

FOCUS ON FAITH

SEPTEMBER 2020



FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

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“I was glad when he said to me, “Let us go to the house of the Lord.”

Psalm 122:1

Several years ago we consecrated our “new” at the time, “green” antependium, which is the hanging in front of our altar, along with frontal ornaments for both the lectern and the pulpit. They were purchased and donated to the church by the ladies of our congregation. These frontal cloths, unlike linens, are found in colors reflecting the liturgical day or season. Green is the color of abiding life and growth, growth especially in the grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. Bright red is the color for Pentecost and Reformation Sundays, also for ordinations; it indicates fire, blood, the martyrdom of the saints and the victorious truth of Christian teaching based on the blood and righteousness of Jesus. White on the altar antependium is the color of the Godhead, the robe of the glorified Christ, the angels and of holiness and purity. The words on our green altar frontal are taken from Isaiah 6. In the vision that Isaiah received from God of the heavenly temple, one angel called out to another, “Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory.” This thrice holy saying reveals the Trinity of Father, Son, and Holy Spirit revealing to us where holiness comes from. These words also begin the “Sanctus...” of the Communion liturgy. God is the source of holiness and it comes to us through the cross of Jesus Christ. There are also two Fleur-de-Lis crosses embroidered in between the thrice holy words. These crosses found in the shape of a lily symbolize the Virgin Mary and the pure human nature of Jesus. Holiness also comes to us from the Lord’s Supper of bread and wine of Christ’s body and blood, served to us from this altar. The green frontal for the lectern has just one simple cross on it. The ancients used this frontal as a book mark. A lector reads from the Bible using this stand or podium designed specifically for this task. St. Paul once instructed young pastor Timothy, “Until I come devote yourself to the public reading of Scripture, to exhortation, and to teaching.”

The ornamental frontal for the pulpit, which is an elevated platform for preaching, has the design of two tablets of stone, the law given to Moses on Mt. Sinai, and the cross of Jesus Christ. If you look closely at the cross you will see it is designed with three separate lines for the vertical and horizontal beams, likewise reflecting the Holy Trinity. (It is not unlike the cross designed specifically for the LC-MS) In John 1:17 we read, “The law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.” Good preaching communicates both the law, which calls us sinners to repentance, and also the Gospel of sins forgiven in Jesus’ Name. It is the Gospel that ushers in the coming of the Holy Spirit to create and sustain saving faith.

I know the trend within non-denominational churches is toward non-descript worship spaces, more like auditoriums with stages and fancy lighting, but where is the artistic witness to Jesus and the gospel in such buildings? We are certainly not required to use ornaments to adorn our chancel furnishings. Some will argue that the furnishings themselves, the altars, pulpits, lecterns and even crosses with the crucified Jesus on them are not needed either. I would agree they are not a necessity. Yet even

though they are not required, they are very helpful for communicating the truth of the Gospel. They are wonderful devotional aids, symbols if you will, that help us better understand the love of God for sinners like us. For example, the altar was a place of sacrifice in the Old Testament. The altar in our sanctuary is the focus of Divine worship. It reminds us of the truth that Jesus is the Lamb of God that takes away the sin of the world. He was sacrificed for my salvation and yours on the altar of the cross!

~ Pastor Johnson

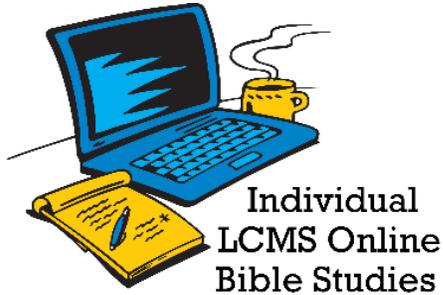


We thank God constantly for the many blessings that He has bestowed. The Gospel continues to be proclaimed through YouTube and Facebook as Dan meets with the national pastors via ZOOM. Please consider how God would like you to partner with Him in taking the Gospel to a lost and dying world.

Missions



~ The Conrads lcms.org/Conrad



Individual LCMS Online Bible Studies

National and world events have created a wide variety of emotional responses: fear, loneliness, frustration, grief and pain from loss, as well as many others. Rev. Robert Zagore, executive director of the LCMS Office of National Mission (ONM), says, “The more uncertain and unstable the world gets, the more we need to build on the solid rock of God’s Word and promises. He is the source of our confidence, resilience, hope and strength.”

The LCMS Office of National Mission (ONM) is in the process of developing a new set of Bible studies (30+) that deal with the spiritual, mental, emotional, and physical aspects that occur in times like these. The topics include:

- Stress and anxiety
- Depression
- Financial struggles
- Dealing with conflict and criticism
- Recognizing warning signs in yourself and others
- Wondering where your church is when you need it
- Dealing with anger at others and at God
- Compassion fatigue and burnout

The first study, “Making Critical Decisions as a Congregation,” is posted at makingdisciples.lcms.org. The website is continually changed and updated to respond to the needs and input of the church/individual.



ADULT & BELL CHOIRS began on Thursday, Aug. 27, with Pastor Wingfield as the director. Bell choir practices at 6:00 pm with the choral choir practicing at 7:00 pm. Any adult or teenager who enjoys singing and/or playing bells is encouraged to join. (The ability to read music is not required for adult choir and we have the need for all voices.) Please prayerfully consider being a part of one or both choirs and join in singing/playing praises to the Lord!

New Members Needed for Choirs



Faith Lutheran School News



Principal:	Sue Kleber	Para:	Julia Ohlde
Kindergarten Teacher:	Deb Doesken		
Grades 1 & 2 Teacher:	Anita Norris	Preschool Director/Teacher:	Karen Holt
Grades 3 - 5 Teacher:	Cheryl Voss	Preschool Clerk:	Cheryl Judd
ELA Teacher:	Peggy Johnston	Preschool Teacher:	Angela Beeson
Aide:	Rebecca Doesken	Preschool Teacher:	Dawn Meade
Aide:	Vickie Kalous	School Office Administrator:	Becky Pankratz
Para:	Mandi Forward		

This Month's Events ...

Mon	Sept 7	<i>No School: Labor Day</i>	Wed	Sept 9	Preschool 4's First Day
Tue	Sept 8	Preschool 3's First Day			

OUR LIVES SHOULD BE FILLED AND GLOW LIKE HOT AIR BALLOONS

Janea Trapp, School Board Treasurer

This year Faith Lutheran School chose to have a consistent theme “Soaring to Success at FLS” and decorating with hot air balloons throughout our classrooms. But how do hot air balloons relate to God and the teachings of the Bible? I recently discovered that there is an annual hot air balloon festival held in St. Louis, Missouri that includes what must be a breathtaking event. On the evening before the festival’s big race, the hot air balloons participate in the Balloon Glow. Throughout the evening a loud horn is sounded signaling the balloon pilots to fire up their balloons. Take a minute and close your eyes and picture this with me. In the darkness, suddenly there are bright bursts of light with glowing balloons in all directions. Their bright colors and designs illuminated in the dark. Could these balloons be this amazing on their own? Of course not! They need to be connected to a tank of propane. In comparison, can we succeed and live to our fullest potential alone? No, we need the One who created us.

Just as propane fills a hot air balloon and creates a glow, our connection to God renews our spirits and allows us to burst into a glowing representation of His love to shed His light and grace in a sometimes lost and dark world. Every day we cross paths with people just waiting and searching to be filled with a hope. As Christians, we are called to be the “glow” of God’s love, mercy, and grace, a beacon of hope that radiates so brightly through the darkness that we can forget we are in a season of unrest and uncertainty in our lives.

Matthew 5:14-16 says, “You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.”

This school year, Faith Lutheran School will serve as a shining example of what God can do through our commitment to Him. God has begun and will continue to answer our prayers not just for our school, but our congregation, community, and country. We are like a small town built on the hill and our light will not go unnoticed. Our deeds will be seen throughout our community and the young lives we touch will know and understand God's unfailing love for them. We will continue planting the seeds in the hearts of our students today that they will forever be *"Learning for a Life in Jesus Christ."*

The School Board, Teachers, and Staff thank each of you for your many prayers, notes of encouragement, and time spent working both inside and outside of the school building in preparation for the school year. Your deeds glorify our heavenly Father and the light within each of you shines brighter than you know.

"Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven." Matthew 5:16



Birthdays and Anniversaries

Happy Birthday...

- | | |
|------------------------|---------------------|
| 1 Justin Harland | 15 Lillian Campbell |
| 2 Diane Mills | 15 Mary Hare |
| 3 Carter Wahlenmaier | 17 Dawn Gibson |
| 5 Tom Bevington | 17 Tiffany Voss |
| 5 Ronnie Helzer | 18 Nikki Nearhood |
| 5 Diron Ohlde | 20 Abby DeWitt |
| 6 Lyle Blue | 22 Austin Voss |
| 6 Jesseca Orozco | 22 Stephanie Voss |
| 6 Connor Way | 25 Grady Adams |
| 7 Darci Beikman | 25 Elaine Bevington |
| 7 Steve Klepacki | 26 Krista Drake |
| 7 Taylor Williams | 27 Holly Mills |
| 8 Mindy Harland | 28 Lee Gantt |
| 14 Michael Ostgren | 28 Duane Way |
| 14 Gregory Stockebrand | 29 Pat Morrison |
| 14 Terry Woods | 29 Carrie Osgood- |
| 15 Cayden Brown | Franklin |

- 29 Barb Worman
- 30 Kristen Bohm
- 30 Phyllis Clark
- 30 Carolyn Hesser

Happy Anniversary...

- 8 Brian & Linda Wilcox
- 10 Michele & Jeff Poss
- 12 Fred & Barbara Bohm
- 15 Timothy & Janea Trapp
- 16 Patrick & Lacey DeWitt
- 18 Gregory & Alicia Landsverk

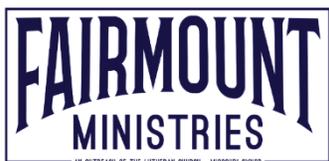
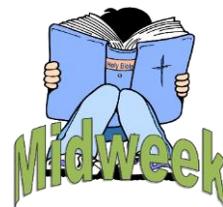
If we have incorrect information or have missed your special date, please contact the church office so we can correct our records.

GRACE FOOD PANTRY COLLECTION



All grocery donations to help the Grace Lutheran Food Pantry are appreciated! **The suggestion for September is Granulated White Sugar.** Donations may be placed in the shopping cart in the breezeway.

2020-2021 MIDWEEK SCHOOL will be held 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. on Wednesday evenings beginning on September 9; adult classes will also begin at that time. Watch the Sunday bulletins for youth enrollment information and adult Bible studies information.



This year's Gathering will look a bit different than last year's. It will be at **Fairmount Ministries & Coffee Company**. There will still be opportunities to eat delicious food, a silent auction, fun activities, time to connect with your Fairmount Family,

celebrate the many blessings that God has given us, and learn more about our mission and needs. **The Gathering will be hosted over a one week span, Sept. 20 – 27.**

Visit during our normal operating hours or on the 20 & 27! **All ages are welcome!** Adult tickets are \$35 & Children (12 & under) are \$15. Your ticket will include a meal from our very own kitchen, an entree, drink, & treat! *You can dine-in with us or order your meal over the phone for pick-up or curbside.* Our website has all the details and will be updated as we get more details figured out. To RSVP & to read more about this exciting event, go to <https://www.fairmountministries.org/>

SEPTEMBER WORSHIP ASSISTANT SCHEDULE

ALTAR GUILD: Carol Helzer

1st Service – 8:15AM

USHERS:

September 6

Elder Tim Trapp
Acolyte Noah Trapp

September 13

Elder Duane Way
Acolyte Brooke Forward
Crucifer Dahkotta Forward

September 20

Elder Tim Trapp
Acolyte Alivia White

September 27

Elder Duane Way
Acolyte Taylor Williams
Crucifer Chareity Forward

2nd Service – 10:45AM

USHERS: Gerry Faley

September 6

Elder Lyle Blue
Acolyte Addie Jensen

September 13

Elder Max Ayers
Acolyte Addie Jensen
Crucifer Caris Johnson

September 20

Elder Patrick DeWitt
Acolyte Carter Wahlenmaier

September 27

Elder Patrick DeWitt
Acolyte Abby DeWitt
Crucifer Colton Ohlde