

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

2020 Year in Review

Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever! Psalm 118:29

Soul Accounting

Total members: 717 souls; 544 Communicants

Gains in membership:

New member: 2 adult confirmations

Baptism: 7 infants

Transfer: 8 from LCMS churches

Losses in membership:

Transfer: 1 to LCMS church

Release: 2 to non-LCMS churches

Deaths: 5

Significant Events and Milestones

January

Wednesday 15th Lunch and Learn

Saturday 25th Annual congregational summit with focus on “Everyone His Witness”

February

Wednesday 12th Lunch and Learn

Wednesday 26th Ash Wednesday

March

Friday 13th Covid 19 alert; Preschool closes for remainder of the spring.

Sunday 15th No worship services are held in sanctuary.

Sunday 22nd First parking lot service with Holy Communion.

Tuesday 24th Zoom is implemented for the first time for meetings, Bible Studies, and Hymn Sings.

Faith YouTube Channel begins hosting devotions and services.

April

Sun 5th-Sun 12th Holy Week and Easter are celebrated outdoors.

Sunday 26th Confirmation instruction is completed, Rite of Confirmation is postponed

May

Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) federal loan of \$172,927.00 is applied for and received.

Center for Congregation grant of \$5,000.00 received

for acquiring technology to assist with remote and recorded services.

Additional Center for Congregation grant of \$5,000.00 was secured

for expenses related to the use, improvement or expansion of our ministry space.

Wednesday 20th Drive-in Preschool Graduation

June

Flocknote is adopted as a key congregational communication tool; *Friday@Faith* weekly update emails are launched by end of month.

Mon 1st - Thurs 4th Faith's first 'virtual' Spirit Camp is hosted with 40 families participating.

Sunday 7th Member Jeff Arnold is sent off to Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne

Sunday 21st 5 pm services in the sanctuary resume with Covid-19 preventive protocols in place.

July

Wed 10th 7 am Wednesday Morning Bible study offered online.

Sunday 12th Drive-in / Parking Lot worship time changed from 10:30 to 9 am.

Monday 27th Child Care reopens with Covid-19 preventative protocols in place.

August

Virtual Zoom Bible studies begin at noon and 7 pm on Wednesdays.

Instruction for new Confirmation Class begins online with four seventh graders.

\$25,000 from proceeds of Faith's Endowment awarded by the PPC is distributed.

September

Choirs resume virtually. Outdoor Hymn Sings begin.

Saturday 12th Fall Work Day is a success with 35 participants.

Sunday 27th LWML Sunday is celebrated.

Tuesday 29th Initial LCEF Ministry Clarity meeting takes place.

October

Sunday 4th The Rite of Confirmation, postponed in April, is celebrated in the sanctuary.
This was the first live stream event for FLC.

Saturday, 24th Drive-in *Trunk or Treat* is held in parking lot with 50 cars visiting 18 trunks.

Sunday, 25th Reformation service observed with Drive-in Worship

November

Tuesday, 3rd FLC serves as a polling location on Election Day.

Monday 16th The Ministry Clarity Steering Team (part of the LCEF Ministry Clarity Process) meets
to set congregational goals

Tuesday, 17th Parish Planning Council (PPC) adopts new congregational Guiding Statement (*see below*)

Sunday 22nd 5 pm indoor service is suspended again due to Covid 19 restrictions.

Wednesday, 25th Thanksgiving Eve is celebrated at 5 pm in the parking lot.

Sunday, 29th Drive-in worship service time moves to back 10:30 am.

December

Services continue online and in the parking lot on Sundays/10:30 and Wednesdays/noon.

Thursday 10th Drive-in Preschool music program

Thursday 24th Christmas Eve celebrated at 5 pm in the parking lot and online.

Friday 25th Christmas Day worship at 10 am in the parking lot and online.

Thursday 31st New Year's Eve celebrated at 5 pm in the parking lot and online.

Technology changes due to Covid -19

- Since first going live on March 10, Faith's YouTube page has generated over 9,000 views among more than 1,000 unique viewers (totaling more than 1900 hours of view time), 123 of whom have subscribed for weekly updates.
- We have posted more than 130 videos, including 55 online services, which have been viewed across the world (80% viewership in the United States with the additional 20% coming from European countries, Africa, and Japan. Not included in this statistic are views from China, where YouTube statistics are not allowed to be posted publicly).
- Among those (singular) views are several family units, small groups, and retirement homes who make use of this resource to worship while under quarantine.
- Since Faith has begun online service sharing, we have made several advancements including purchases of a camera and microphone, increased Wi-Fi capacity across our building to assist with uploading, and ongoing updates to allow for streaming services once we are able to return to the sanctuary.
- Faith's 2020 Spirit Camp, Sunday School, and Confirmation classes have all posted videos to continue to minister to our congregation's children from a distance
- Music and Choral arrangements have been contributed weekly from our choir, soloists and cantor.
- Fun Fact: The Pastors of Faith have no experience or formal training in cinematography, video editing, audio mixing, or photoshop. Everything posted in the last 9 months has been created and improved as we go.



The new Guiding Statement
for Faith Lutheran Church, Bloomington, IN

As disciples of Jesus at Faith Lutheran Church Btown, we are committed to...

**Proclaiming and Practicing God's Love
with Conviction and Courage**

...in our households, congregation and beyond

Drafted and endorsed by the Clarity Steering committee: Pastor Chris Beck, Dave Ebeling, Pastor Eric Edwards, Priscilla Gabriel, Barry Martin, Bill Pfrommer, Janet Schaefer, and Rachel Stults with guidance from Rev. Tom Eggebrecht and TJ Mattick, LCEF

Adapted by the Parish Planning Council, November 17, 2020: Marsha Baute, Pastor Beck, Dave Ebeling, Pastor Edwards, Mick Hicks, Steve Hitzeman, Kathy Jerke, Trevor Jones, Patti Landgraf, Bill Pfrommer, Julie Ragsdale and Ryan Shettlesworth

Scripture References for Faith's Guiding Statement

Proclaiming This gospel of the kingdom will be **proclaimed** throughout the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come. *Matthew 24:14*

Practicing Whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me—**practice these things**, and the God of peace will be with you. *Philippians 4:8-9*

God's Love For **God so loved the world** that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. *John 3:16-17*

Conviction For **I am convinced** that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord. *Romans 8:38-39*

Courage Have I not commanded you? **Be strong and courageous**. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go. *Joshua 1:8-9*

Households You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall **talk of them when you sit in your house**, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. *Deuteronomy 6:5-7*

Congregation And **they devoted themselves** to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. *Acts 2:42*

Beyond Go therefore and **make disciples of all nations**, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age." *Matthew 28:18-20*

