

Faith Life Together

Faith Lutheran Church - Volume 4, Issue 4 - April 2020

Christ is risen! He lives for us! He lives within us!

Welcome to Faith! This is a greeting we now enjoy virtually. We are in the midst of an historic time in our country and world. The coronavirus guidelines encourage, and our governments mandate, we keep our distance from each other. Thankfully, we have ways to remain together through technology. As a body of believers, we know that God is with us through this and He will provide for us.

Faith Lutheran Church is available by phone from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. each day, Monday through Friday. Only our staff are allowed inside the building. Our church is closed to all public events.

While many are sequestered at home, the workers at Denison Drywall and Toft Electric have been working on our garage retrofit project. They've made great progress. Check out their work on page 4.

Holy Week is filled with opportunities to worship and celebrate online on YouTube. Easter is NOT cancelled! We will still celebrate the historic truths of Passion Week with Jesus Christ in worship, even if we cannot meet face to face. We encourage you to renew your faith by worshipping on Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Sunday! Remember Christ's triumphant entrance into Jerusalem, the Last Supper in the Upper Room with His disciples, Christ's death on the cross, and the Resurrection of our Lord on Easter! Check exact times inside this issue.

Stephen Ministry training continues online with Zoom. The many hours of training and class time are nearly complete! We will commission this group of Stephen Ministers on April 19th.

The April 19 Congregational Forum is on hold and will be rescheduled.

Confirmation classes resume soon via Zoom. There are a few classes remaining and we will meet virtually for the time being. Confirmation Sunday is postponed to a later date yet to be determined.

The corona virus is an invisible opponent. However, as believers in Christ, we must never forget -- our God is greater than all, including pandemic illnesses and even death.

God is on the throne of time and eternity. Be safe! Be well! Keep the Faith!

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Dear family of Faith,

In April we celebrate the wonderful news – Jesus Christ, who was crucified for our sins, is risen from the dead! Hallelujah! Because of this glorious truth, I can also assure you: Jesus is near you, as close as the air that we breathe. Take courage. Keep trusting. Keep praying. The LORD hears us.

The Pastor's Pen by Pastor Lee Laaveg



I visited this week with an older member who said, "I miss gathering. I miss the fellowship over coffee. I miss meeting with friends. I miss worshipping together." We all agree. I miss you all. I miss seeing you. Yet, though distance separates us, we are still united in the power of the Spirit who lives within us!

For as long as needed, we can still gather as the people of Faith by worshipping via 'live-streaming' over YouTube each Sunday morning at 9 a.m. Thank you to Lori Krei for equipment set up to empower us to do this. Thanks to all the people still leading in various worship roles during this period.

This week Rev. Stephen Anenson, Iowa District Coordinator for LCMC, shared this information:

When Martin Luther was dealing with the Black Death plague, he wrote these wise words: "I shall ask God mercifully to protect us. Then I shall fumigate, help purify the air, administer medicine and take it. I shall avoid places and persons where my presence is not needed in order not to become contaminated and thus perchance inflict and pollute others and so cause their death as a result of my negligence. If my neighbor needs me however, I shall not avoid place or person but will go freely."

So, we all use common sense, obey our leaders, help our neighbors, and keep praying.

Service Coordinator for the LCMC, the Rev. Mark Vander Tuig, encourages that the church hear this time as a call to prayer. Here is what he writes:

What prayer concerns might you have? I have many, here are just a few:

Pray for our government leaders (Romans). Ask the Lord of Heaven and Earth that they would be able to come together to make wise and common sense decisions to protect the vulnerable and ease the financial burden on those affected by all the shutdowns.

Pray for those families who will be challenged to both continue to work to provide an income and at the same time care for their children who will not be in school, pre-school or day care.

Pray for the businesses in our communities who will be drastically affected by the mandatory shutdowns that they might survive, recover and thrive once again.

Pray for those who are working in the health care fields, those who will have direct contact with folks who are showing symptoms of Covid-19.

Pray for our congregations, leaders, and pastors that together we might be light in the darkness and salt to a world that still cries out in pain, hurt, confusion, and frustration.

And for all, in every nation that are suffering illness now because of this pandemic.

Good counsel. God will see us through this time. Remember these words so often repeated in the Word, "Be not afraid."

"Cast all your cares on Him, for He cares for you." - 1 Peter 5:8. Let's covenant to keep praying for one another.

Together in Christ,

Pastor Lee

Pastor Lee

Faith Lutheran Church COVID-19 Response

Take heart! Jesus is still Lord of the universe and almighty in power!

The Corona Virus is causing an unsettling and unprecedented time for our American society and the world. The question is, how can Christ's church continue to be faithful in sharing a message of hope during this unique period of time?

Listening to the counsel and policies of our government officials and the medical experts, Faith Lutheran has two major goals: 1) To keep all Faith's members and guests safe and healthy; and 2) To stop the threat of the virus and flatten the virus' curve as soon as possible. So we seek to do our part for the greater good by complying with the instructions to maintain "social distancing." As Luther would say, "For the sake of my neighbor."

We wish to share with you the changes in Faith's life until the crisis of this virus is past us, and we return to "normal" life together. Therefore, the following programs are suspended until further notice:

- No LifeKids | No Confirmation | No Youth Group | No Sunday School
- No Sunday Adult Discipleship class | No programmed public meetings at Faith's building

We will celebrate Holy Communion with those in the *First Communion* class as soon as we are able to resume worshipping publicly.

Confirmation Sunday is scheduled for the last Sunday in April, but that does not seem likely at this point. We will continue to be in touch about this special celebration for our youth.

Funerals - We will offer support and services to people who experience the death of a loved one for a funeral or memorial. However, the state officials recommend "immediate family only."

We are excited and pleased to invite you to still join Faith via online live-stream worship over YouTube for:

- Regularly scheduled Sunday worship at 9 a.m.
- April 1 - Wednesday evening Lenten service at 6:30 p.m.
- April 9 and 10 - Maundy Thursday and Good Friday services at 6:30 p.m.
- April 12 - Easter Sunday worship

Find our worship service on YouTube at www.youtube.com/user/faithlutheranspencer

To all members who regularly serve in the worship roles of: worship leader, scripture reader, vocalist or leader of the Prayers of the Church, we ask you to still come to Faith's building on your scheduled Sunday to lead as usual. The only difference is we will be leading worship to an empty church. Yet, at the same time, hundreds of members and guests will be joining Faith in worship at our computers, connected by the Holy Spirit. If you are not comfortable coming to the church, or leading at this time, that is perfectly understandable. Just let Denise Laaveg know (815.601.4596) and she will find another person to fill in.

Though we wish to comply with government and medical recommendations for social distancing, our office will remain open for your phone calls from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Feel free to phone the church, and a member of our staff will be happy to assist you. Also, if you are sick in any way, please stay home to become well again.

Do you remember the dark stormy night, when the disciples were in a boat on the turbulent waves of the Sea of Galilee? They thought they would die during that dark night. But, in their worst crisis, Jesus came to them in the middle of the storm, walking on water, unaffected and infinitely more powerful than the wind and waves which threatened them. Jesus said, "Take courage! It is I! Don't be afraid!" (Matthew 14:27).

Only church staff are allowed in the building at this time. If you'd like to visit with one of our staff, please make an appointment. **Telephone: 712-580-4316**

Birthdays

April 1	Hannah Campbell LaVonne Clark
April 3	Sara Franker Heidi Skadeland
April 4	Kevin Swancutt
April 6	Lucy Simington
April 7	Beth Brockshus Austin Jorgensen
April 9	Steve Doran Pastor Lee Laaveg
April 10	Eldon Larsen
April 13	Lindsay Neiderheiser
April 14	Kaden Gilley/Harrington Mike Wilson
April 15	Paul Behrens Austin Crew Bob Livasy
April 18	Brett Eilts Earrian Kelly Ruby Nitzel
April 19	Lois Christman Kolton Yungbluth
April 20	Whitney Smith
April 21	Larson Vulk
April 24	Ana-Elise Jorgensen Riley Simcox
April 26	Alice Nielsen Ruth Ann Vail
April 29	Dorthy Schmidt Annabelle Simington
April 30	Otto Maaland

Anniversaries

April 3	Steve & Theone Quattlebaum
April 15	Kent & Carol Heazlett
April 20	Carl & Becky Simons
April 21	Garold & Lisa Becker
April 29	Roger & Vickie Godfredsen

Properties Team



Denison Drywall and Toft Electric crews began work on the garage retrofit in March. Crews removed the concrete block (top), installed metal framing for walls (middle) and installed a new door on the south side of the building (bottom left).

We are grateful to Paul Wire for installing the finishing trim to the offices used by Lori Krei, Evan Nielsen and Denise Laaveg and the storage room (bottom right). Thank you, Paul!

Missions Team

World Mission Prayer League

The World Mission Prayer League (WMPL) is a pan-Lutheran fellowship committed to Christian prayer as a working method of mission.

WMPL exists as an international community of approximately 6,000 members with formal offices in the United States (Minneapolis, Minnesota) and Canada (Camrose, Alberta). The Prayer League supports approximately 120 workers serving in twenty countries throughout Africa, Asia, North America, and South America.

The first international workers were sent in 1904 by the World Mission Prayer League's predecessor agency, The American Board of the Santal Mission. They joined the Santal

Clip

'N Save

**Kit items I can
buy at anytime!**

- *Wide or college ruled, 70-sheet notebooks
- *30 centimeter ruler, can have inches on as well
- *Unsharpened No. 2 pencils with erasers
- *Pencil sharpener
- ***BLUNT** scissors
- *2-1/2" eraser
- *16 or 24 ct. crayons
- *Any fabric, mattress pads or blankets for quilts
- *Bath-size towel, dark colored between 20"x40" & 52"x27"
- *Bath-size bars of soap
- *Adult-size toothbrush
- *Metal nail clippers
- *Hand towel, dark colored
- The following can be from 6 to 24 months size:**
- *Diaper pins | Socks
- *Cotton t-shirts | Cloth diapers
- *Receiving blankets
- *Long or short-sleeved gowns or any variety of sleeper
- *Jacket, sweater or sweatshirt with a hood or a baby cap

Mission work in India, sponsored by sister agencies in Norway and Denmark. By the mid-1930s, a band of students, pastors, and friends in the Minneapolis, Minnesota, area joined together to approach the foreign mission boards of the existing Lutheran synods, but they found no budget for new outreach. In 1937, they organized themselves to accept missionary volunteers and send them into areas of special concern, without the constraint of budgetary limitations. They were committed to providing a way for lay participation in mission, without the requirement of ordination, and to complement the regular work of the Lutheran synods, without diverting means or personnel from their programs.

Today, WMPL promotes lay ministry for pioneering evangelism, church planting, medical care, discipleship training, including children, rescuing victims of human trafficking, Bible translation, and addiction recovery.

Many of you may not know that Pastor Tom Summerfield, and his wife, Laurie, of Ruthven served as WMPL missionaries for many years in Bolivia.

Item of the Month: Support UDMO Food Pantry

During this COVID-19 unsettled time and school and work closings, the need is great! Families face time off, many with unpaid days off. Plus, families need to feed their children during the weekday.

Please, do not bring your donations to Faith Lutheran. If you have something to donate, please call ahead to let Upper Des Moines Opportunity (UDMO) know you are coming with supplies (712-262-7409). They will let you in the door to place the items down. Receipts are mailed if needed.

All monetary donations are requested to be mailed to UDMO. We ask our Faith Lutheran congregation to support UDMO with their dollars.

UDMO is located just south of KICD Radio Station at
2512 Highway Blvd., Spencer, IA 51301.



Evangelism with Eric Patten

Getting Good At It

A couple years ago I went on a trip to Winter Park, which is a ski resort outside of Denver, Colorado. It was a bachelor's party trip for my soon to be brother-in-law. What a fun trip! The slopes were great, the food was good, the company of guys was fun ... it was

an exciting trip. However, my brother has reminded me more than once that I was the only person on the mountain (out of all the people on the mountain, not just our group of guys) wearing bib overalls and not ski pants. I also remember when I tried a 'blue' slope after feeling confident on the 'green' slopes. Let's just say that the blue slope won. I spent more time falling on my backside than actually skiing down it! I knew enough to ski, but I had a lot to learn about technique, speed, and form to be able to advance with more difficult slopes.

Evangelism can be similar. Let's read some words from the book, *Becoming a Contagious Christian*.

"In His wisdom, God created all kinds of Christians and put them in circles of influence with all kinds of spiritual seekers. Through these circles, God's love and truth can be communicated in ways natural to both. But in order for that to happen, we need to learn the basics of spreading our faith and then to put what we've learned into action. After you do this for a while, and gain wisdom from mistakes along the way, you'll reach a point where you move from being awkward to graceful, from tentative to confident, from fearful to adventurous."

This is similar to learning any hobby, sport, or skill. There's always a degree of discomfort that goes with trying something new. Few skiers look impressive during their first run down the slope. Not many golfers blister the fairway on their first round. Or, how about the first time you went roller skating? Remember your legs taking you two distances at once?

After a few early bumps and bruises, some people quit, while others just try harder. Those who hang in there become more and more adept, and the activity becomes increasingly rewarding.

Becoming a contagious Christian is like that, too. The people who fall down in their efforts to build relationships and communicate the message of Christ, but who then get up, brush themselves off, and start over again can look forward to a day when they'll become confident and competent.

Learning how to share our faith in Christ, or a "God Story" of a moment where we saw God work in our life, is where it all begins. I encourage you to think through these questions and practice sharing the answer with your spouse or close friend to grow in your ability to share Christ with others.

- What's my story of coming to believe in Jesus Christ and follow Him?
- When is a moment in my life where I saw God at work? How can I share that story with others?
- Who in my life doesn't know God? What could I say to them to get them interested in Jesus?

And finally, remember ... Invite that person over for goulash, or to go to church with you, or both!

Eric Patten

Eric Patten, Evangelism and Stephen Ministry Director



All-Day LifeKids!

Monday, April 27 from 7:40 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

This is pending COVID-19 guidelines.

Grades: Kindergarten - 5th (Must be registered in the LifeKids program.)

Songs of Worship and Praise

"There's nothing worth more, that will ever come close ... nothing can compare, You're our living hope. Holy Spirit You are welcome here. Come flood this place and fill the atmosphere ..."

This song, "Holy Spirit" by Jesus Culture, is one of my favorites. What is one of your favorite hymns or Christian songs? I encourage you to read the lyrics aloud. Many of our worship songs are prayers. Others proclaim powerful truths of the gospel. The above lyrics not only invite the Holy Spirit into worship but also into our hearts.

Music honors God and causes our hearts to sing. When hearts sing, worship happens. The Spirit speaks to us as we worship, as we lift our praise to God, whether we are singing as individuals, or together as a body.

I love a good melody, but it is the lyrics that speak. I once read that in performance the words or lyrics support the melody. In worship the melody supports the more important lyrics. May we join together in song and in worship focusing and pointing to Jesus.

This month we sing in gratitude for Christ's death on the cross. We adore Him for His sacrifice. But we also join with the saints through the ages to praise Him as the risen Savior and Lord!

"... be filled with the Spirit, speaking to one another with psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit. Sing and make music from your heart to the Lord, always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ."

- Ephesians 5:18-20

Denise Laaveg
Worship Director

"The final aim and reason of all music is nothing other than the glorification of God and the refreshment of the spirit."
J.S. Bach

The Jennie Williamson Concert has been postponed. Please watch the bulletin or future Faith Life Together editions for new date and time.

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Nashville Christian Recording Artist

JENNIE WILLIAMSON
FRIDAY 17 APR 2020
DINNER - 5:30PM | CONCERT - 6:30PM

Journey Through the Psalms - Holy Week

Although we will not be together in church, please watch these Holy Week services live-streamed on YouTube!

www.youtube.com/user/faithlutheranspencer

April 5 - Palm Sunday

Psalm 145 - "Praise Your Name Forever"

April 9 - Maundy Thursday

Psalm 51 - Rev. Jake Jacobson
"Create In Me A Clean Heart"

April 10 - Good Friday

Psalm 22 - People of the Passion

April 12 - Easter Sunday

Psalm 85 - "Arise!"



COUNCIL MEETING | March 11, 2020

Meeting called to order at 7:20 p.m. by Pete Crew, president

Members present: Becky Simons, Kay Iversen, Korrie Anderson, Brittany Spieker, Jim Unrau, Lois Christman, Del Christman, Brett Eilts, Al Vanderberg, Mark Speidel, Kent Heazlett, Randy Enge, Larry Wigen, Kirby Fueston, Pastor Lee Laaveg and Pete Crew

Guests present: Lori Krei and Andrea Crew, acting Council secretary.

Devotion and prayer offered by Pete Crew

January meeting minutes - motion to approve made by Kay Iversen, second by Korrie Anderson, motion carried unanimously.

January Financial Report presented by Becky Simons - motion to approve made by Al Vanderberg, second by Brett Eilts, motion carried unanimously.

February Financial Report presented by Becky Simons - motion to approve made by Korrie Anderson, second by Kent Heazlett, motion carried unanimously.

Pastor's Report summarized by Pastor Laaveg. Pastor suggested adding 2020 Vision for 3 year strategic plan summary to Council's monthly meeting agenda packet.

President's Report - Pete Crew outlined work on LifeKids Program.

New Business:

Emergency Response Guide Reviewed

- Lois Christman suggested adding a fire extinguisher and first aid kit to kitchen
- Robbery and Hostage section needs to be updated
- Becky Simons will discuss liability of persons upholding emergency plan
- Motion to approve outlined emergency response guide made by Al Vanderberg, second by Kirby Fueston, motion carried unanimously.

LifeKids Director

- Radina Jensen interviewed for position
- Request for \$40,000 as salary (\$2000 more than budgeted amount) - discussion followed. Motion to increase salary to \$40,000 made by Becky Simons, second by Brittany Spieker. Motion passed by majority vote.

LifeKids Board

- Courtney Schwartz has agreed to serve as Board President
- Church Council vice-president will serve on the board ongoing

Continued on page 9 - COUNCIL MEETING | March 11, 2020



GENERAL OFFERING AND ATTENDANCE

2020 Budget:\$395,364.00

January 1 - March 22, 2020

Year to Date: \$22,515.05

Balance Remaining: \$311,186.83

Average Attendance: 133

Thank you for generously giving in 2020!

Faith Lutheran Church Council Meeting Wednesday, April 15

7:00 p.m.

All church members are welcome to attend the council meeting. Topics may also be shared with any council member for discussion at the council meeting.

Please find a list of your Council Members on the bulletin board near Pastor Lee's office.

Council Members: Please submit your team's report to the church office by **Tuesday, April 14** for the March Council meeting. - Thank you

LifeKids Board (continued)

- Remainder of board to be determined
- Motion to approve an individual board with Courtney as First President, Church Council Vice-President as an ongoing board, and those individual members will form the remainder of the board up to a maximum of seven members. The First Board President and Church Council Board Vice-President will form by-laws which will be presented to the Council. Becky Simons made motion to approve and seconded by Lois Christman. Motion carried unanimously.

Communications and Technology Director

- Job Description reviewed and discussed
- Line to be added to state, "And other duties as assigned."
- Motion made to accept amended job description and proceeding with the hiring process by Korrie Anderson, Kirby Fueston seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Council Team reports given with no new actions needed

Hope Haven has invited the area churches to participate in disability instruction. Lee and Nancy Ketcham have volunteered to attend. Randy Enge made motion to approve participation, Brett Eilts seconded, motion carried unanimously.

Motion to approve 10th Anniversary Planning Committee for August 30th made by Kirby Fueston, seconded by Al Vanderberg, motion carried unanimously.

Ingham/Okobojo Lutheran Bible Camp Fundraiser motion to approve free-will donation raised by executive council fundraising effort with all profits going to the Camp. Lois Christman made motion, Korrie Anderson seconded, motion carried unanimously.

Motion made by Korrie Anderson to add Mark Vreeman and Bill McCarroll to Endowment Team, seconded by Brittany Spieker. Motion carried unanimously.

Lori Krei introduced Council members to the ways the church office supports Council. Gifts distributed - pad folios given to new members. Bibles are given to out-going members. Reimbursement forms and church email addresses explained. Simple Church can be added to Council members' phones.

Closing Prayer offered by Al Vanderberg

Next meeting date: Wednesday, April 15 | 7:00 p.m.

Council Reports due to the Church Office by: Tuesday, April 14, 2020

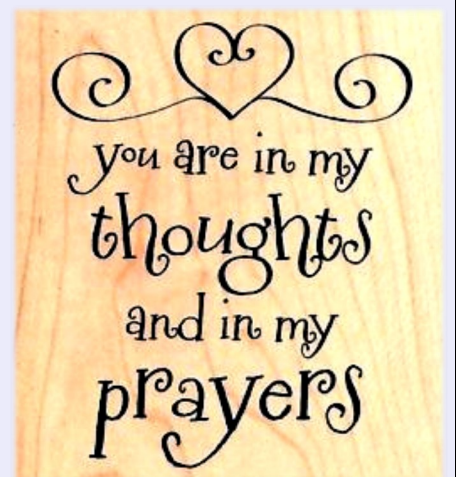
Respectfully submitted,
Andrea Crew, acting Council secretary

Keeping Them In Your Prayers . . .

Jesus, gracious healer, you promise to hear our prayers and answer us in our time of need.

Please bless those who are battling addictions and depression. With your power, restore them to wholeness and give them your joy. And Lord, please touch the lives of those who are sick, hospitalized, grieving or battling a long term illness.

Please bless Tracy Bengston, Keith Van Kleek, Sue Alanis, Becky Simons, Laura Armstrong, Sherry Dorsey, Jack Rooney, Bob and Leanne Rovang and all those we name in our hearts.



New Members

**New members not pictured:
Jessica and Kiersten Campbell**

**Patty
Ellsworth
and, not
pictured,
Grandsons
Josh Kruger
and
Connor Orr**



**Shawn
Meislahn**



**Bill
Kersting**

**Above: Darla Kurtenbach
Left: Sara and Dennis DeWitt
Below: Karen and Jake Jacobson**



What Do We Do?

Are you and your family looking for something to do while you hunker down? Now may be a great time to plug into a great resource provided by Faith. **RightNow Media** is a great resource that allows you to plug

into amazing Bible Studies. If you are a member at Faith, you have free access to hundreds of high quality Bible Studies that are engaging and fun for the whole family.

Have you ever asked questions such as,

- How do I lead my family?
- How do I navigate a tech savvy world with my children?
- How do I learn the books of the Bible?
- How do I live as a sold out follower for Christ, not just a fan of Jesus?
- Is there any advice from business professionals about how to live out faith where you work?
- How can my kids learn to choose good friends?
- How do I grow closer to God and my spouse?
- What is God's will for my life?
- What is God's will?
- What does the Holy Spirit do?
- How do I live Biblically as a man?
- Why did Jesus perform certain miracles in a certain way?
- Why do we believe that Jesus is the only way to get to God?
- What do other religions believe?

All these questions and more can be found on **RightNow Media**. There are many different Bible Studies to choose from. If you need help connecting to this resource, call the church office (712-580-4316) and we will help you get set up!

Let's use our time wisely as believers in Christ during this time, and trust God that He is bigger than whatever we face. And remember, Lot of prayer, lot of power. Little prayer, little power. No prayer, no power. Let's get some power!

Eric Patten

Eric Patten, Evangelism and Stephen Ministry Director



**Media
For
Kids!**

Rightnow MEDIA is like the Netflix of Christian Bible studies -10,000+ Bible Study Videos. Instantly stream biblical teaching to your Sunday school, home groups, men's groups, women's groups or youth groups. It is available on your devices for use in your home, laundry room, dinner table, family room. It is loaded with materials on parenting, Bible study on any topic you can think of, and hundreds and hundreds of kids animated videos, science videos, and fun worship music.

It is so easy to use, it will enhance your personal Christian journey and present amazing topics that you in turn can share with others. Contact the Church Office at 712-580-4316 to help you get started. An invitation will be sent to you email. Invitations come from insider@rightnow.org (you may need to check your junk/spam e-mail), click the "Get Started" button and begin enjoying this free resource.

Everyone in our church gets FREE ACCESS to thousands of Christian videos!

LOG IN TODAY!

www.rightnowmedia.org



Thank you!

We would like to thank you, our Faith Family, for all their prayers, memorials, condolences and love for us at Niles' death.

A special thank to:

Pastor Lee for a beautiful service and being with us through those days we needed him so much.

Dennis Larson who sang his solo tributes so beautifully.

The ladies and gentlemen who helped with the luncheon.

The Prayer Shawl Ministry ladies - the Loopy Ladies - who presented me with a beautiful shawl.

Niles and I felt the love for God and our beautiful Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and the love you have for each other as we became a member of this wonderful Faith Family. It was so beautiful and comforting to see how much you meant to Niles. I don't think of him as dead but just starting his eternal life with God and our beautiful Savior Jesus Christ. I remember the poem, *Footprints in the Sand*. "When I felt the saddest I didn't need to see the footprints because He was carrying me."

So God bless all of my Faith Family and showing how much you cared and loved him.

From our hearts, ***Thank You!***

Niles' Wife, Pat; Son, Kevin, and Granddaughter Trisha, and Niles' other 5 children, 15 grandchildren and 46 great grandchildren

Faith Lutheran Church Online Giving Guide

One Time Gift - Credit/Debit Card:

- Using the drop down list, select the fund you would like to donate to.
- Enter the donation amount and click the Submit button.
- Add your card information and billing details.
- Click "SUBMIT" to process your donation.

One Time Gift - Bank Account:

- Using the drop down list, select the fund you would like to donate to.
- Enter the donation amount.
- Click the "BANK ACCOUNT" tab.
- Add your bank account information.
- Click "SUBMIT!" to process your donation.

Automatic Recurring Donations - Credit/Debit Card OR Bank Account:

Log into your account.

Click "SIGN IN" to log in to your account by entering your email address and password.

Select "GIVE NOW" on the tab if necessary.

Using the drop down list, select which fund you would like to donate to.

Enter the donation amount desired.

If you want to donate to more than one fund, choose the "+ ADD DONATION" link to add an option for donating to another fund.

Choose the fund and enter the amount.

Click the box for "MAKE THIS GIFT RECURRING".

Choose the Frequency and the Start Date.

How Many Gifts is optional.

Enter or Choose the method of payment and click "SUBMIT!"

Text Giving

Once your account is established, it is easy to use text giving.

Open your messaging app - Text "give" to 712-214-4317

A message will guide you to enter an amount to give.

A message will be returned indicating your giving was successful.

Steward of the Month: Shirley Kooker



Faith's "Steward of the Month" for April is Shirley Kooker. She serves the Lord at Faith in a variety of ways which bless people, support our congregation's programs, and faithfully express her love for Christ.

Each week Shirley is helping to set up and serve snacks for the LifeKids children on Wednesdays after school. She also helps serve for Sunday fellowship so that we enjoy coffee and donuts when we gather for worship. She serves for funeral luncheons.

Shirley is a woman of prayer. For a year, Shirley participated in the Order of St. Luke Bible Study, diving deeply into all the healing stories from the life of Jesus. Shirley is a prayer intercessor. She is part of the Worship Ministry Team, overseeing the scheduling of the people who lead the Prayers of the Church and Intercessory Prayers.

In addition, Shirley works with the Caring Ministry Team, living out our congregational value of "building a loving community" where everyone is valued. She serves as a Care Group Leader, contacting the households and individuals in her group to express encouragement, support, and offer prayer.

Shirley serves as a new member sponsor, a part of the Evangelism Team's new member process. Through this process, those joining have friends who intentionally follow up, assisting the new folk to connect with others, find ways to become engaged and involved in our congregation's life and programming, and helping them feel warmly welcomed as they find ways to serve.

All the ways Shirley lives out her deep faith in Jesus Christ supports Faith church and blesses others. She lives with wisdom, love and compassion. Her whole life is faith active in love.

Well done good and faithful servant! Thank you, Shirley, for all the ways you serve!

**Well Done, Good and
Faithful Servant**

Stewardship

With Sincerity

Peter Marshall, whose life was immortalized in the book and movie *A Man Called Peter*, had an uncanny ability to capture people's attention and cause them to think. On one occasion when he was pastor of Atlanta's Westminster Presbyterian Church, Dr. Marshall interrupted the worship service as the congregation was singing the old hymn, *Take My Life and Let It Be*. In the Gaelic brogue of his native Scotland, Marshall drew everyone's attention to the lyrics they were about the sing:

*Take my silver and my gold –
Not a mite would I withhold.*

He explained the practical significance of "*Not a mite would I withhold*" – a reference to the widow's mite in the Biblical story – and asked all who could not sing that line with sincerity to not sing at all. The instruments once again began to play, but the hundreds of voices that had been singing so energetically were completely silent. As the notes died down, Marshall stepped to the pulpit and made his final point: It's OK for this to make us stop and think because giving really matters and we must take it seriously.

Jesus said, "It is more blessed to give than to receive." And, as Paul wrote in a letter to the Corinthians, "God loves a cheerful giver." Giving is at the heart of the Christian life, at the heart of the Gospel, and at the heart of God. "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only son ..." (John 3:16). God is the infinite and perfect Giver: giving is integral to who He is. And because giving is inherent in God's character, when we give we identify with Him and we reflect His likeness.

*The instruments once
again began to play,
but the hundreds of
voices that had been
singing so energetically
were completely silent.*

--- excerpt from
The Giving Christian by Kirk Nowery



Youth News for 6th - 12th Grades with Evan Nielsen

We join Evan in being hopeful, however, there is a strong probability these April scheduled events will not be able to be held due to the coronavirus pandemic.

Please check the online calendar or call the church office (712-580-4316) if there are questions regarding an event.

April, a time of rebirth, putting a *spring* into our steps, celebrating Christ's victory over the evil of this world. In the theme of this joyous vibe, I'd like to address the events of April as if they are still to happen in light of this recent virus outbreak. Beware that many of these events, no matter the amount of hope, are still susceptible to change.

The first youth event that is scheduled in April is on the 12th, Easter Sunday! The Youth is planning on having an egg-bake breakfast available *before* worship. This is one of our big fundraisers that is going towards our youth programs so we hope to see you early at church for food and fellowship!

The next events are programs hosted by Ingham Okobojo Lutheran Bible Camp. Again I am sharing these dates with the public in hope that our social distancing will be lifted by the time these activities take place, they are subject to change either by postponement or cancellation. To start, the April 3rd-5th recharge program for 6th-12th graders has been postponed and combined with the following recharge weekend. This means that the recharge on April 17th-19th is now a 6th-12th grade recharge instead of just 6th-9th grade. Additionally there is an Outreach event the 5th of April from 5pm-8pm at the camp and the classic game of Dodgeball is the scheduled evening game!

Confirmation Sunday is planned to be the 26th of April; we will be hosting the two confirmands (Emily Quanbeck and Drew Sandven) and their family to a early breakfast at 8am before the service of their ceremony.

There is one more event, though not scheduled in April it is the first program in May to happen, and may be too soon to place in the next newsletter. On May 3rd Faith Lutheran has graciously offered to host a high school faith band group, Faithsound during that service. Expect the band to take the entire service to give their performance, however, we will still have communion that Sunday as well as a briefer than normal message given by Evan Nielsen.

All in all may God be in your hearts, with your spirit and flowing abundantly through you.

God's peace

Shut up and Cherish Jesus

Evan Nielsen, Youth Director

We join Evan in being hopeful, however, there is a strong probability these April scheduled events will not be able to be held due to the Coronavirus pandemic.

Please check the online calendar or call the church office (712-580-4316) if there are questions regarding an event.

During COVID-19, Ingham Okobojo Lutheran Bible Camp offers . . .

Weekday Daily "One Hour of Power" - An opportunity especially for parents to share with their children during this time they are homebound. This is a Facebook Live broadcast at 2:00 p.m. each day.

<https://www.facebook.com/IOLBC/>

Weekday Daily Bible Study at 3:00 p.m. geared toward 6-12 grade youth on the Gospel of Mark. This will be broadcast on the camp YouTube channel. <https://www.youtube.com/user/inghamokobojo>

For more information or to register for an event, please contact Registrar Sara at registrar@okobojo.org or call 712-337-3306 or visit IOLBC's website at www.okobojo.org



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
THIS CALENDAR IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE! Due to COVID-19 guidelines, Faith Lutheran Church is closed to public events for the foreseeable future. Please check the online calendar or call the church office (712-580-4316) if there are questions regarding an event. For up-to-date information, go to "Events" at www.faithlutheran.spencer.com			April 1 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. Christian Counseling 12:00 p.m. Staff meeting - Zoom 4:00 p.m. Confirmation - Zoom 6:30 p.m. Live-streaming Lenten Worship	April 2 1:30 & 6:15 p.m. Stephen Min. - Zoom	April 3	April 4
April 5 - Palm Sunday 8:15 a.m. Vocalist Rehearsal 9:00 a.m. Live-streaming Worship service	April 6	April 7	April 8 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. Christian Counseling 12:00 p.m. Staff meeting - Zoom 4:00 p.m. Confirmation - Zoom	April 9 - Maundy Thursday 6:30 p.m. Live-streaming Worship service	April 10 - Good Friday 6:30 p.m. Live-streaming Worship service	April 11
April 12 8:15 a.m. Vocalist Rehearsal 9:00 a.m. Live-streaming Worship service	April 13	April 14 5:30 p.m. Private Bible Study	April 15 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. Christian Counseling 12:00 p.m. Staff meeting 3:30 p.m. LifeKids 6:00 p.m. Worship Vocalist Reh. 6:30 p.m. Confirmation 7:00 p.m. High School Youth Council Meeting	April 16 8:30 a.m. Coffee Group 1:30 p.m. Prayer Shawl Min. 1:30 & 6:15 p.m. Stephen Ministry	April 17	April 18 7:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study
April 19 8:00 a.m. Musicians Rehearsal 8:15 a.m. Prayer time 9:00 a.m. Worship 10:15 a.m. Fellowship 10:30 a.m. Congregational Forum Sunday School Discipleship Course 10:50 a.m. 1st Communion class	April 20	April 21 5:30 p.m. Private Bible Study	April 22 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. Christian Counseling 12:00 p.m. Staff meeting 3:30 p.m. LifeKids 6:00 p.m. Worship Vocalist Reh. 6:30 p.m. Confirmation 7:00 p.m. High School Youth	April 23 8:30 a.m. Coffee Group 1:30 & 6:15 p.m. Stephen Ministry	April 24	April 25 7:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study
April 26 - Confirmation Sunday 8:00 a.m. Musicians Rehearsal 8:15 a.m. Prayer time 9:00 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m. Sun. School Discipleship Course 10:50 a.m. 1st Communion class	April 27	April 28 5:30 p.m. Private Bible Study	April 29 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. Christian Counseling 12:00 p.m. Staff meeting 3:30 p.m. LifeKids 6:00 p.m. Worship Vocalist Reh. 7:00 p.m. High School Youth	April 30		

Faith Lutheran Church

2912 Highway Blvd
Spencer, IA 51301

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH - MARCH, 2020

Birth: Audrey Jolynn Hansen, March 5 | **Baptisms** | **Marriages** | **Death:** Niles Swancutt, Feb. 26
First Communion | **Confirmed** | **New Members:** March 22 - Dennis and Sara DeWitt,
Patty Ellsworth and grandsons Josh Kruger and Connor Orr, Jake and Karen Jacobson,
Bill Kersting, Darla Kurtenbach, Shawn Meislahn.

Faith Lutheran Church Staff:

Pastor: Lee Laaveg
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www.faithlutheranspencer.com
Like us on Facebook | Follow us at: @flcspencer
Faith Lutheran Church LCMC
Watch us on SMU:
Mondays @ 8:30 p.m. | Tuesdays @ 11:00 a.m.