



FLC NEWSLETTER

MAY 2018

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.faitlh-lutheran.church

WORSHIP SERVICES

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



NEW BEGINNINGS

The spring has finally arrived and I'm sure you are making the most of it. For those baseball fans out there it means the return of that great American game of summer. Ball players often have an interesting story, even beyond the game. Almost 30 years ago, Dave Dravecky, a pitcher for the San Francisco Giants, captured this nation's attention. They had discovered cancer in his pitching arm. How could anything be more terrible for him, a pitcher? They operated, and Dave made it back to the major leagues. Then, while he was pitching, the weakened bone broke. They had to amputate his arm. Even people who didn't care anything about baseball felt tears well up in their eyes when they heard about Dave Dravecky's arm.

But listen to what Dave had to say about that experience. He said, "What do you do when a part of your life is taken away from you forever? How do you adjust? Tragedy pushes us through a one-way door, and once we pass through it, we can never return to the way life was before. We can't go back, no matter how much we ache to do so. All we can do is give thanks for what once was, for the good that was there, for the happy times that we had, for the laughter, for the love, for the memories that were shared. Then, saying good-bye to those times and to those loved ones, we put our hand in the hand of Him who gave orbit to the sun and the moon and the stars, and trust that He has a course for our lives from here."

Dave is a Christian and he knew that those of us who trust in God don't let the terrible times define our lives. We all hope that our lives will be pleasant and that our troubles will be small ones—but most of us will face some hard moments at some time in our

PASTOR'S MESSAGE CONTINUES...

lives: health problems—the death of a loved one—financial reverses—the loss of a job.

When that happens, we too must go forward in the faith that this is just the beginning of God doing something new in our lives. We must cling to the words of God through St. Paul, “For this momentary light affliction is producing for us an eternal weight of glory far beyond all comparison.”

Spring is a time that reminds us through the physical changes around us that new beginnings are possible. God is gracious to bring the spring after a cold, bleak winter. He reminds us we must always be ready to stand through any kind of adversity by trusting in the Lord, standing together, staying strong in the Word and choosing to set aside our flesh and desires that would take our eyes from Jesus – “the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.” Dave Dravecky went on to become the head of a ministry that gives hope to cancer patients. How amazing that God takes our trials and turns them into his triumphs! What is God doing through your trials?

Pastor Pete Mueller

MAY BIRTHDAYS



- 1 – Doug Jobe
- 2 – Carol Anderson
- 2 – Allie Maclaren
- 2 – Tiffanie Gregg
- 4 – John Arot
- 4 – Evelyn Smith
- 5 – Doris Riddell
- 7 – Helena Elder
- 7 – Laurie Laise
- 9 – Sarah Figgs
- 12 – Mike Cannatelli
- 18 – Kelly Figgs
- 20 – Keith Greigg
- 21 – Beth Scurato
- 27 – Herta Patric
- 27 - Samantha Aslasken
- 27 – JoAnne Nuernberg
- 27 – Gary Harp
- 29 – Pastor Michael Thress
- 30 – Cameron Catalino

CHURCH COUNCIL CHAIRMAN MESSAGE

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I want to take this time to tell all that it is now spring, yes it will get warm...and I am sure that we have seen the last of the snow for this season. We have seen days this past month in the 80's with great sunshine and also days in the 30's with snow flurries. I was thinking that this is just one of the ways that God lets us know that HE is in control over everything that happens. We need to remember that...as we start each day, we should give thanks and remember that this is a day the Lord has made for us. We should embrace it with open arms!

Please keep Pastor Thress and his family in your prayers as he will continue on his sabbatical and will be returning to us in July. During this time that Pastor Thress is away, we have been blessed to have Pastor Peter Mueller step into the pastoral position to shepherd our flock. It is great to know that God provides for our needs in so many ways.

On April 15th the council had its monthly meeting and the following was covered:

- Our Trustees informed us that the new roof will be completed in May and that we have all funds to pay for the entire job. They also have a list of other repairs and projects to be completed in the future. At this time, a team is being formed to prioritize them, so if you would like to help with this please contact Sean Boyd or Amy Cannavo. I am sure they will welcome you with open arms to join their team... remember, this is your chance to be a part of the team working on the future plans for our church facility.
- Our Worship and Education teams are working on ways to enhance our Worship Service and Christian Education. They are working hard on these tasks that will help us grow and be good disciples for Christ.
- Our Outreach team is moving forward with activities like the Easter Egg Hunt that had 26 children in attendance. The message that was recorded that day by Pastor Thress had over 400 views online. This group is looking at the possibility of doing a school supply drive in late summer prior to school starting up.
- The Grocery Club is going well and has received USDA approval so it is now able to supply frozen goods as well as canned and dry goods to the families they serve. This program is continuing to grow. This is such a blessing to those that are in need and because of this outreach program people are coming in contact with our church.
- I would like to thank both groups and encourage anyone who can give of their time and talents to contact Chris and Christie Moore for the outreach team and Kim Wanzer for the grocery club.
- Our Communication team reported that the views on our Facebook page had more than 300 viewers during the past month. They are continuing to add to our website, Facebook page and other ways to connect with the public.

COUNCIL CHAIRMAN MESSAGE CONTINUES...

As you can see, we have been busy and we are moving forward. We have been given such a great opportunity here at Faith Lutheran to do our mission “Share the Word of Jesus Christ through a living and caring ministry responding to all people”.

**“Go into the world. Go everywhere and announce the Message of God’s good news to one and all.”
Mark 16:16**

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

CHURCH COUNCIL				
Chairman: Jeff Holsinger Ph: 936-671-9245 faithchairman@aol.com	Vice-Chairman: Bruce Callis Ph: 302-530-0990 Bcallis7723@yahoo.com	Secretary: Judy Andela Ph: 410-920-0921 judy@andela.name	Treasurer: Nick Turner Ph: 303-550-3519 nkturner@gmail.com	Financial Secretary: Beth Monsell Ph: 302-690-9400 bmonsell@gmail.com
AT LARGE MEMBERS				
Dennis Wanzer Ph: 443-466-5348 dwanzer@yahoo.com	Sean Boyd Ph: 302-383-4665 seanboyd85@gmail.com	Amy Cannavo Ph: 302-388-5939 acannavo@comcast.net	Brent Laise Ph: 302-653-1348 brentlaise@gmail.com	Travis Deluz Ph: 302-465-0357 Travis.deluz@yahoo.com
CHURCH ELDERS				
Issac Rufus Ph: 302-292-2377 Jibr20@aol.com	Carl Toensmeyer Ph: 302-834-1704 drt@udel.edu	Ryan Zurakowski Ph: 302-690-9712 ryanz@udel.edu		

EMAIL COMMUNICATION UPDATE

As transition to our new web host is now complete, please note the following changes to email addresses...

- Pastor: Pastor@faith-lutheran.church
- Church Secretary: Secreatry@faith-lutheran.church
- General Information: info@faith-lutheran.church
- Newsletter: Newsletter@faith-lutheran.church
- Preschool: Preschool@faith-lutheran.church
- Priscilla Circle/LWML: priscillacircle@faith-lutheran.church
- Website Concerns: webmaster@faith-lutheran.church

PRISCILLA CIRCLE/LWML NEWS –



Mites

Our next mite collection will be Sunday, June 3, 2018 at both services

Next Meeting

Our next meeting is Monday, May 21, 2018 at 7:00pm

Volunteer Opportunity!!

The Priscilla Circle is seeking a volunteer to serve as our “public relations” manager. This individual would be responsible for regularly providing information to the congregation (in various mediums) about LWML Mites, District and National Mission Grants and promoting the LWML in general. Contact Amy Cannavo if you would like more details or would like to fill this position.

Upcoming events:

Annual Priscilla Circle Dinner – June 25

Mark your calendars to attend the annual Priscilla Circle dinner. All women of the congregation are invited to attend. We will be dining at Bertucci’s in Newark this year. We will need a head count so please sign up at your earliest opportunity. To sign up visit <http://signup.com/go/myuQczo> or contact Amy Cannavo at 302-388-5939.

A NOTE FROM THE TREASURER

Online Giving Now Available – Faith Lutheran Church has taken another step into the online world as Online Giving is now available. Through Online Giving, anyone is able to make a one-time donation or set up recurring donations (or offerings). To take advantage of this new service just visit faith-lutheran.church and click on “Donate” at the top of the page.

Amazon Smile - 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.

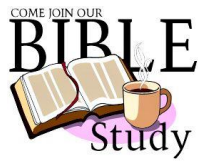
For more information about the Amazon Smile program, please visit <https://smile.amazon.com/>. Prayerfully consider signing up (or changing your current charity organization) and assisting Faith in this venture. If you have any questions about the Amazon Smile program or have any general financial questions,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

God's Blessings,
Nick Turner
Treasurer



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) if you are interested. Thanks.

BIBLE STUDY UPDATES



Calling all Men of Faith Lutheran Church

All men are invited to join us during The Men's Bible Study. We meet at 10am on the first Saturday of every month. We are currently going through the Small Catechism and the next two or three months will be studying the Lord's Prayer.

Please consider joining us for this wonderful time of fellowship and prayer.

UPCOMING EVENTS

DATE	EVENT/MEETING	TIME
May 20th	Church Council Meeting	After Late Service
May 21st	Priscilla Circle Meeting	7:00pm
June 3 rd	Mite Collection	Both Services
June 3 rd	Food Pantry Donations	

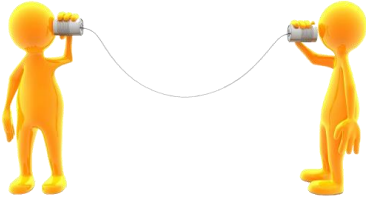
UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED, ALL EVENT/MEETINGS ARE AT FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH



Southeastern District Youth Gathering for
7th & 8th Grade Youth
October 12 - 14, 2018
at the Hilton Garden Inn
Richmond VA

MORE INFORMATION WILL BE AVAILABLE SOON

Southeastern District, LCMS
6315 Grovedale Drive
Alexandria VA 22310
www.se.lcms.org



COMMUNICATIONS UPDATE

Hello Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

This month's update comes with a lot of great news of the work that has been done with getting the word out about the great news of Christ.

As was mentioned in the Council Chairman's Message earlier, March and April were great months for us on Facebook. Prior to and during Holy Week, Pastor Thress and I recorded a series of special messages that were shared on our Facebook page and the response was overwhelming. We averaged 198 views per video posted with those videos reaching hundreds of people. However we can always do better. When we record a video for Facebook, if you have a Facebook page please take a moment to like and **share** the video on your timeline. By doing so, you will help get the good news of Christ and the work that we are doing at Faith Lutheran Church out to more people.

As you know, several months ago I took on the project of transitioning us to a new web hosting service for various reasons. As of this month I am happy to announce the transition is now complete. If you haven't done so already, take some time to visit our new website at www.faith-lutheran.church and if you have any suggestions, please send them to webmaster@faith-lutheran.church.

Since I have taken over the newsletter, it has been a blessing to get to read all the good that is being done at Faith Lutheran Church however we know there is more being done that is not shared. This reminds me of a verse in the song The Sound of Silence by Simon and Garfunkel "And in the light I saw, ten thousand people, maybe more, People talking without speaking, People hearing without listening People writing songs that voices never shared, And no one dared disturb the sound of silence."

You may be asking why this song and these lyrics? This speaks to the biggest challenge we all have as Christians which is to share the good news of Jesus. It is our nature to be satisfied by the silence instead of challenging ourselves to use our voice and share the good news that Jesus brings. In Matt 11:4-5: "Jesus answered them, 'Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them.'"

I work on this newsletter because it is way that I am able to use my God given talents to help spread the good news but I am only one person and I don't know everything that is going on at FLC. Jesus doesn't want us to keep things bottled up, He wants us to share the good news of his coming and of the great work that is being done at Faith Lutheran Church.

I close the newsletter with a challenge. I challenge all areas of Faith Lutheran Church to share what is happening each month (even if it is only one item). I challenge you to disturb the sound of silence.

This is FLC's newsletter, not mine. I just have the privilege of working on it. However I can't do it alone so please help me to disturb the silence and spread the good news of our church and most importantly Jesus.

Peace be with you – Chris Moore.