

# Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church

## 2016 Annual Report

### “Sent Forth by God’s Blessing”

#### Intentional Interim Pastor’s Report

Interim: an intervening time, a space of time between events or states.

That is the dictionary definition of “interim.” It also might be viewed as working to prevent “on the rebound” with the next pastor. The familiar partner is gone and the pain is new. An interim leaves time to settle, grow, and look at things in a new light. An interim is not about what the interim pastor does, it is about who the congregation is.

To that end, my focus has been on allowing space so that interactions can grow, communication increase, and new ways of doing things begin to emerge. How some of this would look is much different than what I had planned and expected. It is called working with people. And is part of working alongside the Holy Spirit.

Notable steps along the way have been in March when congregational leaders encouraged and found new congregational leaders. The task took an incredible amount of interaction. Much was learned along the way. By myself, as well as others.

Another notable phase of this interim so far has been the congregational on-line survey. The idea rose from the congregation, it was done by the congregation and reported by congregational leaders to the congregation.

Many boards have had leaders emerge from within. Some are new persons and others found themselves in new roles. Other leadership positions have experienced changes that were coming, but have come to pass in the past 11 months.

The interim between ending and restarting the call process for a Senior Pastor has come to an end. The interim between the retirement of the previous senior pastor, Pastor Urbach, and the arrival of

whoever it is that the Lord knows will be the next senior pastor continues.

Dec 30, 2016, Pastor Dan Barbey

#### ASSOCIATE PASTOR REPORT

Greetings in the Lord Jesus—our Light and our Life!

It’s been another wonderful year, (Praise the Lord!) for life and ministry here in Pierre, South Dakota! It is my privilege to share with you in this *Annual Report*, my areas of responsibility, and how I have carried out those responsibilities these past twelve months.

**LWML SD District** – This past June I was elected to the position of *Jr. Counselor* for the South Dakota District. My responsibilities for this position in the district include: attending quarterly meetings for the executive board and board of Directors, serving in an advisory role, being a spiritual leader and guide, doctrinal review for any published materials, support, encouragement, leading devotions and worship at events, and writing articles. The *Jr. Counselor* term is for 2 years with the *Jr. Counselor* then serving at the *Senior Counselor* for another 2 years.

**TEACHING** – Again I have the privilege of being with the 8<sup>th</sup> grade Midweek confirmation class. They are a GREAT group of 8<sup>th</sup> graders and I look forward to confirming my third class on April 30<sup>th</sup> for confirmation Sunday. The night of questioning will be Wednesday, April 26<sup>th</sup> at 6:30p.m.

Other teaching responsibilities which I hold include: men’s morning Bible study on Thursday mornings, adult Bible class on Sunday mornings, new member class, and various LWML guest presentations.

**PEOPLE CARE MINISTRY** – It is a top priority that all of the homebound members of the parish are visited each month, and brought Holy Communion. I strive to continually check the hospital lists, and

# Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church

## 2016 Annual Report

### “Sent Forth by God’s Blessing”

make an effort to stay connected with where everyone is at. So, it goes to say that if you know of a special care situation, please inform the Pastors so we can also know!

Every third Thursday of the month is *Christ Care* with the Pastors, Board of Elders, and Deaconesses who gather together to review the prayer list, assign calls, and pray for those of the congregation and friends connected to it.

#### **PIERRE/FT. PIERRE MINISTERIAL ASSOC.**

– This past year I was elected to be the president of the Pierre / Ft. Pierre Ministerial Association. This extra opportunity for service has provided me with valuable insight into the community, being able to work with other pastors from different churches, and the chance to provide helpful input and understanding to a group that serves in so many ways. As a part of Ministerium, I make chapel visits to Kelly’s 1 & 2, Golden Living Center, Maryhouse and Parkwood, and I coordinate the chapel rotation for Edgewood Assisted Living Center. It is a joy to visit with the residents at these facilities, and to conduct services for them.

**PERSONAL LIFE** – I am amazed at the people God has placed into my life to guide and shape me. I look forward to serving in the ministry with Pastor Rajek! I am truly humbled to not only be a Pastor, but to be a Pastor at Faith Lutheran. God has opened up His hand abundantly upon our lives. Margaret and I continue to settle into our home and we were so blessed to be able to have a Christmas open house (despite the weather)! We praise God for these two wonderful blessings that will certainly enhance life and ministry in Pierre and at Faith. Margaret and I have enormous hearts of thanks for all of the help and support with these two areas of our lives. We are SO grateful for all of the love and care we’ve been shown. Other firsts of this past year included: a trip to Lambeau for a Packer’s home game in October, and hunting success with harvesting a really nice mule deer buck with the

rifle. The hobbies and lifestyles of South Dakotans calls to me!

**L.Y.F. & YOUTH MINISTRY** – Michael Shoup and I lead our weekly L.Y.F. high school group. I am so incredibly grateful for his partnership and encouraging attitude. We do a nice job together, and find that the youth bring us so much joy. We have a National Youth Gathering trip planned for the summer of 2019 to Minneapolis, and I look forward to leading and mentoring the high school youth of the parish, along with their friends who come each week. Please see the *Annual Youth Report* for more details as to what we’ve all been up to in L.Y.F.

I hope that I have been able to provide some stability in the other areas of youth ministry for the parish as well. We had a great VBS year as we did Concordia’s *Barnyard Roundup*. My brother Russell and his friends were able to come and lead us in songs and games. The Christmas programs also went really well, and I sincerely thank: Rachel Aamold, Noel Clocksin-our piano player, and the other adult volunteers for all of their efforts. Thank you especially to Rachel as she invests so much with our nursery through 3<sup>rd</sup> graders during Sunday School music time.

**ADDITIONAL ITEMS** – It is my hope to begin a training through the hospital that will provide me clinical pastoral education. The course prescribes a certain amount of class hours, along with visitation hours and time spent at the hospital. I am excited for the ways that this training will better serve my ministry.

I hope to establish some young adult ministry opportunities for 20 and 30 year olds and to utilize the resources and gifted individuals in the parish to create moments for connection. I also desire to see more adults involved in mission and outreach opportunities, and more involvement in our Sunday morning Bible, or in any study for that matter. I have slowly been shifting into the mission

# Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church

## 2016 Annual Report

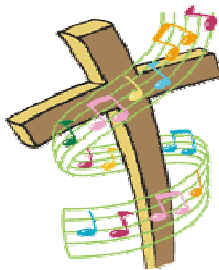
### *“Sent Forth by God’s Blessing”*

coordinator role helping set up and connect our people to mission trips and other opportunities.

It’s been a full but good year in the ministry for me. Thank you for all that you do in service for Christ, and for calling me to serve in the office of Associate Pastor in this place.

With Joy in the Crucified, Risen, Living, and Ascended Lord!

Associate Pastor Joshua J. Baumann  
Faith Ev. Lutheran Church-Pierre, SD  
baumannj@csl.edu  
(605) 224-2216



### OUR AUDIENCE OF ONE

*“Be imitators of God, therefore, as dearly loved children and live a life of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God. Speak to one another with psalms, hymns and spiritual songs. Sing and make music in your heart to the Lord, always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.”*  
*Ephesians 5:1-2, 19-20*

Writing from a viewpoint as the music coordinator of Faith Lutheran, it is my belief that all of our music offerings – whether it be Faith Choir, the organists and instrumental soloists, individual vocalists, hand bell ringers, the praise team, or the young Sunday School voices – should be directed to God, praising His honor and glory; never a performance for the congregation. We have an

audience of One. We are a part of the overall proclamation of the Gospel.

Interesting vocal, choral and instrumental music goes in many directions: counter-melodies, intricate or close harmonies, and changing tempos and rhythms. As with all teamwork, this requires every participant to be keenly aware as to what the other musicians are doing in order to add to the totality or wholeness of the piece of music. In the same manner, the ministry of music serves as an integral part of our total church program. Music in the worship service, if presented well, does not bring undo attention to itself. Rather, it sets moods, it brings life to texts, and it emotionally moves the worshiper to a closer awareness of Almighty God right within his or her very own being.

With boldness, courage and vivaciousness, the intent is to move the worshiper from complacency or from being an observer or listener, to feeling something so moving that he or she will become totally involved. All present can catch a vision as to what they can do to become a part of God’s plan to spread the word of Jesus – about his teachings, his death and resurrection – and about the story of the Savior of the world!

May our Heavenly Father use us as instruments to bring those who come to worship to a fuller awareness of Him and His Beloved Son. May every aspect of our ministry of music take its place along with the preaching of the Word, our evangelism outreach, the Christian education of our children and adults, and all other organizations of Faith Congregation. May all of our efforts serve to bring Jesus and his message of love and grace to every corner of our community.

Soli Deo Gloria!

Karen Lindbloom

# Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church

## 2016 Annual Report

### *“Sent Forth by God’s Blessing”*



Greetings from the Faith Lutheran Life Team, Our team has comfortably settled into a nice routine. We believe we have developed some projects that touch on some certain areas of life issues. Please let our team know if you have a specific area of need our team can address. We meet one time per month. We would welcome NEW members please contact us for more information!

Faith Life Team Mission Statement is:  
*“The Life Team of Faith Lutheran exists to equip our church as a scriptural-based, gospel driven, life affirming people.”*

#### **Here is a recap of our past year from the rearview mirror:**

- In January, we kicked off the year by observing Sanctity of Human Life Sunday on the 24<sup>th</sup>. Our team sponsored coffee and the Pastor’s offered a Life Theme bible study between services. We also had handouts for the children in Sunday School.
- The team held a Diaper Derby between Mother’s Day and Father’s Day collecting over 3000 diapers and wipes that were distributed to the Women’s Shelter, Food Pantry, and Birthright of Pierre. These agencies desperately need these items and are so grateful for the support.
- In August, for the first night of Midweek, some of our “grandparents” who participate in our “Grandparent Project” came to the last 15 minutes of midweek when the children gather in the Sanctuary before being sent home. It was exciting for the children to be able to put a face to a name. They are invited back for the last day of

Midweek in the spring! If you would like more information about this program, please contact the Church office and they will direct you to the correct person.

- In October, we observed Pregnancy and Infant Loss with a prayer vigil and evening service. This is a time for families grieving the loss of a child to come together and find comfort and remember and celebrate the life of that child. We will continue this observance each year and anyone is welcome.
- Also in October, Velda Bartel and Cindy Deadrich were able to attend the Lutheran’s for Life National Conference in Minnesota. This was truly a blessing to us both.
- In November, the Life Team Sponsored bringing Dr. Lamb here who spoke about end of life issues. The team hosted a dinner for him the night before and coffee between services, as well as, coffee and desert during his presentation. The costs were offset by generous donations from those attending, as well as, a grant from the Board of Stewardship.
- In December, our team has been handed the task of decorating the Christmas tree at the Capitol each year. This year’s theme was “A Monumental Christmas” and what could be more “monumental” than the birth of Jesus! Hope you were able to see the tree on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor.
- Finally, perhaps you’ve noticed the Thrivent Bulletin board. We try to keep it decorated with relevant information. Check it out!

Respectfully submitted,  
Velda Bartel

# Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church

## 2016 Annual Report

### *“Sent Forth by God’s Blessing”*

#### **FAITH LUTHERAN PRESCHOOL**

Preschool in 2016 has three sessions of 22, 20, and 24-students each for a total of 66 children.

Our five-year-old session meets on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday mornings from 9:00-11:30. Our regular sessions are Tuesday and Thursday, both morning 9:00-11:30 and Tuesday and Thursday afternoon 1:00-3:30. Donna Gohl & Dusti Palecek serve as teacher assistants on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Anita Marso & Beth Hand work all day Tuesday and Thursday. They all do an excellent job!

Our Thrivent funds are used for educational materials, equipment and toys.

Each month we study a specific shape, number, color and letter, as well as rotate the toys, puzzles, books and games from the storage closets. Each week we follow a central theme that is related to a Bible story. We share God's love not only in the printed material, but also through our actions. It is our goal that the children will not only hear that God loves them, but see that love through us. Besides our full day of activities, which include stories, art projects, free play, rhymes, trike time, music, snacks, and group games, we also have field trips in the church van.

So far last fall we had a visit from Jay Fredrich, the facilities administrator, Helen Kiepke, the office administrator, Fireman John, Pastor Baumann and Pastor Barbey. Tina Ottenbacher, Karna Pfeffer, and Carmen Wexler talked about staying healthy and a Local Law enforcement officer, Samson Boutchee told about his job and Halloween safety. By the way, all the health helpers were former preschoolers – so great to see them all as adults now!

In December we were able to visit the Capitol to see the Christmas trees. Our Preschool decorated a tree in the Living Room with gold angels.

Many thanks go out to all who have in some way supported our program. The Board of Early Childhood Education is a blessing with their encouragement. With our increase in class size, we are in need of parents to help drive us to our many outings. Without them, our field trips would not be possible. Thank you to Jay Fredrich, Pastor Baumann, Helen Kiepke, Dale Gohl, Dale Hartmann and the members of Faith who are always encouraging and supporting us.

*Jan Larson, Preschool Director*



#### **FAITH LUTHERAN DAY CARE**

Another blessed year has passed at Faith Lutheran Daycare. We have now been in business for 29 years! We are currently at our highest enrollment at 72 children. The breakdown consists of 10 infants, 15 toddlers, 36 preschoolers, and 11 school aged children.

I started my position as Director in October and would like to say thank you to all who have graciously welcomed me! I am so excited and honored to be in this position and to be a part of this organization.

At Faith Lutheran Daycare we learn about God’s love for us. The preschool group has circle time every morning where they learn a new bible story. The toddlers are read bible stories and have been working on learning short bible verses. We

# Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church

## 2016 Annual Report

### *“Sent Forth by God’s Blessing”*

also pray before every meal and at the beginning of our day.

We also incorporate sensory skill, gross motor skill and fine motor skill development activities into our weekly schedule as well as arts and crafts. We do flash cards and age appropriate learning activities on a daily basis. And anytime we have an opportunity to take a field trip or to invite a special guest to the daycare, we like to do so.

Our caring staff at Faith Lutheran Daycare consists of: Jen Hovelson (Director), Deb Barnett (Assistant Director), Rebecca Preboski (Cook), Kristin Volk (Back-up Cook), Clareen James, Carolyn Kropuenske, Leah Lappe, Kim Lagan, Debbie Bontje, Karrie James, Dodie Hardy, Katie Stenson, Anthony Steely, Valerie Knodel, Tria Dennis, and Becky Darland. We have amazing help from 3 high schoolers; Brooke Weiss, Brooke Miller, Jayd Mullen. We are blessed to have two substitutes that are always willing to come in and help out; Lois Erbe and Dorothy Leigel. And we are so very thankful to have Jay Fredrich maintain our Daycare facility.

I am so grateful for the constant donations we received from not only the parents at the daycare but also members of Faith Lutheran Church. THANK YOU to everyone that has graciously donated to the daycare, it is greatly appreciated!

We look forward to a blessed 2017!

Jen Hovelson  
Faith Lutheran Daycare, Director  
(605) 224-4748  
Pierre, SD



### **\*LUTHERAN WOMEN’S MISSIONARY LEAGUE\*** **“Serve the Lord with Gladness”**

The LWML’s motto is “Serve the Lord with Gladness”. You will find this motto carried out everyday in the Faith Lutheran LWML whether it is serving funeral lunches, first Sunday coffee or coffee at Maryhouse, the women do it with gladness.

The LWML is mission oriented. It encourages women to live Christian lives. The six circles of Faith do this in many different ways: Altar Guild preparing the Church Sanctuary for Worship; Berea Circle taking care of the Library; Faith Circle preparing goodie boxes for the college students; Mary/Martha Circle visiting the elderly and shut-ins; Priscilla Circle supporting parents of Cradle Roll children and remembering them on special occasions, and Rebekah Circle’s support for the Daycare and Preschool, to list a few. They also do this by collecting “Mites” which are offerings above and beyond the support given to congregations and LCMS. These contributions go toward our district and national mission grants.

The Country Fair is a wonderful annual event that brings the whole congregation together to put all their talents to work for wonderful mission projects. This years proceeds went to: **NATIONAL:** LCMS Disaster Response, Mission Central Support of Missionaries R & R. **DISTRICT:** Seminary Student Fund for Titus Utecht, Cherry Creek Mission Project for Nick Hill. **LOCAL:** PARS – Pierre Area Referral Service, Missouri Shores. **IN-HOUSE:** New sound system in Sanctuary, Faith Circle Goodie Boxes, Office needs for Helen, Faith Lutheran Daycare, New Confirmation gowns, Little Dressed for Africa supplies, LYF, Pastor Baumann’s Transit Rides for those in need. A big thank you to everyone who helped. Kristy Deal did

# Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church

## 2016 Annual Report

### *“Sent Forth by God’s Blessing”*

a great job as chairman! Thank you Kristy!  
February’s Silent Auction proceeds went to PARS.

The offering from the Christmas Party went to the Boys & Girls Club in Pierre.

Continue to “Serve the Lord with Gladness”

Jan Larson

### **\*ALTAR GUILD\***



Altar Guild’s purpose is one of service to our Pastors, Board of Elders, and the congregation of Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church. Our service is for the glory of God and the building up of His people.

The Altar Guild is a spiritual commitment. We are humble and reverent in our work as we prepare for each worship service, funeral, weddings, etc. We care for the altar, lectern and pulpit paraments. We change the paraments according to the church year and special occasion such as weddings. We prepare for the Elders the communion vessels and linens. We launder the communion linens and wash communion vessels. We fill the candelabra candles and special candles for lighting during worship services. We care for all the flowers that adorn the Altar. We also maintain the acolyte vestments. We decorate the sanctuary for Christmas and Easter.

We would like to say “Thank You” to all who have donated flowers for the Altar, whether from a wedding or funeral or just gifts of love. If any member of the congregation would desire to donate special flowers we would love to care for the arrangements. You can simply call the church

office or a member of Altar Guild to have the arrangements placed on the Altar and we can then make note in the bulletin. Special thanks to those of you who have furnished a poinsettia or lily for the joyous celebrations of Christmas and Easter.

Altar Guild meets three to four times a year and any additional times as necessary. We decorated the church Christmas tree with Eggs and the color red. At Easter this year we decorated the glory cross by draping it with linens and placing lilies and daffodils under the cross. We chaired the making of Palm Cross necklaces for Palm Sunday. We welcome anyone who would like to join us in serving our Lord by preparing His altar. Please contact an Altar Guild member if you are interested.

Our membership includes: Chair – Renee Knapp, Secretary – Sandy Bales, and Treasurer - Lila Houck Other members include: Gloria Bump, Janice Deal, Verna Fransen, JoAnn Sanders, Jan Johnson, Doreen Kayser, Sandy Peterson, Gloria Welk, Karen Humphrey, Amber Bell, Cindy Deadrick, Cindy Canode, Susan Urbach, Kelly VanDeWiele, Ami Jo Welch and Marcia Johnson. Honorary members are: Bernice Huber, Shirley Keller.

### **\*BEREA CIRCLE\***



In 2015, Berea Circle maintained the Church Resource Center.

Christian greeting cards, napkins, jewelry, books, Bibles, videos, and other gift items were purchased to sell in the Resource Center/Library.

# Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church

## 2016 Annual Report

*“Sent Forth by God’s Blessing”*

Members are available on Sunday mornings to assist you with purchases you may wish to make. The self-service envelopes are available for your use when circle members are not in the Library.

This past year, we have provided get-well cards to the LWML, which are sent to members of the congregation. We also provide birthday cards that are sent to the members of the Confirmation class by the LWML. The circle provided crosses, which the LWML presents to the Confirmands and graduates in the spring.

Our circle assisted the LWML in serving treats at Mary House, first Sunday coffee, kitchen cleaning and funerals as assigned. We gave a monetary donation to PARS for the SHARE holiday meal project. We participated in the Country Fair.

Circle meetings are the second Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. (except for January, February, and March when we do not meet) in the Church Living Room. Guests are always welcome.

2017 Officers and members are: Chairman – Donna Gohl; Secretary – Carol Fosheim; Treasurer/Ordering Chairman – Ruth Hansen; Christian Growth – Bernadine Hinckley; Caller – Arlene Barker. Members are - Ruby Thoen, Denise Overweg, Gloria Bump, Judy Gerig and Tina Haug. Honorary Members – Joyce Nielsen and Ruth Leidholt.

### **\*FAITH CIRCLE\***



REPORT NOT SUBMITTED



### **MARY/MARTHA CIRCLE**

Like Mary and Martha in the Bible, our members seek to learn more of their Lord and to serve him by serving others.

We meet monthly for Bible study, fellowship, and a brief business meeting.

During the year we remember the elderly and shut-ins of our congregation with cards and visits at Valentine's Day, Easter, and Christmas. We correspond, on a regular basis with Ronald Bagola, a handicapped gentlemen living in a group home in Mitchell. We also take our turn, within the LWML, serving Maryhouse, first Sunday coffee, funerals and other assigned functions and duties, many times with the help of our auxiliary members.

We meet at 7:00 pm on the 4th Thursday of the month at the church. Visitors are always welcome.

We want to say a special thanks to all those that have helped us serve, furnished food and gave monetary donations.

Visit or call: Chairman, Dawn Koch; Treasurer, Linda Nill; Cards, Grace Schmitgen or our other members: Mary Buxcel, Deb Hepper, Loretta Jochim, Rena Ortbahn, Bev Parrott and Freda Peters. Honorary Members: Shirley English, Dorothy Rausch, and Opal Tousley.



**Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church**  
**2016 Annual Report**  
*“Sent Forth by God’s Blessing”*

**PRISCILLA CIRCLE**



Our main duty is the Cradle Roll. The special Cradle Roll board with all the children enrolled is in the Narthex. Each child is named on a little Lamb with their

Birthday and Baptism date. We send letters of Christian guidance to the parents that are timely for the age of the child during their first 3 years. We remember the children on their Birthdays, anniversary of their Baptism, and a small gift at Christmas. Each year the cost of postage and our packets increase. We thank the LWML for the help when requested. All other expenses are covered by the Circle.

There are currently 65 on the Cradle Roll. The banner that is displayed and the candelabra that is used at each Baptism were two of our “special projects.”

We assist LWML with serving 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday coffee, Mary House, kitchen cleaning, mailing “encouragement cards to the Confirmands and any other functions assigned to us. We especially thank our auxiliary members for all their assistance in this.

We send Graduation and Confirmation cards to members of families on our auxiliary list. During the year we try to remember our members, their families, and some of the auxiliary members with gifts or cards in times of illness, hospitalization, bereavement, weddings, births, etc. We were saddened this year with the passing of our member Margaret Kayser.

Several of our members helped with the Convention held at Faith this year. We enjoyed an evening out with our spouses or friends in April.

Priscilla Circle welcomes guests at any meeting. Our regular meetings are the last Monday of every other month beginning in January at 7:00 PM.

2017 Officers and standing appointment are:  
 Chairman ----- Anita Marso  
 Vice Chairman ----- Arlene Naasz  
 Cradle Roll ----- Luann Zuercher  
 Treasure ----- Peggy Urquhart  
 Secretary/Birth Congrats --- Myrna Hartmann  
 Mission Inspiration ----- Velda Bartel  
 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday Caller ----- Judy Costar and  
 Charlotte Hiller  
 Mary House Caller ----- Carissa Naasz  
 Circle Caller ----- Elaine Wagner

**Members:**

Jackie Hoefener	LaVon Lidel
Arlene Buhl	Robin Peterson
Lorri Rathbun	Carlene Barber
Lynda Wagner	Margaret Baumann
Shirleen Wixon	Pauline Paul

Secretary, Myrna Hartmann



**REBEKAH CIRCLE**

REPORT NOT SUBMITTED

# Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church

## 2016 Annual Report

*“Sent Forth by God’s Blessing”*

### FAITH EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH BOARDS



*“Therefore, my brothers and sisters, make every effort to confirm your calling and election. For if you do these things, you will never stumble, and you will receive a rich welcome into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.”*

*2 Peter 1:10-11*

Greetings to you all on behalf of the Board of Elders.

It has been a very full year for your Board of Elders. Not only does this group of dedicated individuals assist with every worship service, but it is called upon to provide supervision and decisions in other important operational aspects of the church as well.

There have been two very substantial work products that have gone above and beyond the normal realm of activities in 2016.

The first product was a discovery session for all of us. We had a tremendous response to the congregational study that was hosted online for the first time. We learned what each other likes about church and what we believe will make us a stronger group of Christians moving forward. There were some answers that didn’t surprise any of us, and there were likely some responses that opened a few eyes. All things considered, this reflective exercise was extremely timely and provided your Board of

Elders and Church Council some great direction. We are already picking the ‘low hanging fruit’ and working on how to implement some of the more complex realizations.

The second product will be delivered sometime in the near future. Elder David Zuercher was assigned the task of interviewing each staff member and reviewing the overall operation of the church. To our knowledge, this has never been done and the report should provide some critical direction to the Church Council and the Elders as we determine what our staffing and operational needs are in the coming months.

Beyond these activities, the Board of Elders has also been very active in calling a new Senior Pastor. This process, as many of you know, involves many lengthy meetings, review of countless documents, and much prayer. A call was extended in December to Pastor Cory Rajek, a former Vicar of Faith Lutheran, and he is currently looking for guidance from the Holy Spirit on this important call.

As we move into new months and fresh experiences, I want to thank the members of the congregation for the work you do to make our activities ‘shine’ – it should go without saying that church really begins when we leave the sanctuary each Sunday. I’m proud of what our members do inside and outside of the walls of our facility. Our community is stronger and healthier because of our collective efforts.

So, as you contemplate the New Year, keep in mind the call that Peter has for us as Christians! Peter wishes for us to rejoice in the fact that God has provided Christians everything we need make our redemption a certainty. In other words, there is no need to search high and low - we simply need to use the tools we have been given for our welcome into heaven!

Blessings for a wonderful 2017!

# Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church

## 2016 Annual Report

*“Sent Forth by God’s Blessing”*



Lee Axdahl – Chair  
Board of Elders



The Board of Early Childhood Education is the advisory board to Faith Lutheran Daycare and Faith Lutheran Preschool. Both of these programs are not-for-profit and self-sustaining. Budgeting is the biggest challenge along with child attendance and staffing.

The board currently has seven members. They are Shelley Larson, Kelly Hansen, Denise Overweg, Kurt Swanson, Amy Macy, Tanner Kost, & Kelsie Hughes.

Both the Daycare and the Preschool are integral parts of the mission and ministry of Faith Lutheran Church.

The board consists of Faith Lutheran church members, with a board balance kept between those who do not have children in daycare or preschool and those that do.

Both daycare and preschool implement Christian curriculum purchased from the Concordia Publishing House in teaching their children stories from both the Old and New Testament.

Faith Lutheran Preschool, directed by Jan Larson,

holds three classes during the week: two Tuesday/Thursday classes and one Monday/Wednesday/Friday class. The class size per school year ranges from 20-25 students. Jan has done a tremendous job with returning staff. Thus far the classes and staff are doing great!

Faith Lutheran Daycare, directed by Jenny Hovelson, is licensed to oversee more than 65 children. The daycare staff have monthly meetings and are required to take part in various childhood education training sessions throughout the year. In addition, the State of South Dakota performs three annual inspections of the daycare: safety inspection, file inspection, and nutrition inspection. The daycare is currently working to get everything organized and up to date.

Jenny has transitioned nicely into her new role and done an exceptional job increasing daycare enrollment up to full capacity, juggling staff to meet childcare needs, and keeping weekly activities engaging, fun, and educational.

Jay Friedrich and Lori continue to keep the preschool and daycare in pristine condition and provide assistance with various repair projects throughout the year. The board is grateful to Jay and Lori for their dedication to the daycare and preschool facilities.

We are also thankful for Pastors Baumann and Barbey, the church council, the church staff, and Beth King for their encouragement and support of both the daycare and preschool.

Shelley Larson, Chair

# Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church

## 2016 Annual Report

*“Sent Forth by God’s Blessing”*



The Board of Education at Faith is responsible for providing religious instruction for all members of our congregation. This is accomplished through Sunday School, Midweek, Confirmation Classes, Adult Bible Classes, and Vacation Bible School.

Some of the Board duties include:

- \* Monitoring halls during Midweek,
- \* Filling Sunday School and Midweek teacher slots,
- \* Organizing and selling Midweek supplies
- \* Organizing and helping with games for Rally Day,
- \* Heading up the Christmas party for all Midweek students at the Aquatics Center,
- \* Encourage and show appreciation to all teachers for bringing the Good News of Jesus to the children and other members of the Congregation
- \* Hosting the ice cream social for all Midweek students in May,
- \* Preparing and planning for Vacation Bible School in June
- \* Partnered with the Life Team on the Grandparent program,
- \* Helping plan and coordinate the Children’s Christmas programs
- \* Planning more spiritual growth for the entire congregation through the wonderful leadership of the pastors.

The Board of Education is thankful for our Pastors, our many dedicated teachers, parents, and students.

Our Board consists of: Tony Neyhart - Chair, Brian

Poelstra - Vice Chair, Carissa Naasz,, Dorothy Fawcett, Jessica Lammler, and Rachel Aamold.



REPORT NOT SUBMITTED



*“They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts”. (Acts 2:46)*

The Board of Parish Fellowship promotes the fellowship gatherings for the members of Faith Lutheran Church. We organize events that include fun food and spending with our extended church family. Our Board of Parish Fellowship members are Kathleen Monfore (chairman), Dustin Ortbahn (vice-chairman), Rhonda Peterson (secretary), Celeste Saylor (financial secretary), Denise Mallo, Mike Jochim, Brian Hanson and Sarah Burger.

The 2016 events have included:

- VBS—June 8, 2016
  - Provided supper for sixty workers and VBS camp leaders

# Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church

## 2016 Annual Report

### *“Sent Forth by God’s Blessing”*

- Jacob Shoup Concert and Potluck—June 17, 2016
- Rally Days—September 11, 2016
- Survey Meal—October 2016
- Mission Festival—November 20, 2016

Upcoming events will include:

- Reception for the Call Pastor—January 4, 2017
- Family Pizza-Pool Party—January 15, 2017
- Souper Bowl—February 5, 2017
- Mardi Graz—February 28, 2017

There will be nominations for new Parish Board of Fellowship members in April of 2017. Leaving the Parish Board of Fellowship in 2016 are Kathleen Monfore, Denise Mallo, Dustin Ortbahn, Rhonda Peterson and Sarah Burger. The nomination committee will need to fill the five openings on the Board of Parish Fellowship.

Our board looks forward to another year of gathering together in fellowship. We hope to see you at the upcoming events.

Kathleen Monfore  
Chairman, Board of Parish Fellowship



The Board of Trustees is grateful to God for the continuing well-being of our campus and its facilities. We are grateful to Pastors Bauman and Barbey and to facility maintenance staff person Jay Fredrich who work closely with the Board of

Trustees as we deal with campus maintenance and improvements.

In 2016 Trustees dealt with the following concerns:

- Renting Faith Lutheran property at 642 Grand Avenue
- Providing custodial and lawn work during the prolonged absence of Jay Fredrich
- Hiring a part-time custodian to assist with church campus cleaning during Jay’s absence and until January 1, 2017
- Built a knee wall for the Daycare area
- Installed shelving in an upstairs closet for the Daycare
- Installed shelving in an upstairs closet for LWML storage
- Switched Internet service to Midco to improve Internet speed for the preschool
- Had new tires installed on the church’s two-wheel trailer
- Carpeted ½ of the Saint Luke Room to allow Daycare to expand and use part of the space
- Added audio-visual to the Nursery area

Board members: Ron Blair, Ken Doppenberg, Bill Dunn, Dallan Hoefener, Steve Johnson, John Koch, LaVern Lenz, Gary Olivier, and Steve Stoneback.

The Board extends its thanks to the parish for the financial resources to accomplish special projects and the general maintenance of our facilities and campus. We also thank and very much appreciate all the workers who helped clean the church or do other work, and or who helped with the projects.

Respectfully,

Steve Stoneback, Chairman

# Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church

## 2016 Annual Report

*“Sent Forth by God’s Blessing”*



In the final quarter of the year the congregation was once again issued a challenge to reduce the amount of our Church Extension Fund Loan for our Christian Family Life Center. A generous family in our congregation offered to match all debt retirement gifts given through December up to \$10,000.00. You took on the challenge in a big way. A total of \$31,311.50 was given which then turned in to a total of \$41,311.50 with the family’s match. As a result of the challenge, the balance of the Church Extension Fund Loan is now \$318,079.74. Through December 2016 we’ve made a total of 172 advance payments resulting in a savings of \$568,896.23 in interest!

The Board developed and implemented a travel reimbursement plan for the Pastors and other Church leaders when they are travelling for Church business. Additionally, the Board replenished the Sunday school envelopes so that the children could feel that they are contributing to the well-being of the Church and at the same time, develop an understanding of giving.

Our Board would also like to stress that in addition to the financial support members of the congregation proved that it is important for members to also consider the giving of their time and talents in leading the church. Each year there are many positions that come open on all the various Boards of the Church. If you would like more information on the Boards and their mission, please see the Church office or visit with any of the current officers of the Church.

The Board of Stewardship’s members are John Barber, Roxie Everson, Jason Jares, Ann Shoup and Mark Swendsen.



## ENDOWMENT FUND

### Board of Endowment

The Faith Evangelical Lutheran Endowment Fund has been in operation since 1989 to provide a living fund for the purpose of supporting the mission and programs of Faith Lutheran. The idea of an endowment is to hold gifts in perpetuity with only the interest from the gifts being used for the various programs and needs of Faith Lutheran. Gifts may be given for specific purposes or may be made without a specific designation.

The Endowment Fund Board each fall solicits ideas from the congregation for expenditure of the interest of the fund. This year there were approximately \$3,000.00 in interest to be used for the support of missions and needs.

The Endowment Fund Board consists of John Barber, Roxie Everson, Jason Jares, Ann Shoup, Mark Swendsen and Brian Zeeb (Congregational President).

# Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church

## 2016 Annual Report

*“Sent Forth by God’s Blessing”*

### FAITH LUTHERAN WEB SITE



The web site for Faith Lutheran was redesigned in the Fall of 2008. The new web site is more organized and dynamic. It includes a CMS (content management system) which allow our staff, LYF, and others with permission to sign into the website and make changes within their pages, which in turn helps keep the site alive with current information and events about the life of our congregation.

We are grateful to Dennis and Carolyn Ryckman for keeping our website very up to date and attractive.

Members can visit the web site to view the weekly bulletin and the monthly calendar. If you have high speed internet access, you may want to check out the weekly sermon, which is digitally converted and uploaded for viewing. The special events section features a photo gallery as well.

The e-mail list contains many addresses to whom regular messages are sent. As well as names of our regular members of the church body, the list includes our extended families, friends, past members, vicars and others.

The web site also has received a great deal of hits this year.

The cost of the web site hosting and monthly maintenance fees are currently being donated by Dennis & Carolyn Ryckman of

Factor 360. Carolyn also works at keeping our site current. Again the web site is: <http://www.faithluth.com> and our e-mail address is [faith@faithluth.com](mailto:faith@faithluth.com)



### OAHE CABLE ACCESS STATION

Our tape delayed television broadcast can be seen on

Wednesday night on Channel 8 at 7:00 p.m. We pay \$500.00 per year plus a weekly fee of \$35.00. Our Cable Broadcast may be sponsored for \$35.00. This covers the weekly fee. The cost of tapes, equipment, and our annual fee is offset by having more than one sponsor per Sunday and we do some budgeting in our General Fund to assist with this.

We are grateful that Oahe Cable and Patrick Callahan also has offered to again broadcast our Christmas Eve Service in 2014.

We are also grateful to Patrick Callahan for assisting in some major upgrades of our equipment. It has provided better product on T.V. and simplified the finalization process for our Video crew.

You may sponsor the Cable Broadcast and Sunrise for \$60.00. We are grateful to our video crew for their time and skills, they are: Dale Heidelberger, John Hepper, Steve Johnson, Mike Leidholt, Terry Leibel, Paul Lepisto, Doug Peterson, Daryl Ramquist, Brad Schultz, and Todd Thompson, and to Dennis Ryckman for downloading the weekly Broadcast on our Web Site and taking the DVD weekly to the City.

We are currently having some discussion with Oahe Cable TV about a live Broadcast as well.

# Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church

## 2016 Annual Report

*“Sent Forth by God’s Blessing”*

### SONRISE RADIO BROADCAST



It’s live on “Today’s KCCR” 1240 on your radio dial at 6:40 a.m. each Sunday. Sonrise had its beginning in the mid 1980's. Pastor Rick Hans, our Assistant Pastor, who had some experience with a simulcast on vicarage and Dave Mossner, who was Pierre's KELO reporter, gave this a shot. It has now sustained itself for 23 years.

Each Sunday morning at 6:30 Pastor Baumann rolls into the studio for an enjoyable 20 minutes of radio.

Sonrise gives us an opportunity to provide a weekly invitation to Faith Lutheran Church, tell people of special events, share God's Word in song and scripture, and to note some special memories and moments in the life of our families. While our actual expenses for Sonrise are \$50.00, you may sponsor Sonrise for \$30.00. We make up the difference with our multiple sponsors.

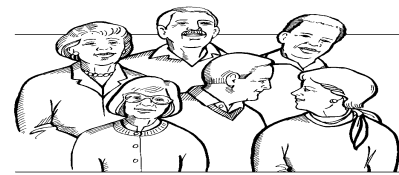
### PRAYER CIRCLES

We have five Prayer Circles in the congregation. A prayer circle may be used for a time of joy or a time of struggle. Our prayers circles broaden our prayer concern for individuals and families.

You may call any prayer circle to share a prayer concern. Our Prayer Circle Captains are:

Myrna Hartmann	224-7039
Freda Peters	224-7654
Donna Leslie	224-1770

If you would like to serve on a Prayer Circle, please call our church office.



### *Seniors' Gathering* **FOREVER YOUNG**

Forever Young is a group of men and women in our congregation who are 55 years of age, or somewhere in that area, who gather once a month for a meal and fellowship. Forever Young generally meets on the third Tuesday of the month, except during Lent when they meet on Wednesdays.

- Forever Young people take time to put Sunday Bulletins together and straighten the pew racks when needed. They play Bunko, bingo, sing for birthdays and anniversaries, and have wonderful fellowship time.
- On Ash Wednesday, we have our Annual Chicken Feed.
- In July, we always have our 4<sup>th</sup> of July picnic lunch.
- In August, we usually have our annual fish fry.

We thank those who come early and faithfully get everything set up for Forever Young.

So come join Forever Young!  
Invite a friend!

### Faith Lutheran Youth

Greetings in the name of Christ Jesus our Risen Lord and Savior!

“The General is still in control.” No, I’m not painting the scene of our 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade Midweek Classes, but rather it’s the reassuring words we need to hear about our God who stands in the midst of so much chaos and turmoil in this world. It’s the picture of the God who stands in midst of the lives of our youth today. *“God, where are You? God, why am I suffering? Why are my*



# Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church

## 2016 Annual Report

### *“Sent Forth by God’s Blessing”*

parents fighting? Why is this world so ripped to shreds by violence and hate?” These are real times with real struggles that today’s teens are facing which previous generations didn’t have to deal with to such a degree. These are indeed wildly changing and challenging times for youth as we see the increased attacks and assaults waged on marriage, the family unit, an infiltration of sexual “freedom” forced on today’s youth, and the diminished emphasis on Christian values and morals from inside and outside the church. Where is the hope for such a broken and tragic world which our youth and teens are living in? ..... One word..... J.E.S.U.S. That’s our hope. Through Him, God shows that He is still in control. *“Do not be afraid. I am the First and the Last. I am the Living One; I was dead, and behold I am alive forever and ever! And I hold the keys to death and Hades.”* Revelation 1:17b-18. So, all this to reiterate that everything we do at Faith is to build up trust, faith, and confidence in the God who holds all things in His hands, even life and death itself, so that when youth step aside from Pierre, SD and Faith Lutheran they have the reassuring hope that God is always in control even when we don’t get or understand what is going on. We have a number of different areas in which we reach the youth of Faith Lutheran with the hope and message of Jesus Christ. Let me share them with you now.

#### **\*LYF\***

Lutheran Youth Fellowship (L.Y.F.) is our high school youth group at Faith Ev. Lutheran and is composed of high school age kids from grades 9-12. This group meets on Wednesday evenings from 8:00-9:15 p.m. year-round to discuss life topics, share a devotion from the Scriptures, and participate in a variety of activities. Last year we saw 8 high school seniors graduate from the group, and this year we are pleased to welcome a number of new faces to the group. Both Pastor Baumann and Michael Shoup share in responsibilities for the group and are delighted to spend time with the youth each week. Some of the activities which the

LYF group has been able to partake in this past year were: a trip to Sky Zone in Sioux Falls, an outdoor scavenger hunt, serving beverages for Trunk N’ Treat, an iron chef competition, helping run games and booths for the Mardi Gras festivities, fundraisers...fundraisers...more fundraisers, and a trip to the 2016 National Youth Gathering in New Orleans and much more!

Our group of 23 youth and 6 adults left July 15<sup>th</sup> from Rapid City and returned July 22<sup>nd</sup> from New Orleans.

It is so wonderful also to see the support of other groups within the church toward our youth. The LWML ladies group blessed our youth gathering participants with a check from their country fair proceeds. Our group thanks them for their great support! What a tremendous gift for which we are extremely appreciative!

Our main goal for LYF is to provide a safe, Christian environment in which teens can gather and grow in godly habits, and in their faith with other Christians. We typically text the event and meeting location to our youth the day before, or the day of our event. If you or your child desire to receive a weekly text about what we are doing and planning for youth group, just speak with Pastor Baumann or Michael Shoup and let us know so we can get you on the text list. We have seen God’s hand working in a variety of ways and greatly appreciate your continued prayers for both our youth and the leaders involved in L.Y.F.

#### **\*JYM\***

Junior Youth Ministry (J.Y.M.) is our middle school youth group including grades 6-8. Pastor Baumann has been organizing and coordinating events for this group throughout the year. Some of the things our JYM group has been able to do this past year were: a week of Circuit Bible Camp in Pierre. Typically, we like to try and do a monthly event for the J.Y.M. group. If you or someone you know would be willing to assist Pastor Baumann with various events, please connect with him as he is always grateful for the help. Next

# Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church

## 2016 Annual Report

### *“Sent Forth by God’s Blessing”*

summer’s Circuit Bible Camp will take place July 24-26, 2016 in Valentine, NE. Cost will be approximately \$90 with a \$30 scholarship for Faith members, and a sign-up sheet will appear shortly in the next month or so.

#### **\*SUNDAY SCHOOL & MIDWEEK\***

There is much to be excited about when it comes to both our Sunday school and Midweek programs. These two arms of our Christian education programs are vital to the Christian instruction of our young people concerning what we believe, teach, and confess as a church body. There are countless individuals in the congregation who give so selflessly of their time and energy to teach, encourage, and instruct our midweek and Sunday school students-so much so that they are too numerous to name at this time. We are grateful for all of their help and support!

It is already good to be thinking about next year and praying about the possibility of serving as a teacher, sub, or guide for one of our Sunday school or Midweek classes. In fact, our Board of Education and Pastors encourage you to just come and observe a Sunday School or Midweek class, and see for yourself what those times actually look like. The need is great. Where is God calling you to serve His people, and how might you consider stepping into the role of teacher or sub for either one of our Sunday school or midweek programs? Our Pastors, our Board of Education, and other teachers will assist to make this a positive and enriching experience for both our teachers and students.

We had 2 great Christmas programs this past year. Thank you, thank you, thank you! A BIG word of thanks and appreciation to Rachel Aamold, Noel Clocksin, Tony Neyhart, Jessica Lammle, the Board of Ed. and all of our adult helpers with our Children’s Christmas Programs. All the children did a really excellent job sharing the message of Christ’s birth through song and story.

In April of this year we will look forward to having a teacher appreciation meal to thank and honor all of our teachers.

#### **\*BIBLE BOWL\***

For the last number of years, Faith Lutheran Church has served as the host site for *Bible Bowl*. This is a one day event for churches in the South Dakota District. Church teams travel to Pierre from all across the state. Bible Bowl will be held Saturday, April 1<sup>st</sup> from 9 a.m. to about 3 p.m. with teams participating in trivia competition against each other in selected categories. If interested please connect with Pastor Baumann or Mr. LeRoy Kropuenske.

#### **\*PRE-SCHOOL & DAYCARE CHAPEL\***

Pastor Baumann has been leading chapel services for our pre-school and daycare children. This equates to four different groups that meet for chapel once a month. The children and their teachers meet in the sanctuary for a song, to hear more about God and His Word, and to be connected to the physical space where God’s people gather to worship. Our pre-school children put on a very nice Christmas play in the Christian Family Life Center for lots of parents, grandparents, and friends. I can’t say enough about our Daycare and Pre-school staff and the leaders. They are such a talented group and very good at what they do!

#### **\*ACOLYTES\* Upcoming Key Dates**

Each school year, the high schoolers of the congregation serve as acolytes. I am continuing to search for ways to keep participation high in this area. This is a tremendous service to the church! The acolytes assist the elders and the pastors in a variety of helpful ways. The acolyte schedule can be found in a number of different places: on our church calendar located in the church office, in the youth section in the newsletters each month, and in the youth section of the worship bulletin each week. Acolytes serve as those who assist in the worship services by lighting and extinguishing candles, collecting the offering plates, and by serving the

# Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church

## 2016 Annual Report

### *“Sent Forth by God’s Blessing”*

Pastors and Elders in other ways during Communion. If your high school aged child would like to serve as an acolyte but has not been put on the schedule, please contact the church office at: 224-2216. A complete schedule of the entire year was sent home in early August. Another one can be picked up in the church office if need be.

#### Upcoming Key Dates

- Feb. 5<sup>th</sup>** Friendship Sunday / Pastor Barbey Farewell
- Feb. 12<sup>th</sup>** Pastor Cory Rajek Installation
- Feb. 22<sup>nd</sup>** Church Council Meeting
- Feb. 28<sup>th</sup>** Mardi Gras 5-6:30 in Gym
- Mar. 1<sup>st</sup>** Ash Wednesday
- Mar. 11<sup>th</sup>** State Dartball Tournament at Faith 10:30 pm
- Mar. 11-12<sup>th</sup>** Concordia Univ. St. Paul Band  
Come to visit and play in worship
- Apr. 1<sup>st</sup>** State Bible Bowl Competition at Faith
- Apr. 9<sup>st</sup>** Living Last Supper 6:30 pm
- Apr. 13<sup>th</sup>** Maundy Thursday Worship
- Apr. 14<sup>th</sup>** Good Friday Worship
- Apr. 16<sup>th</sup>** Easter Sunday Breakfast and  
Worship *Christ is Risen!*
- Apr. 21-22<sup>nd</sup>** LWML Spring Retreat in Aberdeen
- Apr. 26<sup>th</sup>** 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation  
Questioning Night at 6:30 pm.
- Apr. 26<sup>th</sup>** Church Council Meeting 7:00 pm
- Apr. 30<sup>th</sup>** Confirmation Sunday 11 O’clock Service
- May 25<sup>th</sup>** Church Council Meeting 7:00 pm
- June 5-9<sup>th</sup>** Vacation Bible School
- June 27-30<sup>th</sup>** J.Y.M. Circuit Bible Camp
- June 29<sup>th</sup>** Church Council Meeting 7:00 pm
- Jul. 9-14<sup>th</sup>** Synodical Convention in Milwaukee, WI
- Jul. 15-22<sup>nd</sup>** L.C.M.S. National Youth Gathering in New Orleans, LA
- July 27<sup>th</sup>** Church Council Meeting 7:00 pm

With Joy in Jesus,

Pastor Joshua J. Baumann  
Faith Ev. Lutheran Church-Pierre, SD  
baumannj@csl.edu  
(605) 224-2216

2 Thessalonians 3:5 ESV "May the Lord direct your hearts to the love of God, and to the steadfastness of Christ."

## Faith Pierre Bible Bowl 2016 Bible Scholars



All ten Faith Pierre Bible scholars and coach LeRoy



Faith Pierre 3 - A Champions: Simon, Gracie, and Joshua

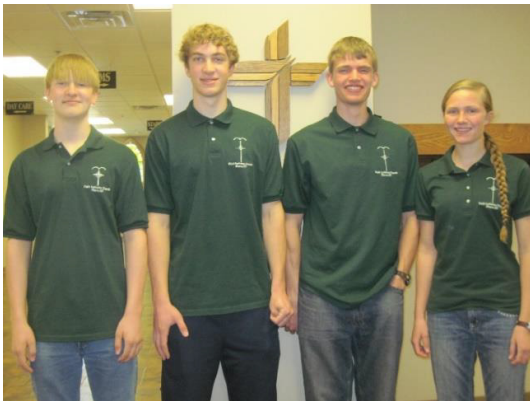
# Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church

## 2016 Annual Report

### *“Sent Forth by God’s Blessing”*



Faith Pierre 2 - A Runner Up Champions: Bailey, Nathan, and Deni



Faith Pierre 1 - A 7th place: Ethan, Nate, Sam, and Cassandra

Congratulations to all of my Bible Bowl teams. They are numbered 1 to 3 in historical order. Team 1 has competed for 4 years. Team 2 has competed for 3 years. Team 3 is all sixth graders and this is their first year. They won every match and won the state A championship. Team 2 are the runner up champion. They won gold and silver trophies. Team 1 earned 7th in the A league competition. Deni won 2nd place in the individual competition out of 50 to 60 of the finest Bible scholars in the state. Sam won 6th place. More important is who they are as Christians. They represented our church with great honor. They are kind, thoughtful, loving, funny, and involved Christians. With them the world is a better place. Thanks to them for who they are and their

hard work. Thanks to the families that support them. Thanks to Pastor Josh Baumann who is our Pastor and leader. Thanks to Sandy Hobart who assisted me. Sandy and I made it to every match of the day. Annette Hill and Carolyn Ryckman did our lunch. Thanks to Pastor Knefelkamp the King of Bible Bowl.

We received word from the South Dakota district on the selection of topics for the 2017 Bible Bowl. The books of the Bible will be prison epistles of Paul. Those are the books of Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, and Philemon from the ESV version of the Bible. The catechism part is Baptism. Students from sixth grade to Seniors are eligible to participate. The statewide competition on Saturday April 1st will be held at our church again this year. For more information or to register please contact Bible Bowl coach LeRoy Kropuenske or Pastor Baumann.

LeRoy Kropuenske  
Bible Bowl coach

## OFFICIAL ACTS

**Confirmations:** Trever Anthony Adamson, Anfrew Minor Axdahl, Paige Emily Brandt, Kamden Nadene Carter, Kaycee Jean Carter, Natalie Lynn Fawcett, Ashlee RayeAnn Hiller, Ladd Hayes Kramme, Lane Rhodes Kramme, Savannah Christine Loesch, Brant Anthony Malfero, Cassidy Lynne Miller, Bailey Paige Nelson, Maria Elise Noyes, Lane aylor Pope, Nathan Michael Shoup, Deni Marie Zeeb.

**Baptisms:** Peter Ira Baumann, Chase Cody Lantz, Brinley Grace Moody, Reya Dawn Rathbun, Kendrick Jay Glodt, Declan Michel Camp, Castiel Lee, Thea Rayn Brooks, Vaughn Bergen Macy, Dietrich Trey Johnson, Brielle DoraMae Crusier, Aubree Ann Lachnit, Mindy Marie Riggles, Billie Lorraine Riggles, Anna Marie Kost, Sutton Everett

# Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church

## 2016 Annual Report

### *“Sent Forth by God’s Blessing”*

Boyle, Brodie Carl Rathbun, Tyler James Carl Rathbun.

**Weddings:** Caitlin Marie Forman & Kevin Paul Stiles, Justin O’Daniel & Michelle Kopecky, Kelsey Adney & Neil Nemec, Dustin Michael Waldron & Deanna Marie Kruse, Norman Kevin Neilan & Deborah Lynn Sorenson,

**Burials:** Gary Keller, Merle Sorenson, Judy Chambers, Viola Gabriel, Gertrude Adams, Margaret Kayser.

## Stewardship Report

Range	2013	2014	2015	2016
\$0 - \$50	77	73	60	49
\$50 - \$300	99	102	101	97
\$300 - \$500	32	45	33	33
\$500 - \$1000	58	56	55	52
\$1000 – \$1500	41	30	33	28
\$1500 - \$3000	49	56	53	48
\$3000 - \$4000	18	13	18	19
\$4000 - \$6000	26	27	19	18
\$6000 - \$8000	10	14	15	16
\$8000 - \$10,000	6	6	7	5
\$10,000 - \$12,000	2	4	4	4
\$12,000 - \$14,000	4	4	5	3
\$14,000 - \$16,000	1	1	2	2
\$16,000 - \$18,000	1	1	1	0
\$18,000 - \$24,000	3	1	1	1
\$24,000 - \$26,000	0	0	1	0
\$26,000 - \$33,000	0	0	0	0
\$33,000 - \$51,000	0	0	1	2
\$51,000 - \$105,000	0	0	0	0

We live in a land of plenty, which promotes its own twist on contentment. Its version is “buy and possess.” Our culture is geared far more to the material than the spiritual. Our society tells us that we need and deserve more, and that life is not complete unless we have the finest homes and cars plus wealth and success. We are led to believe that happiness and contentment are within our reach if we just acquire a few more things. Advertisements are geared to make us feel discontent so that we will buy more things to make us happy.

# Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church

## 2016 Annual Report

### *“Sent Forth by God’s Blessing”*

Greed will not allow contentment, because it always urges us to acquire more. A person can spend a lifetime chasing prosperity that, when found, often destroys him as discussed in the following story:

A ship full of men sailed to an island to look for gold. When they arrived, they divided into two groups. One group would dig for gold; the other would plant crops and prepare the food. As time went on, they found more gold. More of the men who prepared the food began to dig for gold. As more men came to the island, most of them also dug for gold. Even the ship was torn apart so the wood could be used to support the mineshafts. The story ends when some time later, people visited the island and found skeletons draped over vast treasures. Greed had taken over; and they had completely missed their meaning and purpose in life.

Money has been called “the god of those who have too much, and the goal of those who have too little.” Blessed indeed is the person who avoids these extremes. Max Anders said it well; “God wants us to have wealth; we must be careful not to settle for money.” Our goal as God’s people is to seek first God’s kingdom and His righteousness. He has promised to take care of our needs.

In the year of our Lord 2014, our total giving as a congregation was \$754,508.36, of which was the General Fund at \$547,013.99 and the Building Fund of \$100,965.06. The rest was comprised of miscellaneous gifts. The year 2013 was the second highest giving year in the history of our church, only exceeded by 2009 at \$904,313.28 in the very middle of our Christian Family Life Center Building Project.

Thank you for your steadfast and sacrificial giving that not only has sustained our Building Fund but also maintained the daily life of our congregation.

“God loves a cheerful giver”. Indeed!

