



# FLC NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2017

## OUR MISSION

*The Mission of Faith Lutheran Church & School is to share the word of Jesus Christ through a loving and caring ministry responding to the needs of all people.*

## FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

2265 Red Lion Rd  
Bear, DE 19701-1849  
Ph #: (302) 834-1214  
[www.faithlutheran.ws](http://www.faithlutheran.ws)

## WORSHIP SERVICES

Contemporary: 8:15 AM  
Traditional: 10:30 AM  
Sunday School: 8:15 AM &  
10:30 AM  
Adult Bible Class: 9:30 AM



## LENT:

## A SEASON OF LOVE

When we think of Lent, we think of a 40-day season of reflection and repentance. We often focus inwardly on renewal and reformation of our heart, mind, and spirit. In this upcoming season of Lent, Ash Wednesday (the first day of Lent) happens to fall on February 14<sup>th</sup> – Valentine’s Day.

It’s an interesting coincidence to have Ash Wednesday and Valentine’s Day land on the same day, but it’s a great opportunity for us to reflect on the theme of Love in the season of Lent. It’s certainly appropriate for us to talk in terms of love during the season of Lent. After all, while our reflections may focus us *inward* – on our sin and repentance, Lent is really intended to focus us *outward* – on our Savior and His cross.

LOVE is God’s motivation for everything He does, most especially for sending Jesus into the world. *“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.” (John 3:16) “God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.” (Romans 5:8)* Our Heavenly Father is *always* looking outward – on us and on our need for salvation.

This Lent, as we spend time on inward reflection, I challenge us to not neglect to look outward in love. Motivated by the love of God made manifest in the suffering and death of Jesus in loving sacrifice for us, let us use this season as a call to action – as a call to love. Let us look inwardly, but not focused selfishly on ourselves, but on God’s Mission and our place in that mission, focused for a time in repentance for our failings, but then filled with the love and forgiveness we have received

## PASTOR'S MESSAGE CONTINUES...

in Christ, moved by that Gospel message, in our call to go into the mission field with that wonderful news on our lips for all people.

Many people “give up” something for Lent but let us “put on” something in this season. Let us put on God’s love for us that it may reflect from us to those who need it so much. Let us put on His grace and mercy, which has changed our lives and made us new, through the death and the resurrection of Christ our Savior. May the Holy Spirit who dwells in us, lead us into opportunities to bear witness to the hope that is in us in every season because of God’s great love for us.

*May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope. (Romans 15:13)*

Blessings on your Lenten journey.

Pastor

## FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS



- 1 - Ashley Zelano
- 2 - Carol Milliken
- 4 - Carla Vacula
- 8 - Beth Monsell
- 14 - Brian Bradford
- 17 - Will Harp
- 17 - Vernell Giorla
- 17 - Eve Zurakowski
- 17 - Ellen Thress
- 20 - Betty Fowler
- 21 - Lynn Bennett
- 22 - Katy Knapp
- 25 - Bobbi Kauffman
- 26 - Isaiah Rufus
- 29 - Bob Cormier

## CHURCH COUNCIL CHAIRMAN MESSAGE

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Well, here we are into a new year and we have hit the ground running full speed ahead! On January 21, 2018 we held our Church Council meeting and it was with great pleasure that we have a lot of things going and a lot that will be started and get underway in the next few months. I would like to take just a few minutes of your time to cover some of them:

1. Pastor's Report: Pastor Thress informed us that he will be attending a meeting in Richmond, VA to learn more about outreach and the possibility of an outreach in the Middletown area. He is also meeting with the group called Family Promise and will gather information on how and what they do for the homeless families and see if this may be a fit with our congregation.
2. Trustees Report: Sean Boyd who is heading the trustees stated that the new roof should be started in March after the winter weather is mostly behind us. They are working on solving the lighting problems at the side entrance and hope to have it completed very soon if not done by the time you are reading this. They wanted to thank the Priscilla Circle for the new carpet that was put into place at the side entrance and down the stairway.
3. Treasurers Report: Our treasurer, Nick Turner, reported that we ended the 2017 year in good shape and that we had some designated gifts that will help with the cost of the roof and that we should now have no problems with meeting our commitments at this point. He also stated that we are working on ways for each of us to be able to use more modern electronic means of giving. If you are interested in making use of the electronic methods, please contact Nick.
4. Chris Moore briefed us on the new website for our church. If you have not seen it, I am sure you will find it to be very user friendly and will find that it contains a great amount of information about our church, and happenings here at Faith. The web site is [www.Faith-Lutheran.church](http://www.Faith-Lutheran.church) so go check it out and check back often to see what is going on!
5. Priscilla Circle: Amy Cannavo is moving forward with some very exciting things and is working on growing this organization. Read further in this newsletter where she will tell you the happenings and plans for this group at our church.

The two new committees...Worship and Education, will be meeting very soon to move forward on what we need to do to enhance our church by both an outstanding worship service and a great Christian education for not only our youth but for all members and how they will help with our outreach.

I would like to extend a request to all members to pray and ask **God** for direction on how **YOU** personally could help at Faith Lutheran. We need a group of people to help with the trustee duties and we need forming a Fellowship committee to come up with ideas and direct the fellowship here at

Faith. If you would like to work on these committees, please contact me and I will point you in the correct direction.

I would like to take time to thank every person who has stepped up and is working hard to make our church a welcoming and growing place for its members and our guests. We can grow and help our members and our neighbors in showing them the love of our God.

In God’s Love

The Bible says that love is the greatest of all virtues

And it must be true, for that is where all others begin and end.

It was God’s love that caused him to create us

And His love that bought us back when sin separated us from Him.

It is His love in our hearts that fuels...

Kindness, gentleness, meekness, faith and joy in our lives.

God’s LOVE surrounds you, dear friend!

(Helen Steiner Rice)

As always with the help of God,  
 Jeff Holsinger  
 Council Chairman

**CHURCH COUNCIL**

<b>Chairman:</b> Jeff Holsinger Ph: 936-671-9245 <a href="mailto:faithchairman@aol.com">faithchairman@aol.com</a>	<b>Vice-Chairman:</b> Bruce Callis Ph: 302-530-0990 <a href="mailto:Bcallis7723@yahoo.com">Bcallis7723@yahoo.com</a>	<b>Secretary:</b> Judy Andela Ph: 410-920-0921 <a href="mailto:judy@andela.name">judy@andela.name</a>	<b>Treasurer:</b> Nick Turner Ph: 303-550-3519 <a href="mailto:nkturner@gmail.com">nkturner@gmail.com</a>	<b>Financial Secretary:</b> Beth Monsell Ph: 302-690-9400 <a href="mailto:bmonsell@gmail.com">bmonsell@gmail.com</a>
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**AT LARGE MEMBERS**

Dennis Wanzer Ph: 443-466-5348 <a href="mailto:dwanzer@yahoo.com">dwanzer@yahoo.com</a>	Sean Boyd Ph: 302-383-4665 <a href="mailto:seanboyd85@gmail.com">seanboyd85@gmail.com</a>	Amy Cannavo Ph: 302-388-5939 <a href="mailto:acannavo@comcast.net">acannavo@comcast.net</a>	Brent Laise Ph: 302-653-1348 <a href="mailto:brentlaise@gmail.com">brentlaise@gmail.com</a>	Travis Deluz Ph: 302-465-0357 <a href="mailto:Travis.deluz@yahoo.com">Travis.deluz@yahoo.com</a>
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**CHURCH ELDERS**

Issac Rufus Ph: 302-292-2377 <a href="mailto:Jibr20@aol.com">Jibr20@aol.com</a>	Carl Toensmeyer Ph: 302-834-1704 <a href="mailto:drt@udel.edu">drt@udel.edu</a>	Ryan Zurakowski Ph: 302-690-9712 <a href="mailto:ryanz@udel.edu">ryanz@udel.edu</a>
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## PRISCILLA CIRCLE/LWML NEWS –

**“Souper Bowl” Soup Sale:** Get your soup for your Super Bowl celebration!

The Priscilla Circle is holding a “Souper Bowl” soup and bread sale on Sunday, February 4. All proceeds support the “Beautification Fund” which the Priscilla Circle uses to purchase various items the church may need. We are currently working towards purchasing round tables that will be used in future fellowship activities. See flyer for the details.

**Bake Sales Support LCS and Sunday Breakfast Mission:** The Priscilla Circle thanks all who purchased bake sale goods last fall! This year we are splitting the funds raised through the bake sales between Lutheran Community Services and Sunday Breakfast Mission. We were able to send each organization \$149 in December.

**Mites:** Each month on the first Sunday the Priscilla Circle collects a “mite” offering, offerings above and beyond the support given to the congregation and the LCMS. These funds are sent to the Chesapeake District LWML. Twenty-five percent of the funds are forwarded on to the national LWML organization, the other seventy-five percent is contributed towards the district’s current Mission Grants. The approved grants for the 2016-2018 biennium total \$115,000. To date \$24,950 of these projects have been fully funded. Because of Faith’s generous mite offerings, we were able to send \$489.75 for the 4th quarter of 2017! To see a list of the current district mission grants, click this link <https://www.lwmlchesapeake.org/mission-grants-2016-18.html> To see a list of the current national mission grants, click this link <http://www.lwml.org/mission-grants>.

**Secret Sisters:** We are excited to report that 13 members are participating in this year’s Secret Sister ministry! It’s still not too late to join. We will be happy to provide a form to anyone who would like to participate.

**Upcoming events:** LWML Delmarva Zone Rally – TBD (April or May) Christ Lutheran Church in Seaford  
Typically, the Rally begins at 9:30 a.m. and ends around 3:30 p.m. and consists of fellowship, Bible study, LWML business, fun, food and songs. A mite offering is collected and an Ingathering of items for a specific group are assembled. Last year’s Ingathering was for school kits that were sent to Lutheran World Relief. Attending this event is a wonderful way to get to know our LWML sisters throughout the rest of the state! Details for this year’s Rally will be provided closer to the event. All women in our congregation are invited to attend and I hope we have at least 10 go this year.

**Viriden Center Retreat:** April 27-28 in Lewes - This annual overnight event is hosted by the Christ Lutheran Church LWML (Seaford). There is a theme and a special speaker(s). It is a wonderful opportunity to dig a little deeper into the word and fellowship with other women in our area. Ellen Thress has attended regularly and I went last year. Feel free to ask either of us about this event, we highly recommend going.

**Ladies Tea:** May 5 - Plans are underway for our annual Ladies Tea! Stay tuned for further details but mark your calendar now!!

## A NOTE FROM THE TREASURER

Do you have an account with Amazon.com? Did you know that when you purchase items through Amazon.com you have the ability to assist Faith Lutheran Church as a financial resource? What? You didn't? Well, I'm here to tell you that you can!

By utilizing the Amazon Smile program, Amazon will donate 0.5% of your qualified purchases to Faith. That doesn't sound like a lot of money but consider the quantity of your Amazon purchases. Now also ponder the quantity of parishioners at Faith. It follows the model of "if everyone gave a little...the results will be substantial". While it won't independently pay for big ticket items such as a roof or an audio/video upgrade to the sanctuary, it will definitely be put to good use in other forms. The old adage, 'something is better than nothing' and 'free money' ring very true in this case.

For more information about the Amazon Smile program, please visit <https://smile.amazon.com/> Prayerfully consider signing up (or changing your current charity organization) and assisting Faith in this venture. If you have any questions about the Amazon Smile program or have any general financial questions, please don't hesitate to ask.

God's Blessings,  
Nick Turner  
Treasurer

## BIBLE STUDY UPDATES



The Wednesday morning Bible Study will begin meeting again on Wednesday, January 10, 2018. We will be studying the Life Light study of Selected Psalms, learning about the various types of Psalms written by inspired authors. Some are calls to the Lord for help, many are Psalms of praise and thanks, there are calls for God's mercy and forgiveness. Several Psalms ask God to judge those who have wronged the psalmist. He is trusting God to judge rightly, but let's God know that he feels wronged. Some of the Psalms rejoice in the worship of God in His temple, some look forward to the coming Messiah who will reign as King. The final category of psalms is known as wisdom Psalms, encouraging God's people to look to Him and His word for help in all situations. Psalm 119:105 states "Thy word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path. "Telling us that God's Word will give us guidance in every situation.

Each of the 9-week studies will look at about 4 Psalms. All are welcome, and we hope you will join us at 10:00 am on Wednesday beginning on January 10, 2018. Please see Judy Andela for lesson materials or call at 410-996-9748

Meeting Dates: January (10, 17, 24, 31). February (7, 21, 28). March (7, 14)



## FOOD FROM FAITH/GROCERY CLUB

Our grocery club is continuing to need volunteers for Saturday Distribution days. I've placed on the clipboard a list of dates that need filling. Please look to see if you might be able to help.

Just as a reminder, we are still taking donations on the first Sunday of every month to keep our families with some things they don't always get from our Food Bank orders. The drop box for these donations is right in front of the door to the pantry area, THANKS!!! To all of you who have continued to support and brought in donations over the months...our families really appreciate it very much!

We will be having the Food Bank look at our pantry on the next distribution day, February 10<sup>th</sup>, for approval of being able to order USDA food from them. All the food from the USDA is free but comes with specific directions so I will keep you up to date as to how that goes in the next months.

THANKS!!! Again, for continuing to help feed our neighbors!! Just as another reminder, I'm still looking for someone to help in organizing so please consider yourself or talk to others you may know that are good candidates for the position. Talk to me or contact me at [kwanzer@yahoo.com](mailto:kwanzer@yahoo.com) or call 443-466-5730.

Have a blessed month!!

Kim Wanzer

## COMMUNICATIONS UPDATES

Hello Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The communications team (or myself I should say) had a very exciting November and December and I am proud to share the following with you.

On a whim, we decided to record a brief message for Thanksgiving and Christmas which were posted on Facebook. Thanks to your willingness to view and share these videos we reached an average of 972 people with an average of 498 people that took the time to view the video message. This is the power of social media and soon will also be reflective of our new website. Due to the response we have gotten from these short videos, we will continue to post them throughout the year to hopefully encourage more people to join us to worship our Lord and maybe even join our church family.

Our new website [www.faith-lutheran.church](http://www.faith-lutheran.church) is up and running so I hope you take some time to check it out and suggestions are greatly needed for what we can have on the site. If you have any suggestions, please send them to [webmaster@faith-lutheran.church](mailto:webmaster@faith-lutheran.church). The new site does include an online calendar that we will be working on in the coming weeks and months to have the various goings on at the church published.

The last update I have for this month is if you have any items to submit for the newsletter, please submit them to [newsletter@faith-lutheran.church](mailto:newsletter@faith-lutheran.church).

And as always, we (or myself I should say) is always looking for help. You don't need to know much about technology and I am willing to show you the ropes. If you are interested in helping with any of the areas that are being worked on (Facebook, website, YouTube, etc), please contact me at [webmaster@faith-lutheran.church](mailto:webmaster@faith-lutheran.church).



The Finance Team is looking for volunteers to count the offering after the late service on Sundays as well as after midweek services. We have received a preliminary list of volunteers but are looking to increase this list. The idea is that the larger quantity of assistants will lessen the burden on everyone. Please reach out via email ([nkturner@gmail.com](mailto:nkturner@gmail.com)) if you are interested. Thanks.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

DATE	EVENT/MEETING	TIME
February 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Men's Bible Study	10:00am
February 11 <sup>th</sup>	Transfiguration Sunday	
February 14 <sup>th</sup>	Ash Wednesday Service	7:00pm
February 21 <sup>st</sup>	Lenten Worship Service	7:00pm
February 28 <sup>th</sup>	Lenten Worship Services	7:00pm-

UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED, ALL EVENT/MEETINGS ARE AT FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH