



The Newsletter of Faith Lutheran Church

9608 US 301 North, Parrish Florida 34219
website: faithlutheranfl.com Phone: (941) 776-1395
email: office@faithlutheranfl.com

March, 2023

Grace, mercy and peace to you from our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen

Recently I have been talking about the fact that we are not residents of this world, but really foreigners in a foreign land, Paradise is our home. In the book of Hebrews chapter 11, the writer talks about all of the Old Testament Patriarchs who lived by faith, having never seen the Messiah, but living in the hope of His coming. Because their hope was not of this world the writer of the book of Hebrews says :

All these people were still living by faith when they died. They did not receive the things promised; they only saw them and welcomed them from a distance, **admitting that they were foreigners and strangers on earth.** ¹⁴ People who say such things show that they are looking for a country of their own. ¹⁵ If they had been thinking of the country they had left, they would have had opportunity to return. ¹⁶ **Instead, they were longing for a better country—a heavenly one.** Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, **for he has prepared a city for them.** Heb 11:13-16

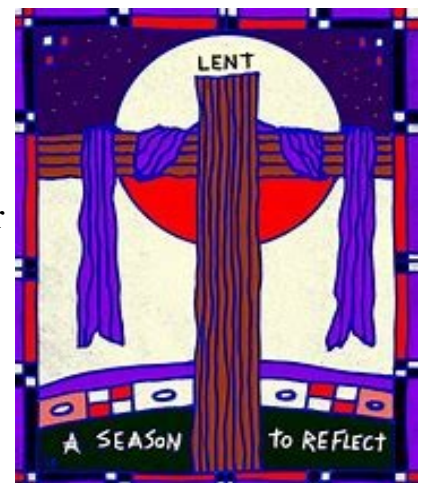
In this month's Reporter (the official newspaper of the LCMS) there is a sermon from April 6, 1541 by Martin Luther. The opening paragraph of the sermon states:

Jesus says, "You've seen what kind of office I've carried out on earth, that I was sent by My Father, **that I should begin a spiritual kingdom** against the devil, sin and the power of death, so that those who believe in Me may have eternal life. **I have done this not for any secular government. Indeed, I was even murdered by the world and cast out by it.** But now through My resurrection I have entered into glory so that I may reign eternally over all creatures at the right hand of God the Father. **Therefore, I now send YOU also, that you would be My ambassadors, not concerning secular matters, but to carry out and exercise the very same office I carried out, to preach the Word,** which you have heard and received from Me. This is an office by which people are saved from sin and death, people who feel sin and death and want help.

His text is from John 20:21-23

²¹ Again Jesus said, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, **I am sending you.**" ²² And with that he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive anyone's sins, their sins are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven."

Also in the Reporter is an announcement of the theme of this years Synodical convention "**We preach Christ Crucified**" which is from 1 Cor 1:18-25 where Paul contrasts the wisdom of God with the foolishness of man.



Until we reach our home, through our death or His return, we are called to be ambassadors of Christ. All ambassadors have an Embassy and so do we. The Christian church on earth. When we gather together in the sanctuary of our church building we gather to hear the message of our King and Savior, to be strengthened in our journey and to be encouraged to share Christ with everyone we meet in the foreign land we live in so that we might bring others into new citizenship with Christ. Where ever God's people gather, there is the Kingdom of God. And when we gather we want to focus on "Christ Crucified" and nothing else. Everything we see, everything we say and everything we do is focused on the One who has come to save us, Jesus Christ our Lord and who has promised to take us home. I pray that every time we gather together, the hope of our eternal life is seen and heard, that you might be strengthened for your journey of faith in this foreign land we live in. May the peace of God be with you all. Amen.

Pastor Pooch



Faith is in need of a LARGE wheelchair (seat should measure 22 or 24 inches). One of our parishioners would like to attend church, but needs a wheelchair. If you have one or know of someone who has one, please let the secretaries know by calling 941-776-1395.

Movie Night for March is showing a movie with an Easter theme. It is being shown on March 10th at 6:00 pm., with Pizza being served at 5:30 pm. in the Great Hall.

PLEASE BE SURE TO SIGN UP TO HELP US KNOW HOW MANY WILL BE ATTENDING.



**FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH
CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING
FEBRUARY 14, 2023**

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH
CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING
FEBRUARY 14, 2023

Present: President Glen Collier, Financial Secretary John Niemi, Treasurer Barbara Wikel, Recording Secretary Jean Roehrs, Outreach Caleb Poock, Elders Mert Janovec, Pastor Poock.

VP vacant, Absent Trustee Dave Benson.

The President called the meeting to order at 6 p.m. A quorum was present.

Opening devotions by Pastor focused on the truth that God's grace is for all; we are all equal in His sight. Prayers for members in need.

The minutes of January 10, 2023- were approved as printed.

Financial Secretary and Treasurer's reports were filed. The financial secretary requested that dedicated funds for Poinsettias and Easter Lilies be combined into one account labeled Holiday Fund. Approved by consensus. The treasurer reported that all funds from 5th Third Bank have been transferred to LCEF. The finance committee will be recommending how to invest these for maximum return.

Pastor's discretionary fund and expenses: A debit card is needed for immediate requests; a credit card for other expenses, i.e. conferences. The treasurer will secure these.

Pastor reported that the bell choir will present at Easter as well as a vocal choir. There is another infant baptism scheduled in March. An adult confirmation class

began on February 16. A volunteer Sunday School teacher has been found. Pastor will be having sinus surgery on April 26. Pastor's Reserve duty runs from April through September. A vacation to Alaska is planned for late May or early June. Junior confirmation will be in September. Pastor has been invited to teach a two-week seminary class in South Sudan sometime over the summer. The council encouraged him to pursue the opportunity. The cost will be approximately \$3,500. The Revelation Bible study will continue during Lent except for Ash Wednesday. After-service meals will be served weeks 2-6.

CONTINUED

VP: Vacant

President: We need to all be going out into the Harvest Field to spread the Gospel to everyone

Commutations/Outreach: Would like to explore the spiritual impact of Lutheran Theology. Will be compiling a list of outside resources-possibly on the website- for individual outreach. Interested in reaching out to youth and young adults. The President questioned if more secretarial help was needed to provide for communication needs. This will be explored.

The **Elders** are looking into starting a men's ministry; LLL was suggested. They are also looking for men qualified to serve as Elders. Criteria include attendance at Bible Classes and a mature faith. The Elders and Council will be hosting the March 1 Lenten dinner. GriefShare continues with 14-15 attending.

LWML is currently collecting for Redeeming Life, an LCMS maternity home in Sanford, FL. A representative will speak at the March 9 meeting followed by a luncheon. They are also sponsoring a collection of sweaters and jackets for infants to 5 years for Redlands Migrant Ministry. The congregation is encouraged to join in with the collections.

Trustee Report: Absent.

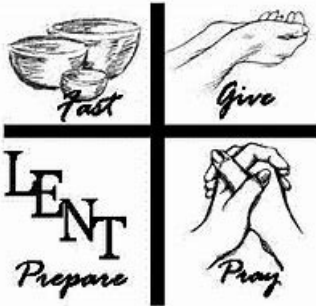
Directory: Plans are to have a password protected directory online for members to access. More information to follow.

Pastor offered prayer and the meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Jean E Roehrs

Jean E Roehrs, Recording Secretary





PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

Ash Wednesday Service, **February 22**, at 5 pm. and 7 pm.

Lenten Services: Wednesday, **March 1, 8, 15, 22, and March 29**, at 5 pm.

with a light meal to follow.

Palm Sunday Services: Sunday, **April 2** at 8 am. and 10:30 am .

Holy Week Services: Holy Thursday, **April 6** at 5 pm. and 7 pm.

Good Friday, **April 7** at 5 pm. and 7 pm.

Easter Services: Sunrise Sunday Service, **April 9** at 8 am.

Divine Service at 10:30 am.



Adult Catechism Classes are now meeting on Thursdays at 6:30 pm. in the Great Hall for 6 more weeks.

Pastor's 3:30 & 6:30 pm Wednesday Bible Studies **will continue** to meet every Wednesday in March

FOOD BARREL DONATIONS



Many thanks to all who have been so generous in filling up our food barrel. Items of priority this month are: **toilet tissue, canned fruit, bottles of fruit juice and toiletries.**

Larry Colton is volunteering his time to work with the United Methodist Church of Parrish to provide for homeless and needy families here in Manatee County who need paper products and food items. Larry will be delivering our food barrel items to the Methodist Church weekly. Please be generous and let's keep the FOOD BARREL overflowing.

Opportunities for you to grow and become involved...

Bible Classes



Bible Study

Our **Sunday Bible Class** meets at **9:15 am** in the Great Hall led by Pastor Poock. We are going over the scripture readings in depth. *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 Poock's **Wednesday Bible Classes** meets at 3:30 & 6:30 pm. on Wednesdays in the Great Hall. They are studying the book of Revelations. Come and join us to better understand the Bible teachings.



The **Bell Choir** is practicing in the Sanctuary every Thursday, 6-7:30 pm. in preparation for Easter Services.



Faith's Vocal Choir is now meeting on Saturday's at 10:00 am. in preparation for their part in the Easter services under the direction of Mike VanVelzer (913-754-6112).

Lent



EASTER LILIES



Lilies will be ordered to decorate the sanctuary for Easter Sunday again this year. You may purchase the lilies for **\$8.00** per pot and take them home after the late service on Easter Sunday. Please indicate on the form provided on a table in the Narthex if your order is in honor or memory of a loved one/s or simply to the Glory of God. Orders with payment may be placed in the box provided. The deadline for orders to be received will be **March 1st.** We will only be purchasing the number of plants that have been ordered (no extra plants).

Questions or concerns should be addressed to Janie Zanella at **518-332-8474** or email jez9189@yahoo.com

CHURCH NAME TAGS

If you are a member or an associate member of Faith and have not yet requested a name tag, please complete the name tag form (found on a book shelf on the East side of the Narthex), select the style wanted and enclose cash or check (payable to Faith Lutheran) in an envelope, then place it in the box provided in the Narthex. We are a friendly Church family and wearing a name tag allows everyone to feel a little friendlier.



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 Jean Roehrs at jroehrs27@gmail.com and prayer requests will be sent to you via email. Thank you.



This Month's Privileged Servants



*Faith Lutheran Church
Parish, Florida*

Altar Guild

Wednesdays, 5:00 pm 7:00 pm
 March 1 Alice Bowen
 March 8 Eloise Schwarz
 March 15 Susan Barber/Monica Carezza
 March 22 Gwyn Pook
 March 29 Alice Bowen

Sundays, 8:00 am
 March 5 Martha Riedl
 March 12 Meta Green
 March 19 Janie Zanella
 March 26 Monica Carezza

Sundays, 10:30 am
 March 5 Nancy Niemi
 March 12 Chris Stisser
 March 19 Debbie Haney
 March 29 Kiah Pook

Offering Counters

Elders

Sundays, 8:00 am

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

Sundays, 10:30 am.

March 5 Jack Conte
 March 12 Chuck Moore
 March 19 Chuck Moore
 March 26 Chuck Moore

Wednesdays, 5:00 pm.

March 1 Mert Janovec
 March 8 Mike Freeman
 March 15 Mike Freeman
 March 22 Jack Conte
 March 29 Mike Freeman

March 5 John Niemi, Carol Schrieber
 March 13 John Niemi, Judy Sattanno, Stu Lindberg
 March 20 Marilyn Howard, Bonnie Wright, Marti Katterhenry
 March 27 Larry Colton, Jean Roehrs

Assistant

Chris Lindau
 Chris Lindau
 Caleb Pook
 Caleb Pook

Assistant

Jeff Sattanno
 David Barber
 Joe Rawlinson
 Curt McCarty
 Jeff Sattanno



Birthdays and Anniversaries

- 1 Xander Lindau
- 3 Trudy Hitsman
- 4 Toni McCarty
- 5 Betty Piepenbrink
- 6 James Johnson II
- 8 Teena Ross
- 10 Jane Clapp
- 13 Bob Kostic
- 17 Robert Biebl
- 18 Lorri Guy, Jason Laser
- 20 Mary Meyer and Barbara Russ
- 21 Barbara Wikel
- 22 Maurita Wertz, GraceAnn Simmons
- 23 Leo Drozdowsky
- 29 Martha Riedl
- 30 Don Hill
- 31 Susie Cashon



Special Wishes to:
Betty Piepenbrink on her 94th,
Mary Meyer on her 92nd Birthday and
Leo Drozdowsky as he celebrates
his 95th Birthday.

- 27 Paul & Annette Schander (58 years)



HAPPENINGS AT FAITH**WOMEN OF FAITH**

Women of Faith are continuing to produce lap-robies from all the donated materials. It's amazing, even to us how beautiful they can turn out from random colors and patterns.....God's handiwork! At the present time, we can always use more volunteers and especially sewers. Could you do some hand quilting/tying at home at your leisure?

Contact Marjorie Weiss at 941-757-7307 or come to the church the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month 9-11:00 am.



Women in Mission (LWML) will meet Thursday, March 9h. Refreshments at 9:30 am; meeting begins at 10 am All ladies of the church are invited to attend to hear guest speaker, Shirley DeWitt, Director of Redeeming Life Ministries, at 11:00 am
Come and share with us her mission and the purpose of
Redeeming Life Maternity Homes.

If unable to attend, please deposit your mite contributions into the large mite box on the LWML table.

Mite Boxes

We want to thank those of you who so generously contribute to our LWML Mites. Based on the Biblical account of the widow's mite (Luke 21:1-4), the Mite Box is intended for regular contributions of 'mites' offerings above and beyond the support given to congregation and the LCMS. The idea is to put your coins in the mite box at the end of each day. Say "Thank you" with an appropriate amount whenever calamity or misfortune has been averted. Empty all your loose change from your coin bowl into the box on a specific day of the month and bring your mite box to the church where you can leave it and take a new mite box or put it into the large Mite box. LWML ladies take the coins to the bank for counting. The bank counting machine DOES NOT accept half dollars nor any foreign coins. So please in your generous donations, be sure you are giving semi-clean **U.S. coins**. The coins are converted to dollars which make it easier for our financial counters here at the church to deposit and then Faith LWML sends a check to the LWML FL-GA district to fund district and national mission grants.



Ladies of LWML are invited to attend Lakeside Lutheran Church, Venice Spring Rally on Saturday March 11th, 2023. Registration and \$10.00 are required by February 28, so we have time to mail it in for March 5th. Hope if you are planning on attending, you have let Margaret know. It should be an interesting time of learning. The theme is Beach, Bible, Belonging, based on Psalm 146:6. Gifts from the Heart recipient will be Venice Area Pregnancy Center. They are requesting new and gently used clothing (socks and underwear sizes 2-6 T, diapers of all sizes, baby shampoo, oil and shampoo). NO baby food. Group rides will be available and discussed at the March 9th LWML meeting.

The Fall Rally will be on October 21st at Beautiful Savior, Sarasota. There will be a district retreat, September 22-24 at St. Augustine, FL.

The Month of March, LWML will be collecting new and gently used jackets, sweaters, sweat shirts, pants and NEW socks and underwear for boys and girls (toddlers through age 5) for Redland Christian Migrant Association youth. Please leave any donations on the table in the Narthex. The ladies will deliver these items in April and meet for lunch following the tour of Redlands. All church ladies are invited to attend.



GRIEF SHARE

GriefShare continues to meet on Monday evenings at 6:30 pm. with 12 - 15 people joining us. Everyone seems to be getting through their grief and moving on with their lives. This session will go through April 4th. We are still in need of facilitators. It's truly a heart warming time, sharing and helping others get through their time of loss. Please call the church office if you find you can share your time on Mondays from 6:00 to 8:00 pm. for just 13 weeks.





Fellowship News

We continue to enjoy coffee, coffee bites and fellowship on Sundays following the 10:30 am Divine Service. Monica calls our volunteers who graciously donate their time to providing goodies to go with our coffee and orange juice.

Our Fifth Sunday Breakfast Brunch Luncheon on January 29th was a big success, thanks to all the ladies who contributed delicious food items of egg casseroles, stratas, fruit and breakfast breads, and to those who helped set up and clean up.

The meal was attended by 90 Faith members and friends.

Our next fifth Sunday meal will be April 30.
Hope you'll be there and we can feed more than 100.

Special thanks to all Church Volunteers who were acknowledged with cupcakes and cookies on February 12th.

