

February 2015

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

FAITH HERALD



I ♥
JESUS



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

Humble Roots Growing Deep

Thanks to the Scandinavian Dinner, I understand the humility of my ancestry. Why Lutefisk? Because Norwegian fishermen and farmers needed cheap, easy protein—so catch a fish, gel its bones, dry it, and you're set for winter! Add lots of butter, tell the kids it's delicious, and eventually you'll think it's a delicacy. Clearly I come from humble (and ingenious) stock.

The word humility has its roots (literally) in the word humus, or earth. Lent, the season of the church year that comes in early spring, invites Christians to “get down to earth” and be real about the soil of our souls, our physical frailty, our failures. Lent invites us to break open the ground of our hearts to welcome the amazing grace of God that meets us right where we are.

So, friends. Might you dare to embrace humility? To wonder what's disturbing your soil? To consider what you're longing for these days?

On January 25, Faith officially welcomed a wonderful group of new members ready to connect, grow, and serve near and far. Sundays and Wednesdays offer rich opportunities to explore the DNA of our tradition and push its edges while getting to know each other better. A women's reading group is forming. Men could gather for coffee and conversation.

It seems to me that God's preparing our humble soil for the seeds of community and trust to grow and thrive at Faith. So read on... See where you can sink new roots! (And bring a friend!) *Pastor Brenda*

Connections:

Women's Spiritual Reading Group: Contact Pastor Brenda, 381-1919, bsatrum@gmail.com.

Men's Breakfast Group: Pastor Doug Peterson, 381-0885, ingthwy@gmail.com.



Luther for Lent

Wednesdays, February 25-March 25

6:15p Soup

6:30 Presentation & Discussion

7:40 Holden Evening Prayer

This winter we're exploring our roots—including our German/ theological roots! Join our Confirmation families for five weeks of learning and discussion about one of the most influential figures of history: our denomination's own founder and the first successful (surviving!) protestant, Martin Luther.

It's in our DNA: asking questions, probing authority, learning and leaning on God's Word. Come meet Luther—and your neighbors at Faith!

Save the dates:

**Faith Lutheran's VBS
is July 13-17!**

Those awesome FLBC counselors will be in Hamilton giving our youngest folks the camp experience through Vacation Bible School activities!

I ♥
VBS

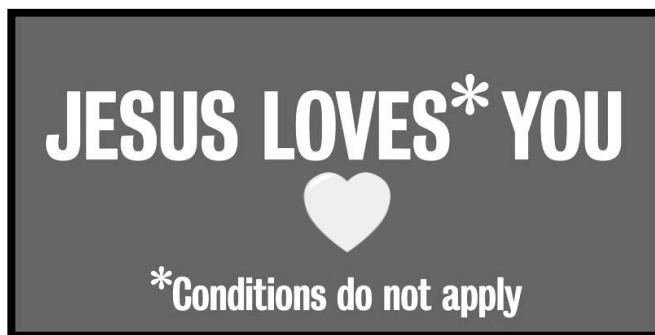
Time to Talk...and Listen, Cont'd.

Last month I wrote that conversation about Faith's role in same-gender marriage lies somewhere in our future. Since then, I've had a good response. Not a person who's spoken to me has been disrespectful, angry, or unloving. Every response has been faithful and caring. I am grateful. Three anecdotes:

- One member asked my thoughts on the Bible's position. Our conversation showed that it though may be unlikely minds on either side will change, respect and understanding for the integrity of each others' positions are likely to grow.
- When speaking with a new attender from a conservative background, I was clear: "You should know," I said, "that our denomination has agreed that congregations that so choose are free to call pastors in committed same-gender intimate relationships." "Well," came the reply, "my nephew has been with his partner for 50 years. I think they go to the Episcopal church."
- A chance conversation revealed a member's distress that we would risk opening old wounds. "What good could talking about it possibly do? Why don't you just go ahead and marry them, pastor? It's what Jesus would be doing! Who even *knows* who you marry?"

Why risk a discussion? Good question. Maybe I'm crazy, but I want to talk so we'll *grow*. So I can serve any couple on behalf of our congregation without sneaking around. So Faith Lutheran Church can shine as a light of reason and respect in a world that deeply needs both.

When? There's no hurry. Please do keep praying. Read your Bibles. Keep talking to each other and to me informally. I believe that when our minds are set on Jesus we are solid, respectful, and loving enough to have truly *civil* discourse that helps us know and love those with whom we disagree more deeply. Thank you!



Faith Lutheran Church News

Emergency Assistance Update

We ended 2014 with 67 assists, and have already helped two families as of Jan. 13. Both were rent assists. Be sure and read our entire 2014 report in the Annual Report. Thank you for being the wonderful people of Faith! ~Nancy O.

Bitterrooters Back to Nicaragua!

Interested in a mission trip to Corner of Love, San Ramon, Nicaragua? Several folks who traveled with Pastor Brenda last year are planning to go back at the end of June 2015. Total cost is around \$1600 for one week. Contact Pastor Brenda. It's an awesome opportunity!

February Birthdays

- 1 Sam Dunn, Owen Dunn
- 2 Millie Unruh
- 4 Virginia Rotering
- 5 Don Dale, Brooke Kimzey
- 8 Alice Muir
- 12 Carron Grymes
- 14 Ellen Davis
- 16 Jessica Bourne, Jerry Lewis
- 17 Cecile Richardson
- 19 Cameron Doran, Ben Peterson
- 21 Bonnie Montgomery
- 22 Ernie Berland
- 24 Emma Snider
- 25 Cole Kimzey, Jeb VanDenburg
- 28 Donald Carlson, Jacob Heitmann



Celebrate New Friends! (*not joining at this time)

Many of these folks joined Faith Lutheran officially on January 25. If you see a new face, introduce yourself! There are some terrific new people in God's family at Faith.

Dean and Sandy Drake* have only attended three services at Faith, but think they'll keep coming back. Residents of Stevensville, they've been in and out of this area since the 1970's. Dean's recently retired from Boeing, where he enjoyed work as an engineer in systems integration, and Sandy's retired from office work. For a great conversation, ask them about Dean's motorcycle, chess, goats, yard sales, or camping and fishing. They enjoy Faith's positive attitude, community service, and connections with good people.

Samantha Fife. You may have seen Samantha, our new Youth Director, on stage at The Playhouse, where she's been a frequent performer. She works at Hamilton Party Rentals when she's not out hunting with her Dad (her folks live in Frenchtown), playing with her big puppy, Archer, or hanging with our kids. Samantha says she hasn't been to a church where she really belonged in years, and she's really enjoying the weekly refresher/recharge she finds at Faith.

Mark & LaDonna Grotbo moved from Shelby, MT, last May when Mark came to work for the Ravalli County Electric Co-op. Their kids, Brice and Kelby, are at the UM and MSU, leaving Mark and LaDonna time to explore. Their church family has been very important to them, and they wonder what might be ahead: connecting, a couples' group, learning something new? Fun facts: Mark and LaDonna were part of Pastor Brenda's congregation in Helena, and their family went to Maui over Christmas.

Donna Jakobson has a long history with Faith; in fact, she almost joined our North Bitterroot satellite a few years back. Donna's great joys are her kids, grandkids, and her horse Celtic Cowboy ("Celty"), a dappled bay Iberian Warmblood. Donna's currently employing her cleaning skills and enjoying her cooking hobby as a resident caregiver for Clara Felton, a long-time Faith member. She also enjoys painting, and has been quilting on Wednesdays at FLC. Fun fact: Donna used to be a racehorse jockey.

Roberta "Bertie" Henderson comes to Faith Lutheran from the Baptist tradition. She grew up in this area, then worked for "Ma Bell," retiring from the telephone company out of Billings in 1989 to live with her sister, Elaine, in Darby. In fact, one of Bertie's most precious moments was Elaine's baptism just weeks before she died in the care of Aspen Hospice. She is grateful for the warm welcome she's received at Faith. Fran Bennett will be her congregational sponsor.

Tim and Roni Keiser come to their westside home from Escondido, California, where Tim was a backhoe operator and Roni worked with affordable housing. That explains Roni's ongoing interest in Habitat for Humanity, where she met their congregational sponsor, Ernie Berland. We're more likely to find Tim fly fishing or hunting. For the Keisers, church has been about rest, reflection, and recovery from chaos, but they'll lend a hand when it's needed!

Heather Kilwein became an instant celebrity at Faith when her daughter, Adysun, was baptized last November 16. What a cutie! Many of us already knew Heather from her work at Super 1, where her smiles and care make her a favorite checker. Heather's been in Hamilton about 9 years, and she hopes to help others, especially youngsters, benefit from her experiences. A cancer survivor, Heather says, "Never give up!" Meeting (sponsors) Dennis and Virginia Rotering and having Adysun led her back to church. "This feels whole," she told me. "It was time for me to be guided by God's direction again."

Marlin and Megan Lewis, Elaina and Annalise return to the Bitterroot after seventeen years in Polson and two in Havre. Both are educators—Marlin is Principal at Hamilton Middle School, and Megan teaches Kindergarten at Washington. The girls love basketball, swimming, and dance. Marlin grew up at Faith Lutheran, and his sister, Amber Richardson, is also a long-time member. Fun fact: Marlin was in the 1st group confirmed at Faith's "new building" (the current site).

Joy & Kevin Li, Daniel and Christopher*. Natives of China, Joy and Kevin came to Hamilton in 2003 when Joy was employed at Corixa (now Glaxo-Smith-Kline) as a Method Expert in Quality Control. This little family has been involved at Faith since then: you may have noticed the boys in dramas and on the piano. If you see Kevin's homemade egg rolls at potlucks, don't pass them up! We recently congratulated Joy and Kevin on gaining their US citizenship.

Celebrate New Friends! (cont.)

Cliff & Nancy Marks brought their three horses, two dogs, and five cats to the Bitterroot last May from near Temecula, California. Cliff's a retired firefighter and arson investigator, while Nancy still works in property management. They came to Montana to breathe and enjoy doing just that every time they go outside their home off Sweathouse Road. They said, "Your church makes you feel welcome from the day you walk in. Everybody you meet says hello. It was like home from the very first day." Cliff is living a remarkable recovery from a serious stroke last December.

Brian & Michelle Mendenall, Maisie, Luke, & Mia. Twenty-year residents of Hamilton, Brian and Michelle own and manage Allegra Printing in Hamilton & Missoula. Maisie and Luke have enjoyed Faith's Vacation Bible School for several years, and this year after a week-long adventure at FLBC, Maisie was ready to start Confirmation, too. The family jumped in with all 10 feet! They're looking forward to the stability of a church foundation and deepening some quality relationships. A native of New Mexico, Brian makes a mean tortilla!

Paul & Gayle Roege met while Gayle was an art educator in Big Timber and Paul, a career Army engineer, was working in Idaho Falls. After marrying and spending several years in Washington, D.C., they've settled outside Corvallis to be near family. What an interesting and thoughtful pair! Fun fact: Gayle supervised the creation of the Fairgrounds mural this summer through the ArtFocus summer camp.

Randy Theisser isn't just Heather Kilwein's fella-friend, but Heather and Adysun are a big part of his life. Randy has lived in this area since the mid-90's, and his mom, Mary Ann Pacheko, is a resident at The Discovery. Randy enjoys fishing, hunting and family. He's a quiet, caring, simple man who's enjoying Sundays at Faith Lutheran.

Paul & Tracy Walczak live in Darby with their horses and critters. Tracy's a real estate agent, and Paul's a research development consultant—he says he's "successfully self-unemployed" after a career in the military. Prior to their move, they also lived in Washington, D.C. They're looking forward to being around people they enjoy, making connections, taking time for reflection, enjoying the outdoors, and doing some good around here.



News from Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp

Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp's Summer Brochures Have Arrived!
If you didn't receive one, please contact the church office.

New this Summer: Cooking Camp (June 14-19), Choir Camp is now M-A-D (Music/ Art/ Drama, June 21-26), Grandparents/Grandchild Camp (for children younger than 3rd grade, July 5-10), Advanced Backpacking (in the Bob Marshall Wilderness, Aug. 2-7), Montana Servant Trip (includes state prison, Aug. 2-7). There are many new camp options available this summer. Register online at www.flbc.bet.

Other highlights:

- Family Camp (June 28-July 3) this one fills up fast so register early, (Aug. 7- 9)
- Explorer Camp (3 days/2 nights) just for kids entering grade 3 (1st week of August)
- Senior High Youth Gathering to Detroit (July 12-19)

Registration opens Jan. 26th at 10am. Check out the complete brochure at www.flbc.net

- Staff-in-Training Camp: Have you ever thought about being a camp counselor some day? This is a week of leadership training and community building. After completion, you can then return for another week as an assistant counselor!
- Applications for summer staff are now being accepted for FLBC. Forms are available on the website, and are due by Feb. 24, 2015.

Remember, Faith offers matching camperships (up to \$200) to attend camp. Pick up an application form on the counter outside of the church office. Return completed forms to Celeste Pogachar. Info available online: applications for summer staff, to be a camp grandparent or nurse, and staff-in-training.

Faith Lutheran Church Supports:

- **Family Shelter of the Bitterroot, Inc.**

FSB has an **Immediate Assistance Program**. This program offers immediate assistance to families who find themselves in urgent need of housing, food, utility payments, car maintenance, etc. These families are referred to us by area churches and public organizations. Between January and October 23, 2014, we provided 624 people nights worth of emergency shelter in local motels (homeless families with 1-4 children each). For info, contact Gary Locke, at garyllocke@montana.com or at (406) 239-8833.

- **Emmaus Campus Ministry**

Emmaus is holding a Winter Retreat 2/27- 3/1 at Discovery Ski/ Georgetown Lake. Cost is \$20/person.

Also planned is a Spring Break Trip to Portland, OR. Mar. 27- Apr. 4. Cost is \$200. For more info on any of these events, contact Pr. John Lund at 396-4974.

- **Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp**

FLBC Summer 2015 schedule is posted and brochures have arrived. If you did not receive one, please contact the church office.

Matching camperships to attend camp are available from Faith Lutheran. We ask those who apply for a campership to track their service to our church—for example, assisting with worship (like acolyte), VBS helper, Easter breakfast servers, Scandinavian Dinner servers, church decorating or clean-up, etc. Please contact Celeste and I will put a copy of the application form in your church mailbox.



Worship Notes for February

Feb. 1 4 Chaplains Sunday,
 Hymn Service
Feb. 8 Now the Feast
Feb. 15 Now the Feast
Feb. 22 Praise Service

Faith Lutheran Church Directory Update

Dean and Sandy Drake

839 Bighorn Lane, Stevensville
H: 777-7010

Samantha Fife

107 Daly Ave, Hamilton
C: 370-8025

Mark & LaDonna Grotbo

1035 Terrace Lane, Corvallis
H: 961-6919 C: 460-2144 (Mark), 460-1994 (LaDonna)

Roberta “Bertie” Henderson

108 Alberta Court, Hamilton
H: 363-3488

Donna Jakobson

698 Orchard Drive, Hamilton
C: 361-0606

Tim and Roni Keiser

PO BOX 1134, Hamilton
C: 210-0272 (Tim), 361-0114 (Roni)

Heather Kilwein (Adysun)

308 N. 4th Street, Hamilton
C: 361- 0796

Marlin and Megan Lewis (Elaina & Annalise)

979 Joy Street, Corvallis
H: 375-5166 C: 391-1270 (Marlin), 253-7675 (Megan)

Cliff & Nancy Marks

574 Sweathouse Creek, Victor
C: (909)-518-2323 (Cliff), (951) 218-4192 (Nancy)

Brian & Michelle Mendenall (Maisie, Luke, & Mia)

420 Ryan’s Way, Hamilton
H: 363-7972 C: 360-7978 (Brian), 360-1984 (Michelle)

Paul & Gayle Roege

1252 Sapphire Ranch Trail, Corvallis
C: (208) 521-2417 (Paul), 544-5633 (Gayle)

Randy Theisser

150 Skeels Ave. #211, Hamilton
C: 821-0915

Paul & Tracy Walczak

403 Overturf Lane, Darby
H: 821-3289 C: 360-3691 (Paul), 360-4662 (Tracy)



The Youth Page

Wednesdays & Sundays



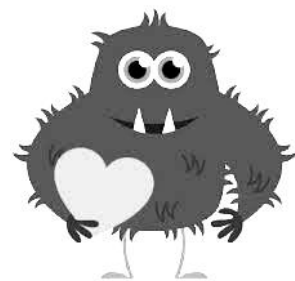
- Feb 1 Sunday School 8:30am
Feb 4 Grub and Games: BUNCO! 6:30-8:30pm @ Faith
Feb 8 Sunday School 8:30am
Feb 11 Youth Group-Ash Wednesday Service Prep 7-8:30 @ Faith
Feb 15 Sunday School 8:30am
Feb 18 Inter-Congregational Ash Wednesday Service led by Youth Group 7pm @ Faith
Feb 22 Sunday School 8:30am
Feb 25 Youth Group-Grocery Scavenger Hunt 7-8:30 meeting @ Faith
Feb 27-Mar 1 30-Hour Famine starting at 6pm@ Faith

Ash Wednesday Service Feb 18 at 7pm

All members of both Faith and St. Paul's are encouraged to attend this service. The Youth Group will be helping to design and lead 'Prayer around the Cross'.

Grocery Scavenger Hunt Feb 25 at 7pm

We are going grocery shopping for Haven House! SPE has given money for this fun service project. We will all meet at Faith, and leaders will drive everyone to and from Super 1. Ice cream afterwards!



Make It Your Fight! Feb 27-Mar 1

The 30 Hour Famine gives students a chance to help overcome hunger: by going without food so others don't have to. It's an unforgettable experience that will rock their world and make an incredible difference around the globe! Over the next few weeks, our kids will learn about hunger and fundraise to help feed and care for children living in poverty.

Last year's famine at FLC and SPE raised about \$4,000 and helped out at The Poverello Center, Ronald McDonald House, and a drug treatment center in Missoula. This year we'll stay local, cooperate with the Corvallis Methodist Youth Group, and see what awesomeness grows. Invite friends!!!

FLBC Camperships

Faith Lutheran pays up to half of the cost for your week at Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp! Camp Brochures and Applications are available in the lobby at Faith. Be sure to keep track of how involved you are with church activities!

Samantha Fife, Faith Lutheran Youth Director

406.370.8025 fifedrive1@gmail.com

Alana Cruse, St. Paul's Episcopal Youth Minister

406.381.3534 ashortcruse@gmail.com

Stewards & Staff of Faith Lutheran Church... for now. ☺

President/Convener	Scott Southwick	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	370-4521	powertrip@cybernet1.com
Outreach	(Vacant)		
Property & Grounds	Aubrey Larson	777-2018	alarson1931@msn.com
Worship	Karen Heller	363-4738	mtmama@cybernet1.com
Pastor (ex-officio)	Rev. Brenda Satrum	381-1919	brenda@faithlutheranhamilton.org
Worship Coordinator	Celeste Pogachar	239-3952	celestepogachar@gmail.com
Youth Director	Samantha Fife	370-8025	fifedrivell@gmail.com
Office Manager	Adrienne Patterson	363-2964	office@faithlutheranhamilton.org
Custodian	Richard Castor	363-2964	

Pray for our Military

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

- Lt. Colonel Mark Huhtanen, son of Dale & 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 & 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 & Lonnie Wetzsteon, serving at Eileson AFB, Fairbanks, AK
- Eric Joiner, grandson of Bob & Marge Mathison, serving at Fort Drum, New York
- Sgt. Carl J. Selby, grandson of Clara Felton, serving in Hutchinson, KS
- Tony Robertson & Gretchen Robertson, brother & 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 & Ann Mitteness, Cpl US Marines Corps. Now at the Marine Station in Yuma, AZ, doing communications repair.



With Gratitude

- ♥ Thank you to those that donated their Thrivent Choice Dollars to Faith Lutheran. \$68.00 was donated in January. We are grateful for your gift!
- ♥ Thank you for the scholarship! It has helped me greatly in getting through college! ~Seth Mason
- ♥ Thank you so, so much for your assistance with my family's power bill! Your generous gift has not only helped my family to stay warm this winter, but freed up funds that would have been used to keep the power on to pay for things like fresh fruit and snow boots. You, as a church family, daily show God to a hurting world. It is through your love and kindness that I glimpse the Holy. Thank you. ~Heidi Kestrel (and Luken and Kara too)

Faith Herald February 2015

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The Faith Lutheran Church Annual Meeting is February 8th!

Don't miss it—this is super important to attend
& help make decisions on the future of FLC.

Dates To Remember

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| ♥ 2/8 | FLC Annual Meeting |
| ♥ 2/15 | Transfiguration, Installation of Council |
| ♥ 2/16 | FLC Council Meeting |
| ♥ 2/17 | Faith Herald Deadline |
| ♥ 2/18 | Ash Wednesday Youth Service |
| ♥ 2/22 | Community Meal Prep |
| ♥ 2/24 | FLC Serves Community Meal |
| ♥ 2/25 | Lenten Soup Supper & Worship |
| ♥ 2/27-28 | 30 Hour Famine |