

December 2014

FAITH HERALD

Faith Lutheran Church
171 Lewis Lane
Hamilton, MT 59840
406-363-2964



Office Hours:
Monday – Friday
9am – 1pm
office@faithlutheranhamilton.org
www.faithlutheranhamilton.org

Leaving Room

“Don’t forget to leave room for dessert!” What sweet words from the best of holiday meals...or from summer suppertimes when there’s fresh peach pie in the oven.

I’ve never been good at leaving room—room in my schedule, room on my shelves, or room in my tummy. I love to fill the time of my life with doings, quiet moments with music, hunger with food. And I’m never more tempted to stuff myself on every count than Christmas! My hopes are so high for joy, companionship, gift-giving and receiving—that I spend time, abilities, and finances (sometimes beyond my means) to fill myself and others.

I forget to leave room.

Spiritual leaders speak often about leaving room in our lives. Nearly 2000 years ago, St. Augustine wrote, “Our hearts are restless till they rest in thee,” alluding to our endless search for something or someone to fill the unrelenting longings of our soul.

I am insatiable. So are you. We cannot be satisfied.

On this side of eternity, neither you or I will ever be full, no matter how much we stuff ourselves and how much we spend to do it. We can set our eyes on the Christ-child, God’s love and life enfleshed in Jesus then and forever, YET faith in Christ is about trusting him *even though we don’t feel* full, happy, secure, or whatever it is we’re hoping for on earth now.

This Christmas, “don’t forget to leave room for dessert.”

After all, the best of our holy-day moments are just samples of God’s holiday feast that will finally fill us and more on the other side. Relax! We needn’t pile all our hopes and dreams on our plates this year or any year. *DO* enjoy the gifts set before you this season—every day, every moment. And try not to be disappointed when you rise from your Christmas tables unsatisfied. ***You should be!***

God’s got dessert waiting. ~Pastor Brenda



**Live Generously:
Returning God’s Gifts
Sunday, December 7**

Celebrate God’s gifts and return them in trust and joy. Remember to return your 2015 whole-life pledge forms on or before Sunday, December 7. More pledge forms available.

You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion... This service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of the Lord’s people, but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God.

2 Corinthians 9:11-12, NIV



GREAT EXPECTATIONS

Advent at Faith 2014

Take (even *a little* more!) control of Christmas through some thoughtful Sunday mornings at Faith. We'll consider "Great Expectations," "Great Health," and "Great Giving" as we celebrate the beginning of the "Greatest Story Ever Told." Try the exercise below to get a jump on the season!

Great Expectations Exercise

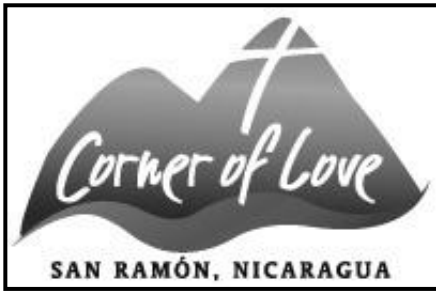
1. Find some quiet time (locked bathroom?), grab a piece of paper/computer, and title a page: "What I want or expect this Christmas." List these words vertically below it, adding others you might think of: Things. Behaviors. Emotions. Finances. Spiritual matters. Time. Relationships. What else?
2. Start writing. Work alone at first, as honestly as you're able. Later on, invite your spouse and kids to join you, comment on your thoughts and add their own.
3. Give your list to God in prayer. Ask God to show you the best and truest desires for this season and to expose unhelpful expectations and desires and allow you to let them go.
4. Go back through the list, asking, "What does *God* want or expect from me in this area?"
5. Draw a line through expectations you need to give up completely. Give them to God in prayer.
6. Draw a line through anything you can't control—or rewrite it to address what you *can* control in the matter. Give these things, the people involved, and your desires for them to God in prayer.
7. Circle what's left. Make groups with headings and subgroups, if you want. Draw pictures if that's your style. Choose several ideas and rank them by importance.
8. Consider what you'll need to actually DO in order for these things to unfold as you hope. Is this realistic? Does it conflict with any other priorities you've set?
9. Pray again. Give these expectations to God as well. Ask God to bless them or change them as he desires—in other words, pray, "not my will but yours be done." Ask for all that is needed to accomplish what God wants to accomplish in your life in this season and the days ahead.
10. "Lord, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, the courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the difference." Go in peace and serve the Lord!



New Members' Sunday

January 25

Interested in joining Faith's family? Not to brag but we ARE a great family. ☺ Contact Pastor Brenda (381-1919) if you think Faith is the family for you!



Misión Nicaragua

A Benefit Dinner for Medical Care
5:30-8:00pm, Sunday, December 7, 2014
\$15.00 adult, \$5 child

Faith Lutheran Church, 171 Lewis Lane, Hamilton

\$500 buys \$6000-\$25,000 of medical supplies for Nicaraguan families for whom Tylenol is a luxury!

It's Hannah's senior project! Help her help the folks we met on our mission trip to San Ramón, Nicaragua.

Guests enjoy a homemade and authentic Nicaraguan meal: Grilled Achiote Chicken, handmade tortillas, pinto beans and rice, coleslaw, pico de gallo and chimichurri salsa, and yummy desserts (maybe not so Nicaraguan ☺). Take a break from dinner to check out the silent auction, too!

Volunteers needed: Setup and cooking on Saturday, Dec. 6, 10:30 till we're done. Prep on Sunday 3:00 and following. Service crew 5:00 to 8:00. Cleanup till we're done.

Holy Business

Everything a congregation does—from lighting the candles in worship to washing the floors is holy work (just like your lives are holy 24/7!). It's just not always glamorous or fun!

Many thanks to the hearts and hands that keep our congregation moving smoothly through financial management and big decisions! Council members Scott Southwick, Ann Wright, Darrin Heitmann, Karen Heller, Mark Livesay, Aubrey Larson, and Jennifer Murillo do a great job of thinking through our common work and helping us stay on track.



2015 Budget Input

Council has posted a draft of our 2015 budget in the Fellowship Hall for consideration and comment. Please take a look and direct your comments and questions to Darrin Heitmann, Steward of Finance (363-0492, powertrip@cybernet1.com) or Scott Southwick, Convener/President (363-4365, southwick.scott@gmail.com) for the council's consideration at their Dec. 15 meeting.



Please pray about serving at Faith Lutheran as a part of our church council!

Steward Positions that will be available next term:

*Convener *Worship *Communications
 *Outreach *Hospitality & Fellowship *Endowment Comm.

If you would like more information, please see one of the following nominating committee members: Mark Livesay, Jennifer Dunn, Judy Wilson, Carl Russ, Nathan Brady, or Kerry Hanson



The Stewards of Faith 2014 Church Council

Pastor (ex-officio)	Rev. Brenda Satrum	381-1919	brenda@faithlutheranhamilton.org
President/Convener	Scott Southwick	363-4365 cell 360-8694	southwick.scott@gmail.com
Communication	Ann Wright	777-6901	annkatmontana@earthlink.net
Discipleship	Mark Livesay	961-5362	livesay_m@msn.com
Fellowship & Hospitality	Jennifer Murillo	529-9138	jsmurrillo@gmail.com
Finance	Darrin Heitmann	363-0492 cell 370-4521	powertrip@cybernet1.com
Outreach	(Vacant)		
Property & Grounds	Aubrey Larson	777-2018	alarson1931@msn.com
Worship	Karen Heller	363-4738	mtmama@cybernet1.com

Church Staff Members

Rev. Brenda Satrum	Pastor
Adrienne Patterson	Office Manager & Financial Secretary
Jacque VanDenburg	Bookkeeper
Richard Castor	Custodian
Celeste Pogachar	Music/Worship Coordinator



Care for Military Families

The American Legion supports the families of deployed servicemen and women through care packages to spouses and kids left at home.

Please contact Sharon Klakken of the American Legion (544-8774) or let our office know if you are or if you know of such a family to access this helpful service.

Pray for our Military

Please remember our family and friends that have joined the military & are defending our country each and every day. Keep them in your thoughts and prayers. Especially remember those close to our family here at Faith Lutheran:

- Lt. Colonel Mark Huhtanen, son of Dale and Dianne Huhtanen, serving at Ft. Hood, TX
- Lars E. Larson, son of Daniel Larson & grandson of Patricia Larson, recent graduate from Navy Bootcamp, now attending school in Great Lakes, IL
- S/Sgt Anthony Hunter, grandson of Carl Swanson, serving in Texas
- Mike Hebert, grandson of Don and Shirley McGourty, US Army, serving in Joliet, IL
- Major Timothy Spaulding, nephew of John Trangmoe, Air Force, Wright-Patterson AFB, OH
- Tech Sgt. Andy Wetzsteon, son of Susan and Lonnie Wetzsteon, serving at Eileson AFB, Fairbanks, AK
- Eric Joiner, grandson of Bob and Marge Mathison, serving at Fort Drum, New York
- Sgt. Carl J. Selby, grandson of Clara Felton, serving in Hutchinson, KS
- Tony Robertson and Gretchen Robertson, brother and sister-in-law to the Beyers, serving in Alaska
- Dea Ross, niece of Craig Hurlbert & granddaughter of Dea & Bill Hurlbert, Navy, stationed in Afghanistan
- Anna Mitteness, granddaughter of Morrie and Ann Mitteness, Cpl US Marines Corps. Now at the Marine Station in Yuma, AZ, doing communications repair.



THE YOUTH PAGE



WEDNESDAYS & SUNDAYS

Dec. 3 Grub & Games: All-Church Decorating
Dec. 10 Youth Group, 7-8:30
Dec. 14 MS/HS Christmas Waffles, FLC @ 11:00
Dec. 17 Youth Group, 7-8:30
Dec. 21 Carols, Candles & Cocoa HAYRIDE (below)
Dec. 25 MERRY CHRISTMAS!
Jan. 1 HAPPY NEW YEAR!

December Grub & Games: FLC All-Church Decorating Party

Wednesday, Dec. 3, 6:30-8:30

With a game of Grog to cap the evening at 8:00!

Potluck soup, bread and crumpets at 6:30 for "kids" of all ages.

High Schoolers: the Christmas Tree is YOURS! Sign up at Youth Group, Confirmation, or in worship for your part in the meal. Candlelight carols for all & Grog (not a drink!) for the daring...



INTRODUCING...

Youth Director Samantha Fife!

She'll be an awesome addition to Alana Cruse, Youth Minister from St. Paul's, taking much of the organizing work out of PB's hands and adding her energy to leading our kids. We'll tell you more about her next month! This position is funded by funds saved from the 2013 Scandinavian Dinner.



Youth Sunday Holiday Brunch December 14, 11:00am, FLC

Middle and High Schoolers are cordially invited to a champagne brunch with waffles and all the goodies.



HAYRIDE!!!

Sunday, Dec. 21, 4:00 to 6:30

Meet at **St. Paul's Episcopal** (3rd & DeSmet), then hop on the hay and carol our way around town. Followed by hot chocolate, yummy supper, and Christmas cookies. Corvallis United Methodist is with us.
Invite friends! All ages welcome.

CONNECT WITH US!!!

Youth Director Samantha Fife, Faith Lutheran,
406.370.8025 (cell). fifedrivel@gmail.com
or Youth Minister **Alana Cruse**, St. Paul's Episcopal,
406.381.3534 (cell). ashortcruse@gmail.com



Sunday School Summit

Sunday Dec. 7, 11:00am

Time for a check-in! Parents, teachers, leaders—please gather in the end classroom while the kids are at worship practice. We'll evaluate progress so far, see what we need to tweak, and start our schedules for January. We especially need to firm up plans for our preschoolers!

Kids' Christmas Program "A Night to Remember"

9:30am
December 14th



Middle & High Schoolers will add their talents in the rest of the service through special music, readings and as worship assistants.

Please join us after for coffee hour as we serve Jesus' birthday cake and refreshments!

Christmas Eve Candlelight Services



Tues., December 24th
4:00 pm & 7:00 pm



DECEMBER WORSHIP NOTES

Advent (the beginning of the Christian calendar year) starts Sunday, Nov. 30th. This is "the year of Mark", or Lectionary B, which means the readings this year will focus on Mark's version of the gospel. Encountering the spare prose of Mark can be especially disconcerting following years of hearing the comforting words Matthew and Luke. It's a very political narrative, written in Palestine after the Roman/ Jewish war, and told from the point of view of the oppressed. Mark often teaches by negative example.

Mark more than any other gospel illustrates everything comes in the middle of things, even the beginning and the end. It is through and through apocalyptic. Advent happening in the middle of things illustrates that Christ's arrival is the fulfillment of prophecy, the fulfillment of scripture. Many Advent hymns convey a sense of the new coming in the middle of things, alive with the image of Christ coming as light into the darkness. To understand Mark more completely, consider reading a commentary. Two recommended commentaries are: *The Gospel According to Mark*, by James R. Edwards, and *Mark: A Commentary*, by Adela Collins. I intend to rely on my old standby, Barclay's *Gospel of Mark: New Daily Study Bible* series.

Worship this month features "Now the Feast", with a smattering of "Holden Evening Prayer" and plenty of Christmas carols. A special treat on Dec. 14th will be the Kids' Christmas Worship service, a youth-led worship featuring the talents of our young folks. On Christmas Eve, there will be two worship services, which share the Christmas Story told through the readings of Luke and Isaiah with Christmas carols in the traditional candlelight setting. December 28th will be an entire service of beloved Christmas carols, and our guest preacher will be LPA Rick Brown. ~Celeste



Attention Musicians!

There is an abundance of great Advent and Christmas music and surely you have a favorite piece. Consider sharing it with us! Please contact me if you are interested in presenting special music at any worship service in December. If you wish to play or sing for Christmas Eve services, I will need to know by December 14th. Thanks! ~ Celeste

Our Church Home for the Holidays: Deck the Halls!

All-Church Deck the Halls Party: Wednesday, December 3, 6:30-8:30pm

Y'all come—families and singles, young and old! We need all hands to deck the halls! Prep will start at 5:30; PIZZA at 6:30; finish up with a carol or two by candlelight by 8:00. MS and HS kids are welcome to stick around for a short round of Grog (no flashlights) and out by 8:20 or so.



A New Ornament for Faith's Tree



One of the joys of decorating our tree at home is pulling out ornaments given by loved ones or purchased in special times. Perhaps it would be a joy for you to gift an ornament (new or used, hand-made or store-bought) to the tree at your faith home, too—an ornament symbolic of God's gifts or presence to greet you in worship.

We take a risk in this invitation: not all of us agree on what "pretty" looks like! So let's: 1) stick with white and gold, 2) keep it simple, and 3) go with the flow.

Bring your ornaments by Wed., Dec. 3 if possible, Sun., Dec. 7 at the latest.

Brawl of the Wild

Thanks so much for supporting the special offering on November 16th for Lutheran Campus Ministry! The results are in! Bobcat supporters donated \$200 in the blue cups and Grizzly supporters contributed \$178! Even though the Bobcats won the football game, and FLC Bobcat fans won the challenge and bragging rights for the next year, proceeds will be split evenly between the U of M and MSU Campus Ministries. Better luck next year, Grizzlies!





Faith Herald December 2014



Faith Lutheran Church Scandinavian Dinner

January 24, 2015

3-7 pm

171 Lewis Lane, Hamilton, MT 59840

406-363-2964



Adults: \$15 & children under 16 years: \$5. Donations welcome.

Proceeds will benefit FLC's Youth Program and Synod Ministries

Buy extra! Give a meal to a friend or neighbor. Tickets make great Christmas gifts!

Tickets available at:

Faith Lutheran Church, The Paper Clip, the door on January 24th

Come help the magic happen again— January 24th, 2015

Scandinavian Dinner Preparations Have Begun!



How will you join the fun?? The co-chairs have met, the date is set, and the committee chairs have been recruited. Now we need you! Please lend a hand; check the calendar below to see when you are available, and say, "Yes, I can do that!" when you receive a phone call to serve. If you don't receive a call, let us know and we can hook you up! ~Co-Chairs Colleen Southwick, Linda Beyer, & Celeste Pogachar

Mark Your Calendars!

- Jan. 3 (Sat) Meatballs
- Jan. 8-10 (Thurs-Sat) Lefse
- Jan. 16-17 (Fri- Sat) Cookies/Desserts
- Jan. 23 (Fri) Potatoes/ Decorating
- Jan. 24 (Sat) Dinner



Why Lutefisk? The Spirit of the Scandinavian Dinner

It's not about the fish! The heart of Faith's Scandinavian Dinner is remembering and rekindling the best of our ancestors' gifts.

They ate Lutefisk because it was plentiful, cheap, and kept forever—and it was peasant food that reminds us of humble roots. They made lefse for the same reasons, along with the cookies we SOOO enjoy: potatoes and wheat, butter and cream were available on the farm and kept farm families warm and smiling.

Faith and its friends come together now to rekindle the humility, the hospitality, the community, the hard work of youngest to oldest that our ancestors brought with them to this mountain valley so like the land they left.

Young and old, new and experienced members are friends: Come! Enjoy and grow the enduring gifts of our past! And invite your friends to join us at the table. ~Pastor Brenda



Operation Christmas Child was a BIG Success!!

Thank you to all who participated in packing boxes for underprivileged children. It is a massive undertaking, and we really needed all hands on deck! A total of 105 boxes were delivered to the local coordination point, from which they will go to Merchant's shipping, then on to the Denver facility to have pamphlets of Bible stories inserted, in the language of their destinations. Watch our local paper to see how many boxes were packed in the Bitterroot Valley. A BIG Thank You to Linda Beyer for shopping all year and organizing everything, to Mark Livesay and Colleen Hoebe for Saturday set-up, to Helen Volden for a great lunch, and to all of you who donated money or merchandise for the boxes. Please say a prayer for the children who will receive the boxes you packed, that they will know the love of God through this gift. ~ Sincerely, Karen Heller

Emergency Assistance Update

Since our last report 5 more families which included 9 children have been helped. All of these assists have been for rent. This brings the total of people/families helped to 57.

Thank you for your caring and sharing.

~ Nancy Osborn, Emergency Assistance Coordinator



December Birthdays

- 2- Mary Schmidt
- 3- Paige Auch
- 7- Sally Berland, Hannah Bierer, Steve Shook
- 9- Holly Mahon
- 14- Josie Vandenburg
- 17- Sandy Russ
- 18- Elaina Lewis
- 19- Giuseppe Eldridge
- 20- Cole Harden
- 21- John Carlson
- 26- Kristina McCloskey
- 29- Dan Mitchell
- 30- Emmalee Patterson





Faith Lutheran Church Supports:



Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp....

ADVENT RETREAT: "Oh Come, Oh Come, Emmanuel"

Celebrate the Advent journey with your family at FLBC this year! Arts & Crafts, worship, great food, family fun, and much more are all a part of this great retreat. December 5-7, 2014

Cost: \$92 per person 12 & over, \$46 per youth 5-11 years old (under 5 free),
Maximum per nuclear family is \$276

Please contact Nathan Clements, Associate Director, for more info at office@flbc.net or 406-752-6602.
Go to www.flbc.net/retreats to download flier and registration form.

Do you receive the FLBC e-newsletter?

If not, sign up on their homepage at the above web address. Be one of the first to see the 2015 Summer Camp Brochure, which will be posted later this month!

New camps this year include: **Cooking (Grandparents/Grandchild)**, for children younger than 3rd grade), and **Advanced Backpacking** in the Bob Marshall Wilderness. **Choir Camp** has been retooled to include music, art and drama.

Plan ahead! Save the week of July 13-17, 2015 for Faith Lutheran's Vacation Bible School!



Friends in Need: is helping with yard work, home maintenance, and renovation work for elderly, low-income, and/or disabled community members. We are looking for projects and volunteers (both skilled and unskilled). If you wish to refer someone or are in need of assistance, please contact Keenan at friendsinneed.ecmumt@gmail.com or (406) 370-3193. Visit our website for more

information at www.ecmum.org/friends-in-need.

Emmaus Lunch Series: Welcoming faculty, staff, clergy, students, church folks and friends at noon at Emmaus House (532 University Ave.) with lunch provided.

- **Thursday, December 4th: Albert Borgmann:** *Recovering Sacred Reality With the Guidance of Romano Guardini*

Many thanks to all of our donors, attenders, and supporters of our Oktoberfest Fundraiser. We had almost 200 people in attendance and raised over \$14,000 at the event along with another \$4000 in challenge gifts! We are very thankful for all the local support for campus ministry!



ELCA Presiding Bishop & Ecumenical Leaders Provide Advent Devotions

At their most recent meeting, ELCA leaders agreed to provide Advent devotions. In her devotion for the first week of Advent, Eaton writes, "Advent is an odd season. It isn't culturally accessible. It doesn't lend itself to retail. There are no made-for-TV movies telling heartwarming stories about the great and terrible day of the Lord. It is an unsettled season that holds in tension the now and the not yet, longing and hope, judgment and redemption." The Advent devotions are available here:

http://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/Advent_Devotions.pdf



Local News:



BITTERROOT VALLEY CHORUS PRESENTS ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CONCERTS

December 13th at 7:30pm & December 14th at 2:00pm

A holiday tradition, featuring several musicians from Faith Lutheran in the adult choir and children's choir.

At the Hamilton PAC (Performing Arts Center)

A \$5 donation is suggested.

Sapphire Lutheran Homes Christmas Bazaar

Sat., December 13th 10am-3pm

Sapphire Lutheran Homes

501 N. 10th Street Hamilton

Craft Vendors, Food, & More!

Admission is 1 can of food for Darby Breadbox

Come Join The Fun!!!



Light of Hope

Fundraiser to benefit CASA

"Voices for Children" of the Bitterroot

Friday, Dec. 5th at 6pm

Catholic Parish Hall

Emcees: Steve Fullerton and Mary Borden

Entertainment will be provided by area youth (which includes several of FLC's youth) as they share music and dance selections. Enjoy heavy hors d'oeuvres and refreshments catered by Café Firenze, a cheesecake dessert bar, and a no-host bar catered by the Banque Club.

There will be many great silent and live auction items to bid on. (If you wish to donate an auction item, please contact Celeste)

All proceeds will benefit Ravalli County foster youth who are victims of abuse and neglect. For more information about Bitterroot CASA, please visit their website: www.bitterrootcasa.org, or speak with CASA board member Celeste Pogachar.



Winter Holiday Safety

Winter holidays are a time for families and friends to get together. But that also means a greater risk for fire. Following a few simple tips will ensure a happy and fire-safe holiday season.



HOLIDAY DECORATING

- *** Be careful with holiday decorations. Choose decorations that are flame resistant or flame retardant.
- *** Keep lit candles away from decorations and other things that can burn.
- *** Some lights are only for indoor or outdoor use, but not both.
- *** Replace any string of lights with worn or broken cords or loose bulb connections. Connect no more than three strands of mini light sets and a maximum of 50 bulbs for screw-in bulbs. Read manufacturer's instructions for number of LED strands to connect.
- *** Use clips, not nails, to hang lights so the cords do not get damaged.
- *** Keep decorations away from windows and doors.

HOLIDAY ENTERTAINING

- *** Test your smoke alarms and tell guests about your home fire escape plan.
- *** Keep children and pets away from lit candles.
- *** Keep matches and lighters up high in a locked cabinet.
- *** Stay in the kitchen when cooking on the stovetop.
- *** Ask smokers to smoke outside. Remind smokers to keep their smoking materials with them so young children do not touch them.
- *** Provide large, deep ashtrays for smokers. Wet cigarette butts with water before discarding.



National Fire Protection Association
The authority on fire, electrical, and building safety

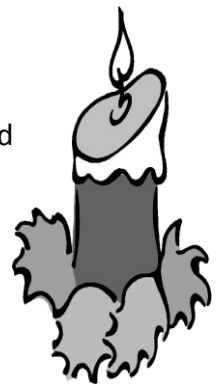
Your Source for SAFETY Information
NFPA Public Education Division • 1 Batterymarch Park
Quincy, MA 02169 www.nfpa.org/education

Before Heading Out or to Bed:

Blow out lit candles when you leave the room or go to bed. **Turn off** all light strings and decorations before leaving home or going to bed.

FACTS

- Two of every five home decoration fires are started by candles.
- Nearly half of holiday decoration fires happen because decorations are placed too close to a heat source.





Calendar



Worship Assistants



With Gratitude:

**THANK YOU! THANK YOU!
THANK YOU!**
**to the Naomi Circle for
providing the desserts for the
Community Meal and to BJ's
for supplying food as well. The
Community Meal would not
happen without the support of
these wonderful people and all
who help.**

THANK YOU!



Dear Faith Lutheran Church,

Thank you! Your recent gift of \$350.00 to the Lutheran Social Services means the world to us and the residents we serve. Because of you, we are able to fulfill our mission of providing living opportunities within nurturing environments of hope, dignity and love.

Again, thank you! We are grateful for your support.

Shelley Pierce
Community Engagement



Thanks to the generous Faith Lutheran members that designated their Thrivent Choice Dollars to FLC! Your wonderful donations totaled \$252.00 and is very generous and is greatly appreciated! Thank you so much!



'Twas Da Night Before Christmas

An UffDa Norske version from Uncle Thorvald

Twas da night before Christmas I began to relax to a point
ven I heard creatures a stirring all over da joint.

My old socks vere hung by da chimney wit care,
in hopes dat dere odor would get them creatures outta here.

Da kids vere all nestled all snug in dere beds,
vile visions uff fresh lefsa danced in dere heads.
Me and Ma in our skivies vith down pillows of goose
had just settled down for a long winter's snooze.

When out on da lawn dere arose such a clatter,
I hid under da sheets til ma saw what was da matter.

She flew to da window in a 300 pound dash,
tore da shutters off dere hinges and flew open da sash.

When what to our wondering eyes should appear
on da loose,

but a miniature sled and eight tiny reinmoose.

With dat tubby old codger looking frostbit and lost,
I knew in a moment dat it must be dat Claus.

More rapid dan herring his coursers dey came,
as he bellered and svore and called dem by name.

"Now Odin! Now Ingman! Now Gunner and Vixon!
On Nordal! On Olaf! On Agnew and Nixon!

As I drew in my head and vas turning around,
down da fake fireplace came old man Claus vith a bound.
He vas dressed kind of goofy from da front to da back,
and his clothes vere stretched out
from putting on too much fat.

His eyes, dey vere bloodshot. His nose full of ooze.

His cheeks vere like roses and his breadthe
smelled like booze.

Da stump of a stogie he held tight in his teeth,
and da smoke dat encircled him stunk like a burnt out wreath

He spoke not a word but vent straight to his work,
pocketing all my valuables dat crafty old jerk.

And laying his finger outside of his nose,
he pushed me aside and up my fake fireplace he rose.

He sprang to his sled and to his moose yelled out clear,
"Ive got all der goodies, let's get da heck outta here!"

But I heard him exclaim as he flew out of sight,
"You should never leave your fireplace unlocked over night!"





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171 Lewis Lane
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Dates To Remember

- 12/3 All Church Decorating Party, PIZZA Grub & Games
- 12/7 Return 2015 Pledges
- 12/13 Kids' Christmas Worship Dress Rehearsal
- 12/14 Kids' Christmas Worship, B-Day Cake, Youth Brunch
- 12/16 Faith Herald Deadline ☺
- 12/21 Family Caroling Hayride @ St. Paul's (4-6:30pm)
- 12/24 Candlelight Worship Services at 4pm and 7pm
- 12/25 **Merry Christmas!!** (Church Office closed Dec. 25-Jan. 1)
- 1/1/14 Happy New Year!!

