

Faith Lutheran Church
The Messenger
April, 2025



Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, 2 looking to Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God. (Hebrews 12:1-2)

The 20th of April is a day noted for controversy and tragedy. As the birthday of Adolf Hitler, 4/20 carries historical weight and continues to be commemorated within neo-Nazi circles. It is likely this association played a role in the perpetrators of the Columbine school shooting selecting this day to carry out their horrible attack in 1999. For years afterward, schools were often on alert and experienced an uptick in threats each April. Compared to those associations, the connection between 4/20 and the slang term for marijuana (420) is relatively benign.

Hitler. School shootings. Pot. Easter?

An underappreciated quality of Easter Sunday is that it moves around on the calendar each year. The last time Easter was on 4/20 was 2003. The next time will be 2087, provided that the church does not come together on an agreement on how to set the date before then (this year, the western and eastern branches of Christianity will celebrate on the same day, however next year they will be a week apart). This means that Easter lands on dates between March 22nd and April 25th (or April 4th and May 8th for the Orthodox). Other major holidays are anchored to a set date, but Easter moves around.

This untamed quality of Easter is a reminder that God has truly overcome this world. “A day of controversy and tragedy?” God says, “How about an empty tomb and a resurrected Messiah?” There is no corner of this world that God does not love. There is no day that Christ- the alpha and the omega, the beginning and the end, who is the same yesterday, today, and forever- does not redeem. In our tragedies and our controversies, God’s mercy and justice are revealed.

As we journey together towards Easter, in the midst of the turmoil of life, we travel knowing that Christ’s Easter victory has put sin and death under his feet. This is not only a comfort to us on an individual level (knowing that our own sins are forgiven) but also that all sin has been overcome. This includes the brokenness we have inflicted on the natural world (the Deep Water Horizon Oil spill began on 4/20/10). With our eyes fixed on Jesus, we know that no controversy or tragedy can overshadow the glory of his resurrection.

Pastor Dana

Lenten Soup Suppers



Lenten Soup Suppers will be held each Wednesday at 6.00pm, before the Mid-Week Lenten Services through April 9, 2025. Come enjoy a delicious bowl of soup and fellowship before the service.

Grace Jar Entry



Thank you to everyone who has placed notes in the Grace Jar. Here are the entries we received in March. Please continue to place these in the jar in the Narthex.

- ◆ For Parker working tirelessly on our boiler issue. For Amanda working extra hours to help us line up service providers. We give thanks, O God!
- ◆ Penni and Ellie and all the amazing people at Mission Health Lexington for all the great work they do.
- ◆ Council Members commissioned to serve.
- ◆ Praises to the choir for the anthem on 3/9/25, "Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley!" Beautiful tune. Also, kudos to William on his singing of the great litany! Great job!

It's Time to Clean Up the Donuts!

Volunteers are needed to clean up the donuts and coffee each Sunday. This is a simple, speedy job that involves rinsing the coffee carafes, turning off the coffee maker, putting away cream and sugar and supplies, and disposing of (i.e. taking home and eating) any remaining donuts. If you are willing to hang around and chat for an extra 10 minutes after the service to complete this small task, please sign up on the sheet posted in the narthex near the coffee maker.

Thomas Keesecker



You may remember that in Advent we invited Thomas Keesecker, composer and pianist, to Faith Lutheran where he played and directed the choir at the 11:00 service. After he left, he wrote a new piece of choir music to be published which he dedicated to our choir:

For the choir at Faith Lutheran Church, Lexington, Kentucky, and their director, Kathy Egner, and their violinist, Luise Wendroth.

O Holy Spirit, Root of Life

This is a tremendous honor for our church and its music program. We are delighted to invite Mr. Keesecker back to premiere this music on April 6. He will direct the choir together with Luise on the violin at the 11:00 service. On that day, the choir will also sing two of his other pieces of music.

Please plan to meet Tom and join in the celebration!

Downtown Youth Group

We are officially past the half way point of our second semester of Downtown Youth Group, and we have had an incredibly successful few months! We've had wonderful regular meetings at Christ Church Cathedral in January, here at Faith in February, and at First Presbyterian in March. We also had an awesome Super Bowl party at First Presbyterian in February! We have one more month of regular DYG to look forward to on April 27th at Second Presbyterian, and our end of year celebration in May at Main Event, plus some exciting things to come in the summer as well!

(see pictures on page 7)

Update on Haiti

In 2009, Faith Lutheran Church began a ministry to Haiti. Since you have been on this journey with us, we want to update you on the plight of our Haitian loved ones here in the United States.

Our Haitian men have received notice that their Temporary Protective Status (TPS) will be revoked as of August 3, 2025. Their status will flip from **LEGAL** to **ILLEGAL** on this date and they are subject to deportation. These men have been legal, fully documented, working, in the middle of residencies, etc. They are not criminals and have done nothing wrong.

Please pray for each of our men and their loved ones during this traumatic time. Some of you have asked about donating to help with incurring costs such as paperwork, immigration attorney fees, etc. To donate make your checks payable to Faith Lutheran Church and write Haitian Refugee in the memo line.

On **March 16th or 3/16**, we were reminded of **John 3:16...For God so loved THE WORLD that He gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.**

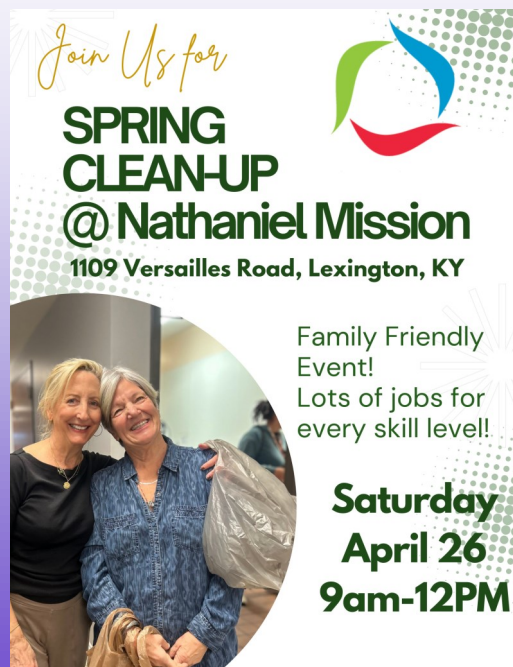
Thank you for your generous and caring hearts.

Nathaniel Mission—Spring Clean-Up


Nathaniel Mission has invited Faith's community to join them for their upcoming **Spring Clean-Up Event** on April 26th from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM.

This event is an excellent chance for individuals to come together and make a tangible impact on our community, for families to serve together, and for new folks to have the opportunity to see what God is doing in our midst. There will be a variety of projects for all who want to join them.

They would love for folks to [register](#) so they know how many to plan for, but you do not have to register to participate.




Join Us for
**SPRING
CLEAN-UP**
@ Nathaniel Mission
1109 Versailles Road, Lexington, KY



Family Friendly
Event!
Lots of jobs for
every skill level!

**Saturday
April 26
9am-12PM**



Deep Green Forums



April's Deep Green Forum will be:

Thursday, April 10, 2025, 7 pm

God Works in Mysterious Ways

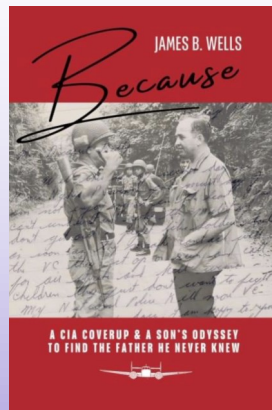
Ray Hughes

Ray Hughes, a retired Navy Supply Corps Officer with 23 years of active duty, will be sharing his experiences of vocation as it intersects with his faith. We will hear his stories of interactions with others, times of intervention, and the opportunities that arrived along the way.

The presentation is approximately an hour long, with time for Q+A. After, we will move to the Gathering Area for fellowship and light refreshment.

Please join us as we gather diverse voices from our community to share experiences of *God and nature, vocation and faith, and refuge and learning.*

Faith Lutheran Summer Reading Opportunity



Local author James Wells will be visiting Faith Lutheran on June 17th as part of the launch of his investigative memoir, *Because*. Pastor Dana has a minor part in the book as someone who has supported James in his decades-long quest for answers. As part of his upcoming book tour, we have the potential opportunity to get advanced copies of the book. One idea has been to form a mini-book club that could read the book ahead of his visit. If you are interested or would like to order a copy of the book, please talk to Paige Barricklow or Pastor Dana.

Holy Week April 13-April 20



April 13th—Palm Sunday: Services at 8:30am, 11:00am & 6:00pm

April 17th—Maundy Thursday: Service at 7:00pm

April 18th—Good Friday: Stations of the Cross led by Val Dutcher 12:00pm; Service at 7:00pm

April 20th—Easter Sunday: Services at 8:30am, 11:00am & 6:00pm

Harstad Fine Arts Series

The Harstad Fine Arts Series presents: 

THE IMMORTAL SHAKESPEARE
with Baroque & Vocal Ensemble
ECHOING AIR

two countertenors ~ two recorders
viola da gamba ~ harpsichord

Echoing Air will explore the enduring nature of Shakespeare's genius in word and song from the Elizabethan Age to the present



Sunday, April 27 | 3:00 PM
Faith Lutheran Church
1000 Tates Creek Rd.
Lexington KY 40502

FREE TICKETS @
harstadarts.com
or scan
QR code 

 LexArts has provided funding support for the Harstad Fine Arts Series 2014-2025 season through its Fund for the Arts.

 The Kentucky Arts Council, the state arts agency, provides operating support to the Harstad Fine Arts Series with state tax dollars and federal funding from the National Endowment for the Arts.

Please reserve your free ticket [HERE](#).

For more information visit harstadarts.com

The Marks of a Healthy Congregation

On March 15th Faith hosted the final Healthy Congregations workshop. This series of workshops was thought provoking as well as eye opening. We would like to thank Kevin Burney for leading these workshops as well as the Parish Life Committee for providing breakfast at each workshop.

The New Testament speaks of the church as a living system - "the body of Christ." The apostle Paul makes it clear that the "body of Christ" is a whole comprised of many parts, yet functioning as one. The various members and services of a congregation interact, much as do the cells and organs of the human body with the ongoing interplay of blood circulation, nerve endings, chemical messages, and energy sources. The mark of organic life is the continuing struggle of balance and imbalance. If balance fails, there is sickness. Gross imbalance spells death. Health, therefore, is the drive for life, what an organism does to preserve itself, how it responds to challenges to its integrity, and how it adapts to changes. The same is true for the congregation. Its health is its response.

What responses create health in congregations? What kind of interactions and relationships happen in healthy churches? What type of functioning advances, rather than impedes, the mission of the church in the local congregation? Health is a multidimensional phenomenon. The following statements describe some of the most important health-promoting responses.

- Healthy congregations accept differences (rather than deny them)
- Healthy congregations focus on their strengths (rather than weaknesses)
- Healthy congregations focus on mission (rather than "getting along," the past, survival, "the minister," or some other thing or issue)
- Healthy congregations respond to anxiety and change (instead of reacting)
- Healthy congregations manage conflict (instead of denying it)
- Healthy congregations act flexibly and creatively (instead of rigidly)
- In healthy congregations, leaders promote health through their presence and functioning (instead of techniques or skills)
- In healthy congregations, leaders challenge people (instead of comforting them)
- In healthy congregations, leaders provide immune capacities (instead of enabling disease processes)
- In healthy congregations, people respond graciously and truthfully (rather than judgmentally or secretly),
- In healthy congregations, people develop caring relationships (rather than willful transactions)
- In healthy congregations, people empower others (rather than dominate them or cure them)
- Healthy congregations recognize the Creator's interdependent design of life (rather than isolated, unrelated parts)
- Healthy congregations practice stewardship gratefully and willingly (rather than begrudgingly)
- Healthy congregations combine money and the Christian Life (rather than separate one from the other)
- In healthy congregations, people share their lives (instead of each living for oneself)
- In healthy congregations, hospitality is offered to all (instead of favoritism for the few or like-minded)
- In healthy congregations, beginning again is a way of life (instead of staying stuck)

Last Month at Faith



The Children's Choir gave a wonderful performance on March 16th.



True to his word, Pastor Dana showed up to the Holy Cow celebration dressed as a cat.



The final session of our Healthy Congregations workshop series was held March 15th.



Our Parish Choir moves our congregation with their angelic performances.



Kathy Johnson entertains the guests at her Artist's Reception March 15th by playing Clover, the harp she built.



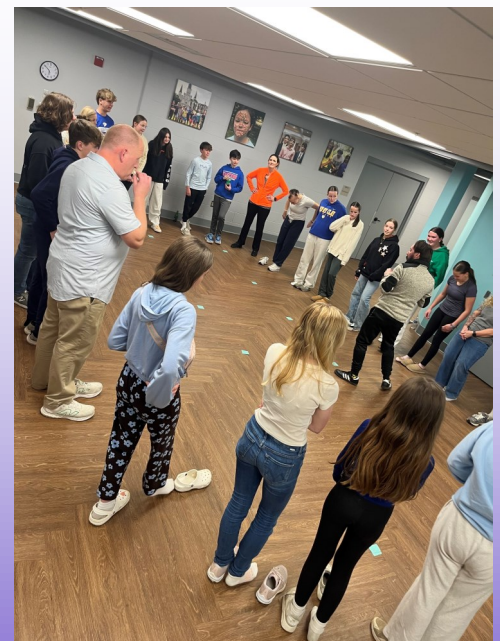
Kathy Johnson reads an excerpt from her book, "A Kith Journal" at her Artist's Reception. She will be selling her book at the next two Harstad events with all proceeds being donated to Harstad Fine Arts Series.



(above) March DYG at First Presbyterian Church



(right) DYG Super Bowl party at First Presbyterian



(above) January DYG at Christ Church Cathedral

Stewardship—Sharing of Our Time & Talents

Reporting Period	Budgeted Income	Actual Income*	Difference +/-
February 2025 - MONTH	\$ 32,452	\$ 151,491	+\$119,039
	Budgeted Expense	Actual Expense	Difference +/-
February 2025 - MONTH	\$ 37,758	\$ 45,994	(\$8,236)
	Budgeted Income	Actual Income*	Difference +/-
February 2025 - YTD	\$ 64,905	\$ 171,300	+\$106,395
	Budgeted Expense	Actual Expense	Difference +/-
February 2025 - YTD	\$ 75,515	\$ 77,670	(\$2,155)
Available Cash On Hand – PNC Bank*	\$ 133,964		

* Amount shown includes funds from Financial Gift.

Ministry Highlights for Month of March 2025:

Hosted students passing through on their way home to Valparaiso University in Indiana.

Ash Wednesday Services were held, including those who visited to participate in our “Drive Through” option.

Soup Suppers and Midweek Lenten Services were held each Wednesday night.

Deep Green Faith Forum was held with a presentation from Daniel Lau on *The Environmental, Economic, and Human Cost of Bitcoin*.

Several members of Faith supported Mission Health Lexington’s fundraising gala.

Final “Healthy Congregation” Workshop was held.

On March 16th, we hosted one worship service in which the Children’s Choir sang. Following the service, a reception was held to celebrate 85 CAT surveys being completed/submitted.

Our monthly Evening Sophia book group was held.

Tuesday morning Bible Study sessions were hosted each week.

Downtown Youth Group (DYG) Event was held; Second Presbyterian Church has joined DYG so the overall group is now up to about 30 students.

“Children Worship & Wonder” continued each Sunday morning with 3 children participating.

Committee Meetings held: Faith Formation; Finance Committee; Parish Life Committee; Property Committee; and Worship Committee

Executive Committee and Congregation Council meetings were held.

Memorial Service was held for Joe Swanson. Additional pastoral support was provided to the families of Ruth Fugmann, June Hansen, and Norman Drake.

Thank you for your generous giving.

Tailgating at Keeneland



Tailgating at Keeneland!



The Parish Life Committee is planning an informal afternoon tailgating for the races at Keeneland on Saturday, April 12th. The Committee will provide sub/hoagie sandwiches for all to enjoy.

We ask that you bring a dessert or side dish to share and your own beverages, as well as your own chairs for seating.

Post Time is 1:00 PM (Although we recommend that you arrive earlier)

Children are welcomed!

No tickets needed & no charge of any kind associated with attendance!

We will be in the designated tailgating lot which is located adjacent to the Entertainment Center and Keene Barn. It is accessible via Gate 1 at no charge. Complimentary shuttle service is available to the grandstand area. Keeneland's enhanced tailgating lot, dubbed "The Hill", takes tailgating to a whole new level with a variety of fan-friendly amenities including food trucks, Bluegrass music, a jumbo television screen, the Keeneland Gift Shop, wagering options and Keeneland's BETologists.

Look for the sign-up sheet in the Narthex!



Prayer List



The persons on the parish prayer list are lifted in prayer at every Sunday service. If you would like to be on the prayer list or no longer need to be on the list, please call or email the parish office.

If you would like a pastoral visit or home communion, you may contact Pastor Dana by calling the church office or by email pastordana@faithlutheranchurch.com

The prayer/care ministry invites you to join them in connecting with persons on our prayer list. You can volunteer to connect by phone or email, by a personal visit, or by agreeing to add one specific person to your daily prayers. Contact Pastor Dana for more information or to become part of this ministry.

Members of the Parish (recent concerns): Gayle McGrath, Carol Buchanan and Marianne Kehres

Members of the Parish (ongoing concerns):

Richard Heine, Wayne Schedler, Nancy George, Mike Keller, Eva Lau, Ray Ranta, Linda McDaniel, and Bev Stanley

Friends of the Parish:

Rory Hefner-Templar (daughter of David Templar), John Klee, Britney Harris (daughter-in-law of Leta Harris), the family of Jim Johnson (brother of David Johnson), Danny Rees (nephew of Kathy Johnson), Bill and Jake McDonald (brother and nephew of Val Dutcher), the family of Danny Kazee, Cynthia Rapp (sister of Teri Applegate), the family of June Hansen, the family of Ruth Fugmann, the family of Joe Swanson, Blake Barrows, the family of Norman Drake, the family of Jim Pinkston and Linda Peneleton.



- 2 Jim Knauss
- 3 Kolby Cloyd
Scott Gralheer
- 4 Gary Chastain
- 14 David Fegley
- 15 Katherine Filchak
- 16 Dave McGrew
- 18 Jim McGrath
- 21 Richard Michel
- 22 Chris Reynolds
- 23 Gordon Grotrian
- 27 Victoria Lockhart
- 28 Kevin Carey
- 29 Daniel Lau

- 5 Stephanie & Britton
Farrar
- 10 Alann & Kristi Karow
- 20 Richard & Cindy Heine
- 26 JoEllen & Neil McComb
- 29 Shane & Amy Hadden



Door Alarm

If the alarm is triggered, please enter your four digit code. You may also enter in the same code used for the Faith House front door.

Beginning May 5th, we will have new alarm codes. If you want to keep your current code and/or request access to the alarm app, please contact Amanda in the church office.

6pm Services

The 6pm services in Lent have been so well attended that we are going to extend them into Easter! Join us for services on March 30, April 6, April 13, April 20, May 4, and May 11 (Note: no service on April 27th). This service is smaller and more contemplative worship setting, with a spoken liturgy (no music) and a quieter atmosphere. All are welcome to attend.

We are still in need of people to serve as lectors and help with sacristy duties at 6 pm. Contact Pastor Dana for more information.

Property Day



Property Day flyer featuring logos for Faith Lutheran Learning Center and Faith Lutheran Church. The church logo includes the text "DELIBERATELY DIVERSE, FULLY INCLUSIVE LEXINGTON, KY". The main title is "Property Day".

When:
Saturday, May 10th
8:00 am-11:00 am

Where:
Faith Lutheran Church

Who:
FLC Parish Members
& FLLC Families

Join us for a day of outdoor work and fun as we take care of our shared community spaces!

We hope to see you there!



Easter Egg Hunt



Easter Egg Hunt flyer with a light blue background and a decorative border of colorful Easter eggs at the bottom.

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

Easter Egg Hunt

APRIL 20 [SAT] 10:00 AM

POTLUCK BREAKFAST
EASTER SERVICES BEFORE (8:30AM)
AND AFTER (11:00AM)

To add to our celebration of the Easter season, we will be having an Easter Egg hunt between our services on Easter Sunday, April 20th. We will start at 10:00am and the hunt will be friendly for all ages! We will also have breakfast for those who come to church early/stay late to hunt for eggs! If you would like to contribute eggs or treats to put in the eggs, you can drop them in Paige's office!

Summer Worship Schedule

For I am longing to see you so that I may share with you some spiritual gift to strengthen you—or rather so that we may be mutually encouraged by each other's faith, both yours and mine. Romans 1:11-12

A time of rest, renewal, and mutual encouragement is coming to Faith Lutheran Church this summer!

The Congregational Council, in consultation with the Worship Committee, has designated the twelve Sundays from June 15 (Trinity Sunday) through August 31 as single service Sundays. Throughout the summer, we will come together to worship as one body at 10 am. In addition to giving our Worship Servants a much needed rest, our time together on Sunday mornings will give all of us the opportunity to strengthen relationships, share what God is accomplishing in our lives, and refocus on our shared mission as a congregation.

The summer schedule will also include forums for members to discuss the worship schedule for the coming year. The input from these forums, as well as that from the CAT survey, will help us make a plan for moving forward in our worship life.

Please join us in worship and fellowship this summer!

Vacation Church School—Summer 2025

This year's theme for Vacation Church School will be "**Road Trip**", based on *Joshua 1:9* – "**The LORD your God is with you wherever you go.**"

We will once again be offering our VCS program to Faith Lutheran Learning Center students (Summer Camp participants) and any church/community children in grades K–3. Older children will be invited to be Helpers in either Games or Crafts.

If you would like to help us out (for even **ONE** afternoon) or if you'd like to donate needed items for snacks or crafts, please contact Val Dutcher at valjdutcher@gmail.com

Faith Lutheran Church

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

Church Council 2024

Sue Anne Lau, President
Elaine Billington, Vice President
Val Dutcher, Secretary
Urton Anderson, Treasurer
Pastor Dana Lockhart
Steve Hayes
Becki Luddy

Financial Secretary

Jennifer Carey

Assistant Treasurer

Debbie Rosenberg

Sunday Worship Schedule

In-Person Worship 8:30 and 11:00 AM
Online Streaming, 11:00 AM

Clergy & Staff

Pastor Dana Lockhart

859-266-7621
pastordana@faithlutheranchurch.com

Amanda Nord

Parish Administrator

office@faithlutheranchurch.com
859-266-7621

Kathy Egner

Director of Music

music@faithlutheranchurch.com
859-266-7621

Neil McComb, Sexton

859-229-8834

Paige Barricklow, Youth Assistant

pebarricklow15@gmail.com
859-940-0631

Courtney Herald, Learning Center Director

fillc859@gmail.com
859-268-0108

Parker Taul, Facilities Manager

taulparker@gmail.com

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