



# FLC NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 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.faith-lutheran.church](http://www.faith-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



## GIVE THANKS WITH A GREATFUL HEART!!!

I was looking back through some old church newsletters in my computer and found this piece that I wrote back in the November 2006 newsletter. While it may seem early for many to start thinking about the “holiday season”, it is fast approaching – just 52 days until Christmas as I write this. This year more than ever, for me personally, the words I wrote 12 years ago strike my heart, so I thought worth sharing again to remind us to give thanks and to truly celebrate the precious gift of Jesus in our lives every day...

This time of year, conjures up many emotions, as we prepare for Thanksgiving and Christmas and all that this season brings. For many it’s a time of fond memories and traditions. But for others, it’s a time of stress and anxiety. And for still others, it’s a time of grief and depression.

Our Lord gives us some great promises to get us through this Holiday season – and every season in our lives. God’s Word is constantly reminding us of His ever-present help and comfort, His constant love and grace, His never-ending strength and hope.

It certainly is not God’s will that we be filled with anxiety or depression as we prepare for the celebration of Jesus’ birth. Instead, our Lord wants to use these days to remind us of why He came: “She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins... ‘Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel,’ which means, ‘God is with us.’

### *Pastor's Message Continues...*

Every year it's important to remind ourselves not to get so caught up in the "hustle and bustle" that we lose our focus on what we are celebrating. And as we anticipate Thanksgiving, now is the time to stop and simply say, "Thanks!" for what God has done for us in Christ.

For we know that Jesus who was born as Emmanuel, truly did "save His people from their sins." For He lived, died, and rose again for that very purpose. "You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous man, though for a good man someone might possibly dare to die. But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us." Romans 5:6-8

It seems that every year the "holidays" start earlier and earlier. But this year, I simply pray that this season would bring you closer to the one who makes these days truly Holy-Days. "Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever."

"Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." Philippians 4:4-7

Blessings in Christ,

Pastor Michael Thress

## NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS



1 - Joe Giorla	10 - Pete Faverio
1 - Emily Jones	13 - Joanna Cormier
1 - Luke Laise	13 - Sierra Gregg
2 - Nicholas Sinibaldi	13 - Steven Macken
3 - Carlene Whitsel	15 - Christie Moore
4 - Donna Italia	17 - Jaime McLaughlin
4 - Kim Wanzer	17 - Kaitlyn Alfe
5 - Tameria Cannatelli	23 - Bruce Callis
5 - Carlene Martin	23 - Dawn Loveless
7 - Marilyn Atkins	27 - Elyse Cormier
9 - Teri Cordrey	29 - Amy Cannavo
9 - Tara VanSant	

## COUNCIL CHAIRMAN MESSAGE

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Well, here we go again into the fall with the changing of the time, the temps going back to the colder side and getting ready for the snow that is sure to come. I know that some of you just shuttered and said that I was not to say that word... but, we have been so lucky with the weather we have had so far this year. As we approach the Thanksgiving holiday, we as the children of God have so much to be thankful for.

We can thank all the great men and women that are veterans that have stood for all of us in keeping our land the freest on the earth. Once again, I encourage all veterans to wear something to show all that you were/are a member of the greatest force for freedom in the world. This will be on Veteran's day, Sunday November 11th.

During the month of November, we will be celebrating Thanksgiving with a special evening service on the 22nd where we will be doing our bread exchange and will have an opportunity to give special thanks for all the blessings that have been bestowed upon us. We must remember that we are so blessed and that we must share with the less fortunate. So, if you can...give to the food banks, work at a soup kitchen, or hand out clothing/blankets to our brothers and sisters who are in need. Remember that God loves a generous giver!

I want to take this time and thank Kim Wanzer and her team for the outstanding job that they have done with the outreach thru our grocery club. They have spent many hours getting the food together and passing it out to our families that come to depend on them for help. We are currently looking for a person or persons to take over the leadership of this program as Kim must step down due to her new job. Kim stated that she will help get the new leader all the help needed to keep it running.

I also want to thank Christie and Chris Moore for all the work that they did this past month to make the trunk or treat night a super success.

I want to thank all our leadership and committee chairpersons for the outstanding jobs that they have been accomplishing over the past year.

We will be taking in many new members very shortly. We have been blessed by having these new faces in our family here at Faith. So, please if you see someone and you don't know them... introduce yourself and welcome them!

The month of November will fly by fast and before you know it...we will be into December with Advent and Christmas.... We will be holding our voters meeting in December also and will need you to be present at it as we will approve our annual budget.

So, take time to say Thanks to others and to God for all that we are blessed with!

### *Council Chairman Message Continues...*

So, in closing I just want to say:

Thanks, Lord, for smiling on me and my fellow members and friends at Faith today and throughout the year! Amen

As always with the Help of God

Jeff Holsinger

Council Chairman



## PRISCILLA CIRCLE/LWML NEWS –

### Mites

Our next Mites collection will be Sunday, November 4.

### Next Meeting

Our next meeting is Monday, November 19 at 7:00 PM. As always, all women of Faith Lutheran are encouraged to attend.

### Cards for Sunshine Ministry

Vernell Giorla has been faithfully sending cards to those on our prayer list. Please consider donating extra Get Well, Recovery, and Thinking of You cards you may have or pick up a pack next time you are out.

Thank you so much Vernell for continuing to send a little love on behalf of us at Faith!

### Pink Ribbon Tea Party Follow Up

The Priscilla Circle would like to thank everyone who attended the Pink Ribbon Tea Party on October 20 and donated items for the Breast Cancer Survival Kits. Judy Andela delivered over 30 kits to Union Hospital's Cancer Care unit. They were very thankful to receive them.



### Upcoming events:



#### Bake Sale - November 18

Stock up for the holiday at our "pre-Thanksgiving" bake sale. Donations will be split between Sunday Breakfast Mission and Lutheran Community Services.

#### Annual Christmas Gathering – December 15

Mark your calendars for the Priscilla Circle annual Christmas gathering beginning at 10:00 AM. Enjoy a pot-luck fellowship, a special program, carol singing and our Secret Sister reveal!

# CONFIRMATION 2018



October 28th was an exciting day at Faith, as we celebrated the 501st Anniversary of the Reformation and the Rite of Confirmation for Matthew Deputy, Avalin Fawcett, Fiona Fawcett, William Harp, Jordan Hartman and Connor Roman. Confirmation is always an exciting day for me as a pastor. Every class and every student are so unique, with their own quirks and personalities. Each class interacts differently with each other and with me. And what's truly exciting is to watch each student engage with his or her faith.

The students come from various backgrounds and various levels of activity within the church up to this point. And so there are unique questions and challenges that come out of those backgrounds. Many great "stump the pastor" questions are raised in Confirmation Class - some delicately balancing God's Law with His grace, and some simply impossible to answer this side of heaven.



Most classes are easily distracted, and some students may raise "off the wall" questions simply to derail or confound me and/or the class. But I don't worry about those distractions because this time with these students is not about a syllabus nearly as much as it is about connecting these young people with their amazing Savior. Each moment with them is a "teachable moment" not only to instruct but to demonstrate the Gospel.

Confirmation 2018 Continued...



Confirmation Sunday is the culmination of all those moments, as the students display the banners that they have designed themselves, picking a Bible verse and symbols that mean something to them specifically. As they share the explanation of their banners, their growing faith shines through. They and we are all "works in progress" through the gift of the Holy Spirit given to us in our baptism. This time in their lives is one stepping stone as they move forward in their Christian faith and life.



Please continue to pray for these students and their families. Talk with them when you see them in church. Encourage them in their faith and



in their life-long walk with the Lord. Together with them, we are all dearly loved children of God and fellow members of the Body of Christ.



CONGRADULATIONS TO THE CONFIRMATION CLASS OF 2018

## 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](http://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](mailto:nkturner@gmail.com)) if you are interested. Thanks.

## BIBLE STUDY UPDATES



### MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

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.

### MIDWEEK BIBLE STUDY



We are winding down our study of Miracles in the Bible. We have enjoyed good discussion and have learned about what would be considered a miracle. We learned that miracles are God's divine, supernatural intervention in an event to show some aspect of who God is. We learned that God performed miracles over nature, such as the parting of the Red Sea, His creation of this whole world. Many

miracles were healing miracles and we saw Jesus power over Satan and his demons. The greatest of all miracles is God's power over death which we saw in the Old Testament, and Jesus demonstrated this same power with bringing three people back to life and then the most spectacular was His own resurrection from death after He had paid the price for our sins on the cross.

We will have 2 more lessons dealing with the miracles in the early church and then discussing miracles in our own life. We have shared wonderful things that have happened in our lives and how we give God credit for saving us in often dangerous situations or in times of serious illness. One of our members shared with us how her daughter was saved on the day the World Trade Center was attacked. Her train left her off in that area about the time the attack occurred, and she was prevented from going into her place of work. We are thankful for God's care at these times.

We will meet on November 7 and 14 and then begin again after Christmas with a study on Ruth and Esther. Please feel free to join us at any time. I will announce the dates for the January newsletter.

Judy Andela



## COMMUNICATIONS/OUTREACH UPDATE

Hello Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

### TRUNK OR TREAT

We had a busy October with this year's Trunk or Treat event that was held on October 28<sup>th</sup>. Thankfully Mother Nature cooperated and gave us a great evening with lots of fun with 150 adults and children from our church family and local communities. Our guests were treated with a light meal, the debut performance of FLC's Puppet Ministry and of course Trick or Treating (well, Trunk or Treating that is).



This year also saw the return of the best trunk competition and the family of Katie McCormick and Sean Boyd successfully defended their title with their trunk Dragon's Lair. Second Place went to the Laise Family with their version of Jurassic Park and Third Place went to the Mertz Family with Haunted Dinosaurs.

We would like to thank everyone who helped us to make this event a huge success.

*Dragon's Lair*

### BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

During Trunk or Treat we were visited by one of Santa's Elves who has extended an invitation to everyone to join Santa for breakfast. This year's event will take place on December 1, 2018 @ 9:00am and this year registration is required as space is



limited. To RSVP for this event please register online at

<https://goo.gl/forms/OKVjggHRBzTZIX42> or you may scan the code to the left with your smartphone to register for the event.

### NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

As always, this newsletter does not happen without your input and we are in the time of year that a lot is occurring in our church. Please share with the congregation and the community what is going on by sending your items to [newsletter@faith-lutheran.church](mailto:newsletter@faith-lutheran.church).

## MISCELLANEOUS UPDATES

### FOOD FROM FAITH GROCERY CLUB



After many years of hard work and dedication, Kim Wanzer is no longer able to oversee the operation of our Food From Faith Grocery Club. We are actively looking for someone or a team of people who are willing to take over this worthwhile mission that serves over 20 families within our community. If you or someone you know is interested in helping us with this mission, please contact any member of the Faith Lutheran Church Council.

**REMINDER:** The Food From Faith Grocery Club accepts food donations on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of each month to keep our families supplied with items not provided from our Food Bank Orders.

### THANKSGIVING EVE SERVICE

Thanksgiving Eve Service will be held on Wednesday, November 21, 2018 @ 7:00pm. In addition to giving thanks and praise to God, we will also have our traditional bread exchange during service.



### SUNDAY BREAKFAST MISSION



Jill McLaughlin is organizing for a group from Faith Lutheran Church to assist the Sunday Breakfast Mission in Wilmington on Thanksgiving Day from 11am – 2pm. The Sunday Breakfast Mission is a place for homeless people to go to have a meal and/or place to sleep that is in Wilmington, Delaware. If you are able to help, please contact Jill McLaughlin at [labmom101@comcast.net](mailto:labmom101@comcast.net). For more information about Sunday Breakfast Mission, visit <https://www.sundaybreakfastmission.org/>

### YOUTH GROUP QUARTER AUCTION

This year's Youth Group Quarter Auction will be on Saturday, December 1, 2018. Doors will open at 6:00pm and paddles cost \$5.00 each. Donations to auction off are requested. For more information, please contact Laurie Laise at [laurieis@hotmail.com](mailto:laurieis@hotmail.com).



### NEW MEMBERS SERVICE

We will come together as one congregation on December 2<sup>nd</sup> @ 9:30am as we welcome new members into the congregation and family of Faith Lutheran Church. Please make note of this on your calendar and join us as we officially welcome our new members.

### *Miscellaneous Updates Cont....*

## CONGREGATIONAL VOTERS MEETING

Our Bi-Annual Congregational Voters Meeting will be held on December 16, 2018 between Early and Late Service. All voting members of Faith Lutheran Church are asked to attend this important meeting.

## TRUSTEES/PROPERTY UPDATE

Lights in the basement are in the process of being converted to LED bulbs which will help us to save money as they will use less electricity. Thank you to Tom Roman, husband of Dian Roma (Preschool Director) for helping us with obtaining and installing the new lighting fixtures.

Mowing Volunteers Needed: Starting next year we will be looking for volunteers to assist with mowing the church property. With enough volunteers, people helping may only have to participate once or twice per month during the mowing season. More information to follow...

Boy scout Robbie Carpenter will be working with Faith Lutheran Church on a beautification project to revitalize the island in front of the church. The beautification project is being done as a part of Robbie's Eagle Scout Project Requirements.

## UPCOMING EVENTS & SERVICES

DATE	EVENT/MEETING	TIME
November 3, 2018	Mite Collection	Both Services
November 7, 2018	Midweek Bible Study	10:00am
November 14, 2018	Midweek Bible Study	10:00am
November 19, 2018	Priscilla Circle/LWML Meeting	7:00pm
November 21, 2018	Thanksgiving Eve Service	7:00pm
December 1, 2018	Breakfast with Santa	9:00am
December 1, 2018	Youth Group Quarter Auction	6:00pm
December 2, 2018	New Member Service (Joint Service)	9:30am

UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED, ALL EVENT/MEETINGS ARE AT FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH AND ADDITIONAL MEETING/EVENT INFORMATION CAN BE FOUND ONLINE AT

[HTTP://FAITH-LUTHERAN.CHURCH/CALENDAR/](http://faith-lutheran.church/calendar/)

## ADVENT & CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

Soon it will be time for us to begin the season of Advent and with this season comes our Midweek Advent Services. Now while the turkey may not have cooked yet and the potatoes are still in their original form, Pastor Tress never fails to remind us of his favorite time of year, Christmas.

This year, Advent and Christmas Eve Services will take place...



DATE	SERVICE	TIME
December 5, 2018	Midweek Advent Service	7:00pm
December 12, 2018	Midweek Advent Service	7:00pm
December 19, 2018	Midweek Advent Service	7:00pm
December 24, 2018	Christmas Eve Candlelight Services	4:00pm & 7:00pm

Come and join us as we remember and celebrate the birth of Jesus.