



Faith Lutheran Church
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

FAITH'S FOUNDATIONS

April 2020

Working to spread the Gospel here and throughout the world.

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Office Hours: Tuesday through Thursday 9:00 am to 12:00 pm

NOTE FROM PASTOR JOHN

All you hear on the news is the latest mortality rates from the Corona Virus. Material sent out from the ELCA about how to respond to the spread of the virus even included a suggestion that one's will be up to date. We are hearing new words and phrases like 'pandemic' and 'social distancing'. Out of an abundance of caution and concern for folks ages 60 and up, both Faith Lutheran and Pioneer Lake Lutheran councils are considering canceling Sunday worship services and weekly programs until further notice. I went to a local restaurant to have lunch with a friend and the wait-staff was seating customers at every other table so to create a safe distance between people. One waitress when she was not filling coffee cups was wiping down everything with bleach.

So we are in a time of caution with fear not too far behind. As you look on worldwide infection maps you could say the Covid-19 virus is causing infections of "biblical proportions." This

means we are in troubled times. How are we to respond as a church? The church is to represent Jesus in the community. To be the church we must be people of faith. Some years ago a large group of people was asked "Is there a biblical text that is important to you in troubled times?" A large part of the sample answered the 23rd Psalm or Psalms in general. The 23rd Psalm is familiar to us because of such faith-strengthening promises contained with the words "Even though I walk through a dark valley, even the dark valley of the shadow of death, I fear no evil, for you are with me, your rod and staff, they comfort me." Right now we face the dark valley of a deadly virus, but may we trust the promise of the Psalm, that God is with us. God is with us not just as a casual observer but God's presence compared to a shepherd. God is our leader and guide. The rod and staff of God's guardian care is faithfulness. God will get us through these troubled days and weeks.

Because we, the church, trust God we can move forward as people who have hope. We return to the Psalms and their authors can describe situations that sound quite desperate: “My tears have been my meat day and night while they continually say to me, ‘where is your God?’. Not only did the faithful face sorrow and pain, others would mock with non-stop doubting of the presence of God. One can hear people say today, “if there is this God you believe in, how come we, that is the world, are experiencing this pandemic? Yes, there is no sugar coating the Covid-19 illness, but still we hope, as the Psalmist said, “Why are you cast down, oh my soul, hope in God, I shall yet praise God, the health of my countenance, and my God.” As you listen to the news your face may indeed show sadness and fear. The Psalmist calls us to hope in the faithfulness of God, God who does not ignore the afflictions around the world. The thought of God steadily with us, sharing our burdens, may give our face a “faith-lift”. The apostle Paul made it clear that ‘hope does not disappoint us because God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.’ The Bible compares God-given hope to an anchor. Our lives are anchored and secured in the mercy and love of God.

The very cancellation of worship services for the foreseeable future will probably mean no opportunities to gather for Holy Week. So if we cannot gather, read your Bible at home. For Sunday, April 5, read the Passion According to St. Matthew, Matthew 26:14—27:66; on Good Friday, April 10 read the Passion According to John,

John 18:1 to 19:42. We will read of Jesus’ suffering and death on the cross. From Matthew’s gospel we will hear Jesus cry out “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?” Jesus, the Son of God, shared the soul-depth pain of feeling abandoned by God because of his suffering. Jesus accepted suffering and death on the cross to be a servant, carrying all our infirmity, grief, and guilt. The gospel made it clear that Jesus is Emmanuel, God-with-us during every fear and misfortune.

The Gospel of John has the scene from the cross when Jesus commended the care of his mother to the ‘beloved disciple’. Jesus wanted his mother to be taken care of and loved. This is an important text today in the midst of the Corona virus outbreak. As the church, people of faith and hope, we are also people of love. We are to look out for one another. We are to love one another through thoughtful deeds like sending friends in nursing homes cards with loving thoughts since visitations are curtailed because of quarantines. Yes, we hear about the preventive precaution of ‘social distancing’. But as the church in the community we cannot always do that. We are to look after one another: check on the elderly, feed the hungry, house the homeless, and visit the sick whether in person or by the phone. We do not want folks to feel forgotten. Remember the love of Jesus on the cross for our salvation. Part of that salvation is to be strengthened and renewed to care for one another, “we love because Jesus first loved us.”

A newspaper article recently commented on stock market losses

blaming the uncertainties of this Corona Virus pandemic. But we know Easter is coming. Read the Easter texts, Matthew 28: 1-10 and John 20: 1-18. Through all the uncertainties of life, we cling in faith, hope, and love to our ultimate certainty, the victory over the forces of sin and death through Jesus' resurrection. Although we may not gather for worship on Easter Sunday, we can sing (or hum) the Easter hymn—"Jesus Christ is risen today. Alleluia!"

The church throughout history has had to live through and minister to the sick during pandemics, or the old word is plagues. Martin Rinkhart was a pastor who lived through a terrible time of

death through a pandemic. He was called to bury many of the dead. But yet he could write the hymn "Now Thank We All Our God". One stanza sings, "Oh may this bounteous God, through all our life be near us, with ever joyful hearts, and blessed peace to cheer us; and keep us all in grace, and guide us when perplexed, and free us from all harm in this world and the next." What a testimony of faith, hope, and love! May we remain faithful and hopeful, thankful to God and his grace, who is ever near us to guide us and heal us. heal us.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



MONTHLY NEWSLETTERS

Newsletters are now available online! If you would like to receive a paper copy, please sign up on the sheet outside of the office. Newsletters can be found at <https://www.faithlutheran-threelakes.org/newsletters> or right on the front page of the website.

FACEBOOK

It's true! Faith Lutheran Church now has a Facebook page. "Like" us at <http://www.facebook.com/faith3lakes/> and watch the page for updates about what's happening in the life of our faith community.



PRAYER SHAWLS

To give comfort and peace. There is a tote of prayer shawls under the shelf when you walk in. If you know someone who is lonely and would use one, feel free to take one. Once wrapped around their shoulders it feels like a hug from Jesus and their friends.

FELLOWSHIP

During Fellowship a basket is placed on the table to collect donations for the purchase of the Fair Trade decaf coffee. Individuals or groups who host Fellowship do not have to provide coffee. Occasional contributions to the fun are encouraged.

QUILTERS

We appreciate all of the quilting supplies which have been donated. We could use some help putting the quilts together. Quilting experience is not required.

The quilters meet every Wednesday from 12:30pm to 3:00 pm

LIVE-STREAMING

Did you know that when you're away, you can watch Pastor's sermon as it's delivered LIVE on Sunday morning? You can! Simply go to our church's website (<https://www.faithlutheran-threelakes.org/>) and click "Click here to watch live streaming during worship (Sundays at 9:00 am)" right on the front page. Just put in a name and hit "Enter Live Service". Streaming will start at the reading of the Gospel, which usually happens between 9:10 and 9:15, give or take a few minutes, so if nothing is happening yet when you start watching, just wait a few minutes. You can also watch a recording of many of Pastor's sermons on our website. Simply go to our church website, and go to "Worship" --> "Pastor's Sermons" and click on any sermon in the Archive of Recorded Sermons. It's that easy!

ORGANIST OR PIANIST NEEDED to fill in occasionally for Sunday services. If you or someone you know are interested, please contact Rhonda Buss at 715-223-5323 or rhonda_buss@yahoo.com

BAPTISMS WE REMEMBER THIS MONTH



On the cross and in the empty tomb, Jesus Christ triumphs over sin, death and the power of evil. In our baptism we share in the death of Jesus – and have the promise of new life³ through his resurrection!

Celebrate your freedom from sin, death and the power of evil through your baptism into Christ Jesus. And remember in your prayers those who celebrate the anniversary of their baptisms this month.

- 1st Aimee Bauknecht
- 3rd Melanie Fogerty and Stephen Korten Hof
- 8th Vinnie Terlizzi
- 9th Jerry Gilbertson
- 11th Olivia Terlizzi
- 16th L.J. Terlizzi
- 24th Paul Bredesen and Marny Miles
- 26th Dave Lederhaus
- 27th Linda Wilkowski
- 30th Jacob Madl

Also remember: Shannon Votis.

OFFERING AND ATTENDANCE

Year: 2020

Month: January

Number of Sundays: 4

Average Attendance: 35

Month: February

Number of Sundays: 4, plus Ash Wednesday

Average Attendance: 29

<i>February 2020</i>	MONTH	YTD
Budget Income	\$5,792	\$44,012
Expenses	\$6,508	\$20,243
Net Income	-\$715	\$23,768

*** This will be provided on a quarterly basis



IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

**THOSE STRUGGLING WITH ILLNESS,
PAIN, LOSS OF HEALTH IN MIND, BODY,
AND SPIRIT:**

Colleen and Duane Bonack, Gale and Martha Crow, Natalie Gerharz, Kristin Rolls, Kyle Smith, Paul Kragh, Monte James, Missy Wick, Wayne Schuelke, Sue Sorg, Kristine Gerhart, Rick Jacobson, Ollie DeMuth, Ellen Hohnstadt, Megan Schiller, Barb Hanson, Bob Beyer, Kim Terlizzi, Ed Fowles, Hunter St. Louis, Charlotte Jensen, John and Connie Lyons, Tiffany and Greg Lyons, Peter Santogade, Ann Woelfel and Bill Mattson.

Our home-bound including:

Norm Frauenfelder

Our armed forces including:

David Bredesen, Kaley Ebann, Tyler Kaltenberg, Nick, Brandy, Nathan Lamal, Jamie Madl, Jared Malda, Jon Priem, Brandon Paulick, Charlie and Will Starke, Nicole Young and Alex Brendemihl.

**ALL THOSE WHO ARE ANXIOUS AND
WORRIED ABOUT MANY THINGS**

Our Church Ministries:

Congregational Care
Congregation Council
Board of Worship Life
Board of Outreach
Board of Trustees
Marywood Franciscan Spirituality Center

**Our partners in the gospel of Jesus Christ
including:**

St. Theresa's Roman Catholic Church
Three Lakes Evangelical Free Church
Union Congregational Church
Grace Lutheran Church

**Our synod, the Northern Great Lakes Synod
of the ELCA, and its congregations.**

**Our companion synod, the Eastern and
Coastal Diocese of the Evangelical Lutheran
Church in Tanzania, and its congregations.**

Public Health



Caring response in times of public health concerns

With the outbreaks of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) in the United States and around the world, congregations and houses of worship need to be well-informed and well-prepared. The following information offers guidance as we minister to and engage with each other, and within our communities, as the body of Christ.

Presiding Bishop Elizabeth A. Eaton has issued a statement in response to concerns about the spread of COVID-19. Martin Luther, said the bishop, "emphasized the duty to care for the neighbor, the responsibility of government to protect and provide services to its citizens, a caution about recklessness, and the importance of science, medicine and common sense." [Read the full statement.](#)

COVID-19/Coronavirus Resources

- Worship in Times of Public Health Concerns [English](#) | [Spanish](#)
- Prayers for Times of Public Health Concern: COVID-19/Coronavirus [English](#) | [Spanish](#)
- Intercessory Prayers in the midst of the spread of COVID-19 from the Lutheran World Federation [English](#) | [Spanish](#)
- [Congregational Planning Checklist for Public Health Concerns](#)
- [How to stream your worship service — A starter guide](#)

Stewardship of gifts

Many members may be concerned about how to support the work of their congregations, synods and church-wide ministries if they are ill or choosing to stay home to reduce the risk of getting or spreading the virus. A majority of ELCA congregations currently offer online giving as an option for both one-time and recurring gifts; and all still accept checks. For congregations looking for online giving, the ELCA has negotiated with [preferred vendors](#) who can quickly respond with options.

Changing landscape

Due to the nature of the virus, information is being updated on a daily basis. We encourage you to contact and listen to your local health experts and authorities concerning best practices and the status of the outbreaks in your local context. The following links may also serve as helpful resources.

- [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#)
- [World Health Organization](#)

Guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

The best way to prevent illness is to avoid being exposed to this virus. However, as a reminder, the CDC always recommends these everyday preventive actions to arrest the spread of respiratory diseases:

- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces, using a regular household cleaning spray or wipe.
- Follow CDC recommendations for using a face mask.
 - CDC does not recommend that people who are well wear a face mask to protect themselves from respiratory diseases, including COVID-19.
 - Face masks should be used by people who show symptoms of COVID-19, to help prevent the spread of the disease to others. The use of face masks is also crucial for [health workers](#) and [people caring for someone in a close setting](#) (at home or in a health care facility).
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after going to the bathroom, before eating and after blowing your nose, coughing or sneezing. If soap and water are not readily available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol. Always wash hands with soap and water if hands are visibly dirty.

From the president...



We are being proactive to keep away from the coronavirus. Until further notice we will not shake hands for the sharing of the peace, hold hands for the Lord's Prayer, and use only the wafer for communion. We have also discontinued Fellowship. We are not passing the offering plate - instead have it placed in the narthex.

I have asked our custodian to wipe the backs of the pews, and I will wipe down the attendance books.

We are now live-streaming our worship service from the start, 9 am, through the sermon. If you do not feel comfortable joining us, you can join us through our website.

From our monthly rental income we are donating \$250 to Caritas.

Please stay safe and healthy! God's blessings to all of you!

Marge Anderson

Dear Members of the Faith Community,

It is with much reflection, consultation, concern, and prayer that your church council has decided that we should discontinue all groups and worship services until further notice. We pray that the isolation that everyone is practicing will bring a quick end to the spread of this dangerous virus.

Prayerfully,

Marge Anderson

Marked Events Postponed!

In light of Michigan schools being canceled with the COVID-19 situation, all three of the "Marked" Youth Events (March 22, April 19, April 26) scheduled for Northern Great Lakes Synod Youth and Leaders have been postponed. Hopes are to reschedule them in some format at a later date. Youth groups and congregations are still encouraged to collect items for Lutheran World Relief Baby Care Kits and include them in the "Fall Shipment" of Lutheran World Relief items that are organized in your respective geographical areas.

STEWARDSHIP CALENDARS



March

	3/1/20	3/8/20	3/15/20	3/22/20	3/29/20
Assisting Minister	Chuck Radtke	Ken Huebner	Melissa Wick	Phoebe Pettingell	Chuck Radtke
Lay Reader	Rob Peterson	Marge Anderson	Jan Harris	Rob Peterson	Betty Roth
Altar Guild	Jan Harris	Sue Sorg	Diane Kliss	Jan Harris	Sue Sorg
Greeters	Matthiaes	Jan and Lily Harris	Andersons	Sue Sorg and Jan Harris	Matthiaes
Music	Rhonda Buss	Rhonda Buss	Rhonda Buss	Dawn Gonitzke	Rhonda Buss
Fellowship	Council	Hauschilds	BOWL	Trustees	Radtkes
Video Streaming	Linda Swanson	Linda Swanson	Linda Swanson	Linda Swanson	Sela Wick

April

	4/5/20	4/9/20	4/12/20	4/19/20	4/26/20
Assisting Minister	Ken Huebner	Melissa Wick	Phoebe Pettingell	Melissa Wick	Ken Huebner
Lay Reader	Rob Peterson	Marge Anderson	Jan Harris	Betty Roth	Lilly
Altar Guild	Diane Kliss	Sue Sorg	Jan Harris	Sue Sorg	Diane Kliss
Greeters	Jan and Lily Harris	Andersons	Wicks	Matthiaes	Confirmation Students
Music	Rhonda Buss	Rhonda Buss	Rhonda Buss	Rhonda Buss	Rhonda Buss
Fellowship	Roths	BOWL	Council	Outreach	Confirmation Students
Video Streaming	Sela Wick	Sela Wick	Sela Wick	Sela Wick	Sela Wick

If you cannot serve on your assigned day, please find a replacement, then notify the church office.

APRIL 2020

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1 12:30 pm Quilters	2 6:00 pm Soup Supper and Lenten Study	3 Office Closed	4
5 9:00 am Holy Communion Palm Sunday	6 Office Closed	7 10:00 am – 12:00 pm Pastor John’s Office Hours 12:30 pm Theology Adventure Club (TAC) 2:00 pm Council Meeting	8 12:30 pm Quilters	9	10	11
12 9:00 am Holy Communion	13 Office Closed	14 10:00 am – 12:00 pm Pastor John’s Office Hours 12:30 pm Theology Adventure Club (TAC)	15 12:30 pm Quilters	16	17	18

19	20	21	22	23	24	25
9:00 am Holy Communion	Office Closed	10:00 am – 12:00 pm Pastor John's Office Hours 12:30 pm Theology Adventure Club (TAC)	12:30 pm Quilters			
26	27	28	29	30		
9:00 am Holy Communion	Office Closed	10:00 am – 12:00 pm Pastor John's Office Hours 12:30 pm Theology Adventure Club (TAC)	12:30 pm Quilters			

Faith Lutheran Church
P.O. Box 436
Three Lakes, WI 54562

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

A member of the Northern Great Lakes Synod
of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America

P.O. Box 436
6995 U.S. Highway 45 South
Three Lakes, WI 54562

Church Office: 715-546-2770

Office Hours: 9:00 am – 12:00 pm
Tuesday – Thursday (closed Monday and Friday)

WEEKLY WORSHIP

Sunday Morning – 9:00 am
Holy Communion

STAFF

Office Administrator: MaryBeth Koslowski
office6995@gmail.com

Interim Pastor: Rev. John Kuziej
pllc@frontier.com

Custodian: Debbie Hock

Organist: Rhonda Buss

VISIT US ON THE WEB

<https://www.faithlutheran-threelakes.org>

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