

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH
753 N. CALUMET AVE.
VALPARAISO, IN 46383

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*Embraced by God through Jesus Christ our Lord, we share this gospel of hope and healing
within and throughout our community*



Many Journeys, One Mission

2 Tim. 1:3-12 I thank God whom I serve, as did my ancestors, with a clear conscience, as I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day. ⁴ As I remember your tears, I long to see you, that I may be filled with joy. ⁵ I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that dwelt first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, dwells in you as well. ⁶ For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands, ⁷ for God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control. ⁸ Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony about our Lord, nor of me his prisoner, but share in suffering for the gospel by the power of God, ⁹ who saved us and called us to a holy calling, not because of our works but because of his own purpose and grace, which he gave us in Christ Jesus before the ages began, ¹⁰ and which now has been manifested through the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel, ¹¹ for which I was appointed a preacher and apostle and teacher, ¹² which is why I suffer as I do. But I am not ashamed, for I know whom I have believed, and I am convinced that he is able to guard until that Day what has been entrusted to me.

Luther was clearly a man on a mission. As a result, I think people often view him like a sort of human wrecking ball, single handedly changing the church from all that had come before. However, this simply was not the case. Despite many ups and downs, what Luther was rediscovering, as he dove into God's Word, were not some kinds of radical new ideas, nor was he the first to proclaim them. Throughout history, large groups of people have often gotten away from following God and His Word, resulting in disaster. God always responded to this by preserving a remnant of believers and raising up people to speak the Truth. The journeys of these people of faith were often different. However, their mission was essentially the same, to seek and glorify the Lord, follow His consistent leading, and proclaim the Lord in their present context.

Luther was no exception. From the 95 Theses, to the Catechism, to many of his other writings, as Luther dove deeper into God's Word, his understanding and relationship with God grew from one of great fear to one of reverent awe at the sheer love and grace of God. Luther went from being a man who seemed to want to hide from God to a man on a mission. Here too, Luther was not alone. From princes to peasants, to his fellow theologians and pastors, many joined Luther on that mission. Their journeys were not all the same. Each had missteps along the way. They all faced dangerous opposition from those who preferred their own way and the status quo. Yet, what still strikes me is just how many people God brought together toward a common mission. Once again it was through individuals such as these, that God brought about the restoration, preservation, and care of His people. God's Word and purpose would not be denied.

In my own life, I can think of several places where I have been a part of a community of people, brought together by life circumstances, who shared a mission and passion. As our separate journeys began to weave together, and different challenges came our way, many of us began to grow together like family. Our common mission became clearer and our passion for that mission and each other grew stronger. Maybe you have experienced this on a sports team, a musical group, your job, or somewhere else. I hope you have, it is a powerful thing, and even more powerful when it is centered around faith.

For the last several years, we here at Faith Lutheran have embarked on several journeys. In addition to regular worship, and working through a variety of challenges, we have taken time to consider things like: What it means that *The Best is Yet to Come*? How does one begin *Developing a faith that works* or *Run Hard and Rest Well* in the Lord? Why is it important that we *Walk Across the Room*, or other divides to build relationships with those around us and intentionally be the light of Christ for others? How does *The Story* (God's Story) impact our story and help us to *Bear Fruit for Jesus*? These are just a few of the topics we have been exploring as we grow together in grace as the people of God. So I wonder... How might we as a Family of Faith continue to tie these things together? We have all had a variety of journeys to get here. Much has changed (multiple times) since this church began, even in the past few years. Still, how is God, right here, right now in this context, calling us to be a Family of Faith on a mission? What Godly passion might He be fanning to flames in our midst for the sake of His church and those who do not yet believe? This month, I urge you to think back, particularly through our spiritual growth series including our current one on Acts, and ask yourself these questions. I'll be curious and excited to hear your answers.

Pastor Eric Schreck

READING BUDDIES FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL

The Sunday School kids are kicking off their first service project for the fall. They are collecting 12-18" **NEW** stuffed animals that will be donated to 1st and 2nd grade students throughout Porter County. It is a United Way project where the stuffed animals serve as non-judgmental friends to help the students practice reading.

To celebrate the kids' efforts in this project, we will be hosting a **Tea Party** at Faith Lutheran Church on Saturday, November 20 at 2:00pm. Everyone is invited to bring their own favorite stuffed animal or doll to have tea and cookies. Bringing a reading buddy or two along with you would be greatly appreciated as well. If you are not interested in purchasing a stuffed animal, a donation of \$10 puts two reading buddies in a classroom. For questions please contact Jackie Allwardt or Sherri Nord.



Reading Buddies



Tommy Nimitz	October 2
Ryan Gengnagel	October 3
Tyrell Nichelson	October 4
Myra Zasada	October 7
Andrea Frank	October 9
Karie Koehneke	October 10
Lucy Fryman	October 12
Arpad Marton	October 15
Jim Dixon	October 16
Jan Dixon	October 20
Ben Fryman	October 21
Gene Koroncz	October 22
Darlene Eichstaedt	October 22
Paulette Blouir	October 23
Fred Schultz	October 26
Mike Dunlap	October 29

WORK DAY

We will be painting, cleaning and generally sprucing up the playground area for our VCA children on Saturday, October 9 beginning at 9:00am.

Power spraying will be needed prior to this date. If you have the equipment and are willing to help out please contact Jim Gammon through the VCA office: (219) 548-5799.

Trunk or Treat



Grab some candy, decorate your car for Halloween and join in the fun as the VCA hosts a Trunk or Treat for the children on Friday, October 29 from 6:00-8:00pm. All VCA and Faith members, their families and friends are cordially invited.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Our Voter's Assembly will be held on Sunday, November 14 after church service and education hour. The budget will be voted on and board members announced.

THOUGHTS FROM THE DEACONESS

"The Training of Church Organists"

While cleaning files, I found this. Sometimes we need a little humor in our lives and not always serious thoughts.

*Rules for an American Organist, for Playin Onto a Organ in Meeting
(dated 1903)*

When a preacher comes in, and neals down in the poolpit, pool out all the stoppers. That's what the stoppers is for.

When a hymn is given out to be sung, play over the whole toon before singin, but be sure to play it so they can't tell whether it's that toon or some other toon. It will so amosse people to guess at the toon.

When you play the interlood, sometimes pool all the stoppers out, and sometimes pool them all in. The stoppers is made to pool in and out.

Play the interlood twice as long as the toon. The interlood is the best part of the mewsic, and should be the longest.

Play the interlood into the toon without them knowing when the toon begins. This will teach them to mind their own business.

Always play the interlood faster or slower than the toon. This will keep it from being the same time as the toon.

During the sermon, go out of the church, and come back in time for the next toon. This will show you don't mean to be hard on the preacher by having tew many listenin to him at wonse.

ASSISTING MINISTERS – Post covid, we began using our Assisting Ministers during church service at the beginning of September. The *Assisting Ministers Schedule* is posted on the back of the calendar that is inserted into this newsletter. They will also have a copy of this schedule in their mail slots. Be sure to check to see whether you are signed up to help serve. If you are no longer able to help or have questions please email Becky at:

music@faithmemorial.net.



Remembrance of the Faithful Departed

On All Saints' Sunday (November 7, 2021), it is our tradition at Faith to remember in prayer, with thanksgiving, the faithful members of this congregation.

The Remembrance Book will be out in the Narthex beginning on October 10. If you are not attending church due to covid restrictions you may email names you wish to be remembered to: office@faithmemorial.net or call the office and leave a message: (219) 462-7684.

All Faith Lutheran members are already in the book and their names will be read, so you do not need to list them again. If you would like Pastor to read the name of a loved one who was not a member here at Faith please send us that information or sign up in the book. Names from last year will not automatically be read again (unless they were a member)



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FAITH WORSHIP SCHEDULE

The Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost, October 3, 9:00am Holy Communion
The Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost, October 10, 9:00am Morning Prayer
The Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost, October 17, 9:00am Holy Communion
The Twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost, October 24, 9:00am Morning Prayer
Reformation Day, October 31, 9:00am Holy Communion
All Saints Day w/Remembrance of the Faithful Departed, November 7, 9:00am Holy
Communion
The Twenty Fifth Sunday after Pentecost, November 14, 9:00am Morning Prayer
Christ the King, November 21, 9:00am Holy Communion
The First Sunday in Advent, November 28, 9:00am Morning Prayer

Services will also be streamed on our website at www.faitervalpo.org.



Let us not become weary in doing good,
for at the proper time we will reap a harvest
if we do not give up. GALATIANS 6:9