

The Newsletter of Faith Lutheran Church

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Paul wrote in 2 Timothy 2:15 “Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly handling (or in the KJV dividing) the word of truth.”

So what does it mean to rightly handle or divide the word of truth? Both Martin Luther and CFW Walther speak of it this way;

“Distinguishing between the Law and the Gospel is the highest art in Christendom, and one that every person who values the name Christian ought to recognized, know, and possess.” – Martin Luther

“ Rightly distinguishing the Law and the Gospel is the most difficult and the highest art of Christians in general and of theologians in particular. It is taught only by the Holy Spirit in the school of experience.” – CFW Walther

Before we talk about why these two are so important it is necessary to define what they mean. In the newest version of Luther’s Small Catechism pg. 49 it defines them this way;

“The Law teaches us what we are to do and not to do; shows us our sin and the wrath of God; and must be proclaimed to all people, but especially to sinners who refuse to repent.”

“The Gospel teaches what God has done, and still does, in Jesus, for our salvation; shows us our Savior and brings God’s grace and favor; and must be proclaimed to sinners who are troubled by their sins.”

The most obvious part of the Bible that is Law is the 10 commandments. The most obvious part of the Bible that is Gospel is John 3:16. It is important to understand that these two work together to help us understand our salvation. It is also important to distinguish or divide their tasks. The law cannot save us from our sins, at best it can guide us to try to be better people, but even if we could follow the Law perfectly it could not save us, since we are born sinners. So often we think of Christianity as a list of laws, even if they are good laws. Be a good person, don’t steal, love your neighbor, love God. All of these are good things to do, but they are law. They are what God expects of us. But doing them will not save us.

Only the Gospel saves. God doing the work for us. He adopts us into His family through Baptism which is the application of the forgiveness of sins, which He won for us on the Cross and gives to us through the power of the Holy Spirit, whom He sent to us once He ascended to the right hand of God.

CONTINUED

When you listen to a sermon or read your Bible it is important to understand what you are reading. One of the most basic things you can use to help is determining if what is being said, or read is Law or Gospel. Is it something you are to do, then it is Law, no matter how pious it sounds, it is still law, it will not save. Initially all it can do is show us that we are sinners, deserving of the wrath of God and without hope. But then God gives us hope.

If it is about what God has done, or is doing, or will do, then it is Gospel. This is what saves us. This is what brings us hope and peace and Joy. God has done it all for us and then given it to us as a gift. We are forgiven, we do not need to fear the wrath of God, Jesus has stood in our place. We are children welcomed by our Heavenly Father into His kingdom.

Now that we know we are saved, now that we know our sins are forgiven, now that we have peace with God, we look for ways to thank Him. We look to the law and seek to follow it because that is what is pleasing to God. Now the law is no longer a burden but a blessing from God, because we have understood what the Law can and cannot do and what the Gospel always does. Therefore loving our neighbor and loving God as beloved children is not a burden we must do, but an opportunity to thank and praise, serve and obey the one who has given us the Gospel, the good news.

Understanding what is Law and what is Gospel is absolutely vital in understanding the joy of our salvation.

May His grace and mercy be with you always. Amen.

Pastor Poock



Sunday School and Youth Catechism will be on hiatus through the summer. They will begin again mid August when schools begin their next year.

Movie Night is also on hiatus until further notice.

Tuesday, June 7th is an Elder Retreat in Sun City Center (in lieu of Elder meeting and bible study on Monday, June 6).

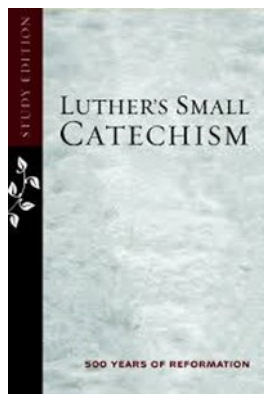
Faith is looking for a Sunday School Teacher to replace Pat Barlow. The volunteer/s will begin teaching mid August. If you are interested, please let Pastor know.



We are looking forward to our fifth Sunday May brunch. Although we are only expecting to serve about 60 people, we know it will allow lots of fellowship and a chance for members from all Divine Services to get to know each other better. Thanks to Chris Melchior, Carol Priest, Veronica Carezza and Margaret Greenslade for the Egg Strata they are preparing and to Kiah and Gwyn for preparing the sausage and the many volunteers for the fruit and sweet breads to accompany the strata and sausage. Special thanks to Annette Schander, Audey Krieg and Dana Ellerbrock for their volunteering to help serve and clean up .

Coffee Bites and good fellowship will be provided each Sunday following the 10:30 am Divine Service and everyone is welcome. We are very grateful to our volunteers who bring in the sweet treats for our Coffee Bites and always to Glen Collier for his donuts during Bible Study.

Free will offerings will help Fellowship to continue providing a variety of Keurig hot drinks and paper products needed.



Pastor will begin a new Catechism Class to be held on eight **Sundays** at 12 noon, beginning June 26th. This is an excellent opportunity to learn (or relearn) about what it means to be a Lutheran. The class is open to all. Luther's Small Catechism Books are available for study and learning at a minimal charge of **\$20.00**. For centuries, Christians have used three important texts as a basic summary for teaching the Christian faith and life: the Ten Commandments, Creed, and Lord's Prayer. Martin Luther also included biblical passages on Baptism, Confession, and the Lord's Supper. The Small Catechism, written by Luther in 1529, includes these texts along with brief explanations for teaching and learning. Books are available at the beginning of class.



FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH
CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES
May 10th, 2022

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

PRESENT: Vice President Jim Jones; Head Trustee David Benson; Secretary Laura Matson; Treasurer Barb Wikel; Communication Chairman Kelly Freeman and Pastor Pooch.

Absent: Glen Collier, Mert Janovec, Marilyn Howard,

Guests: John Neimi

Opening Devotion: Pastor gave the devotion from the "Minute Messages".

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORTS:

SECRETARY: Laura read her report from last month.

TREASURER:

Barb met with Christa Fox, the church accountant, and talked through the engagement letter. There are a few things we need to work on. There are a few items that can be automated.

We need to know where to send the Ukraine check.

Looking at a company called Gusto to do the payroll. It will cost \$39 per month plus \$6 for each person. That would be around \$80 a month for the company. Employees would receive pay through ACH. There was a motion to accept this company and it was passed.

There was a discussion on why the April income was down. It is probably because of some snow-birds leaving.

FINANCIAL SECRETARY: John provided the Fund Summary to the council

VP: Received notification from a company called Casto Net Leasing Properties LLC. There are looking to buy the property diagonally from the church.

PRESIDENT: No report.

PASTOR'S REPORT:

Prayer requests same. We have had a few members fall.

Pastors vacation may be changing. He will be gone June 12th.

Pastor's Military obligations will be from July 11 through 23 for the Annual Tour.

Pastor's appeal went into the military but he is not sure how long it will take.

Our Sunday school teacher is leaving after the May 15th Sunday. If anyone knows someone who would like to teach Sunday school let Pastor know.

Youth Catechism ending on May 22nd. Adult Catechism class starting on June 19th.

The Common Cup has been introduced with success at the 8:00 am on Sundays and 5:00 pm on Wednesday Services. Using the Chalice at the 10:30 am service will require an additional person to help distribute the Elements. At the 8:00 am there are about 1/3 of the people using the common cup.

There have been a couple younger families coming into the church.

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New member Sunday is tentatively set for August 28th.
May has 5 Sundays. Church on May 29th with be at 10:30 only with no Wednesday service.

BOARD CHAIRMAN REPORTS:

COMMUNICATION:

The newspaper ads are all straightened out. Griefshare has been in both papers.
The electric sign is all up to date.
The weekly emails are going well. There are 18-20 homebound people that are receiving the emails.
The Church Website and Facebook page are doing well.
The Esther movie is Friday May 13th. This will be the last movie for a while.
The Prayer Partners still could use a permanent coordinator.

ELDERS:

The church has an elder leaving and will be looking for someone to replace him.
GriefShare started on May 2nd and going well.
We are trying to solidify the date the Lutheran Heritage Pastor from Ethiopia will be preaching and leading Bible Study in August.

TRUSTEES:

The cabinets and counter tops have been installed.
The closers on the entrance doors need to be fixed. We are looking to buy new ones.
The new stove should be here the third weekend of May.
There will be an AC maintenance on May 19th.
We are still trying to figure out why the speakers in the back are not working.
Looking into the parking situation here at church.

LWML: No report.

NEW BUSINESS: None

OLD BUSINESS: None

The next Council meeting will be **June 14** at 6:00 p.m.
The meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m. followed by a prayer by Pastor.

FAITH PRAYER MINISTRY

Even in his anguish, Job knew where to turn for assistance crying out, *Even now, behold, my witness is in heaven, and he who testifies for me is on high.* (Job 16:19) Jesus is our advocate also, and will testify for us on high if we just call on His name. If you have prayer needs please make them 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 kellfreem@gmail.com and prayer requests will be sent to you via email. Thank you!





LUTHERAN WOMEN IN MISSION

MITE BOXES

Please continue to bring in your mite boxes to leave on the LWML table or drop them in the large MITE box. Please remember: NO foreign coins or half dollars. They jam the coin counting machines. Thanks to all who help to keep the Mite box heavy with their contributions.



The next Regular LWML meeting will be in September.

During June, July and August, LWML ladies are invited to come for lunch on the second Thursday of each month to fellowship and enjoy a meal at a local restaurant.

On June 9th, we will meet at Mila's on the Manatee, 965 Riverside Dr., Palmetto at 11:30 or if you need a ride, we can meet at Church at 11:00 and car pool. Please let Marilyn Howard (941-773-0309) know your intentions by June 8th as she must make reservations.

July 11th plans are for the Anna Marie Oyster Bar in Ellenton and August is TBD.

All Faith Church ladies are encouraged to join us.



Women of Faith

Have a sewing machine, but you don't want to attend our bi-monthly meetings?

Would you consider sewing our lap robes at home?

We can provide backings, linings, labels and pre-cut squares already laid out.

You just have to sew and iron.

You can do as many or as little as you like.

Ladies here at the church can tie the completed project.

Please contact Margorie Weiss at 941-757-7307 or stop by the church the second or fourth Wednesday of the month for more information.



This Month's Privileged Servants



Altar Guild

Wednesdays, 5 pm.

June 1 NO SERVICE
 June 8 Susan Barber/Monica Carena
 June 15 Eloise Schwarz
 June 22 Alice Bowen
 June 29 Susan Barber/ Monica Carena

Sundays, 8 am.

June 5 Meta Green
 June 12 Janie Zanella
 June 19 Monica Carena
 June 26 Gwyn Pock

Sundays, 10:30 am.

June 5 Deborah Haney
 June 12 Chris Stisser
 June 19 Nancy Niemi
 June 26 Kiah Pock

Elders

Wednesdays, 5 pm.

June 1 NO SERVICE
 June 8 Mike Freeman
 June 15 Roy Heflin
 June 22 Mike Freeman
 June 29 Mike Freeman

Worship Assistant

Curt McCarty
 Jeff Sattanno
 Joe Rawlinson
 David Barber

Sundays, 8:00 am.

June 5 Tom Weiss
 June 12 Dennis Steinke
 June 19 Dennis Steinke
 June 26 Tom Weiss

Sundays, 10:30 am.

Ray Gilbert
 Ray Gilbert
 Dennis Steinke
 Roy Heflin

Worship Assistant

Caleb Pock
 Gary Bonadurer
 Chris Lindau
 Chris Lindau

Offering Counters

June 5 John Niemi, Judy Sattanno, Carol Schreiber
 June 12 John Niemi, Marilyn Howard, Bonnie Wright
 June 19 Arlene Gasper, Marti Katterhenry, Bob Biebl
 June 26 Larry Colton, Marilyn Howard

Birthdays and Anniversaries

- 1 Renee Kaczmarek
- 2 Ray Gilbert
- 3 Mildred Edney, Greg Gasper
- 5 Verna Barber, Steve Yuras
- 6 Janie Zanella
- 7 Paul Schander
- 9 Uwe Porth
- 13 Kimberly Carezza
- 14 Gloria Calvelo-LiBrizzi, Stuart Lindberg
- 15 Nancy Niemi, Terry Jones
- 19 Judith Dappen
- 20 Monica Carezza
- 21 Karen Meyer
- 22 Don Sanguedolce, Carli Zygowicz
- 28 Diana Manning



- 1 Max & Nancy Mason (43 years)
- 3 John & Sandra Bessey (55 years)
- 7 Curt & Toni McCarty (57 years)
- 10 Don & Lois Lannon Jr. (50 years)
- 13 Harry & Helen Wallace (24 years)
- 18 Jack & Carol Dressel (56 years)
- 20 Roy & Susan Heflin (42 years), David & Lisa Ladwig (35 years)
- 21 John & Nancy Niemi (47 years), Brad & Pixie Reay (53 years)
- 26 Ralph & Norma Grotelueschen (57 years)
- 27 Tom & Pat Barlow (63 years)
- 29 Kenneth & Paulette Natzke (59 years), Jeff & Judy Sattanno (37 years)
- 30 Tony & Alice Bowen (38 years), De Witt & Barbara Gorman (54 years)



WE WANT TO REMEMBER AND THANK ALL OUR MILITARY VETERANS
 as we say good bye to the month of May and look forward to July 4th.

Memorial Day

2022

ARMY

Charles Anderson *
 Richard Bartelt *
 Bill Belejack *
 Gary Bonadurer
 Norm Bothun
 Charles Clapp *
 Jack Conte
 Jack Dressel
 Leo Drozdowsky
 Kenneth Fine *
 Greg Gasper
 Wayne Harden *
 Gary Hold *
 Ronald Koenig
 Don Lannon, Jr.
 Jason Laser
 Vincent LiBrizzi *
 Garret Littlejohn *
 Bob Overmyer *
 Kaarlo Pollari *
 Daniel Pope
 Uwe Porth
 George Priest
 Rick Ross
 Dick Russ
 Rev. Lee Stisser
 Janene Swain
 Brad Teitelbaum
 Dave Underwood
 Robert VanCleave *
 Harry Wiedenmeyer
 Larry Wikel

NAVY

David Barber
 Alvin J. Barto
 George Case *
 William Costello
 Lou Courtney
 Bill Dappen
 Bill Faries *
 Judy Faries *
 Richard Fredrick *
 De Witt Gorman
 Mert Janovec
 Bill Katterhenry *
 Ray Lesoine *
 Chris Lindau
 Roger Melchior
 Eric Simmons
 Frank Swain
 Frank Toy
 Stephen Yuras

MARINES

Bill Adkins
 Tom Barlow
 Herbert Edson
 Robert Wyman

AIR FORCE

Gordon Crepeaux *
 Jerry Gibson *
 Don Greenlee *
 Don Kinzie
 Stuart Lindbert
 Shawn McAnally
 Paul Meyer
 John Niemi
 Gwyn Pook
 Richard Wormald

NATIONAL GUARD

John Hicks
 Greg Litzo
 Richard Fredrick (Air)
 Darrell Krohn (Army)
 William Otto (Army)
 Steve Toste (Army)



*If we missed anyone or
 any information, please
 accept our apology
 and contact the church
 office so we can update
 our records.*

***Deceased**



Please let Dave Benson, Trustee, know of any concerns or suggestions for the good of Faith by filling out a Maintenance Repair Request found on the store room door in the Great Hall and Dave will research your concern or suggestion and handle the situation. We ask that all requests be done in writing.

Thank you.

Dave recently installed our new Electric Range in the kitchen which replaces the big gas stove. It is a four burner range with one warming area and a large oven and broiler. Groups may use the range, we just ask that you clean up any spills or messes you make and sign up to use the stove on the sign up sheet provided.



PLEASE, remember to sign the burgundy Attendance book each time you attend church, indicating each family member attending. The church is required to keep and report our attendance numbers each year to LCMS. If you are a MEMBER or ASSOCIATE MEMBER (families who have a Church home in Florida and one up north), please check that box. If you are visiting, please sign and legibly write your address as we like to send you a 'thank you for visiting' letter on your first visit. We will not include you on any other mailings, unless you request it.

A huge thank you to everyone who contributes items for our Food Barrel every week. What a blessing it is for the less fortunate families in Manatee County that we can help them in this small way. Items of priority at this time are: paper towels, toilet tissue, canned fruit, bottles of fruit juice, and peanut butter. Thanks to you and to Larry Colton who sees that all your donations are delivered to the United Methodist Church here in Parrish.



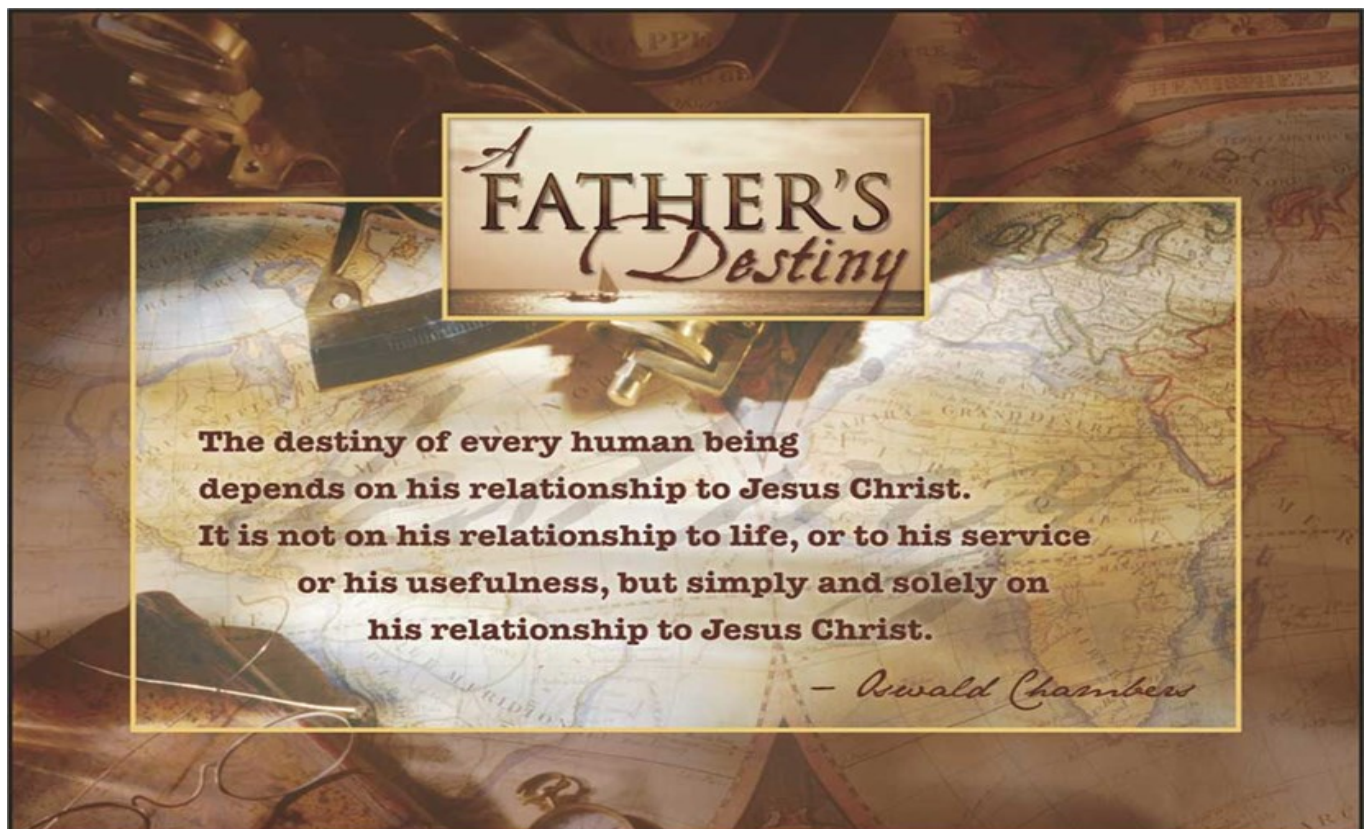
GRIEF SHARE

Our fourth round of the GriefShare Program began on Monday, May 2nd. We want to thank all who make this Ministry successful. To date we have nine individuals who need our help to move through their grief.

We are meeting 6:30 to 8:00 pm for 13 Mondays 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 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 Paula or Margaret 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. Volunteers wishing to become Facilitators in this program are asked to call Mert at 813-344-9775.





JUNE 14, 2022, is FLAG DAY

On May 30, 1916, President Woodrow Wilson issued a presidential proclamation establishing a national Flag Day on June 14. Many Americans celebrate Flag Day by displaying the Red, White and Blue in front of homes and businesses. The day commemorates the adoption of the Stars and Stripes as the official flag of the United States.

Do you know the flag's history?

According to American legend, in June 1776, George Washington commissioned Betsy Ross, a Philadelphia seamstress to create a flag for the new nation in anticipation of a declaration of its independence.

On June 14, 1777, John Adams spoke about the flag at a meeting of the Continental Congress in Philadelphia., He said, "Resolved, that the flag of the thirteen United States shall be thirteen stripes, alternate red and white; that the Union be thirteen constellation." There have been twenty-seven official versions of the flag so far; stars have been added to it as states have entered the Union. The current version dates to July 4, 1960, when Hawaii became the 50th state.

Many Americans sing, pledge, and pay respect to the flag, "Old Glory", as a symbol of the country's democracy and independence. Saluting the flag is a way to celebrate and honor the United States of America.

