

Faith Weekly

A NEWSLETTER OF FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH



PASTOR'S STUDY

"Thy rod and thy staff they comfort me."
Psalm 23:4

Dear friends of Faith, Good Shepherd Sunday is coming and with it the reading of the 23rd Psalm. This beloved hymn of David is a favorite of our for the comfort it provides. All of us alive in this world daily walk through the valley of the shadow of death. This valley is not merely poetic description of a physical place, but the reality of the Christian life lived under the Cross.

We live in a real world filled with fellow sinners and all manner of evil and wickedness. The evil one, the world, and our sinful flesh all seek to tempt us into sin which brings about death. In our daily struggles our consciences become shadowed by the knowledge that we like sheep have gone astray, we've departed the Light of the world in pursuit of our fleshly folly. Such sin, however, can only ever be a shadow for the faithful, because Jesus, our Shepherd, remains with us, and therefore we fear no evil. On the Cross He destroyed sin's curse: death. On Easter morning He brought to us life and immortality.

The psalm speaks to the Lord's presence among us in Word and Sacrament. The anointing we receive in Holy Baptism, and the cup of the new covenant in His blood which runneth over with the forgiveness of our sins. Each day, as we come into His presence in prayer and Scripture we find the comfort afforded by "thy rod and thy staff", His Law and Gospel.

Our Good Shepherd uses His rod to both ward off enemies who seek to devour the sheep, and also to correct the sheep that stray from His sheepfold. His staff

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DATES TO REMEMBER

April

- 16th Bible Study (Online) - 7:00 p.m.
- 19th Church Council Meeting - 11:45 a.m.
- 20th "Generations of Faith"
Choir Rehearsal - 7:30 p.m.
- 20th Confirmation Class - 7:30 p.m.
- 21st LWML Meeting - 10:00 a.m.
- 22nd Bible Study (Live/Online) - 9:15 a.m.
- 23rd Bible Study (Online) - 7:00 p.m.
- 25th Target Shooting Club - 10:30 a.m.
- 27th "Generations of Faith"
Choir Rehearsal - 7:30 p.m.
- 27th Confirmation Class - 7:30 p.m.
- 29th Bible Study (Live/Online) - 9:15 a.m.
- 30th 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

(Continued from p. 1)

provides them the comfort and assurance that they are forgiven and loved by Him. These gifts are given for our daily strength. When we immerse ourselves in the Word and allow it to fill our hearts and spill from our lips, the Holy Spirit works to align our wills with His own, and enables us to resist temptation and to walk in the truth.

“He leadeth me beside the still waters,” (v. 2). We live confident of our salvation for our Good Shepherd has gone before us. He walked the dark road to Calvary and passed through death to life that we need not fear evil. And because He is risen, so shall we.

Pastor Sorenson

<i>O Lord, have mercy. O Christ, have mercy.</i>		
<h2 style="text-align: center;">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	Christ the King, Largo: Struggling financially and seeking a new pastor. 69th Regular Convention of the Synod this summer.	<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), Denise Banacos, 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	Mark William Curry - born premature (37 weeks) struggling to breath. He was baptized and flown from Casper, WY to Denver, CO for treatment.	For a healthy pregnancy for mother and child, safe delivery, and God's blessings on both family and home.
SPECIAL REQUESTS	Gail Battistoni, Carol (Linda R's niece), Amanda (Linda H's niece), Jane Sternemann (Rachel's aunt), Lisa Kunder (Kathy K's sister), JoCarol Kautz (Sue Laeder's cousin), Johanna Punch, Karl Streitenfeld (Kathleen Kreiman's son), Flo Bellhorn, Sue Laeder, Matthew Chrien, Amy Bellhorn, Carol Phillips (Jeff's mom), and Charlotte (Linda H's niece).	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
 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.”

To feel temptation, is quite a different thing from consenting and yielding to it. We must all feel it, though not all to the same degree; some have more frequent and severe temptations than others. Youths, for example, are tempted chiefly by the flesh; older people are tempted by the world. Others, who are concerned with spiritual matters (that is, strong Christians) are tempted by the devil.

But we cannot be harmed by the mere feeling of temptation as long as it is contrary to our will and we would prefer to be rid of it. If we did not feel it, it could not be called a temptation. But to consent to it is to give it free rein and neither resist it nor pray for help against it.

(The Large Catechism, The Lord's Prayer, 107-108)

BIRTHDAY

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

ANNIVERSARY

18th Russel & Linda Goheen

BAPTISM

4th Russel Goheen
 9th Violet Vanhorenbeck
 10th Dennis Kim
 15th Emma Belknap
 15th 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!

OPEN HOUSE AT THE SORENSON'S

Please join us on May 2nd any time between 1 p.m. and 7 p.m. as we give thanks for Pastor's 60th birthday. Dress comfortably, enjoy light hors d'oeuvres, beverages, witty banter, and the joy of Christian fellowship. No need to bring anything except your love for Christ and His saints.

LWML NOTES

May 3, 2026, is Baptismal Celebration Sunday. Jim Hayden III, Rita McWhorter, Claudia Nieminen, Andy Sorenson, Joseph Engwall, David Hafner, Jacob, Mike, and Zachary Mathews, Luke Belknap, Jen-Nett MacLean, Sue Laeder, and Marge Sieja are 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 Claudia will choose a favorite Baptismal hymn. Sharon will snap 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 time we meet in May will be for the end-of-season lunch, TBD. Watch for the announcement. Be sure to join us.

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

Your Sister in Christ,

Sue Laeder
Treasurer/VP for Christian Growth
Faith Lutheran LWML

SERVING IN APRIL

SUNDAY SERVANT	5th	12th	19th	26th
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



April Baptismal Celebration

Sometimes Baptismal blessings include getting all the cup cakes when no one else shows up!

Dear Faith Family,

New Life Solutions is hosting their annual fundraising **Walk for Life on Saturday, May 2nd, at 8 AM in St. Pete.** Last year, Emily, Esther, Jeff, and I attended the Walk and got to stand with fellow pro-life Lutherans for the event. I will be attending the event again this year and would be happy to walk with anyone who would like to join!

New Life Solutions' vision is "Communities that are abortion-free, salvation full, disciplined, and healed." They operate three clinics in the Tampa Bay area that provide free women's health services. You can see their website for their services/programs: <https://www.newlifesolutions.org/>

I have started a Faith Lutheran Church team on the Walk for Life website, and you can join me for the walk by going to <https://secure.fundeasy.com/ministrsync/event/website/home/?e=30549>, clicking on the 'Register' button, and selecting Faith Lutheran Church on the dropdown menu for your team.

If you would like to support our team or otherwise make a donation to New Life Solutions, you can do so online by going to <https://secure.fundeasy.com/ministrsync/event/website/?m=7766062> or by writing a check to New Life Solutions with the memo line "Walk for Life - Rachel Onken." I will be happy to collect any checks and take them to New Life Solutions.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate in letting me know.

Thank you,

Rachel Onken



April 2026

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