

Worship Hours: Saturday @ 5:00 pm
Sunday @ 8:00 am & 10:30 am
Sunday School @ 9:15 am



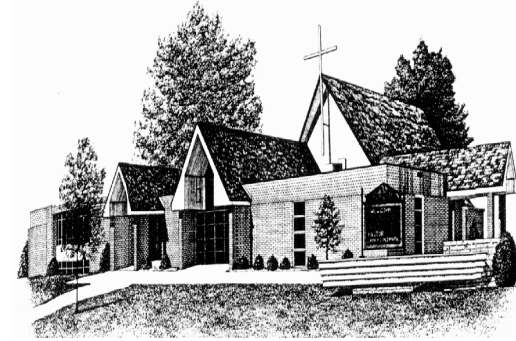
Faith Lutheran Church
 500 W. LeClaire Road
 Eldridge, IA 52748

Non-Profit Organization
 PERMIT NO. 1
 Eldridge, IA 52748

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



Faith Lutheran Church



AMBASSADOR

March 2020

Rev. Dr. Carrie Lewis La Plante
Rev. Heather Geest

500 W. LeClaire Road
 Eldridge, IA 52748
 (563) 285-4501

www.faithlutheraneldridge.com

From Pastor Carrie.....	Page 2-3
Photo Gallery	Pages 4
Photo Gallery, Youth News, Mission Trip Update	Page 5
Children's News.....	Page 6
Jr. High Youth, High School Youth.....	Page 7
Calendar of Events.....	Pages 8 & 9
Service In The World, Spotlight on Property.....	Page 10
Women of Faith New Church Council	Page 11
Worship Volunteers	Pages 12
Worship Volunteers	Page 13
Bishop Burk	Page 14
Birthdays, Missionaries, Lakeside	Page 15



LENT

Grace-Gifted, Faith-Lifted
Called to share, seek, and serve Christ

Dear Friends in Christ,

“Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.”

These are the words that we hear each Ash Wednesday as crosses of ash are traced on our foreheads. Ash Wednesday is that day when we perhaps most clearly acknowledge what we all know to be true but do not always want to admit...one day, we will all die and be returned to the dust from which God created us.

The stark reality of those words is even more poignant to me this year as, in the month of February, we have commended into God's care five members of this community. Five times, Pastor Heather or I have said the words:

In sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life through our Lord Jesus Christ, we commend to almighty God our sister, Myra, Velda, Sue, Arlene, Ardell, and we commit her body to the ground, earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust.

And as we begin this Lenten season and mark the sign of the ashen cross on our foreheads, the weight of these words is a bit heavier for me this year. Perhaps there have been years where that has been true for you as well.

However, the good news in all of this comes at the beginning of that prayer that we pray at the graveside. Even though we know the reality of death in this life, we live in “sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life through our Lord Jesus Christ.” Through our baptism, God has named and claimed us as beloved children, God has promised us the gift of eternal life through the life death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, Jesus has promised to walk with us through this life, and we have been sealed forever by the Holy Spirit. In fact, that cross of ashes that is placed on our foreheads is placed right on top of the cross that was made in oil at our baptism when we were sealed with the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever. And as we come to the table to receive Christ's body and blood in the bread and the wine, we are reminded that our sins are forgiven so that we can live that gift of eternal life even here and now.

As Paul writes in his second letter to the Corinthians, “See, now is the acceptable time; see, now is the day of salvation!” Each and every day is a day to recognize all of the amazing things that God can do with dust, with something that seems so miniscule and meaningless. Every day is a day to recognize how God has created all of us to do amazing things, to live in and share the love of God with the world. Every day is a day to give thanks for those who have shared their love and their lives with us, and who have now returned to the dust. Every day is a day to remember that one day, we will all be gathered again by the God who creates and recreates each of us each and every day in the house of the Lord forever.

Yes, Ash Wednesday and this whole journey through the 40 days of Lent can be uncomfortable as we face the reality of sin and death in our lives. And yet, Lent can also be a time to take a step back, to remember the gift of our



**MARCH
BIRTHDAYS**



Birthday wishes are extended to the following members who are celebrating birthday number 70 or above.

David Lee	March 3
Ida Weibel	March 4
Dale Moore	March 15
Karl Nissen	March 16
Dorothy House	March 17
Gary Mueller	March 20
Ida Bell	March 25
Sylvia Schryver	March 27
Mike Smith	March 28
Leona Farley	March 30



BAPTISMS IN FEBRUARY: WE WELCOME to our Faith family, through the waters of Holy Baptism, Rowan Marie Murray, daughter of Ryan and Amy Murray; Shaun Logan; and Colsen Puls Logan, the son of Shaun and Kayla Logan.



**NORTH SCOTT FOOD PANTRY NEEDS FOR MARCH:
PASTA & SIDE DISHES
THANK YOU!**



MISSIONARY SPONSORSHIP Thank you to Ida Weibel for sponsoring our missionaries, the Bencke family in Japan and our Compassion Child, John Chima. and to Brad and Janet Merrick for sponsoring Denisse Grefa, for March. The cost for sponsorship is \$40/month each for John and Denisse and \$45/month for the Bencke Family in Japan.



Summer Camp Registration is Here!!

Registration for summer camp at Lutheran Lakeside, Spirit Lake, Iowa, is **now open. We will be going the week of July 26-31.** There is Junior Camp for those who have completed grades 3-5 and Confirmation Camp for those who have completed grades 6-8. Everyone needs to register on the Lutheran Lakeside website (www.lutheranlakeside.com). Faith will pay \$150 of the registration fee for every youth registered through Faith.

We also hope that a number of adults will join us on the Adult Mission Trip to camp that same week. Please see Pastor Carrie for more details.

Sunday, March 29th

8:00 am

Greeters:	Connie Braet	Greeters:	Tim Broberg
Ushers:	Nadine Schwarz & Carol Roe	Ushers:	Jared & Kelly Penning
Reader:	Linda Szemkus	Reader:	Dave McCammant
Communion	Kevin Krebs	Communion	Karen Schmeink
Counters:	David & Linda Golinghorst	Counters:	Kristy Looney & Rhonda Webber

10:30 am



Bishop Michael L. Burk will be retiring this summer after faithfully serving as Bishop of the Southeastern Iowa Synod since August 2009. To honor Bishop Burk and his wife, Diane, the Synod is planning a celebratory banquet during the 2020 Synod Assembly, being held May 1-3, 2020. **The Celebration Banquet will take place on Saturday, May 2, 2020 at 6:30 pm at the Coralville Marriott Hotel and Conference Center.**

Pastor Carrie, Pastor Heather, and our Synod Assembly delegates - Diane Krebs and Austin Lee - will be attending the Celebration Banquet as part of the Synod Assembly. **We invite other congregational members who would like to attend the Celebration Banquet to let us know by contacting the church office by 3/27.** The church will take care of registration. The cost is \$45 and we hope to cover it with the planned budget.

In addition to attending the Celebration Banquet, we will be sending a letter to be included in a Congratulatory Book for the Bishop, and we will be contributing \$200 to the ELCA Fund for Leaders and the ELCA World Hunger, two areas of passion for the Burks.



Thank you to the many people who have made and brought food, served luncheons, greeted people, made baptismal banners, made quilts, served our youth, folded bulletins and Ambassadors, and served at church in so many ways the past month. You are the heartbeat of an active congregation and so very much appreciated. Bless You All...

Pastor Carrie, Pastor Heather and Joni

salvation, to take a deep breath and reconnect with God. Lent is a time, yes, to remember that we are dust and to dust we shall return, but it is also a time to remember that between those times of dust, we are freed from sin and death to live and to love, to hope and to dream, to catch glimpses of God's kingdom and to join in God's mission right where we find ourselves for our sake and for the sake of the whole world.

May this Lent be a time for hope and renewal for each of you as live out these days between the dust, following the guidance of the Holy Spirit, and looking forward to the celebration of Easter, when God's promises to us are most fully revealed.

Lenten blessings to you all,

Pastor Carrie

In the next five weeks of Lent, we will have an evening prayer service at 7:00 pm in the sanctuary, featuring drama presentations.

Lent
BEGINS

We will begin Holy Week on Palm Sunday, April 4 and 5 with a procession of the palms and a dramatic reading of the Passion according to Matthew.



Holy Week

Our Maundy Thursday service at Faith on Thursday, April 9, at 7:00 pm, will include the celebration of First Communion for several of our children. We will be having a Good Friday Service of Light and Darkness here at Faith this year at 7:00 pm. There will be an Easter Vigil service on Saturday, April 11 at 5:00 pm and we will have Easter Celebration services on Sunday, April 12. Services will be held at 8:00 and 10:30 am with breakfast and an Easter Egg Hunt in between. Please join us as we journey these 40 days of Lent together.



The story of the Passion of Christ is filled with vivid characters, each of whom played an important role in Jesus' final days. In our Lenten drama series this year, entitled "They Were There", we will hear from five of those characters as they are interviewed by a radio talk show host. Come hear them explain why they did what they did...or didn't do. The drama series will be presented during the mid-week Lenten worship services which will start on Wednesday, March 4, at 7:00 p.m. The first character to be interviewed will be Judas Iscariot. You won't want to miss hearing him tell his story.

PHOTO GALLERY

The weather outside was cold but inside things were warm as friends gathered to dine on cheeseburgers and play games and shimmy under the limbo pole. Fun was had by all!



Sunday, March 15th

8:00 am

10:30 am

Greeters:	Carol Roe	Greeters:	Kelli Golvinghorst & Seth VanderHorst
Ushers:	Joni Schneider & Diane Krebs	Ushers:	Myron & Carolyn Scheibe
Reader:	Joni Schneider	Reader:	Carol Judge
Communion:	Nancy Meyer	Communion:	Karen Schmeink
Counters:	Carol Roe & Ruth Staudt	Counters:	Kent & Michelle Wiebel

Saturday, March 21st @ 5:00 pm

Greeters:	Sue Braack
Ushers:	Garry Mueller & Dennis Arp
Reader:	Mindy Arp
Communion:	Mindy Arp
Counters:	Melody Sawvell & Sue Sissel

Sunday, March 22nd

8:00 am

10:30 am

Greeters:		Greeters:	Ron & Jane Bainer
Ushers:	Duane & Lynda Miller	Ushers:	Dan & Mary Ann Anderson
Reader:	Duane Miller	Reader:	Mary Ann Anderson
Communion:	Barb Parmenter	Communion:	Mary Ann Anderson
Counters:	Ken & Sue Oetzmann	Counters:	Dan & Mary Ann Anderson

Saturday March 28th @ 5:00 pm

Greeters:	Brad & Janet Merrick
Ushers:	Dennis Kelly & Keri Suiter
Reader:	Donna Knapper
Communion:	Dennis Kelly
Counters:	Kelly Hazen & Joan Hennigan

WOMEN OF FAITH would like to thank everyone for their donations to the Sweet Treats event on the weekend of February 8th and 9th. The North Scott School nurses received \$280 through your generosity, enough for each building to receive \$40. This money is used at the nurse's discretion to help meet personal needs of the students in their building.

February FAITH FAMILY: Group 1
Family Head: Barb Parmenter
April Family Group 4-Kelly Penning

Sunday, March 1st

8:00 am

Greeters:	Becky Stutt
Ushers:	Diane Krebs & Nina Looney
Reader:	Karen Schmitt
Communion:	Nancy Meyer
Counters:	Bob & Ann Bainter

10:30 am

Greeters:	Peggy Russo
Ushers:	Mike & Annette Tomlinson
Reader:	Annette Tomlinson
Communion:	Barb Parmenter
Counters:	Mike & Annette Tomlinson

8:00 am

10:30 am

Saturday, March 7th @ 5:00 pm

Greeters:	Donna Benskin
Ushers:	Janet Bowman & Carol Marten
Reader:	Sylvia Schryver
Communion:	Janet Bowman
Counters:	Scott & Laura Wiley

Sunday, March 8th

8:00 am

Greeters:	Glen & Jean Keppy
Ushers:	Joni Schneider & Kelly Penning
Reader:	Joni Schneider
Communion:	Carol Roe
Counters:	Eric & Stephanie Sacia

10:30 am

Greeters:	Jared & Kelly Penning
Ushers:	Dave & Diane Cole
Reader:	Myra Kreiter
Communion:	Karen Schmeink
Counters:	Mike & Gayle Staples

Saturday, March 14th @ 5:00 pm

Greeters:	Janet Bowman
Ushers:	Garry Mueller & Hans Brodersen
Reader:	Sylvia Schryver
Communion:	Kim Brodersen
Counters:	Mike & Rita Smith

Youth News



Friday, March 20, to Saturday, March 21 – IGNITE Quad Cities Lock-in – This will be a lock-in with a number of the other Lutheran congregations in the Quad City area. Contact Pastor Carrie about details and mark your calendars for this fun event for Jr. & Sr. High Youth.

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH High School Youth Group will continue to meet every Wednesday evening from 7:40 to 8:30 pm in the Youth Room during Lent. We will gather for games, snacks and Bible study as we continue to look at the Bible and consider the struggles that we face in this life and where God fits into that. Remember, friends are always welcome to join us for any of these events, so please invite your friends to come!!



Mission Trip Update

We are so glad to have Cal Behm, Aundrea Crain, Reese Crain, Rylee Daniels, Danielle Dircks, Jill Dircks, Nate Fenn, Katie Garner, Grace Gephart, Grace Hamann, Mackenzie Housenga, Abby Kayser, Maddy Kayser, Grace Kirst, Kalob Kroeger, Hayden Lebeck, Austin Lee, Davis Lee, Madolyn Lewis, Mitchell Mess, Kaycee Newman, Connor Peck, Erin Peck, Drew Sacia, Megan Sacia, McKenna Santee, Ryan Stickler, Sydney Westendorf, Madison Wiebel, Matthew Zidarich, Sarah Costello, Mike Housenga, Scott La Plante, Carolyn Lewis, Kevin Zidarich and Pastor Carrie going on the summer mission trip to Franklin, West Virginia. Thank you for your support of the Subs & Snack Mix fundraiser!! Continuing and upcoming fundraisers include:



♦ **Best Choice Save-A-Label-**We continue to collect UPC symbols from Best Choice products. There is a box in the Gathering Space where these will be collected. We are very close to receiving another \$30!

♦ **Cinnamon Rolls—April 4th & 5th (Palm Sunday Weekend):** We will be selling both baked rolls and



take-and-bake rolls. \$1 per single roll; \$5 for a half-dozen baked rolls; \$10 for a dozen take-and-bake rolls. Thank you in advance for your financial and prayer support!

Children's News

HOLY COMMUNION PREPARATION

Holy Communion is a gift from God! But what is it? How does it work? All students (2nd grade and older) who have not yet received their first communion are invited to come, learn, and experience the goodness of God.



During the four-session Sunday morning units, each child creates a clay chalice, has a taste of a Seder meal, learns to prepare communion bread and makes a daily bread collage that will adorn the sanctuary walls for Holy Week.



During the Maundy Thursday worship service, all first communicants will celebrate their first communion by providing the whole congregation the bread they made and will share wine from their very own hand created pottery chalices with their families.

There will be 4 Classes at 9:15 am on 3/8, 3/22, 3/29 and 4/5. The Maundy Thursday Worship Service will be 4/9 at 7 pm. (Cupcake reception will precede worship at 6:30pm).

Please RSVP to the pastors or the church office if your child desires to participate in this class. This way we can prepare supplies to equip your child for this milestone. **The first class on 3/8 requires parent's participation as students form their own chalices.**



Pre-Confirmation Class

6TH GRADERS: PRE-CONFIRMATION MILESTONE

Dive into God's 5 baptismal promises. Pastor Heather will lead an adventurous hour of fun times, togetherness and learning. Grow deep in faith. Keep God at the center. Recognition of this important milestone is **Sunday, April 19th, 2020 at the 8am worship service**. Please mark your calendars for these **Five Wednesday evenings from 5:45-6:45 pm. 5 Wednesday evening classes: 3/4, 3/11, 3/25, 4/1 and 4/8.**

Completing the pre-confirmation milestone launches all students into an exciting two-year Confirmation experience beginning fall of 2020.



Women of Faith News

ALL WOMEN OF FAITH...

ARE INVITED TO JOIN A GROUP OR CALL A LEADER FOR MORE INFORMATION.

Women of Faith Board @ 6:30 pm on 3/12

Serving Sticks@ 6:30 pm on 3/8 & 3/22

Quilts of Many Colors@ 9 am on 3/17

Hannah Group @ 7 pm on 3/26

Contact Lynda Miller 285-8613

Lydia Group @ 7 pm on 3/26

Contact Linda Szemkus 285-9788



MARCH ALTAR GUILD

Chairperson: Mary Ann Anderson
Carolyn Scheibe
Linda Johnson
Donna Gruenhagen
Rita Smith
Gretchen Small
Carolyn Hulsen
Marcia Donabauer



Church Women United World Day of Prayer is Friday, March 6, at 1:00 pm at Third Missionary Baptist Churd, 222 East 14th Street, Davenport. The theme is "rise: Take Up Your Mat and Walk." There is a poster on the WOF board.

We are happy to announce our 2020 Church Council:

Officers:

President-Linda Golinghorst
Vice President-Melody Sawvell
Treasurer-Scott Wiley
Secretary-Joni Schneider
Youth Council Members:
Grace Kirst, Austin Lee & Erin Peck
Women of Faith Liason
Joni Schneider

Ministry Team Leaders:

Christian Ed-Michelle Rasmussen
Evangelism-Matt Peck
Fellowship-Melody Sawvell
Property-Mike Garner
Service in the World-Joni Schneider
Stewardship-Beth Ann Anderson
Worship & Music-Amy Murray



The 2020 Council will be holding an annual retreat at the church on Sunday, March 29 for team building and to establish plans for the year. We are excited to find new ways to 'shine our light into the shadows of the world'. If you see needs in the world that we can work to meet in the coming year, please let us know! You can email the church office, or contact any of us directly.

Service in the World



Service in the World committee would like to applaud and thank the congregation for supporting our Souper Bowl of Caring Event. We had set a goal of 100 cans of soup and we surpassed that goal by 26. Participants chose which side to place their donations, Chiefs or 49er's. The actual winner of the Super Bowl was also the winner at Faith! The donated cans are helping to fill food shelves at the NS Food Pantry.

Service in the World will be collecting personal care items to send to those in need through Lutheran World Relief:

- *Lightweight bath size towel between 20 x 40" and 52 x 27" - dark colors
- *Bath size bars of gentle soap, any brand, in original wrapping. No hotel or mini sized bars.
- *Adult sized toothbrushes in original packaging
- *Sturdy comb
- *Metal nail clippers

There is a box available in the gathering area to place these items.



Spotlight on the Property Team



Spring cleanup day is Saturday, March 28, from 8am until noon. Dennis Kelly does an amazing job keeping our building clean and inviting throughout the year. The property team asks members to help Dennis each spring by performing a major spring cleaning before the Easter week services. We want the building and grounds to reflect the new beginning that Easter represents.

Inside the building we will be cleaning windows, doing some extra dusting, and cleaning the pew cushions. Outside we hope to clean the outsides of the windows, and remove the last of the leaves and branches, followed by adding new mulch if the weather will allow. Please talk to a property team member if you are able to lend a hand for all or part of that Saturday morning.

Team members include: Brad Yankee, Tom Bauer, Bill Wittowski, Chad Keppy, Gary King, Kim Wilkins, Al Kluever, Bob White, Brad Merrick, Myron Scheibe, Jared Penning, John Powell, and Mike Garner as the team representative on council. If you have a passion for fixing things, mowing, trimming, or shoveling snow, talk to anyone listed above about joining our team members for a single project or a longer commitment.

Jr. High Youth &

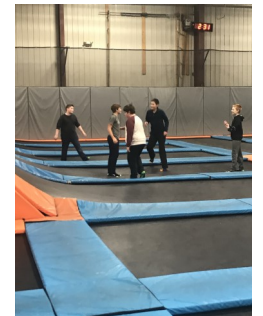


Above & right: Jr. High Youth at IGNITE Youth Event on 1/29. Below: Confirmation youth participate in activities and discussion during their Wednesday evening classes.




High School Youth

Jr. High & Sr. High Youth join for lunch at Rudy's and an afternoon at Helium in Eldridge after plans for Snowstar changed due to rain.



MARCH 2020

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 8:00 am Worship 9:15 am Sunday School Milestone Ministry 10:30 am Worship 11:30 am-1:15 pm Mission Statement Update Team	2	3 5:30 pm Food Pantry 7:00 Jubilation Rehearsal	4 1:30 pm Bible Study 5-6:45 pm Conf. Meal followed by Conversations 5:15-6:00 pm Child. Choir 5:45 pm Pre-Confirmation 6:00 pm Sr. Choir Rehearsal 7:00 pm Lenten Worship 7:40 pm Sr. High Youth	5 6:30 pm Team Night	6 9:30 am Food Pantry	7 5:00 pm Jubilation Worship
8 8:00 am Jubilation Worship 9:15 am Congregational Breakfast & Holy Communion Class 10:30 am Worship 5:00 pm Sheridan Sluggers 6:30 pm Serving Sticks	9 6:30 pm Lincoln Sheridan	10 5:30 pm Food Pantry	11 1:30 pm Bible Study 5-6:45 pm Conf. Meal followed by Conversations 5:15-6:00 pm Child. Choir 5:45 pm Pre-Confirmation 6:00 pm Sr. Choir Rehearsal 7:00 pm Lenten Worship 7:40 pm Sr. High Youth	12 7:00 pm Women of Faith Board Meeting	13 9:30 am Food Pantry	14 5:00 pm Jubilation Worship
15 8:00 am Jubilation Worship 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship	16	17 9:00 am Quilting 5:30 pm Food Pantry	18 10:00 am Worship at GH 1:30 pm Bible Study 5-6:45 Confirmation Meal followed by Conversations 5:15-6 pm Child. Choir 6:00 pm Sr. Choir Rehearsal 7:00 pm Lenten Worship 7:40 pm Sr. High Youth	19	20 9:00 am Ambassador Deadline 9:30 am Food Pantry 8:00 pm IGNITE Youth Lock In	21 5:00 pm Worship
22 8:00 am Worship 9:15 am Sunday School & Holy Communion Class 10:30 am Worship 6:30 pm Serving Sticks	23	24 9:00 am Quilting Group 5:30 pm Food Pantry	25 1:30 pm Bible Study 5-6:45 pm Conf. Meal followed by Conversations 5:15-6:00 pm Child. Choir 5:45 pm Pre-Confirmation 6:00 pm Sr. Choir Rehearsal 7:00 pm Lenten Worship 7:40 pm Sr. High Youth	26 9:00 am Ambassador Folding 7:00 pm Hannah Group 7:00 pm Lydia Group	27 9:30 am Food Pantry	28 5:00 pm Worship & Baptism
29 8:00 am Worship 9:15 am Sunday School & Holy Communion Class 10:30 am Worship 11:30 am Church Council Retreat & Monthly Mtg. 6:30 pm Serving Sticks	30	31 5:30 pm Food Pantry 7:00 pm Jubilation Rehearsal	1 1:30 pm Bible Study 5-6:45 pm Conf. Meal followed by Conversations 5:15-6:00 pm Child. Choir 5:45 pm Pre-Confirmation 6:00 pm Sr. Choir Rehearsal 7:00 pm Lenten Worship 7:40 pm Sr. High Youth	2	3 9:30 am Food Pantry 	4 PALM SUNDAY WEEKEND 5:00 pm Worship CINNAMON ROLLS 