

CELEBRATING OUR 75TH ANNIVERSARY

History of Pastors at Faith Lutheran Church

January 1942 - July 1942	Pastor Dwight Shelhart
August 1942 - August 1949	Pastor Finn Hansen
October 1949 - March 1953	Pastor Robert Heide
June 1953 - January 1956	Pastor Roy Morrod
June 1956 - August 1960	Pastor Walter Beck
March 1961 - Sept. 1968	Pastor Carl Ipsen
June 1969 - Dec. 1974	Pastor John Anderson
July 1975 - October 1976	Pastor Joseph Miller
April 1977 - October 1986	Pastor Richard Bonner
November 1986 - May 1988	Pastor Elmer Sterner *
June 1988 - April 1994	Pastor Kendra Nolde
Sept. 1994 - Nov. 1998	Pastor Norma Vander Meer
January 1999 - Nov. 2000	Pastor John Froiland *
Dec. 2000 - October 2009	Pastor Jay Quinn
Nov. 2009 - May 2010	Pastor Dell Olson *
June 2010 - April 2011	Pastor Len Hoffman
	Pastor Amy Nyman *
April 2011 - April 2013	Pastor Luanne Bettisch
May 2013 - Present	Pastor Rick Meier *

* denotes Interim



Faith Lutheran Church

Faithfully Growing, Welcoming, and Caring through Christ

Sunday, January 15, 2017

Second Sunday after Epiphany ~ 9:30 am

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: In the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. (A brief silence.) Most merciful God,

C: we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

~ OPENING HYMN ~ Verses 1, 2 and 3

As with Gladness Men of Old



1 As with glad-ness men of old did the guid-ing star be - hold;
2 As with joy - ful steps they sped, Sav - ior, to thy low - ly bed,
3 As they of - fered gifts most rare at thy cra - dle, rude and bare,
4 Ho - ly Je - sus, ev - 'ry day keep us in the nar - row way;
5 In the heav'n-ly coun - try bright need they no cre - a - ted light;



as with joy they hailed its light, lead - ing on - ward, beam - ing bright;
there to bend the knee be - fore thee, whom heav'n and earth a - dore;
so may we with ho - ly joy, pure and free from sin's al - loy,
and when earth - ly things are past, bring our ran - somed souls at last
thou its light, its joy, its crown, thou its sun which goes not down;



so, most gra - cious Lord, may we ev - er - more be led by thee.
so may we with will - ing feet ev - er seek thy mer - cy seat.
all our cost - liest trea - sures bring, Christ, to thee, our heav'n - ly king.
where they need no star to guide, where no clouds thy glo - ry hide.
there for - ev - er may we sing al - le - lu - ias to our king.

Text: William C. Dix, 1837-1898, alt.
Music: DIX, Conrad Kocher, 1786-1872

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: Amen

INTRODUCTION

P: Today's gospel opens with further reflection on Jesus' baptism. He is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, and the one anointed by the Spirit. In the liturgy, we come and see Christ revealed among us in word and meal. We go forth to invite others to come and worship the Holy One, and to receive the gifts of grace and peace made known among us.

C: Amen.

Nordic Choir Midwest Tour: Rockford, IL



Sponsored by Nordic Choir

- **Date:** Friday, January 27, 2017
- **Time:** 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm
- **Location:** Our Savior's Lutheran Church,
3300 Rural St., Rockford, IL 61107

Luther College [Nordic Choir](#), under the direction of guest conductor Jeffrey Douma, will be performing a concert on Friday, January 27, 2017 at 7 pm at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Rockford, Illinois.

No tickets are needed; a freewill offering will be taken at the concert. The concert is open to the public. Mark your calendars for this performance!

This concert is a part of Nordic Choir's 2017 Midwest Tour. The program will include selections from the following: "Jubilate Deo" by Benjamin Britten, "The Road Home" by the late Stephen Paulus, and "Always Singing" by Dale Warland, as well as hymn arrangements, spirituals, and the traditional Nordic Choir closing piece, "O Lord God" by Pavel Chesnokov. For additional information, call Our Savior's Church at 815-399-0531.



Happy Birthday To You!



JANUARY

- 2 - Irene Balk
- 10 - Hannah Guffey
- 12 - Betty Bonner
- 20 - Viola Thostenson
- 23 - Amy McCormick
- 27 - Samantha Guffey
- 27 - Victor Lipinski
- 30 - Craig Miller

FEBRUARY

- 1 - Ted Balk
- 3 - Bernie Parisot
- 9 - Dean Birch
- 10 - Sue Miller
- 10 - Shari Birch
- 10 - Tiffany Schwager
- 14 - Lucy Naff
- 15 - Ethel Strasser
- 16 - Courtney Schuller
- 18 - Zach Hedrington
- 22 - Carol Frey
- 22 - Ben Strasser
- 28 - Patti Dunaway

Prayer for a New Year

Dear God, Thank you that you make all things new. Thank you for all that you've allowed into our lives this past year, the good along with the hard things, which have reminded us how much we need you and rely on your presence filling us every single day. Help us to be known as great givers, help us to be generous and kind, help us to look to the needs of others and not be consumed by only our own. May we be lovers of truth, may the fruits of your spirit be evident in our lives - your love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Shine your light in us, through us, over us. May we make a difference in this world, for your glory and purposes. Set you way before us. May all your plans succeed. We may reflect your peace and hope to a world that so desperately needs your presence and healing. To you be glory and honor, in this New Year, and forever. Amen.

We are collecting for Pastor Rick's Christmas gift throughout the month of January. There is a Cubs jar in the Fellowship Room on the counter.



PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray. (A brief silence.)

C: Holy God, our strength and our redeemer, by your Spirit hold us forever, that through your grace we may worship you and faithfully serve you, follow you and joyfully find you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

FIRST READING: Isaiah 49:1-7

A reading from Isaiah, the 49th chapter.

Listen to me, O coastlands, pay attention, you peoples from far away! The LORD called me before I was born, while I was in my mother's womb, he named me. He made my mouth like a sharp sword, in the shadow of his hand he hid me; he made me a polished arrow, in his quiver he hid me away. And he said to me, "You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified." But I said, "I have labored in vain, I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity; yet surely my cause is with the LORD, and my reward with my God." And now the LORD says, who formed me in the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob back to him, and that Israel might be gathered to him, for I am honored in the sight of the LORD, and my God has become my strength - he says, "It is too light a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to restore the survivors of Israel; I will give you as a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth." Thus says the LORD, the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One, to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nations, the slave of rulers, "Kings shall see and stand up, princes, and they shall prostrate themselves, because of the LORD, who is faithful, the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you."

R: Word of God, word of life.

C: **Thanks be to God.**



PSALM 40:1-11 ~ A Responsive Reading from Psalm 40

R: I waited patiently upon the LORD, who stooped to me and heard my cry.

C: **The LORD lifted me out of the desolate pit, out of the miry clay, and set my feet upon a high cliff, making my footing sure.**

R: The LORD put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God; many shall see, and stand in awe, and put their trust in the LORD.

C: **Happy are they who trust in the LORD! They do not turn to enemies or to those who follow lies.**

R: Great are the wonders you have done, O LORD my God! In your plans for us, none can be compared with you! Oh, that I could make them known and tell them! But they are more than I can count.

C: **Sacrifice and offering you do not desire; you have opened my ears: burnt-offering and sin-offering you have not required.**

R: And so I said, "Here I am; I come. In the scroll of the book it is written of me:

C: **'I love to do your will, O my God; your law is deep within me.'**"

R: I proclaimed righteousness in the great assembly; I have not restrained my lips, O LORD, you know.

C: **I have not hidden your righteousness in my heart; I have spoken of your faithfulness and your deliverance; I have not concealed your steadfast love and truth from the great assembly.**

R: You are the LORD; do not withhold your compassion from me; may your steadfast love and your truth continually keep me safe.



**The OUT TO DINNER Group will be going to
The Butterfly Club,
5246 E. County Rd. X, Beloit, WI
on Friday, January 20th at 6:00 pm.
Sign up deadline: today, Sunday, Jan. 15th**



We pray for: Ada, Alyson & Jarrett, AJ, Audrey, Barb, Barry & Shelly, Bea, Ben, Betty, Betty Comins, Bill, Bob Parisot Family, Boyd, Boyd and Inez Miller, Brayton, Brett, Brian, Carl + Family, Charlene, Charles, Cindy, Claudine, Colleen, Conley, Connie, Courtney & Family, Darlene, Debi, Devin, Denise, Dennis, Devin, Diane, Dick, Don, Emily, Ethel, Evie, Florence, James Funk Family, Gary, Gavin, George, Gerry, Harold Blum, Harriet, Heidi, Helen & Pastor Meier ~ Keep them safe & healthy in their travels, Ian, Irene A., Jackie, Jaleena, Janet, Jean, Jeff, Jenni Jo, Jerry, Jerry Drake, Jessica, Jessie, Jim, Jimmy, Jodi, Joe, Joyce, Joyce Hatch, June, Kathy Mears, Kelli, Ken, Larry, Lisa Wright, Lucas, Marcia, Marion, Maureen, Marjean, Mary, Michael, Nash, Family of Nathan Reed, Nikko, Noah, Rachel, Rob Butz & Sue Alexander & their family, Rich, Robin & Tom, Roger, Sam, Sanchez Family, Sara, Sarah, Scott, Scott Wright, Shalom, Shawn, Shelly, Steve, Stuart Austin Family, Sue, Tammi, Ted, Teresa Remington and family, Terri, Terry, Tim, Todd, Tom, Tristan, Vance, Vicki, Viola, Zach, all service men & women, all homeless & unemployed, our shut-ins, our college students, and those in the military and their families, that God will keep them in His care.



Today's altar flowers are provided by
FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

Worship

Welcome to Faith Lutheran Church. We are so happy to have you worship with us today! Please join us after worship in our Fellowship Room for beverages, snacks and conversation.

Communion is by intinction. Come forward as directed by the ushers, receive the bread with an open hand then dip it in the wine (dark) or juice (light). If you accidentally eat the bread before dipping or drop it, please ask for another piece. You do not have to be a member of Faith or be Lutheran to take Communion. Christ is the host of the meal and ALL baptized believers are welcome!

Offering ~ As always, if you are unable to attend worship, please make sure to catch up with your **offering** the next week. Or, if you'd like, please mail it to the church office and write "offering" on the envelope and it will be included in that week's offering and seen only by the designated counters for the day. Thank you for being faithful in giving generously to God's work here at Faith Lutheran!

Financials for Sunday, January 8, 2017 - Week 2

Attendance - 77

Weekly Offering Actual	\$2,353.60
Weekly Offering Budget	\$2,111.00
2017 YTD Actual Offering	\$4,945.60
2017 YTD Offering Needed	\$4,222.00
Offerings YTD Toward Roof Loan	\$150.00

Today's Worship Leaders

Altar Guild - Carol & Roger Frey
Computer Technician - Anne and Rachel Strasser
Offering Video - Anne and Rachel Strasser
Counters - Roger & Carol Frey
Fellowship - Russell Scheibel
Greeters - Pat and Laurie Wicks
Musician - Betty Comins
Reader - Ellen Olson
Ushers - Doug Congdon, George Brunson, Craig Miller
Guest Pastor - Rev. Dr. Karl Otto

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 1:1-9

A reading from 1st Corinthians, the 1st chapter.

Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes, to the church of God that is in Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, together with all those who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind - just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you - so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

R: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

"ALLELUIA"

Al - le - lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.

Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.

Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

GOSPEL: John 1:29-42

P: The holy gospel according to John, the 1st chapter.

R: Glory to you, O Lord.

John the Baptist saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, "Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'

I myself did not know him; but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel.” And John testified, “I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, ‘He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.’ And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Son of God.” The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, and as he watched Jesus walk by, he exclaimed, “Look, here is the Lamb of God!” The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, “What are you looking for?” They said to him, “Rabbi”, which translated means Teacher, “where are you staying?” He said to them, “Come and see.” They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o’clock in the afternoon. One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother. He first found his brother Simon and said to him, “We have found the Messiah” (which is translated Anointed). He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, “You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas” (which is translated Peter)

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON “RETIREMENT?”



PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: O Morning Star, fair and bright, you have refreshed us again with heavenly food. You are our dearest reassurance. Go with us now – today, tomorrow, every day – that we tell the story of your never-ending love and sing your praise both now and forever.

C: **Amen**

BLESSING

P: Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN - “*Choral Benediction*”

**May the light of God shine on us today.
May the light of God shine on us today.
May it show us where to travel,
lead us back if we should stray.
May the light of God shine on us today.**

**May the love of God live in us today.
May the love of God live in us today.
May the warmth we feel within us,
show in all we do and say.
May the love of God live in us today.**

**May the peace of God be with us today.
May the peace of God be with us today.
May it guide us and protect us,
as we go our separate ways.
May the peace of God be with us today.**

DISMISSAL

P: Go forth into the world to serve God with gladness; be of good courage; hold fast to that which is good; render to no one evil for evil; strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honor all people; love and serve God, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

OFFERTORY RESPONSE



1 We give thee but thine own, what - e'er the gift may be;
2 May we thy boun - ties thus as stew - ards true re - ceive,



all that we have is thine a - lone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.
and glad - ly, as thou bless - est us, to thee our first - fruits give.

OFFERING PRAYER

P: Let us pray. Praise and thanks to you, holy God, for by your Word you made all things: you spoke light into darkness, called forth beauty from chaos, and brought life into being. For your Word of life, O God,

C: we give you thanks and praise.

DIALOGUE

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks and praise to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

~ COMMUNION ~

~ Hymn of the Day ~ "Here I Am, Lord"

Here I Am, Lord



1 "I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my peo - ple cry.
2 "I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my peo - ple's pain.
3 "I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.



All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save.
I have wept for love of them. They turn a - way.
I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.



I, who made the stars of night, I will make their dark - ness bright.
I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love a - lone.
Fin - est bread I will pro - vide till their hearts be sat - is - fied.



Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?"
I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?"
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?"



Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you



call - ing in the night. I will go, Lord, if you



lead me. I will hold your peo - ple in my heart.

Text: Daniel L. Schutte, b. 1946

Music: HERE I AM, LORD, Daniel L. Schutte

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THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P: Called to be a light to the nations, let us pray for God's justice, peace, and healing. (A brief silence.) Gather us in, gracious God. Bring together Methodist and Pentecostal, Baptist and Roman Catholic, Lutheran and AME-Zion. Form us in worship into your united people. Send us out as one in you, proclaiming your glory and serving all. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: Fed with bread and wine, Christ's body and blood, make us eager to care for your good creation. Send us to pick up litter from highways and lakeshores and protect animal habitats. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: We pray for all the nations of the world (*especially*). Help us to reach out to the places where the scandal of hunger resides. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: Quell the anxieties of all who wait for test results. Bring hope to all whose life is a struggle and filled with despair. Send us to care for those who suffer (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: Open us to see how our congregation abounds with every spiritual gift. Send us out to share our abundant gifts and proclaim your steadfast love. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: We thank you for the faithfulness of your prophets (*especially Martin Luther King Jr.*). Strengthen our faith in you. Send us out to proclaim and live your justice boldly. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: Receive these prayers in the name of Christ, the light of the world, who is one with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C: Amen.

PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

~ VIDEO DURING OFFERTORY ~
"How Great Thou Art!"
by Carrie Underwood