

# Faith Lutheran Church Messenger

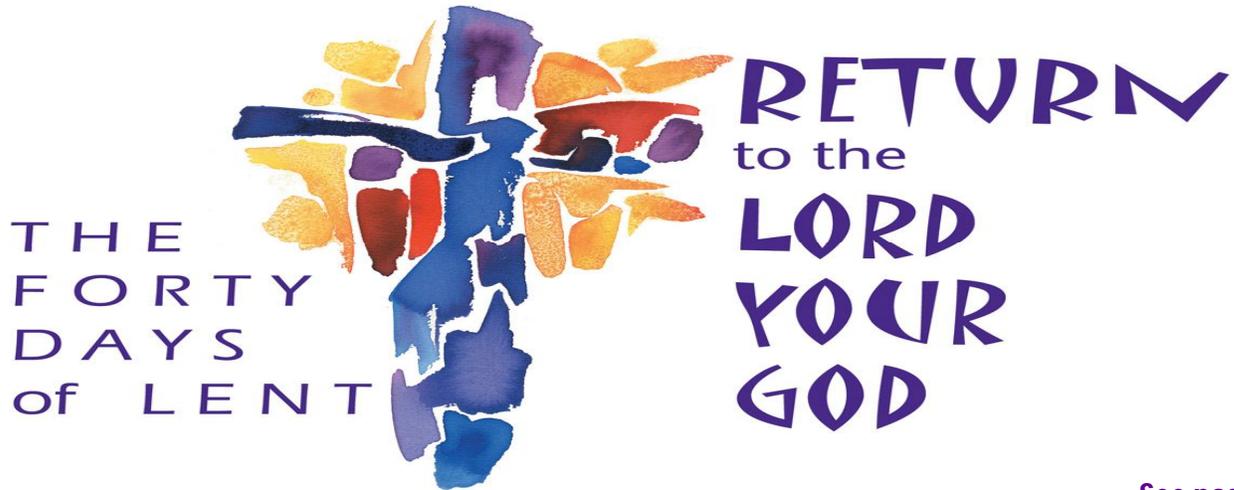
1000 Tates Creek Road,, Lexington, KY 40502

(859) 266-7621 or (859) 266-9600

e-mail: [office@faithlutheranchurch.com](mailto:office@faithlutheranchurch.com)

website: <http://www.faithlutheranchurch.com>

March 2017



See page 2

I'm addressing this month what might first appear as a very mundane subject, office hours. I've heard some anonymous feedback that some people want me to hold set office hours, so that they know when they could stop by the church to chat with me. I have difficulty doing that because my schedule fluctuates on a weekly and even daily basis. If I did post certain hours, then I'm sure that I would be frustrating people who stopped by during those hours only to discover that I'm not there. Furthermore, when I'm in the office, I'm often focused on some project or on meeting with someone, which inhibits my availability to chat.

It seems to me that the underlying issue is a desire to connect with your pastor on an informal basis, and I want you to know that I share in that desire. I've greatly appreciated everyone who has taken the initiative to make an appointment to meet with me or to go out for a meal together to connect and chat. I love to do this and find sacred moments in hearing about the joys and sorrows of your lives. So please hear my desire to be available to you and my wish to connect with you. My office hours are thus by appointment and only a phone call or email away.

As a follow-up to last month, someone responded by sending me an email with a passage about contemplation, of which I'm inclined to share this portion:

The contemplative has nothing to tell you except to reassure you and say that, if you dare to penetrate your own silence and risk the sharing of that solitude with the lonely other who seeks God through you, then you will truly recover the light and the capacity to understand what is beyond words and beyond explanations because it is too close to be explained: it is the intimate union, in the depths of your own heart, of God's spirit and your own secret inmost self, so that you and God are in all truth One Spirit. (Thomas Merton, *The Hidden Ground of Love*)

In the Love, Faith, and Hope of Christ,

*Pastor Mark*

**Mission Statement:** "As followers of Jesus Christ, we embrace, reflect and proclaim God's unconditional love."





## Ash Wednesday

### **March 1—Imposition of Ashes and Holy Communion**

**7:30 am & noon**—Abbreviated services for those wanting to begin their day with Ashes

**7:30 pm** Full liturgy with choir

Consider making Ash Wednesday a day of fasting. Abstain from food and drink (except water) for all or part of the day. Donate the cost of what you would have eaten to the ELCA World Hunger Appeal. (You can do this even if you don't choose to fast.)



The Indiana-Kentucky Synod office in Indianapolis has recently undergone renovations and requested synod churches to donate crosses to hang on the walls of the office. Faith sent a Haitian cross from the recent Global Mission sale.

Dear Pastor Sloss and the members of Faith Lutheran,

Thank you for the colorful cross from Haiti that you gave to the IK Synod's collection. It is a neat representation of that important ministry your community supports.

Thank you also for the congregational support check for Anna Sloss' candidacy process. We appreciate your ongoing prayer and support for those who are pursuing a call to ministry.

Peace,  
Pr. Heather Apel  
I-K Synod, Assistant to the Bishop

## Wednesdays in Lent

### **With Awe and Love: A Joint-Midweek Service Based on Luther's Small Catechism**

The year 2017 marks the international observance of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation. In honor of that anniversary, this midweek Lenten series is built around Luther's Small Catechism. The Small Catechism was designed as a teaching tool of the faith, not just within the church but in the home. Luther intended for the home to be the place where faith was first shared and taught. To that end he created the Small Catechism: a simple explanation of the Ten Commandments, the Creed, the Lord's Prayer, and the Sacraments. He included basic prayers for morning and evening, and suggested ways to worship, praise, and revere God during each part of our day.

6:00 pm Soup Supper 7:00 pm Worship Service

#### **March 8**

The Ten Commandments: Rev. Leah Schade  
Faith Lutheran

#### **March 15**

The Apostle's Creed: Rev. Mark Sloss  
Gethsemane Lutheran  
2185 Garden Springs Dr.

#### **March 22**

The Lord's Prayer: Rev. Laura Altman  
Faith Lutheran

#### **March 29**

Holy Baptism: Rev. Joan Sorenson  
Gethsemane Lutheran

#### **April 5**

Holy Communion: Rev. Jim Merkel  
Faith Lutheran

**Volunteers are needed to provide soup** for March 8, 22, and April 5 for the Midweek soup suppers. 3 soups are needed each week. If you're willing to prepare a crock pot of soup and bring to church by 5:30 on one of the above dates, please contact [Scott Gralheer](mailto:Scott.Gralheer@faithlutheran.org), 273-5077.

**We are pleased to announce that Amber Shirley has agreed to become our Faith Formation Ministry Director and will begin on March 1<sup>st</sup>.** Creating and filling this position is a big step forward as we seek to fulfill God's calling for Faith Lutheran Church. Since this is a new position there will be a lot of sharing and learning going on so please feel free to talk with Pastor Mark, Tim Sorenson or David Templar if you have any questions and please welcome Amber as she begins her calling with us.

## New Stuff in the Air



And what exactly is that new stuff? Faith's first time ever Justice Ministry Committee met on January 16 (which was, ironically, the day we celebrat-

ed the birth of Martin Luther King, Jr.) to talk, strategize and plan for ways that we can be a more justice-oriented, justice-motivated, justice-seeking church community.

And, why exactly would we do that? Because we're Lutherans. And even though we are reluctant to make changes -- such as in our religious celebrations or even where we sit on Sundays-- we are also children of God who, as Lutherans, affirm through our baptism that we will serve others and work toward justice for our brothers and sisters. Martin Luther told us we should do justice. The Bible tells us we should do justice: "...and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God." (Micah 6:8) And, I suspect there are times when our heart tells us we should do justice.

The Justice Ministry Committee has developed some really good plans to help us get to know ourselves and our interests a bit better; to help us learn about what justice is and what it could look like in our communities; to help us move up from our seats (pews) and out into the world in a variety of ways; and to perhaps make us more comfortable in stepping out of our traditional roles into something different.

We'll keep you posted!

Gail Swanson

## FLY...MARCH EVENTS



3/5: Planning lunch at Puccini's after the 11:00 service. Please bring \$5 toward the cost of your meal and ideas for FLY events for the months ahead.

3/19: Soup Lunch after the 11:00 service. We need all available youth to help with serving and cleanup. Proceeds will go toward the 2018 Youth Gathering trip; those thinking about attending that trip should definitely plan to be there. We also need 6-8 crock pots of soup donated - please let Kevin know what you can provide. Thanks!



3/24-3/25: 6 p.m. to 9 a.m. Back to the 80s! Lockin at church. Wear your most gnarly, tubular threads. Snacks provided, including pizza

around 8:00 p.m. We'll be listening to some illin' tunes and watch some fresh flicks from the decade, including Goonies. Friends, as always, are welcome. RSVPs appreciated. Parents should complete the [permission form](#) for each attendee.



THRIVENT BUILDS WITH HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

## Update on the Reformation 500 Build

Please see [www.faithlutheranchurch.com/docs/FaithNotesContent/HabitatReformation500.pdf](http://www.faithlutheranchurch.com/docs/FaithNotesContent/HabitatReformation500.pdf) for a detailed overview of the project. We will share the official family biography when it is available from Habitat for Humanity.

Construction will start on Wednesday, September 13<sup>th</sup>. We will share a more detailed schedule of the construction phase when it is available from Habitat for Humanity.

Thank you to all who came to the kick-off at Blue Stallion Brewery on February 1<sup>st</sup>! People from 5 Lutheran churches attended and we raised \$800.

Faith Lutheran Church is planning several events that are listed below to raise money. We hope you will consider how you can contribute to provide this family a permanent home.

### **How you can give towards the dollar goal:**

On-line: Please see [www.faithlutheranchurch.com/docs/FaithNotesContent/HabitatReformation500.pdf](http://www.faithlutheranchurch.com/docs/FaithNotesContent/HabitatReformation500.pdf) for details

By Check (either mail directly to Faith Lutheran Church or put into the offering basket) write "Reformation 500 Build" in the memo at the bottom left on your check.

### **Meet the Kashira Family: Sunday April 2<sup>nd</sup>**

The Kashira family will join us for the potluck breakfast on April 2<sup>nd</sup>. We will ask for donations and sell potted flowers (just in time for spring planting!) and orchid terrariums. The youth will decorate the pots during their "lock-in" the weekend before the breakfast.

How about buying one of these potted flowers for a home-bound or facility-bound member of our congregation who might need a bit of brightening in her/his day? If you would like the name of someone or plan to buy one for someone you already know, please contact Kathy Heersche, Jeannie Shands, Diann Terry.

### **Bid on something special at the Silent Auction running April 2<sup>nd</sup> through May 7th.**

We will have a silent auction to raise funds for the Kashira's house. How about a nice Mother's Day basket of things for Mom? Or a UK sports basket, including a signed photo of John Calipari? If you have questions or something we could auction, please contact Cindy Heine.

### **Join a golf scramble with others from the Lutheran community in early summer.**

Thrivent Financial will host a golf scramble to raise money for the build. We will share details when they are available.

### **Would you like to help with the food during construction (starting 9/13/17)?**

Please contact Carolyn Carden.

### **Would you like to help with the construction (starting 9/13/17)?**

Please contact Diane Nicely or Marianne Kehres.

## **On the Table**

**Members of Faith will be participating in "On the Table" discussions on March 15.** These conversations are being organized by Blue Grass Community Foundation to inform *Imagine Lexington*, the city's Comprehensive Plan. The conversations and community engagement from diverse voices throughout the city will enhance Lexington's vision for the future. This is an opportunity to talk about the issues, big and small, that impact our quality of life and that of the city. How did you get to Lexington, why do you stay and what do you want for the future? How do we build and maintain the neighborhoods and city we desire?

Several groups at Faith have already committed to having this conversation, including the Men's Thursday morning breakfast group and the OWL lunch group.

A group open to anyone will be held on Wednesday, March 15 at 10:00 a.m. in the Gathering Area. Join us for coffee, refreshments and a good conversation.

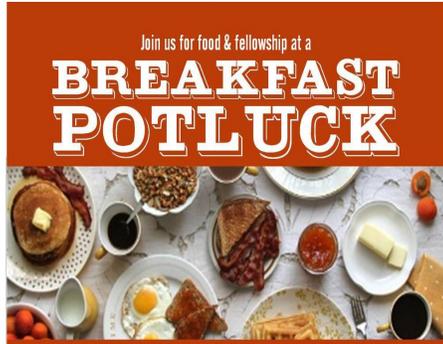
To let us know you plan to attend or to schedule this discussion with another committee or group, contact Cindy (351-9419) or Richard Heine (221-5770).

**MARCH BIRTHDAYS**

- 1 Gisela Atkerson
- 3 Dale Austin  
Adrienne Matson
- 5 Aeris Hammonds
- 7 Lucy Bergen
- 8 Susan Harper  
Jade Paumi  
Kylie Paumi
- 9 Steve Knudsen
- 10 Jim Burnside
- 11 JoEllen McComb  
Payton Sword
- 12 Jan Isenhour  
Linda McDaniel
- 13 Rebecca Lockhart  
Judy Templar
- 15 William Kelley  
Lin Whitley
- 16 Charles Hamilton
- 17 Hailey Shannon
- 18 Kevin Lentz
- 19 Gene Harper  
Troy Peasley  
Josephine Wendroth
- 21 Alann Karow  
Carson Veil
- 22 Karl Krause
- 23 Walt Keinath
- 24 Kathy Egner  
Chris Fugmann
- 27 Joe Swanson  
Tara Sword
- 28 Betsy Filchak
- 29 Carly Fugmann  
Ray Hughes
- 31 Tim Sorenson

**MARCH ANNIVERSARIES**

- 2 Jack & Dottie Cassel  
Jack & Carole Seibert
- 19 Mike & Julie Keller



**First Sunday Potluck Breakfast - On the first Sunday of the month, instead of Sunday School, we will have a potluck breakfast between our two morning worship services as a way to build a stronger sense of community within our congregation. Everyone is invited to bring something to share, be it fruit, pastries, juice, a breakfast casserole, or whatever. There will be no formal Sunday School classes on these Sundays, but rather an informal time for all ages to gather in order to share about what's happening in your life and faith with each other. If you forget to bring food to share, then you can still participate as long as you have a joke or word of wisdom to share instead. Please join us on March 5th!**

**Baptism:**

Owen Martin Witt, son of Adam and Heather Witt, was baptized February 19<sup>th</sup>.

Has there been a time of joy or sorrow in your life? Please let Pastor Mark or the church office know of life events that have occurred and how Faith can support you.

**O.W.L.s**  
(Older, Wiser, Lutherans)



**NOTE NEW LOCATION**

OWLs will meet for lunch at  
The Liberty Road Café  
720 Henry Clay Blvd.  
March 16th—12:30 p.m.

**Look forward to seeing you there.**

**For further directions contact:  
Carolyn Carden**

**(859) 263-4427**



Steve Carter, undergoing dialysis and on kidney transplant list.

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

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

Henning Egner, dealing with Alzheimer's.

Bill Eggers, dealing with Parkinson's disease.

<b>Attendance</b>	<b>Worship</b>
January 29	169
February 5	172
February 12	177
February 19	162

**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**

Mark Sloss, Pastor pastormark@faithlutheranchurch.com (Call or email for appointment / Day off—Friday)	266-7621 765-437-3879
Tom White, Cantor (Director of Music Ministries) cantortom@faithlutheranchurch.com (Call or email for appointment / Day off—Friday)	266-7621 843-303-1005
Amber Shirley, Faith Formation Ministry Director ambershirley@faithlutheranchurch.com	266-7621
Ruth Lundborg, Parish Administrator office@faithlutheranchurch.com Monday—Thursday 8:00—4:00, Friday 8:00—1:00	266-7621
Charla Heersche, Child Care Director childcare@faithlutheranchurch.com	268-0108
Kevin Lentz, Coordinator of Youth Ministries lentz.kevin@gmail.com	948-5159
Brian Lundborg, Sexton	388-4022
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

**Faith Lutheran Church Council—2017**

Ned Brown  
 Shane Hadden  
 Charlie Hamilton  
 Jim Larson  
 Debbie Rosenberg  
 Tim Sorenson  
 David Templar

website: <http://www.faithlutheranchurch.com>