

# The Newsletter of Faith Lutheran Church

9608 US 301 North, Parrish Florida 34219

website: [office@faithlutheranfl.com](mailto:office@faithlutheranfl.com) Phone: (941) 776-1395

email: [office@faithlutheranfl.com](mailto:office@faithlutheranfl.com)

April, 2021



Rev. Patrick W. Poock  
Faith Lutheran Church



Many have been asking if we are going to have Strepitus on Good Friday. Actually no one is asking, I couldn't even remember its name until I looked it up.

The Strepitus is the loud bang that you may have heard at the end of some Good Friday services. When I was growing up the pastor would slam the altar book shut as hard as possible, some even take the book and throw it on the floor, that works especially well if you have tile or wood floors. I even saw one YouTube video where they had the organist lean both arms on the organ and hit every key at once in a cacophony of sound. Usually, the church is dark and everyone is silent and then boom out of nowhere comes this sound.

But what does it mean? Why is this a tradition in our churches? As I was searching the internet for examples of the Strepitus, I also found several sites that talked about its significance. There does not seem to be any clear definitive answer on when this tradition was started, or what exactly it signifies. However most sites gave 2 or 3 main ideas about the meaning. One of those ideas is that it is meant to symbolize the earthquake that happened the moment Jesus died. It is meant to signify the jarring fact that our Savior God has just died, all creation seems to let loose with a wail of mourning. There is a storm, an earthquake, the dead come out of their tombs. Even the curtain in the temple is torn in two, from top to bottom. The Word of God, through whom everything was made is dead. How can that be? This doesn't make any sense. The whole world shutters at the thought. The Strepitus in some small way tries to convey all of that.

Another idea is that it represents the closing of the tomb. It is like the door of a jail cell slamming shut, with a note of finality and despair. This massive stone, which no one could move is now ensuring that Jesus will never get out of the grave. We are lost, our hope is dead and lying in the tomb, sealed up for all eternity. At least that is what it felt like to the disciples and all who had been following Him.

One other idea is that it is the sound of judgement. God has judged Christ guilty of all of the sins of all of humanity and that is the gavel strike as He announces the verdict "Guilty!!!".

And it is in that verdict that we find hope. I think the Strepitus is all of this and more. Without the death of Christ, I would hear that gavel strike against me and all hope would really be lost.

CONTINUED

But we know that this is not the end. It is horrible, and we should not skip over it, or minimize it. This was the worst possible event in all of history. When Jesus cries out in agony "My God, My God, why have you forsaken me" those words are not just theater for us to gawk at, they are the rending of the heart and soul. They are word of the pain and agony of hell. They are what we would face if not for His intercession and atonement. We will leave the church in silence on the Good Friday and hopefully when we hear the Strepitus it will convict us of our sin and the price that was paid to forgive it. But come Sunday that jolt of despair turns into a joyful noise, for we are forgiven and free because He died for us. Blessed be the name of the Lord. AMEN.

Your Servant in Christ

*Pastor Poock*

## EASTER SUNDAY CELEBRATION

Come join us for Easter pastries and coffee between the services on Easter Sunday morning. There will **NOT** be a Bible Study on Easter. Instead from **9 am. until 10:15 am.**, we will have breakfast treats and beverages available for you to enjoy with friends and family. If you will be attending the 8 am. service, plan to stay a bit longer to enjoy some fellowship. Please arrive a few minutes early if you will be attending the 10:30 am. service. Come celebrate our Risen Lord!



### PLEASE NOTE:

Catechism will continue with Pastor on Wednesdays at 6:15 pm. except for Wednesday, April 21st and April 28th as Pastor will be on vacation. Please mark your calendars.

There **WILL NOT** be Bible Study on Wednesday, April 21st and April 28th, but there **WILL BE** Devine Service at 5 pm on those two Wednesdays.

**SUNDAY 8 AM. DIVINE SERVICES WILL BE CANCELLED AFTER EASTER.**

**FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING**  
**March 9, 2021**

The President called the meeting to order at 6 p.m.

**PRESENT:** President Glen Collier; VP Jim Jones; Recording Secretary Jean Roehrs; Head Elder Mert Janovec; Communication Chairman Kelly Freeman; and Pastor Pooch. Absent: Head Trustee Frank Swain, Financial Secretary Marilyn Howard, and Treasurer Judy Faries.

**Opening Devotions:** Pastor read and reviewed Psalm 5 based on the theme of shame. We are never put to shame because we are in Christ Jesus.

**REPORTS**

**SECRETARY:** Minutes of 2-9-21 approved as printed.

**TREASURER:** Absent due to illness. No report.

**FINANCIAL SECRETARY:** [Absent. Report distributed.](#)

**PASTOR:** The new altar paraments for Lent are in use. There is no change in the previously reported Holy Week services or in Pastor's Reserve Duty dates.

**VP:** A job description for a part-time **handyman** is completed and on file. Dave Benson has agreed to accept this position. He will report to Head Trustee, Frank Swain. All requests for service should be referred to the Head Trustee for assignment.

An agreement with the **remaining tenant** has been signed and is on file. He is to vacate the property by June 1.

**PRESIDENT:** Agner's Handyman Home Services LLC has submitted an estimate to install a **Coffee Bar** in the Great Room, to house three Keurig Coffee Makers, to be completed by summer. Mert **MOVED** to proceed with this project. **Motion** seconded and **carried** with all voting yes. Four microphones will be purchased for use in the sanctuary. It was also mentioned that additional microphones are needed for the Great Room. Glen has a bid from the Loop provider. Pastor will check with the audio-visual person who installed the speakers. Kelly **MOVED** we proceed with this project with a cost of up to \$3,000. **Motion** seconded and **carried** with all voting yes. Dave Benson will undertake making the **Altar Rails**. It was pointed out that Don Hagge has expertise in this area, also. The **Offering Boxes** have been installed. Jean will look into Prayer Cards for the slots on each box. **Voting Precinct:** do we wish to continue being a voting precinct? Jean **MOVED** we continue. **Motion** seconded and **carried** with all voting yes.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**CONTRACT SALE:** Completed.

CONTINUED

## NEW BUSINESS

**SEPERATION of CHURCH and STATE:** Pastor wished to clarify his speaking against the proposed **equal rights legislation**. His opposition is not political, it is scriptural, following the Word of God and His commands. He has also received questions about the **Covid 19 vaccine** as it uses stem cells. He explained that each must follow their own conscience; however, the stem cells used were clones, not actual stem cells. Kelly pointed out that at the time the original stem cells were harvested, abortion was illegal except to save the life of the mother; thus, they would have been harvested from therapeutic abortions.

## BOARD REPORTS

**COMMUNICATION:** Report on file. With the increased church attendance, the visits to the U-tube site have dropped. It was recommended to drop the Sunday Service video but to record the sermon so that it can be transcribed and sent to the shut-ins. Jim **MOVED** to accept this recommendation. **Motion** seconded and **carried** with all voting yes. Twenty-six **time and talent** sheets have been returned.

**ELDERS:** Report on file. **GriefShare** program will be completed March 28. Another series will be offered in late May.

**TRUSTEES:** Absent due to illness.

**LWML:** Packing Hygiene Kits April 8, 2021.  
Thank you to all who supported "Giving Hearts for Solve Homes."

**Book Review:** Members shared thoughts and impressions about *Joining Jesus on His Mission* by Greg Finke.

The next Council meeting will be **April 13, 2021** at 6:00 p.m.  
The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m. followed by prayer.

**Jean**

Jean Roehrs, Recording Secretary



To all using the kitchen for Great Hall activities:  
Please be sure to clean up the utensils, cups, serving trays, etc. before you leave the church. We are finding items air drying for a week or more and unwashed dishes sitting in the sink. There are plenty dish cloths and dish towels in the drawers to the left of the double sinks. We appreciate your assistance in helping us to keep a clean kitchen.



**Lutheran Women in Mission**

Our next meeting is planned for Thursday, April 8, with refreshments at 9:30 am. and Bible Study and business meeting at 10 am. All ladies of the church are invited to attend. Following our meeting we will be packing hygiene kits for the homeless children of Manatee County. We have towels and bar soap, but any other hygiene items are always needed.

**Many thanks to all who are donating to this vital LWML project.**



Many thanks to the 'Women of Faith' for their donation of 9 quilts to the LWML "Gifts from the Heart' for Solve Homes, also to those who donated baby items and to all who generously gave a free will offering to Solve Homes. We were delighted to send them a check in the amount of \$ 432.00 along with the quilts and baby items to help them serve and provide for unwed mothers.

**Sarasota Zone LWML Spring Rally is planned for April 17** at Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church. Registration and Refreshment will begin at 9 am. followed by Worship and Communion, Bible Study, Guest Speakers from Veteran Outreach Center, Inc., Luncheon and a Business Meeting. Registration is \$ 8.00. Please wear your Church name tag and masks will be required. If you would like to attend, please let Jean Roehrs (941-417-7693) or Margaret (941-776-1395) know by April 8th. We will be car pooling so please indicate if you need a ride. Hope to see many of you for an interesting day of learning and fellowship.

**PLEASE DON'T FORGET YOUR CURRENCY and/or CHANGE CONTRIBUTION TO MITES.**  
(Please NO half-dollars, foreign coins or really dirty coins)

**EASTER LILIES**

Thanks to all who requested Lilies to help make our Altar beautiful for the Risen Lord.



## This Month's Privileged Servants



### Altar Guild

Holy Thursday April 1 Arlene Gabrielson  
 Good Friday April 2 Martha Riedl

### **Wednesdays, 5:00 pm**

April 7 Eloise Schwarz  
 April 14 Alice Bowen  
 April 21 Eloise Schwarz  
 April 28 Alice Bowen

### **Sundays, 8:00 am**

April 4 Meta Green

### **Sundays, 10:30 am.**

April 4 Chris Stisser  
 April 11 Arlene Gabrielson  
 April 18 Chris Stisser  
 April 25 Arlene Gabrielson

### Elders

Holy Thursday April 1 5 pm. Mert Janovec  
 Holy Thursday April 1 7pm. Mike Freeman  
 Good Friday April 2 5 pm. Mert Janovec  
 Good Friday April 2 7 pm. Don Lannon

### **Assistant**

David Barber  
 Jeff Sattanno  
 Caleb Pooch  
 Curt McCarty

### **Sundays, 8:00 am.**

April 4 Tom Weiss **SUNDAY 8 AM. SERVICES ARE CANCELLED AFTER EASTER**

### **Sundays, 10:30 am.**

April 4 Don Hagge  
 April 11 Roy Heflin  
 April 18 Mike Freeman  
 April 25 Tom Weiss

### **Assistant**

Caleb Pooch  
 Ken Spirduso  
 Chris Lindau  
 Ken Spirduso

### Offering Counters

April 4 Unknown  
 April 11 Unknown  
 April 18 Unknown  
 April 25 Unknown

### **Wednesdays, 5:00 pm.**

April 7 Don Lannon  
 April 14 Dennis Steinke  
 April 21 Mert Janovec  
 April 28 Mike Freeman

### **Assistant**

David Barber  
 Joe Rawlinson  
 Jeff Sattanno  
 Curt McCarty

## Birthdays and Anniversaries

- 2 Annie Hold
- 3 Judith Bodmer, Rev. David Hinman
- 6 Tony Bowen
- 8 Richard Fredrick, John Reid
- 12 Ruth Pope
- 15 Rev. Lee Stisser, Richard Wormald
- 16 Max Mason, Lois Vanderbeck
- 19 Sarah Biebl, Sandy Underwood
- 20 Sandy Otto
- 22 David Benson, Isabella Johnson, Crissia Reay
- 24 Cheryl Ryan, Robert Wright
- 25 Jan Ruff
- 28 Mark Fluegge
- 30 Louis Courtney, Sara Ladwig



Special Birthday Blessings to  
Lois Vanderbeck on her 95th Birthday



- 2 Hanna & Milford Hughes (10 years)
- 16 Richard & Barbara Wormald (50 years)
- 16 Robert & Diana Wright (44 years)
- 23 George & Carol Priest (55 years)
- 24 James & Janice Johnson II (22 years)
- 26 Thomas & Renee Kaczmarek (18 years)
- 28 Dick & Barbara Russ (59 years)



## Opportunities for you to grow and become involved...



### Bible Study

### Bible Classes & Sunday School

Our **Sunday Bible Class** meets at **9:15 am** in the Great Hall led by Pastor Pooch. The scripture readings will be discussed in depth and you can ask questions too! *Come and have a cup of coffee with the group and join in the discussions.* The offerings received at this time go to benefit pastoral students at the Concordia Seminary.

Pastor also leads a Bible Study on Wednesdays at 3:30 in the Great Hall. They are studying the book of Galatians. Come and learn and then stay for the 5:00 Divine Service.



**Thursday Bible Study** is led by Elder Don Lannon, Jr. at 2 pm. in the Great Hall. They are beginning their study of the Gospels and how they interact. Everyone is welcome.

### Prayer Chain of Faith

#### Prayer Partners,

The Lord tells us to let our prayers rise before Him like incense. Please make your prayer needs known to the church office or to the prayer chairman and your requests/needs will be shared with the Prayer Partners who have joined the Faith Prayer Ministry. To be a member of this vital ministry, send an email to [jeanroehrs@msn.com](mailto:jeanroehrs@msn.com) and prayer requests will be sent to you via email. Thank you.

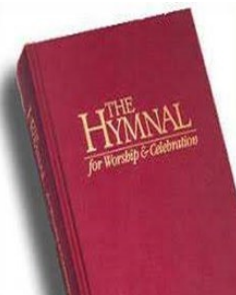


### CHURCH HYMNALS

Faith is once again providing an opportunity for individuals/families to purchase their own imprinted hymnal for study at home and use in the Divine Services. The hymnal cost is \$40.00 and is imprinted with your name/names. Pastor now makes the hymnal a vital part of our Divine Services.

If you have not purchased an inscribed Hymnal and would like to, please complete the form found on a the table in the Narthex and place it in the box provided with \$40.00 cash or a check made out to Faith Lutheran Church with Hymnal on the memo line. The church office will place an order for requested Hymnals the week of April 5th.

Order forms are on a table in the Narthex.





## HAPPENINGS AT FAITH



### WOMEN OF FAITH

Women of Faith received 17 quilt tops, twelve with backings and 1 craft apron from a Michigan snowbird in Clearwater. She brought her "stash" of fabric along and used it up for our ministry to the Redlands Christian Migrant Association after hearing about it in the Christmas Newsletter. What a blessing to us! Now we're once again in need of sheets for the inner linings. Bring them anytime to the storage closet between the bathrooms. Concerns or questions, please contact Marjorie Weiss 941-757-7307.

### SEWING FOR CHRIST

The dedicated ladies of Sewing for Christ are continuing to crochet and sew every Thursday, to provide items for organizations that help the under-privileged. They enjoy fellowship as they work to make a variety of needed items.

You are always welcome to join them each Thursday at at 10 am.

Please call Gloria 941-755-5092 for more information.



### FOOD BARREL DONATIONS

We need to continue to remember those less fortunate and keep our food barrel filled with paper products and canned goods.

**Many thanks to all who have been so generous in filling up our food barrel.**

Items of priority at this time are: **toilet tissue, canned fruit, bottles of fruit juice and toiletries.**

**Thank you once again** for helping this most worthy cause. Any questions, please call Martha Riedl at 941-479-2037.

Two new Keurig Coffee Makers are being installed with Green Tea, hot chocolate and a variety of coffees for all to enjoy. When the system is completely set up and ready for anyone to use, we will let you know and provide directions for the easy use of this new addition to our time of fellowship.



## GriefShare

Our first round of the GriefShare Program concluded on Sunday, March 28th. We want to thank all who made this Ministry successful. During this round we ministered to twenty-three individuals.

Our second round of GriefShare sessions will begin on Monday, May 3rd and conclude on August 9th. This round will be 15 weeks long, because we are going to include the "*Loss of a Spouse*" and "*Surviving the Holidays*" videos along with the other thirteen videos.

This second round will meet on Monday evenings between 6:30 PM and 8:30 PM in the Great Hall at the church.

If you know someone that has lost a spouse, close friend or relative recently that could benefit from attending this program, please ask them to please contact the church office between 9:00 AM and 12:30 PM Monday through Friday at 941-776-1395. The cost for attending this program is \$20.00, which covers the cost of the workbook, videos, etc. If that cost presents a personal hardship please talk with Mert to see if you qualify for a scholarship.

Mert Janovec, Head Elder, is the Director for this program. He is looking for people who desire to participate in the program, and for additional volunteers wishing to become Facilitators in this program.

Attending the sessions that begin on May 3rd will give you a better understanding of the tasks of a Facilitator. Anyone interested in becoming a Facilitator please contact Mert at 813-344-9775.

