

# The Messenger

February, 2021

## From the Pastor

Partings are never easy. I've noticed how we like to use positive language calling them goodbyes or farewells. Even as we acknowledge sadness in parting, I desire for my ending with you to be as positive as possible. My own emotions around leaving are a mix of grieving and excitement as the bonds of our relationship begin to loosen while the draw of a new opportunity beckons. Know that I will continue to pray for Faith congregation. You have a multitude of gifted people to lead you through this time of transition and change. I trust the Holy Spirit will continue to guide you into a new day.

I greatly appreciate all the people who have reached out to me with messages of thanks and well wishes for my future, and I want to take some time in the next few weeks to personally connect with as many of you as possible.

I'm open to meeting with you in person, masked and properly distanced in the Gathering Area. You can call me to schedule a time for this. I'm also very open to your phone calls or Facetime calls (if you have an iPhone). My cell number is 765-437-3879, or you may catch me at the office, 859-266-7621. We can also meet by Zoom. You can call or send me an email to set up a time and I'll send you a link ([pastormark@faithlutheranchurch.com](mailto:pastormark@faithlutheranchurch.com)).

Before I go we'll have entered into the season of Lent, beginning another year's journey to the cross and empty tomb. I hope that through my five and a half years with you that I've continued to point you to the cross and the gifts and call of God that we all receive through baptism. I hope that God has used me to stir up within you a renewed passion for discipleship. I hope that you'll continue to heed God's call to die in order to live. I pray that

you'll carry on as servants of Christ, loving unconditionally, and seeking peace and justice throughout the earth.

I'll continue to treasure how we've been able to join our hearts together in worship, giving thanks for being beloved children of God, fed by word and sacrament for our journeys. I give thanks for having guided and participated in the vast ministries of Faith Lutheran congregation, and I trust that the Spirit will continue to lead you in discerning and fulfilling God's mission for you in the months and years to come. In other words my hope for Faith is that you 'fare well.'

Even as we part, and I'll no longer be your Pastor, I take great comfort in knowing that we will remain one in Christ. My peace, and the peace of Christ, I leave with you. *Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not let them be afraid.* Let's connect as I go, and in doing so our parting will be good.

Deepest Blessings,

*Pastor Mark*



## Worship

The Sunday morning in-person worship service is currently suspended due to rise in COVID-19 cases. The 11:00 AM worship is live-streamed via YouTube and our Facebook page. You can access the livestream from our [website](#) or from our [Facebook](#) page. For safety reasons, only those who are serving attend this service: the pastor, assisting minister, cantor, musician, sacristan and technology coordinator.

## Lenten Worship



Ash Wednesday worship will be livestreamed on February 17 at 7:00 PM. Shortly before, you will be invited to come by the church and pick up ashes to mark the foreheads of you and your family. Of course, you can use your own ashes from a candle or a fireplace. We are currently planning mid-week

Lenten services and will have more information on that soon.

## Tuesday Bible Study

In the Tuesday morning Bible Study we are currently studying the Gospel of John, which was written so that people may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing they may have life in his name (20:31). The meeting is held on Zoom at 11:00. Here is the link to join:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87550398740?pwd=QWFobEsvNTE0blZPdytoWVgvOTZ0QT09>

All are welcome. We would be happy to have you at any time.

## Livestream Operators Needed

Every Sunday we need people to operate the livestream equipment. If you would be willing to be trained to do this, please contact [Kathy](#) in the office.

## Harstad Fine Arts Exhibit

Harstad Fine Arts Series is pleased to present a virtual exhibit of paintings and prints by the late Jim McCormick. You may find the exhibit on the HFAS [website](#) under Art Exhibits. Thanks to virtual magic, you may also see the exhibits of photographs by Ray Hughes and Debbie Anderson.



## New Security System

In a couple of weeks, we will begin using a new security system. In part, this is necessary to provide better security for the Learning Center so that, especially in light of COVID restrictions, unauthorized people will be unable to enter the building. It will also, of course, provide enhanced security for the church, as well as contactless entry. No more pushing buttons! Under the new system, we will no longer have a generic code to enter the building. There are three possibilities for you to become authorized to enter the building under the new system:

1. Facial Recognition. Come by the office and have your picture taken. Then when you approach the door, it will recognize your face and the door will unlock. This is the easiest and preferred method.

2. Key Fob. Get your own personal key fob that you can scan at the door to unlock it. The main disadvantage to this is that you might lose your fob.

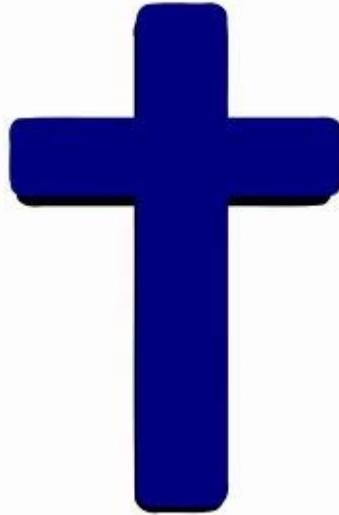
3. QR code. Get a QR code copied to your phone or to a piece of paper. Again, if you don't have your phone or paper with you, you cannot get into the building.

Of course, you will still be able to buzz the office and, during office hours, Kathy will unlock the door for you. For now, continue to use the old code. We will let you know when we switch to the new system. When you have a chance, please come to the office and let Kathy know your preferred method of entry and she will set you up. If you have questions, please feel free to call.

# Life Together at Faith

## February Birthdays

- 3 Helen Born  
Bonnie Chastain
- 8 Henry Coleman  
Susan Hamilton
- 11 Bert Grotrian
- 14 Aja Hammonds
- 15 Paige Barricklow  
Andrea Sabbatine
- 16 Henry Kurth
- 17 Debbie Anderson  
Anna Shannon
- 20 Josh Lundborg  
Sam Lundborg  
Christina Williams
- 21 Leah Hower
- 22 Gena Cooper  
Kay Cottrill
- 24 Hannah Williams
- 27 Patty Slevin
- 28 Scott Wilson



## February Anniversaries

- 8 Daniel & Sue Anne Lau
- 16 Joyce & Ford Cornett  
Charlie & Susan Hamilton
- 17 Gene & Susan Harper

## Baptism Anniversaries

- 1 Griffin Farrar
- 15 Sharon Fegley
- 16 Pat True
- 18 Ashlyn Sievers
- 19 Mark Sloss
- 22 Michael Miller
- 29 Henry Kurth

## Deaths

On January 24, our brother in Christ, Helmut Schumacher, was called into eternal life. Click [here](#) to read his obituary. Please keep Ruth and Helmut's entire family in your prayers. May he rest in peace and may God comfort those who mourn.

# December Financial Summary

Dec 2020	Total Income - Month	Total Expense - Month	Actual Total Income Less Actual Total Expense	Total Income - YTD	Total Expense - YTD	Actual Total Income Less Actual Total Expense
Budget Forecast	\$36,164.83	\$36,461.51		\$433,978.00	\$437,538.00	
<b>Actual</b>	<b>\$43,636.09</b>	<b>\$23,598.47</b>	<b>\$20,037.62</b>	<b>\$366,377.15</b>	<b>\$327,788.52</b>	<b>\$38,588.63</b>
Variance	\$7,471.26	(\$12,863.04)		(\$67,600.85)	(\$109,749.48)	
%	120.7%	64.7%		84.4%	74.9%	

## Faith Lutheran Church

1000 Tates Creek Drive  
Lexington, KY 40502  
Phone: 859-266-7621  
Fax: 859-266-9600  
Email:  
office@faithlutheranchurch.com



## Church Council 2020

Jonathan Delap, President  
Richard Heine, Vice-President  
Gayle McGrath, Secretary  
Roland Born  
Sherri Greer  
Carolyn Holmes  
JoEllen McComb

## Other Key Leaders

Shane Hadden, Financial Secretary  
Debbie Rosenberg, Acting Treasurer

## Worship Schedule

Sunday Online Streaming, 11:00 AM

## Staff

### Mark Sloss, Pastor

pastormark@faithlutheranchurch.com  
859-266-7621

Office hours: Tues-Thurs 9:00-12:00, day off Friday  
765-437-3879

### Kathy Egner, Parish Administrator

office@faithlutheranchurch.com  
859-266-7621

Office hours: Mon-Thurs 9:00-3:00; Fri. 9:00-12:00

### Neil McComb, Sexton

859-229-8834

### Charla Heersche, Learning Center Director

flc859@gmail.com  
859-268-0108

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