

# NEWS AND NOTES

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**ALTAR FLOWERS** are given to the glory of God in honor of Marie Johnson's birthday.

**PASTORAL CALL EXTENDED** As a follow up to the Voters' meeting on March 17, 2024, I am excited to announce that Faith Lutheran Church has extended a call to Pastor James King to be our next pastor. Please pray for Pastor King and his wife Michelle as he seeks God's will regarding this call to serve our congregation. Please also pray for his current congregation at Immanuel, Gaylord, Minnesota, during this important time. And, finally, pray for your brothers and sisters at Faith Lutheran Church as we prepare for his response to this call. To God be the Glory! Cindy MacGregor, Congregational President

**PASSOVER SEDER MEAL FOR CHRISTIANS** We will be celebrating the Passover here at Faith this year with a Seder designed for Christians. **The meal and ceremony will begin at 5:30 PM on Thursday, March 28th** followed by our **Maundy Thursday service of Holy Communion at 7:30 PM**. So we can plan for the right amount of food, please RSVP your attendance on the sign-up sheets found at the "Welcome Center" on the south-end (8:30 AM service) and the refreshment counter (11 AM service) on the north end of our facility. You may also make your reservation by emailing the church office at [faithlutheransec@gmail.com](mailto:faithlutheransec@gmail.com). There is no charge for the meal, however, a freewill offering will be received.

**MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE** will be Thursday, March 28<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 PM.

**GOOD FRIDAY TENEBRAE SERVICE** will be Friday, March 29<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM.

**EASTER SERVICES** will be on Sunday, March 31<sup>st</sup>. The sunrise service will be at 7:00 AM. Easter Sunday Worship will be at 10:00 AM. Both services will be held in the south sanctuary.

**EASTER FESTIVITIES – EGG HUNT, BREAKFAST, & SILENT AUCTION** After the sunrise service, the youth will host an Easter breakfast and silent auction in the multi-purpose room. There will be an Easter Egg Hunt for ages walking thru 5<sup>th</sup> grade. The Easter Egg Hunt will begin with the Easter story and songs at 9:00 AM in the Gathering Room. Children, grandchildren and friends are welcome and invited to attend. This is not a child drop-off event, please stay with your child. Thanks!

**ANNUAL SILENT AUCTION DONATIONS** The youth are once again gearing up for the annual Easter breakfast, and they would love donations of auction items. In the past, we've had everything from quilts to crafts to gift baskets and food! Be creative and start thinking ahead, please. We appreciate your help!

**CRAFTS FOR BATTING** Using scraps from previous quilts and left over trims, crafts have been made to raise money for the expensive batting used in our many quilts. Easter and spring items are available now, but other items will be added over time and change with the season. Please take a moment to check out our display in the hall outside the Fellowship Hall.

**SERVANT EVENT ON APRIL 20TH** On Saturday, April 20<sup>th</sup>, we will be having a servant event sponsored by the joint efforts of the Board of Properties and the Board of Education and Family Life. We will be doing spring cleaning inside the church along with repairs and painting on the east side exterior corridor of our building. We will begin at 9 AM and continue until we are finished. A light lunch will be provided. Families and kids are encouraged to attend!

**SAVE THE DATE FOR MISSION SUNDAY AND OUR TIME & TALENT AUCTION** Please join us for Mission Sunday on April 21! Education Hour will be at 9:15 AM, Worship at 10:30 AM, and a luncheon with our annual Time & Talent auction will take place after service. We will celebrate the gifts God has given us as well as recognize our new members.

**MARCH VOTERS' MEETING SUMMARY** On March 17, a regularly scheduled voters meeting included the usual reports from administrative boards, pastors, treasurer, committees, and auxiliaries. Items of new business featured the planning calendar for 2024 and numerous upcoming events. The voters also reviewed proposed edits to the Bylaws regarding the call process, the duties of an Assistant Treasurer, the formation of an Insurance Review Committee every five years, adding the presidential responsibility of submitting current Bylaws to the district, and the specification of an executive committee to act on behalf of the church in emergency situations. Approval of these changes will be part of the May voters meeting. An interest group (primarily members of Trinity and Redeemer) is exploring the possibility of a Lutheran High School in Springfield; voters approved two representative positions from Faith for a possible future planning committee. These representatives would be responsible for reporting to Church Council and to Voters, the latter being the decision-making body in any future planning for a school and how those plans might involve Faith, Springfield. Lastly, the voters decided to issue a call to Pastor James King, currently serving at Immanuel Lutheran Church, Gaylord, Minnesota.

## **CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

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**NO THURSDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS THIS WEEK** Pastor Jerry Markel leads a Bible class on Thursday mornings at 9 AM. This class meets in the Fellowship Hall. For the most up-to-date schedule, please check the church calendar at [www.flc-s.org](http://www.flc-s.org). The calendar can be found under the "Activities" tab in the "Calendar" section. There will be no Bible Class on Thursday, March 28<sup>th</sup>.

**ADULT INSTRUCTION CLASS** Pastor Dave is teaching an 8-week section of his "What Lutherans Believe" class on Sunday mornings at 9:45 AM in the Fellowship Hall. This class is designed for adults and older youth who have not been confirmed in the Lutheran Church but are interested in joining Faith as official members. (NOT INTENDED FOR OUR ESTABLISHED MEMBERS.) The class covers the "Six Chief Parts" of Lutheran teaching from Luther's Small Catechism. If you are interested in being a member of this class, and have not done so already, please contact Pastor Dave.

**LAMB OF GOD, PURE & HOLY LENTEN DEVOTION REFLECTIONS** This Sunday morning study will be participant driven as we discuss the Bible readings and topics from the "Lamb of God, Pure and Holy" Lenten devotional book. Classes will be held in the Gathering Room during the education hour throughout the month of March.

**WOMEN OF FAITH BIBLE STUDY** This group meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month at 6:30 PM in the Gathering Room. They are currently studying "Meant for Good: A Study of Joseph" by Donna Snow. They will next meet Monday, April 15<sup>th</sup> and will be covering Chapter 6.

**MEN OF FAITH BIBLE STUDY** Our next monthly Men of Faith Bible Study will meet on Saturday, April 20<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 to 10:30 AM. We are working through a 4-session study called "How to Spot the Spirit's Work in Your Life." This will be session #2. We will be meeting in Classroom FC-5 at the north end of our facility. Please enter through the doors on the northeast side of the Peters Family Life Center (north building).

**SUNDAY MORNING YOUTH STUDY** Harold Tscherny leads this study for 6<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup> grade students on Sunday mornings during the education hour. It is held in classroom FC-4 (the game room).

**CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL** meets each week at 9:45 AM in the Peters Family Life Center, rooms 1 & 2.

**YOUTH CONFIRMATION** is on Sundays at 12:15 PM.

**INKLINGS IS AN ONLINE BOOK CLUB – WILL NOT MEET IN MARCH** This book club is held by Zoom on Tuesdays, starting at 8:30 pm. Anyone interested and available to participate can contact either Pastor Dave Benson or Cody Jeffries for more information.

## **COMMUNITY AND OUTREACH**

**MISSOURI LUTHERANS FOR LIFE CONFERENCE - RSVP THIS WEEK** The Missouri Lutherans for Life Conference will be held here at Faith Lutheran on Saturday, April 6<sup>th</sup> from 9 AM to 1 PM. We would love to have a large turnout for this event so please make plans to join us! Entry to the conference is \$10 and includes breakfast and a boxed lunch. Please RSVP by 3/29 to Kim DeLuce. See the blue bulletin insert for additional information about the conference.

**SHINE! IN OZARK** Faith Lutheran will again be participating in the Missouri District SHINE event by having a workday at Open Arms Childcare Center in Ozark on Saturday, April 13<sup>th</sup> from 8 AM to 2 PM. If you can participate, please RSVP with Pastor Dave at (573)356-1118 or [pastordavebenson@gmail.com](mailto:pastordavebenson@gmail.com) by Saturday, April 6<sup>th</sup>.

**STUDY GRANTS AVAILABLE** The Lutheran Women's Missionary League, Missouri District has study grants available for the 2024-2025 school year. Men and women enrolled in a University or Seminary of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod that are preparing for full-time professional church work or as a colloquy student may apply. Applicants must be a member of a congregation located in the Missouri District of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod or of an English or SELC District congregation active in the LWML located in Missouri for 12 months prior to filing an application. The Study Grant program is unique as recipients are chosen according to financial need and commitment to the Christian service. Applications and instructions are available from your LWML Zone President, society presidents, the financial aid office of your university or seminary or may be downloaded from the Missouri District website at [www.missourilwml.org](http://www.missourilwml.org) (under forms) or from the CWSG chairman at [lwmlmostudygrant@yahoo.com](mailto:lwmlmostudygrant@yahoo.com). Completed applications must be received by **APRIL 15, 2024**. No applications will be considered if not complete. For more information contact, LWML Missouri District, Church Workers Study Grant Chairman, Dawn Neil, 19509 State Hwy B, Canton, MO 63435; 573-248-9162, or [lwmlmostudygrant@yahoo.com](mailto:lwmlmostudygrant@yahoo.com).

**SPRINGFIELD LUTHERAN SCHOOL IS SEEKING A 1ST GRADE TEACHER FOR THE 2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR.** Candidates must hold a Bachelor's degree, preferably in education, hold Missouri teaching certification, and be certified by the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod (or be willing to work toward that through the Colloquy program). They are seeking candidates who are dedicated to being a spiritual, educational, and professional leader of the school and church community. They are looking for motivated, organized individuals who are committed to providing our students with an engaging, loving, and supportive Christian classroom community. Interested individuals should reach out to the school office at [sls@rlcmail.org](mailto:sls@rlcmail.org) or (417) 883-5717.

**LUTHERAN STUDENT CENTER SPRING MEAL SIGN UP** The LSC could really use your help with providing a meal for their Tuesday Night Prayer & Praise. They usually have around 20-25 students per week. Meals will need to be dropped off between 5:00 & 5:45 PM. To sign up to provide a meal, visit the link at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0F4EA4AD2CA1F94-46449725-spring>

**CROSSLINES FOOD PANTRY** Faith Lutheran is signed up to volunteer at Crosslines every 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month. Shifts can be split: 8:30 – 11:15 a.m. or 11:15 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Please contact Kim DeLuce with questions, or to schedule the time you can help out with this incredible organization. The next volunteer opportunity will be on Tuesday, April 16th.

**LUTHERAN FAMILY AND CHILDREN SERVICES** is still in need of diapers (size 3 and up), wipes, diaper cream, tearless baby shampoo, and baby lotion. Can you help? We have a basket for baby supplies in the narthex. Thank you!

Fiscal Year Stewardship Report 1/1/24 - 12/31/24			March 10, 2024	
<b>Discipleship</b>			<b>Returning God's Gifts</b>	
Communicant:	148		Plate offerings and tithes:	\$2,146.00
Baptized:	166	<b>20.8%</b>	(E-Tithe) Direct Deposit	\$785.00
		of the		
		52 Sundays	Total Gifts Last Week:	<b>\$2,931.00</b>
		in 2024		
<b>Attendance</b>			<i>Weekly financial needs 2024</i>	
Sun. 8:30 AM Svc.	66			\$4,923
Sun. 11:00 AM Svc.	42			
Online	17			
			<b>SHORTAGE Last Week</b>	<b>(\$1,992)</b>
<b>Total in Person:</b>	<b>108</b>		<b>ABUNDANCE for Year</b>	<b>\$12,579</b>

<b>Stewardship in Time and Talents</b> <b>Serving in the House of the Lord</b>		
Thank you for your servant heart ♥	<u>This Sunday</u> <u>(3/24)</u>	<u>Next Sunday</u> <u>Easter (3/31)</u>
Elder: (8:30 AM)	Cliff Vest	Joye McElwee (7 AM)
Elder/Deacon: (11:00 AM)	Daryl Bahn	Joye McElwee (10 AM)
Proclaim Service:	Nathan & Grace Meyer	
Altar Guild: (8:30 AM)	Kathy Hodges	Brenda Hansen (7 AM)
Altar Guild: (11:00 AM)	Darla Berg	Carol Bourbina (10 AM)
Lector: (8:30 AM)	Sonya Cox	Amy Jeffries (7 AM) Jan Benson (10 AM)
Acolyte: (8:30 AM)	Kinley Cox	
Greeter: (8:30 AM)	Vicki Kukal	Brenda Owen (7 AM)
Greeter: (11:00 AM)	Grace & Leah Meyer	
Children's Message	Pastor Peckman	Pastor Dave

# PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

## Those Grieving Loss of Loved Ones:

*The Family of Dean Novak* (widow Ruth is a friend of Brenda Owen)

*The Family of Frank Jones*

*The Family of Jennifer Bryant* (science teacher at Hillcrest High School)

*The Family of Shannon Hodges* (daughter-in-law of Kathy & John Hodges)

## Homebound:

*Nancy Engelking*

*Gene & Isabell Ervin*

*Wanda McCann*

*Teresa Murphy*

*Betty Wessler* (Spring Ridge Assisted Living)

*Mary Ellen Wolf* (Castlewood Senior Living)

## Those Afflicted With Cancer

*Angela Hardison*, niece of Marie Isbell (stage 4 cancer)

*Sarah Tessaro*, 3<sup>rd</sup> grade teacher at Springfield Lutheran School (colon cancer)

*Pastor Gary Griffin*, retired pastor from Immanuel in Lockwood (stage 4 neuroendocrine cancer)

*Randy Austin*, friend of the Bensons

*Marlys St. George*, sister of Frank Jones

*Pastor Tim Jones*, nephew of Frank & Carole Jones

*Jorene Brooks*, daughter of Joye and Karen McElwee

## Health Petitions:

*Hal Buchert*, friend of Faith (recovering from surgery on 3/13)

*Carolyn Zell*, friend of the Bensons (COVID and other medical issues)

*David Tunnell*, husband of Redeemer's Music Director (recovering at home)

*Melissa Gammel*, niece of Kerrie Salvador & Sharon Crunkleton (open heart surgery on April 5<sup>th</sup>)

*Mary Ellen Wolf*, hospice care

*James Wantlend*, family of the Markels (brain aneurysm)

*David Moliga*, hip pain

*Steve Warner*, friend of Cliff Vest (Burn Unit at Mercy Hospital)

*Arlo Buerck*, grandson of Pastor Dave and Jan Benson (ITP)

*Helenea Porter*, preparing for back surgery

*Kathy Johnson*, mother of Stacey Bourbina (strokes)

*Lukas Shook*, grandson of Loeta Shook

*Thomas Jeffries* (special needs)

## **Praise & Thanks Petitions:**

*Pastor James King, his wife Michelle, and Immanuel Lutheran Church in Gaylord, MN as Pastor King considers the call to serve as Pastor of Faith Lutheran.*

*God's provision for our congregation through generous offerings.*

*Healing for Janet Burchett, mother of Jessica Powell, Assistant Director at Open Arms*

## **Mission Petitions:**

*Rev. Jim & Kim Bartok, My Church – Ozark  
Open Arms Early Childhood Development Center – Ozark  
Crosslines, Rare Breed & York Elementary – Springfield  
Katie Pohlmann – YWAM missionary in Brazil  
Joe Lee – Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) Area Coordinator  
Hillcrest High School student body, parents, faculty & staff*

## **Preparing for Ministry at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis**

*Nathan & Chrissy Tritch  
Steven, Lori, David & Timmy Steingraber (sister of Leann Eden)*

## **Birthdays:**

Tom Masek – 3/26  
Sonya Cox – 3/29  
Marie Johnson – 3/30  
Rick Clark – 3/31

## **Anniversaries:**

**PRAYER CHAIN** If you would like to receive prayer chain emails, please send your name and email address to [mcelweejg@gmail.com](mailto:mcelweejg@gmail.com).

### **PLEASE LET US KNOW**

Please call the church office (417-833-3749) or email [faithlutheransec@gmail.com](mailto:faithlutheransec@gmail.com) if you:

- Have a new address, phone number, or email
- Are sick, facing a surgery, or hospitalization
- Are unable to attend worship
- Would like to add to our praise & thanks petitions
- **Are in need of prayer**

# **LENTEN WORSHIP SCHEDULE\***

## **Sunday, March 24<sup>th</sup> – Palm Sunday**

8:30 AM – Traditional Worship with Communion (South Sanctuary)

11:00 AM – Contemporary Worship with Communion (North Sanctuary) +Livestreamed

## **Thursday, March 28<sup>th</sup> – Maundy Thursday**

5:30 PM – Passover Seder Meal for Christians (Fellowship Hall)

7:30 PM – Maundy Thursday Worship with Communion (South Sanctuary)

## **Friday, March 29<sup>th</sup> – Good Friday**

7:00 PM – Good Friday Tenebrae Service (South Sanctuary)

## **Sunday, March 31<sup>st</sup> – Easter Sunday**

7:00 AM – Easter Sunrise Worship with Communion (South Sanctuary)

10:00 AM – Easter Worship with Communion (South Sanctuary) +Livestreamed

\*The full Lenten season schedule can be viewed at our website [www.flc-s.org](http://www.flc-s.org) on the “Lenten Worship Schedule” page under the “Worship” tab.

## **SPECIAL CELEBRATION SCHEDULE**

### **MISSION SUNDAY**

### **SUNDAY, APRIL 21<sup>ST</sup>**

9:15 AM – Education Hour (Sunday School, Confirmation, Youth & Adult Bible Study)

10:30 AM – Combined Worship with Communion (South Sanctuary) +Livestreamed

12 PM – Luncheon, Time & Talent Auction, New Members Welcome (North Sanctuary)

# **WHAT'S HAPPENING AT FAITH THIS WEEK?**

## **TODAY – Sunday, March 24<sup>th</sup> – Palm Sunday**

8:30 AM – Traditional Worship with Communion (South Sanctuary)

9:45 AM – Lamb of God, Pure and Holy Lenten Bible Study (Gathering Room)

– What Lutherans Believe Class (Fellowship Hall)

– Youth Bible Study (FC-5)

– Children's Sunday School (Peters Family Life Center, Rooms 1 &2)

11:00 AM – Contemporary Worship with Communion (North Sanctuary)

12:15 PM – Youth Confirmation Class

## **Wednesday, March 27<sup>th</sup>**

Rare Breed

## **Thursday, March 28<sup>th</sup>**

5:30 PM – Passover Seder Meal for Christians (Fellowship Hall)

7:30 PM – Maundy Thursday Service with Communion (South Sanctuary)

## **Friday, March 29<sup>th</sup>**

7:00 PM – Good Friday Tenebrae Service (South Sanctuary)

## **Sunday, March 31<sup>st</sup> – Easter Sunday**

7:00 AM – Easter Worship with Communion (South Sanctuary)

8:00 AM – Easter Breakfast & Silent Auction (North Sanctuary)

9:00 AM – Easter Egg Hunt (Gathering Room)

10:00 AM – Easter Worship with Communion (South Sanctuary)