



FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

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<http://faithdunedin.org/weekly-bulletin-2/>
 Office: (727) 733-2657; Cell: (727) 729-2576

Rev. Andy Sorenson

Sunday Divine Worship 10:15AM
 Sunday School / Bible Study 9:15 AM
 Wednesday Bible Study 9:15 AM
 Wednesday Choir Practice 10:45AM / 7PM

“Faithful to God’s Word through Christ, we aspire to love, care, and serve all people.”

Faith Lutheran Weekly for April 26th, 2018

Dates to Remember

28 Apr Martin’s 50th Anniversary 4:00PM
 6 May Blueberry Bonanza Coffee Hr 11:30AM
 8 May LWML Lunch at “D--Town” 11:30AM
 8 May Elders’ Meeting 07:00PM
 12 May Church Work Day 09:00AM
 13 May LWML Mother’s Day 10:15AM
 20 May Board Meeting 11:30AM
 28 May Memorial Day Office Closed

HAPPY BIRTHDAY -

26th Flo Bellhorn

HAPPY APRIL ANNIVERSARY -

27th Paul & Shari Martin

Serve the Lord 2018

| DATE | 29-Apr | 6-May |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------|
| GREETERS | Phil/Rita McWhorter | The Belknap Family |
| USHERS | Dennis/Juanita Fox | George/Ann Klemaier |
| HOST - HOSTESS | <i>Flo Bellhorn/Jan Brown</i> | Joy/Anne - Blueberry Bon. |
| ALTAR CARE | *see Linda Richardson | Wilma Lehto, Tina Sunday |
| COMMUNION / ELDER | Mike Shinabarger | Charles Wright |
| READER | Susan Laeder | Doris Watters |

Prayer List

*Names will be kept on the printed prayer list for 30 days unless otherwise requested

- **Those hospitalized** –
- **Those in care facilities** –
- **Those recovering** – Anne Siatkowski, Melanie Crutcher, Phil McWhorter, Letty Spoolstra, Sue Laeder, Ruth Rauch, Shari Martin, Maggie McLaughlin, Andy Sorenson, Cindy Crutchfield
- **Those Undergoing Treatment:** Irene Keller, Janice Tyma, Lou Fairchild, Svana Jonsson, Tony Ellis, Jeff Beck, Jeff Bellhorn, Bob Weinkauf
- **Those Awaiting Surgery:**
- **Grieving families** – Fryer-Hendricks (husband), Pate Family (Whitney's father)
- **Special requests** – Anne & Dale Koster (NY Trip), The Kramer Family, Ed & Cindy Crutchfield, Charles Wright, Juanita Fox, Mike Shinabarger, James Watters, Bellhorn Family, Dorothy Laabs, Jennifer Prewitt, Pray for Christians in the Middle East and African conflicts and those refugees fleeing Syria, Those affected by the school shooting. Safe travels to our winter visitors heading back home.
- **Celebrations** –

Servant Notes

Faith LWML Society meets the second Tuesdays of the month. **May 8** is our last meeting until Fall. We are going **out to lunch at the "D--Town" at 11:30am** for our meeting (if there is no new business, there won't be a meeting.) **All Faith Women and their drivers are encouraged to attend.** The sign-up sheet with directions is on the board, the deadline is May 6; late comers, call Flo Bellhorn. Questions: see Rita, Dorothy, or Sue

Dunedin Cares PB&J Challenge - is a food drive to fill the shelves for the increased summer demand when the free or subsidized lunch programs are not available to students. Tuna, canned chicken, Peanut butter and jelly, oatmeal, pancake mix & maple syrup are needed. See the flyer!

ProShred mobile shredding truck - On Saturday, May 12th, from 9-12pm, Thrivent and Lutheran Church of The Palms will have a paper and document shredding event. Bring old files, tax forms, mortgages or old paperwork in need of secure disposal and no longer needed. This allows clients to clean out, old and unwanted paper documents. Bring as much as you can carry. While this is a free community event, donations are encouraged with all proceeds benefitting Barlow Little Palms Pre-School at LCOP. The address for the event on May 12th is as follows:

Lutheran Church of The Palms
2250 Nebraska Ave
Palm Harbor, FL 34683

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (29 April 2018)

Acts 8:26–40, 1 John 4:1–11 (12–21), John 15:1–8

Jesus Christ Is the True Vine Who Bears Much Fruit in Us

“God is love,” and He has manifested Himself to us by sending “his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him” (1 John 4:9, 16). By the ministry of the Gospel, “he has given us of his Spirit,” so that we also believe and confess “that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh.” In this way, we “abide in him and he in us,” and we “love one another” (1 John 4:2, 7, 13). Such divine love is exemplified in Philip’s preaching of “the good news about Jesus” to the Ethiopian eunuch. And when “they came to some water,” the eunuch was baptized into the very Gospel that Philip had preached (Acts 8:35–38). That Ethiopian was thereby grafted into “the true vine,” Jesus Christ (John 15:1), just as we are. Already we are clean because of the Word that Christ has spoken to us and by the washing of water with His Word. We now abide in Him by faith in His forgiveness. As He abides in us, both body and soul, with His own body and His blood, He “bears much fruit” in us (John 15:3–5).

Pastor’s Corner

“Let everything that has breath praise the Lord!

Praise the Lord!”

(Psalm 150:6)

Dear friends, when do you feel like praising the Lord? As you read Psalm 150 in its entirety you cannot help but notice the psalmist’s exuberance for praising God, as captured in the final verse above. Have you ever wondered what kind of day the psalmist was having?

I most often feel like praising God on those days when things are going well, when everything is falling into place and there is reason to celebrate. There are also those days that are natural for praising God—days like Easter and Christmas Eve—when I see church attendance swell. But what about those days when things go sideways? What about those times when I am feeling overwhelmed by life, bad news, illness, grief, and threats to my physical, financial, or emotional security—when the dog eats my favorite shoes, the car won’t start, the markets crash, and it seems that I am utterly cursed?

Job responds to his life’s tragedies by saying, “Naked I came from my mother’s womb, and naked shall I return. The LORD gave, and the LORD has taken away; blessed be the name of the LORD.” (Job 1:21) Could you; do you, respond in such a way? It may seem counter-intuitive, but in such times as these is when you most need to praise the Lord! C.S. Lewis wrote in his *Reflections on the Psalms*:

“I think we delight to praise what we enjoy because the praise not merely expresses but completes the enjoyment; it is its appointed consummation. It is not out of compliment that lovers keep on telling one another how beautiful they are; the delight is incomplete till it is expressed. It is frustrating to have discovered a new author and not to be able to tell anyone how good he is; to come suddenly, at the turn of the road, upon some mountain valley of unexpected grandeur and then to have to keep silent because the people with you care for it no more than for a tin can in the ditch; to hear a good joke and find no one to share it with. . . . The Scotch catechism says that man’s chief end is ‘to glorify God and enjoy Him forever.’ But we shall then know that these are the same thing. Fully to enjoy is to glorify. In commanding us to glorify Him, God is inviting us to enjoy Him.”

God, speaking through the psalmist, is inviting us to enjoy Him, to enjoy His presence, to delight in Him, and the best way to do that is through praise. This is true especially during those times in your life that threaten to shake the very foundations of your faith.

I read a book a while ago by a psychologist who recommended that in order to live a content and happy life one should pause before bed and write in a journal three things, big or small, that went right during the day. Even on our darkest days things go right. We awake; we breathe; we experience emotion—good and bad—and it means we are alive. For the Christian, the very fact that we draw breath means that God still has a purpose for us, and still sustains us, still watches over us, and that the blood of Jesus Christ still covers all our sins and shortcomings.

On your darkest day you can recall how the Son of God, Jesus Christ, took on human flesh, suffered temptation, and was crucified for you. How He rose, in the flesh, on Easter Sunday, and bodily ascended to heaven, where He now sits at God's right hand to plead on your behalf every single day. And because He rose bodily, so too shall you rise bodily to join Him and all the saints in heaven. This is your hope and salvation. This is the gift of faith that He has planted in your heart. This alone is reason to love and to praise Him.

The very act of sitting down and "counting your blessings", even when they appear meager, shifts your focus from the broken things of the world, sin, and places it on the only thing right and holy in this world—Jesus Christ. When your eyes are on Christ you cannot help but to rejoice and praise Him, to enjoy His presence, and the peace of His forgiveness. Praise the Lord! In Jesus' name. Amen.

Pastor Sorenson

~~~~~**Recipe – Magic Potato Casserole**~~~~~

**...What You'll Need:**

- 4 pounds potatoes, peeled and cut into chunks
- 1 (8-ounce) package cream cheese, softened
- 2 tablespoons finely chopped onion
- 2 eggs
- 2 tablespoons all-purpose flour
- 1 1/2 teaspoons salt
- 1 teaspoon black pepper
- 1 cup French-fried onions

**What To Do:**

- Preheat oven to 350 degrees F. Coat a 2-quart casserole dish with cooking spray.
- Place potatoes in a soup pot, add just enough water to cover them, and bring to a boil over high heat. Reduce heat to medium and cook 15 to 20 minutes or until fork-tender; drain.
- In a large bowl, with an electric mixer on medium speed, beat potatoes and cream cheese until smooth. Add onion, eggs, flour, salt, and pepper, and continue to beat until well blended. Spoon into casserole dish.
- Bake 30 minutes, sprinkle with French-fried onions, and cook 5 to 10 more minutes or until heated through and golden.

## A Little Humor

A pastor I know has a standard liturgy for funerals. To personalize each service, he uses the Find and Replace command on his computer to replace the name of the deceased from the previous funeral with the new name.

The next morning, the funeral was going smoothly until the Apostle's Creed. "Jesus Christ," the congregation read from the program, "born of the Virgin Edna..."

### At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing

1 At the Lamb's high feast we sing  
Praise to our victorious King;  
Who hath washed us in the tide  
Flowing from his piercèd side.  
Praise we him whose love divine  
Gives the guests his blood for wine,  
Gives his Body for the feast,  
Love the Victim, Love the Priest.

2 \*Where the Paschal blood is poured,  
Death's dark angel sheathes his sword;  
Israel's hosts triumphant go  
Through the wave that drowns the foe.  
Christ, the Lamb whose blood was shed,  
Paschal victim, Paschal bread!  
With sincerity and love  
Eat we Manna from above.

3 Mighty Victim from on high,  
Powers of hell beneath thee lie;  
Death is broken in the fight,  
Thou hast brought us life and light.  
How thy banner thou dost wave,  
Conquering Satan and the grave.  
See the prince of darkness quelled;  
Heaven's bright gates are open held.

4 Paschal triumph, Paschal joy,  
Only sin can this destroy;  
From sin's death do thou set free,  
Souls re-born, dear Lord, in thee.  
Hymns of glory, songs of praise,  
Father, unto thee we raise.  
Risen Lord, all praise to thee,  
Ever with the Spirit be.