



Christ Is Risen! He Is Risen Indeed!

This greeting may seem out of place. Easter is still a few weeks away. And yet every Sunday is Easter. In order to experience Easter, we must walk the way of the cross. This journey is called the Great Three Days or the Triduum. The one continuous service begins On Holy Thursday with the words of Jesus: “A new commandment I give to you to love one another.” The central action of this service is Holy Communion and foot washing. The service then moves to Good Friday. On Good Friday we stand silent before a bare chancel, recognizing again the stark reality of Jesus death for “us and for our salvation.” Easter evening we hold “Vigil” as we participate in a series of readings moving us from the darkness of Lent to the Good News of Easter, “Christ is Risen, He is Risen indeed.” In the Vigil service we experience a return to our baptism, we taste the life giving elements of Holy Communion, and we hear the proclamation of the empty tomb.

Truly, Holy Week is a gift. In the midst of our busy lives, we are given the opportunity to “keep watch” with our Lord as he travels the lonely road to Calvary. We are given opportunities for silent contemplation and adoration, examination and confession.

Luther in his toughest moments wrote “Vivit, vivit.” He lives, He lives. When asked what this meant to him, he said, “Jesus my savior lives. If he would not live, I would not live, I would not dare to live one hour longer, for since he lives we shall live through him,” for he said, “Because I live you shall live also.”

I encourage you to participate in all the services of Holy Week since really they are one. Participation enables us to experience death to life, condemnation to pardon, alienation to community.

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The powerful movement of Holy Week prepares us for the richness of Easter. In the Good News of Easter we are invited to step into the “new day” promise of abundant life here and hereafter.

Blessed Easter,

Pastor John Albertson



Faith Church News

We continue to pray for Joyce Smith, David (Joyce Smith's son)

We express our deepest sympathy to Deb Ausman and family on the recent passing of Jeff. Services were held here at Faith on Saturday, March 30th.

Stop by and say hello to Michael Olinger, Financial Associate with Thrivent Financial as he hosts "Donut Day" following our 9:00am worship service on Sunday, April 7, 2019. Donuts, rolls, coffee, and juice will be available in the narthex. Mike is a lifelong area resident and offers himself as a resource to our congregation.

Midweek Lenten Worship continues on Thursdays through April 11th at 6:00 pm in the Family Center with our soup supper and worship to begin at 7:00 pm. Please make plans to join us! Crosses will be available to take home Palm Sunday.

Holy Week Schedule

April 17th— 7:30 pm: Youth Mime Performance in Family Center (Choir Rehearsal @ 6:30 pm)

April 18th- 7:00 pm: Maundy Thursday Footwashing and Holy Communion

April 19th—7:00 pm: Good Friday

April 20th—9:00 pm: Easter Vigil (No 5:30 pm service)

April 21st —8:00 am & 10:30 am Easter Worship with Breakfast at 9:15 am

Library Likes



Our library has a shelf labeled "Donations." Yes, the Faith Lutheran Library is willing to take donations. The books need to be in good shape (not torn, battered, or smelly). Fiction and non-fiction are welcome. DVDs are okay, but VCR tapes? Not so much. If Pastor John decides the material isn't compatible with his sense of what we should be offering, he may recommend we donate it to a public library instead.

Donating huge numbers of books at one time will be hard for us to process, so just a few books at any one time is better. Questions?

Check with Deb Aldrich or Pastor John.

Fishing for Food

Faith Lutheran's Social Concerns Committee is finishing off a campaign for Lent entitled "Fishing For Food." We will like all members to help support our local Marion Churches Food Pantry by bringing items desperately needed for distribution at the Pantry and fill the bins that are located in the narthex on the cart.

What items are needed:

- *Canned Meat
- *Applesauce
- *Peanut Butter
- *Bags of white/brown rice
- *Toilet Paper
- *Kleenex
- *Toothpaste
- *Deodorant
- *Toothbrushes
- *Hand Soap
- *Canned Fruit
- *Instant Potatoes
- *Ramen noodles
- *Paper Towels
- *Shampoo/Conditioner



Food Pantry
Donations Needed

Faith Lutheran Reads

We will be organizing optional discussions about our book, *The Faith Club*, some time after Easter. The purpose of reading the book is to generate thinking about the various issues that these authors bring up, and some people may want to participate in a discussion to see what others might be considering. Since the discussions are a number of weeks away and the book is fairly long, one suggestion might be to bookmark a particular page or chapter that you would like to talk about so you easily find what and where something you want to bring up is located.

Thanks to all who are participating! If you would still like a copy of the book, talk to Deb Aldrich.



Buck a Chick

The Social and Concerns committee and Youth Ministry is actively teaming up for this year's Lenten project Buck a Chick. For every dollar given, the money will go towards buying a chick for a needy family. The family will keep the chick and raise it to produce eggs.

The family can either keep the eggs for themselves or take them to the market to sell for income. You can take a coloring sheet to color and we will display it around the narthex. We will have a friendly competition between the chicks (children), hens (ladies) and roosters (gentlemen) to see who can purchase the most chickens. The last couple of years, the hens won. Can they win again or will there be a new winner?



Parish Nurse Notes

The next blood pressure and blood sugar check is April 14th in the associate pastor's old office after service. Also, I am free to discuss any healthcare concern you may have. 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!

Faith Farm Update

Feed Iowa First picked corn and potatoes for us to plant and grow this year! We will be planting on May 5th with TBD. What to bring: shovel, hand tools, water to drink and buckets/ watering cans to water after planting. If you want to help plant but can't dig, we still want you to come and help. If you can't help with planting, we are looking for people to help with watering, weeding and pick or transport the food to where it needs to go. Just sign up at the Feed Iowa First table in the narthex. We need everyone's help in this wonderful cause! If you have any questions, please let Christy Pratt know. Thanks!

April Movie Night

Join us for Family Movie Night on Saturday, April 27th From 7:00-9:00 pm the all ages options in the Family Center is "Mary Poppins Returns" (PG) or for Bigger kids & Middle School in the Middle School room we have "Aquaman" (PG-13)

The Grown Up Pick is "A Dog's Way Home" (PG) (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.

Easter Breakfast Signup

The Youth will be serving Easter Breakfast beginning at 9:15 am on Sunday, April 21st. There will be egg bake, fruit, doughnuts, biscuits and gravy. There is a sign up on the welcome table in the narthex for egg bake donations. Free will donations will go to support the youth scholarships for upcoming camps and other events.

Wednesday Night Live

Wednesday, April 3rd —WNL with HS Team for cooking and clean-up.

Wednesday, April 10th —WNL w/Men's Team for cooking and clean-up.

Wednesday, April 17th—No WNL Mime Performance @ 7:30 pm.

Wednesday, April 24th —WNL w/Women's Team for cooking and clean-up.





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

Worship

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

Worship Times

Saturdays

5:30 pm— Worship

Sundays

9:00 am— Worship

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Wednesday, April 17th

Youth Mime @ 7:30 pm

Thursday, April 18th

Maundy Thursday Worship @ 7:00 pm

Friday, April 19th

Good Friday Worship @ 7:00 pm

Saturday, April 20th

NO 5:30 pm worship 9:00 pm Easter Vigil

Sunday, April 21st

Easter Worship @ 8:30 & 10:30 am

Easter Breakfast @ 9:15 am

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

Daniel Stone
Director of Youth and Family Ministry

Steve Roggow
Bell Choir

Christy Pratt
Parish Nurse

Faith Lutheran Church Council Members

David Ripley
President

Vice President
Deb Bell Geiser
Secretary

Karen Cain
Treasurer

Dave Koch
Financial Secretary

Diane Lehtinen
Director of Adult Nurture

Connie Bulman
Director of Worship

Dustin & Jenny VansCoy
Directors of Youth

Barb & Chris Thompson
Director of Fellowship

Marlene Pasker
Director of Witness

Mike Dautremont
Director of Facilities

Teresa Wilkes
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.