

Let Your Light Shine

January 5 marks the Feast of the Epiphany. This season features light as a main theme. The light of the baby Jesus shines and the light of the star led the Wisemen to the baby.

The light of Jesus shines as we Christians carry the Christmas story into our lives, our homes, our classrooms, our workplaces. The light of Christ over powers the light of darkness that seeks to control our lives. The light of Christ says no to anything that gets in the way of the gift of the manger. It enables us to live each day in the knowledge that we are “new people.” A “New Day has dawn and we are free to worship God and serve our neighbor.

We see the light of Christ most clearly in the act of worship. As we join our voices in prayer and praise our lamps receive the “oil” needed for the rest of the week.

Baptism is another major theme. As the dove descended on Jesus, we too are claimed in this sacrament, “blessed to be a blessing,” we work for that promised better day when all will experience the gifts of grace. Without festivals like Epiphany and The Baptism of our Lord to mark our days we would be in deep despair for the rhythm of the Church guides us as we continue to live our lives in the “sure and certain hope” that Jesus lives.

“Oh, let the harps break forth in sound! Our joy be all with music crowned,

Our voices gaily blending! For Christ goes with us all the way—

Today, tomorrow, ev’ry day! His love is never ending!

Sing out, Ring out! Jubilation, Exultation!

Tell the story! Praise to Christ, who reigns in glory! (ELW 308)

Inside this issue:

Faith Church News	2
2019 Flower Chart	2
Library Likes	2
Annual Meeting	3
Worship Opportunities	4

Peace,

Pastor John Albertson



Faith Church News

We continue to pray for Pard Keith, Rusty Moore, Betty Thompson.

Daytime Disciples will meet on Tuesday, January 15th at 1:00 pm in the Library. All ladies are invited to attend.

Faith's Book Club will meet on Thursday, January 17th at 7:00 pm at the Butcher Block on Boyson Rd.

There will be a Sign Painting Class on Sunday, January 27th at 2:00 pm in the family center. See Terri Radig for sign up information.

Join us for Games on Thursday, January 17th and Thursday, January 31st at 1:00 pm. All are welcome!

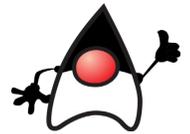
2019 Flower Chart

The new 2019 Flower Chart is up and ready for members to reserve their special dates to donate flowers in honor of a special occasion or person or in memory of a loved one that has passed.

Please note: if you put your name down it would be helpful for you to put your contact phone number down as well. The week of your flower sign up, Flower Coordinator Kathy Rude (826-2149) will give you a call and coordinate both your dedication in the bulletin and your order and she would be happy to help answer any questions. If you have not heard from her by Wednesday then please contact the church office as she may have been unable to reach you.



Library Likes



Here are a couple of books in our Faith Library that might be a good read for you!

In *The Book of God*, Walter Wangerin brings alive the stories and people of the Bible. He starts with "The Ancestors" of the Old Testament and ends with "The Messiah." When I started reading it, it was Christmas (a present from my husband, and I started mid-book at the Christmas story). Craig had to drag me away from my book - I was so caught up in the story-telling - so we could go to his family Christmas celebration. This is an easy book to read in bits and pieces.

The Year of Living Biblically, by A. J. Jacobs, is a non-fiction book describing the author's attempts to follow all the rules of the Bible (over 700) in the course of a year. To help him in this project, he compiles a list of all the laws and tries to interpret how they might look in modern America. He also consults with a rabbi and other pastors to decipher some of the ideas he is encountering. The book is humorous, and Jacobs is a self-deprecating narrator. An interesting exploration of how various folks interpret the Bible.

Help yourself to these and other books in the Faith Library. If you find a good book that you'd like to recommend, let me know! If you have questions about the Faith Library, be sure to ask.

Deb Aldrich, Faith's Volunteer Librarian

Marion Churches Food Pantry

Food items that are needed include: canned meat, canned fruit, applesauce, instant potatoes, bags of white/brown rice, peanut butter, chicken noodle soup, cream soups and ramen noodles. We can also always use donations of hygiene/paper products (bath tissue, paper towels, Kleenex, shampoo, toothpaste, deodorant, hand soap).



FEED THE HUNGRY

Middle School Overnight

Middle School Youth mark your calendars for January 18th as you are invited for a fun overnight beginning at 8:00 pm and going until Jan 19th at 8:00 am. Sign up on the welcome table in the narthex.



YFM January Event

Our January Youth and Family Ministries Event will be dependent on the weather. If possible, we will be sledding at Bowman Woods School on Sunday, January 20th at 2:00 pm. Dress warmly and bring your sleds and meet there. If there's no snow, then bring your favorite board game and come for some fun and snacks at the Faith Lutheran Family Center. See Danny for questions.

Annual Congregational Meeting

Our Annual Meeting of the Congregation of Faith Lutheran Church will take place on Sunday, January 27th immediately following 9:00 am worship in the Sanctuary. Make plans to attend this important business meeting of our Congregation.



Movie Night

Join us for Family Movie Night on Saturday, January 26th From 7:00-9:00 pm the all ages options in the Family Center is "Small Foot" (PG) or for Bigger kids & Middle School in the Middle School room we have "The House with a Clock in it's Walls" (PG)

For Middle School & Older in the Youth Room we have "Venom" (PG-13). The Grown Up Pick is "Crazy Rich Asians" (PG-13) (Pre-K youth must be accompanied by parent or caregiver) Donations are always welcome to help pay for the snacks, come and join the fun family night.

Wednesday Night Live

Wednesday, Jan. 9th –WNL w/ Women's team for cooking and clean up

Wednesday, Jan. 16th –WNL w/ HS team for cooking and clean-up.

Wednesday, Jan 23rd—WNL w/ Men's team for cooking and clean-up.

Wednesday, Jan. 30th —WNL w/ Women's Team for cooking and clean-up.





155 Boyson Road
Marion, Iowa 52302-9443

Phone: 319.377.9700
Fax: 319.373.6001
Pastor John cell: 319.651.8171
Email: secretary@faithlutheran.org
Website: faithlutheran.org



We are a community of Faith,
growing in Christ, sharing God's love.

Worship Opportunities

All are welcome and invited to worship at
Faith Lutheran Church.

Worship Times

Saturdays

5:30 pm— Worship

Sundays

9:00 am— Worship

Faith has been serving the Marion-Cedar Rapids area for more than thirty years; supporting local ministries such as the Marion Food Bank, Habitat for Humanity, and Senior Assistance Programs. We are in partnership with the 10,657 congregations, 28 Lutheran colleges and universities, 8 seminaries, 450 global missionaries and one of the largest non-profit social service networks in the United States; as well as Lutheran World Relief worldwide. All are ministries of the 5.2 million member Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

Faith Lutheran Church Staff

John A. Albertson
Senior Pastor

Jen Heinsius Secretary	Daniel Stone Director of Youth and Family Ministry
Diane Lehtinen Choir Director	Steve Roggow Bell Choir
Christy Pratt Parish Nurse	

Faith Lutheran Church Council Members

David Ripley President	Connie Bulman Director of Worship
Jeff Ausman Vice President	Kellie & Josh Osbeck Directors of Youth
Paula Burley Secretary	Barb & Chris Thompson Director of Fellowship
Karen Cain Treasurer	Director of Witness
Dave Koch Financial Secretary	Mike Dautremont Director of Facilities
Diane Lehtinen Director of Adult Nurture	Vicki Barnidge Director of Youth Nurture
Christy Pratt Director of Social Concerns	

But most of the real work is done by unpaid members of the congregation,
often without recognition, who see their service as a response to God.