

# MOUNTAIN MOVER



*January 2019*

Monthly Newsletter of  
Faith Lutheran Church

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**Happy New Year! Welcome to 2019!**

**Be a blessing!**





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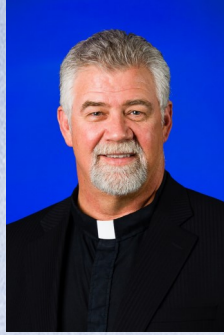
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**The mission of  
Faith Lutheran Church  
is to follow Jesus  
in blessing the world  
with faith, hope,  
and love.**

## Scattered Thoughts

by Rev. Kerry Nelson, Senior Pastor



*Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.*

*And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them as their God; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away."*

*And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Revelation 21:1-5*

I love/hate January 1<sup>st</sup>. Hate might be a bit harsh but it does bug me, year after year, when I can't remember to write "2019" until sometime in March – and yet find myself, in August, or maybe even in October – having to check my phone to remember if we're in 2018 or 2019. A mind is a terrible thing to waste away.

But I love the newness of the new year! I love the idea that THIS will be the year. THIS will be the year that bad things will get better and good things will come. The naïve optimism that is me at my best flourishes come January 1<sup>st</sup>.

Every year people struggle with whether or not to make New Year's resolutions. I don't make them. At least I don't on January 1<sup>st</sup>. I might throw a few down throughout the year but the best intentions of mice and men....

Since I have now reached that stage of my life where I have massive amounts of vacation time there is a new wrinkle to January 1<sup>st</sup>. I have to look ahead through the whole year to make sure and write down the big things that will happen and the times that I will be away.

For example, I know I will be attending a once-in-a-lifetime continuing education trip to "Follow the Footsteps of Paul" through Turkey and Greece. I know that this summer will be my, *gulp*, 40<sup>th</sup> high school reunion back in my hometown. And I know that I was elected by our synod assembly to attend the national ELCA Assembly in August in Milwaukee. Those are the big rocks.

I also hope, of course, to plan a couple of motorcycle trips. I want to ride to interesting places where Kelley can fly in to spend some vacation time together, and then I ride interesting roads home.

Long ago I learned that the joy of being away, especially motorcycle trips, begins the day that I write them on a calendar. I look forward to them. I imagine the possibilities and then I start my planning. Google maps has been a godsend. When the big day comes I hit the road with a huge smile on my face. And I never forget that all roads eventually come home.

*Continued on the next page...*



Maybe this is what God was up to in inspiring John to write Revelation. God wanted to give God's people something to look forward to. Something to aspire to. Encouragement that, no matter how stuck people might feel in the "same old same old," they are headed toward something good. And once they realize that, the joy of the end of the story rushes back toward the present and the "same old same old" is transformed and revealed to be the gift that it is.

Revelation was written to people in the midst of a turbulent, difficult time in the life of the church. You and I have likely never known a time such as that. But we all have had our own hard times. Our own days of difficulty, depression, disease, and discouragement. If we haven't....we will. And in those times, God comes to us with a vision of our future. He lets us read the back of the book. He assures us that we're heading toward something good.

I am blessed to look forward to another year of life. Another year with Kelley and my family. Another year of being a part of a Christian community. I know, more than anything else that we do in the year to come, nothing is more important than loving and encouraging one another, being mindful of the brokenness and injustice of life, walking through the mountains and valleys together, and standing up with the wind in our hair, welcoming the joy of the future that rushes backward to breathe new life into today.

Whatever the new year holds, we know Who holds the new year. May this next year be a blessing in your life even as you live to be a blessing in the lives of others.



### **Proclaim Jubilee Leadership Team**

We are grateful to share that the following people have stepped up to assume leadership responsibilities in our 2019 "Proclaim Jubilee" capital finance campaign. Their initial work will begin in January and the campaign will kick-off on February 23. Thank you for your leadership!

General Chairperson – Jon Holmes; Co-General Chairperson – Judy Adams; Assistant Co-General Chairperson – Jim Brekke

Communications Chairperson – Sharon Addicks

Hospitality Chairperson – Kirk Bruce

Spiritual Emphasis Chairperson – Kathy Patrick

Children and Youth Chairperson – Tessa Holmes

Follow-up Chairperson – Mardi Mayerhoff

Follow-up Co-Chairperson – Doug Elsen

Advance Personal Contacts Chairperson – Doug Elsen

Advance Personal Contacts Team – Sharon Addicks, Brian Taylor



## President's Page

by George Amundson, Church Council President



**President – George Amundson**

**1st Vice President – Yvonne Moody**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President – Kathy Patrick**

**At Large Member – Mayra Marshall**

**At Large Member – Eric Lerch**

**At Large Member – Nancy Caraway**

We meet at 7:00 PM on the second Tuesday of the month and you are always welcome. Remember what Pastor Nelson often says, our relationship with each other and our God is a team sport. You will enjoy it.

This coming year there will be an intentional congregational emphasis on two items.

As a congregation we overwhelmingly decided to embark on a Capital Campaign, "Proclaim Jubilee." Eliminating our debt, restoring our stained glass wall, and giving a substantial gift to the Christian Community Service Center are the beneficiaries of the campaign. February 23 – 24 will be the Proclaim Jubilee Kickoff.

We will also be focusing on Youth and Family Ministry. If you hear the term LEAD, that will be the name of the group looking into strategic faith formation with our youth and family, headed up by our Director of Youth and Family, John Vickery. So, if you receive a phone call, text, e-mail, Facebook note, or a request from any media from John asking for anything please say YES. Remember this is a team sport.

I hope you and your family enjoyed the holiday season, I look forward to 2019. Please join me at the 2019 Leadership Gathering on January 18 and January 19 to discuss the future of Faith.

## Leadership Gathering for Faith Lutheran Church

**EVERYONE IS INVITED  
SO PLEASE COME!**

**WHEN:** Friday, January 18, 2019, 7:00—8:30PM *(Childcare Provided)*

***Dinner starts @ 6:30 PM***

Saturday, January 19, 2019, 9:00 AM—12:00 PM *(Childcare Provided)*

**WHERE:** Faith Lutheran Church—Fellowship Hall

**WHY:** To discern our ministry plans and goals for 2019.

Where are we going? What does Faith's future look like?



## Christmas Message from Bishop Eaton

by Bishop Elizabeth Eaton, Presiding Bishop of the ELCA

Christmas comes at a descending time. The old year is coming to an end, the new year is not yet here. It is too late to accomplish goals set on the previous New Year's Day, and just enough time to realize that whatever shape or state you are in will be the shape or state in which you end the year. There is a hefty dose of "what-might-have-been."

In the Northern Hemisphere the trees are bare, fields are barren, birds have migrated, animals are hibernating, the days are short and the nights are long. The earth's colors are muted, and when there is snow the world becomes silent. Sometimes during these short days and long nights I find myself thinking about the brevity of life. This conflicts with my tendency to believe that the possibility of self-improvement and renewal is limitless: there is always another day, more time, another chance. I remember watching our first child as she slept in her cradle, thinking about the future before her and, at the same time, the reality that there would be an end. The Ash Wednesday declaration, "Remember that you are dust and to dust you shall return," became more pointed and more poignant. The cradle-to-grave progression is our path; the inevitable decline of our strength.

"As for mortals, their days are like grass; they flourish like a flower of the field; for the wind passes over it, and it is gone, and its place knows it no more" (Psalm 103:15).

Maybe this is why the Christmas season can be so fraught. Of course, there is anticipation and celebration, but there is also pressure and stress. Perhaps we are trying to greet the Lord's birth with our best efforts (when I was a girl, Christmas preparations were not complete until the silver was polished, and that job fell to me), but desperation can creep into the urgency to get Christmas right, to hold back the night. "The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight" (ELW, 279). This is freight that Christmas can't carry when Christmas depends on us.

But Christmas also comes at an opportune time. God did not come to us that first Christmas when we were at the top of our game or when the world was perfect. Even the circumstances of Jesus' birth were a sharp reminder that all was not well – forced migration to Bethlehem, no room for the young family, born in a stall. Emmanuel – God with us – came to us and comes to us precisely at the time when our need is greatest. Our attempts to bring about perfection actually get in the way of receiving the gift. When we try to fit into an unrealistic ideal of who we ought to be instead of welcoming God into our real self, no matter how messy, then what is left on the 13th day of Christmas? Fatigue, certainly, but also the dull acceptance that life moves from cradle to grave.

On Christmas, God has reversed the cradle to grave progression. The angel announced to the shepherds:

*"I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: for to you is born this day in the city of David a savior, who is Christ the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger."*

Here is the new reality. Here is the truth. Our lives are not a meaningless trudge from cradle to grave, but a joyful journey – true and lasting joy – from grave to cradle. All our brokenness and death meet life and healing and hope in the child in the manger. His cradle defeats the grave. We are loved. We are alive. Now we are free to greet this holy season.

*Merry Christmas, dear church.*

*Elizabeth A. Eaton*

The Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton  
Presiding Bishop  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**  
God's work. Our hands.





For about 10 years Kenneth Caughron has made wooden doll cradles for CCSC's Jingle Bell Express program. Mr. Caughron and Troy Becker, who has a wood shop, make the cradles, and members of Faith decorate them. Together this team also makes lots of smiles on the faces of happy children every Christmas.



## Looking for a New Year's Resolution?

by Clayton Faulkner, Director of Worship, Music, and Technology



Welcome to the New Year! There are lots of ways to get involved and serve in the music and worship ministries of Faith Lutheran Church. All our ensembles are gearing up and resuming rehearsals after the Christmas break. Here are some of the ways you can use your gifts:

**Faith Choir** - Composed of adults and teens, Faith Choir leads the Heritage worship in the singing of hymns, liturgies, and in offerings of anthems and solos related to the appointed texts for each Sunday. Thursday night rehearsals (7:30 to 9:00 PM) include the rehearsal of challenging music, laughter, fellowship, and prayer.

**Faith Alive! Band** - Faith Alive! Band leads worshipers at The Gathering service each Sunday using modern music as well as ancient songs with a new twist. The band includes vocalists and instrumentalists who play guitar, bass guitar, drums, and keys—but we're not limited to those instruments.

**Handbell Choir** - Faith Handbell Choir is a multi-generational ensemble (third grade and above) that provides music for worship once each month from August through May with easy to moderately difficult handbell music.

**Worship Technologies** - Our worship services incorporate many audio and video elements to teach and inspire. Volunteers assist with operating our video presentation software, running the soundboard, and operating the video camera for the live stream during services. We provide all the training you need.

**Acolytes** – The acolytes light the candles and assist with serving communion at both services. Once you're old enough to reach the candles, you're old enough to serve as an acolyte! It is not just for the youth though - any age can serve in any role.

**Crucifers** – The crucifer carries the processional cross at the beginning of Heritage worship as well as assists with serving communion. As the cross-bearer, the crucifer leads the way into worship for the other worship assistants and pastors.

**Communion Assistants** – Communion Assistants are an important part of the worship team. They serve the assembly by holding the trays of wine and grape juice during our time around God's table.

**Altar Guild** – Members of the Altar Guild prepare the sanctuary for worship each Sunday and also set-up for special holidays, weddings, baptisms, and funerals. They work behind the scenes to make sure the elements are ready for communion. Altar Guild members serve in teams of two - this is a great service opportunity for partners!

**Lectors** – Lectors are trained to read the Old Testament and New Testament lessons at the Heritage worship service.

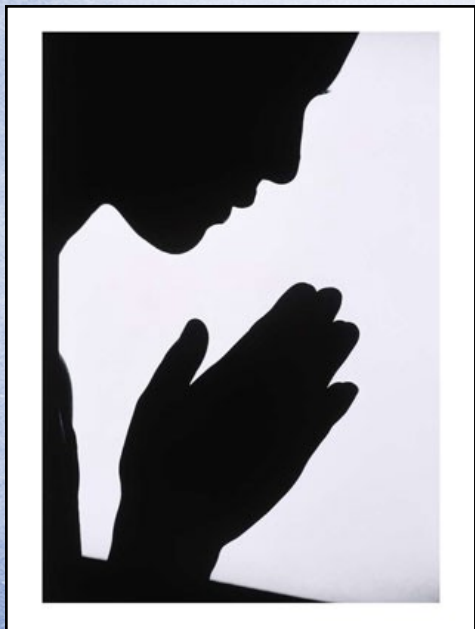
**Assisting Ministers** – Assisting Ministers help with several different parts of worship: offering the prayers of intercession, assisting with baptisms, serving bread during communion, and offering the words of dismissal to the assembly as they are sent from worship.

**Ushers and Greeters** - Ushers extend greetings, hand out bulletins, seat latecomers, collect the offering, and guide the assembly forward during communion. Greeters provide friendly smiles and welcomes to everyone at the front door of the church.

**Homebound Communion Team** - Faith Lutheran Church members who are homebound and no longer able to attend church worship services receive communion at home once a month from a dedicated team of Homebound Communion volunteers. The Homebound Communion volunteers are much like Communion Assistants in worship services, only they are sent out to bring God's Meal to those who cannot make it to church.

Both adults and youth can serve in any worship leading role at Faith. Let me know if you want more information about any of these groups, or have another way to serve!





## Prayer Corner – By No Means

by Peggy Porter

*Read: Acts 17:24-28 and Psalm 139:7-12*

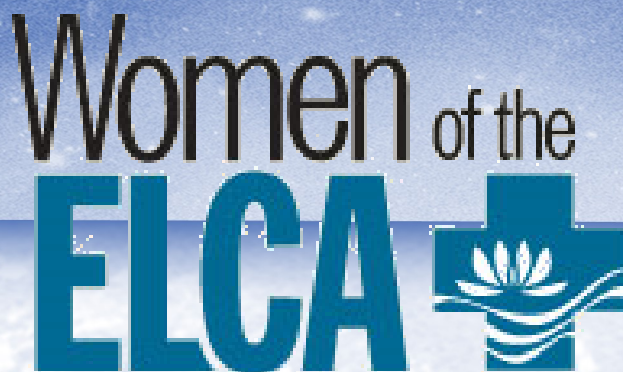
*“From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live...” (Acts 17:26)*

Jesus loves us enough to redeem us. He loves us enough to place his Holy Spirit in us through baptism. He love us enough to be our friend. He loves us enough to provide for our daily needs and feed our inner being. He loves us enough to prepare a place in heaven for us. But there is so much more.

The Father planned exactly when we would place our feet on this earth. God placed us in the exact dwelling God desired. God wanted us to meet the people whose paths crossed ours so that we might reflect God’s shining light to them. God granted us the opportunities to

listen to their needs. God prepared our hearts to share the source of our hope in Christ’s love through the cross and resurrection. God did it in the hope that they would yearn to learn more of God. What a comfort! What a blessing! And because we are God’s, we know there is no place we can go that God is not there to strengthen and encourage us.

**Pray:** Dear Father, thank you for beautifully planning my life so that I might serve you wherever and whenever you need me. For Jesus’ sake, prepare my heart to serve your purposes on earth. Amen.



### Women’s Connection

Women’s Connection will meet on Tuesday, February 12 at 9:45 AM in the church office. For more information about the Women’s Connection, please contact Jane Gips at [jgips001@comcast.net](mailto:jgips001@comcast.net) or 713-417-2548.

### Rebecca Ruth Circle

The Rebecca Ruth Circle will meet on Thursday, January 3 at 10:00 AM in the Conference Room.

We would love for you to join us for Bible study. Come hungry! Bring your sack lunch; desserts and drinks are provided. Socializing with the group is so joyful. All are welcome!



## 8 Epiphany in an Unlikely Place

by Rev. Junfeng Tan, Associate Pastor



Epiphany is observed by Christians on January 6. In the Western Church, it is closely associated with the story of the Magi visiting the Christ child. In the Eastern Christian tradition, Epiphany focuses instead on the baptism of Jesus by John the Baptist. As we read the story of the Magi, the mysterious God-seekers from another religion and nation, we learn about God's revelation to and in many peoples and places that are beyond the land of Israel. In the story of Jesus' baptism, the Son of Man is revealed as the Son of God. Since the Son of God came to participate in human life in order to save us from sin and death, humanity can share in the divine life. Therefore, as we celebrate God's manifestations through the person of Jesus Christ, we are also given the challenge and opportunity to see God's activity in the world, to encounter God in everyday life, and even to find God's presence in unexpected places. With that in mind, I'd like to share the story of Nien Cheng.

Nien Cheng was born in a prominent Chinese family. While studying at the London School of Economics, she and her husband, who was also a graduate student of the same school, converted to Christianity. After received his Ph.D. degree, Nien Cheng's husband served in the Foreign Ministry of the Chinese Nationalist government. When the Communist Party came to power in 1949, Nien Cheng and her husband, instead of following the Nationalist government to Taiwan, chose to remain in Shanghai in the hope of making their patriotic contributions to the development of the New China. Her husband served as the general manager of Shanghai office of the Shell Oil Company until his death from cancer in 1957. Nien Cheng was then employed by Shell as adviser to the new manager for nine years. Shell shut down its Shanghai office in 1965. A year later, the Great Cultural Revolution broke out. Nien Cheng was arrested and brought before a tribunal as an imperialist spy. She spent six and a half years in prison in solitary confinement, having endured relentless interrogation and humiliation, severe illnesses, and finally torture. Toward the end of her imprisonment, she learned about the murder of her only daughter by the Red Guards. What

made her story truly extraordinary is that her great courage, willpower, and faith enabled her to never give in and collapse under the tremendous physical and psychological pressures that would have broken most people. One inspiring vignette of her story is about finding God in a prison cell.

One afternoon, Nien Cheng looked up to her cell's iron-barred window, where she saw a pea-sized spider crawling to the top of one bar. Suddenly the spider swung out on a silken thread, attached the strand to the base of the bar, and spun another, then another. Nien Cheng writes,

"I watched the tiny creature at work with increasing fascination. It seemed to know exactly what to do and where to take the next thread. There was no hesitation, no mistake, and no haste. It knew its job and was carrying it out with confidence... when the web was completed, the spider went to its center and settled there." The observation of her tiny cell mate led her to an epiphany moment. "I had just watched an architectural feat by an extremely skilled artist, and my mind was full of questions. Who had taught the spider to make a web? Could it have really acquired the skill through evolution, or did God create the spider and endow it with the ability to make a web so that it could catch food and perpetuate its species? How big was the brain of such a tiny creature? Did it act simply by instinct, or had it somehow learned to store the knowledge of web making? ... for a moment I knew I had just witnessed something that

*Continued on the next page...*



was extraordinarily beautiful and uplifting. Whether God had made the spider or not, I thanked Him for what I had just seen. A miracle of life had been shown to me. It helped me to see that God was in control. Mao Zedong and his revolutionaries seemed much less menacing. I felt a renewal of hope and confidence."

That hope sustained Nien Cheng through six-and-a-half years in prison. She was released without ever making the false confession. In 1983, she immigrated to the U.S. and told her story in the New York Times Bestseller, "Life and Death in Shanghai."

As I read Nien Cheng's epiphany story, I cannot help but wonder whether the book of Job helped her see God's presence in that tiny and intelligent spider. Job suffered from loss of family, wealth, and health, and reputation. He wrestled with the question of innocent suffering. Instead of giving Job a rational explanation of why terrible tragedies happened to him, God challenged Job to look at and ponder the incomprehensible wonders and miracles in nature and life. Why? Maybe God wanted Job to know that God was still in control despite the evils and sufferings of the world.

This is my invitation and challenge to you: read and meditate on Job 38-41 several times during the season of Epiphany. Let God's words to Job speak to you and help you find God's presence in good times and bad times. God is never without God's witnesses. Just as Job was comforted by God's words in spite of suffering and loss, just as Nien Cheng's faith and hope was sustained by the sight of a tiny spider, you and I can see God's fingerprint in nature, and encounter God's saving and redeeming presence in acts of faith, hope, and love. Remember, God's sovereign power and gentle love are always revealed to people of faith in spite of persecution, evil, suffering, or skepticism. Epiphany continues to happen when we have the eyes to see and ears to hear.

### Chinese Worship Every Sunday



- |          |                 |
|----------|-----------------|
| 9:45 AM  | FCF Bible Study |
| 10:50 AM | Worship (FC)    |
| 12:00 PM | Lunch           |

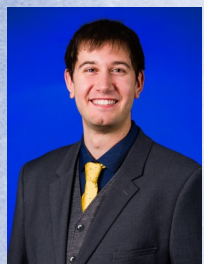


*Everyone is welcome!*



## Sorrow to Joy: Always God

by John Vickery, Director of Youth and Family



*You are now very sad. But later I will see you, and you will be so happy that no one will be able to change the way you feel. **John 16:22***

*The Lord is near to those who are discouraged; he saves those who have lost all hope. **Psalm 34:18.** He will wipe away all tears from their eyes. There will be no more death, no more grief or crying or pain. The old things have disappeared. **Revelation 21:4***

*May God, the source of hope, fill you with all joy and peace by means of your faith in him, so that your hope will continue to grow by the power of the Holy Spirit. **Romans 15:13.***

There are times in life when things do not go as we expect. In those moments, it can be very difficult to realize that God is still walking alongside us, and is still a source of strength.

The past several months have been full of very high mountains and extremely low valleys. We got the news that we were having a baby, and then five months later, having to come to grips with the realization that our baby would not survive. Coming to terms with that news is something that I was not prepared at all for, and found myself asking so many questions. Was there something that I could've done differently? Why did this happen to us? If God loves us, why would God let this happen?

After we thought about it, we turned to scripture. That turned into strength knowing that God is always there, that God loves us, and that God can turn utter turmoil into joy when given enough time. So, in times of trouble, remember that you can always open the word and realize that you do not have to approach any situation alone. God can and will do amazing things even out of the worst of situations.

## Finding the Rainbow after the Rain

by John and Kelsey Vickery, Director of Youth and Family

A while back, we announced the exciting news that John and Kelsey Vickery were expecting their first child. Today, we wanted to provide an update to the church family. After complications and tough circumstances that were in God's hands, we are sad to announce that they have lost their baby. In this difficult time, they ask for your continued prayers and support as well as the space and privacy to continue grieving as a couple.

Moving forward, Kelsey is focusing on new opportunities and fresh starts as she departs from Faith. John is continuing his commitment to the youth and families of Faith. We look forward to supporting them in this process and as they move forward as a family.





## Faith Camp 2019 Rewrite The Rules



Save the date and get ready for a great adventure! Faith Camp is an awesome opportunity for children ages 5 through grade 6 to hear Bible stories and play games along with their peers.

Registration opens on **January 1, 2019** so be sure to go to [www.faithbellaire.org/faith-camp](http://www.faithbellaire.org/faith-camp) to get more information and to sign up.

If you have any questions contact our Youth and Family Director, John Vickery ([jvickery@faithbellaire.org](mailto:jvickery@faithbellaire.org)).

## LEAD Team Update

by John Vickery, Director of Youth and Family

*My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry. James 1:19*

Remembering to listen to those around us is something that I think just about all of us struggle with at one point or another. Too many times we find ourselves interjecting our own thoughts, either prematurely, or when they are not necessary.

As I write this article, the LEAD Team is busy with listening to members of our congregation at Faith. We are being quick to listen rather than speaking, and letting the stories of our members shine through. In this step of the process we focus on Faith Lutheran Church, and in the future we will begin listening to the community surrounding the church building. Our goal is to learn about how Youth and Family Ministry impacts those around us, and how we can better provide resources, activities, and events to further enrich their lives in faith.

Thank you for your continued support, and I encourage you to pray for the LEAD Team as they are continuing their work throughout 2019.





## What is a Memorial?

A memorial is a special monetary gift given in memory of a loved one or the loved one of a friend. Memorials are given instead of flowers at the time of death. They are a wonderful way to give a useful and lasting remembrance at the time of death.

At Faith, we have a tradition of giving memorials after the death of a member or the loved ones of fellow members. The gifts go into a "Memorial Fund" which is used for special needs at Faith, or the gifts may be designated for a certain ministry. A list of current needs, approved by our Church Council, is available at the information desk.

A notice of the gift is sent to the family of the deceased by the Church Office. A record of the gift is included on the donor's quarterly financial statement if the donor is a member of Faith. Finally, the memorials and other special gifts contributed in memory of someone, or in honor of a person, or a special occasion, are recognized quarterly in our Mountain Mover.



## 2018 September - December Baptisms, Memorials, and Special Contributions

### Baptisms

Savannah Tennison  
Claire Jiang Zhou

### In memory of Alice Caughron

Geneva Freels  
Harold Talbott

### In memory of John Fain

Betty Boxx  
Nelda Hyatt  
Charles and Peggy Porter  
Shirley Sharp  
Jimmy and Jan Zunker

### In Honor of Savannah and Grace Tennison

Julia J. Jacob

### In memory of Francis Nick

Bill and Diana Freeman

### In memory of Chelsea Renee Spratlin

Nancy Caraway

### Special Gifts to Faith House

Bruce and Kathy Adams	Dewayne and Peggy Hahn	David and Barbara Ray
George and Judy Adams	Sally Dent Hargrove	Rebecca Ruth Circle
Paul and Beatriz Baerenwald	Heather Hartman	Linda Rice and Jeffrey Jones
Nancy Caraway	Jon and Nancy Holmes	Alane Rosenbaum
Ken Caughron	Bryan and Barbara Ives	Ray and Dorothy Rosenbaum
James and Jennifer Cross	Gary and Liz Johnson	Judith Sadler
Susan DeVinny	Tom and Marcia Karns	Jeannette Sebesta
Mark and Marilyn Domingue	Sharon Koch	Donald and Carolyn Springer
Tom and Chris Dorman	John and Annita Lacy	Carol Strawn
Doug and Karen Elsen	Brent and Linda Lamb	Carol Strickland
Dave and Wendy Farner	Eric and Courtney Lerch	Junfeng and Eunsook Tan
Geneva Freels	Bruce and Shirley Maxwell	Brian Taylor and Jennifer Takagi
Bill and Diana Freeman	Mardi Mayerhoff	Erik Tennison
Robert and JoAnn Fry	Mary Jane McBride	Andy and Faye Viola
Jingyuan Fu	Melinda McGouldrick	Carl and Helen Watson
Brian and Jane Gips	Amy and Ted McNulty	Joann Welton
Suzanne Girouard	Yvonne Moody	Doborah Whittington
Dave Gohlke	Kerry Nelson and Kelley Keller	Claire Williams
Lorah Gough	Lenora Ohlenbusch	Newton and Doris Williams
Art and Becky Grove	Charles and Peggy Porter	Jimmy and Jan Zunker



## First Place For Health

by Mardi Mayerhoff, First Place 4 Health Leader

If you are one of the many people looking for a “new beginning” in your health and wellness journey in 2019, the First Place 4 Health small group might be where you should start. First Place 4 Health began in 1981 at First Baptist Church Houston. They have been publishing the “First Place” nutritional health and Bible study materials since then. About every 10 years a whole new program is released. 2019 is the beginning of the next series of materials. Our Faith Lutheran Church First Place 4 Health group will use the new “My Place Member’s Kit” which includes a new Bible study, “Forever Changed” and all new nutrition, fitness, and discovery books. To find out more come to the Orientation on Tuesday, January 8, 2019 at 7:00 PM in Room 306 in the Faith Center. You can make a decision at that time about the group and your Winter journey. Our group consist of members of Faith, visitors to Faith, and several men and women who live in the area but attend other churches. If you have questions prior to January 8, please contact Mardi Mayerhoff 713-203-1875 or email [mgmayerhoff@juno.com](mailto:mgmayerhoff@juno.com) or visit [FP4H.com](http://FP4H.com).



**FIRSTplace**  
FOR HEALTH

## Parent's Night Out



**Parent's Night Out**  
**Friday, January 18**  
**6:00 - 10:00 PM**  
**Faith Center Gym**

Fun activities for kids from ages 12 months to 12 years old.

The cost is \$15 per child. You may pay in cash at the door or online in advance at [www.faithbellaire.org/give](http://www.faithbellaire.org/give) and select Parent's Night Out. Please cancel reservations anytime prior to the event by email or text message.

Pass this information to ALL of your friends, family, and neighbors for a safe and inexpensive place for your child to go when you need a parent's night out!



## Sunday Worship Leader Schedule—January 2019

8:30 AM	January 6	January 13	January 20	January 27
<b>Acolyte</b>	Ava Cauley	Christian Georgi	John Tan	Deacon Faulkner
<b>Crucifer</b>	Trevor Groenewold	Nicholas Walker	Alice Tian	Emma Voosen
<b>Lector</b>	Sara Karow	Sharon Koch	Carol Strawn	Carl Watson
<b>Communion Assistants</b>	Sara Karow Sharon Koch	Sara Karow Sharon Koch	Lenora Ohlenbusch Tom Dorman	Lenora Ohlenbusch Tom Dorman
<b>Asst Minister</b>	Joann Welton	Carol Strawn	Carol Strawn	Annika Becker
<b>Ushers</b>	Doug Elsen Scott Ramsey	Bill Freeman Jeff Addicks	Bill Freeman Jeff Addicks	Art Grove Troy Becker
<b>Altar Guild</b>				
10:50 AM	January 6	January 13	January 20	January 27
<b>Acolytes</b>	Aidan Fidone Silas White	Dillon Williams	Zach Michaud Nate Michaud	Ava Cauley James Cross
<b>Communion Assistants</b>	Ella DeKunder Staci DeKunder	Dave and Wendy Farner	Jon and Nancy Holmes	Diana Boihem Karen Ellison
<b>Asst Minister</b>	Eric Lerch	Susan Tallman	Susan Tallman	Janice Decker
<b>Ushers</b>	Dave and Wendy Farner	Parkan Family	Cross Family	Roxy Funchess Susan Tallman
<b>Altar Guild</b>				

***If you have been scheduled as a worship leader and are unable to serve, please respond by clicking “Decline” on the Planning Center Online email. You may also arrange to trade with someone else who is scheduled during the month and advise the church office of the change by Wednesday afternoon.***



## Thank You from the Church Staff!

We are tremendously blessed to serve alongside such a fantastic congregation we call family. We appreciate your love, support, and gifts during this Christmas season. We are grateful to serve and worship God with you and to partner in this ministry together. Thank you again Faith family for your blessing and all that you do!

Your staff,

*Pastor Kerry, Pastor Tan, Clayton, Stacy, John, Yu, Avier, Alan, Alicia, Darrell, and Ana*



### **Faith Lutheran Church**

4600 Bellaire Boulevard at Avenue B  
Bellaire, Texas 77401

Office: 713-664-3048

Fax: 713-664-3371

Faith Day School: 713-664-3233

Mother's Day Out: 713-664-7726

FaithBellaire.org

FaithDaySchool.org

FaithHouseHouston.org

info@faithbellaire.org

**Rev. Kerry Nelson**

**Rev. Junfeng Tan**

**Stacy Williams**

**Dr. Clayton Faulkner**

**John Vickery**

**Kendolyn Pope**

**Yu Cao**

**Avier Whitfield**

**Alan Balius**

**Alicia Obando**

**Ana Rivas**

**Darrell Glenn**

Senior Pastor

Associate Pastor

Director of Operations

Director of Worship, Music, and Technology

Director of Youth and Family

Director of Faith Schools

Office Coordinator

Office Coordinator

Organist/Choir Director

Building Manager

Custodian

Facility Services





## January 2019- Calendar of Events

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><u>6</u></p> <p>8:30 AM "Heritage" Worship (Sanc) 9:45 AM Learning Groups &amp; MOVE 10:50 AM "The Gathering" Worship (Sanc) 10:50 AM Faith Chinese Worship (FC) 12:00 PM Lunch (FC) 12:15 PM LEAD Team (201) 1:30 PM Handbell Choir (208) 4:00 PM Confirmation (FH) 6:30 PM AI-Anon (300)</p>	<p><u>7</u></p> <p>9:30 AM ESL (200, 201, 204) 6:00 PM Cornerstone Climbers (401) 6:00 PM SW Radio Control 7:00 PM Pastor's Group (101)</p>	<p><u>8</u></p> <p>9:15 AM Children's Chapel (Sanc) 10:00 AM Church Staff Meeting 3:00 PM Cornerstone (400, 401) 7:00 PM Church Council Meeting (101) 7:00 PM First Place for Health (306) 8:00 PM AA (Men Only)</p>	<p><u>9</u></p> <p>9:00 AM LWR Quilters (101) 9:30 AM ESL (200, 201) 3:00 PM Cornerstone (400, 401) 6:00 PM Painting Group (307) 8:00 PM AA (300)</p>	<p><u>10</u></p> <p>9:30 AM ESL (201) 3:00 PM Cornerstone (400, 401) 7:30 PM Faith Choir (208) 8:00 PM AA Men Only (300)</p>	<p><u>11</u></p> <p>6:30 PM Faith Chinese Fellowship Gathering (101) 8:00 PM AA Co-Ed (300)</p>	<p><u>12</u></p> <p>9:00 AM Cornerstone (300, 306) 9:00 AM Grey Sheet Eating Program (204) 3:00 PM AA Co-Ed (300)</p>
<p><u>13</u></p> <p>8:30 AM Heritage Worship (Sanc) 9:45 AM Learning Groups &amp; MOVE 10:50 AM "The Gathering" Worship (Sanc) 10:50 AM Faith Chinese Worship (FC) 12:00 PM Lunch (FC) 1:30 PM Handbell Choir (208) 4:00 PM Confirmation (FH) 6:30 PM AI-Anon (300)</p>	<p><u>14</u></p> <p>9:30 AM ESL (200, 201, 204) 6:00 PM Cornerstone Climbers (401)</p>	<p><u>15</u></p> <p>9:15 AM Children's Chapel (Sanc) 10:00 AM Church Staff Meeting 3:00 PM Cornerstone (400, 401) 6:00 PM Faith Schools Board Meeting (101) 7:00 PM First Place for Health (306) 8:00 PM AA Men Only (300)</p>	<p><u>16</u></p> <p>9:00 AM LWR Quilters (101) 9:30 AM ESL (200, 201) 3:00 PM Cornerstone (400, 401) 6:00 PM Painting Group (307) 8:00 PM AA (300)</p>	<p><u>17</u></p> <p>9:30 AM ESL (201) 3:00 PM Cornerstone (400, 401) 7:30 PM Faith Choir (208) 8:00 PM AA Men Only (300)</p>	<p><u>18</u></p> <p>6:00 PM Parent's Night Out (FH) 6:30 PM Leadership Gathering (FC) 8:00 PM AA Co-Ed (300)</p>	<p><u>19</u></p> <p>9:00 AM Cornerstone (300, 306) 9:00 AM Cornerstone (300, 306) 9:00 AM Grey Sheet Eating Program (204) 9:00 AM Leadership Gathering (FH) 3:00 PM AA Co-Ed (300)</p>
<p><u>20</u></p> <p>8:30 AM "Heritage" Worship (Sanc) 9:45 AM Learning Groups/MOVE 10:50 AM "The Gathering" Worship (Sanc) 10:50 AM Faith Chinese Worship (FC) 12:00 PM Lunch (FC) 1:30 PM Handbell Choir (208) 4:00 PM Confirmation (FH) 6:30 PM AI-Anon (300)</p>	<p><u>21</u></p> <p>Martin Luther King Day Church Office Closed</p>	<p><u>22</u></p> <p>9:15 AM Children's Chapel (Sanc) 10:00 AM Church Staff Meeting 3:00 PM Cornerstone (400, 401) 7:00 PM First Place for Health (306) 8:00 PM AA Men Only (300)</p>	<p><u>23</u></p> <p>9:00 AM LWR Quilters (101) 9:30 AM ESL (200, 201) 3:00 PM Cornerstone (400, 401) 6:00 PM Painting Group (307) 8:00 PM AA (300)</p>	<p><u>24</u></p> <p>9:30 AM ESL (201) 3:00 PM Cornerstone (400, 401) 7:30 PM Faith Choir (208) 8:00 PM AA Men Only (300)</p>	<p><u>25</u></p> <p>6:30 PM Faith Chinese Fellowship Gathering (101) 8:00 PM AA Co-Ed (300)</p>	<p><u>26</u></p> <p>9:00 AM Cornerstone (300, 306) 9:00 AM Grey Sheet Eating Program (204) 3:00 PM AA Co-Ed (300)</p>
<p><u>27</u></p> <p>8:30 AM "Heritage" Worship (Sanc) 9:45 AM Learning Groups/MOVE 10:50 AM "The Gathering" Worship (Sanc) 10:50 AM Faith Chinese Worship (FC) 12:00 PM Lunch (FC) 1:30 PM Handbell Choir (208) 4:00 PM Confirmation (FH) 6:30 PM AI-Anon (300)</p>	<p><u>28</u></p> <p>9:30 AM ESL (200, 201, 204) 7:00 PM v8 Early Ford</p>	<p><u>29</u></p> <p>9:15 AM Children's Chapel (Sanc) 10:00 AM Church Staff Meeting 3:00 PM Cornerstone (400, 401) 7:00 PM First Place 4 Health (306) 8:00 PM AA Men Only (300)</p>	<p><u>30</u></p> <p>9:00 AM LWR Quilters (101) 9:30 AM ESL (200, 201) 3:00 PM Cornerstone (400, 401) 6:00 PM Painting Group (307) 8:00 PM AA (300)</p>	<p><u>31</u></p> <p>9:30 AM ESL (201) 3:00 PM Cornerstone (400, 401) 7:30 PM Faith Choir (208) 8:00 PM AA Men Only (300)</p>	