



FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Faith Matters

JANUARY
2021

WORSHIP TIMES

SUNDAYS— 9:00 A.M.
TRADITIONAL WORSHIP
WEDNESDAYS — 6:15 P.M.
CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP

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Riesterer, *Organists*

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FLC Vice President: Ron Jones
FLC VP Elect: Mike Zutz
Secretary: Judy Harris
Treasurer: Don Domrath

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Greeting 2021 with Hope and Prayer

There is something special about the beginning of a new year. It feels like a fresh start, especially this year. We are all hoping to get past this pandemic and move into a more normal year. Whatever challenges last year held for us, the new year begins fresh, with hope. Our faith and love helped us through this past year with all its challenges and turmoil. May it be our foundation in 2021.

“May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.” (Romans 15:13)

Hope is key to living into the future. Believe that God has the best in mind for you, and for us as *His* church. God has loved you in and through Jesus, his Son. Jesus said he came that we may have life, and have it to the full (John 10:10). That fullness comes when we find our purpose, our wisdom for living, and our joy in and through our relationship with God in Jesus Christ. He invites us into this life of faith, hope and love, lived out as his disciples.

In 2021 let's seek God's fullness together through prayer, worship, reading God's Word (the Bible), and serving others through our various ministries and loving our neighbors. As we get past this pandemic we can also once again gather for fellowship, something we have really missed this past year.

As your pastor I would like to emphasize the faith practice of prayer. Let's pray for the needs of others, but also, let's seek God together as *His* church. What does God want us to be doing right here in Valders and the surrounding communities. Jesus calls us to live by faith: Sharing God's Word, Showing God's love, and Serving God's world.

Faith Lutheran Church is blessed with many dedicated members. I have seen the giving of time and resources, even during the challenges of 2020. There is a love for this congregation and its ministry that continues to move us forward. Thank you for all that you do! But let's never forget our ultimate hope is in God and His never-failing love for us, which we see demonstrated in Jesus Christ. So, let's lean into that love. Let's pray our way through 2021 and beyond.

Serving Christ better together, Pastor Jim



The Annual Budget and Election Meeting of Faith Lutheran Church will be Sunday, January 24 at 10:15 a.m. We encourage you to attend and vote on our 2021 budget and those being elected to board positions in the congregation. Snow Date: January 31.

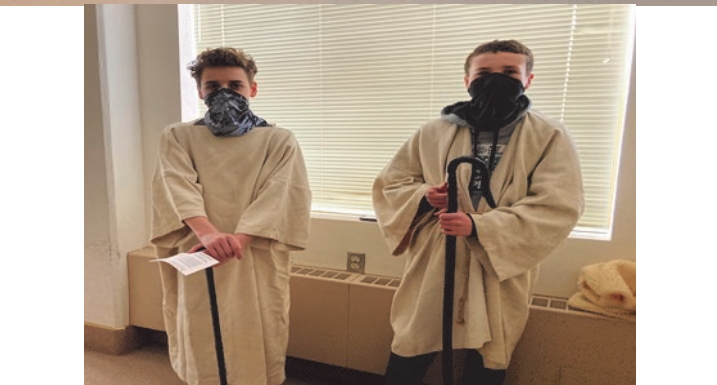
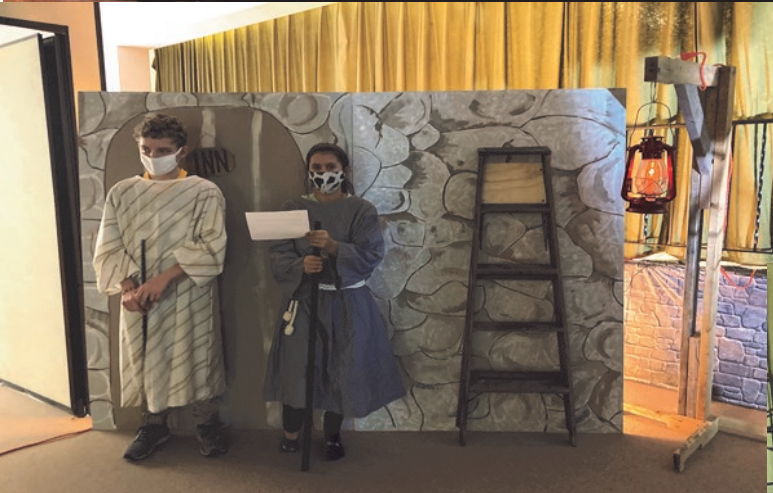
January Stewardship—Baby Care Kits

- 2 lightweight cotton T-shirts, NO ONESIES
- 2 long or short sleeved gowns or sleepers NO FEET
- 2 receiving blankets, medium weight, cotton or flannel, crocheted or knit with lightweight yarn, 52" square
- 1 jacket, sweater or sweatshirt with a hood or include a baby hat if no hood
- 2 pairs of socks
- 1 hand towel—dark color
- 2 BATH SIZE bars of gentle soap (4-5oz.)
- 4 cloth diapers (double fold)
- 2 diaper pins or large safety pins

Clothing sizes 6-24 months

Items should be new or **very gently** used and **not stained**. They should be **marked BABY CARE** and placed in the Stewardship Cabinet across from the church office. **Diapers are especially needed this year.** Any monetary donations can be left in the church office. Thank you for your continued support.

Thousands of years ago, Mary and Joseph walked these streets looking for shelter. It was almost time for Mary to give birth.



A Walk Through Bethlehem

Finances

Income - November 2020

		<i>Budget</i>	<i>YTD Actual</i>	<i>YTD Budget</i>
Envelope Offerings	\$ 26,753.00			
Other Income and Offerings	\$ 802.00			
General Fund Income	\$ 27,555.00	\$ 24,983.50	\$ 287,051.69	\$ 274,818.50
Dedicated Income	\$ 2,826.00		\$ 10,567.00	
Total Income	\$ 30,381.00		\$ 297,618.69	

Operating Expenses - November 2020

Benevolence	\$ 1,928.56			
Board & Other Expenses	\$ 7,049.80			
Personnel Salaries/Benefits	\$ 13,275.81			
General Fund Expense	\$ 22,254.17	\$ 23,976.54	\$ 245,326.38	\$ 263,741.94
Dedicated Expense	\$ 2,079.50		\$ 9,631.50	
Total Expenses	\$ 24,333.67		\$ 254,957.88	

Year to Date General Fund Net Income : \$ 41,725.31

Capital Appeal

10/31/2020	BANK FIRST NATIONAL			\$90,693.57	
Payment Amount			\$1,000.00		
Additional payment			\$2,450.00		
Total Payment		\$3,148.05	Principle paid	301.95	Interest paid
11/30/20	BANK FIRST NATIONAL			\$87,545.52	

Liturgical Roles - Worship Responsibilities

Membership

Baptized.....	801
Confirmed	596
Famillies.....	113

Worship Attendance

Sunday		Wednesday
11/15 Worship—	58	27
Video—	61	
11/22 Worship—	54	37
Video—	54	
11/29 Worship—	63	26
Video—	58	
12/6 Worship—	96	28
Video—	70	
12/13 Worship—	129	32
Video—	21	

Altar Guild Servers

Communion:

January **Bev Torrison, Chair (Committee #2)**
 February **Marlene Evenson, Chair (Committee #1)**

Lectors

1/3	Don Domrath
1/6	Julie Endries
1/10	Ava Ulness
1/13	Matt Berge
1/17	Bob Wigen
1/20	Carol Ulness
1/24	Judy Harris
1/27	Kerry Schnell

Communion Servers

1/6	Julie Endries
1/10	Katie Thomsen
1/24	Judy Harris
1/27	Kerry Schnell



Acolyte Schedule

1/3	DJ Schisel
1/10	Libby Olson
1/17	Addison Spindler
1/24	Gage Spindler

Head Ushers

Matt Krogh and Paul Franz

Greeters

1/3	Cheryl Domrath and Ellen Polifka
1/6	Tim and Julie Endries
1/10	Brian and Tammy Brill
1/13	Judy Valleskey and Tammy Meyer
1/17	Bob and Julie Wigen
1/20	Mary Evenson and Emma Karstaedt
1/24	Paul and Jill Franz
1/27	John and Kerry Schnell

Ushers

1/3	Loren Ulness
1/10	Brian and Mary Thomsen
1/17	Dennis and Bonnie Gordon
1/24	Alan Gilbertson

Sound Operator

1/3	Erin Lenzner
1/6	Kayla Hildebrandt
1/10	Loren Ulness
1/13	Kai Meyer
1/17	Terry Huske
1/20	Kayla Hildebrandt
1/24	Bill Riesterer
1/27	Kelly Meyer

Video Operator

1/6	Kayla Hildebrandt
1/13	Kai Meyer
1/20	Kayla Hildebrandt
1/27	Kelly Meyer



Projection

1/3	Ethan Ulness
1/6	Lauren O'Leary
1/10	Eric Thomsen
1/13	Otis Berge
1/17	Luke Evenson
1/20	Kai Meyer
1/24	Bill Riesterer
1/27	Timber Schuler



NOVEMBER STEWARDSHIP DONATIONS TO MANITOWOC HEALTH CARE CENTER

Sweat pants/sweat shirts
Slipper sox
Individual snacks
Individual small soda cans
Hand lotion
Light colored nail polish/removers
Undershirts
Disposable razors/men & women
Stationary/pens
Large print word search
Adult coloring books
Lipstick/blush
Body cologne/spray
Puzzles
Card game book
All occasion cards/envelopes
Fleece blanket
Crayons, water color paints, color pencils, markers
Drawing paper
Cardigans
Hand soap



QUILTING UPDATE

The Valders Faithful Quilters wish to thank all of you for stepping up and donating fabric, mattress pads as well as monetary contributions.

The amount of money received during the month of November, while our quilts were on the pews, was \$1106. Because of your generosity, we were able to purchase batting and supplies.

We sent:

- 15 quilts to our local Faith Pantry
 - 94 quilts to Salvation Army
 - 24 children's quilts to Hope House
 - 10 quilts to The Haven
 - 15 children's quilts to The Crossing
 - 30 quilts to Christian Learning Center Progresso, delivered by Elma Castro
- Many people will be warmer and wrapped in love this winter in Manitowoc County and beyond because of your generosity. THANK YOU.



Faith Lutheran Church

Merger of Three Congregations 1960-1961

The merger decision was made late in 1960 upon the arrival of Pastor Robert Onkka who guided the group appointed by each congregation. A "Ceremony of Joining Hands" was held on New Year's Day 1961. Committees were formed to make key decisions regarding a new combined constitution and building a new facility that would meet the needs of the three former congregations. The first annual meeting was held February 6, 1961 when the new constitution was adopted. A "Loyalty Dinner" was held May 10, 1961 launching a canvass program to raise money for a building following the purchase of land on the south end of Valders. Architects were hired and bids collected from contractors. Ground breaking was held September 29, 1963. The Cornerstone was laid July 12, 1964 followed by closing services at the 3 churches on August 23, 1964. Formal dedication of Faith Lutheran Church was held August 29-30, 1964. It included a 12 hour prayer vigil on Saturday night followed on Sunday with a special dedication service. The combined congregations consisted of Gjerpen, Valders (West) and Our Saviors Evangelical Lutheran Churches.



Groundbreaking for the new church was on Sept. 29, 1963.

Valders West also organized in 1850. The first church was an octagonal log building located on a hillside west of Valders, completed in 1856. The site was determined by a tree filling contest between two congregation members. A new church was built and dedicated in 1860. A modern parish hole was added and dedicated in 1898.

Our Saviors was organized in 1898. The church was built in 1899. A new parsonage was built next to the church in 1946-47, containing the parish office in the basement also used for Sunday School classes.



Faith Lutheran Church Minutes—November 16, 2020

We received a communication from the Onkka Family; a very nice thank you for our letter and memorial gift, and that our memorial gift was sent to ELCA Good Gifts to feed a refugee family for a month.

Budget Sheets- Stewardship/ First view of Proposed Budget: We were given a first-look and brief explanatory overview of the drafted budget for the upcoming year. We should look it over and bring any questions or comments back to our December meeting. It will then be brought forward as a final draft to become our recommendation to the congregation. Since questions have again come up, we were also given an explanatory sheet naming and defining the 'Funds Available' for persons wishing to give to the church.

Pastor's Report

This past month he did some calling to members and visited a shut-in who was allowed to have people in. He has also been busy getting ready for Thanksgiving and Christmas season services.

OLD BUSINESS

1. A follow-up on new windows for offices: They received a couple of bids, the best one from Bartow Builders in Manitowoc using Andersen windows (they will be checking if the bid does or does not include built-in blinds). It will be done probably in spring, with a cost of \$14,000 for everything. This is in their budget in church maintenance. They would need an extra \$5000, which will be found for them.
2. The wreath to hang on the outside of church has been ordered and will be put up when it comes in. It has a diameter of 84"; Bill and Sue Riesterer will sponsor a spotlight with a timer to shine on it.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Ballots, Nominating Committee, Open Spots: We were given sample ballots and looked them over; there are a few spots yet that need to be filled, but relatively few this year.
2. Thrivent Choice Funds allocation—½ to Hands on Mission and ½ to our pantry. Motion was made and carried to make the Thrivent Choice Funds an ongoing permanent allocation, giving half of the funds to Hands-on Mission, and half to Faith's Food Pantry.
3. Local Benevolence Fund procedure and usage: There was some discussion about how our local benevolence is used and allocated. It was decided to form a task force – Don, Mike, Pastor. They will come up with a written policy and procedure for usage of those funds.
4. Adopt a Member Program initiative: This is an idea coming from Board of Evangelism; they are wondering how it should be organized, whether through a separate committee or under a board. Perhaps, as suggested: by a sub-committee from Evangelism and Fellowship. Julie and Cheryl will discuss its feasibility. Some brainstorming thoughts about carrying out the idea; it could possibly be thought of as a type of "friendship on wheels". They would have volunteers to adopt families, or a couple (a senior couple), maybe for a year; to do things with that couple, such as taking them meal, playing cards, celebrating small holidays with them (i.e. hot chocolate day, pi day, donut day...) Motion will be made next month about how to move forward on this initiative.

Youth Ministry Report – Stacy Schwoerer

They have abundance of Thrivent t-shirts. Perhaps they could be used to donate in homeless pkgs? Donate to Foster families? The logistics of how to distribute need to be figured out yet. We approved that they can go ahead with this idea.

Lay Ministry – Joyce Sorenson. They have been getting some Christmas service survey slips returned; it appears that some 3:00 people are intending to slide back to attend the 1:00 service. The candles for Silent Night are only to be used once, with fresh ones handed out at the next service (a Covid-19 precaution).

Evangelism – Julie Endries. For the web site, she is looking for two worthwhile events to place on our home page for the holidays.

Fellowship – Cheryl Domrath. Due to the virus, they haven't been doing anything; they did order a bussing cart. Regarding the quilts, 64 quilts were delivered to various agencies; 30 went with Elma Castro to Texas. So far there were close to 100 quilts given to foster care, and others, the Salvation Army had a strong need and were very thankful.

Christian Education – Anderia Frank. In-as-Much Sunday will be on Sunday, December 6th. Christmas Program will run live on December 13th during the 9:00 a.m. service, and will be recorded for viewing online.

Youth and Family Ministry – Bobby Jo Robley. Walk thru Bethlehem will be on Sunday December 13th from directly after the service to 11:30, and also at 5:00-7:30 p.m., again at 5:00-7:30 pm on Wednesday, December 16th. Communication for this will be going out to the paper. Reservations are needed because of Covid-19.

Personnel Committee – Ron Jones. Administrative secretarial evaluation, all smooth.

Adjourn—Having completed all business, a motion was made and the meeting was adjourned with the Lord's Prayer at 8:00 pm.

Next meeting on December 21, 2020 at 6:30. Devotions by Stacy Schwoerer

Judy Harris, Secretary

Celebrating Your Birthday!

JANUARY

1. Breckin Franz
2. Marcus Simon
3. Esther Halverson
Kimora Williams
4. Wayne Huske
Jo Jones
5. Jennifer Kiel
7. Robert Klessig
Ginger Linsmeier
Addison Pinkerton
8. Elma Castro
Abigail Reinke
Tannor Wittmus
Marann Schmidt
9. Susan Jeske
Shannon Jorgenson
Lenka Hougen
11. Phoebe Cigler
Casen Ott
12. Justin Kalies
13. Paige Neumeyer
Greta Greif
Ethan Spindler
14. Roy Sebo
Kayla Hildebrandt
Ann Reinke
Mya Bast
16. Janelle Schisel
17. Kathy Muench
Lucas Spindler
18. Dick Halverson
19. Ric Schultz
20. Randy Neumeyer
Chase Wilker
Nicolle Behnke
21. Libby Olson
22. Marilyn Schad
Jeffrey Evenson
Sue Pederson
23. William Bratz Sr.
24. Kenneth Evenson
Rae Madson
25. Jody Koehler
Jacob Halverson
28. Audrey Lippert
29. Aaron Robley
30. Liam Cline
Tammy Esser
31. Kiara Krogh

FEBRUARY

2. Travis Schisel
3. Debra Linzmeier
Craig Zutz
Tristan Teuke
5. Gregory Saueressig
Garrett Ulness
6. Marcus Galien
7. Virginia Schwoerer
8. Lawrence Naidl
Eli Nelson
10. Cynthia Pederson
Stephanie McCulley





Sunday School will begin at 10:00 am and end at 11:00 am January through May 2021.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 Office Closed Bring on the NEW YEAR!	2
3 8:00 Boards of Christian Education and Youth 9:00 Worship 10:00 Sunday School	4 5:00 Bd. Lay Ministry 6:00 Jazzercise and Televised Worship	5 6:00 Board of Evangelism	6 6:15 Worship with Holy Communion 7:15 Confirmation	7 8:00 Quilting 6:00 Jazzercise	8	9 9:00 Christmas Decorations come down
10 9:00 Worship with Holy Communion 10:00 Sunday School	11 6:00 Jazzercise and Televised Worship	12	13 5:00 Board of Stewardship 6:15 Worship 7:15 Confirmation	14 8:00 Quilting 8:30 Secretary's Meeting 6:00 Jazzercise	15 Newsletter info due	16 9:00-10:00 Open Pantry
17 9:00 Worship 10:00 Sunday School	18 <i>No Mail—Martin Luther King Jr. Day</i> 6:00 Jazzercise and Televised Worship 6:30 Council	19	20 6:00 Card Making in Community Room 6:15 Worship 7:15 Confirmation	21 8:00 Quilting 6:00 Jazzercise	22	23
24 9:00 Worship with Holy Communion 10:00 Sunday School— Annual Election and Budget Meeting	25 6:00 Jazzercise and Televised Worship	26	27 6:15 Worship with Holy Communion 7:15 Confirmation	28 8:00 Quilting 6:00 Jazzercise	29	30
31 9:00 Worship 10:00 Sunday School					 Annual Meeting	

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH
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The story of the Magi is our story. God has used his supernatural means to draw us unto himself. ... On one glorious day, when we were exhausted and wearied in our sin, God led us to gaze upon Jesus just as the Magi did. We see the glory of God manifested through Jesus Christ in the internal work of the Holy Spirit. We see our utter sinfulness and God's abounding grace offered in the Messiah. We are filled with joy as this grace sinks into our hearts. We fall down on our knees and confess our need of this Messiah. We worship him and offer up our lives as our greatest offering to him. Then we continue on in our lives, carrying the truth about the Messiah.

—Travis Cunningham, tvcresources.net