

Three Ways

The great theologian Karl Barth, says that there are three ways in which the Word of God comes to us today. First the word is Jesus Christ. The Gospel of John announces, “In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God, and the Word was God...and the Word became flesh and lived among us full of grace and truth.”

Indeed Jesus is God’s Word spoken to you personally and spoken to the church collective. “For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior who is Christ the Lord.” And Jesus speaks to the whole church when he says, “the Word became flesh and dwelt among us.” That promise assures us that we no longer need to work out our salvation. Instead we do good works out of response to that promise.

The second form of the Word is the written Word, the Bible. The Bible speaks of God’s Law and love for God’s people. It reveals the promises of God, namely the saving acts of Jesus. Each time the community gathers it gathers around the Word. Here we learn of the truth God offers. We receive strength for the journey, correction for wrong ideas, and peace beyond measure. The Bible grounds us in the reality of God. Trust in the promise frees us from worry and turns our sorrow into joy.

The third for of the Word today is preaching. The preacher’s job is to interpret the Word for the people. Here we are convicted of our short-comings and reminded of God’s unconditional love for us. Hearing the word gives us the strength we need to meet each day knowing that come what may God leads us through life and through death.

Inside this issue:

Faith Church News	2
Library Likes	2
Annual Meeting	2
Men’s Book Club	3
Worship Opportunities	4

The abundant life Jesus offers is revealed through Jesus, as witnessed in the Word of God and proclaimed by the prophets and preachers. Believing this we continue to work for that promised better day!

Peace,

Pastor John Albertson

Faith Church News

We continue to pray for Erik Hendrickson, Coreen Hein, Betty Thompson.

We celebrate with Marcus & Andrea Hora who welcome baby Hannah on January 7, 2019. Proud grandparents are Phil & Laura White.

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.

Sunday, February 3rd will be Scout Sunday. All Scouts are encouraged to wear their uniforms to church for a special recognition!

First Communion Instruction will be available on Wednesday, February 13th at 5:00 pm or Wednesday, February 20th at 5:00 pm. See PJ for questions.

Social Concerns Committee will meet on Monday, February 4th at 11:00 am.

Christy Pratt will have blood pressure and blood sugar check in the Associate Pastor's office on Sunday, February 10th at 10:15 am.

The next Marion Churches Blood Drive will be on Tuesday, February 12th from 2:30 –6:30 pm at Resurrection. Please sign up on the welcome table.

The Boy Scouts will have a Pancake Breakfast on Saturday, February 16th from 6:00 am—1:30 pm. Come support our local troop.

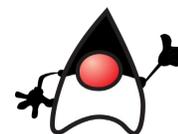
Annual Congregational

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.

Congregational Meeting



Library Likes



Making Sense of Scripture: Big Questions About the Book of Faith is a book that explores how to read the Bible and ways to go about understanding what you read.

The author uses two “voices” in posing and answering questions about reading the Bible. One voice represents a person who doesn't know as much about reading the Bible as he or she would like, and the person answering the questions is voiced by a teacher at Luther Seminary. Some of the questions raised include: What is the Bible? Is the Bible True? How is the Bible the Word of God? How Can I read the Bible with Greater Understanding? What I liked about this book is that it read like a real conversation, with one voice saying things like, “I don't understand” and “Oh, that makes more sense.” Eventually, the voice asking the questions would say, “So what you're saying is....” and would sum up the gist of the topic clearly and in language that most people can understand. I found this book to be very helpful when I hear the lessons on Sundays and when I read Bible stories. We have several copies in the Bible Study section of the Faith Library. Take a look at it!

Fellowship Events

Join the Fellowship Team for a Craft Day in the Family Center on Saturday February 2nd at 10am. There will be several projects available for all ages including magnet crafts, pearler beads, valentine cards, and more. Bring a snack to share and your imagination!

Good Time Rollers will have a Super Bowl Party at the home of Dave & Barbara Koch on Sunday, February 3rd at 5:00 pm. Please bring your own drinks and snack to share.

Good Time Rollers will have a Pizza and Uno party at the home of Deb & Jeff Ausman on Saturday, February 16th at 7:00 pm. Please sign up on the welcome table.

Join the Fellowship team to watch the Cedar Rapids Rough Riders take on the Dubuque Fighting Saints on Friday, March 29th. For tickets, sign up on the table in the Narthex. \$15 per ticket - drop off at the office or in the Fellowship Box or Box #180. Please sign up by March 10th. At the Stadium, meet by the ticket area around 6:45pm. Should be a fun night of watching hockey!

Faith Lutheran Reads



Are you familiar with the Linn Area Reads project? A book is selected, and the local libraries get multiple copies for people to check out and read. In addition to reading the book, people may choose to attend discussions about it. The Adult Education Committee is sponsoring our first Faith Lutheran Reads! Our book is *The Faith Club: A Muslim, a Christian, A Jew – Three Women Search for Understanding*, by Ranya Idliby, Suzanne Oliver, and Priscilla Warner. The three New York City authors initially met to write a children's book in the aftermath of 9/11. As they talked through what they could say, they explored exactly what they thought about their own religious beliefs and eventually considered themselves a Faith Club where they pondered difficult questions about Islam, Judaism, and Christianity. Chapters include their thoughts on religious stereotypes, who Jesus is, what the crucifixion means, the Promised Land, the afterlife, and other topics. They do not consider themselves to be spokespersons for their whole religion, though, and they consult with their imam, rabbi, and priest on thorny questions they're not quite sure how to answer. This is a good book for considering: *What do I believe? What do Lutherans believe? What might I say in this type of conversation?* Faith will purchase books for all those who wish to read it. Discussions at a variety of times will be scheduled sometime in April for those interested in having a conversation about the book. A sign-up sheet for a free copy of the book is available by the tv monitor in the narthex.

Men's Book Club

Men's Book Club will meet on Saturdays—March 9-April 13th from 8:00-10:00 am in the Library. We will read and discuss the book, "I Heard the Owl Call My Name" by Margaret Craven (PJ's favorite novel!) The books are available on the welcome table in the narthex.

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

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.

Wednesday, Feb. 6th—WNL w/ Women's team for cooking and clean up

Wednesday, Feb. 13th —WNL w/ HS 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

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