



Holy Church

Luther's Large Catechism: "I believe in the holy catholic church."

Luther writes: "I believe that there is on earth a little holy flock or community of pure saints under one head, Christ. It is called together by the Holy Spirit in one faith, mind, and understanding. It possesses a variety of gifts, yet is united in love without sect or schism. Of this community I also am a part and member, a participant and co-partner in all the blessings it possesses. I was brought to it by the Holy Spirit and incorporated into it through the fact that I have heard and still hear God's Word, which is the first step in entering it. Until the last day the Holy Spirit remains with the holy community or Christian people. Through it he gathers us, using it to teach and preach the Word. By it he creates and increases sanctification, causing it daily to grow and become strong in the faith and in the fruits of the Spirit." Book of Concord.

I was baptized on September 24, 1961 at Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Brainerd, MN. On that day, just a little over three months old, I was made a member of the church, the body of Christ. Little did I know it but through the Holy Spirit's constant work I remain a member—warts and all!

As members we work together, forgive each other, love one another and help our neighbor in need. This work is not to gain favor with God but a response to God's love for us. "While we were yet sinners, Christ died for us."

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The idea of church takes on a special meaning as we continue to live through this pandemic. Life is uncertain but God is faithful. Thanks be to God!

Peace,

Pastor John Albertson

Faith Church News

We continue to pray for Diane Anderson, Deb Aldrich, Char Jacobson, Christy Pratt's mother.

We extend our sympathy to Katie Zylstra and family on the passing of her sister, Verna.

We also extend our sympathy to Daisy Roehr on the death of her sister.

Gathering Again Info

Our guidelines for Sunday in-person worship at 9:00 am:

- * Christy Pratt, Parish Nurse will do a quick health check before you enter.
- * All people will wear masks throughout the service.
- * People will stand and sit 6 feet apart.
- * We will not yet have congregational singing, reciting prayers, or Holy Communion.
- * The water fountain will be turned off.
- * An offering plate will be available for envelope drop-off (OR please mail your offering).
- * Please do not leave the area of the church enclosed by the blue partitions.

Experience is showing us that we can accommodate no more than 40 people for in-person worship. We ask for your patience as we work through further details.

We expect that changes at a moment's notice might be necessary due to the COVID-19 crisis.

Factors we are considering:

- school closures
- the Governor closing other places besides bars or reducing the number of people who can gather
- the Linn County Health Department issuing further restriction.

If these conditions change, we will temporarily return to online-only worship.

Please watch your email for updates.

On-line options for worship include the church website sermon podcast, and Facebook or YouTube streaming services. Links to these are easy to find on the home page of the church website. We fully respect all decisions to attend in-person worship if it is available or to worship online.

Any questions? Feel free to contact:

Pastor John, Intern Dennis, Danny Stone, Deb Aldrich, Christy Pratt, Mike Dautremont

Feed Iowa First Farm

Our Feed Iowa First garden really produced this year. Here are the stats to date:

Zucchini: 1745.2 pounds

Corn: 228.8 pounds

Peppers: 74.75 pounds



Feed Iowa
FIRST

Total of 2048 pounds of produce and 81 hours of volunteer time. The zucchini and peppers have slowed down but are still producing. The corn has been cut down and broccoli planted for a fall crop. Thanks to everyone who has helped with the garden.

Zio Johno Coupons— MSLC

Marion Senior Living is doing a fundraiser in place of their annual Lasagna dinner fundraiser that has been cancelled because of the pandemic. Five dollar Zio Johno's coupons are being sold and can be used in as many quantities as you wish and never expire.

Jen will have \$5 coupons for your purchase in the church office and available for pick up on Wed/Thurs/Fri from 7:00 am—3:00 pm.

The proceeds of this fundraiser help MSLC continue to update and expand the service and security options that assure the safety and well-being of our residents. Newer computers, additional exterior lighting, expanded walking paths, and raised gardens are just a few of the newest additions to our campus.



COMMUNITY

Parish Nurse Notes

The Marion Food Pantry has temporarily moved to 1105 7th Ave in the Marion Square Plaza and is open from 1:00 pm—3:00 pm daily. We are collecting food for the pantry on Wednesday/Thursday/Fridays from 7 am—3 pm or Sundays during worship. Just drop off safely at the tote under the carport at church. In just one week we've taken 4 totes! Thanks to Pastor Wendell for transportation. All items welcome.

Here is a link to Disaster Assistance Programs. <https://dhs.iowa.gov/disaster-assistance-programs>

If you have a concern or would like to talk with me, you can contact Christy Pratt parish-nurse@faithlutheran.org or call 319-361-0445. All conversations are confidential.



Online Pastor's Study

Pastor John is offering an online study on Wednesday nights at 7:00 pm. The topic of the study is "Parables of Grace" and you can find the link by going to our faithlutheran.org website and clicking on the link.

Youth Ministry Update

Faith's Youth Nurture and Youth Ministry leaders will continually reassess when it is safe to return for in person ministry. Danny will post Children's Messages and works to keep our youth engaged.

For Sunday School and WNL, we will share weekly lessons for families to complete at home. Martin Luther would love the at home lessons, since he wrote the Small Catechism as tool for families. Additionally, Faith will share video clips to introduce the Sunday and Wednesday lessons. We may be separated physically, but the spirit unites us all.

Bibles Anyone?

This year, Faith Lutheran will celebrate Bible Sunday in front yards, porches, decks and vestibules! Danny will deliver Bibles and share a blessing with anyone who needs a fresh copy – anyone!

Order your Bibles at www.FaithLutheran.org and Danny will schedule a time to deliver and bless. We offer five different Bibles to match the stages of our lives.

Spark Story Bible -- Great for Pre-school children or for families to have on hand.

Spark Bible -- Given to 2nd Grade youth. It is excellent for elementary school students.

Lutheran Study Bible -- Gifted to High School Seniors. This Bible is used in adult Bible studies.

Large Print Lutheran Study Bible – Everything from the study Bible made larger and easier to read.

Super Large NIV Bible -- Largest print we could find, but it is a New International translation differs slightly from New Revised Standard Version Bibles.

Action Bible -- Favorite Bible stories are interpreted as a graphic novel for youth who struggle as readers.





155 Boyson Road
Marion, Iowa 52302-9443

Phone: 319.377.9700
Fax: 319.373.6001
Pastor John cell: 319.651.8171
Intern Dennis: 319.774.6327
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 Time Sundays

8:20 am—Health Screening

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

President
Stephanie Kubik
Vice President
Deb Bell Geiser
Secretary
Becky Kelsey
Treasurer
Dave Koch
Financial Secretary
Sue Tweeton
Director of Adult Nurture

Debora 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.