaws* updates to the Board of Pre-school and the Board of Education were presented; these changes will be considered for vote at the January voters meeting. A slate of officers and board members was considered; via ballot, voters approved all nominees. The voters approved the use of InstantChurchDirectory for our church; details will be forthcoming in January for implementation. Two matters were postponed until the January voters meeting: an advisory council for My-Church and a separate budget worksheet for Pastor Bartok's salary and benefits within Faith's budget. The delegate and alternate for the 2022 Missouri convention were approved (President MacGregor and Vice-President Jerry Reynolds, respectively). Upcoming events planned include Advent by Candlelight on Dec. 4th, Heit's Point Christmas Celebration on Dec. 5th, Children's Christmas program in both services on Dec. 12th, and a Trivia/chili cook-off on February 19th.



OPEN ARMS

congregation continues to overwhelm us. The most recent special offering we received from you has already blessed us beyond words.

This has been a challenging time for our program, but your support is a constant reminder of the plans God has for us and how He is using others to carry us through.

I feel like words just aren't enough, but from the bottom of all of our hearts here at Open Arms Early Childhood Center, Thank You!

Love & Blessings, *Kim Overstreet, Open Arms Early Childhood Director* & All of the Open Arms Staff

To The Faith Lutheran Congregation,

It is with a very grateful heart that I send this letter. The love and support that we have received from the Faith Lutheran

This Fading Season

**A crispness in the morning air;
Leaves losing their grip on the trees;
Summer dies slowly –
As Winter pushes the world into Fall.**

**The golden city on the hill darkens;
Truth and faith losing their grip on the nation;
Freedom dies slowly –
As the End of Days pushes the world to decay.**

**Prisoners of this fading season
Need hope on the horizon;
They look ahead to brighter days – but –
Where can hope be found?**

**Winter is coming,
As is the End of Days.
The world is decaying,
And death of everything
Will come.**

**Science cannot stop it.
Medicine cannot delay it.
Politics cannot fight it.
The final day of all things
Was set before the first day.**

**Prisoners of this dying world
Need hope on the horizon.
Hoping in this world is a dying hope.
Lasting hope is found only beyond –
Beyond the End of Days.**

**I look beyond these dying hills.
I look beyond this fading season.
I look beyond this darkening golden city.**

Where does my hope come from?

**My hope comes from the Author
Of the first day.
My hope comes from the Authority
Of the last day.
The One
Beyond.**

*Cindy MacGregor
October 5, 2021*

Farewell Edwards Family!

As most of you know, Pastor Mike has accepted a call to Our Savior Lutheran Church in Cabot, Arkansas. A farewell reception for the Edwards family was held Sunday, November 28th, during the education hour.

Pastor Mike will begin his new role at Our Savior on January 30, 2022. As gratitude for 7 and a half years



of faithful service to our congregation, the Church Council of Faith Lutheran Church has offered him a two-month paid sabbatical to support his transition to the new congregation. Thus, his last day as the full-time pastor of Faith Lutheran Church was November 30, 2021. The Edwards family will be greatly missed and we wish them God's richest blessings on their new ministry!



HAPPY BIRTHDAY



God's Richest Blessings to all those celebrating birthdays and anniversaries this month!



HAPPY Anniversary

December 3rd
Becky & Randal Gott — 35 years

December 20th
Bob & Judy Ehlke — 41 years

December 2nd
Leah Meyer
Cindy Stroud

December 3rd
Ashlyn Wuench

December 4th
Judy Ehlke

December 6th
Emma Burrell

December 7th
Brenda Owen

December 9th
William Widmeyer

December 10th
Cathy Bowman

December 12th
L.R. Kenning

December 13th
Becky Gott
Novalea Locke

December 16th
Regan Clines

December 19th
Carol Bourbina
Nora Buchheit

December 22nd
Isabell Ervin

December 223rd
Betty Ostrom

December 26th
Jan Benson

December 27th
Eddie Wessler

Bible Study & Fellowship Opportunities



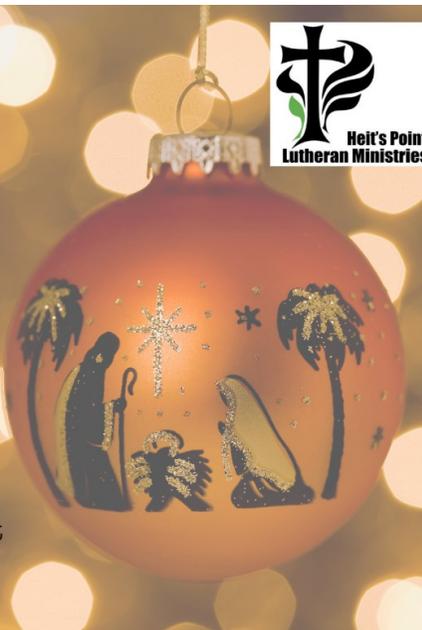
FOCUS ON THE FAMILY'S

The Truth project

Sundays
10 AM
Gathering Room



FAITHFUL SERVANTS
SUNDAY,
DECEMBER 5TH



Please join us at Heit's Point for their Christmas Celebration on Sunday, December 5th. Celebration Starts at 1:00 PM with a meal. Program will follow.

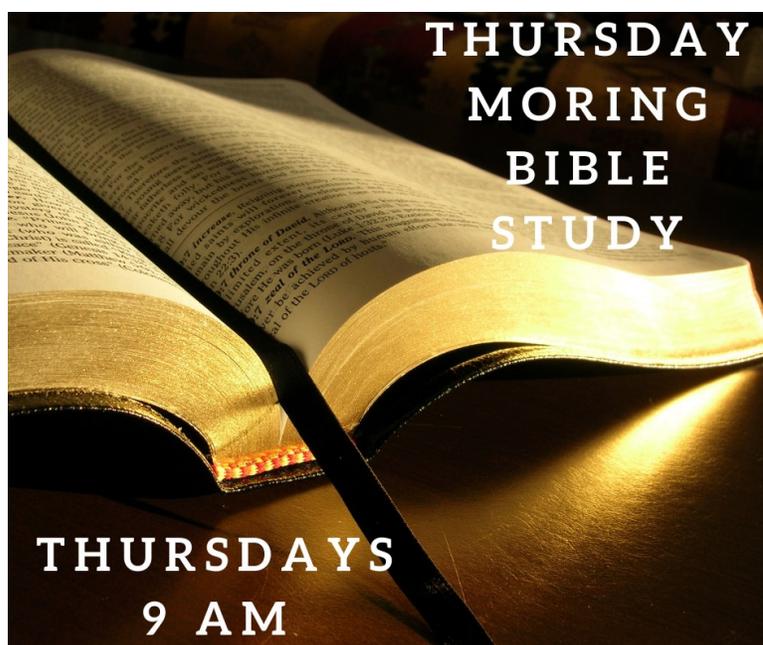
Fellowship of the Word

Wednesdays | 9 AM



THE FIRST LETTER OF PAUL TO THE CORINTHIANS
1 CORINTHIANS
Christ the Wisdom and Power of God
18 For the word of the cross is those who are perishing, but to us being saved it is the power of God is written,
"I will destroy the wisdom of the world and the discernment of the flesh, and the discernment of the world will be brought to nothing."
Where is the one who is wise?

THURSDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

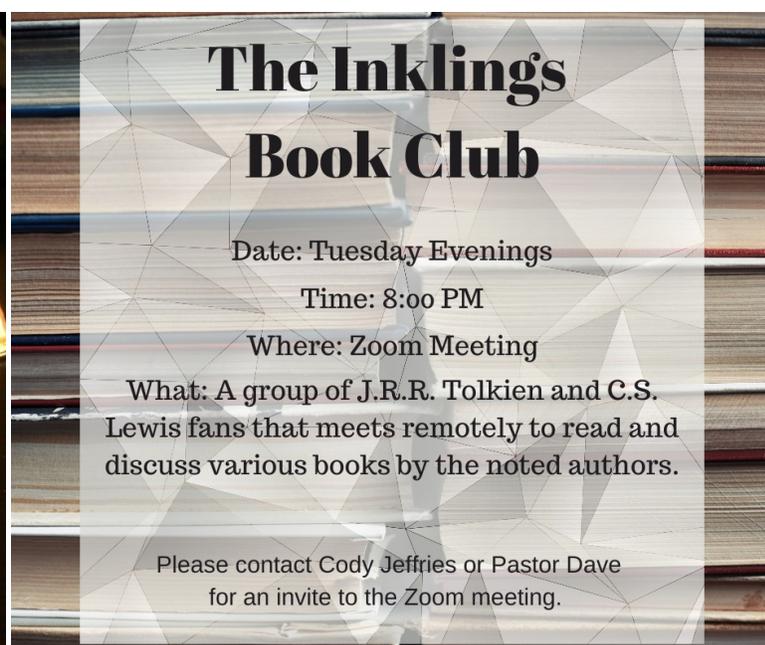


THURSDAYS
9 AM

The Inklings Book Club

Date: Tuesday Evenings
Time: 8:00 PM
Where: Zoom Meeting
What: A group of J.R.R. Tolkien and C.S. Lewis fans that meets remotely to read and discuss various books by the noted authors.

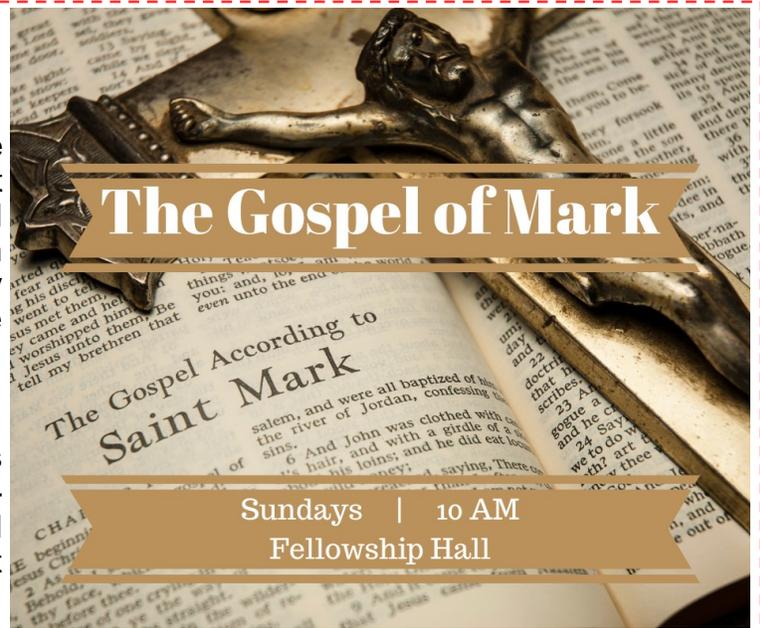
Please contact Cody Jeffries or Pastor Dave for an invite to the Zoom meeting.



THE GOSPEL OF MARK

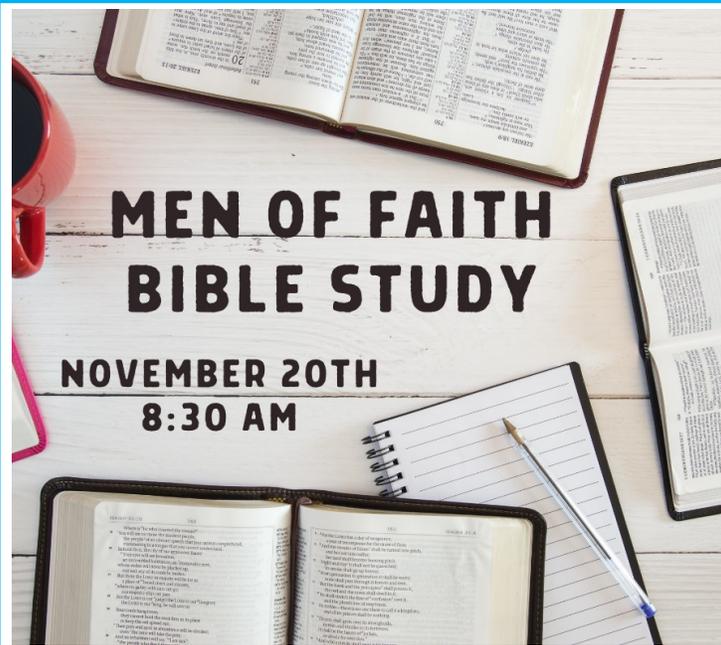
(There will be no class on December 26th).

Please join us for this in-depth study. Most Bible scholars agree that the Gospel of Mark is the earliest of the four Gospels- the one on which Matthew and Luke largely depend for their accounts. The themes in Mark that we will be exploring are: Jesus' authority over demons, physical ailments, the weather, and the Law of Moses; the nature of the Kingdom of God; faith as the criteria for greatness in Christ's Kingdom; Jesus' disciples as sinners who are being redeemed; the prospect of trouble and persecution as followers of Jesus; and Jesus' great commission to all His followers (including us) to take the Gospel, the Good News of salvation in Him, to all nations as we await His return and His everlasting heavenly Kingdom.



The Gospel of Mark

Sundays | 10 AM
Fellowship Hall



MEN OF FAITH BIBLE STUDY

NOVEMBER 20TH
8:30 AM

Our next "Men of Faith" Monthly Bible Study will be Saturday, December 11th - 8:30 to 10:00 AM.

Our topic will be "**Stuff They Didn't Teach Me in Sunday School—Wilderness Wanderings.**" We will be considering Deuteronomy, chapter 34. Please enter through the door on the northeast side of the "Peters Family Life Center" (north building). We will be meeting in "The Gathering Room." Proceed down the hall and take a right towards the multipurpose room. The room is the first door on the left. We hope to see you there.

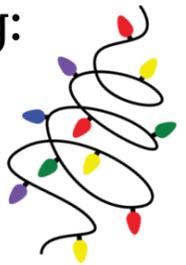
Faith's Sunday School Children are presenting:



CORRECT The Colors of Christmas

Sunday, December 12 - Both Services!

Please plan to join us!



SUNDAY SCHOOL PARENTS: REMINDER

Christmas program rehearsal times are December 5, during Sunday School hour, and Saturday, December 11 at 10:00 am (in traditional sanctuary). If you have questions or concerns please contact Jan Benson at (573-356-0362) or 4bensonsjd@gmail.com.

Join us for Sunday School!



Sundays at 10 AM
in the Peters Family Center

Celebration of Servants

Resolutions of Gratitude Recipients



*In Memory,
Flaine Wilson*

*Thank
You!*



Carroll Wuench



*Properties
Restoration
Team*



Darla Berg



Duane Moudy



*Thank You
Praise
Team!*



Celebration of Servants



Rare Breed

Sack lunches for Rare Breed are filled in the kitchenette at church on the 4th Wednesday of each month at 10:00 AM. We will next meet on Wednesday, December 22nd. Come join us!

Get Your Christmas Pies!!



We now have Cherry & Apple Pies!
All Pies are \$10 each

LUTHERAN STUDENT CENTER NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2021

follow our socials!



Instagram: [isc_springfield](#)
Facebook: [Lutheran Student Center Springfield](#)



October and November have been busy months for us here at the LSC! During the first weekend of October, we went to Heit's Point for our annual retreat. We had fun growing in fellowship and serving our community.

The MSU Homecoming tailgate was a blast! We had pizza and cheered on the Bears.

We also had our Halloween Party at the end of the month, and as you can see, our costumes were very creative.



We would like to say thank you to all who have supported our fundraisers this semester, including Buff City, Chipotle, and the online auction! They were all a great success, thanks to you.



Compass Newsletter

To read previous editions of the Compass Newsletter, please visit our website. An archive can be found under the "Activities" tab in the "Compass Newsletters" section. You can also simply visit www.flc-s.org/compass-newsletters.html

THANK YOU!

Thank you so much to everyone who helped decorate our church for Christmas!



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

What a wonderful way to begin the 2021 Christmas Season! Our Faith Lutheran Family responded to the call by filling 49 Shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child. Sometime in December, your boxes will be delivered to a third world country and put smiles on a young boy or girl's face. Thank you for your support, resources, and prayers. Have a spirit filled Christmas this year and THANK YOU for your support of this ministry in our church.

~David Moliga,
Faith Lutheran Operation Christmas Child Coordinator



ALTAR FLOWERS

Did you know you can donate altar flowers to honor or remember a loved or to celebrate a special event? If you would like to donate flowers please mark your name in the 'Altar Flower Calendar' in the narthex under the leadership mailboxes. Cost is \$30 and you can make your check out to Faith Lutheran and note "altar flowers" and place in the offering basket. Thank you!