



News & Notes

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

office@FaithBtown.org

Winter 2021

Pastoral Staff

Our Pastors are available throughout the week for personal prayer, counsel, private individual confession and absolution:

Rev. Eric J. Edwards
pastoredwards@faithbtown.org

Rev. Christopher Beck
pastorbeck@faithbtown.org

Rev. Liwei Sui
pastorsui@faithbtown.org

University Lutheran:
Rev. Richard Woelmer
812-336-5387
rwoelmer@indiana.edu

Epiphany Greetings!



During this brief season of Epiphany, we celebrate the fact that Jesus is the light of salvation for all nations! This is good news, especially in these gray and latter days where the offerings of this world appear all the more dull and bleak. The light of Christ breaks the darkness and fills all who receive it with hope! He has overcome sin, death and the grave—all that seeks to cast a long shadow over His creation. By faith, you are His. He has made you light bearers in the darkness, and the darkness will not overcome you, for the light you bear is Christ Jesus Himself! Amen!

The season of Epiphany will draw to a close on Sunday, February 14th, as we celebrate **Transfiguration Sunday**. If you are joining us for the parking lot service at 10:30, you will have an opportunity to place your ALLELUIA plaque in the trunk as you depart. The church symbolically puts away the ALLELUIAs throughout the forty days of Lent, only to take them up again on Easter morning. More information is on the next page of this newsletter.



CALENDAR

Subscribe to add to your personal calendar

FEBRUARY

- 6 Congregational Summit (10 am/Zoom)
- 14 Transfiguration/Farewell to Alleluias
- 17 Ash Wednesday (Noon & 7pm—Drive-in; also Online)
- 21 5pm service returns in sanctuary (Drive-in service at 10:30 am continues)
- 24 Lenten worship (Noon—Drive-in; also Online)

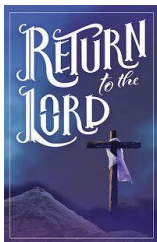
MARCH

- 3, 10, 17, 24 Midweek Lenten worship (Noon/Drive-in; also Online)
- 28 Palm/Passion Sunday

APRIL

- 4 Easter
- 10 Generosity Feeds

Visit **www.faithbtown.org**
for the full calendar and details
about everything in this newsletter and more.



Our Lenten theme for this year, “Return to the Lord” is based on Joel 2:13:

*“Return to the LORD your God,
for He is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love;
and He relents over disaster.”*

God’s invitation and promise finds its fullness in Jesus Christ, who personified and accomplishes all that God declares. We will follow different events during the Pasion, specifically focusing on the people who followed Christ, to see how God calls His people to return to Him this Lenten season.

On the back page of this newsletter you will find more information about:

- Ash Wednesday procedures for this year
- expanded Lenten worship schedule
- devotional booklets
- devotional calendar for families and children
- ALLELUIA banner

We desire to keep in contact with you! Please look inside this newsletter for how you can help us do so.

May the Lord who has called us out of darkness into His marvelous light, bless and keep you ever in Christ Jesus until He comes again in glory!

Together in Christ,
—Pastor Edwards

Help us keep in touch with you!

We had planned to update our picture directory in 2020, but since that is still not an available option, we are now working on updating our regular directory in order to help everyone continue to stay connected.

Please be sure that we have your most current **email** and **mailing addresses**, **phone number(s)**, and any other **family updates**. You may email or call the church office (office@faithbtown.org or 812-332-1668) to help update missing or outdated information. Watch for more information or contacts from us in the coming weeks or months.

See below for how you can stay informed regarding current and upcoming events and more:



FAITHBTOWN.ORG

Best source of all information



FAITHBTOWN LCMS

News, events, devotions & more



FAITHBTOWN LCMS

Online worship, devotions & Sunday School



We love
having you as part of our Flock

Keep in touch with us
via email and text!

Text **FAITHBTOWN**
to 84576

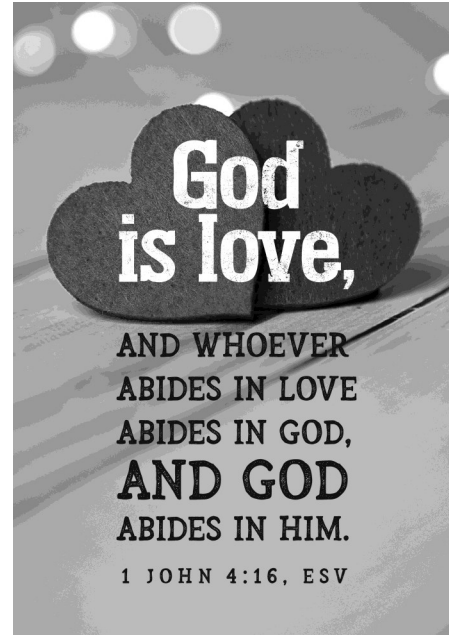
OR

Connect with us online at:



faithbtown.flocknote.com

Text STOP to 84576 to stop txt notifications at any time. Text HELP for help. There is no charge for this service, but your carrier message and data rates may apply. View full privacy policy & terms at flocknote.com/txt.



SERVICE CANCELED

In case of severe weather, cancellation of regular or special church services will be announced on:

- **Website**—faithbtown.org
- **Facebook**—FaithBtown LCMS
- **Flocknote**—email and/or text
- **TV**—WTHR (Channel 13, Indy)
- **Radio**—WFIU (103.7 FM)



Generosity Feeds
Saturday, April 10
at Faith

One in three children in Monroe County suffers from food insecurity.

Since 2017, University Lutheran Church has partnered with Generosity Feeds to create **31,550 nutritious meals** for Monroe County children. On **Saturday, April 10**, we will unite under our own roof with COVID precautions in place to create **10,000 additional meals**. This event is a wonderful opportunity to feed hungry kids and share Christ's love with our volunteers, many of whom are IU students.

For more information, please visit the event website, **www.HoosiersAgainstHunger.org**, or email *Matthew Ross* at rossmp@iu.edu.



Endowment Requests due February 28

Faith's Parish Planning Council (PPC) is pleased to announce that \$30,000 has been identified as income from Faith's Endowment Fund that can be used by ministry teams and other congregational entities in 2021 **to support new ministry opportunities** outside of Faith's regular operating budget.

To request a use for this funding **download an application form from the church website**; completed forms must be submitted to the church office no later than Sunday, February 28.

Five years ago, Faith Lutheran Church established this endowment fund from special gifts of members and friends of the congregation. It is a separate fund from the weekly contributions that support the regular budgetary needs of the church. The Endowment Fund is intended to enhance the mission of Faith Lutheran Church by enabling the congregation to expand and continue a vision of stewardship and support for responding to important needs and new ministry opportunities.

YOGA at Faith

Tuesdays: February 16 - March 23
12-12:45 pm via Zoom

During the past year we have all been bombarded by things out of our control that have produced many feelings especially anxiety, fear, grief, and loneliness. There is plenty of research that shows that these negative moods harm the heart and brain. Yoga has been shown to help calm and relax the mind. Longtime yoga instructor *Deb Hackman* has agreed to lead us in a gentle yoga class, good for all ages and abilities, via Zoom. Please join us for 45 minutes of self-care in the middle of your day. All you need is a quiet comfortable place, yoga mat (suggested), towel or blanket for head support.

To register and receive the Zoom link visit our website (faithbtown.org) or contact Janet Hitzeman (812-345-0882).



Clarity

Faith's Constitution calls for an **annual gathering of all members** during the first quarter of each year. We call it our "Congregational Summit." Each year a theme is selected to help us focus on the ministry that we share here at Faith. In January 2020, over 50 members participated in "Every One His Witness." About 45 members met via Zoom on February 6, 2021, with theme of "Clarity," building on the new Guiding Statement for our congregation:

***Proclaiming and Practicing God's Love
with Conviction and Courage
...in our households, congregation and beyond.***

A small team* has been meeting with Pastor Tom Eggebrecht of the Lutheran Church Extension Fund (LCEF), who facilitates a Ministry Planning program called "Clarity." The team has reviewed over 50 ministry activities at Faith and grouped them under one or more of five "Ministry Pillars":

- Worship
- Education
- Fellowship
- Evangelism
- Service

The team developed twelve questions, two to three under each Pillar, for conversation among our members. During the one-hour Summit participants were divided into five sub-groups. Each sub-group, with a pre-assigned facilitator, discussed the questions related to just one of the pillars, documenting their answers. These will then give focus to new or revised goals as we seek "Clarity" for our ministry together during the next 3-5 years.

As we continue to move forward, keep an eye on our website (faithbtown.org) and your Friday@Faith emails for updates and more information.

Questions may be directed to:

- *Bill Pfrommer* (Congregational Chairman)
wppfromme@homefinder.org or 812-360-5414, or
- *Dave Ebeling* (Chair-Elect)
davidgebeling@gmail.com or 812-322-6503



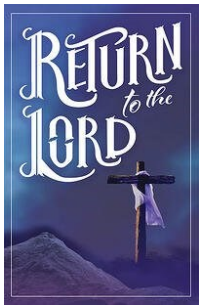
Camp is happening this summer

...and you can be a part of it!

Registration for summer programs at Camp Lakeview and Lakeview Villages (both outside Seymour, IN) will open on Monday, February 8 at 9am. Programs are offered for kids in K-12th grade as well as Families.

Details and registration are at www.lakeview.camp

***Clarity Team members** are
*Pastor Edwards, Pastor Beck, Bill Pfrommer,
Rachel Stults, Barry Martin, Janet Schaefer,
Priscilla Gabriel and Dave Ebeling,*
with guidance from
Pastor Tom Eggebrecht and TJ Mattick of LCEF.



“Return to the Lord” this Lent

- We look forward to worshipping with you **in person!** (see below for upcoming schedule)
- Worship with us **ONLINE**, if in-person is not a good option for you at this time. Visit our YouTube channel (FaithBtown LCMS) or our website (faithbtown.org).
- Spend a few minutes a day in personal and family devotions. **Printed resources for adults and children** are available under the lower canopy at church.
- Use a **Lenten coin folder** for small daily offerings (also available under the canopy)
- create an **ALLELUIA** to be part of this year’s Easter ALLELUIA banner. (see below)



Ash Wednesday (February 17)
Drive-in worship:
Noon & 7pm
with Holy Communion

The imposition of ashes will be available beginning a half hour before each service, as you arrive. Pastor Edwards (who will be fully vaccinated) will mask up and impose the ashes. Also, *instead of using olive oil to mix the ashes, hand sanitizer will be used.* You will experience a slight tingling sensation due to the alcohol.

To receive ashes:

- As you arrive in the parking lot, pull under the upper vestibule as you would for receiving the Lord’s Supper, but **in the reverse direction** (driver’s side facing the building).
- Please keep your mask on as you receive the ashes.
- You may then park in preparation for worship.

(Communion procedures at the end of the service will be in the normal driving direction.)

LENTEN Schedule

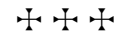
Midweek (Wednesdays, February 24—March 24)
12 Noon Drive-in worship

Sundays

10:30 am Drive-in worship

5 pm in the sanctuary beginning February 21.

Services in the sanctuary will retain the masking and distancing protocols set in place in 2020.



All services will also be available ONLINE
 via YouTube (FaithBtown LCMS)
 or our website (faithbtown.org).



ALLELUIA



Lent, beginning on Ash Wednesday is a time of repentance, when we think especially about our sins and the suffering death of Jesus. So we set aside the singing and saying of “ALLELUIA!” as an added reminder of the seriousness of our sin. On Easter Sunday we celebrate Christ’s resurrection and our redemption, and again have something to cheer about. Christ is alive! He has risen! We are redeemed! “ALLELUIA!”

Jesus Company, one of our Faith children’s ministries, has always had a tradition of each child designing his own personalized “ALLELUIA!” just before Lent. These are put away in preparation for the start of Lent in a symbolic way for us to reflect on our sins and need for a Savior. With COVID pausing Jesus Company, we decided to expand the tradition. ALL God’s “children” are invited to prepare an “ALLELUIA!” at home. This includes Faith members of all ages—including YOU!!

ALLELUIA Banner kits are available for you and/or any member of your household who would like to participate. Pick one up under the lower canopy by the sanctuary door at church. Instructions and all supplies are included (you simply supply crayons, markers, or colored pencils). These may be created at home and **returned during the Drive-in service on Transfiguration Sunday - February 14.** The ALLELUIAs will be tucked away until Easter Sunday, when they return as a joyous cross banner.

WIFI is available throughout the building. No password is needed; simply connect to one of these Guest signals:



FLCGuest
FLCNarthexGuest
FLCGrandHallGuest



Sunday School continues ONLINE

Visit our YouTube channel (FaithBtown LCMS) each week to see the Bible lesson presented by one of our Sunday School teachers.

Activity pages and other resources have been sent to the children at home. If your child has not received these, please contact the church office to help us update our records.