



How is God calling out to you?

Could God be calling you to a place you've never considered before?

I would like to invite you to consider the truth of this possibility by joining me in two types of encounter over the next several months.

The first will take place around the sweat lodge ceremony rooted in the indigenous spirituality of the Lakota Sioux. Pastor John and I have asked for an *inipi* ceremony to be poured for the men of Faith Lutheran on Sunday, February 19, 3:00-8:00 pm at Prairiewoods Franciscan Spirituality Center in Hiawatha (where I work when I'm not here). This purification ceremony is a chance to return to your humble roots before the Creator and allow the healing energies of Mother Earth and all spiritual beings to care for you. This is a chance for truth telling, story-telling, reconciliation, communion, and new life. I invite anyone interested in knowing more about the ceremony and this form of prayer to join me between services on Sunday, Feb. 12. Afterwards, I hope to find 15 men who want to participate on Feb. 19. If there is interest among the women, we can discuss calling for a lodge later this spring. If you are unable to attend this meeting but would like more information, please contact me. *Mitakuye Oyasin* {we are all related}.

Pastor John has also invited me to facilitate the pastor's class during the season of Lent. On March 5, we'll watch and discuss Richard Rohr's talk on the *Divine Dance: The Trinity and Your Transformation*; March 12 we'll engage "The Transfiguration" illumination in the *Visio Divina* process; March 19, we'll watch another Richard Rohr presentation, this time on *Alternative Orthodoxy*; March 26, we'll pray *visio divina* style with the illumination "Lukan Anthology;" April 2, *visio divina* with "The Raising of Lazarus," and; April 9, *visio divina* with the "Crucifixion" illumination. If you missed us in Advent, join us in Lent for the *visio divina* contemplative prayer experience. We marry an illumination, piece of art, from the St. John's Bible, with the corresponding scripture and listen with our hearts for the Word of God being revealed at that exact time.

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There is no right or wrong way to hear these lenten themed messages. It is a personal experience shared in a community of believers.

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Faith Church News

We continue to pray for Paula Burley, Lee Dytrt, brother-in-law of Catherine Dytrt, Caleb cousin of Sherry Stark, Matt Cook son-in-law of Pard & Mariann Keith, Lydia granddaughter of Dick and Coreen Hein, T.J. Barnidge's uncle, Nick, nephew of Catherine Dytrt, Annette Mohling's brother, Lyle, brother, Dean and nephew, Drew.

Boy Scout Troop 360 will be having a pancake breakfast here at the church on Saturday, February 11th from 7:00-11:30 am. Please support our local troop!

The next blood pressure and blood sugar check is February 12th between services in Pr. John's office. If you would like to talk to me, you can e-mail Christy Pratt at parish-nurse@faithlutheran.org or call me at 361-0445. All discussions are confidential!

Craft Club will meet on Tuesday, February 14th from 10:00 am—1:00 pm in the Library. Wear red and bring your project you are working on. Soup is provided, just bring a snack to share. Come for fellowship and fun. See Lori Tweeton for questions.

Our next Marion Churches Blood Drive will take place on Tuesday, February 14th at Resurrection from 2:30-6:30 pm. Sign up times are available on the clipboard on the welcome table.

First Communion Instruction will take place on Wednesday, February 15th at 5:00 pm in the Library. For questions, see Pastor John.

The church mowing team would like someone with a chain saw and a pickup to trim the lower tree branches on our lot for the convenience of those who operate the riding mowers. For questions, please contact Pr. Wendell Debner.

Seminary Internship Update: The Church Council has applied to Wartburg Theological Seminary for a seminary intern for the 2017-18 school year. The assignment process begins in February with assignments to be finalized in mid March. If we are selected, Pastor John will be attending a training session at Wartburg in April. Please keep the process in your prayers.

Mid-Week Lenten Worship

This year we will continue our celebration of the Reformation through sermons preached by our Pastors. **Wednesday evenings begin with supper in the Family Center at 6:30 pm followed by Holden Evening Prayer at 7:00 pm.**

Mar 1: Ash Wednesday Worship @ 7:00 pm
(No Supper)

Mar 8: Pr. Roger McKinstry,
Ten Commandments

Mar 15: Pr. Wendell Debner,
Apostles' Creed

Mar 22: Pr. Cindy McKenzie, Lord's Prayer

Mar 29: Pastoral Intern Rodney Bluml,
Holy Baptism

Apr 5: Pr. John Albertson,
Holy Communion

On Thursdays during Lent, we will once again have a Sandwich luncheon in the library at 11:30 am followed by worship at noon.

Holy Week Schedule

April 12th— 7:30 pm: Youth Mime in Family Center

April 13th— 7:00 pm: Maundy Thursday Footwashing and Holy Communion

April 14th—7:00 pm: Good Friday

April 15th—9:00 pm: Easter Vigil
(No 5:30 pm service)

April 16th—8:00 am & 10:45 am Easter Worship with Breakfast at 9:15 am

I would like to thank members of Faith, my choir family and Pastor John for all the prayers, visits and cards during my extended illness. Your kindness and care was much appreciated.

Mariann Keith

Churches of Marion Food Pantry

Thanks to all of the folks who have been helping at the Marion Food Pantry. Faith members have been involved with distribution and Kelli Kennon-Lane and Larry Munson are serving on purchasing teams. In 2016, the volunteers served 3,281 households representing 9,266 people. We are located behind First Presbyterian Church in Marion and we are open on Tuesdays and Thursday from 1-3 pm.

We are taking the next steps to strengthen the organization so that we can better serve our clients in the future. We still need volunteers for purchasing teams and volunteer coordination and other distributing functions. We can use "on call" persons as well.

Purchasing Teams: We have two 3-person teams to buy food for the weekly needs. We would like 2 more teams so each team would be responsible for once a month. This task takes about 2-4 hours. One of the 3 team members will be responsible for coordinating the team and taking care of the debit card.

Volunteer Coordinator: This person would be setting and communicating the monthly schedule for the helpers. There is also a list of volunteers who are on-call if a sub is needed. This takes about 1-2 hours per week.

Please contact Gary Frederick, president of the Board of Directors 560-2742 or board member Pr. Debner 377-4790 for more information.

There is a new Facebook page for the Marion Food Pantry. Here's the link:

www.facebook.com/marionfoodpantry

Men's Book Study

A new class opportunity begins February 11th and continues through March 25th on Saturday mornings from 8:00 am—9:30 am in the library. We will share donuts and coffee and discuss a book. This year we will be reading, "Sully". This study is open to all men of Faith Lutheran. See Pastor John for copies of the book or any questions.

Upcoming Fellowship Events

On Friday, February 17th at 6:30 pm the 20's & 30's will meet at Lucky Penny in Hiawatha. Please join us!

New fellowship snack signup sheets are ready on the welcome table in the narthex. Please provide 50-75 treats for each Sunday. Thanks for your help!

February YFM Event

Join us for our February Youth Event on February 12th from 2:00-4:00 pm. Meet at AirFX (1100 North 18th Ave, Hiawatha). We will have a welcome and orientation at 2:00 pm and jump from 2:30 -4:00 pm. Fill our waivers at airfxcr.com/customer-waiver.

Price is \$12 per jumper and includes jump socks. Please sign up on the welcome table in the narthex.



Wednesday Night Live

Wednesday, Feb 8th— WNL with Women's team for cooking and clean-up.

Wednesday, Feb 15th— WNL with HS team for cooking and clean-up.

Wednesday, Feb 22nd-WNL with the Men's team for cooking and clean-up.





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*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

8:00 am–Worship

9:10 am–Sunday School

10:45 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

Diane Lehtinen

Choir Director

Rodney Bluml

Pastoral Intern

Daniel Stone

Director of Youth and Family Ministry

Steve Roggow

Bell Choir

Christy Pratt

Parish Nurse

Faith Lutheran Church Council Members

David Ripley

President

Vice President

Paula Burley

Secretary

Karen Cain

Treasurer

Dave Koch

Financial Secretary

Diane Lehtinen

Director of Adult Nurture

Connie Bulman

Director of Worship

Kellie & Josh Osbeck

Directors of Youth

Amy & Nick Sagan

Director of Fellowship

Lynette Marling

Director of Witness

Bruce Tweeton

Director of Facilities

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.