



Changing Seasons

The seasons, they are a changin'. We are coming to the conclusion of the season of Epiphany, filled with images of light, first shown in the star that guided the Magi to this humble child, the King of Kings. We finish this weekend with the unimaginable bright light that is the Transfiguration of Jesus. Jesus himself talks of this light this season in the Sermon on the Mount, declaring "You are the Light of the world" (Matthew 5:13).

We will now move from the revelation of Jesus as God's own son to the fulfilment of Jesus's ministry on the cross at the end of the forty days of Lent. We are also coming to the hopeful conclusion of winter. While we do not know when winter will actually end, we know that we are blessed with more light each day. However, I find it ironic that Christians will move into a state of contemplation that the world would consider better fit to the cold and harsh winter.

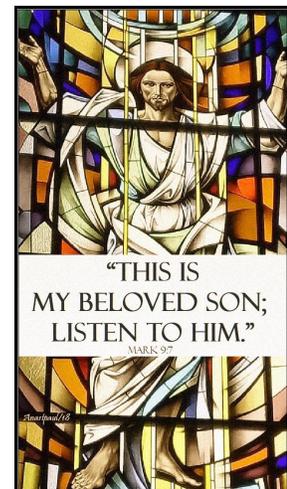
It reminds me that God calls us to something more than the world expects. God calls us to prepare our hearts to love unconditionally, just as God gave us the amazing gift of unconditional love in Jesus Christ. In this challenge, I invite you to recall God's own words in which Jesus is revealed in the glory of Transfiguration: "This is my son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!" May we ever listen to and live out the words of Jesus Christ, our savior and Lord.

Inside this issue:

Faith Church News	2
Come Touch the Robe	2
Marion Food Pantry	2
Youth Events	3
Worship Opportunities	4

Peace,

Intern Dennis Rodenberg



Faith Church News

We continue to pray for Joyce Smith.

Darlene Blankenburg, Dolores Holecek, Taylor Reinhart (brother-in-law of Deb Bell-Geiser, Penny White, Richard Hill, Pastor Roger McKinstry, Harriet Insteffjord (mother of Connie Bulman), Ian Kendall, grandson of Marlene Pasker, Maximillian, nephew of Peggy Wittmer.

Men's Book Study will continue to meet

on Saturdays through April 4th from 9:00-10:30 am in the Library.

The Faith Lutheran Reads discussion date for those who have read the book is February 23, during the Sunday School hour.

Come join us for an informal Bible study the 2nd and 4th Mondays at 7:00pm. Will be looking at a few chapters in Exploring the Bible by Eric D. Barreto and Michael J. Chan. We have a few copies of the book for those who want to read prior to the group discussion.

Marion Food Pantry

If you would like to volunteer some of your time at the Marion Food Pantry on a Tuesday or a Thursday, please contact June McCoy at 361-4618. Volunteers work mostly once a month on Tuesdays or Thursdays. Some choose more often. Volunteer sessions run between 2 and 2 1/2 hours. From 1-3 pm, one can: bag groceries, control a waiting line, or do office work-check client qualifications. In the mornings, there are shelf stocking, or even shopping opportunities, if you drive a hauler.

We are also still taking food donations for the pantry. You may drop off any items at anytime. Please be sure that any items you drop off are non-perishable and have not past their expiration dates. Thank you for your support of our neighbors in our community.

Come Touch the Robe

The mid-week (Thursdays) Lenten worship this year will focus on the choir's presentation of the cantata, "Come Touch the Robe," by Peter Choplin.

Soup suppers will be offered at 6:00 pm in the Family Center followed by worship in the sanctuary using Holden Evening Prayer as the setting for the liturgy.

March 5: Healing

March 12: Transfiguration

March 19: Miracles

March 26: Servanthood

April 2: The Passion of Our Lord

Sunday, April 5th: "Come Touch the Robe" Choir Cantata @ 9:00 am (No Sat worship)

Buck a Chick

The Social and Concerns committee and Youth Ministry will again team 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. You can take a coloring sheet to color and we will display it around the narthex.



We will have a friendly competition between the chicks (children), hens (ladies) and roosters (gentlemen) to see who can purchase the most chickens. The last year the roosters pulled out a victory. Can they win again or will there be a new winner?

Parish Nurse Notes

The next blood pressure and blood sugar check is March 8th after service in Intern Dennis's office.

Our monthly Healthy Faith Incentive for February is saying thank you or complement a friend or a family member once a week since February is friendship and love month. Why should we do this? It will make us feel good and make the other person feel good as well. We are in the thick of winter, we need to do something to make us feel good, instead of feeling sad because of the weather. Once you do this, put your name in the drawing for gift card to HyVee. The box to put your name is on the bulletin board near the family center. You can also tell me and I can put your name in the drawing.

February is heart month. Why should we focus on this? Heart disease is the number one cause of death in the US. How can we lower our risk for heart disease? We can eat more fruit and veggies, less red meat and be more active. The goal is to be active 30 minutes a day or doing 10,000 steps every day. By doing this, it will decrease the inflammation in your body, lowering your risk for heart disease.

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



February Movie Night

Join us for Family Movie Night on Saturday, February 22nd From 7:00-9:00 pm the all ages options in the Family Center is "Arctic Dogs" (PG) or for Middle School & Older in the Youth Room we have "The Adams Family" (PG). The Grown Up Pick is "A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood" (PG) (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.



February Youth Activity

Join us for our February event on Sunday, February 23rd as we meet at AirFX at 2:00 pm. Cost is \$15 and includes jump socks. We will have a welcome and orientation. Fill out waivers at airfxcr.com/customer-waiver See Danny for questions.



Wednesday Night Live

Wednesday, Feb 19th—WNL w/ Boy Scout Pancake Dinner for cooking and cleanup.

Wednesday, Feb 26th —No WNL— Ash Wednesday Worship @ 7:00 pm

Wednesday, Mar 4th —WNL w/Men's 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

Diane Lehtinen

Choir Director

Dennis Rodenberg

Pastoral Intern

Daniel Stone

Director of Youth and Family Ministry

Christy Pratt

Parish Nurse

Faith Lutheran Church Council Members

Mick Vana

President

Stephanie Kubik

Vice President

Deb Bell Geiser

Secretary

Becky Kelsey

Treasurer

Dave Koch

Financial Secretary

Sue Tweeton

Director of Adult Nurture

Debra Aldrich

Director of Worship

Dustin & Jenny VansCoy

Directors of Youth

Barb & Chris Thompson

Director of Fellowship

Director of Witness

Mike Dautremont

Director of Facilities

Teresa Wilkes

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.