

Faith Weekly

A NEWSLETTER OF FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH



PASTOR'S STUDY

DATES TO REMEMBER

"O Lord, thou hast brought up my soul from the grave: Thou hast kept me alive, that I should not go down to the pit."

Psalm 30:3

Dear friends of Faith, in Psalm 30, we hear the psalmist's prayer giving thanks that God has raised him up from death to life. This is the proper work of God, giving life, healing the sick, and forgiving sins.

St. John (Ch. 5) recounts Jesus' healing of a paralytic at the pool of Bethesda. The man had lain there 38 years. At a word from Jesus he is healed and takes up his bed and walks. Not only was his paralysis removed, but his muscles and coordination were restored—no trips to see a physical therapist! When questioned about this, Jesus replied: "For as the Father raises the dead and gives life to them, even so the Son gives life to whom He will," (John 5:21)

With His word and touch Jesus exercises full authority over the grave and His Creation, for He is not just a man, but is fully God—His human nature receiving and exercising divine majesty and power. This remains as true for us today as it did for the psalmist or the paralytic.

Again, St. John writes: "But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin," (1 John 1:7). This is not just a reference to the merit earned by Christ on the cross. John is saying that the blood of Jesus cleanses us from sins, for this is what our Lord told His disciples: "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink His blood, you have no life in you. Whoever eats My flesh and drinks My blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day," (John 6:53-54). Just as a word or touch from

(Continued on p. 2)

September

- 17th Bible Study (Online) - 7:00 p.m.
- 20th Church Council Meeting - 11:45 am.
- 21st "Generations of Faith"
Choir Rehearsal - 7:30 p.m.
- 23rd Bible Study (Live/Online) - 9:15 a.m.
- 24th Ladies of Faith Lunch at Carmelita's -
12:00 p.m.
- 24th Bible Study (Online) - 7:00 p.m.
- 26th Target Shooting Club - 10:30 a.m.
- 28th "Generations of Faith"
Choir Rehearsal - 7:30 p.m.
- 28th Confirmation Class - 7:30 p.m.

October

- 3rd Comedy Improv Night at Faith - 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.

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)

our Lord brought healing or raised the dead to life, so too now His word and touch in the Sacraments brings life and salvation to all who believe.

The psalmist responded then, as we do today: "To the end that my glory may sing praise to thee, and not be silent. O Lord my God, I will give thanks unto thee for ever," (Psalm 30:12). 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.	<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, Fred Robbins, Dianne Shelby (Dorothy's niece), Brent Dusenberg, and JoCarol Kautz (Sue Laeder's cousin).	For healing, strength, patience, compassionate & wise care givers, and faith.
HOSPICE		For comfort, peace, and faith.
GRIEVING	The family and friends of Matthew Chrien.	For comfort, and the peace in the hope of the Resurrection.
NEW LIFE	Expectant moms: Katie Spalding, Sam Vanhorenbeck, Gabrielle Guerra, Baby Noah - newborn with health issues.	For healthy growth, breathing, and peace for the family.
SPECIAL REQUESTS	Gail Battistoni and her niece, Rayma, Carol (Linda R's niece), Amanda (Linda H's niece), Flo Bellhorn, Amy Bellhorn, Charlotte (Linda H's niece), Kathy Kreiman, Pam Robbins, Rod Cotter, Mike and Sharon (Jenny Kims' parents), Barbara (Flo's sister-in-law), Asher (friend of Brady & Morgan's son), Marje Seija, Vianne Nichols, (Kelsey King's step-grandma), Ron Ziegler and Clair Northcutt (Carol Engwall's niece).	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; and \$130 toward the Young Adult Conference scheduled for January 2027.

Major restricted fund balances include: Stained Glass Windows: \$6,875; Musical Instruments: \$6,754; Chancel/Kneelers: \$1,935; and Young Adult Conference \$1,988.

	AUGUST	2026
INCOME	\$20,157	\$177,759
EXPENSE	\$18,762	\$193,999
TOTAL	\$1,395	(\$16,240)

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.

Scripture testifies clearly (John 5:21, 27; 6:39, 40) that the power to make the dead alive and to execute judgment has been given to Christ because he is the Son of Man and inasmuch as he has flesh and blood. Scripture not only speaks in general terms of the person of the Son of Man, but expressly points to his assumed human nature when it states, "The blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin" (1 John 1:7). This does not refer only to the merit that was once achieved on the cross. John is saying in this passage that in the work or matter of our justification not only the divine nature in Christ but also his blood actually cleanses us from all sins. Likewise, John 6:48-58 says that Christ's flesh is a life-giving food, and according to the Council of Ephesus decreed that the flesh of Christ has the power to give life.

(Formula of Concord Solid Declaration, VIII.57-59)

BIRTHDAY

9th Michael Nieminen
11th Sharon Murawski
13th Linda Hibbard
14th Carolyn Wood
15th Eric Jerome
18th Ava Kim
19th Rachel Onken
20th Brent Duesenberg
21st Carol Hammerle

ANNIVERSARY

September

BAPTISM

6th Jeff Phillips
6th Jill Talley
14th Anthony Grimmig
22nd Michael Nieminen
25th Kathleen Kreiman
27th Leah 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

The church photo directory is currently being updated. If you have any changes to your information please let Linda know.

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: <https://faithdunedin.regfox.com/in-the-world-but-not-of-the-world> Interested persons can go there to register. While the sessions are limited to the registrants, the daily worship services are open to the public.

OKTOBERFEST AT FAITH!

Join us on Sunday, October 11, in Luther Hall for delicious German food, fun, and Christian fellowship! Enjoy bratwurst, German potato salad, red cabbage, pretzels, German beer, and more.

Please sign up on the sheet posted on the bulletin board. All are welcome!

LWML NOTES

Beginning September 27, 2026, until October 25, 2026, we will collect cereal for the food pantry. We are thinking about healthy cereals, and we are happy to receive your favorite kind, too.

Cereal with milk is great; if you're inclined, you can find quart boxes of milk at the Dollar Store (something to keep in mind when you buy boxed mac and cheese, too.) A box will be set up in the mail room labeled LWML DONATIONS.

MENS' GATHERING

"Iron sharpens iron, and one man sharpens another." (Pro 27:17 ESV) Men of Faith, you're invited to an evening of fraternal Christian fellowship at the Nieminen house (102 Tanglewood Ct., Safety Harbor) on Friday, October 9th, beginning at 6:00 pm. Please RSVP to Michael (727-385-7693).

SERVING IN SEPTEMBER

SUNDAY SERVANT	6th	13th	20th	27th
GREETERS	Linda Burns	Linda Burns	Linda Burns	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	Brady Kim	Elijah Belknap	Lukas Nieminen	Elijah Belknap
COMMUNION ELDER	Steven Arsenault	Steven Arsenault	Steven Arsenault	Steven Arsenault

FAITH FAMILY PHOTOS



Why Preach from a Pulpit?

The pulpit and lectern may be seen as extensions of two horns, or corners, of the altar, the traditional places from which the Word of God sounds forth. In the Old Testament, the sacrificial lamb was bound to the four horns of the altar. Living now in the New Testament age, the Word of God is the message of Christ crucified, our sacrificial Lamb. The pulpit serves to hide the man and allow the Word to prevail. Martin Luther, at times, placed the Crucifix in front of the pulpit that the congregation not only hear, but gaze upon, Christ crucified for their salvation.

September 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30 9:15am Sunday Morning Family Bible Study 10:15am Sunday Worship	31 7:30pm "Generations of Faith" Choir Rehearsal	1	2 9:15am Bible Study (Live/Online)	3 7pm Bible Study (Online)	4	5
6 9:15am Sunday Morning Family Bible Study 10:15am Sunday Worship 11:45am Celebration of Baptisms	7 7:30pm "Generations of Faith" Choir Rehearsal	8 7pm Board of Elders Meeting	9 9:15am Bible Study (Live/Online)	10 7pm Bible Study (Online)	11	12 9am Maintenance Workday
13 9:15am Sunday Morning Family Bible Study 10:15am Sunday Worship	14 7:30pm Confirmation Class 7:30pm "Generations of Faith" Choir Rehearsal	15 10am LWML Meeting 5:30pm Dunedin Youth Guild	16 9:15am Bible Study (Live/Online)	17 7pm Bible Study (Online)	18	19
20 9:15am Sunday Morning Family Bible Study 10:15am Sunday Worship 11:45am Church Council Meeting	21 7:30pm "Generations of Faith" Choir Rehearsal	22	23 9:15am Bible Study (Live/Online)	24 12pm Ladies of Faith Lunch at Carmelita's Mexican 7pm Bible Study (Online)	25	26 10:30am Target Shooting Club
27 9:15am Sunday Morning Family Bible Study 10:15am Sunday Worship	28 7:30pm Confirmation Class - Zoom 7:30pm "Generations of Faith" Choir Rehearsal	29	30 FL-GA District Pastors Conference	1 FL-GA District Pastors Conference	2 FL-GA District Pastors Conference	3 7:30pm Comedy Improv Night at Faith