

Faith Weekly

A NEWSLETTER OF FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH



PASTOR'S STUDY

DATES TO REMEMBER

O Lord of hosts, Blessed is the man that trusteth in thee."
Psalm 84:12

Dear friends of Faith, as we continue to prepare for our forty day journey through Lent the psalmist's words seek to bolster our confidence and hope, "Blessed is the man that trusteth in Thee." Trust means to possess a firm belief in the integrity, ability, or character, in this case of God. Trust is easy when everything is going well, but is essential especially when things do not.

God set Israel free from their slavery to the Egyptians and to sin when He called them forth through the Red Sea into the wilderness. During the following forty years He led, fed, clothed, and defended them. He gave them His law and taught them how to worship Him. But more than giving them physical blessings, He taught them trust. It was not an easy lesson.

Israel spent forty years in a cycle of faith, rebellion, and repentance. It turned out that freedom was not easy. Occasionally the news today will report the suicide of a long-time convict finally released from prison. After decades of incarceration he gained his freedom only to find that the world was not what he was used to and he longed for the comforts of his former shackles. It took Israel forty years to learn how to live free, to trust that following God was more blessed than slavery in Egypt, than meat pots, or the familiarity of routine. You are no different.

It takes discipline and trust to live the Christian life and long for your former sinful ways. Trust in the Lord means holding His word to be true and beneficial. Since His word is truth you gladly hear and learn it, not just on Sundays but in your daily devotional readings. Learning a language demands

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February

- 8th Special Voters' Meeting - 11:45 a.m.
- 9th "Generations of Faith"
Choir Rehearsal - 7:30 p.m.
- 10th Dunedin Youth Guild - 5:30 p.m.
- 10th Board of Elders Meeting - 7:00 p.m.
- 14th Maintenance Workday - 9:00 a.m.
- 15th Church Council Meeting - 11:45 a.m.
- 16th "Generations of Faith"
Choir Rehearsal - 7:30 p.m.
- 16th Confirmation Class - 7:30 p.m.
- 17th LWML Meeting - 10:00 a.m.
- 18th Ash Wednesday Matins - 10:15 a.m.
- 18th Ash Wednesday Vespers - 7:00 p.m.
- 19th Bible Study (Online) - 7:00 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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constant practice and immersion to understand the words and teach your mouth to form them. It is no different for the Christian.

Immersion in God’s word teaches you to think and to speak like God. Praying the psalms teaches you to speak like Him and to give thanks and praise for the many blessing He has pours forth daily. It teaches you to await for His answer, trusting He has heard, because He loves you.

“O Lord of hosts, Blessed is the man that trusteth in thee.” In Jesus’ name. Amen.

Pastor Sorenson

<i>O Lord, have mercy. O Christ, have mercy.</i>		
<h2 style="margin: 0;">PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL</h2>		
<i>Names will be kept on the prayer list for 30 days unless otherwise requested.</i>		
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 elison!</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 Tom Fowler.	For healing, strength, hope, and that they may know Christ’s love.
UNDERGOING TREATMENT	Colton Hafner, Jim Watters, Neal Laeder, Ray Rothe, Doug Dyer, Fred Robbins, Dianne Shelby (Dorothy’s niece) and Brent Dusenberg.	For healing, strength, patience, compassionate & wise care givers, and faith.
HOSPICE		For comfort, peace, and faith.
GRIEVING	Stephen Fenton	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), Lisa Kunder (Kathy Kreiman’s sister), JoCarol Kautz (Sue Laeder’s cousin), Johanna Punch, Becky Cox (Sue Laeder’s niece) Karl Streitenfeld (Kathleen Kreiman’s son) and Jake Sorenson.	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 \$200 for the Sunday Bible Study, \$200 for the Wednesday Bible Study, \$2,125 for Musical Instruments, and \$275 for Stained Glass Windows.

Major restricted fund balances include: Musical Instruments: \$15,129; Stained Glass Windows: \$6,065; Chancel/Kneelers: \$5,581; and Higher Things: \$371.

	JANUARY	2026
INCOME	\$19,464	\$19,464
EXPENSE	\$29,326	\$29,326
TOTAL	(\$9,862)	(\$9,862)

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.

“And lead us not into temptation.”

We have now heard enough about the trouble and effort required to retain and persevere in all the gifts for which we pray. This, however, is not accomplished without failures and stumbling. Moreover, although we have acquired forgiveness and a good conscience, and have been wholly absolved, yet such is life that one stands today and falls tomorrow. Therefore, even though at present we are upright and stand before God with a good conscience, we must pray again that he will not allow us to fall and yield to trials and temptations.

(The Large Catechism, Lord’s Prayer, 99-100)

BIRTHDAY

- 6th Selah Sunday
- 7th Samantha Vanhorenbeck
- 16th Emma Belknap
- 16th Jordan Belknap
- 19th Paul Bellhorn
- 19th Rick Snap
- 22nd Jenny Kim
- 22nd Russel Goheen
- 23rd Robert Smilanich
- 26th Shirley Scott
- 26th Theodor King

ANNIVERSARY

- 24th Thomas & Janice Tyma

BAPTISM

- 6th Lukas Nieminen
- 20th Pam Robbins
- 23rd Carol Engwall

*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 January 2026. Printed copies are available on the desk in the office. 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** March 8, we've scheduled a Mission Potluck with a Mission Speaker. What is a MISSION POTLUCK? The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod sponsors missionaries and projects all around the globe. We are going to post a list of those countries on the board. Folks can choose one or two countries, find a recipe, make the dish(es), and bring it on Sunday, March 8, 2026. If anyone has questions, ask Sue Laeder.
- SPECIAL VOTERS' MEETING** There will be a special voters' meeting after the service on February 8, in order to approve the congregation's nominees for various Synod positions, and to elect a lay voting delegate to represent the congregation for the election of the Synodical President. This should be a quick meeting.
- PRE-LENT ("GESIMA")** This season serves as a transition from Epiphany's revelation of Christ's glory to Lent's meditation on His suffering. *Septuagesima*, 70 days before Easter, emphasizes God's grace over man's works. *Sexagesima*, sixty days, focuses on the power of God's Word in the face of opposition. And *Quinquagesima* focuses on faith coming by hearing. The themes pre-figure Lent by showing man's sinfulness, the power of God's word, and ultimately God's love for us in Christ Jesus.

SERVING IN FEBRUARY

SUNDAY SERVANT	1st	8th	15th	22nd
GREETERS	Linda Burns	Linda Burns	Linda Burns	Linda Burns
USHERS	Brian Murawski & Jeff Phillips			
SERVERS	Paul & Flo Bellhorn			
ALTAR CARE	Steven Arsenault	Steven Arsenault	Steven Arsenault	Steven Arsenault
ACOLYTE	Lukas Nieminen	Lukas Nieminen	Lukas Nieminen	Lukas Nieminen
COMMUNION ELDER	Fred Robbins	Fred Robbins	Fred Robbins	Fred Robbins

FAITH FAMILY PHOTOS

February Baptisms — Lukas, Pam, and Carol



Almighty and eternal God, according to Your strict judgment You condemned the unbelieving world through the flood, yet according to Your great mercy You preserved believing Noah and his family, eight souls in all. You drowned hard-hearted Pharaoh and all his host in the Red Sea, yet led Your people Israel through the water on dry ground, prefiguring this washing of Your Holy Baptism. Through the Baptism in the Jordan of Your beloved Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, You sanctified and instituted all waters to be a blessed flood, and a lavish washing away of sin. We pray that You would behold (name) according to Your boundless mercy and bless him with true faith by the Holy Spirit that through this saving flood all sin in him which has been inherited from Adam and which he himself has committed since would be drowned and die. Grant that he be kept safe and secure in the holy ark of the Christian Church, being separated from the multitude of unbelievers and serving Your name at all times with a fervent spirit and a joyful hope, so that, with all believers in Your promise, he would be declared worthy of eternal life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

—Luther's Flood Prayer

February 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9:15am Children's Sunday school 9:15am Sunday Morning Adult Bible Study 10:15am Sunday Worship 11:45am Celebration of Baptisms	2 7:30pm "Generations of Faith" Choir Rehearsal	3	4	5	6	7
8 9:15am Children's Sunday school 9:15am Sunday Morning Adult Bible Study 10:15am Sunday Worship 11:45am Special Voters' Meeting	9 7:30pm "Generations of Faith" Choir Rehearsal	10 5:30pm Dunedin Youth Guild 7pm Board of Elders Meeting	11	12	13	14 9am Maintenance Workday
15 9:15am Children's Sunday school 9:15am Sunday Morning Adult Bible Study 10:15am Sunday Worship 11:45am Church Council Meeting	16 7:30pm Confirmation Class 7:30pm "Generations of Faith" Choir Rehearsal	17 10am LWML Meeting	18 10:15am Ash Wednesday - Matins 7pm Ash Wednesday - Vespers	19 7pm Bible Study (Online)	20	21
22 9:15am Children's Sunday school 9:15am Sunday Morning Adult Bible Study 10:15am Sunday Worship 11:45am Voters' Meeting	23 7:30pm Confirmation Class 7:30pm "Generations of Faith" Choir Rehearsal	24	25 10:15am Lenten Matins 7pm Lenten Vespers	26 7pm Bible Study (Online)	27	28 10:30am Target Shooting Club