



Next Sunday, March 11th, begins Daylight Savings Time. Daylight Saving Time starts on the **second Sunday in March** of every year and ends on the **first Sunday in November**. **SPRING FORWARD!**



Capital Improvements Committee Members Needed

If you're interested in joining, please contact Craig Miller, Todd Strasser, Mike Banker or George Brunson.



We pray all service persons women, homeless and unemployed, shut-ins, our college students, military families, and those serving in the military. We pray for our friends, families, and loved ones,

especially: Aaron, Alyssa & Jarrett, Audrey, Ann, Aunt Bettie, Ava, Barb, Barry & Shelby, Beth, Beverly, Bonnie, Bob, Boyd, Brayton, Brian, Brett, Carter Gronau, Cindy, Claudine, Conley, Connie, Dawn, Debi, Denise, Dodi, Don, Donnte, Doug, Dustin, Eloise, Family of Jason Peckham, Family of Julie Leinderker, Florence, Gail, Gary, Gavin, George, Goeff, Harriet, Heidi, Hugo, Inez, Irene, Jammi, Janie, Jeff, Jen, Jessica, Jim, Joe, John, Julie, Kathy Mears, Kayla, Kelli, Kenny, Kevin, Kim, Kim S., Kris, Larry, Lauri, Linda, Lucas, Lyla, Marcia, Marion, Matt, Maureen, Mike Wetenkamp, Nancy, Pat, Patti, Richi, Robin, Roger, Ruthann, Sharon, Shelly, Ted, Ted & Irene, Tammy, Taylor, Teresa, Tim, Tina, Tom & Gale Miller, Tommy, Tracy, Trisha, Vicki, Vivian, Viola, Zach, Zak, and Zooley.



Our Annual Family Breakfast will be held on Easter Sunday, April 1st from 8-9:15am. If you would like to help donate an item, please see the tear-off sheet in the hallway. Thanks!

CALLING ALL CHURCH MEMBERS!

We're having a work 'day' to help beautify our church, inside and out! Sat., March 24th from 10am to Noon



Faith Lutheran Church

Faithfully Growing, Welcoming, and Caring through Christ
Sunday, March 4, 2018
 Third Sunday of Lent ~ 9:30 am

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: During the season of Lent we are called to return to the Lord with all our heart. Let us confess our sin and seek reconciliation with God and neighbor.

C: Amen.

P: *(A brief silence.)* Merciful God,

C: you sent Jesus Christ to save the lost. We confess that we have strayed from you and turned aside from your way. We fail in love, neglect justice, and ignore your truth. Have mercy on us and wash away our sin. Create in us clean hearts for the sake of Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

P: Behold now is the acceptable time; now is the day of salvation. Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

C: Amen.



OPENING HYMN

Be Thou My Vision



1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
 2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word;
 3 Rich - es I heed not, nor vain, emp - ty praise,
 4 Light of my soul, af - ter vic - to - ry won,



naught be all else to me, save that thou art:
 I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord.
 thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways:
 may I reach heav - en's joys, O heav - en's Sun!



thou my best thought both by day and by night,
 Thou my soul's shel - ter, and thou my high tow'r,
 thou and thou on - ly, the first in my heart,
 Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,



wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
 raise thou me heav'n - ward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.
 great God of heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.
 still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

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

C: And also with you.

INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

P: The third covenant in this year's Lenten readings is the central one of Israel's history: the gift of the law to those God freed from slavery. The ten commandments are one of the chief parts of Luther's catechism, a core piece of baptismal instruction. They begin with the statement that because God alone has freed us from the powers that oppressed us, we are to let nothing else claim first place in our lives. When Jesus throws the merchants out of the temple, he is defending the worship of God alone and rejecting the ways commerce and profit-making can become our gods.

C: Amen.

Wednesday Night Suppers

5:30pm - 6:30pm



Bring your family and come for a **FREE** simple supper! The Church has volunteers to prepare a nice simple supper, with dessert and beverage included. Free will offerings are accepted.

JUST COME!

Eat at 5:30, then enjoy a shortened worship service at 6:30. All are invited every Wednesday.

Our Wednesday evening services will focus on God's will in various dimensions: God's Promise, My Inadequacy, My Dreams, My Identity, My Worldview, and My Response. We will be reviewing the ***Small Catechism*** each week:

Here is the schedule: Feb. 21, The Ten Commandments; Feb. 28, The Apostles' Creed; March 7, The Lord's Prayer; March 14, The Sacrament of Holy Baptism and Confession; March 21, Prayer and the Sacrament of Holy Communion.

~ **Each of these services will only be 30-45 minutes in length.** ~



This money is used to help with emergency circumstances to help assist individuals or families. To donate to this fund, please use the envelopes in the pew, and write in
GOOD SAMARITAN FUND.



Butterfly Set-Up Day & EASTER EGG HUNT
 Saturday, March 31

2 exciting things on one day! We are looking for volunteers to help string up our Easter season butterflies from 10-11am. And, our Easter Egg

Hunt is from 1pm to 2pm. We are asking for wrapped candy donations to fill hundreds of Easter eggs! The box is in the narthex. Thank you!



MARCH BIRTHDAYS

7-Aubrey Miller, 7-Hayden Gruenberg,
 10-Dennis Kelce, 16-Aaron Miller, 20-Mike Murphy,
 26-Bailey Binder, 31-Aly Hatch, 31-Amber Miller



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

Communion is by intinction. Come forward by rows to receive the bread with an open hand then dip in the wine (dark) or juice (light). Gluten-free wafers are available - just indicate to Pastor when it's your turn. If you eat the bread before dipping or drop it, please ask for another piece. You don't have to be a member of Faith or be Lutheran to take Communion. Christ is the host of the meal ~ all baptized believers are welcome.

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

Financials Sunday, February 25 - Week #8

Attendance - 93

Weekly Offering Actual	\$1,746.71
Weekly Offering Budget	\$2,176.00
2017 YTD Actual Offering	\$18,750.84
2017 YTD Offering Needed	\$17,408.00

Today's Worship Leaders

Altar Guild - Carol & Roger Frey
Computer Technician - Anne and Rachel Strasser
Offering Video - Anne and Rachel Strasser
Reader - Nicole Blakeman
Counters - Laurie & Pat Wicks
Fellowship - Dawn and Mike Banker
Greeters - Mike and Cathy Murphy
Musician - Betty Comins
Ushers - Doug Congdon & Shawn Guffey
Pastor - Rev. Dr. Richard J. Meier



**Easter
Food Drive**

Annual Easter Food Drive

March 4 - March 25 for Caritas

Please bring canned or boxed food items to help those less fortunate. Thank you for helping!

**Karen Murr & Patti Dunaway
Social Committee Co-Chairs**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray. (*A brief silence.*) Holy God,

C: **through your Son you have called us to live faithfully and act courageously. Keep us steadfast in your covenant of grace, and teach us the wisdom that comes only through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Children's Church

FIRST READING: Exodus 20:1-17

A reading from Exodus, the 20th chapter.

God spoke all these words: I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; you shall have no other gods before me. You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments. You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not acquit anyone who misuses his name. Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work. But the seventh day is a sabbath to the LORD your God; you shall not do any work - you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it. Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you. You shall not murder. You shall not commit adultery. You shall not steal. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor. You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

R: Word of God, word of life.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

A Responsive Reading From Psalm 19

R: The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky proclaims its maker's handiwork.

C: One day tells its tale to another, and one night imparts knowledge to another.

R: Although they have no words or language, and their voices are not heard,

C: their sound has gone out into all lands, and their message to the ends of the world, where God has pitched a tent for the sun.

R: It comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber; it rejoices like a champion to run its course. It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens and runs about to the end of it again; nothing is hidden from its burning heat. The teaching of the LORD is perfect and revives the soul; the testimony of the LORD is sure and gives wisdom to the simple.

C: The statutes of the LORD are just and rejoice the heart; the commandment of the LORD is clear and gives light to the eyes.

R: The fear of the LORD is clean and endures forever; the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.

C: More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold, sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb.

R: By them also is your servant enlightened, and in keeping them there is great reward.

C: Who can detect one's own offenses? Cleanse me from my secret faults.

R: Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins; let them not get dominion over me; then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a great offense.

C: Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O LORD, my strength and my redeemer.

~ WORDS OF INSTITUTION ~

THE LORD'S PRAYER

~ COMMUNION ~

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: Compassionate God, you have fed us with the bread of heaven. Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage: may our fasting be hunger for justice, our alms, a making of peace, and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts; through Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

BLESSING

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

CLOSING HYMN

**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.**

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace.

 Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.



P: We pray for this assembly. For those preparing for baptism or confirmation, and for their families, sponsors, and faith mentors. For Bible study leaders and participants. For our elders in thanksgiving for the depth of wisdom and experience they offer. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: We remember with gratitude those who have gone before us (*especially*). Inspire us by their witness and example. Bring us with them into the joy of eternal life with you.

Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Trusting in your covenant of mercy, O God, we lift our prayers to you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C: Amen.

SHARING THE PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

OFFERING

~ VIDEO DURING OFFERTORY ~

"Come As You Are" by Crowder

OFFERTORY RESPONSE

*We give thee but thine own, whate'er the gift may be;
All that we have is thine alone, a trust, O Lord, in thee.
May we thy bounties thus, as stewards true receive,
And gladly as though blessed us, to thee our first-fruits give.*

OFFERING PRAYER

P: Let us pray. O God of justice and love, we give thanks to you that you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, awaken us to the needs of others, and at the end bring all the world to your feast; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever.

C: Amen.

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.

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 1:18-25

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

The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart." Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

R: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and
mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in
stead - fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

GOSPEL: John 2:13-22

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

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle.

He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. He told those who were selling the doves, "Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!" His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me." The Jews then said to him, "What sign can you show us for doing this?" Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." The Jews then said, "This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?" But he was speaking of the temple of his body. After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

P: The gospel of the Lord.

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

SERMON

"Commandments and the Cross"

Hymn of the Day

Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways



- 1 Oh, that the Lord would guide my ways to keep his stat - utes still!
- 2 Or - der my foot-steps by your word and make my heart sin - cere;
- 3 As - sist my soul, too apt to stray, a strict - er watch to keep;
- 4 Make me to walk in your com-mands, 'tis a de-light - ful road;



Oh, that my God would grant me grace to know and do his will!
 let sin have no do - min-ion, Lord, but keep my con-science clear.
 and should I e'er for - get your way, re - store your wan-d'ring sheep.
 nor let my head or heart or hands of - fend a - gainst my God.

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: Renewed in the promises of baptism, let us pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need. *(A brief silence.)* We pray for the church. Lead us faithfully in the way of the cross. Unite us as one body in Christ. Empower us with courage to speak out against injustice and greed, demonstrating with our words and bodies the love of Jesus. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: We pray for the world. For sheep, cattle, and all domesticated livestock. For wild creatures, service animals, and pets. Provide shelter, food, and safe drinking water for every living creature. Protect the earth from disaster and harm. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: We pray for the nations. Teach us to honor one another as you command. Protect refugees and immigrants fleeing from their homes in search of safety and freedom. Guide lawmakers, peacekeepers, and all who work toward reconciliation and justice. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: We pray for those in need. For those who lack what they need for daily life. For people whose lives are consumed by their possessions. For those who grieve, and for all who are ill *(especially)*. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.