

MARCH 2022 NEWSLETTER

**FAITH EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH
714 NORTH GRAND AVENUE**

5th Annual Mexico Mission Trip in May

We are planning our fifth mission trip to Ysleta Lutheran Mission in El Paso, TX. The focus of the trip will be to build a home for a family in Juarez and share the Gospel. The week-long trip will include various mission activities, including handing out Bibles and blessing the people with the Good News of Jesus in a region filled with poverty.

We have about 20 individuals going this year. We ask that you keep this trip in your prayers regarding those who are on the team as well as those whom God appoints to place in our paths. Also be watching for fund raising opportunities for you to help with financially. If you want to know more, please contact **Dennis Ryckman** (222-7713) or the Church office (224-2216). The trip will be one week long starting May 20th through May 29th.

Mexico Mission Trip

Rent-A-Worker

Our team is ready to help with your projects. In the past they have painted, cleaned drain spouts, removed rocks from ditches, built projects, raked leaves, tilled gardens, power raked yards, removed snow. Let them know what you have in mind and they will get you on the schedule. They have an energetic crew and are looking forward to serving you and the community, their neighbors.

Please contact Carolyn Ryckman (605-280-6347) or the Church office (605-224-2216).



Lenten Schedule

Witnesses to Christ

March 2, 2022

11:00 am & 7:00 pm

"John the Baptist"

March 9, 2022

11:00 am & 7:00 pm

"Mary, sister of Martha"

March 16, 2022

11:00 am & 7:00 pm

"Malchus"

March 23, 2022

11:00 am & 7:00 pm

"Peter"

March 30, 2022

11:00 am & 7:00 pm

"Barabbas"

April 6, 2022

11:00 am & 7:00 pm

"Pontius Pilate"

April 14, 2022

Maundy Thursday

11:00 am & 7:00 pm

"Judas Iscariot"

April 15, 2022

Good Friday

7:00 pm

"Apostle John"

April 17, 2022 Easter

8:30 am & 11:00 am

"Mary Magdalene"

“Reach Out in Love”

“By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another” (John 13:35). Valentine’s Day is now a distant memory. The red hearts, flowers, and candy have been replaced in stores with Easter candy and decorations. The world tends to move on to the next holiday. Yet for us as Christians, the talk of love is an ongoing discussion.

When our Lord talks about having love, he doesn’t mean a feeling in our bellies. Feelings in another person are impossible to know until they take action. We cannot know that a person is sad until they cry. We cannot know anger until shouting happens. We cannot know love until it is enacted. The hands in our stained glass window show us love. Love is not kept in our hearts or our heads; love is an action expressed with our hands.

Jesus speaks these words about love on the day before his death. He will pour out his heart with love for his disciples, for us, and for all people. His blood will physically run down his body as the spear pierces his side. Jesus’ love is not an emotion that he keeps inside his belly. Our Lord shows us his love by his death and resurrection

Our hands can find many ways to show love. Think about the people that God has placed in your life. This includes your family, friends, and neighbors. You might have co-workers, fellow students, or residents in the nursing home. These are people that God has given you to love. He does not expect you to feel a certain way towards them. He wants you to act and speak with love.

Your hands can bring the love of Christ to another person. The ways that we can do this are endless. They also take a specific form for a certain person. Part of the experience of life is finding how best to love other people. Our expressions of love which are deeply appreciated and treasured by one person may be ignored by another. This difference keeps our lives interesting and ensures that we continually learn more about the people in our lives. As we grow closer with them, we become better equipped to demonstrate Jesus’ love to them.

The love that we show to others comes from Christ. Even as we drain ourselves by serving and loving others, our Lord fills us with himself. We are never left empty. No matter how much time and energy we devote to loving other people, Jesus will out-give us and ensure that we are equipped to keep loving every day of our lives. These windows in our sanctuary communicate wonderful truths about our God. Come back next month for another one.

Pastor Sam



CHANGING SEASONS

*“The moon marks off the seasons, and the sun
Knows when to go down.” Psalm 104:19*

The orderly cycles of life on earth are governed by the moon and the sun, which in turn, become days, weeks, months, years, as well as seasons. We are all familiar with the seasons of spring, summer, autumn and winter and how they affect our lives. Different stages of our lives can mirror the seasons.

*O blessed spring, where Word and sign embrace us into Christ the Vine:
Here Christ enjoins each one to be a branch of this life-giving Tree.*

You will, undoubtedly, experience various seasons in your life. Seasons of longing and contentment, seasons of discouragement and joy, seasons of more and less. We all have our ups and downs. As we grow from childhood to adults, that can mean stretching into new ways of living, and this usually doesn't happen until the season hits. I think I did most of my stretching when I became a mother and was raising two boys

*Through summer heat of youthful years, uncertain faith, rebellious tears,
Sustained by Christ's infusing rain, the boughs will shout for joy again.*

My immediate thoughts go to my aged parents in long-term care. They are in the winter of their lives, and looking forward to spring – not only weather-wise – but their new lives, when they will go to live with Jesus. When my husband was diagnosed with cancer, it was a dark time in his life, and he actually compared it to winter – a season he disliked. He absolutely loved summer; its warmth, and all the recreational activities he could be a part of – especially golf and watching baseball; boating and being on the water. I thought it rather ironic that he passed away in December – during the season of winter.

*When autumn cools and youth is cold, when limbs their heavy harvest hold,
Then through us, warm, the Christ will move with gifts of beauty, wisdom, love.*

The church year also has its seasons, so to speak. As Christians we are about to embark on the season of Lent. Lent is a season of penitential preparation for the celebration of Easter. It is an imitation of Jesus Christ's fasting in the wilderness before beginning his public ministry.

*As winter comes, as winters must, we breathe our last, return to dust;
Still held in Christ, our souls take wing and trust the promise of the spring.*

Lent is marked by prayer, fasting, repentance, almsgiving, and ultimately, celebration. Life in the church takes on a somewhat different “rhythm,” a shift of sorts. Our congregation takes on the act of almsgiving – donating to the local food pantry to help those who have less and are in need. It's an experience of giving freely. During Lent there is more awareness that sin separates us from God, and what it cost Him to be reunited with us.

*Christ, holy Vine, Christ, living Tree, be praised for this blest mystery;
That Word and water thus revive and join us to Your Tree of Life.*

What season are you in right now?

Karen Lindbloom





**March is
Faith Lutheran's
month to collect
items for the
Pierre-Ft. Pierre
Food Pantry**

Faith Lutheran is one of the largest supporters of the Food Pantry, so this annual food drive is very important to our community.

Nonperishable food items, paper products, hygiene items, and cash donations are welcome

Food Items Needed

(No glass jars and no homemade food items, please):

- Beef stew
- Cans of fruit
- Cereal
- Chunky soups
- Cooking oil
- Elbow macaroni
- Flour
- Juice (in plastic bottles)
- Pancake mix
- Spaghetti sauce (canned)
- Sugar
- Syrup
- Paper towels
- Pasta meals
- Tuna and canned chicken

Other Items Needed:

- Body wash
- Deodorant
- Feminine hygiene products
- Laundry detergent & fabric softener
- Lotion
- Shampoo & conditioner
- Soap
- Toilet paper
- Toothpaste

In conjunction with the Ardis Townsend Challenge to Fight Hunger, for every pound of food and every dollar donated to the Pierre/Ft. Pierre Food Pantry in March and April, local banks and credit unions will provide a percentage matching amount.

Checks may be made payable to PARS. Write Food Pantry or Townsend Challenge on the memo line.



THIS AND THAT

FOREVER YOUNG



Join us March 2, 2022 for our Forever Young Ash Wednesday Chicken Meal after our 11:00 am Ash Wednesday worship service.

Chicken will be provided. Please bring a side dish or salad to share. We are now into Lent so let's "give up" desserts.

Everyone is welcome to join us.



LENTEN MEALS

Our Board of Missions will be hosting a Lenten meal Ash Wednesday from 5:15-6:45 pm before Midweek and the Ash Wednesday service. The next Wednesday, March 9, the meal will be served by the Mexico Mission Team. This will be a Free-will offering meal and the proceeds will go to help fund our Mexico Mission Trip this year. Other entities within the church are invited to take their turn serving a Wednesday meal.



Official Acts

Baptisms



Timber Jean Pries 1/9/22

Henry David Albin Brown
1/23/22

June Mary Swanson 2/20/22

Haiden Cody Mattheis
3/12/22

Savannah Mylena Koch
3/20/22

Deaths



Merlin Kirschenmann
1/16/22



March 17



Attention Thrivent Members

Please direct your **Thrivent Choice Dollars** to Faith Lutheran Church, Faith Lutheran Preschool or Faith Lutheran Daycare before they expire on March 31, 2022.

It is simple and doesn't cost you anything but your time.

There are two ways to direct your Choice Dollars. Go to www.thrivent.com/thriventchoice and in the "Get Started" section click **Direct Thrivent Choice Dollars** or call 1-800-847-4836 and say "Thrivent Choice" at automation.

YOU MUST RENEW THE DISTRIBUTION OF YOUR CHOICE DOLLARS EVERY YEAR. YOUR CHOICE OF A PRIOR YEAR DOES NOT CARRY OVER.

State Dart-ball Tournament

The state dartball tournament is on March 5 in Mitchell. Practice every Monday night at 5:15 p.m. until the tournament. Everyone is welcome to join us.



LYF Fundraisers

Thank you to everyone who continues to support our youth, especially the Valentine's Day dinner and Pancake breakfast. Keep your eyes open for more fundraisers throughout the next few months. We'll have some delicious things to eat and more opportunities for our youth to serve here at Faith. All of your donations help our youth to attend the National Youth Gathering this July in Houston, a milestone event in their Christian lives.



Our Men's Fellowship is Monday, March 7 at 7:00 PM.

Come enjoy a fun evening of darts and bring a snack to share. Beverage will be provided.



Daylight Savings Time Begins

Set Your Clocks Ahead One Hour Saturday night, March 12 or You Will Be Late for Church on Sunday, March 13.



Faith Lutheran Daycare

February was both a great and a rough month for our daycare. A lot of sickness ran through the center, and we had to close rooms nearly every day; however, we were also blessed greatly by a \$165,000 grant from the state to help our families, staff, and our business continue to function as normal as possible in times such as these. We have also been blessed with a few applicants – while we haven't made any hires yet (we're still working through the interview process) there have been some very promising prospects! We're looking to hire 4 more individuals to complete our staff so that we can transition children around who have developmentally aged out of their rooms, switch around employees who are no longer satisfied with the area they are currently in, and make sure that we are covered when sickness hits us to keep the closing of rooms to a bare minimum. Just having people start to apply has been such a relief! Please continue to pray for the health of our teachers, our families, and our children and their families, as well as for my wisdom and discernment in hiring individuals and placing them in the position that will be most fulfilling to them.

In February we started adding more Christian / biblical concepts into our curriculum. The following are themes, Bible stories, and concepts that our teachers planned for the children in February. Pastor Sam has also started telling these Bible stories at Chapel so that they hear it multiple times and multiple places throughout the week!

Themes:

January 31st – February 4th :
Ground Hogs Day

Bible Story: *The Fiery Furnace (Shadrach, Meshach, Abednego)* – Concept: **Have Courage! Spread the good news!**



February 7th – February 18th :
Postal Valentine's

Bible Story: *The Good Samaritan*– Concept: **God loves you and He wants you to love others.**

February 21st – February 25th : Teddy Bears

Bible Story: *Jesus Heals the Paralyzed Man* – Concept:

Jesus is our friend

February 28th – March 4th :
Books / Dr. Seuss

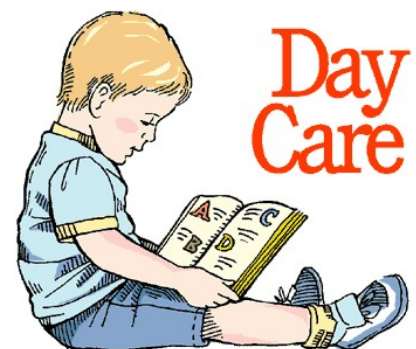
Bible Story: *The Ten Commandments* – Concept: **God gives us rules to protect and help us. Laws teach us right from wrong. Through the Ten Commandments, God provided guidelines 1. For interaction with Himself. 2. For interaction with other people.**

In March we will be hosting a Butter Braid fundraiser. This will start March 7th and end March 18th. The money raised will go towards buying portable handwashing sinks for our classrooms that don't have sinks already built in – Preschool 1, Preschool 2, and a new one for Waddlers.

Thank you for all the ways you support our daycare!

Moriah Kiepkke

daycare@faithluth.com



Night of 8th Grade Questioning—All are invited to attend the evening of questioning for our 8th grade confirmation students. The rite of questioning is a major moment for our 8th grade Midweek students and they would be so appreciative of your support. Join us **Wednesday, April 20 at 6:00 p.m.** in the sanctuary.

Confirmation Date: Sunday, April 24, 2022.

Lutheran Youth Fellowship (LYF) Our LYF is a time for high school students (and brave 8th graders) to come together for games, fellowship, and God's word. The game is always a surprise, from egg drops to capture the flag or Pictionary. We meet each Wednesday from 8:00-9:15PM. Please come and invite a friend. Talk with Pastor Handschke or Mike Shoup for questions.



Faith Lutheran Preschool

What a great year we are having!

In February, we learned about Jesus' love for us and made and exchanged Valentines.

During March we will be learning about how Jesus takes care of us, letters D, J, K, E and numbers 18-22. We will also be working on the shape diamond and the color purple. Our Lending Library starts in March and goes through April.

Registration for next year is now open, you may grab a registration form from the narthex or we have them on the preschool website. Please return this form with the registration fee (\$30) if you are interested in enrolling your child for the fall of 2022.

Thank you for your prayers and support of our program. It is greatly appreciated. Also, thank you for the generous donations to Faith Lutheran Preschool from our Giving Tree.

Blessings to you as we prepare to celebrate the Lord's resurrection!

In Christ,

Kelsey Kampfe, Director
Faith Lutheran Preschool
preschool@faithluth.com

