

Faith Life Together



“In Him was life, and the life was the Light of mankind. And the Light shines in the darkness, and the darkness cannot grasp it.”

John 1:4-5

Faith Lutheran Church - Volume 4, Issue 12 - December, 2020

Here we are! December! The time of year we anticipate the true meaning of love. A time to look forward to the birth of Jesus. How will we await His birth? Faith will worship our Lord on Wednesdays and Sundays leading up to December 25. **“Love Came Down”** is the theme for Sunday worship. On Wednesdays, the theme “Our Dreams and God’s Dreams” will explore how we must be willing to change our plans so we can be part of God’s plan. Think of Joseph, the Wise men, and the Innkeeper. Their plans were impacted by the way God used them for His purposes.

The **annual Christmas program takes on a new look this year. On December 13**, youth and families will participate in scenes that tell the love story of Christmas. In addition, there will be songs, solos, and bells to enhance this program. Be sure to make time to enjoy this special presentation!

Come to Faith on **December 24 for a 4:00 p.m.** candlelight communion Christmas worship service. Pastor Lee will share a message entitled “Love’s Miracle.”

Sunday school schedule for children and youth will continue through December 6. The adult discipleship course with Pastor Lee will

run through December 20. Join the adults as they journey through the Old Testament prophecies foretelling the birth of Jesus.

As we look forward to the birth of Jesus, we never have to miss worship at Faith. Our worship services including **Wednesday Advent services will be livestreamed.** In addition, they will be available on YouTube for viewing later. Let us worship together from all corners of this world! We are one in the body of Christ!

Merry Christmas!



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Dear Faith family,

Never in my life do I remember a year that my soul craved the message of Advent and the hope of Christmas as this year. Whew! Lord, let your light shine in our darkness!

I remember a popular song as a boy growing up, "What the world needs now is love, sweet love. It's the only thing that there's just too little of." The message of Christmas is just that – God sent His Son to become one of us, and love came down at Christmas.

Just think, the One who hung the stars in place and launched the sun to shine on the first morning of creation, left the glory of heaven to become a baby. The child's vulnerability and accessibility allows each one of us to embrace the child as the Source of the love we all crave.

What the world needs now is love, sweet love.

Jesus the baby was born to a virgin named Mary in a barn, and love came down to us as we are, where we are, so that we might be filled with the love God has for us.

Think of the love Jesus has for us – He gives up His power and glory to take on human limits. He is pure love, yet He was rejected. Though perfect, He surrendered to the injustice of dying on a cross. In that moment, He comes with love to forgive and to wrap His eternal arms around us.

This beautiful baby's birth is God's love in the flesh, the Prince of Peace, the Hope for a whole new future. God's love has come down to you! His name is Jesus.

Take time to allow His love and light and peace penetrate your heart with fresh hope this Christmas.

Kneeling at the manger,

Pastor Lee

Pastor Lee

The Pastor's Pen ***by*** ***Pastor Lee Laaveg***





Love Story: God's Arrival

This year we again look forward to enjoying the Christmas story told through drama. However, due to the Corona Virus, we cannot have Faith's Sunday School children and youth standing side by side singing and telling the story as usual. The Children's Ministry Team has planned for the program

"Love Story: God's Arrival" to be shared during worship on **Sunday, December 13, at 9:00 a.m.**

We will hold separate rehearsals for each family group of cast members. We will witness the story through a series of dramas, skits, and songs, portrayed by different families and groups. This way we will be "safe," yet hear the beautiful story of Jesus' birth.

Birthdays

December 4	Tim Egland
December 5	Cryss Quanbeck
December 6	Landon Voit
December 7	Gene Englin Tonya Sorensen
December 8	Dan Lockhart
December 10	Reid Tigges Mallory Anderson
December 11	Troy Rosendahl
December 12	Jason Loring Bruce Simons Larry Wigen
December 13	Donna Frederick
December 14	Olivia Schuster
December 16	Stan Andersen Justin Heikens Josh Loring Mark Freeman
December 17	Cherie Banks Marci Sandven Carl Simons

December 18	Jerome Christianson Del Christman Syndee Patten
December 22	Kyle Rouse
December 23	Cayann Knoer
December 25	Randy Enge
December 26	Greg Lear
December 27	Abigail Sedlacek
December 28	Conner Essick Gavin Patten
December 30	Lori Wire
December 31	Adam Dotson

Anniversaries

December 3	Bruce & Gayle Simons
December 28	Mike & Kim Wilson
December 29	Steve & Debbie Zitterich
December 30	Steve & Jean Oleson

Friends of Madagascar Missions

Pastor David Lerseth, executive director of Friends of Madagascar Missions (FOMM), has, in years past, visited our congregation to speak about this ministry which the Faith Mission Team decided to support in 2020.

Madagascar is the world's fourth largest island and is located just east of the African continent. In 1866 two Norwegian missionaries founded a Lutheran church in central Madagascar. With many Lutheran congregations established in the following years, the Malagasy Lutheran Church was founded in 1950 to unite 1800 congregations. FOMM raises funds and works with the Malagasy Church to identify projects needing support to spread the gospel of Jesus and help people in poverty.

The current projects that FOMM is supporting are a Bible school for evangelists, a hospital nutrition feeding center, a prison ministry, and a drip irrigation project. The two year Bible schools teach evangelists the basics of Christianity and send them out to rural villages that have no churches.

The government of Madagascar doesn't provide enough food for prisoners so this ministry brings food as well as the gospel to the prisoners. They have also started a vocational program and a crafts program to generate support.

In Africa, a hospital patient's family must provide and prepare the patient's food while in the hospital. FOMM helps to provide quality food for these families and to talk to families about Jesus.

The south west part of Madagascar is semi-arid. It is either "feast or famine" regarding the crops that are grown by the farmers. The goal is to teach the farmers how to use a drip irrigation system during the times of drought and crop failure. This system would allow them to raise enough food to feed their family during dry periods of time and also have some crop produce left over to sell at their local markets.

If you would like more information about this ministry, please see their website at www.madagascarmission.org

Missions Team

Clip 'N Save

LWR 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

Items of the Month:

For Lutheran World Relief Baby Care Kits:

Long or short-sleeved gowns or sleepers
(without feet and must be between 6 and 24 months)

When natural disasters strike or when war drives families from their homes, our hearts ache with compassion but we don't know how to help. Making these kits is a simple, fun and tangible way to offer comfort to those suffering and express love to our neighbors in need.

For Upper Des Moines Opportunity Food Pantry:

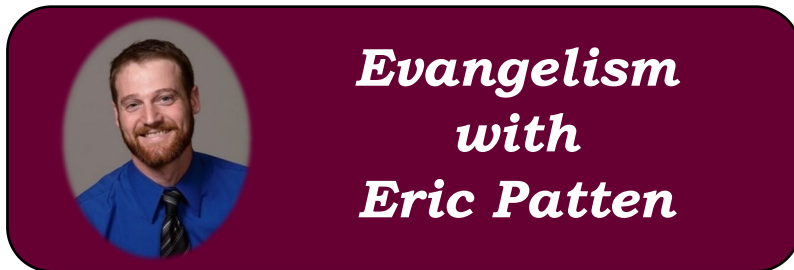
Any kind of soup, shampoo and toilet paper

Items can be donated by placing them in the yellow Missions box inside the church near the front doors.



Christ is Coming!

"Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from the sins." - Matthew 1:20-21



I don't know about you, but I am ready to celebrate something good! By the second week of November, I was already listening to Christmas music, and looking for Christmas movies to watch early in the morning while up with my daughter. I am excited for Christmas lights, apple cider, a warm fireplace, Christmas movies, sledding, building a snow fort with my son, Advent worship, and Christmas Day with the family.

It's exciting to think about all the joyous traditions and experiences that come with Christmas. Of all the holiday activities, what I love most is the celebration of Christ's birth. I enjoy reading prophecies in the Old Testament and seeing them fulfilled in the New Testament. I enjoy the Hallelujah Chorus and Christmas hymns. I love dwelling each year on the name Immanuel, which means, "God with us." I love the humble way that Christ came into world; born in a stable, laid in a manger, witnessed by shepherds.

As you celebrate our Lord and Savior this year, think of someone you can share the love of Christ. Go out of your way to let the person know you care. Whether a small gesture of kindness, or a larger act of love, help the person know the love of Christ by the love you give. Christ has come, and He's coming again! Let's share the good news. Jesus is coming!

Eric Patten Eric Patten, Outreach and Stephen Ministry Director



Keeping Them In Our 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 Bengtson, Kent Heazlett, Jim Smith, Mike and Linda Trierweiler, Ken Ricklefs, Peggy Olson, Brian Johnson, John Tracey, Rexanne Brink, David Susie's sister, Deb, and all those we name in our hearts.



Messiah Memories

The Spencer Messiah Board, working with Spencer Municipal Utilities, will be presenting **Messiah Memories** this holiday season. You can find them on SMU Channel 3's "From the Vault" program.

Dates and times are:

2009 Messiah - Thursday, Dec. 17 at 3:00 p.m. | Saturday, Dec. 19 at 11:30 p.m.
Sunday, Dec. 20. at 3:00 p.m. | Monday, Dec. 21 at 10:30 a.m.

2016 Festival of Lessons and Carols: Thursday, Dec. 24 at 3:00 p.m. | Friday, Dec. 25 at 7:00 p.m.
Saturday, Dec. 26 at 11:30 p.m. | Sunday, Dec. 27 at 3:00 p.m. | Monday, Dec. 28 at 10:30 a.m.

We hope to see everyone at next year's *Festival of Lessons and Carols* on Sunday, December 5, 2021.
For additional information visit Spencer Messiah on Facebook!

10th Anniversary of Faith Celebrates all year long!

Watch for articles in the newsletter, the bulletin, and for videos in our worship together of Faith people sharing special memories of Faith's first ten years! Many of you have cool stories to tell about how God's Spirit assisted in the birth and early years of our congregation's life. Maybe it's about our building, a special memory or event at our church, your involvement as a leader, or a unique relationship with a special person. Would you be willing to write out your special memory, or your treasured event from our life of Faith together? Write your story or memory and send it to Lori Krei in the office at churchadmin@faithlutheranspencer.com. Help us tell our story please! We will be remembering and celebrating these reflections and videos all year.



2013



2014



2015



2016

2017



2018



Wrapped in Love Weighted Blankets

Wrapped in Love Weighted Blankets is a mission project of Faith Lutheran that is not too well known by many.

We started making the blankets in October of 2014 to give, free of charge, to Faith members. So far, we have given 31 blankets away. We have given 22 blankets to the Department of Human Services at no charge.

Before COVID-19, we were a group of women and men working together. We would meet for a work day, complete with coffee breaks and a noon lunch. Since COVID-19, two ladies are making blankets for Autumn's Center in Spencer. We have given the Center 32 blankets. That makes a total of 85 free blankets!

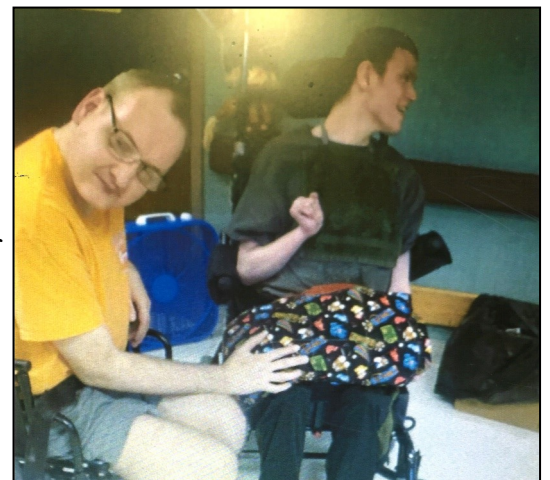
These blankets require 2 yards of cotton fabric for the top and 2 yards for the back. There are 104 pockets that are each filled with about ¼ cup of very small plastic pellets. It takes a 4-quart ice cream pail of pellets for each blanket. We were able to purchase 1,000 pounds of pellets from a source in Pella, Iowa. They are stored in Dave Simington's climate-controlled building.



We also make weighted lap pillows that require two pieces of fabric that measure 18 inches x 20 inches each. These pillows help give comfort, peace and quiet. We have given 20 of them to various people, plus to Spencer Schools and Autumn's Center.

After the items for the kitchen were purchased with bake sale funds, we have purchased fabric and pellets with the money. *Wrapped in Love Weighted Blankets* is another fun project for Faith Lutheran and a way to share God's love with others.

If anyone is in need of a blanket or lap pillow, please contact Alice Nielsen at 712-264-0727.



Eric Becker shares weighted blankets with clients at One Vision.

Wait for the LORD

The season of Advent leading to Christmas is a season of waiting on God. I have been praying, as many of you have, for an end to many of the challenges that we are facing. We pray and we wait. That waiting can be difficult. We wait for a vaccine for COVID-19;

we wait to meet and hug family; and we wait to feel safe. I love Matthew West's new song entitled "The Hope of Christmas":

Worship with Denise Laaveg



*May the sick find healing's touch
May hatred's fight be won with love
And may every heart make room for You,
The One who came to save us.*

*These days peace on earth is hard to find
And I need You to remind me one more time.*

*You're still the hope of Christmas
You're still the Light when the world looks dark
You're still the hope of Christmas
And You're still the hope of my heart.*

May this month of worship and prayer give us a deeper spiritual understanding. May we also experience quiet reflections with joyful expectations. We cannot experience the full joy of the coming Messiah without experiencing the waiting. We can wait. We can experience God working in the waiting. Because of the birth of Jesus, all is well.

Wait for the LORD, be strong and let your heart take courage. Wait for the LORD!

Psalm 27:14

Because of COVID-19 the Sunday School program at Faith will look different this year. On December 13 at the 9:00 a.m. service Faith Lutheran will present "God's Arrival". This is an intergenerational presentation of the story of the birth of Jesus. Families and small groups will tell the story through short dramas, puppets, bells, and solos. We look forward to celebrating the birth of our Savior!

Denise Laaveg Denise Laaveg, Worship Director



Midweek Advent Meal and Worship begins Wednesday, December 2

5:30 p.m. - Advent Meal

6:30 p.m. - Advent Worship to be live-streamed at
www.youtube.com/user/faithlutheranspencer

6:30 p.m. - Confirmation

Wednesday Procedures for LifeKids

Due to DHS procedures and CDC COVID-19 procedures, **the north end of the church will not be available to children arriving for the Advent meal until all participants of LifeKids have been signed out.**

LifeKids participants must be signed out by 5:45 p.m.

Thank you for respecting the LifeKids procedures.



Faith Lutheran Council Minutes November 11, 2020 | 7:00 p.m. Zoom

The meeting was brought to order by President Pete Crew.

Korrie Anderson made a motion to accept October meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by LaVonne Clark. Motion carried.

Jim Unrau made a motion to accept the October financial report and the motion was seconded by Lois Christman. Motion carried.

It was decided that Pete Crew and Pastor Lee get together with Greg Olson from Zion Lutheran Church in Ruthven to draft a working covenant. The Covenant will be reviewed at next council meeting in December.

A motion was made by Becky Simons that we pay a \$300 honorarium to Rich Stueven for the extra hours he spends cleaning between the two worship services. The motion was seconded by Brittany Spieker. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Korrie Anderson to give the Council Team leaders approval for Pastor Lee to become a conflict coach. The motion was seconded by Lois Christman. Motion carried.

Mark Speidel made a motion to accept the Employee Handbook and Emergency Response Guide as written. Kirby Fueston seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Lois Christman made a motion to give the Thanksgiving offering to Falls Community Church in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. The motion was seconded by Brett Eilts. Motion carried.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Pete Crew, Council President



GENERAL OFFERING AND ATTENDANCE

January 1 - November 22, 2020

Year to Date: \$312,389.74

Average Attendance: 111

Thank you for generously giving in 2020!

Faith Lutheran Church Council Meeting Wednesday, Dec. 9 | 7:00 p.m.

Council Members:

Please submit your December team report to the church office (office@faithlutheranspencer.com) by Tuesday, December 8. - *Thank you*



Amazon Shoppers - Consider Supporting Faith!

Faith Lutheran has always made a point to shop local whenever possible and encourages all church members to do the same. We take pride in our community and want to support our businesses!

Still, there are times when we look to online vendors like Amazon for particular items. If you are an Amazon shopper, please consider supporting Faith Lutheran.

Logon to smile.amazon.com using your current login information.

Choose a charity to support – Faith Lutheran Spencer

Shop as normal. Up to 0.5% of each qualified purchase is sent to Faith!

**Try it
today!**

Evan's Corner

It's hard to believe that it's already Christmas time once more! It seems as if this holiday stealthily sneaks up on us every year. It brings with it, hustle and bustle, busyness and lists, travels and plans. It also brings joy and excitement, friends and family, beautiful church services and timeless hymns and carols. It truly is the most wonderful time of the year. This Christmas, however, may look a little different than usual due to the current virus situation. There may be less gatherings with friends and family, less door to door caroling, and a little more online shopping. Regardless of the circumstances, there is still so much to be celebrating, even if it's only with your most immediate family.

Each family has their own traditions when it comes to Christmas. When I was growing up, our family tradition was to have the youngest member of the family read the nativity story from the Bible before opening presents. This helped us to remember the hope and joy we were truly celebrating. Having family traditions is not only lots of fun, but I think it's also an important thing to do. These traditions that turn the focus to Jesus during the holiday season help family members to bond closer and deepen their understanding of Christ together.

These traditions can be as simple as reading a part of the advent/Christmas story each day leading up to Christmas, going over God's redemptive plan as a whole leading up to the birth of Jesus, or finding an advent calendar with scripture for each day of advent. Some other great ideas could be to pick a different name/title for Jesus found in the Bible for the days leading up to Christmas. Then take time as a family to reflect on each name/title and talk about what it means to each of you.

It's important to focus together as a family on the joy of Christmas, but it is equally important to share that joy and hope with others. Doing acts of service for others can be a great gift and blessing. It can be an opportunity that opens the door for sharing about the greatest gift of love ever given, God sending Jesus to us. This year I think it will be especially important to find ways to reach out and spread joy to those around us. Make and send Christmas cards and goodies. Sing Christmas carols over the phone. Make and send ornament gifts. Sponsor gifts for a family in financial need. Donate clothes/toys that are in good shape that you don't need anymore. The ideas are endless.

The world has stolen much of our attention lately. Many people are feeling anxious, restless, and frustrated. But we as Christians know that our God is greater than it all. We have hope for a joy-filled eternity with Christ who left His place on high to make a way for us on earth. Let that truth overcome every doubt and worry and share this hope with others this Christmas season.

"Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests."

Luke 2:14



Evan Nielsen

YMT - Worship Assistant, Sunday School and Confirmation Teacher, LifeKids Assistant, WoW! Assistant

REGISTER YOUR CHILD TODAY!

www.lifekidsspencer.com

Grades K-5 | Monday - Friday

3:30 - 5:30 p.m. | \$30 per week

- **Transportation to Faith from Spencer Middle School**
- **7:40 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. Child Care on Spencer In-Service Days**
 - **Multi-Child Discount**
 - **Tuition Assistance**





LifeKids with Radina Jansen



Keeping busy at LifeKids

In November and December, our theme is prayer. One of the activities was the children traced around their bodies and glued lines from a Head to Toe Prayer that matched specific parts of their body.

Head to Toe Prayer

- Pray that I will have the “mind of Christ.” Think pure thoughts and not be anxious or afraid.
- Pray that God will give me eyes to see other people who may need to know they are loved by God.
- Pray that I can hear God’s voice above all others and that I will listen to the needs of people around me.
- Pray that I can speak God’s Word to those who need to hear it.
- Pray for ways my hands can serve others. Ask God to give me opportunities to help my neighbors and friends.
- Thank God for all he provides for me including my food!
- Confess when I have not knelt in prayer and tried to do things on my own.
- Pray I will walk in God’s path and follow him. Confess ways I have strayed from God’s path.



On the November 16th in-service day, the LifeKids had a fun filled day that including a trip to Arts on Grand. The children made two different kinds of turkeys. Staff from Arts on Grand painted one hand of each child and then the children created a handprint turkey on a white canvas. The second turkey the children used markers to color coffee filters. The coffee filters were sprayed with water to make the colors run, and then dried with a blow dryer. They painted a clothespin brown, attached a beak, a gobbler and googly eyes. They then folded the coffee filter in half and clipped the coffee filter on as the turkey’s feathers.

Community Service- Work done by a person or group of people that benefits others



LifeKids designed Christmas cards for some of Faith’s shut ins. They enjoyed using Christmas paper punches and foam spacers to make the cards look 3d. With the help of Mia and Sydney Schwartz, the LifeKids tied and wove fleece blankets for the program Adoptive Support through Lutheran Services in Iowa.

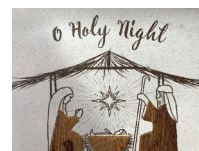


During our time together in December, we will continue to learn about praying and celebrate the birth of Jesus. Our schedule in December is shortened due to Spencer School’s winter break. The last day of LifeKids in 2020 will be December 18th. The children will arrive after the 12:30 p.m. dismissal. Activities are planned until 5:30 p.m. LifeKids will reconvene on Tuesday January 5, 2021.



May the light of His love shine upon you this Christmas season.

Radina Jansen, LifeKids Spencer Director



Stewards of the Month: Randy & Barb Enge



We are proud and pleased to celebrate this month's "Stewards of the Month," Randy and Barb Enge. We are grateful for all the ways they live out their faith in Jesus Christ, in daily life, and within our Faith family.

Barb has served in a variety of leadership roles. She was Faith's Council Secretary for over five years. This

responsibility includes attending every council meeting, taking accurate notes, recording every motion which passed, recopying those notes, distributing them to the council, and recording them for history. That's a lot of council meetings! Barb also serves on the Leadership Support Team, offering communication and encouragement to various ministry teams as they function month to month, over the course of the year. Also, as part of Leadership Support, this team plans and leads our annual planning retreat to prepare our congregation in all aspects of its programming for the coming year.

Randy is presently serving on Faith Council as the chairman of our Discipleship Team. He just finished leading an excellent course for our congregation on Sunday mornings called, "In Pursuit of Jesus."

Randy also serves on the Property Team, helping with a variety of projects, enhancing and maintaining our facility.

Both Barb and Randy have served in numerous roles in our worship services. They have served as worship leaders, scripture readers, led the prayers of the church, assisted with communion distribution, and assisted with intercessory prayer on communion Sundays.

Also, Barb and Randy have been involved in several different Journey Teams, meeting as small groups to study God's Word and share faith. When Faith offers the opportunity to have a choir share in worship, Barb and Randy are singing praises to our Lord in that choir.

Their lives together live out the praise of God. Faith Lutheran is richly blessed to have Barb and Randy Enge as part of our Faith family.

Well Done, Good and Faithful Servants!

Stewardship

Christian Giving: Christian Giving is Management of God's Money

*This is the second of four articles on giving
by J.I. Packer, Professor of Theology at
Regents College, British Columbia.*

When we set ourselves to think about Christian money management, in whatever connection, from buying groceries to supporting missionaries to investing in industry to financing a holiday, the first thing we have to get clear on is that the money that is ours to manage is not ours, but God's. Yes, we have been given it to use, but it remains his. We have it as a loan, and in due course we must give account to him of what we have done with it.

That is the point of the word *stewardship*, which nowadays is in effect the church's label for the discipline of giving. A steward is someone whom an owner entrusts with the managing of his assets. An investment manager is a steward: he has control of his clients' assets in one sense, but his job is to understand and implement his clients' wishes and priorities regarding their use. In the same way, a trustee is a steward: his job is to invest, safeguard, and disburse the money in the trust according to the stated purpose of whoever appointed him.

Society (which Scripture calls "the world") sees each person's money as his own possession, to use as he likes. Scripture, however, sees our money as a trust from God, to be used for his glory. In the Holy Communion liturgy in the Anglican Book of Common Prayer, the collection is offered to God with the words: "All that is in the heaven and in the earth is thine. All things come of thee, and of *thine own have we given thee*" (words taken from 1 Chronicles. 29:11, 14). Such is the constant biblical perspective. The money that is ordinarily thought of as ours remains God's; we receive it from his hand as his stewards and trustees, and must learn to manage it for his praise.

Inviting All to Commit to Continuing to Grow

Discipleship

We just concluded a good series for discipleship on Sunday mornings called "In Pursuit of Jesus." This series literally took us all over the world to discover what believers in different countries and cultures thought and believed about Jesus.

Now, we have a new opportunity. We wish to unpack several scripture passages which foretell the coming of God's Messiah, God's Savior. The informal, discussion Bible study will be led by Pastor Lee. The series will take us up to our Christmas celebration. Please discover new truths and old truths that the Bible reveals about God's plan to save His world through the radical initiative of grace embodied in His Son, Jesus, born for us at Christmas.

We will meet at 10:30 a.m. each Sunday in the SON Room.

- November 29 - Micah 5:2-5a - "Bethlehem and the Star"
- December 6 - Galatians 4:4-7 - "In the fullness of time . . ."
- December 13 - Isaiah 7:14 + Luke 1:26-38 -
"A virgin will be with child . . ."
- December 20 - Isaiah 9:2-7 - "And His name shall be called . . ."

Please plan to join our class and share your insights! Come and keep learning and growing in faith.



Sunday Morning Bible Study



Happy Birthday to Albany Grace Anderson!

Albany was born Thursday,
November 5. She was 6 pounds, 7 ounces
and 19 1/2 inches long.

Albany is the daughter of
Brandon and Mallory Anderson and
the little sister of Easton.



Advent begins Sunday, Nov. 29

If you would like to help decorate the
altar area with poinsettias then enjoy them
at home for Christmas,
please fill out the order form below!

**Leave the order form - with payment -
in the red Christmas box on the
Welcome Center.**

Make checks payable to Faith Lutheran
Church and earmark them "Poinsettia."

**Orders need to be turned in to the church
office by Sunday, December 6. - Thank you!**

Name _____

Phone _____

A Red Poinsettia, in an 8-inch pot covered in
red or green foil, is \$31.00.

Number ordered: _____

Total \$ _____

In Memory of or in Honor of: _____

Stephen Ministry

A Helping Hand

"When Jesus had entered Capernaum, a centurion came to him, asking for help." - Matthew 8:5



Through the summer months and into the fall, I have spent many hours working on an outdoor painting project. The project was to repaint a house in Spencer. The house began as a chipped, worn, dull, peeling, brown and green house. It transformed into a fresh, clean, new, white and blue house, complete with new mulch and decorative rocks as a finished touch for landscaping. It was both rewarding and exciting to see the change take place. It also was not easy. It took a lot of spare time and

a good chunk of vacation days to make sure the job was finished before weather turned cold.

Apparent to me was the amount of work that was done when I had a helping hand. I am very grateful to family members that pitched in and helped when they were able. I was able to double or triple my speed by having help. Sometimes we all need a helping hand. More is accomplished with another person at your side. A friend becomes a lifesaver as you try to meet a deadline. A family member pitches in and you not only cut your time in half, but get to spend time in conversation. Have you ever been in need of a helping hand? Are you in need of one right now?

Just as we need help with projects, sometimes we need someone to jump in and help us with spiritual and emotional problems. Sometimes you just need someone to show up and give you a helping hand with life's challenges and struggles. Sometimes God answers our prayers by bringing someone in our life to come alongside us. Are you in need of someone who can be a friend and walk with you? If so, contact Eric Patten. He can match you with a Stephen Minister, who will walk alongside you as you face life's up's and down's. We all need someone to walk with. Maybe a Stephen Minister is exactly what you need!

Eric Patten Eric Patten, Outreach and Stephen Ministry Director

Outreach Night: Christmas Mystery

December 6 - Grades 6-12 | \$4.00 per person | 5:00 - 8:00 p.m.

RSVP to Brittany Spieker at 712-260-4273 by 4:00 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 3

COVID-19 guidelines will be in place.

For more information or to register for an event, please go to www.okoboji.org



*Information and happenings
with Faith Lutheran Youth
can be found at ...*



♦ **Instagram Youth Page:**
spencerfaithlutheranyouth
♦ **Facebook Youth Page:**
Faith Lutheran Church Youth

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
THIS CALENDAR IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE! Please check the online calendar or call the church office (712-580-4316) if there are questions regarding an event or availability of space. For up-to-date information, go to “Events” at www.faithlutheranspencer.com						
December 6 8:00 a.m. WV Rehearsal 9:00 a.m. Worship Service In-house and YouTube 10:15 a.m. Fellowship 10:30 a.m. Sunday School Discipleship Course 5:00 p.m. IOLBC Outreach 1:00 p.m. Worship Service - masks required	December 7 3:30 p.m. LifeKids 5:30 p.m. Youth Ministry Team mtg.	December 8 10:30 a.m. Tuesday Bible Study 3:30 p.m. LifeKids 5:30 p.m. Bible Study	December 9 1:00 p.m. Staff meeting 3:30 p.m. LifeKids 5:30 p.m. Advent Meal 6:00 p.m. Executive Team mtg. 6:30 p.m. Advent Worship Confirmation 7:00 p.m. Council HS Bible Study	December 10 3:30 p.m. LifeKids	December 11 3:30 p.m. LifeKids	December 12 7:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study
December 13 8:00 a.m. WV Rehearsal 9:00 a.m. Worship Service God's Arrival Christmas Program 10:15 a.m. Fellowship 10:30 a.m. Adult Bible Study No Children's Sunday School 1:00 p.m. Worship Service - masks required	December 14 7:40 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. All-day LifeKids	December 15 10:30 a.m. Tuesday Bible Study 3:30 p.m. LifeKids 5:30 p.m. Bible Study	December 16 1:00 p.m. Staff meeting 3:30 p.m. LifeKids 5:30 p.m. Advent Meal 6:30 p.m. Advent Worship Confirmation 7:00 p.m. HS Bible Study	December 17 3:30 p.m. LifeKids 6:15 p.m. Stephen Min.	December 18 Newsletter articles due No LifeKids	December 19 7:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study
December 20 8:00 a.m. WV Rehearsal 9:00 a.m. Worship Service In-house and YouTube 10:15 a.m. Fellowship 10:30 a.m. Adult Bible Study No Children's Sunday School 1:00 p.m. Worship Service - masks required Cross Generational Event: Caroling and Cookies	December 21 No LifeKids	December 22 10:30 a.m. Tuesday Bible Study No LifeKids 5:30 p.m. Bible Study	December 23 No ... LifeKids, Community Meal, Confirmation, HS Bible Study	December 24 12:00 p.m. Office Closed 4:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship Service	December 25 Christmas Day Office Closed	December 26 7:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study
December 27: 8:00 a.m. WV Rehearsal 9:00 a.m. Worship Service In-house and YouTube 10:15 a.m. Fellowship 10:30 a.m. No Adult or Children's Sunday School 1:00 p.m. Worship Service - masks required	December 28 No LifeKids HS Youth: Air Madness trip to Sioux Falls	December 29 No LifeKids	December 30 No ... LifeKids, Community Meal, Confirmation, HS Bible Study	December 31 12:00 p.m. Office Closed No LifeKids	January 1 New Year's Day Office Closed	January 2 7:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study

Faith Lutheran Church

2912 Highway Blvd
Spencer, IA 51301

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH - NOVEMBER, 2020

Birth: Albany Grace Anderson, November 5 | **Baptism:** Arlie Anne Neiderheiser, November 22

Marriages | Deaths | First Communion

Confirmed: November 1 - Emily Renee Quanbeck and Drew Maurice Sandven

Faith Lutheran Church Staff:

Pastor: Lee Laaveg

pastor@faithlutheranspencer.com

Custodian: Rich Stueven

custodian@faithlutheranspencer.com

Outreach and Stephen Ministry Director:

Eric Patten - eric@faithlutheranspencer.com

Technology Director: Lori Krei

techdirector@faithlutheranspencer.com

LifeKids Director: Radina Jansen

director@lifekidsspencer.com

Office Assistant: Cheryl Stueven

office@faithlutheranspencer.com

Worship Director: Denise Laaveg

worshipdirector@faithlutheranspencer.com

Church Administrator: Lori Krei

churchadmin@faithlutheranspencer.com

Email us at: office@faithlutheranspencer.com

www.faithlutheranspencer.com

Like us on Facebook | Follow us at: [@flcspencer](https://www.facebook.com/flcspencer)

Faith Lutheran Church LCMC

Watch us on SMU:

Monday @ 8:30 p.m. | Tuesday @ 11:00 a.m.