

Soar We Now

**Soar we now where Christ has led,
Following our exalted head;
Made like him, like him we rise;
Ours the cross, the grave, the skies!** (Charles Wesley 18 century)

Ours the cross:

The cross stands empty because the promises have been made real for us. We can celebrate confident that sin is defeated, death is overcome. Resurrection brings new beginnings. New opportunities. New outlooks. Life happens, sickness and death, misunderstandings and outbursts of anger, innocent lives lost, property damaged. Indeed the stuff of life does not go away. The difference is that we are no longer captive to these setbacks. "Were they to take our house, goods honor child or spouse, though life be wretched away, they cannot win the day, the Kingdom's ours forever!"

The grave:

Physical illness and death are a reality for us. Several members and members of families have died since the beginning of the year. Yet the grave does not have the last word. Christ Is Risen! We are blessed with folks who have a passion for visiting, cooking, serving, and attending funerals. Their service models the church's witness, to bring comfort and hope during grief and loss.

The skies:

Easter lifts our spirits. The dullness of winter is replaced by the warmth of spring. The earth blossoms and signs of life are everywhere. God continues resurrecting not only the earth but our lives too.

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Peace,

Pastor John Albertson



Faith Church News

We continue to pray for Clell Wildes, Sue Tweeton, Paula Burley, Gerry Andrews cousin of Catherine Dytrt, Caleb cousin of Sherry Stark, Matt Cook son-in-law of Pard & Mariann Keith, Lydia granddaughter of Dick and Coreen Hein.

We express our sympathies to the family of June Mead on her recent passing.

We also express our sympathies to Chris Orr and family on the death of her mother, Vida Engel.

We express our sympathies to Coreen Hein and family on the recent passing of her sister, Marian.

Special thanks to Andrea & Mark Wagner for the Easter cookie delivery to the staff during Holy Week.

Treats/Snacks are needed for the Martin Luther's Reformation: Then and Now round-table event. We are looking for people to donate 2 dozen treats/snacks for this event. It could be a dessert item or other snack type item. Please have treats dropped off at the church by 5pm on Thursday, April 27th.

Easter crosses may be returned to the church at your convenience. There is a shopping cart in the closet by the carport. He is Risen, Alleluia!

Daytime Disciples will meet on Tuesday, April 25th at 1:00 pm in the Library. All ladies are welcome to attend.

The Men's Breakfast group will meet on May 9th at 9:00 am in the family center.

The next Craft Club will meet on Tuesday, May 9th at 10:00 am –1:00 pm in the library. Soup is provided. Please bring your craft item and a snack to share and come and join the fun and fellowship. All are welcome!

Marion Senior Housing

We are looking for an individual to be the Faith Lutheran representative on the Marion Senior Housing board. Time commitment is just 1 hour a month, the length of the board meeting.

Other responsibilities are helping out with fundraisers. If you are interested or have questions, let Katy Zylstra or Christy Pratt know. Thanks!

Faith Farm Update

There is only about one more month until we plant our cherry tomatoes on the Faith Farm! Have you signed up to adopt a row? In addition to feeding the food insecure in Linn County, a goal of Feed Iowa First is to create a new generation of farmers from right here in the city. This is a great opportunity to involve your whole family in service.



**Feed Iowa
FIRST**

We welcome all members of Faith to be involved with the Faith Farm, whether it be adopting a row to plant, maintain, and harvest or offering your support as you and your family are able. Reconnecting people to their food, as well as helping the food insecure is top priority of Feed Iowa First. Join us in this mission!

Marion Churches Blood Drive

How often do you get a chance to save someone's life? Well, it happens every time you give blood. Please consider joining with the members of Ascension and Resurrection Lutheran Churches in donating blood to make our common goal of collecting at least forty units. Sign up for an appointment time on the clipboard in the narthex.

When: Wednesday, May 10th

Where: Here-Faith Lutheran Church

Time: 2:00 pm—6:00 pm

"Blood is like a parachute..... if it's not there when you need it, it's too late."

Contact Jen @ 377-9700 or sign up at church between services on the welcome table!



Buck a Chick RESULTS!

The Social Concerns Committee and Youth Ministry teamed up for this year's 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.

The results are in and the Hens won!

The hens raised \$226.34, chicks \$204.04 and the roosters \$82.25 for a total of \$512.63. We helped the ECLA World Hunger give out 512 chicks for needy families to raise for eggs! Thanks for donating with care during our Lenten project.



Martin Luther's Reformation: Then and Now

In observation of the Reformation's 500th anniversary, Dr. Martin Lohrmann of Wartburg Theological Seminary and Dr. Jake Kohlhaas of Loras College will offer different perspectives on the fundamental issues at stake in the Reformation and the progress being made toward mutual understanding today during this interactive event. Join people from other churches for a round-table event that will focus on reform issues in the Roman Catholic and Lutheran churches.

Thursday, April 27th

6:30-8:30 pm

Faith Lutheran Church

This event is sponsored by the following Linn County churches: Ascension Lutheran, Christ Episcopal, Faith Lutheran, First Lutheran, Gloria Dei Lutheran and Lutheran Church of the Resurrection.

Please RSVP your participation by calling Jen at 377.9700 or sign up on the welcome table in the narthex. Informational brochures are available.

April Movie Night

Join us for Family Movie Night on Saturday, April 22nd. From 7:00-9:00 pm the all ages options in the Family Center is "Sing" (PG) or for bigger kids in the Middle School Room we have "Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them" (PG-13). The Grown Up Pick is "Hidden Figures" (PG) and the Middle School and Older kids have "Rogue One" in the Youth Room (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!

VBS & Day Camp Registration

Sign up sheets for our 2017 VBS and Day Camp are now available. Vacation Bible School runs from July 10th-13th from 9:00 am -11:30 am and is for preschool to kids entering Kindergarten. Our theme is "Taking Root". EWALU Day Camp runs July 10th-14th from 9:00 am-3:00 pm and is for kids entering 1st grade to 6th grade. The theme is "The Water of Life" On Friday, Day Campers will go to EWALU in Strawberry Point. Sign up sheets are available on the welcome table or see Danny for questions.

Wednesday Night Live

Wednesday, April 19th WNL with HS Women's team for cooking and clean-up.

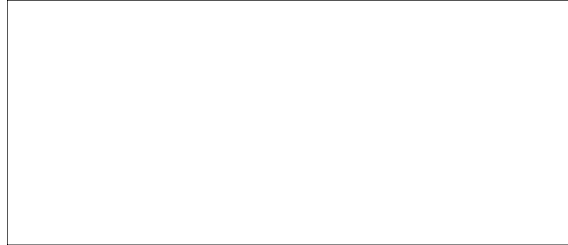
Wednesday, April 26th -Final WNL with Senior Recognition and Year End Worship.





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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.