

Faith Weekly

A NEWSLETTER OF FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH



PASTOR'S STUDY

"Make a joyful noise unto God, all ye lands."
Psalm 66:1

Dear friends of Faith, Christians are duty bound to thank, praise, serve and obey God, who created us, together with all creatures. When the psalmist says, "make a joyful noise unto God, all ye lands," such praise is not limited to the grateful saints, but includes all of creation. On Palm Sunday, when the Pharisee sought to quiet the crowd, Jesus said: "I tell you that if these should keep silent, the stones would immediately cry out," (Luke 19:40).

The Commander of the Lord's hosts, Jesus, appeared to Joshua before the battle of Jericho. The hosts of the Lord certainly include the angels, but also the Lord's faithful servants on earth. Such servants include His Church and also everything the Lord has made. God created all things to serve Him. He then gave man dominion over all of creation, in doing so He revealed that the earth and all creatures were made to serve us as well.

When Korah rebelled against God's servant Moses, God caused the earth to open up and to swallow the rebel. God commanded both the waters of the Red Sea and the Jordan River to separate that His congregation could cross through them on dry ground. The Lord commanded the wall around Jericho to fall down and it obeyed, giving Joshua and Israel the victory. Later, Joshua requested that the sun stand still in the sky and it obeyed the Lord's will. God continues to sustain us with gifts of the earth.

For all its' beauty, service, and praise to the Lord, however, the earth and its creatures are not the crown of creation—that is mankind. You are made in the

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DATES TO REMEMBER

April

30th Bible Study (Online) - 7:00 p.m.

May

2nd Sorenson Open House - 1-7 p.m.

3rd Celebration of Baptisms - 11:45 a.m.

4th "Generations of Faith"
Choir Rehearsal - 7:30 p.m.

4th Confirmation Class - 7:30 p.m.

6th Bible Study (Live/Online) - 9:15 a.m.

7th Bible Study (Online) - 7:00 p.m.

9th Maintenance Workday - 9:00 a.m.

11th "Generations of Faith"
Choir Rehearsal - 7:30 p.m.

11th Confirmation Class - 7:30 p.m.

12th Board of Elders Meeting - 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.

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)

image of God. He breathed into Adam, and into all those born since, His breath of life, giving us not only a body, but a soul. He took on the flesh of a man to redeem man from sin—not angels, not giraffes, but you and I.

The Lord has called us into His kingdom, into His Church, into His body. Here He sustains us by word and sacrament, giving us all that is needed for body and life not only in this world, but for the next. For these gifts we join all of creation in making a joyful noise, singing a new song unto God. In Jesus’ name. Amen.

Pastor Sorenson

<p><i>O Lord, have mercy.</i> <i>O Christ, have mercy.</i></p> <h2 style="text-align: center;">PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL</h2> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Names will be kept on the prayer list for 30 days unless otherwise requested.</i></p>		
CATEGORY	THOSE IN NEED	PETITIONS
THE CHURCH	Christ the King, Largo: Struggling financially and seeking a new pastor. 69 th Regular Convention of the Synod this summer.	<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 Tom Fowler.	For healing, strength, hope, and that they may know Christ’s love.
UNDERGOING TREATMENT	CColton Hafner, Jim Watters, Neal Laeder, Ray Rothe, Fred Robbins, Dianne Shelby (Dorothy’s niece), Denise Banacos, Linda Hibbard 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 healthy growth, breathing, and peace for the family.
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), Charlotte (Linda H’s niece) and Kathy Kreiman.	That the Holy Spirit, knowing the needs of His children, would intercede on their behalf before heaven’s throne.

LET'S TALK FINANCES

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.

In his Large Catechism Dr. Luther writes: "I am also a part and member of this Christian church, a shareholder and partaker in it of all the goods which it possesses. The Holy Spirit has brought me thereto and has incorporated me therein through this, that I have heard the Word of God and still hear it, which is the beginning of my entrance into it.

For before we became members of the Christian church we belonged entirely to the devil and were completely ignorant of God and Christ. Until the Last Day, the Holy Spirit remains with the holy community of Christendom, through which he heals us and which he uses to proclaim and propagate his Word, whereby he initiates and increases sanctification so that we grow daily and become strong in faith and in its fruits, which he creates."

(Formula of Concord, Solid Declaration, II.36-37)

BIRTHDAY

3rd Andrew Sorenson
 3rd Steven Arsenaault
 9th Shirley Davis
 13th Zachary Mathews
 15th Carman Diccico
 20th Aaron Vanhorenbeck
 26th Fred Robbins
 26th Jim Hibbard
 28th Eldon Hardenburg
 28th Rebecca Martin

ANNIVERSARY

13th Michael & Claudia Nieminen
 14th Neal & Carol Engwall
 17th Mark & Tina Sunday

BAPTISM

1st Jim Hayden III
 4th Claudia Nieminen
 8th Andrew Sorenson
 9th David Hafner
 9th Jacob Mathews
 9th Joseph Engwall
 9th Mike Mathews
 9th Zachary Mathews
 18th Luke Belknap
 21st Jen-Nett MacLean
 24th Sue Laeder
 26th Marge Sieja

*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** 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!
- FOOD TRAIN FOR KATHY** Kathy Kreiman is currently homebound and in a wheelchair as she recovers from foot surgery. During this time, a warm meal and a kind visit would be a meaningful way to support and encourage her. If you're able to help, there is a signup sheet in the mailroom for providing meals. Your care and prayers would be a true blessing to Kathy as she heals.
- 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 MAY

SUNDAY SERVANT	3rd	10th	17th	24th	31st
GREETERS	Genesis Arsenault	Genesis Arsenault	Genesis Arsenault	Genesis Arsenault	Genesis Arsenault
USHERS	Brian Murawski & Jeff Phillips	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	Paul & Flo Bellhorn
ALTAR CARE	Steven Arsenault	Steven Arsenault	Steven Arsenault	Steven Arsenault	Steven Arsenault
ACOLYTE	Lukas Nieminen	Lukas Nieminen	Lukas Nieminen	Lukas Nieminen	Lukas Nieminen
COMMUNION ELDER	Carl Belknap	Carl Belknap	Carl Belknap	Carl Belknap	Carl Belknap

FAITH FAMILY PHOTOS

**April Day at the Shooting Range**

The Target Shooting group at Faith got together for a day of skill building, laughter, and fellowship. In this sense, they always hit their mark! If you would like to join them next month, please talk to Brian Murawski (pictured kneeling.) People of every skill level are welcome.

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/ministrysync/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/ministrysync/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



May 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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 1pm Sorenson Open House
3 9:15am Sunday Morning Family Bible Study 10:15am Sunday Worship 10:30pm Rite of Holy Baptism - Eloise Sorenson 11:45am Celebration of Baptisms	4 7:30pm Confirmation Class 7:30pm "Generations of Faith" Choir Rehearsal	5	6 9:15am Bible Study (Live/Online)	7 7pm Bible Study (Online)	8	9 9am Maintenance Workday
10 9:15am Sunday Morning Family Bible Study 10:15am Sunday Worship	11 7:30pm Confirmation Class 7:30pm "Generations of Faith" Choir Rehearsal	12 7pm Board of Elders Meeting	13 9:15am Bible Study (Live/Online)	14 7pm Bible Study (Online)	15	16
17 9:15am Sunday Morning Family Bible Study 10:15am Sunday Worship 11:45am Church Council Meeting	18 7:30pm Confirmation Class 7:30pm "Generations of Faith" Choir Rehearsal	19 10am LWML Meeting 5:30pm Dunedin Youth Guild	20 9:15am Bible Study (Live/Online)	21 7pm Bible Study (Online)	22	23 10:30am Target Shooting Club
24 9:15am Sunday Morning Family Bible Study 10:15am Sunday Worship 11:45am Voters' Meeting	25 7:30pm "Generations of Faith" Choir Rehearsal	26	27 9:15am Bible Study (Live/Online)	28 7pm Bible Study (Online)	29	30
31 9:15am Sunday Morning Family Bible Study 10:15am Sunday Worship	1 7:30pm "Generations of Faith" Choir Rehearsal	2	3 9:15am Bible Study (Live/Online)	4 7pm Bible Study (Online)	5	6