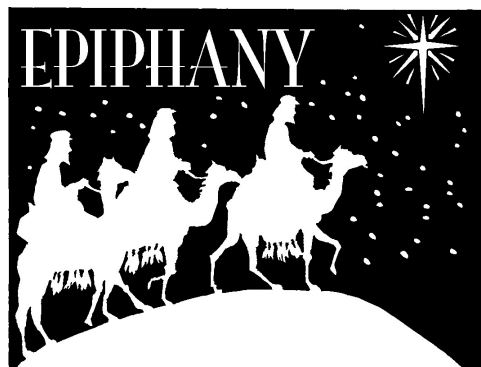


## YOUTH NEWS



Will be celebrated  
Wednesday,  
January 4, 2023  
At 7:00 pm

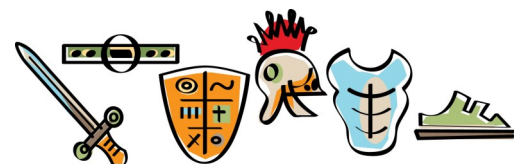
### Sunday School Classes

Our Sunday School  
Classes will resume  
January 8, 2023.

**Midweek  
Catechism Classes**  
Our Midweek classes  
will resume on January  
4, 2023.

I loved learning Latin with Mr. Mickelson. I also loved to learn about the many gods of the ancient Romans. One of the lesser-known gods was Janus. Janus was the god of time, transitions, beginnings, change and thresholds. Janus is the two-faced god, and the reason the first month of the year is called January. When we begin the New Year, our tradition is to make a list of New Year resolutions. All people want a new beginning and to make changes in our lives. I don't try to make resolutions anymore. I was never very good at keeping them. Beginning a new behavior is just so much work. I would rather just be happy.

The one and only God, the God who knows us and loves us also wants us to be happy. In Ecclesiastes chapter 3:11-12 God tells us, "He has made everything beautiful in its time. He has also set eternity in the human heart; yet no one can fathom what God has done from the beginning to end. I know that there is nothing better for people than to be happy to do good while they live." To me that means that some things we just can't understand, but we can always be happy. When the weather is awful, when your money is low, when things overwhelm you, you can be happy. God tells us there is a time for everything, but all we need to do is follow His Son and try to do good things for others.

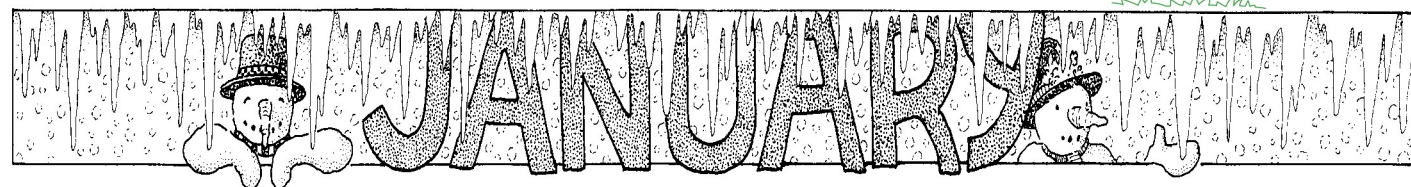


Therefore put on the  
**full armor of God ...**

**EPHESIANS 6:13, NIV**

Janus was worshiped for beginnings, change, and time. He did not bring happiness and he didn't really care about his worshipers. Our God loves us at the beginning, all the time, and through all our changes. Jesus died for us to give us eternity and happiness. There is nothing else we need to be happy. Love God and do his will. That should be everyone's resolution this new year.

Julie Kongslien, Board of Education



*Sent Forth by God's Blessing*

# January 2023 Newsletter

Faith Lutheran Church

714 N Grand Avenue

Pierre, SD 57501

NEW  
YEAR'S  
EVE  
WORSHIP



**December 31, 2022**  
**New Year's Eve Worship**  
with  
**Holy Communion**  
**7:00 pm**

Come finish out the year  
in our Lord's presence!



I want to know  
**Christ** and the **power**  
of his resurrection....

*Philippians 3:10*

*Sent Forth by God's Blessing*



"I'd like to get saved. There's just one problem—  
I'm terrified of getting baptized."



## “Equipped to Grow”

We’ve taken a good look at the ways that God blesses us with life. We share **life together**, supporting and encouraging each other when life is hard and celebrating when God gives success. Our **daily life** gives us opportunities to love those God puts in our path. All of these moments and choices are part of a **lifelong journey** as we walk together towards the beautiful destination of **eternal life**. Now this month I want to encourage you to continue growing in these areas.

Over the coming year, I am going to invite you to many celebrations, service opportunities, and times of fellowship. Prayerfully consider giving your time to come to these. Spending time together with your family in Christ will deepen the bonds between us and with our Lord. I understand that specific events may conflict with other commitments or put you in a new and unfamiliar setting. Your family is here to connect with you and support you in whatever ways we can.

One of the most diverse and consistent ways we use our faith is during our normal lives. Growing day by day can seem like the hardest one of these areas. We usually do not have clear and direct guidance about being a Christian out in the world. But we commonly interact with other people, both those we enjoy being around and others who frustrate us. We have the choice of how we are going to react. Speaking calmly can help to defuse what might otherwise be a tense moment. Our words, as well as our actions, can show the love of Christ to people around us.

No matter where we are in our life’s journey, God reminds us about his promises to us. That is one of the amazing aspects of God’s Word. You might have heard a particular passage or events hundreds of times. But we encounter these with new experiences and perspectives. You have changed since the last time you heard the passage. You might gain some new understanding or be able to apply God’s Word in a way that you had never considered. Continue to read and study God’s Word, whether you do it with a cup of coffee, in one of our Bible studies, or watching devotions online.

In the midst of our changing and growing, God’s promises remain the same. We have the certainty of eternal life through Jesus. My last encouragement to you is to continue hearing this promise. It is the foundation and source of all these other blessings. Join us on Sunday mornings, Wednesday evenings, or online. These options point you again and again to the hope and peace found in Jesus alone. We are his people. We thank him for all the blessings that he gives to us during the last year as well as the future help that he will give us in this new year.

*Pastor Sam*

*Sent Forth by God’s Blessing*

## Endowment Fund

It has been requested that we give an explanation of the Endowment Fund and the options within that fund.

The Endowment Fund is truly about leaving a legacy. A donation to any part of the endowment would insure that you could support the ministry of this church well after you have passed on or left the church. The different accounts within the endowment were created to help a giver to have the opportunity to be specific about the areas where their investment is directed. Additionally, the giver is not limited to these specific accounts. Other fund accounts may be added (example: Scholarships for the daycare or preschool). The Board of Endowment wants this to be flexible and accommodating to the givers desires for their donation.

**Blessings in Faith** is the **original Fund** and is where any **undesignated** gifts to the Endowment fund go. The earnings are disbursed as follows: the first 15% to Missions (District/ Synod), the second 15% to Seminary student aid, the rest goes to numerous projects within the congregation as requests are received and the Board designate.

**Generations in Faith** gifts go into the **Endowment General Fund**. The earnings here are used for general operations of the church. Just as if you were designating your offering for the general fund.

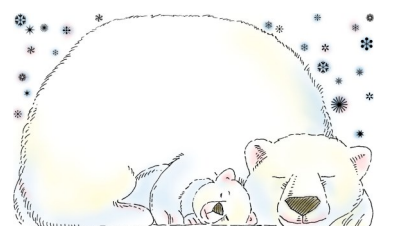
**Foundations in Faith** gifts go toward the **Endowment Building Fund**. Earnings from this fund go for building and maintenance projects.

**Future in Faith** gifts go toward **Education**. Earnings here are used for the support of Christian education within the church.



**Our February newsletter** will be the Annual Report. All entities within the church are to submit their report to the office by **January 16**. I know some of you are new to this process so if you need an example of previous submissions let me know and I will print one for you.

These are usually a summary of events or other actions taken by the entity reporting. Thanks in advance for submitting your reports in a timely manner. Helen



*Sent Forth by God’s Blessing*



## Experience the Joy

Watching your favorite sports team win the big game is an exciting, joyful experience. If you are in the stadium, the joy is contagious. Everyone is clapping, celebrating, and singing. It is wonderful to be part of the crowd and share in the joy of the moment.

# Joy

Such is the joy of the body of Christ as it is in the process of being built up. Such growth progresses as the Church's various parts function to the glory of Christ as the Gospel is preached, people are served, and the members share their faith and love for Christ with one another and those outside the church doors.

Yet do we see such joy often in the Church? Is such a demonstration of joy out of place in the Church? Perhaps we

would be uncomfortable with a "pep rally." But do we experience the joy of seeing others serve as the Holy Spirit has called them? Or are we programmed not to be joyful? Maybe we have come to view Christ's work as an obligation, as drudgery, and not as a thankful response to the grace which has called each of us to the body of Christ. Regardless of the reason for our lack of joy, Christ is always with us, ready to touch us with His joy. He constantly comes to forgive us and empower us through the Holy Spirit to be joyful.

We can indeed sing along all year long with the Christmas choir, "Joy to the world, the Lord has come!" That joy is contagious in the church because the Body of Christ is truly being built up.



*Sent Forth by God's Blessing*



LAMENTATIONS 3:22, NRSV

## Official Acts

### Baptisms

Randall Oliver Hartmann  
Samara Caroline Elizabeth Paul  
Christopher Glen Armond Paul  
Isabella Diane Rose Paul

### Funeral

Larry Diehm

## GOD, WHOSE WORD FROM AGE TO AGE

*"Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever."*

*Hebrews 13:8*

God, whose word from age to age stirred the prophets' holy thunder and the wisdom of the sage, has revealed a greater wonder.

Christ tomorrow, Christ today, is the same as yesterday, circling every time and place with eternal love and grace.

Leafing through an old high school yearbook recently, some nostalgia began to flood my thoughts, along with a few laughs. Good friends – I'm still in touch with a number of them. Walking – yes, walking – to school; noisy basketball games in a hot, crowded gym; building floats for Homecoming in someone's garage; an 80-voice a cappella choir clad in maroon gowns and gold stoles; pleated skirts with cardigan sweaters; swaying with a date under crepe paper streamers and soft lights at prom; Mr. Johnston's grading system in Social Studies: Abel, Baker, Charlie, Dog, Fox.

Christ, who came to bear our cares at the time that God appointed, has adopted us as heirs: by the Spirit we're anointed.

Christ tomorrow, Christ today . . .

College in the 70's: 200 students in the lecture hall; expensive textbooks from the bookstore; mini skirts and granny gowns; Zip to Zapp; new friends; Kent State; a Blood, Sweat and Tears concert; the aroma of pot in the dorm hallways; late nights in the practice room and the library; Symphonic Wind Ensemble; student recitals every Wednesday afternoon; Music 330 at the Black Hawk bar. Lots of changes from high school in the old home town.

Christ, who brought the poor good news, preached the reign of God with passion, healed the sick, and soothed the bruised, calls to us to show compassion:

Christ tomorrow, Christ today . . .

Everything changes over the years. Fashions, automobiles, speed limits, lifestyles, medicine, parenting, society, farming, and government. We live in a changing world – and not always for the best. In the beginning, God spoke the world into being from nothing, and in the beginning was the Word. That living Word of God is Jesus Christ, the righteous man, born of a virgin. Jesus of Nazareth is the incarnate Word, the Son of God who was given to redeem the world.

Christ unites all things again, reconciles the world we shattered, beckons home and welcomes in all whom hate and fear have scattered.

Christ tomorrow, Christ today . . .

God spoke, and His Word is settled in heaven. God has not changed; His Word has not changed. He will never change. He is the same yesterday, today, and forever. He is of never-changing character and all-sufficient wisdom, offering the free gift of grace to all who trust, and gives stability to the soul and rest to the heart.

Praise to Christ with every breath, Christ whose love past comprehending  
Stands with us through birth and death, Christ the start and Christ the ending.

Christ tomorrow, Christ today . . .

Continued on page 4

*Happy New Year* ♡ *Happy New Year* ♡ *Happy New Year*

*Sent Forth by God's Blessing*



## GOD, WHOSE WORD FROM AGE TO AGE continued

Christ wasn't a trendy evangelistic preacher who rose in popularity and faded into oblivion. Change is the norm for finite creatures, and human leaders come and go. In our changing world, God's word and direct talk is constant; it is the same yesterday, today and tomorrow. Jesus never abandons us. His love is unwavering.

Praise to Christ for all the years He has made our churches leaven  
as they drew this world of tears closer to the reign of heaven.  
Christ tomorrow, Christ today . . . .

"Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever" is a glorious statement of fact and a profound promise that keeps our souls eternally secure in the God of our salvation. His grace is free and none of His promises in the Word of God can ever fail. (Poetry taken from "Above the Moon Earth Rises.")

Karen Lindbloom

## FED BY FAITH



**Fed by Faith**, formerly referred to as the Love Kitchen, will be actively starting in January 2022 to prepare meals for congregants and family members in need. These meals will consist of a frozen entrée that can easily be reheated in the oven or the stovetop, or microwave if thawed; frozen vegetables; canned, jarred or fresh fruit; buns/breads; and bars/cookies. These are meant to be used at times when someone has an illness or recovering at home, a new baby or a death in the family, or just a general need. Normally we will meet the first Thursday every month as needed. However, our cooking date in January will be held on the second Thursday, January 13, due a scheduling conflict.

The ministry is based on Matthew 25:35-36 and will be used to share God's love through nourishment of body and faith. The congregation can be helpful by notifying Nancy Shoup at 280-2091 or call the church office regarding those who can be served by the ministry. This ministry will only be successful if we are aware of those in need and are provided with those names.

Members may also bake at home and divide cookies or bars in portions of a dozen and place in a freezer bag. These can be brought to the church office and placed in the dedicated freezer in the kitchen. It is requested you not use nuts or peanut butter in your baked goods, but if you do, they must be properly labeled to indicate that fact. If you desire monetary assistance regarding the preparation of those bars/cookies please let Nancy know and that can be arranged.

**We pray God's blessing on this ministry as we move forward to serve our Lord through Word and action. Thank you!**

*Sent Forth by God's Blessing*

## Daycare News

December was a busy but blessed month. We hosted the Christmas program where had soup and sandwiches before it started. We had families vote on their favorite decorated classroom door, and we gave the top 3 winners an amazon credit for something they would like for their classroom to help improve their teaching. As winter draws in, we have had lots of sick children and teachers and the children have been asking to pray for them to get better. This has really been a nice thing to hear, and they are excited tell their friends when they get back to daycare.

As you know, the daycare participated in this year's Christmas Program. Our classrooms sang the following songs, Little Lamb's- 9 Little Angel's, Lion's Den Preschool- Jesus, Savior of The World, The Garden- A Savior Born, The Ark- Long Ago, The Good Shephard's- Jesus Taught Sharing, and The Lion's Den School- ers- Away in A Manger. They all did well, and families enjoyed watching.

Curriculum Themes -- January:  
January 3<sup>rd</sup> - 13<sup>th</sup>: Snowmen and Winter  
January 16<sup>th</sup> - 27<sup>th</sup>: Space  
January 30<sup>st</sup> - February 10<sup>th</sup>: Dental

We're looking forward to all the great things to come in 2022. Happy New Year! I hope you all had a blessed holiday season.

God Bless,

Mandy Vogel/Kim Jensen  
daycare@faithluth.com



Happy New Year Happy New Year Happy New Year

## Preschool News

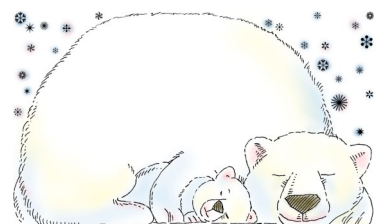
A Blessed New Year from Faith Lutheran Preschool! We had a great time in December learning about the birth of Jesus and having a birthday party for him here at school. We also had our Christmas program that was a great turn out and the kids did so wonderful.

This month we will be working on the letters S, M, and I, along with the numbers 12, 13, and 14. We will also be emphasizing on the color blue and the shape of a rectangle. The kids will also be doing a show and tell, its always fun to see what the they bring and like to share about it with the class.

Our bible lessons this month will be talking about the New Testament, and about Jesus teaching and healing. I always enjoy getting to teach the children about Jesus healing people.

Gods Blessings,

Mrs. Kampfe  
Preschool Director/Teacher  
[Preschool@faithluth.com](mailto:Preschool@faithluth.com)



*Sent Forth by God's Blessing*