

Joyful Eastertide!

“Fresh from the heavenly stream again
The sheep receive their mark
From Christ the Shepherd’s hand.
O water-born, go where the Spirit calls:
Seek unity, and all his gifts are yours.
You who have taken up the cross,
Avoid the tempests of the world:
So bids this place.” (Consignatorium inscription Fifth Century)



Easter announces that life is different now. The Resurrection event assures us that Death is replaced with eternal life! Sin is forgiven! Joy and Peace replace fear and anguish!

What does that mean for us? How are our lives different now? Belief in the Resurrection means that we can move forward in sure and certain trust that come what may God walks with us, proclaims peace for our souls and sends us out to be his witnesses in the world.

Our lives are different now. As we remember our baptism—“Child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever!” Gifted with Word and sustained by the Sacraments we can confidently serve God by serving our neighbor. We pray each week in the Prayers of the Church for the Church, the world, and all who are in need. We take these prayers into our places of service and practice serving by extending the hand of peace.

As a community of faith we are about to “reinvent” ourselves as we focus on opportunities to strengthen our fellowship/hospitality, worship and education ministries. A visible sign in the making is the new kitchen. This summer will see a transformation of the kitchen to better serve our congregation and community, to foster intentional fellowship, to provide hospitality and to recognize God’s invitation to gather together. Worship and education opportunities are also being enhanced.

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Keep the congregation in your prayers and **ask yourself, “What can I do? Where can I serve?”** as together we work for that promised better day.

Peace,

Pastor John Albertson

Faith Church News

We continue to pray for Joe Ampulski, Scott Behnke, Dean Ricklefs, Joyce Smith, August nephew of Katie Schafer, Lisa Smith Kovicic cousin of Deb Bell Geiser, Nick nephew of Catherine Dytrt.

Cedar Valley Habitat for Humanity is having a dedication of their 7th home in Marion on Wednesday, May 9th at 5:00 pm. All are invited to join them at 282 22nd Street. Also sign up now on the clipboard on the welcome table to volunteer for the next local Habitat project.



The next Fellowship Meeting is April 26th at 6:30 pm.

The Church Council will have a retreat on Saturday, April 21st from 8:00 am—noon.

Daytime Disciples will meet on Tuesday, April 24th at 1:00 pm. All women are welcome!

Marion Food Pantry is in need of these items: canned fruit, applesauce, cream of soups, boxed mashed potatoes, 1 lb. bags or boxes of brown or white rice. You can bring your items to church and drop off in the totes in the narthex.

Faith Farm Update

With the passing of Sonja, Feed Iowa First is still in disarray. We are still in the process of having the Faith Farm this year, but we are still in the planning phase with Feed Iowa First.

We will have a sign-up sheet out soon to adopt a row. We are not sure what kind of crop or crops we are going to grow. If you can't adopt a row, we are looking for people to transport the food to where it needs to go.

If you have any questions, please let Christy Pratt know. Thanks!



Kitchen Kickoff

Demolition will begin April 26th of the Faith Kitchen remodel. We will be hosting a “Kitchen Kick-off” on Sunday, April 22nd from 4:00-7:00 pm. We will eat at 5:00 pm with brats and sloppy joes provided. Please bring a side dish to share.

There will be a variety of ways you can help donate towards the cost of the project. “The Old and The New”

The Old— This is a cash and carry sale for items to be removed from our Old kitchen for you to bid on and take home. Items include: cabinets, counter tops, double oven, freezer, table and 6 chairs, etc.

The New— Be a champion of our New kitchen by pledging a donation for items on our wish list. Items include: commercial garbage disposals, faucets, microwave, new stackable glasses, etc. Or make a donation towards the cost of a cabinet, rolling plate cart or commercial ice maker.

The Water, The Witness

The Water, The Witness is the theme for the upcoming 2018 synod assembly. Faith is participating in the effort of shared witness to provide access to clean water to people who need it most.

Faith's blue bucket is located in the narthex and is available for donations now! Special thanks to David & Susan Cunningham for the special water pump design! This along with our collections will go to synod assembly in May and be added to collections from other local congregations.

We take for granted that we can quench our thirst at any water tap anytime without worrying about illness. Globally, 1 in 4 people – about 1.8 billion – drink from contaminated water sources. Water is essential. And the waters of baptism are a reminder of what this project is all about. Thanks for your support!

Parish Nurse

The next blood pressure and blood sugar check is May 13th between services in Pastor John's office.

If you would like to talk to me, you can e-mail Christy Pratt at parishnurse@faithlutheran.org or call me at 361-0445. All discussions are confidential!



VBS & Day Camp

For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God. –Ephesians 2:8

Campers will learn how God's grace changes brokenness and how we can work with others to show that grace to the world. Vacation Bible School and our EWALU Day Camp have the same theme as the 2018 ELCA Youth Gathering!

EWALU Day Camp welcomes children entering 1st – 6th Grades. The fee for Day Camp is \$40, and includes T-Shirt, daily snack and trip to Ewalu Camp.

Faith's Vacation Bible School is for pre-school to children entering kindergarten. The fee for VBS is \$20, and includes a T-Shirt. Snack and drink are provided daily.

Vacation Bible School **EWALU Day Camp**
July 9 - 12 **July 9 - 13**

THIS CHANGES EVERYTHING.

April Movie Night

Join us for Family Movie Night on Saturday, April 21st From 7:00-9:00 pm the all ages options in the Family Center is "The Greatest Showman" (PG) or for Bigger kids & Middle School in the Middle School room we have "Justice League" (PG-13).

For Middle School & Older in the Youth Room we have "Star Wars: The Last Jedi" (PG-13). The Grown Up Pick is "Murder on the Orient Express" (PG-13)



(Pre-K youth must be accompanied by parent or caregiver) Donations are always welcome to help pay for the snacks, come and join the fun family night!

WNL

Wednesday, April 19th –WNL with the Women's team for cooking and clean up.

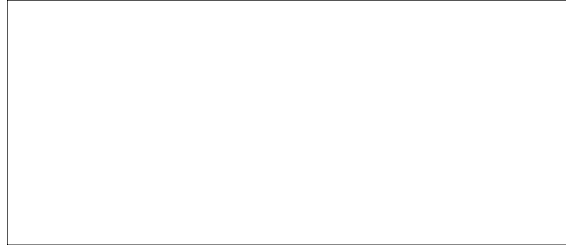
Wednesday, April 25th–WNL with the HS team for cooking and clean up. Year end celebration and Worship. Final WNL of program year!





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We are a community of Faith,
growing in Christ, sharing God's love.

Worship Opportunities

All are welcome and invited to worship at
Faith Lutheran Church.

Worship Times

Saturdays

5:30 pm—Worship

Sundays

8:00 am—Worship

9:10 am —Sunday School All Ages

10:45 am—Worship

Faith has been serving the Marion-Cedar Rapids area for more than thirty years; supporting local ministries such as the Marion Food Bank, Habitat for Humanity, and Senior Assistance Programs. We are in partnership with the 10,657 congregations, 28 Lutheran colleges and universities, 8 seminaries, 450 global missionaries and one of the largest non-profit social service networks in the United States; as well as Lutheran World Relief worldwide. All are ministries of the 5.2 million member Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

Faith Lutheran Church Staff

John A. Albertson

Senior Pastor

Jen Heinsius

Secretary

Diane Lehtinen

Choir Director

Jeff Geiger

Pastoral Intern

Daniel Stone

Director of Youth and Family Ministry

Steve Roggow

Bell Choir

Christy Pratt

Parish Nurse

Faith Lutheran Church Council Members

David Ripley

President

Jeff Ausman

Vice President

Paula Burley

Secretary

Karen Cain

Treasurer

Dave Koch

Financial Secretary

Diane Lehtinen

Director of Adult Nurture

Connie Bulman

Director of Worship

Kellie & Josh Osbeck

Directors of Youth

Barb & Chris Thompson

Director of Fellowship

Director of Witness

Mike Dautremont

Director of Facilities

Vicki Barnidge

Director of Youth Nurture

Christy Pratt

Director of Social Concerns

But most of the real work is done by unpaid members of the congregation, often without recognition, who see their service as a response to God.