

# Faith Weekly

A NEWSLETTER OF FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH



## PASTOR'S STUDY

## DATES TO REMEMBER

*"How excellent is thy lovingkindness, O God!"*  
*Psalm 36:7*

Dear friends of Faith, Maundy Thursday marks the beginning of the Sacred Triduum, or "Three Days", which culminates on Saturday with the Great Vigil of Easter. This observance began with the early church in Jerusalem, gathering at the historic sites, Gethsemane, Golgotha, and the Sepulchre, in order to teach the faithful of the salvific work of the Lord. It was an attempt to follow the Lord's command, "Do this in remembrance of me," (Luke 22:19).

By the Council of Nicea (325 AD), the local practices had been adopted and formalized by the Church. The observances pre-date the Great Schism, dividing the Church into East and West, and cannot properly be called "Orthodox", "Roman Catholic", or "Lutheran", but are simply, "Christian". In the early Reformation, Luther and his contemporaries retained most of the liturgical calendar, including the Triduum. They did eliminate some of the Roman Catholic practices and ceremonies that obscured the Gospel opting to emphasize the proclamation of the Crucified One.

Maundy Thursday focuses on the institution of the Lord's Supper and His command to love one another. His great love for us is shown on the Cross, and in the gift of His body and blood for the forgiveness of our sins.

Good Friday remains the most solemn day of the year. As taught by the Small Catechism, we acknowledge we are by nature sinful and unclean, and that only Christ's sacrifice delivers us from the wrath of God.

The Easter Vigil serves to mark the transition from darkness of the Law and death to the light of the Gospel. It begins by recognizing Christ as the Light of the World, the singing of the Proclamation of the Resurrection, and a

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### April

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Maundy Thursday - Divine Service - 7:00 p.m.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Good Friday - Chief Service - 7:00 p.m.
- 4<sup>th</sup> Holy Saturday - Easter Vigil - 7:00 p.m.
- 4<sup>th</sup> Easter Vigil - Reception - 9:00 p.m.
- 11<sup>th</sup> Maintenance Workday - 9:00 a.m.
- 12<sup>th</sup> Celebration of Baptisms - 11:45 a.m.
- 13<sup>th</sup> "Generations of Faith" Choir Rehearsal - 7:30 p.m.
- 13<sup>th</sup> Confirmation Class - 7:30 p.m.
- 14<sup>th</sup> Board of Elders Meeting - 7:00 p.m.
- 15<sup>th</sup> Bible Study (Live/Online) - 9:15 a.m.
- 16<sup>th</sup> Bible Study (Online) - 7:00 p.m.
- 19<sup>th</sup> Church Council Meeting - 11:45 a.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.

727.733.2657  
www.faithdunedin.org  
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)

recounting of the history of the salvation of God's people. The same God who delivered Israel from slavery in Egypt now delivers His Church from bondage to sin through the empty tomb. It was also the traditional day for welcoming catechumens and the newly baptized into the Church.

None of the services in the Triduum end with a Benediction, for they are all intended to prepare the faithful for the Feast of the Resurrection and the new life of Easter. While each service has a unique focus and rich traditions and ceremonies, all are intended to highlight the excellent lovingkindness of God, that the true Light of the World would shine in our hearts. 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 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, 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), Flo Bellhorn, Sue Laeder, Matthew Chrien, Amy Bellhorn and Bob Rehman.	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.

Also, we received additional donations of \$2,000 for Musical Instruments; \$280 for Stained Glass Windows; \$100 for the Sunday Bible Study; and \$100 for the Wednesday Bible Study.

Major restricted fund balances include: Stained Glass Windows: \$6,360; Chancel/Kneelers: \$5,182; and Musical Instruments: \$754.

	MARCH	2026
INCOME	\$24,747	\$71,742
EXPENSE	\$21,038	\$78,947
TOTAL	\$3,709	(\$7,205)

OTHER WAYS TO GIVE...  
 Website - [www.faithdunedin.org](http://www.faithdunedin.org)  
 Zelle pay - Check with your bank.  
 Email: [treasurer@faithdunedin.org](mailto: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.*

The Lord's Supper was not invented or devised by any man. It was instituted by Christ without man's counsel or deliberation. Therefore, just as the Ten Commandments, the Lord's Prayer, and the Creed retain their nature and value even if we never keep, pray, or believe them, so also does this blessed sacrament remain unimpaired and inviolate even if we use and handle it unworthily.

Do you think God cares so much about our faith and conduct that he would permit them to affect his ordinance? No, all temporal things remain as God has created and ordered them, regardless of how we treat them.

This must always be emphasized, for thus we can thoroughly refute all the babbling of the seditious spirits who regard the sacraments, contrary to the Word of God, as human performances.

Now, what is the Sacrament of the Altar? Answer: It is the true body and blood of the Lord Christ in and under the bread and wine which we Christians are commanded by Christ's word to eat and drink.

(The Large Catechism, Sacrament of the Altar, 4-7)

### BIRTHDAY

2<sup>nd</sup> Joseph Engwall  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Sue Laeder  
 5<sup>th</sup> Neal Engwall  
 18<sup>th</sup> Peggy Harting  
 26<sup>th</sup> Flo Bellhorn  
 28<sup>th</sup> Roger Larson

### ANNIVERSARY

18<sup>th</sup> Russel & Linda Goheen

### BAPTISM

4<sup>th</sup> Russel Goheen  
 9<sup>th</sup> Violet Vanhorenbeck  
 10<sup>th</sup> Dennis Kim  
 15<sup>th</sup> Emma Belknap  
 15<sup>th</sup> Jordan Belknap

*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.

### JOIN OUR GREETING TEAM!

Church greeters have a long history, going back to early Christian communities where welcoming visitors was considered a vital ministry. Greeters help make everyone feel at home, set a tone of warmth, and ensure that each person entering the church experiences God's love right from the door.

We're looking for friendly faces to continue this important tradition! Sign-ups are now open—please add your name to the sheet on the board in the hallway. Any questions? Contact Peggy Harting.

Your smile can make a difference—come be a greeter!

### LWML NOTES

April 12, 2026, is Baptismal Celebration Sunday. Russel Goheen, Violet VanHorenbeck, Dennis Kim, Emma and Jordan Belknap are the celebrants this month. Following Worship, you are invited to pick up your treats and coffee in the hall. The Baptismal candle and special treats will be on the table in Luther Hall after worship. Jen-Nett or Emily will lead us in a favorite Baptismal hymn. Of course, we'll get a picture for the weekly newsletter. What a blessing for this time of fellowship and to remember our own Baptismal Blessing. See you there!

Please remember to turn in your mite boxes on the first Sunday of the month if possible. Give them to Sue Laeder, Treasurer; Martha Sorenson, Secretary; or Flo Bellhorn, President.

Group Meetings are on the third Tuesday of the month. The next meeting (our last business meeting of the season, until September) is April 21, 2026, 10 a.m., in the CR at Faith Lutheran Church. All Faith women, plus snowbirds, too, are welcome.

As Lutheran Women in Mission, we joyfully proclaim Christ, support missions, and equip women to honor God by serving others.

### EASTER VIGIL & EASTER BREAKFAST

You are warmly invited to join us for the Easter Vigil on Saturday, April 4, beginning at 7:00 p.m.

The Easter Vigil is one of the most meaningful and ancient traditions of the Christian Church.

Come and experience this beautiful and sacred time of worship as we prepare our hearts for Easter morning. A reception will follow in Luther Hall.

Continue the celebration with us on Sunday morning at our traditional Easter Breakfast beginning at 9:00 a.m. as we rejoice in celebrating our risen Savior. Enjoy a welcoming spread of egg bites, sausage, potatoes, fresh fruit, and mimosas as we gather in fellowship and joy. Donations of baked goods are warmly appreciated to help make the breakfast even more special.

## SERVING IN APRIL

<b>SUNDAY SERVANT</b>	<b>5<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>12<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>19<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>26<sup>th</sup></b>
GREETERS	Peggy Harting & Linda Burns	Peggy Harting & Linda Burns	Peggy Harting & Linda Burns	Peggy Harting & Linda Burns
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	Steven Arsenault	Steven Arsenault	Steven Arsenault	Steven Arsenault

## FAITH FAMILY PHOTOS

**The Sanctuary Lamp has Returned!**

*Jesus spoke to them again, saying, "I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life." (John 8:12)*

The Sanctuary Lamp symbolizes the light of Christ which remains with His Church until the end of the age through the pure preaching of the Word and the administration of the Sacraments according to that Word.

## April 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>29</b> 9:15am Sunday Morning Family Bible Study 10:15am Sunday Worship	<b>30</b> 10:15am Matins - Monday of Holy Week 7:30pm "Generations of Faith" Choir Rehearsal	<b>31</b> 10:15am Matins - Tuesday of Holy Week	<b>1</b> 10:15am Matins - Wednesday of Holy Week	<b>2</b> 7pm Maundy Thursday - Divine Service	<b>3</b> 7pm Good Friday - Chief Service	<b>4</b> 7pm Holy Saturday - Easter Vigil 9pm Easter Vigil - Reception
<b>5</b> 9:15am Sunday Morning Family Bible Study 10:15am Sunday Worship	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> 9am Maintenance Workday
<b>12</b> 9:15am Sunday Morning Family Bible Study 10:15am Sunday Worship 11:45am Celebration of Baptisms	<b>13</b> 7:30pm Confirmation Class 7:30pm "Generations of Faith" Choir Rehearsal	<b>14</b> 9am IOWA Testing 7pm Board of Elders Meeting	<b>15</b> 9am IOWA Testing 9:15am Bible Study (Live/Online)	<b>16</b> 7pm Bible Study (Online)	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b> 9:15am Sunday Morning Family Bible Study 10:15am Sunday Worship 11:45am Church Council Meeting	<b>20</b> 7:30pm Confirmation Class 7:30pm "Generations of Faith" Choir Rehearsal	<b>21</b> 10am LWML Meeting 5:30pm Dunedin Youth Guild	<b>22</b> 9:15am Bible Study (Live/Online)	<b>23</b> 7pm Bible Study (Online)	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> 10:30am Target Shooting Club
<b>26</b> 9:15am Sunday Morning Family Bible Study 10:15am Sunday Worship	<b>27</b> 7:30pm Confirmation Class 7:30pm "Generations of Faith" Choir Rehearsal	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> 9:15am Bible Study (Live/Online)	<b>30</b> 7pm Bible Study (Online)	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>