

Faith Weekly

A NEWSLETTER OF FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH



PASTOR'S STUDY

DATES TO REMEMBER

Happy is he that bath the God of Jacob for his help, Whose hope is in the Lord his God."
Psalm 146:5

Dear friends of Faith, in his letter to the Ephesians Paul encourages them to pray always and with perseverance, both for themselves and all saints, (Eph. 6:18). Aside from faith, the chief weapons the Lord gives to resist the evil one are His word and prayer.

The sabbath day is honored by not despising preaching and God's Word, but gladly hearing and learning it. But only hearing God's Word for an hour on Sunday would be like eating one meal a week—satisfying and nourishing in the moment, but hardly enough to sustain you for seven days. And so, daily study and meditation upon His Word is necessary. Such meditation leads us to pray.

You can and should pray apart from reading God's Word, but by reading and praying you are engaged in a dialogue with your Father. As you read He speaks. His Spirit uses the Word to shape your heart and to conform it to His will. The Word teaches you the language of God; it reveals His promises, love, and desire to bless and preserve you. You learn how you've fallen short of His standards, which motivates you to cry out for mercy and forgiveness. You learn of His great promises to save and to bless, and you cry out for His intercession on your behalf and for your neighbors.

Your prayer can change the world. God, in His righteous anger at Israel's sin in making the golden calf, offered Moses a deal—He would destroy the people of Israel and make of Moses a great nation. Moses rejected this honor for it would have meant the death of hundreds of thousands. He instead prayed for God to forgive and to preserve them.

(Continued on p. 2)

February

- 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.
- 22nd Voters' Meeting - 11:45 a.m.
- 23rd "Generations of Faith"
Choir Rehearsal - 7:30 p.m.
- 23rd 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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office@faithdunedin.org

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

(Continued from p. 1)

You too can pray for the wicked of the world today. Pray that wickedness and injustice are restrained and thwarted. Pray that those who do not know God would hear the gospel. Pray that your own heart would be like that of Moses, ready to intercede on behalf of others—not seeking your own glory, but only that of the Lord and His church. This is the secret to happiness.

“Happy is he that hath the God of Jacob for his help, Whose hope is in the Lord his God.” In Jesus’ name. Amen.

Pastor Sorenson

| <i>O Lord, have mercy.</i> <i>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, Flo Bellhorn. | 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 | | 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). | 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.

It is therefore a pernicious delusion when people pray in such a way that they dare not whole-heartedly add “yes” and conclude with certainty that God hears their prayer but remain in doubt, saying, “Why should I be so bold as to boast that God hears my prayer? I am only a poor sinner,” etc.

That means they have their eye not on God’s promise but on their own works and worthiness, so that they despise God and accuse him of lying.

Therefore they receive nothing, as St. James says, “If anyone prays, let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for he who doubts is like a wave of the sea that is driven and tossed by the wind. For that person must not suppose that he will receive anything from God.”

Behold, such is the importance that God attaches to our being certain that we do not pray in vain and that we must not in any way despise our prayers.

(The Large Catechism, Lord’s Prayer, 121-124)

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

I am pleased to announce the formation of a new Fellowship Committee dedicated to building community and caring for one another. Committee members include: Rachel Onken, Emily Sorenson, Esther Engwall, Claudia Neiminen, Brian Murawski, Steven and Genesis Arsenault. I am grateful for their willingness to serve!

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.

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



Where in the World is our Hymn Board?

Many of those present this past Sunday noted that the hymn board on the right side of the sanctuary was missing. Rest assured, this was not a group of hymn board bandits and there was no need to divert the FBI from their investigation of the Nancy Guthrie kidnapping. This past week the board was sent out for repair. The glue holding it together had disintegrated. It will return to its appointed place shortly.

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 |