EPHIPHANY

The story of the Magi traveling from the East to see the Christ child appears only in the Gospel According to St. Matthew. The word Magi, in Greek magoi, comes from the Latin word meaning "sage." These particular sages were possibly Zoroastrian astrologers from Persia. Upon seeing a star rising in the East (the Star of Bethlehem), they realized it was a sign that the king of the Jews had been born. According to St. Ignatius of Antioch (d. A.D. 107), the star shone with an inexpressible brilliance, and the sun, moon, and other stars all formed a chorus around the special star (Letter to the Ephesians, 19). The wise men followed the star to Bethlehem of Judea, and to Jesus’ dwelling there. Having arrived, they worshipped the infant Jesus, and gave him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

"Homeless Count and Supplies Collection:

On January 28th the city will be conducting its annual count of people who are homeless. The count is conducted by service providers and volunteers in partnership with people who are currently or formerly homeless. The homeless are asked to complete a survey about their situation and are offered a gift bag of needed items. It is important to have an accurate count because the federal government uses it to determine funding. The information also helps us evaluate the efficacy of our work as a community. If you are interested in helping with this count, please contact Shane Hadden, mshanehadden@gmail.com, 917-940-5322, or Joe Swan- son, gailandjoe@windstream.net, 273-4601, before January 9th.

Also, we are collecting items for the bags. There will be a box in the narthex. Please donate lip balm and any other items you think would be appropriate. Our goal is 100 packages of lip balm. The items will be picked up on January 9th.

Thank you."
BUILD Research is Underway - You Can Help

Listen → Research → Action

Three BUILD research committees began their work at the Research to Action kickoff on November 23. The three justice areas BUILD is addressing this year are:

- Payday lending
- Crime and drugs
- Affordable housing

Committees for Payday Lending and Crime and Drugs are still being organized. Help is needed and you are invited to join!

Payday Lending – A Call to Action on January 6

This committee continues to work with the Kentucky Coalition for Responsible Lending and a growing number of allies across the Commonwealth to limit payday lending interest rates to 36%. With encouragement from BUILD, Senator Alice Kerr has pre-filed bill BR 309 to cap interest rates but this bill must first pass through the Banking and Insurance Committee before it can go to the legislature. BUILD, along with other supporters of payday lending rate caps, will assemble in Frankfort on January 6 to meet with Senator Tom Buford, chair of the B&I committee. BUILD needs you at this meeting. If you can attend please contact one of Faith’s team members listed below. We will meet at 11:30 AM, January 6, in the Capitol Annex Cafeteria. The next scheduled committee meetings are at Shiloh Baptist Church on January 22, 2015 at 5:00 PM and February 17, 2015 at 5:00 PM.

Crime and Drugs – Your Help Is Needed

For the second year running the Listening Process uncovered fears stemming from local crime and drugs activities. This committee has started meeting with police, counselors, judges, prosecutors, defenders and others. The goal is to define a single issue in this big problem area and to propose a doable solution for presentation at the Nehemiah Action Assembly in April. The next meeting is at 6:30pm on January 27th at Shiloh Baptist Church. Please consider participating!

Affordable Housing

This year the affordable housing steering committee will follow up and monitor progress of the development Lexington’s Affordable Housing Trust Fund program. A research committee per se will not be formed this year after the victory we had at the Nehemiah Action assembly in April. Follow-up and maintaining BUILD’s presence will be crucial, however.

If you are interested in working for justice with Payday Lending or Crime and Drugs, please contact Pastor Andy or any of Faith’s Justice Ministry Team Members listed for information about the next meeting—Shane Hadden, Jim Larson, Jim McGrath, Bryna Reed, Gail Swanson, or Joe Swanson.

We thank God for our BUILD team and network members. Please pray for them as they work for justice in our community. And we thank God for everyone in the congregation who helps make justice happen.

---

Scripture and songs and bells and strings; organ, piano and so many things... Luther's most famous quote on music is this, “Next to the Word of God, music deserves the highest praise. The gift of language combined with the gift of song was given to man that he should proclaim the Word of God through music.” — and we had both the Word and Music at our beautiful “Advent Lessons and Carols” service here at Faith.

Thank you to Directors, Cliff Cason, Stephanie Farrar and Ruth Lundborg; Accompanists, Carol Davis and Josephine Wendroth; and all those who read, sang, played an instrument, or rang a bell. It was a glorious afternoon of Word and Music blended into Worship.

Thank you for the lovely reception and to all those who prepared and served.

And to all those who came to listen, we pray your worship in Lessons and Carols was Spirit filled and helped prepare you for the Miracle in the Manger.
Dear Partner in Ministry,

Greetings from Ignite — Lutheran Campus Ministry at the University of Kentucky. My name is Dana Lockhart and I am the new full time interim campus pastor serving Ignite. As some of you know, I was active in campus ministry during my time as a graduate student at UK. Following Pastor Barry’s retirement, I was called by Ignite’s board to serve as campus pastor for a two year interim period. As your missionary on UK’s campus, I am pleased to send word that Ignite is undergoing a period of renewal and growth.

This ministry is made possible through the generous support of our ministry partners. We would invite you to be part of Ignite’s renewal by making a financial contribution to campus ministry. If you prefer to give online, we invite you to check out our page on GoFundMe.com. We have a goal of raising $2500 entirely online in 2015. The direct link to our page is: http://www.gofundme.com/uklem.

Please accept our thanks for the gifts you have given in the past, and we are grateful for your continued prayerful and financial support.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Dana Lockhart

1/4 6:30-8:15 - 11th Day of Christmas party. Come recognize our liturgical heritage by celebrating Christmas into January with snacks, games, and the infamous white elephant gift exchange. Bring a fun, unwanted, or tacky wrapped gift.

1/11 12:30-1:30 - Puccini’s planning lunch - bring $5 toward your meal and FLY activities for the months ahead.

1/18 3:30-5:00 - Ice Skating at Lexington Ice Center ($7.75 to skate; $2.25 for skate rental.)

1/25 - Souperbowl of caring - Collect canned goods at church to support the Super Bowl team of your choice.

1/31 - 10:00-noon - Souperbowl of caring - collect food at Euclid Kroger for God’s Pantry Food Bank.
The following is the list of persons who have said they would like to be listed. Please keep them in your prayers. In the future, when putting people on the prayer list, please inform the church office if you would like their names and concerns to be shared in this way.

Bonnie Harstad’s family.

Steve Carter, complications with his transplant.

Sydney and Adeline Taber, daughters of Leslie Taber, continued growth as premature infants.

Randy Will, son of Eileen Will, spinal cord injury.

Henning Egner, has undergone cancer treatments and is waiting for an evaluation.

Carol and Jim Larson’s friend, Emily, complications following cancer treatments.

Valentine’s Day— Saturday - February 14 - 2015

The Parish Life Committee once again presents a unique formal dining experience at Faith:

Prix Fixe Menu ($25/person)
(salad, choice of entée and dessert)

Individual Table Service
Two Seatings - 5pm and 7pm
Reservations Required

Mocktails will be served - no alcohol please (per FLC policy).

All proceeds benefit Pastor’s Discretionary Fund

Watch for More Information!

If you have a tea cart we may borrow for this event, please contact Nancy George.

Update from the Call Committee
December 28, 2014

The Call Committee would like you to know that we recently conducted an in-person interview of our fourth candidate. Although this candidate was an experienced pastor who may have brought some strengths to our congregation, in the judgment of the Call Committee there were several areas of concern that caused us to doubt that the candidate would have been a good match for our congregation and our needs. As a result, we have notified the bishop’s office that we are releasing this candidate and are ready to receive another.

Please know that we came to this decision prayerfully – trusting the Holy Spirit to guide us – as we have with each of the candidates. I know that this news will be disappointing to many of you. I can assure you, we feel that same disappointment, but we also feel a strong commitment to finding a pastor who brings the mix of skills we need – preaching, teaching, leadership, interpersonal skills, administration and overall pastoral skills ... a pastor who will help us continue to discern where God is leading us ... a pastor who has the ability to help us feel God’s grace and to stir us to share that message with others ... a pastor who welcomes the opportunity to minister to all of God’s children.

Just such a pastor is out there waiting for us to find him or her. While releasing this candidate is a temporary setback, we remain optimistic and ask for your continued prayers and support as we move forward with the process. If you have any additional potential candidates for consideration, please forward the candidate’s name and current location to a member of the Call and we will send it on to the bishop’s office.
Community Ministry wants to thank members of Faith for making the Holidays brighter this year for others.

Those who rang the Salvation Army Bell for their Red Kettle Campaign:

- Martin, Samantha and Evan Shearer
- Miriam and Ned Brown
- Clover and Shane Hadden
- Julie Keller
- Carolyn Carden and Jim
- Gordon Grotrian and Abbie Johnson
- Richard and Cindy Heine

Those who baked and sliced turkeys for Nathaniel United Methodist Mission’s Thanksgiving Dinner:

- Carol Davis
- Bev Rosenberg
- Alann Karow
- Jill Shearer
- Jennifer Barricklow
- Gordon Grotrian
- Danielle Kelley
- Melody Kazee
- Louise Heiss
- Jennifer Klee
- Gail Swanson
- Donita Henry
- Roland and Helen Born
- Jane Pettibone
- Miriam David
- Marianne Kehres
- Grace Saatman
- Robert Vaughn
- Kerstin Wendroth

And thanks to Larry Isenhour, Eileen Will and Paul Sorenson for delivering the baked turkeys to the Mission and Karen Fitzgerald for help in organizing this year.
NEW MILESTONE REACHED IN GIVING

Dear supporters of the ELCA Malaria Campaign,

Because of your generosity, we have reached a new milestone in giving: the ELCA Malaria Campaign has now raised more than $13 million!

This puts us well on our way to reaching our goal of $15 million by the end of 2015. Thanks to the outpouring of gifts, we're ahead of schedule. The money that you give supports malaria programs implemented by Lutheran companions and partners in Africa—programs that help communities to reach goals of increased health, of renewed hope, of wholeness in body and spirit.

Each gift to the ELCA Malaria Campaign, no matter the size, contributes to the efforts we are undertaking, together with our Lutheran sisters and brothers in Africa, to help make malaria history.

With deep gratitude,
ELCA Malaria Campaign staff

KindSight is a new way to help end poverty around the world.

Choose specific parts of Lutheran World Relief projects to support and then get updates, photos and stories about how you are helping people help themselves.

KindSight is a project of Lutheran World Relief (LWR). All money raised through KindSight supports LWR’s work to create a world where each person, every community and all generations live in justice, dignity and peace.

It brings you closer to the people you’re helping; you get to know exactly who, how and where your contributions are making a difference:

- You get stories, photos, and video from the project being funded showing them exactly how you are making an impact.
- You not only choose the specific projects you want to support, you are also funding specific items in that project like seeds, wells or trainings.
- Your profile has information about the amount of money you’ve given AND raised, how many people you’ve helped, and the items you have funded or raised money for.

Watch videos and learn more at mykindsight.org

Collecting Fruit and Cookies for Hope Center Residents

Community Ministry will prepare and serve a meal at Hope Center as part of their Twelve Days of Christmas. Help is needed in providing cookies and fresh fruit. We usually serve about 200 men. If you can help, please leave fruit and cookies in the kitchen at church, labeled HOPE CENTER no later than noon Monday, Jan. 5.

Those wishing to help prepare and serve the food should contact Carolyn Carden, 263-4427
January Birthdays

1. Randall Greene
2. Carol Larson
3. Jack Cassel
4. Anna Bosch
5. Tim Guthrie
6. Kyle Hagen
7. Katie Booth
8. Amanda Konkle
9. Diana Seidel
10. Irmgard Kindler
11. Elna VerWyk
12. Lindi DeBilzan
13. Sue Anne Lau
14. Pat Mundt
15. Sarah Prewitt
16. Chris Augsburg
17. Greg Buchanan
18. Naomi Nichols
19. Henning Egner
20. Chet Stevenson
21. Marsha Peasley
22. Samantha Shearer
23. Jaiden Lentz
24. David Palmquist
25. Mary Ann Patrick
26. Martin Shearer
27. Pat Bardo
28. Trude Ranta
29. Bea Rosenberg
30. Trevor Wilson
31. Leslie Bardo
32. Kristi Karow
33. Janet Eldred
34. MariaRosa Berweiler

January Anniversaries

4. Rick & Lara St. Peter
13. Dana & Rebecca Lockhart
21. Kris & Bridgette Kimel
28. Steve & Teri Knudsen

Deaths:

Jan Sayre, member of Faith, died December 4th.

Nina VanWyk, member of Faith, died December 5th.

Marriage

Stephanie Watkins and Scott Meier were married on December 20th.

It's time to renew your subscription to *The Lutheran* magazine. Subscriptions are paid for by individuals desiring to subscribe to the monthly periodical. Faith will pay for the first year for new members. The annual rate is $8.95 if subscribing through the church, or $19.95 if you choose to subscribe directly through Augsburg Fortress. An envelope specifically for *The Lutheran* is in the front of your offering envelope box. Please make checks payable to “Faith Lutheran Church” and indicate *The Lutheran* in the memo portion of your check. Deadline to order is January 15th. For more information, contact Ruth Lundborg, 266-7621, or office@faithlutheranchurch.com

from the staff at Faith for your generosity this past Christmas. The cards, gifts, and monetary donations were greatly appreciated. We feel blessed to serve this wonderful congregation.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Attendance</th>
<th>Worship</th>
<th>Sunday School</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>November 23</td>
<td>212</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 30</td>
<td>176</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 7</td>
<td>226</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 14</td>
<td>168</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 21</td>
<td>194</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NEWSLETTER ARTICLES ARE DUE THE 20TH OF EACH MONTH. ARTICLES MAY BE EDITED AS TO SIZE, CONTENT AND TIMELINESS.

Marian Lundborg, Messenger Editor, mclundborg@gmail.com
Service Schedule

Sunday Worship 8:30 AM, 11:00 AM, 6:00 PM
(Nursery provided during the 8:30 and 11:00 AM services)
Sunday School (Sept. through May) 9:45 AM

Staff

Andy Rutrough, Interim Pastor 266-7621 or 859-314-1945
pastorandy@faithlutheranchurch.com
Day off—Friday
Ruth Lundborg, Parish Administrator 266-7621
office@faithlutheranchurch.com
Monday—Thursday 8:00—4:00, Friday 8:00—1:00
Clif Cason, Interim Director of Music Ministries 273-0125
clif.cason@gmail.com
Charla Heersche, Child Care Director 268-0108
childcare@faithlutheranchurch.com
Bryna Reed, Coordinator of Educational Ministries 489-8128
bleed@twc.com
Kevin Lentz, Coordinator of Youth Ministries 948-5159
lentz.kevin@gmail.com
Brian Lundborg, Sexton 327-2326
H. Gene Templar, Pastor Emeritus
Marian Lundborg, Messenger Editor mclundborg@gmail.com 559-3784

(859) 266-7621 or (859) 266-9600 e-mail: office@faithlutheranchurch.com

2014 Congregational Council

Acting President Steve Knudsen
Vice President Debbie Rosenberg
Treasurer Pat Mundt
Secretary

Committee Liaisons

Audit Steve Knudsen
Child Care Nick Veil
Christian Education Bront Davis
Community Ministry Penni Black
Evangelism Mary Ann Patrick
Finance Debbie Rosenberg
Global Mission Sharon Fegley
Long-Range Planning Pat Mundt
Mission Endowment Steve Knudsen
Nominating Steve Knudsen
Parish Life Elaine Billington
Personnel
Property Jim McGrath
Pastoral Staff Support Penni Black
Stewardship Tim Sorenson
Worship Wayne Schedler
Youth Ministry Jeremy Martinez

website: http://www.faithlutheranchurch.com