

Hosanna to Crucify!

The **Great Week** begins with the procession of the Palms. Once blessed the palms sound forth the celebration of Jesus entry into the eternal city Jerusalem. The crowds shout “Hosanna, blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!” “Hosanna, hear the children sing.” See the old folks stretching to get a glimpse of the Lord as he rides in on a donkey. Hosanna seems to say that all is well.

Maundy Thursday finds our Lord performing acts of service, the washing of the feet of the disciples, a task preformed by the host of the house. Imagine dirty, cracked, smelly feet receiving the gentle washing by the One who knew no sin. This action followed by the meal in the Upper Room shared with Jesus closest friends, “take and eat, drink of it all of you” The Last time Jesus would commune with his friends before his death.

Good Friday, “It is finished!” The bare chancel reminds us that we have come in agony and bewilderment to witness the utter darkness associated with Jesus death. Left with the cross we adore the Christ who died for us that we might gain eternal life.

Easter Vigil, the earliest Christian worship service in the church. “This is the night.” This is the storied night of the wonders of God: “light scatters darkness, the ark arrives safely, Miriam sings on freedom’s shore, and dry bones dance in death’s valley.” (Worship Guidebook)

The drama of the Greet Week begins and ends in the waters of baptism reminding us that we who were born in sin are made alive in Christ because of the powerful and holy journey he made from the cross to the open tomb.

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Worship with us. Keep the Great Week. Experience the faith journey!

Peace,

Pastor John Albertson



Holy Week

Faith Church News

We continue to pray for Scott Behnke, Dave Kroeger, Dean Ricklefs, Joyce Smith, Lisa Smith Kovilic cousin of Deb Bell Geiser, Nick nephew of Catherine Dytrt.

We express our sympathy to Amanda Pierce and family on the passing of her father, Daniel McKirgan. His service was held here at Faith on Tuesday, March 13th.

Would you like to go on a trip to the Holy Land & Jordan? Pastor Rodney Bluml and Pastor Linda Livingston will be traveling with a group next February 4-16, 2018. Brochures are on the welcome table in the narthex with details travel plans and cost information. If you have further questions, please contact Pr. Rodney at 389.6153.

The Churches of Marion Food Pantry is always in need of donations for local people in need. All items are currently being accepted including peanut butter, mac and cheese, soups, toilet paper, cereal and all canned and non-glass containers. Please be sure your items have not expired.

What better way to prepare for the joy of Easter than hearing uplifting and spirit-filled music! The Luther College Concert Band, one of the Midwest's outstanding collegiate wind ensembles, will perform at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, March 24 at Vinton-Shellsburg High School. The concert is open to the public with a freewill donation taken at the door.

Reminder: Daytime Disciples will meet on Thursday, March 22nd at 1:00 pm following the final midweek Lenten daytime lunch and worship.

Cedar Valley Habitat for Humanity is beginning to build a new house in Marion. If you are interested in volunteering, please go to the website at cvhabitat.org and click on the volunteer link or sign up on the welcome table.

For questions or more details, see Don Rivers our Faith Lutheran Representative at CV Habitat for Humanity.



Holy Week Schedule

March 28th— 7:30 pm: Youth Mime Performance in Family Center

March 29th— 7:00 pm: Maundy Thursday Footwashing and Holy Communion

March 30th—7:00 pm: Good Friday

March 31st—9:00 pm: Easter Vigil
(No 5:30 pm service)

April 1st —8:00 am & 10:45 am Easter Worship with Breakfast at 9:15 am



Easter Sunday Worship

The Youth will be serving Easter Breakfast beginning at 9:15 am. There will be egg bake, fruit, doughnuts, juice and coffee. There is a sign up on the welcome table in the narthex for egg bake donations. Free will donations will go to support the youth on the 2018 Youth Gathering and youth attending EWALU.

Fellowship Notes

We are looking for treat donations for Sunday Fellowship Time. To make it easier to donate items, there are two sign up sheets: one for the Adult Fellowship time (9:00am), and one for the Children Fellowship time (10:15am). Please sign up with any dates that work, Thank you for your help, Fellowship Team.

Parish Nurse

The next blood pressure and blood sugar check is April 8th between services in Pastor John's office.

If you would like to talk to me, you can e-mail Christy Pratt at parishnurse@faithlutheran.org or call me at 361-0445. All discussions are confidential!

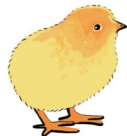
Faith Farm Update

We are in the planning stages for the farm! We will be contacting Sonja from Feed Iowa First soon to see what we are going to grow. We will then put out a sign-up sheet for sponsoring a row. Again, if are not able to, you are always more than welcome to help with weeding, harvesting or transporting the goods to Feed Iowa First. It takes a team of people to help the farm be successful!

I am looking for someone to help me with organizing the farm, such as communicating with Sonja at Feed Iowa First and with the other row sponsors. If you are interested, let Christy Pratt know! Thank you!

Buck a Chick

The Social and Concerns committee and Youth Ministry is in the final days of the Lenten project Buck a Chick. For every dollar given, the money will go towards buying a chick for a needy family. The family will keep the chick and raise it to produce eggs. The family can either keep the eggs for themselves or take them to the market to sell for income.



We will have a friendly competition between the chicks (children), hens (ladies) and roosters (gentlemen) to see who can purchase the most chickens. Last year, the hens won. Can they win again or will there be a new winner? Also, Midweek Lenten offerings will go towards Buck a Chick!

April Movie Night

Join us for Family Movie Night on Saturday, April 21st From 7:00-9:00 pm the all ages options in the Family Center is "The Greatest Showman" (PG) or for Bigger kids & Middle School in the Middle School room we have "Justice League" (PG-13). For Middle School & Older in the Youth Room we have "Star Wars: The Last Jedi" (PG-13). The Grown Up Pick is "Murder on the Orient Express" (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!



Mime Performance

Join us on Wednesday, March 27th at 7:30 pm in the Family Center for the Senior High Youth's Annual Mime Performance. This year performance will be Exodus

WNL

Wednesday, Mar. 21st—WNL with Women's team for cooking and clean-up.

Wednesday, Mar 28th —No WNL—Mime Performance

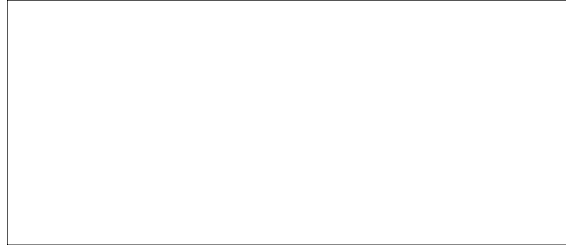
Wednesday, April 4th—WNL with HS for cooking and clean up.





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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 All Ages

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

Jeff Geiger

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

Jeff Ausman

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

Barb & Chris Thompson

Director of Fellowship

Director of Witness

Mike Dautremont

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.