



Shaker Hymn

Fairer than rubies and richer than gold,
 Are the gems of Christ's kingdom I see;
 Wisdom for service and power to uphold
 Are gifts most attractive to me.
 Clothe and bedeck me with beauty and grace
 To win precious souls to God's way;
 To lead in the light of his glorious face,
 His will all my life shall bear away.

Dear Friends, soon we will gather for in-person worship. It's been a while but I feel comfortable with the decision. Please join in worshipping the One who came to save us, the One who walks with us, the One who leads us to our heavenly home, Jesus Christ, Our Lord. Worshipping with the gathered community provides opportunities to sing together, pray for each other, hear God's Word and receive the Holy Sacrament. We will still require masks, temperature checks and social distancing. With these practices in place you can be sure that your worship experience will be as safe and positive as possible.

"I will bless you, Lord my God!
 You fill the world with awe.
 You dress yourself in light
 In rich, majestic light." Psalm 104

Inside this issue:

Faith Church News	2
Feed Iowa First	2
Parish Nurse	3
Youth Update	3
Worship Opportunities	4

Peace,

Pastor John Albertson



Faith Church News

We are praying for Susan Cunningham's cousin, Kevin, Deb Bell Geiser's mother, Jeanette, and Christy Pratt's mother.

The April/May/June Christ in Our Home booklets are available now at church or in the free little library outside the family center entrance.

2021 Offering Envelopes are available on the welcome table in the narthex. Stop in and pick yours up while Jen is in the office Wed-Fri 7:00 am—3:00 pm.

Pastor's Class—Lutheran Beliefs and Practices is offered on YouTube and Facebook, Wednesday evenings at 7:00 pm.

The Faith Adult Nurture Committee offers a study on Ephesians continuing on Tuesdays at 7:00 pm.

Regathering Guidelines

Regathering Worship Guidelines as approved at the April Council meeting:

Regathering in-person worship begins on Sunday, May 23: the Feast of Pentecost at 9:00 am

1. Worshipers will need to wear masks and sit six feet apart, and pews will be taped closed as before.
2. We will allow congregational singing with masks on. People will pick up hymnals before they enter the sanctuary and will replace them on a cart afterwards. Bulletins will not be used at this time.
3. An offering plate will be on the welcome table, not passed through the pews.
4. Pastor John will offer communion at the altar area using wafers and disposable cups. He will wear gloves and change them often. Waste cans will be at the sides for people to deposit their cups. Mike Dautremont will mark the spots where people should stand.
5. We will not offer food for fellowship yet. Fellowship after worship takes place outside.
6. We will continue to have parts of the building blocked off, including the Family Center and the West bathrooms. Mailboxes will not be in use yet.

7. As of now, we will not have outside groups (Boy Scouts, Soccer, etc.) using the building and will reevaluate this in the fall.

8. Church groups who wish to use the building may use the library or narthex area if they like - with masks and maintaining physical distance. Large groups should use the narthex.

9. One to two ushers will be needed for worship services.

10. We will enable cross ventilation as before by opening doors and windows.

11. All this is dependent on whether there is a spike in virus cases.



Feed Iowa First

As the weather improves we are looking ahead to preparing the garden for this year's Feed Iowa First crops of tomatoes, tomatillos and cucumbers and WE NEED YOU!

Upcoming dates: Volunteers are needed for installing irrigation on **Tuesday, May 18th**. Our first planting date will be on **Tuesday, May 25th**. Both of these dates will be in the evening and the time is yet to be determined. Our second planting date will be on Thursday, **June 25th** as we plant the cucumbers.

After our initial planting date, we will need volunteers to weed, water and pick. Volunteers will be notified if it is your week to weed and you may do it when it is convenient for you. Weeding will be easier as Russ Gerst will be tilling the rows on a regular basis to keep the weeds down. Email Christy at parish-nurse@faithlutheran.org if you are available to volunteer for any of these jobs and dates.



**Feed Iowa
FIRST**

Parish Nurse Notes

Linn County Public Health as released some information regarding the COVID-19 vaccines: Here are some facts:

- There is not just one registration area for vaccines. We know that is frustrating, but remember, there are nearly 230,000 people living in Linn County.
- Mercy, UnityPoint, Eastern Iowa Health Center will contact you when they have vaccine for patients. If you do not have a provider call Linn County Public Health.
- You still need to wear a mask after you receive your vaccine.

Turn to Linncounty.org/vaccine for the latest COVID-19 information.

Important phone numbers:

UnityPoint Health Call Center: 319.370.9439

Mercy Medical Center: 319.369.4604

211: (for help scheduling an appointment or transportation to the appointment)

Area Agency on Aging: 866.468.7887

Eastern Iowa Health Center 319.730.7300

Linn County Public Health: 319.892.6097



There is still a huge need for blood. Contact the blood center at www.bloodcenter.org or call (800) 747-5401 to make an appointment to donate. It is easy and safe to donate!

Youth Update

Yes, the kids are ready to abandon Zoom meetings. We are getting ready to begin in-person gatherings! Working with Faith's Re-Gathering Committee, youth events return this summer. Adult volunteers and our energetic youth will first meet for outdoor events. As we get closer to fall, our teams will prepare for WNL and Sunday School. Mark your calendars for our upcoming adventures.

June 11 – School's Out Bonfire – 7:00 PM

Wednesdays in July – Evening VBS from 6:00 – 8:00 PM

June 20-25 – Faith Week at EWALU



Churches of Marion Food Pantry

Churches of Marion Food Pantry needs:

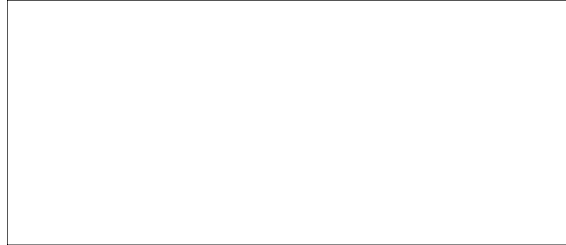
- Canned fruit
- Canned meat
- Peanut butter
- Soup
- Cereal
- Box potatoes
- Paper towels
- Toilet paper
- Laundry detergent
- Dish soap

Donations can be dropped off at church on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 7:00 am - 3:00 pm. Thanks in advance for helping our local neighbors in need.



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.

ONLINE ONLY
Worship Sundays
9:00 am

Resuming IN-PERSON
Worship
Sunday, May 23rd
9:00 am

Faith has been serving the Marion-Cedar Rapids area for more than forty years; supporting local ministries such as the Marion Churches Food Pantry, Habitat for Humanity, and Marion Senior Living Community. We are in partnership with the 9,091 congregations, 26 Lutheran colleges and universities, 7 seminaries, 240 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 3.4 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	Christy Pratt Parish Nurse

Faith Lutheran Church Council Members

President	Debora Aldrich Director of Worship
Stephanie Kubik Vice President	Dustin & Jenny VansCoy Directors of Youth
Deb Bell Geiser Secretary	Barb & Chris Thompson Director of Fellowship
Becky Kelsey Treasurer	Director of Witness
Dave Koch Financial Secretary	Mike Dautremont Director of Facilities
Sue Tweeton Director of Adult Nurture	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.