

Faith Weekly

A NEWSLETTER OF FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH



PASTOR'S STUDY

"Wilt thou not revive us again: That thy people may rejoice in thee?"
Psalm 85:6

Dear friends of Faith, this time of the year is filled with many celebrations in the Church. Christmas and Epiphany are the two greatest events, yet we also have multiple feast days including that of the Baptism of our Lord this past week. His baptism in the Jordan river was the institution, consecration, and command, to His church to likewise receive the Sacrament of Baptism unto themselves as well.

When our Lord was baptized, the skies opened and the voice of the Father proclaimed, "This is my Son, with whom I am pleased." With these words the Father not only reveals the Son, but that baptism pleases Him. As Christians, we ought to strive to do that which brings joy to our Father, thus we receive baptism and its many blessings.

One such blessing is to be anointed with God's name and His Spirit. Thus, as Luther teaches, when we pray, "Hallowed be Thy name," we pray that His holiness would be reflected in all that we do and say in this life as His children. This is a difficult thing for us as sinners, thus every day it is necessary to arise, make the sign of the cross, remember our baptisms, and pray that the Holy Spirit would enable us to do that which is pleasing to our heavenly Father.

Christ in His baptism shows us that which brings the Father joy. Indeed, beholding the Son as He is revealed in Scripture, from Genesis to Revelation, gladly hearing and learning this word, is an essential means of knowing that which is good, noble, and true. "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, And a light unto my path," (Psalm 119:105). Of course, at Emmaus, Christ was also known in the breaking of the bread, and today we find Him present for our

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DATES TO REMEMBER

January

- 15th Bible Study (Online) - 7:00 p.m.
- 18th Church Council Meeting - 11:45 a.m.
- 19th "Generations of Faith"
Choir Rehearsal - 7:30 p.m.
- 19th Confirmation Class - 7:30 p.m.
- 20th LWML Meeting - 10:00 a.m.
- 21st Bible Study (Live/Online) - 9:15 a.m.
- 22nd Ladies of Faith Luncheon at
Clear Sky Draught House - 12:00 p.m.
- 22nd Bible Study (Online) - 7:00 p.m.
- 24th Target Shooting Club - 10:30 a.m.
- 26th "Generations of Faith"
Choir Rehearsal - 7:30 p.m.
- 26th Confirmation Class - 7:30 p.m.

If you would like to join our Bible Studies online please notify the pastor and specify which Bible Study you would like to attend.

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Rev. Andrew Sorenson
1620 Pinehurst Road
Dunedin, FL 34698

Divine Service - 10:15a
Christian Education - 9:15a
Wednesday Bible Study - 9:15a
Thursday Bible Study - 7:00p

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forgiveness in Holy Communion.

The means of grace, word and sacrament, are given to God's children today that He may be revealed, that they may revive our souls and once again rejoice in Him. In Christ we find meaning and purpose for our lives. In Christ we find hope amid sorrow and pain. In Christ heaven is opened to us, that we may know the joy of the Father.

In Jesus' name. Amen

Pastor Sorenson

*O Lord, have mercy.
O Christ, have mercy.*

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

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

CATEGORY	THOSE IN NEED	PETITIONS
THE CHURCH	For unity of doctrine and practice; faithful pastors, teachers, administrators, and laity; and courage to preach and teach the whole counsel of God.	<i>Kyrie elieson!</i> Lord, have mercy!
THE NATION	Elected officials; First Responders; Military; and Justices. For economic stability; for peace in our nation and around the world and especially for peace in Ukraine, the Middle East, and Africa.	For just rule, a peaceful, orderly society, and relief from natural disasters.
HOSPITALIZED		For healing, safety, and strength.
IN CARE FACILITIES	Edna Opatka, George Klemaier, and Shirley Sorenson	For healing, strength, hope, and that they may know Christ's love.
UNDERGOING TREATMENT	Colton Hafner, Jim Watters, Neal Laeder, Ray Rothe, Doug Dyer, and Fred Robbins.	For healing, strength, patience, compassionate & wise care givers, and faith.
HOSPICE		For comfort, peace, and faith.
GRIEVING	David Kuntz	For comfort, and the peace in the hope of the Resurrection.
NEW LIFE		For a healthy pregnancy for mother and child, safe delivery, and God's blessings on both family and home.
SPECIAL REQUESTS	Gail and her family (Connie, Maya & Jaxson), Carol (Linda R's niece), Jane Sternemann (Rachel's aunt), Bart Tallent (Kathy Kreiman's brother), Lisa Kunder (Kathy Kreiman's sister), Marge Sieja, Lara Musumeche (Jeff's sister), Tom Fowler, Linda Richardson, JoCarol Kautz (Sue Laeder's cousin) Stephen Fenton (cancer), Johanna Punch, Becky Cox (Sue Laeder's niece) and Karl Streitenfeld (Kathleen Kreiman's son).	That the Holy Spirit, knowing the needs of His children, would intercede on their behalf before heaven's throne.

A regular update of the financial health of our congregation.

The numbers to the right are the unrestricted offerings and current expenses of the Church. We received additional donations of \$100 for the Sunday Bible Study, \$100 for the Wednesday Bible Study, \$1,000 for Chancel/Kneelers, \$500 for Higher Things, \$3,045 for Musical Instruments, and \$2,010 for Stained Glass Windows.

Major restricted fund balances include: Musical Instruments: \$14,004; Stained Glass Windows: \$6,050; Chancel/Kneelers: \$6,000; and Higher Things: \$2,951.

	DECEMBER	2025
INCOME	\$20,226	\$351,862
EXPENSE	\$17,399	\$284,881
TOTAL	\$2,827	\$66,981

OTHER WAYS TO GIVE...
 Website - www.faithdunedin.org
 Zelle pay - Check with your bank.
 Email: treasurer@faithdunedin.org

THIS WE CONFESS

The following excerpts come from the Lutheran Confessions. Unless otherwise note, they are from the Tappert edition of the Book of Concord, Mühlenberg Press, 1959.

“Hallowed be thy name.”

What is it to pray that his name may become holy? Is it not already holy? Answer: Yes, in itself it is holy, but not our use of it.

God's name was given to us when we became Christians at Baptism, and so we are called children of God and enjoy the sacraments, through which he so incorporates us with himself that all that is God's must serve for our use.

So we should realize that we are under the great necessity of duly honoring his name and keeping it holy and sacred, regarding it as the greatest treasure and most sacred thing we have, and praying, as good children, that his name, which is already holy in heaven, may also be kept holy on earth by us and all the world.

How does it become holy among us? The plainest answer is: When both our teaching and our life are godly and Christian. Since in this prayer we call God our Father, it is our duty in every way to behave as good children so that he may receive from us not shame but honor and praise.

(The Large Catechism, Lord's Prayer, 35-39)

BIRTHDAY

1st Terry Davis
 4th Lois Finn
 11th Claudia Nieminen
 14th Jen-Nett MacLean
 17th Carol Engwall
 20th Lukas Nieminen
 28th Phil McWhorter

ANNIVERSARY

6th Carl & Jennifer Belknap

BAPTISM

1st Barbara Treubig
 1st Bobbie Inglehart
 14th Lois Finn
 22nd Neal Engwall
 23rd Emily Sorenson
 28th Lowell Stange

*There is one body
 and one Spirit*

Thank you!

For continuing to support the Word and Sacrament ministry at Faith Lutheran with both prayer and your donations.

DONATIONS

If you would like to donate flowers to beautify the Sanctuary during our services, please sign up using the Flower Calendar posted on the bulletin board in the Mail Room behind the Sanctuary. Please use the provided envelopes & request forms. Cost is \$25 per arrangement. Orders may be placed in Sharon Murawski's mailbox.

Thank you to everyone that brings in aluminum cans to be recycled. The monies generated are placed in the general church budget. Please keep bringing empty cans and placing them in the trash bin outside of Luther Hall.

SERVANT NOTES

CHURCH DIRECTORY UPDATED

The church photo directory has been updated for May 2025. Printed copies are available on the table in the mail room. A link to download a digital copy has been emailed to all members.

FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

As we look ahead to a new year, we're looking for people with ideas who enjoy helping bring others together! Help create fun and welcoming fellowship events in 2026 by joining the Fellowship Committee. If you're interested, see Sharon Murawski for details. We'd love to have you join us!

LWML NOTES

The Lutheran Women in Mission meeting is scheduled for January 19, 10:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m. in the conference room. We begin with a Bible Study (Linda Burns will lead us), followed by a short meeting. We will make plans for the coming year. Bring your ideas! All ladies of Faith are welcome. Please join us.

MEMENTO

For those men who enrolled in Memento and would like to form a fraternity with other men from Faith, please contact Pastor.

THANK YOU!

A person once asked me about scheduling an event for the church in late November. I asked if it couldn't be done earlier. The church calendar and a pastor's life gets quite busy from Thanksgiving until after Epiphany. Then we get a month off before beginning Lent. Though tiring at times, I am busy because you are eager to receive the blessings the Lord has to offer. It is a privilege to be able to bring you the good news of salvation in Jesus Christ, and I thank you not only for that opportunity, but for your gracious support of my ministry here at Faith, Dunedin. The delicious steaks in October certainly were appreciated, as was your generosity at Christmas, but most of all your love, prayers, and zeal for the Lord's house and services! I look forward to the challenges and blessings of 2026 as the Lord continues to use each of us working together to His glory.

BOOK OF CONCORD ONLINE

CPH has made the Reader's Edition of the Book of Concord available online for free. <https://bookofconcord.cph.org/> This is an excellent resource for those seeking to understand what Lutherans confess. It was written and formatted to be more understandable to the lay person.

SERVING IN JANUARY

SUNDAY SERVANT	4th	11th	18th	25th
GREETERS	Linda Hibbard	Linda Hibbard	Linda Hibbard	Linda Hibbard
USHERS	Brian Murawski & Jeff Phillips	Brian Murawski & Jeff Phillips	Brian Murawski & Jeff Phillips	Brian Murawski & Jeff Phillips
SERVERS	Paul & Flo Bellhorn	Paul & Flo Bellhorn	Paul & Flo Bellhorn	Paul & Flo Bellhorn
ALTAR CARE	Steven Arsenault	Steven Arsenault	Steven Arsenault	Steven Arsenault
ACOLYTE	Lukas Nieminen	Lukas Nieminen	Lukas Nieminen	Lukas Nieminen
COMMUNION ELDER	Neal Engwall	Neal Engwall	Neal Engwall	Neal Engwall

FAITH FAMILY PHOTOS

A Congregational Favorite!

This past Sunday we sang two traditional Christmas hymns, Joy to the World, and Of the Father's Love Begotten.

Christmas hymns usually are well received, but Of the Father's Love Begotten was sung very robustly, especially given many were still receiving Holy Communion. Perhaps you took the fourth stanza to heart! Whatever it was, I saw more than one eye a bit moistened as people approached the Lord's table.

O ye heights of heav'n, adore Him;
 Angel hosts, His praises sing.
 Pow'rs, dominions, bow before Him
 And extol our God and King. Let no tongue on earth be
 silent,
 Ev'ry voice in concert ring
 Evermore and evermore.

—LSB 384, st. 4



January 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28 9:15am Children's Sunday school 9:15am Sunday Morning Adult Bible Study 10:15am Sunday Worship	29	30	31 7pm New Year's Eve Service	1	2	3
4 9:15am Children's Sunday school 9:15am Sunday Morning Adult Bible Study 10:15am Sunday Worship 11:45am Celebration of Baptisms	5	6 7pm Feast of the Epiphany	7	8	9	10 9am Maintenance Workday
11 9:15am Children's Sunday school 9:15am Sunday Morning Adult Bible Study 10:15am Sunday Worship	12 7:30pm Confirmation Class	13 7pm Board of Elders Meeting	14 9:15am Bible Study (Live/Online)	15 7pm Bible Study (Online)	16	17
18 9:15am Children's Sunday school 9:15am Sunday Morning Adult Bible Study 10:15am Sunday Worship 11:45am Church Council Meeting	19 7:30pm Confirmation Class 7:30pm "Generations of Faith" Choir Rehearsal	20 10am LWML Meeting 5:30pm Dunedin Youth Guild	21 9:15am Bible Study (Live/Online)	22 12pm Ladies of Faith Luncheon at Clear Sky Draught House 7pm Bible Study (Online)	23	24 10:30am Target Shooting Club
25 9:15am Children's Sunday school 9:15am Sunday Morning Adult Bible Study 10:15am Sunday Worship	26 7:30pm Confirmation Class 7:30pm "Generations of Faith" Choir Rehearsal	27	28 9:15am Bible Study (Live/Online)	29 7pm Bible Study (Online)	30	31