

The Good News

Monthly Newsletter of Faith Lutheran Church and
St. John's Lutheran Church – Hamburg

March 2024

What Are Some of Your Memories of Easter?

When my brother and I were young, my mother had a tradition of hiding Easter baskets in the house and we had to find them. As the years went on, she had to find more and more inventive ways to hide the brightly colored basket of goodies. One year she hid them in the stove; the next year she worked hard to sneak into our rooms and hide them under our beds. My brother and I looked all over the house. Ultimately, she started giving us hints. When we finally did find them, we could not believe that she actually managed to place them right under our very noses.

Family traditions around Easter can be fun and memorable blessings. No matter what tradition you may have or want to start we can praise God for the best blessed memory of all existence: that is Jesus Christ conquered death and the devil, and the gift of heaven is ours by grace through faith in Him. Jesus taught several times before His death and resurrection that all this was going to happen to Him. After His Resurrection He reminded his disciples in Luke 24:44: *“Then he said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled.” Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, and said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that repentance for the forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things.”*

In times of death, disaster, and discord, may we remember that God fulfilled His word, and that Jesus Christ conquered every difficulty even death and the grave. May we daily remember that because of His own Son's death and resurrection that God will remember our sins no more (Hebrews 10:14-18). May we remember that every time we worship that we celebrate the Lord's victory of life over death. May we remember that you and I, as God's family, are still alive and breathing so that in some way we may reach out with all of God's Word and witness to a world broken by disappointment, dissension, and the devil's



destruction. We can remember and cherish that celebrated traditional refrain: *“Alleluia, Christ has Risen! He has arisen indeed, Alleluia.”*

As we look forward to the joyous celebration of Easter, we also are looking toward our preparations for our Continuing Mission Outreach of VBS for all ages. As we have said before, we need You! We need all hands-on deck. Even the smallest bit of volunteering can make a big difference. Make it a goal to invite at least one person. Please become a part of this moment as we show the Love of Jesus Christ in a hurting world ... and thank you for your prayers.

Pastor Love



“Building Stronger Relationships”

**St. John’s - Hamburg
Saturday, March 9
5:30 – 7:00 p.m.**

Seminar by Author and Speaker Lee Belmas.

Catered Meal will be provided.

Sign up in the church narthex or call the church offices.

\$16.00 per person.

2024 SEASON

BOW THE KNEE

March 16, 17 St. Stephens, Merrill

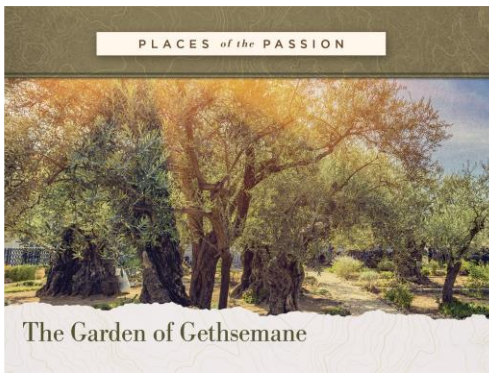
March 23, 24 Zion Lutheran

Aniwa (Easton)



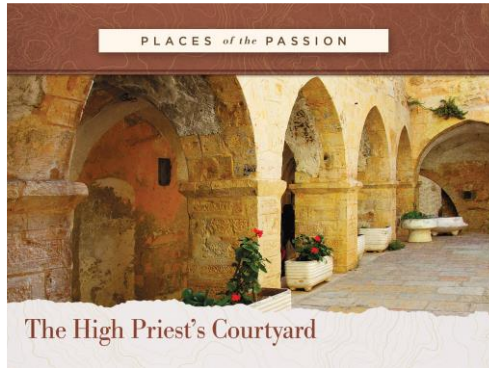
PRESENTING A DRAMATIC EASTER MUSICAL

Have you ever wondered what would it have been like to be in Jerusalem at the time Jesus walked down the streets? To see a miracle happen? To be one of the disciples in the Garden of Gethsemane? To be there at the foot of the cross? To find an empty tomb and a risen Savior? *“Bow the Knee”* will take you there! See the annual musical presentation of the Gospel at St. Stephens United Church of Christ in Merrill on Saturday, March 16 at 7:00 p.m. and Sunday, March 17 at 2:30 p.m. Or at Zion Lutheran Church in the Town of Easton, Aniwa... just East of Wausau, on Saturday, March 23 at 7:00 p.m. and Palm Sunday, March 24 at 2:30 p.m.



Lenten Series 2024 – Places of the Passion

In our Lenten worship, we continue to follow in the footsteps of Jesus, contemplating what happened at each place our Savior stood along the path of his Passion for our sake. Each service explores the meaning, history and spiritual inspiration associated with the location highlighted. We learn things they we may not have known before as we grow to understand more deeply the hard road our Lord took that the way to heaven might be open to us.



LENTEN and MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICES

St John's - Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.

Faith - Thursdays at 11 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICES

Faith – Friday at 1 p.m.

St. John's – Friday at 6:30 p.m.

PALM SUNDAY and EASTER SUNDAY SERVICES

St. John's – 8:30 a.m.

Faith – 10:15 a.m.



March 6-7 – Garden of Gethsemane

In this service, we head toward Gethsemane, where Jesus is betrayed and arrested in this garden under cover of darkness. We witness Jesus being taken away by soldiers, but we know that his journey toward the cross will take away our sins.

March 13-14 – The High Priest's Courtyard

In this service, we go to the Courtyard, outside of where Jesus is put on trial before the high priest and where Peter denies Jesus. We are called to confess that we often tend to distance ourselves from Christ, when we should be drawing closer to him.

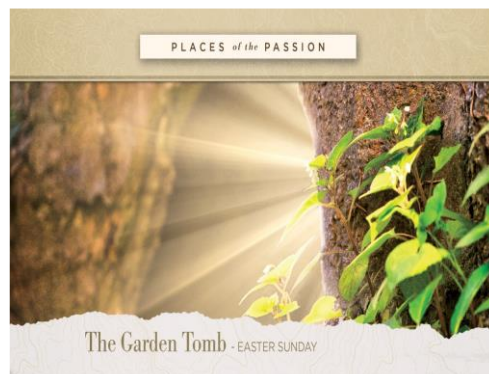
March 20-21 – Pilate's Judgment Hall

In this service, we go to Pilate's Judgment Hall, where Pilate is positioned here to set Jesus free, but turns him over to be crucified instead. We are called to remember that the judgment that should have been placed on us was placed on him that we might be free.



Palm Sunday - Bethphage

In this Places of the Passion service for Palm Sunday, we go to Bethphage, the place where the ride into Jerusalem on a donkey begins for Jesus. It is here where we discover that Jesus is a humble King who serves as he heads toward the cross.



Easter Sunday - The Garden Tomb

In this Places of the Passion service for Easter Sunday, we marvel with the women at the garden tomb—now empty—and hear the good news from the angel: "He has risen, just as he said." All fear is gone because Jesus is alive and all faith is found in his words of comfort and peace.

From the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod Stewardship Board

Cherish What God Has Given

In the Small Catechism, Luther follows a pattern when explaining the Ten Commandments. With each commandment, there is something prohibited, and something commanded. There is something wrong which must be avoided, and there is something right which must be done.

The one time this pattern is not followed is with the Sixth Commandment.

“You shall not commit adultery. What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we lead a sexually pure and decent life in what we say and do, and husband and wife love and honor each other” .

Here, the catechism focuses solely on the positive: we should live in a chaste and decent manner in both word and deed, and husbands and wives should cherish and honor one another.



Keeping this commandment, and all of the commandments, is a lot easier if you see your chastity and your spouse as a gift from God that is to be protected and cherished. In the same way, you will find keeping the Fourth Commandment easier if you see your parents and other authorities as a gift from God, given to you for your blessing.

This is the key stewardship insight that runs through all of the Christian life: Everything that we have has been given to us by God. We deserve none of it. All of it comes to us by God's fatherly kindness and open-handed generosity. If I know that everything I have — every possession, every relationship, every ability — is a gift from God, then my perspective changes. All of these things are both gifts to be cherished, and things that I should direct towards God's purposes. My possessions should be shared generously according to how God has called me in my family, church and community. My spouse should be cherished, loved and encouraged in faith. My children are on loan from my own Heavenly Father, and I have but a brief time to show them the path of righteousness. My neighbor is a gift from God so that I can imitate His kindness toward me.

No matter the gift, everything has been given to me by God so that I may participate in His own goodness and open-handed generosity.



Week of March 3, 2024

1 Peter 5:8-9

Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. Resist him, firm in your faith.

Week of March 10, 2024

Luke 9:23

And he said to all, “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me.”

Week of March 17, 2024

Isaiah 53:5

But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed.

Week of March 24, 2024

Hosea 6:1-2

Come, let us return to the Lord; for he has torn us, that he may heal us; he has struck us down, and he will bind us up. After two days he will revive us; on the third day he will raise us up, that we may live before him.

Week of March 31, 2024

1 Corinthians 15:55

O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?

Faith Lutheran Church Annual Meeting January 28, 2024

The 2024 annual meeting of Faith Lutheran Church was called to order by President, Mike Beilke. Fifty-five members were in attendance. An annual meeting report, including yearly board and committee summaries, financial reports and the pastor's report was available for review by all members.

Pastor Love led us in prayer and devotion based on Matthew 29 which covers the five C's: compassion, commitment, communication, coordination and cooperation.

A motion was made, seconded, and passed to approve the annual and semi-annual meeting minutes as published in the meeting report.

PASTOR –

Transfers out – Mrs. Phyllis (Allen) Buch to Trinity, Merrill
Sarah Herman, Wendy & Genny to St. John's, Merrill
Jeremy Love to St. John's, Merrill

New Members – Kayleigh Beckman, Aurora and Xzavier
Bruce and (Nada) Pfingsten
Nancy Raddatz
Don and Kathy Schult
Karen Olson

Baptisms – Lane Nolan Rodriguez 4/23/2023
Theodore Adam Pritzl 10/22/2023
Lily Rae Ermeling 9/10/2023

Deaths/Burials – Joyce Woller 8/16/1932 – 1/28/2023
Dawn Evenson 6/15/1963 – 4/7/2023
Allen Buch 6/24/1942 – 5/5/2023
Ralph Buch 12/16/1938 – 5/23/2023
LaVine Woller 8/21/1926 – 7/2/2023
Marlene Schlag 4/3/1947 – 7/8/2023
Morva Bishop 6/1/1928 – 9/24/2023
Lyle Gast 12/27/1930 – 10/12/2023
Cindy Salzman 12/10/1963 – 11/23/2023
Michael Kleinschmidt 5/15/1953 – 11/26/2023
Lorraine Raddatz 2/25/1926 – 1/9/2024

Confirmands – Jensen Walter Olson and Lauren Maron Zuelsdorff

Weddings – Lucas Klade and Mikayla Schade 6/10/2023
Tyler Stone and Kira Zulliger 6/27/2023

Pastor expressed appreciation for all the work done by the volunteers in the congregation. A lot goes on behind the scenes and he wishes to thank everyone. Please review the annual report for more detailed information. A motion to accept the in and out member transfers was made, seconded, and passed.

ELECTION – A call for nominations from the floor was requested. Having none, ballots were distributed to members. Changes from the sample ballots published in the yearly report included: Elder nominees: Rodney Dahlke, Mark Porath, Mike Beilke and Jason Westphal (write-in); Stewardship/Evangelism nominees: Bev Baumann, Phyllis Buch and Carol Hein.

TREASURER – Year-end balance of the check book was \$64,937.24. No questions were presented. A motion to approve the report was made, seconded, and carried.

FINANCIAL SECRETARY – No report.

BUDGET – 2023 Budget – No questions were brought forward regarding the individual board and Youth Group budgets. A motion was made, seconded, and passed to approve the 2024 home purposes budget of \$175,608.40. A motion was made, seconded, and passed to approve the 2024 total budget (including missions) of \$187,608.40. An additional mission program of “Labor of Love” was added. This is the district’s program to reduce the educational debt of North Wisconsin District called workers. The church council recommended the \$4,000 pledge.

AUDIT COMMITTEE – A report from the audit committee was read stating, “Books were found in good order; insurance paid, bills paid in a timely manner and checkbook balanced every month and balances to bank statement.” A motion to approve the report was made, seconded, and passed.

BOARD/COMMITTEE REPORTS

All boards and committees, as listed, had no additions to their annual reports.

ELDERS

TRUSTEES

EDUCATION

STEWARDSHIP/EVANGELISM

WOMEN OF FAITH

ALTAR GUILD

L.I.F.E.-YOUTH GROUP

SCRIP

INVESTMENT

A motion to approve all board reports was received, seconded, and passed.

OLD BUSINESS – The church website is no longer functioning. Bonnie Grueneberg has been unable to locate an individual to develop a new site. Her employer uses the services of Agnet, located in Marshfield, and is very satisfied with their performance. She has obtained their quote to build a website for \$2,800 with annual maintenance being \$300 a year. This new site would be structured to allow us to live stream worship services through the website. No other quotes were obtained, but after discussion a motion to contract with Agnet to develop a website was made, seconded, and passed.

NEW BUSINESS – The topic of needing additional storage space was brought up. The only area for storage is upstairs which does not have safe access due to its current ladder. Bonnie Grueneberg obtained a quote from Urban Steel for a 30x30 foot building addition. This would be built to add to the north of the church. The estimate was \$62,000, which did not include heat and electricity. After discussion, a motion to have the Trustees look at multiple storage options was made, seconded, and passed.

A discussion to increase the Trustee’s spending limit to \$2,000 for emergency expenditures was held. A motion was made to make this change to the bylaws. The motion was then rescinded upon learning a change to the bylaws must be announced in the Sunday bulletins for two weeks prior to voting on changes. This will be announced prior to the semi-annual meeting in July.

Debbie Stogbauer suggested we consider purchasing lighter weight serving/classroom tables, i.e. plastic/fiberglass for easier handling. A motion to replace the current tables with lighter weight tables was made, seconded, and passed.

A question was asked as to why the exterior doors are locked after a service starts? This is done as a safety issue which was a suggestion garnered from a safety seminar attended earlier in the year. The suggestion was discussed with the Elder’s and implemented.

Discussion continued about the overall safety of the church and its grounds. A motion was made to establish a committee to collaborate with the Trustees to develop a safety plan. Motion was seconded and passed.

Voting results for board and council positions were announced as follows:

President – Terry Seidler

Treasurer – Cindy Braatz

Secretary – Lillie McCullough

Elders – Rodney Dahlke, Mark Porath, Mike Beilke, Jason Westphal

Trustees – Barry Krenz and Chris Stogbauer

Stewardship & Evangelism – Phyllis Buch and Carol Hein

Education – Becky Rajek

A motion to destroy the ballets was made, seconded, and passed.

Motion to adjourn was received, seconded, and passed.

Pastor Love closed with a prayer, and the congregation reciting the Lord's Prayer and singing of the Doxology.

Yvonne Duwe, Council Secretary

Faith Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes Monday, February 12, 2024

Present: Pastor Love, Terry Seidler (President), Mike Baumann (Vice-President), Lillie McCulloch (Secretary), Bonnie Grueneberg (Evangelism), Rod Dahlke (Elders), Barry Krenz (Trustees), Cheryl Dahlke (Education)

Vice-President, Mike Baumann called the meeting to order. Pastor opened with a prayer and devotion. Meeting minutes from December were reviewed. A motion for approval was made, seconded, and passed.

President - Terry does not have any updates, he is still arranging a time to review everything with past-president Mike since taking over the position. Need to schedule a dual-parish meeting if Mike has not already addressed this.

Trustees - Barry provided updates on continued maintenance of the building. An exit sign was replaced with a similar model that has a battery backup. If the power goes out, a light will remain on, on the unit. It is being considered to replace additional signs within the church. The furnace needed a new circuit board which has been replaced. The church well pump went out last week, it has since been replaced by Krueger Water Systems and we are now waiting on water testing to be performed. Additional storage/new structure addition is still being considered and discussed. Jean Pagel left the Trustees and Chris Stogbauer is a new member.

Elders - Rodney gave an update on members. Elders need to continue to attend meetings until new elders are voted in. We need to clarify/change verbiage that their term ends at the end of January or February 1st, it currently reads "Term expires in January of year". Rodney made a motion to change the wording to "Term expires following the annual meeting in January". A second was made and the motion was passed. Rodney will remain chairman and Randy Braatz will remain secretary.

Board of Education - Palm Sunday will likely be the last day of Sunday School until the fall. VBS planning meetings will start up shortly.

Stewardship/Evangelism - No updates at this time as a meeting hasn't been scheduled yet. Bonnie will remain chairman and secretary will be determined at their next meeting. The new website is in the works and the creator will start building it shortly. Bonnie is looking for nice exterior photos of the church to use on the website, Lillie is reaching out to a friend that owns a drone with camera capabilities to get this done.

Pastor - Lenten services are starting, 1 service at St Johns and 2 here. Confirmation classes will be held for additional weeks this year due to meeting times needing to be adjusted to accommodate the confirmands' schedules. Pastor discussed security concerns and reviewed protocols. Bible study is going well, Pastor encourages all to attend. VBS is coming up, there is a planning meeting this coming Sunday. Video quality is still poor, Mike has done some work to improve this but we need to reach out to Nick. There is lag between the audio and video whereas other churches have great video quality. Pastor is going to add a PSA on the screen before the service to remind attendees to not use phones during the service, this should help. We should revisit internet servicing options as well. Pastor is going to start new membership classes after Easter.

Treasurer - Checkbook balance reports for January were reviewed, the ending balance for January was \$34,968.20.

Old Business - It has been previously discussed among the Elders to consider replacing air conditioners. One of the units has not worked for some time which causes additional workload on the functioning units. Pastor stated the importance of having air conditioning for VBS in summer. Barry Krenz will collect estimates for this project. A motion was made to replace the broken air conditioner unit if the price point is \$5,000 or less. The motion was seconded and passed.

New Business - Storage; the stairs to the attic are significantly dangerous and space up in the attic is limited. A fall from the attic would be detrimental and the liability expenses could be exponential in comparison to the expense of a building/addition. The proposed structure would be attached to the current north end hallway past the classrooms. Need to review concerns of snow load if directly attached, or possibly connect via a hallway to the new building. The building would likely need its own furnace system as well. Currently one of the classrooms is being used for storage and in order to expand our VBS program, we need to move storage elsewhere. Consider a portable storage container as an option in the interim, or a storage unit. Concern for bringing in a storage container is that it will easily become a more permanent structure instead of the temporary option we were aiming for. Pastor requests that the new building discussion be brought to the front of everything. Rodney offered the storage trailer on his property to temporarily store the items in the classroom, so the room is usable for VBS this summer.

The next regular council meeting is scheduled for April 8, 2024 at 7:30pm.

A motion for adjournment was made, seconded, and passed.

The meeting closed with a prayer from Pastor Love.

Respectfully submitted,

Lillie McCulloch Council Secretary



MARCH

Birthdays & Anniversaries

ST. JOHN'S BIRTHDAYS

March 5	Bob Baumann
March 7	Irene Blennert
March 9	Rick Arneson Fred Harder
March 12	Caleb Hoffman
March 13	Sue Zastrow
March 15	Kiefer Kleinschmidt
March 22	Stephanie Blasky Jacob Hoffman
March 24	Todd Wendt
March 27	Marilyn Seefeld
March 28	Beth Gille

FAITH BIRTHDAYS

March 2	Lynn Anderson
March 3	Alex Westfall Shylo Moon Craig Teske
March 4	Eugene Mootz Bobbi Pester
March 5	Lauren Zuelsdorff David Springborn
March 8	Joan Kleinschmidt
March 9	Deborah Leuenberger Brent Reinhardt
March 10	Phyllis Beilke
March 12	Edward Stiver
March 15	Seth Stoeckmann
March 16	Jane Kleinschmidt

March 17	Bonnie Grueneberg Allysen Semling
March 18	Keith Wendt
March 19	Kevin Kleinschmidt Coty Rajek
March 20	Ava Salzman
March 21	Chelsea Powell
March 23	Beth Bartelt Nancy Raddatz
March 24	Brian Klug Mabel Marquardt (100 years)
March 25	Terry Seidler
March 28	John Wegner Christopher Stogbauer
March 29	Jessica Baguhn Bennett Dahlke
March 30	Brian Luedtke Kaitlyn Beilke

ST. JOHN'S WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

March 3	Mike and Noreen Schulz 39 years
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FAITH WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

March 7	Dale and Linda Janisch 49 years
March 31	Dale and Cindy Christiansen 46 years

Faith Lutheran Church

15425 South County Road K Merrill, WI 54452

Church e-mail: faithmerrillwi@gmail.com

Pastor Donald Love

Office Phone 715-536-5443

Home Phone 715-722-0540

Cell Phone 1-815-922-0397

Pastor's Office Hours

Mon. and Tues: Home

Wednesday: Faith

Thursday: St. John's

Church Office Hours

Tues. and Thurs. 9 a.m.-12 noon

Mon., Wed., and Fri. varies

Emergency Contacts

Terry Seidler 715-203-5733

March 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 9:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:15 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion 11:15 a.m. Bible Class	4	5 6:30 p.m. Women of Faith	6 5:30 p.m. Confirmation Class at Faith 6:00 p.m. Lenten Meal at St. John's 6:30 p.m. Lenten Worship	7 11:00 a.m. Lenten Worship 6:30 p.m. Lenten Worship 7:30 p.m. Elders' Meeting	8	9 5:30 – 7:00 p.m. Building Stronger Relationships with Lee Belmas at St. John's
10 9:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:15 a.m. Worship 11:15 a.m. Bible Class	11	12	13 10:00 a.m. AbleLight 5:30 p.m. Confirmation Class at Faith 6:00 p.m. Lenten Meal at St. John's 6:30 p.m. Lenten Worship	14 <i>Lenten Meal at Faith</i> 11:00 a.m. Lenten Worship 6:30 p.m. Lenten Worship	15	16
17 9:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:15 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion 11:15 a.m. Bible Class 12:15 a.m. Stewardship and Evangelism	18	19 6:00 p.m. Trustees' Meeting	20 5:30 p.m. Confirmation Class at Faith 6:00 p.m. Lenten Meal at St. John's 6:30 p.m. Lenten Worship	21 11:00 a.m. Lenten Worship 5:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal 6:30 p.m. Lenten Worship	22	23
24 PALM SUNDAY 9:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:15 a.m. Worship 11:15 a.m. Bible Class	25	26	27 10:00 a.m. AbleLight 6:00 p.m. Lenten Meal at St. John's 6:30 p.m. Lenten Worship with Holy Communion at St. John's	28 MAUNDY THURSDAY 11:00 a.m. Lenten Worship with Holy Communion 5:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal 6:30 p.m. Lenten Worship with Holy Communion	29 GOOD FRIDAY 1:00 p.m. Worship at Faith 6:30 p.m. Worship at St. John's	30
31 EASTER SUNDAY 10:15 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion	MARCH 2024 ALTAR GUILD March 1 – March 11 Sally Hannemann and Carol Hein March 12 – March 25 Jeri Raddatz and Sandy Laabs March 26 – April 8 Phyllis Buch and Deb Stogbauer					

Congratulations on your
100th birthday!

Mabel Marquardt



March 24

Wishing you all the joy your heart can hold on your special day. We are praying for God's continued blessings upon you. What an honor to be celebrating this wonderful day with you. Enjoy every moment!.

Watch upcoming bulletins for upcoming details.

Easter Lilies



In the beauty and celebration of Easter, we are decorating the Sanctuary and Narthex with Easter Lilies, Hydrangeas and the Easter Cross this year.

Easter Lily Fund deadline is
Sunday, March 24

Forms and envelopes are available at the Scrip table in the back of Faith Church. Fill out the form and place in the offering plate, give to an usher or take to the church office. *For more information or if you have questions, please contact Terry Seidler*

memorials
& gifts

In Memory of **JOHN BURROW JR.**, gift to the Audio Video Fund from Ed and Connie Stiver

In Memory of **LORRAINE RADDATZ**, gifts to the Special Purpose Fund from Jim and Phyllis Beilke, Keith and Pat Wendt, and Phyllis Buch

In Memory of **LORRAINE RADDATZ**, gifts to the Altar Guld from Barry and Cindy Krenz, and Lee and Diane Pfaff

In Memory of **LORRAINE RADDATZ**, gift to the Parking Lot Fund from her brother Bob and Bernice Porath

In Memory of **MIKE KLEINSCHMIDT**, gift to the Audio Video Fund from Phyllis Zocher

In Memory of **MIKE KLEINSCHMIDT**, gifts to the Audio Video Fund from family and friends

In Memory of **MIKE KLEINSCHMIDT**, gifts to the Special Purpose Fund from family and friends

In memory of **LORRAINE RADDATZ**, a gift to the Special Purpose Fund from Jeff Laabs

In memory of **LORRAINE RADDATZ**, gifts to the Special Purpose Fund from family and friends

Thrivent Choice
Dollars



YEAR END REVIEW In 2023, Faith Lutheran Church received \$1,600 in Thriven Choice Dollars grant funding.

MARCH 2024 ELDER, USHER, GREETER SCHEDULE at FAITH

↓ REGULAR WORSHIP SCHEDULE

↓ LENT WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday, March 3 10:15 a.m.
 Elders Joe Heisinger, Mark Porath
 Ushers Bob and Bernice Porath
 Greeter Bob Porath
 Scrip Bernice Porath

Thursday, March 7 11:00 a.m.
 Elder Jim Beilke
 Usher LeRoy Laabs
 Greeter Sandy Laabs
 Scrip Cindy Krenz

Sunday, March 10 10:15 a.m.
 Elders Jason Westfall, Rodney Dahlke
 Ushers Bonnie Grueneberg, Carol Hein
 Greeter Marlene Krenz
 Scrip Becky Rajek

Thursday, March 7 6:30 p.m.
 Elder Mike Beilke
 Usher Chris Stogbauer
 Greeter Chris Stogbauer
 Scrip Debbie Stogbauer

Sunday, March 17 10:15 a.m.
 Elders Randy Braatz, Donald Pagel
 Ushers Cindy Braatz, Carol Hein
 Greeter Duane Gruenenwald
 Scrip Cindy Braatz

Thursday, March 14 11:00 a.m.
 Elder Jim Beilke
 Ushers Phyllis Beilke
 Greeter Dorothy Woller
 Scrip Cindy Krenz

PALM SUNDAY, March 24 10:15 a.m.
 Elders Mike Beilke, Mark Porath
 Ushers Bonnie Grueneberg, Carol Hein
 Greeter Carol Hein
 Scrip Becky Rajek

Thursday, March 14 6:30 p.m.
 Elder Lee Pfaff
 Usher Ed Stiver
 Greeter LuAnn Kleinschmidt
 Scrip Becky Rajek

GOOD FRIDAY, March 29 1:00 p.m.
 Elders Donald Pagel, Jim Beilke
 Usher Chris Stogbauer
 Greeter Chris Stogbauer
 Scrip Debbie Stogbauer

Thursday, March 21 11:00 a.m.
 Elder Jim Beilke
 Usher Phyllis Beilke
 Greeter Duane Gruenenwald
 Scrip Cindy Krenz

EASTER SUNDAY, March 31 10:15 a.m.
 Elders Joe Heisinger, Mike Beilke
 Ushers Brian and Lynn Klug
 Greeter Brian Klug
 Scrip Lynn Klug

Thursday, March 21 6:30 p.m.
 Elder Joe Heisinger
 Usher Chris Stogbauer
 Greeter Chris Stogbauer
 Scrip Debbie Stogbauer

Sunday, April 7 10:15 a.m.
 Elders Mark Porath, Jason Westfall
 Ushers Bob and Bernice Porath
 Greeter Bob Porath
 Scrip Bernice Porath

MAUNDY THURSDAY, March 28 11:00 a.m.
 Elders Jim Beilke, Lee Pfaff
 Ushers Leon and Beth Bartelt
 Greeter Susan Pankow
 Scrip Cindy Krenz

Monday, April 8 6:30 p.m.
 Elders Rodney Dahlke, Lee Pfaff
 Usher Ed Stiver
 Greeter Ed Stiver
 Scrip Debbie Stogbauer

MAUNDY THURSDAY, March 28 6:30 p.m.
 Elders Rodney Dahlke, Randy Braatz
 Ushers Cindy Braatz, Carol Hein
 Greeter Phyllis Buch
 Scrip Cindy Braatz

HOLY COMMUNION

Sunday, March 3 10:15 a.m.
 Sunday, March 17 10:15 a.m.
 Thursday, March 28 11:00 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.
 Sunday, April 7 10:15 a.m.
 Monday, April 8 6:30 p.m

Feel free to exchange times when needed.

**Need for volunteers to serve as ushers and greeters.
 Contact Jim Beilke if interested.**



AUDIO & VIDEO

SCHEDULE for MARCH at Faith

- Sunday, March 3 Bonnie Grueneberg
- Thursday, March 7 (11:00 a.m.)
 Rodney Dahlke
- Thursday, March 7 (6:30 p.m.)
 Don Pagel

- Sunday, March 10 Don Pagel
- Thursday, March 14 (11:00 a.m.)
 Rodney Dahlke
- Thursday, March 14 (6:30 p.m.)
 Bonnie Grueneberg

- Sunday, March 17 Bonnie Grueneberg
- Thursday, March 22 (11:00 a.m.)
 Rodney Dahlke
- Thursday, March 22 (6:30 p.m.)
 Don Pagel

- Sunday, March 24
 Bonnie Grueneberg & Evelyn Reinhart
- Thursday, March 28 (11:00 a.m.)
 Rodney Dahlke
- Thursday, March 28 (6:30 p.m.)
 Bonnie Grueneberg

- Friday, March 29 (1:00 p.m.)
 Gene & Karen Pagel

- Sunday, March 31 Bonnie Grueneberg

- Sunday, April 7 Don Pagel
- Monday, April 8 Bonnie Grueneberg



Sincere Gratitude

Heartfelt thanks to each one of you for your sincere kindness and taking the time to offer assistance and for your unending prayers in the past weeks since my fall and surgery and recovery. I appreciate all the cards, calls, and visits. Your acts of kindness made my recovery journey smoother and filled my heart. I feel blessed to be a part of this kind and loving church family. Your prayers filled me with strength and hope in hard moments. Your presence and encouraging words lifted my spirits, reminding me of God's boundless love and provision. May God shower His blessing on you, with love and gratitude.

Your sister in Christ, Diane Pfaff



LENTEN SOUP AND SANDWICH MEAL

Thursday, March 14

Faith Lutheran Church

Sponsored by the Youth Group with proceeds going to the Youth's Famine Event



**Spring Rally
in April
at Irma**

St. John's Lutheran Church

134058 County Road L Athens, WI 54411
715-536-1810

Church e-mail: stjohns486@gmail.com

Pastor Donald Love

Office Phone 715-536-5443

Home Phone 715-722-0540

Cell Phone 1-815-922-0397

E-mail

church7663@sbcglobal.net

Pastor's Office Hours

Mon. & Tues. Home

Wednesday Faith

Thursday St. John's

Friday Off (Family Day)

Elders

Don Gille 715-573-8197

Bob Burish 715-573-7078

Jeremy Fromm 715-574-2003

Christian Day Care

Patti Beilke 715-539-8120

Elder of the Month

Mark Czech 715-409-9174

Setting the Lord's Table

Diane Hinz

March 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 8:30 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion Sunday School during Sermon 9:30 p.m. Bible Class	4	5	6 5:30 p.m. Confirmation Class at Faith 6:00 p.m. Lenten Meal 6:30 p.m. Lenten Worship 7:15 p.m. Mary Martha Guild	7 11:00 a.m. Lenten Worship at Faith 6:30 p.m. Lenten Worship at Faith	8	9 5:30 – 7:00 p.m. Building Stronger Relationships with Lee Belmas at St. John's
10 8:30 a.m. Worship Sunday School during Sermon 9:30 p.m. Bible Class	11	12 6:00 p.m. Church Council Meeting 7:00 p.m. Elder's Meeting	13 5:30 p.m. Confirmation Class at Faith 6:00 p.m. Lenten Meal 6:30 p.m. Lenten Worship	14 Lenten Meal at Faith 11:00 a.m. Lenten Worship at Faith 6:30 p.m. Lenten Worship at Faith	15	16
17 8:30 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion Sunday School during Sermon 9:30 p.m. Bible Class	18	19	20 5:30 p.m. Confirmation Class at Faith 6:00 p.m. Lenten Meal 6:30 p.m. Lenten Worship	21 11:00 a.m. Lenten Worship at Faith 6:30 p.m. Lenten Worship at Faith	22	23
24 PALM SUNDAY 8:30 a.m. Worship Sunday School during Sermon 9:30 p.m. Bible Class	25	26	27 6:00 p.m. Lenten Meal 6:30 p.m. Lenten Worship with Holy Communion	28 MAUNDY THURSDAY 11:00 a.m. Lenten Worship with Holy Communion at Faith 6:30 p.m. Lenten Worship with Holy Communion at Faith	29 GOOD FRIDAY 1:00 p.m. Worship at Faith 6:30 p.m. Worship at St. John's	30
31 EASTER SUNDAY 8:30 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion						



THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD

Pray For Us Calendar

WORLDWIDE THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION — MARCH 1-31

The LCMS provides theological education throughout the world by means of seminaries and missionaries. Scholars and leaders from foreign church bodies also come to the LCMS seminaries for advanced degrees, learning sound doctrine from the Scriptures and Lutheran Confessions.

Remember the centrality of God's Word as you pray:

- 1.** for *Concordia Seminary, St. Louis*, that all there might grow in the Word and prepare for the proper proclamation of the Word and administration of the Sacraments.
- 2.** for *Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, Ind.*, that the faculty might teach the Word in its truth and purity; and the students learn God's Word in preparation for ministry.
- 3.** for *Christ's work throughout the world*, that the Gospel might be proclaimed to all people and the forgiveness of sins delivered through the Means of Grace.
- 4.** for *Concordia Seminary, Hong Kong*, that people and

Gospel against the attacks of the wicked foe.

- 8.** for *Timothy Lutheran Seminary in Birip, Papua New Guinea*, that the Lord would use the instructors to shine His Word upon the path of students preparing to serve His Church.
- 9.** for *students and professors of Lutheran Theological Seminary in Baguio City, Philippines*, that they might serve the Lutheran Church in the Philippines faithfully.
- 10.** for *Luther Seminary in Seoul, South Korea*, that the Lord would preserve those who teach and those who learn to hold fast to His Word in all circumstances.
- 11.** for *the ministry carried out through the Westfield House of Theological Studies in Cambridge, England*, as this ministry trains church leaders for England and many other church bodies around the world.

12. for *the Lutheran Center for Theological Studies (CLET) in Togo*, that theological training for men from French-speaking countries in West Africa might continue.

13. for *Concordia Reformer Seminary, Dominican Republic*, that the students there might share the Gospel throughout Latin and South America.

14. for *the Synod's Global Seminary Initiative (GSI)*, which helps to fill the need for trained church leaders who are native to the region and cultures in which they serve, that God would guide this program to strengthen the formation of pastors and deaconesses around the world.

15. for *LCMS professors and pastors who travel overseas to teach seminars and intensive courses for our current and emerging church partners*, that God would grant them safe travel and fruitful labors.

16. for the international students who come to the Synod's seminaries, that God would grant safe travels and comfort while away from family and friends.

17. for Lutheran pastors worldwide, that they would have access to the necessary books and resources to teach Law and Gospel.

18. for the health and safety of LCMS missionaries who provide theological education, thanks that they have heeded the call to serve Christ in this way.

19. for Lutheran church workers in Europe, that their work is fruitful.

20. for the seminaries of LCMS partner churches around the world, that they would faithfully educate future leaders for their churches.

21. for the Gospel multiplication as pastors are equipped to teach their flocks and train new leaders for the church, thank God for the growth of His Kingdom.

22. for the continued growth of Christ's Church on earth, that the Lord would continue to raise up missionaries according to His good and gracious will.

23. for Lutherans throughout the world, that they rejoice in God's gifts of His Word and Sacraments.

24. for the Synod's generous donors, thanks for those who make it possible for LCMS theological education around the world.

25. The Annunciation of our Lord, thank God for sending His Son into our flesh.

26. for our partner churches, that God would raise up pastors and servants to serve His people.

27. for sound doctrine throughout the world, that God would preserve the truth of His Word against false teachings.

28. for those on vicarage from our partner seminaries, that God would bless their time in the field as part of their education.

29. for seminarians' wives, that they would be prepared to support their husband's call into ministry.

30. for seminarians' children, that they rejoice in the Gospel and in their father's calling.

31. for all who listen to those who receive theological education, that the Gospel might take root and produce fruit.



Congregations and individuals are invited to copy these pages for newsletters or other distribution. Download at lcms.org/prayforum or call 888-843-5267 to request a copy.

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH
MISSOURI SYNOD



LENTEN ORGAN MEDITATIONS

at Zion Lutheran Church
709 N. 6th Street
Wausau, Wisconsin 54403

Fridays from 12:15 p.m. – 12:45 p.m.

*Come for a time of meditation and music
during the lunch hour*

March 1 - Irene Beethe

March 8 - Susan Schaefer and Susan Bender

March 15 - Patrick Burkhardt and James Holt

March 22 - Bryan Higgins-Moe

Sponsored by the Wisconsin River Chapter
American Guild of Organists

website: agohq.org/chapters/wisconsinriver
Facebook.com/AGO-Wisconsin-River-Chapter-
154526781226983

Free Will Offering

Grieving a loss?

Find hope and healing after
the death of a loved one.

Join us at

GriefShare®

Weekly grief support group

Where: Trinity Church 107 N. State St. Merrill
Church Basement

Begins: Monday, March 11, 2024
(13 Sessions)

Time: 6:00 – 8:00PM


Contact: Jeanne Wangen at 715-536-8695
or call Trinity Church to register. 715-536-5482
-Open to the Community- www.griefshare.org



The Way of the Cross

March

Daily Reading Plan



- Day 1: Galatians 3:13
- Day 2: Matthew 27:32-44
- Day 3: Galatians 2:20
- Day 4: Galatians 6:14
- Day 5: Galatians 5:24
- Day 6: Matthew 10:38-39
- Day 7: Matthew 16:24
- Day 8: Luke 14:26-27
- Day 9: Mark 10:17-29
- Day 10: John 12:24-25
- Day 11: Matthew 26:39
- Day 12: Luke 23:34
- Day 13: Matt 27:46, Jn 19:28
- Day 14: John 19:30
- Day 15: Luke 23:46
- Day 16: Romans 6:1-14
- Day 17: Romans 4:3, 17
- Day 18: Romans 6:15-23
- Day 19: Romans 7:4, 6
- Day 20: Romans 8:3
- Day 21: 1 Cor 2:2, 4
- Day 22: 2 Cor 13:4-5
- Day 23: 2 Cor 4:10, 12
- Day 24: Hebrews 9:14
- Day 25: Hebrews 10:19-20
- Day 26: Hebrews 12:1-2
- Day 27: Hebrews 13:11-13
- Day 28: 1 Peter 2:24
- Day 29: 1 John 3:16
- Day 30: Rev 14:4
- Day 31: Rev 1:5-6

*May I never boast except in the cross of our
Lord Jesus Christ, through which the world has
been crucified to me, and I to the world.*

Galatians 6:14

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH
15425 South County Road K
Merrill, WI 54452

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