

# Faith Weekly

A NEWSLETTER OF FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH



## PASTOR'S STUDY

## DATES TO REMEMBER

*"All the kings of the earth shall praise You, O Lord, When they hear the words of Your mouth."*  
Psalm 138:4

Dear friends of Faith, today we recall the Visitation of Mary, bearing the Son of God, to her cousin Elizabeth, and her words of the Magnificat: "He has shown strength with His arm; He has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts. He has put down the mighty from their thrones, and exalted the lowly" (Luke 1:51-52).

The Visitation teaches us what true visitation looks like. God does not send armies. He sends a humble virgin carrying the Savior. His right hand saves not by earthly might but by the weakness of the cross. Today's Psalm envisions a day when the kings of the earth will praise God. Mary already sees it: the proud will be scattered, the humble exalted, the hungry filled. This is the Gospel that the kings must hear.

Luther's explanation of the First Article of the Creed in his catechisms reminds us that God gives us all temporal gifts: body, soul, house, home, and government. The civil authorities He has established are a gracious provision for this fallen world. July 4 is a fitting day to thank God for the gift of American liberty and the order He has provided through our government. The kings of the earth, including our own rulers, are instruments of His hand.

Do not, however, confuse the gift with the Giver. The Visitation reminds us that God comes not in Washington but in the Word made flesh. Mary's song magnifies the Lord not because He liberated her from the Romans, but because He raises the lowly up from their sins from generation to generation.

(Continued on p. 2)

### July

- 5<sup>th</sup> Celebration of Baptisms - 11:45 a.m.
- 11<sup>th</sup> Maintenance Workday - 9:00 a.m.
- 25<sup>th</sup> Target Shooting Club - 10:30 a.m.
- 26<sup>th</sup> Church Council Meeting - 11:45 a.m.

### August

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Celebration of Baptisms - 11:45 a.m.
- 5<sup>th</sup> Bible Study (Live/Online) - 9:15 a.m.
- 6<sup>th</sup> Bible Study (Online) - 7:00 p.m.
- 8<sup>th</sup> Maintenance Workday - 9:00 a.m.
- 11<sup>th</sup> Board of Elders Meeting - 7:00 p.m.
- 12<sup>th</sup> Bible Study (Live/Online) - 9:15 a.m.
- 13<sup>th</sup> 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)

The mighty, the proud, the impenitent, are cast down. That is the liberty Christ brings. The liberty we celebrate on July 4 is a shadow; the liberty proclaimed in the Magnificat is the substance.

We should thank and praise God for our nation. Pray for its rulers that they may hear the words of His mouth and praise Him. Yet our ultimate joy is found not in a political declaration, but in the visitation of the Lord who came to save the lowly. All the kings of the earth will one day bend their knees before Him, for it is His right hand alone that saves. To Him alone belongs all glory. 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           | Christ the King, Largo: Struggling financially and seeking a new pastor.<br><br>69 <sup>th</sup> 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, Tom Fowler                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | For healing, strength, hope, and that they may know Christ's love.                                               |
| UNDERGOING TREATMENT | Colton Hafner, Neal Laeder, Ray Rothe, Fred Robbins, Dianne Shelby (Dorothy's niece), Brent Dusenbergh and JoCarol Kautz (Sue Laeder's cousin)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 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 healthy growth, breathing, and peace for the family.                                                         |
| SPECIAL REQUESTS     | Gail Battistoni, Carol (Linda R's niece), Amanda (Linda H's niece), Lisa Kunder (Kathy K's sister), Karl Streitenfeld (Kathleen Kreiman's son), Flo Bellhorn, Matthew Chrien, Amy Bellhorn, Charlotte (Linda H's niece), Kathy Kreiman, Pam Robbins, Marge Sieja, Rev. Jim Van Dellen (retired Pastor of Good Shepherd Lutheran, Michigan) Mike and Sharon (Jenny Kims' parents), Barbara (Flo's sister-in-law) and Asher (friend of Brady & Morgan's son). | 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. We received additional donations of \$1,000 for Musical Instruments; \$100 for the Sunday Bible Study; and \$100 for the Wednesday Bible Study; \$1,553 toward the Young Adult Conference scheduled for January 2027; and \$500 for Stained Glass Windows.

Major restricted fund balances include: Stained Glass Windows: \$6,875; Musical Instruments: \$3,754; Chancel/Kneelers: \$1,935; and Young Adult Conference \$1,653.

|         | JUNE     | 2026      |
|---------|----------|-----------|
| INCOME  | \$21,735 | \$138,692 |
| EXPENSE | \$19,574 | \$143,704 |
| TOTAL   | \$2,162  | (\$5,012) |

### 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.*

“I believe that God has created me and all creatures.”

If we believed it with our whole heart, we would also act accordingly, and not swagger about and brag and boast as if we had life, riches, power, honor, and such things of ourselves, as if we ourselves were to be feared and served. This is the way the wretched, perverse world acts, drowned in its blindness, misusing all the blessings and gifts of God solely for its own pride and greed, pleasure and enjoyment, and never once turning to God to thank him or acknowledge him as Lord and Creator.

Therefore, this article would humble and terrify us all if we believed it. For we sin daily with eyes and ears, hands, body and soul, money and property, and with all that we have. This is especially true of those who even fight against the Word of God. Yet Christians have this advantage, that they acknowledge themselves in duty bound to serve and obey him for all these things.

(Large Catechism, Apostles' Creed, I.21-22)

### BIRTHDAY

1<sup>st</sup> Pam Robbins  
8<sup>th</sup> Natalie Kim  
14<sup>th</sup> Jacob Mathews  
14<sup>th</sup> Marolyn Hafner  
15<sup>th</sup> Linda Goheen  
16<sup>th</sup> Jim Hayden III  
17<sup>th</sup> Leah Belknap  
24<sup>th</sup> Markus Nieminen  
28<sup>th</sup> James Watters Jr.

### ANNIVERSARY

8<sup>th</sup> John & Carolyn Wood  
10<sup>th</sup> Dennis & Jenny Kim  
12<sup>th</sup> Paul & Flo Bellhorn

### BAPTISM

1<sup>st</sup> George Klemaier  
1<sup>st</sup> Rebecca Martin  
13<sup>th</sup> Doris Watters  
15<sup>th</sup> Natalie Kim  
26<sup>th</sup> Carl Belknap III

*July*

*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.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| SUMMER BIBLE STUDIES                         | After July 1st we will not have our regular Wednesday or Thursday Bible studies during the month of July. Pastor will be traveling on vacation as well as preparing for and attending the Synodical Convention. We will continue to have Bible Studies on Sunday mornings.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| VICAR BRIAN FRANK                            | While pastor is on vacation Vicar Brian Frank, from Grace Lutheran Church, St. Pete, will lead worship and our Sunday morning Bible Study. He is a student at Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne. He will return to Indiana at the end of July to complete his fourth year of studies before ordination.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| FOURTH OF JULY INVITE                        | The Nieminens are extending a last-minute invitation to all of our Faith family to join us at our home from 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm on Independence Day for food, drinks, and fellowship. We will provide burgers and beverages, and ask that you to bring a salad or dessert. After the party, you're welcome to join us for a walk to downtown Safety Harbor to see fireworks. Please RSVP, so we can prepare the appropriate number of burgers.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| LWML NOTES                                   | <p>July 5, 2026, is Baptismal Celebration Sunday. George Klemaier, Rebecca Martin, Doris Watters, Natalie Kim, and Carl Belknap are celebrants this month. Following Worship, you are 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 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!</p> <p>Thank you for filling the donation box with over 22 packages of feminine products. Thanks to the volunteer who shopped for and supplied the women's bathrooms. The packages were delivered to Dunedin Cares on Tuesday.</p> <p>Thank you all for supporting the Faith Lutheran Women in Mission Group.</p> <p>BTW: Currently, Dunedin Cares is experiencing food shortages. We do not have a specific project or a collection box, but they take collections directly in the mornings at 9 a.m. during the week and on Saturdays before they serve clients.) Faith will set up a specific collection box after July/August.</p> |
| IN THE WORLD BUT NOT OF THE WORLD CONFERENCE | Faith will host this conference for young adults this coming January, 15-17. It's targeted at those 18-35 year olds desiring to learn what it means to live as Christians joyfully in the home, the church, and in the world. The page for the conference can be found at <a href="https://faithdunedin.regfox.com/in-the-world-but-not-of-the-world">https://faithdunedin.regfox.com/in-the-world-but-not-of-the-world</a> Interested persons can go there to register. While the sessions are limited to the registrees, the daily worship services are open to the public.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |

## SERVING IN JULY

| <b>SUNDAY<br/>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                  | Kim Family                     | Kim Family                     | Kim Family                     | Kim Family                     |
| 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                   | Brady Kim                      | Elijah Belknap                 | Lukas Nieminen                 | Brady Kim                      |
| COMMUNION<br>ELDER        | Fred Robbins                   | Fred Robbins                   | Fred Robbins                   | Fred Robbins                   |

## FAITH FAMILY PHOTOS



### The Story of God's Redemptive Work

This stained glass panel contains four images that summarize God's work to redeem mankind:

1. Top Left: God reveals Himself in the Burning Bush
2. Top Right: God guides His children through His Word (Lamp) and sustains us by His providential care (hand).
3. Bottom Left: Christ holds the authority of David's throne—the Key of David to bind and to loose sin.
4. Bottom Right: Christ is the fulfillment of the Davidic covenant, the Messianic branch from the stump of Jesse.

## July 2026

| Sunday                                                                                                            | Monday    | Tuesday   | Wednesday                                    | Thursday  | Friday    | Saturday                                  |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|----------------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-------------------------------------------|
| <b>28</b><br>9:15am Sunday Morning Family Bible Study<br>10:15am Sunday Worship                                   | <b>29</b> | <b>30</b> | <b>1</b><br>9:15am Bible Study (Live/Online) | <b>2</b>  | <b>3</b>  | <b>4</b>                                  |
| <b>5</b><br>9:15am Sunday Morning Family Bible Study<br>10:15am Sunday Worship<br>11:45am Celebration of Baptisms | <b>6</b>  | <b>7</b>  | <b>8</b>                                     | <b>9</b>  | <b>10</b> | <b>11</b><br>9am Maintenance Workday      |
| <b>12</b><br>9:15am Sunday Morning Family Bible Study<br>10:15am Sunday Worship                                   | <b>13</b> | <b>14</b> | <b>15</b>                                    | <b>16</b> | <b>17</b> | <b>18</b>                                 |
| <b>19</b><br>9:15am Sunday Morning Family Bible Study<br>10:15am Sunday Worship                                   | <b>20</b> | <b>21</b> | <b>22</b>                                    | <b>23</b> | <b>24</b> | <b>25</b><br>10:30am Target Shooting Club |
| <b>26</b><br>9:15am Sunday Morning Family Bible Study<br>10:15am Sunday Worship<br>11:45am Church Council Meeting | <b>27</b> | <b>28</b> | <b>29</b>                                    | <b>30</b> | <b>31</b> | <b>1</b>                                  |