

The Faith Herald

December 2016

*“Get up to a high mountain...
and lift up your voice with strength...
herald of good news!”*

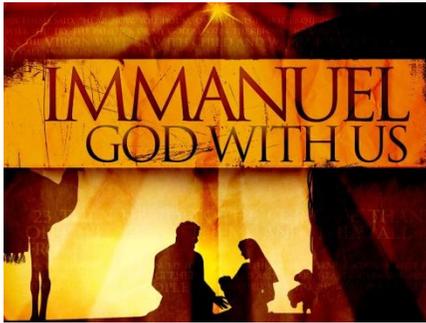
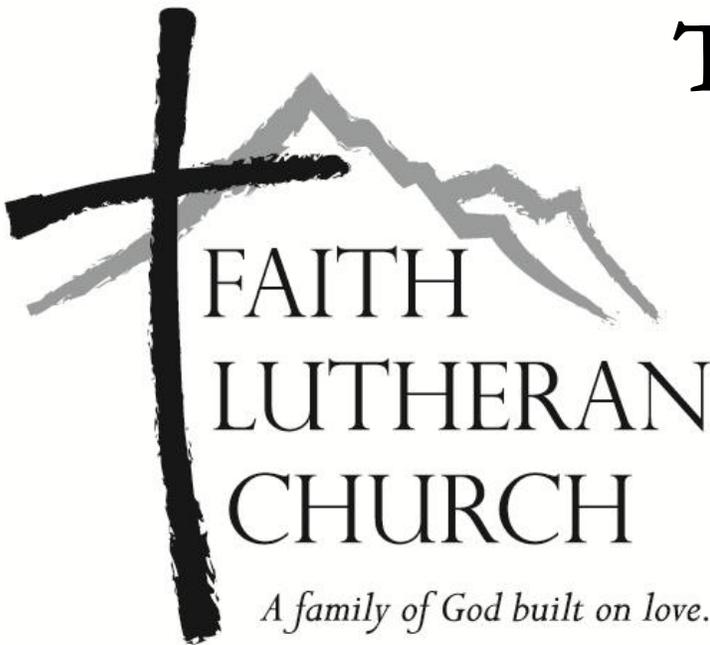
Isaiah 40:9

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406.363.2964

Visit our office 9a-1p, M-F



This Christmas: Lots of Presence!

As my visit with Elsie ended, I asked how I could pray. “Well, you could pray for my dad,” she told me. “He has such a hard time.” And so we did. Truth be told, Elsie’s dad passed away decades ago, but her love for him—and his for her—lives on, and I trust God heard that sweet prayer and blessed us both in the praying.

One of the gifts of caring for folks with dementia is the necessity of meeting them where they are—in whatever decade or town or emotional state they inhabit at the moment. Pulling them into here and now is both difficult and painful; best just to find their present and be with them there.

At Christmas, God seeks to find *our* present and be with us. As I teach Confirmation (WOW! Workshops on Wednesday) with the 15-or-so active families who gather at Faith, I see that cover-to-cover, the Bible tells of The Holy creating and coming near to humanity. God was sad when the man and woman hid in the garden; God sought out Abraham and Moses and Joshua and David and the prophets to *be with* them and their people; God came as *Immanuel* (“God with us”) to be human among humans; the risen Christ promises, “I will *be with you* always to the end of the age;” Paul gathers non-Jews from every corner of the known world to be “in Christ;” and at the end-still-to-come God will “dwell with [humankind]; they will be his peoples,” and God himself will *be with* them; he will wipe every tear from their eyes...”

Beginning to End, the point is to *be with*. God has done everything to *be with* you now. God aches that we *be with* him, each other, and creation, releasing the glory and pain of our past and our fears and longings for the future to experience gift of *now*.

So: Can we let go of our *present* (whatever expectations, fears, hurts or hopes we hold in this season), and receive the *presence* of God and of others *just as they are*? (Hint: this could be a holiday survival skill!) A simple way to practice presence with God and others might be to hit pause, get real for just a moment, ask, “How can I pray for you today?” hear what is said, and pass it on to God without editing or improving it. (God can handle that.)

Most folks, Christian or not, are receptive to prayer. Indeed, prayer is a sweet gift (and no calories! ;o)—a good way to give “lots of presence” this Christmas. And for my part, dear Friends of Faith, I pray that in this season you will deeply experience the *presence* the God who loves you just as you are and not as you should be! God *be with* you, ~Pastor Brenda

THE YOUTH PAGE



Wed. 7 - Youth Group at 7pm

Sun. 11 - Family Christmas Caroling

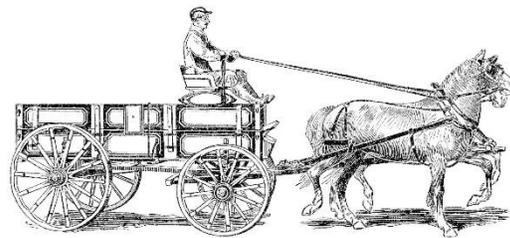
Wed. 14 - Youth Group at 7pm

Sun. 18 - Children's Christmas Worship

Wed. 21 - Youth Christmas Party at 7pm

Wed. 28 - Trip to the Movies to see STAR WARS

Jan. 4 - Youth Group at 7pm



HAYRIDE!!!

Sunday, December 11, 3:00 to 6:30

Meet at lot on the corner of Pine and 8th St then hop on the hay and carol our way around town at 3pm. We will have horse drawn trailers! The event is followed by hot chocolate, yummy supper, and Christmas cookies at St. Paul's Episcopal. (8th and Desmet) **Invite friends! All ages welcome.**



Youth Christmas Party

Wednesday, December 21, 7pm at FLC

Come celebrate the holidays with snacks and games! Invite a friend, and be sure to bring your nerf guns!

Rogue One: A Star Wars Story

Wednesday, December 28, 6:30 at the Pharaohplex

Invite a friend and come celebrate the school break again this year with Star Wars! RSVP to Sam so she can have all the tickets bought early! Tickets and popcorn provided!



CONNECT WITH US!!!

Youth Director Samantha Fife, Faith Lutheran, 406.370.8025 (cell). fifedrivell@gmail.com

Faith Lutheran Church is a family of God built on love: Worshiping, welcoming, and serving in Christ's name.



Faith Lutheran Church Scandinavian Dinner

January 28, 2017

3-7 pm

171 Lewis Lane, Hamilton, MT 59840
406-363-2964



Adults: \$17 & children under 16 years: \$5. Donations welcome.

Proceeds will benefit FLC's General Fund Reserve

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

Tickets available soon at:

Faith Lutheran Church, The Paper Clip, and at the door on January 28th

Come help the magic happen again!

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 Celeste Pogachar & Judy Wilson

Mark Your Calendars!

- Jan. 7 (Sat) Meatballs
- Jan. 12-14 (Thurs-Sat) Lefse
- Jan. 20-21 (Fri- Sat) Cookies/Desserts
- Jan. 27 (Fri) Potatoes/ Decorating
- Jan. 28 (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*



HIGHLIGHTS FROM FLBC'S ANNUAL MEETING

by Michelle Mendenall

Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp is a little peace of heaven. If you haven't been there, I encourage you to get there. It is primarily recognized by most of us as a summer camp for youth situated on the western shore of Flathead Lake. The amenities are many, and unless you grew up very differently than I did, it is probably not at all what you picture when you remember the summer camps from your youth. When I think of summer camp, I remember crowded cabins with no electricity or plumbing infested with daddy-longleg spiders. It was lots more fun than it sounds, and the spiders were harmless.

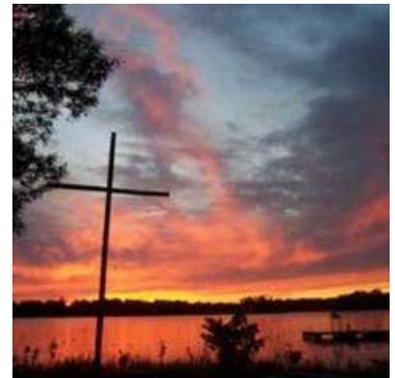
This October, Anita Bell and I had the opportunity to serve as delegates for FLBC representing our congregation at the annual meeting. We were guests at the camp for the weekend, and were spoiled with great meals and nights spent in a nice, snug cabin with electricity and a private bathroom, with nary a spider (which was more important than expected given that it rained the whole weekend and I took my entire family promising the kids an "awesome weekend" enjoying the camp). For the delegates, it was a jam-packed itinerary (really- we went until 9:30 in the evening) where we met the enthusiastic staff and passionate board of directors, and learned more about the camp.

One important thing to know is that FLBC is not just for kids. The camp is a place of respite and fun for everyone with year-round programming for all ages. Retreats for skiers, foodies, quilters, beer-brewers, families recovering from the loss of a loved one, harvest festivals, advent celebrations, Bible studies, women's retreats, men's retreats, and special retreats for families are just some of the things on the agenda.

The mission of FLBC is *"To experience Christ's grace through meaningful relationships, shared adventures and purposeful service."* The core values give great insight to what they are working to accomplish.

Flathead Lutheran Outdoor Ministries boldly proclaims and encounters God's love as we:

- Grow in faith and celebrate life grounded in the Gospel
- Equip one another for lives of faith and service
- Embrace community and build relationships
- Experience awe, adventure and the beauty of creation
- Remain rooted in Lutheran tradition
- Practice Christian hospitality
- Care for the physical and emotional safety of the whole person
- Create purposeful experiences
- Perpetuate financial accessibility for all interested participants
- Promote stewardship of our resources and the care of God's creation



So, while FLBC is a summer camp with all the activities and lakeshore fun you'd expect, it is also a character and faith-building experience. Our kids love (really, really love) Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp. The summer counselors are college students who do an amazing and inspiring job of nurturing our children and helping them along their faith journey. The counselors make Christian-living "cool" in a way that parents rarely can. Our family learned of FLBC when our children attended Vacation Bible School here at Faith. Our kids were so enamored of the VBS counselors, they wanted to go to camp. Their week at FLBC is what helped us choose Faith Lutheran Church as the right church home for our family. So, the camp has a special place in our hearts.

Our church congregation generously gave \$2300 in scholarships to make sure that every child in our church who wants to go to camp can. I'm proud our congregation is investing in our young people as they become the future of our church, community and country. It's easy to see the importance of character and faith-building for children, but I challenge you to also acknowledge how important it is for yourself, and most of the adults you know. Go to camp- you'll be hooked. www.flbc.net

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News and Notes from FLBC:

- ✓ **2017 Summer Camp brochures** will be mailed out mid-December. If you do not receive a brochure, check the website for complete information. www.flbc.net
- ✓ **2017 Retreat brochure is now available.** Check online for more information. A lot of great opportunities for grown-ups to enjoy FLBC!
- ✓ Hooray for Faith! **Eight families from our congregation are members of the Partner's Club.** Do you want to be a member too? Partners donate \$150 or more to FLBC's ministry. For info, check the counter outside the office, or visit the website.
- ✓ **Summer 2016 Adult Volunteers!** Last summer over 120 adults volunteered at camp. Registration for adult volunteers (pastors, youth directors, nurses, grandparents, etc.) for the 2017 summer camping season is now open! Call (406) 752-6602 that day for the best availability of weeks!
- ✓ **2017 Family Camp Registration!** Save the date! Registration opens January 30th, 2017 at 10am for Family Camp!
- ✓ **Do you receive the FLBC e-newsletter?** If not, sign up on their homepage at www.flbc.net

"A Place to Call Home" - Special Gifts Appeal

A Place to Call Home: A New Cabin Creating a home away from home would provide much needed cabin space, allow year-round use, provide comfortable accommodations with bathrooms, allow flexible use of spaces, and storage for our hardworking staff. FLBC welcomes campers from all over to find a place to call home and experience Christ's grace through meaningful relationships, shared adventures, and purposeful service. Help us create A Place to Call Home for a faithful future of FLBC's ministry. *Please visit flbc.net for more details.*



Plan Ahead!
Save the week of
July 10-14, 2017
for Faith Lutheran's
Vacation Bible School.

Special Announcement:

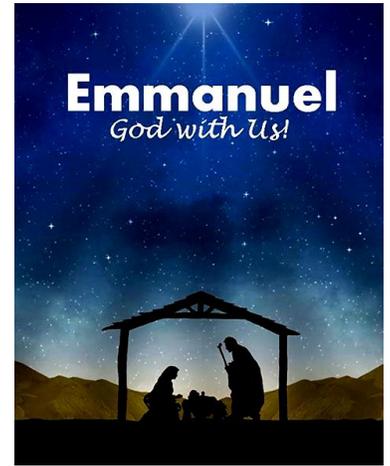
There will be a special congregational meeting Sunday December 11th immediately following worship. The purpose of this meeting will be to approve FLC's 2017 budget as proposed by council.

This will be the only topic discussed at the meeting.

December Worship Notes

Advent (the beginning of the Christian calendar year) starts Sunday, November 27th. This is the “year of Matthew”, or Lectionary A, where we begin the three year cycle of scripture readings.

Matthew’s gospel is beloved for how it spotlights Jesus as a teacher, gives practical ethical instructions, and includes some of Jesus’ most influential statements, such as the Beatitudes. It is disliked for how harshly Jesus characterized religious leaders and how often he speaks of judgment and hell. Matthew is one of the longest books in the New Testament, and the Sunday readings will cover about 60 percent of this gospel over the course of the year. Matthew was also the first gospel written, and until a century ago, received the most historic attention. Matthew’s gospel alone calls Jesus “Emmanuel”, which means “God with us”.



Worship this month features a variety of blended liturgies and plenty of our favorite Advent songs and Christmas carols. A special treat on December 18th 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 scripture readings of Luke and Isaiah with Christmas carols in the traditional candlelight setting. Christmas Day falls on a Sunday this year, and we will worship at 10 am (instead of 9 am)

Kids’ Christmas Program

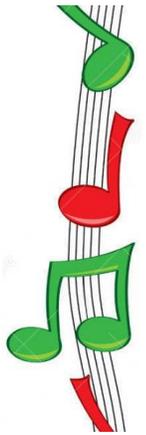
9:00am
December 18th



The Christmas story told through scripture and song. A special highlight will be our Young musicians sharing their talents. Middle & High Schoolers will add their talent. Please join us after for coffee hour as we serve Jesus’ birthday cake and refreshments!

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 18th. Thanks! ~ Celeste



Christmas Eve Candlelight Services



Saturday, December 24th
4:00pm & 7:00pm



Christmas Day Worship



Sunday, December 25th
10:00am

New Member Sunday: January 15

Interested in membership? Want to know what makes Faith tick and how we keep it together? Contact Pastor Brenda via text or phone call @ 381-1919 or use your Response Card in worship to set up a home (or coffee shop!) visit and consider being Christian, being Lutheran, and being together on our way to God through Jesus.

We plan to receive and celebrate new members on Sunday January 15 in worship. Not going to be here? We can work something out!

We'll also schedule a new member gathering soon to get to know each other better.



New Members Are Joining



Decking the Halls of Our Church Home! Wednesday, November 30, 6:30-8:00

Faith Lutheran Church is a family of God built on love, so lend a hand for the season! Y'all come—families and singles, young and old! We need all hands to deck the halls! Prep will start at 5:30; pizza, soup, and sweets at 6:30; finish up 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.

Horse-Drawn Caroling!!! (car option!)

Sunday, December 11, 3:00 to 5:30pm

Meet at **St. Paul's Episcopal** (3rd & DeSmet), then hop on the wagons or into the car and we'll carol our way around town. Followed by hot chocolate, yummy supper, and Christmas cookies at St. Paul's. Thanks to the folks at Corvallis United Methodist for the horse-drawn trolleys!!! **Invite friends! All ages welcome.**



Concordia College Christmas Concert

The Concordia Christmas concert will be rebroadcast on Montana PBS stations this year!

Broadcast times are:

December 24th 8pm

December 25th 1pm

Concordia College of Minnesota re-imagines the Christmas message with new music embracing peace and reconciliation under the artistic leadership of composer and conductor Rene Clausen. This concert production marks the 125th Anniversary of the College's founding by Norwegian immigrants. 400 student musicians perform in front of an original mural measuring nearly 200 feet wide.



Christmas Concert



Share Your Song with Valley View!

Valley View Estates' new Chaplain Thad Butcher is looking for a volunteer keyboard (or guitar) player for a weekly half-hour worship service on Wednesday mornings. If you might be able to help, email him at fr.thad@hotmail.com or leave a message at Valley View. He writes, "My hope is there might be someone who would love to minister to the widow and orphaned at Valley View through prayer and praise."

Bitterroot Valley Chorus Presents Annual Christmas Concerts

December 10th at 7:30pm & December 11th 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 Craft Show

Sat., December 3rd 10am-3pm

501 N. 10th Street Hamilton

Craft Vendors, Food, & More!

Proceeds go to the bus fund.

Come Join The Fun!!!

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 150 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. A BIG Thank You to Linda Beyer and Karen Heller for shopping all year and organizing everything, Judy Wilson and Karen for a wonderful 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.



Starting on December 26th the FLC office
will be closed for the Holidays.

The office will reopen on January 2nd.

Words From the Bishop - *Promote Unity*

How very good and pleasant it is when kindred live together in unity.

It is like the precious oil on the head, running down upon the beard, the beard of Aaron.

It is like the dew of Hermon, which falls on the mountains of Zion.

For there the Lord ordained his blessing, life forevermore.
(Psalm 133)

Election Day is over. And now we move on. No matter how we voted, no matter whether we felt we won or lost, we move on. We move on because that is what democracy is about—we move on.

In the Church, we have an opportunity and an obligation to begin the healing process in our communities, to be a beacon of light for those who are exhausted, embittered and feeling disenfranchised. Regardless of our political convictions, regardless of our strongly held opinions, what holds us together is stronger than what separates us. And as Christians we need to model that for the rest of the country. Read from Colossians 3:

So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

We are joined together by our baptism. We are held together by the love of God in Christ Jesus, who gave his life for the sake of the world, the whole world. We are held together by the God who created each one of us in the divine image, and who loves each one of us despite our faults and flaws. We are held together by the Holy Spirit, who works to transcend our pettiness and self-interest. We are held together by being a forgiven, loved and redeemed people—all of us.

And so we move forward. Election Day is over, and we'll have services on Sunday. We'll preach and teach. We'll partake of the sacraments. And we'll do it in communities that have been divided by politics. And we will pray for unity, pray for wisdom, pray for strength. We will feed the hungry, and visit those in prison. And we will reach out to our neighbors. Because that's how we go on.

A Prayer for the Nation in the Book of Common Prayer goes this way:

Lord God Almighty, you have made all the peoples of the earth for your glory, to serve you in freedom and in peace; Give to the people of our country a zeal for justice and the strength of forbearance, that we may use our liberty in accordance with your gracious will; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

Amen.

Jessica Crist, Bishop



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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:

- S/Sgt Anthony Hunter, grandson of Carl Swanson, serving in Texas
- Mike Hebert, grandson of Don & Shirley McGourty, US Army, serving in Joliet, IL
- Lt. Col. Timothy Spaulding, nephew of John Trangmoe, Air Force, Wright Patterson AFB, OH
- Master Sgt. Andy Wetzsteon, son of Susan & Lonnie Wetzsteon, serving at Eileson AFB, Fairbanks, AK
- 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
- Anna Mitteness, granddaughter of Morrie & Ann Mitteness, Cpl US Marines Corps. Now at the Marine Station in Yuma, AZ, doing communications repair.
- Capt. Alex Stephens, MD, grandson-in-law of Dale and Clairice Brady, serving as a hospitalist at Fort Campbell in Kentucky.
- Ashley White, niece of Paul and Lina Gyles, Stationed at Ft. Sill, Ok.



Pray for At-Home Members and Friends...

Ruth Dillon, Joann Engbrecht, Bertie Senn, Morry & Ann Mitteness, Bob Maker, Clara Felton, Elsie Jean Buckner, Virginia Rotering, LaVonne & Les Beers, Carl Swanson, Pat Berglund, Bob Mathison, Larry & Mabel Pyle, and Doris Koch.

Stewards & Staff of Faith Lutheran Church

Pastor (ex-officio)	Rev. Brenda Satrum	381-1919	brenda@faithlutheranhamilton.org
President/Convener	Helen Volden	361-0222	Hjkl2mt@gmail.com
Discipleship	Claudia Williams	370-0615	williamsclaudia38@gmail.com
Fellowship & Hospitality	Judy Wilson	961-4071	JudyPlus_4@MSN.com
Finance	Dean Drake	777-7010	Deandrake87@gmail.com
Communication	Mark Grotbo	460-2144	mgrotbo@ravallielectric.com
Outreach	Judy Griffin	961-4390	idclairus@yahoo.com
Property & Grounds	Nathan Brady	360-3641	Cleancut.nathan@gmail.com
Worship	Ross Damrow	961-4321	rdamrow011@gmail.com
Worship Coordinator	Celeste Pogachar	239-3952	celestepogachar@gmail.com
Youth Director	Samantha Fife	370-8025	fifedrive@gmail.com
Office Secretary	Heather Wintergerst	363-2964	office@faithlutheranhamilton.org
Custodian	Richard Castor	363-2964	

Don't forget to look for Faith online

at www.faithlutheranhamilton.org or on Facebook at "Friends of Faith"! We're everywhere!

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In Memoriam

By Clairice Brady

Ellen Schilke left her earthly loved ones and slipped into the arms of Jesus on October 25. The Discovery Care Centre had been her home for the last several years and Ellen will be missed there. Ellen's space there was a welcoming one, and she enjoyed visiting with old friends and loved making new ones as well. Family was important to Ellen and she found great joy in gathering them together. A niece remembered special birthday celebrations Ellen arranged for her and Michael as they were growing up.

When Ellen was unable to attend church, what might have accumulated in her mail box there was vital to her – she often called and then had her grandson or a neighbor child pick up the mail for her while she waited in the car.

Pastor Brenda talked about her 'shepherding' at her memorial service and many folks can attest to having had a bit of Ellen's care and concern whether they wanted it or not. Ellen will always have a special place in many hearts at Faith.



25th Annual Marcus Daly Hospice Tree of Lights

Saturday, December 10, 2016
Marcus Daly Memorial Hospital
Conference Rooms B & C
1200 Westwood Dr., Hamilton

All are welcomed to attend the Silver Anniversary Tree of Lights ceremony. A cookie reception will be hosted by hospice volunteers at 3pm, followed by the Ceremony at 4pm.

Remember your loved ones during this special time of year.

Your donation of remembrance is extremely valuable in helping Marcus Daly Hospice continue with their important work. Donations levels available are:

- \$5 or more you can have a love one's name remembered with a light on the Tree of Lights.
- \$10 or more you can have a loved one's name remembered with a "Silver Anniversary" light on the Tree of Lights.
- \$15 or more you will receive a beautiful ornament for your Christmas tree.
- \$100 or more you will be recognized as a Tree of Light Sponsor and receive a certificate of appreciation.

**To purchase a Tree of Light memorial ornament or light
please call 363-6503 or visit www.mdmh.com**

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October Council Highlights

Consecration Sunday celebration held on October 16th was a success. The fellowship was great and our church membership pledged to increase their giving 28% from their current step. The Council and Pastor wish to thank all who attended and participated to make it a day worth remembering.



Future Faith Lutheran Council meetings have been moved to the third Monday of each month. The meetings start at 6:30pm. Everyone is encouraged to attend to listen or offer their thoughts.

The staining of the exterior of the Church is complete and looks wonderful. A special thank you to Nathan Brady for his diligence to seeing this project through.



There will be a special congregational meeting
Sunday December 11th immediately following worship.
The purpose of this meeting will be to approve
FLC's 2017 budget as proposed by council.
This will be the only topic discussed at the meeting.

Mutual Ministry is here for you, and you, and YOU!

If you have any concerns or praise for our church, please contact one of our committee members. We are a confidential group and will try to do our best to help communicate your opinions. It's best to call us and not a party line! We are here for you and here to serve!

Ann Damrow	961-4321	annbjoindamrow@gmail.com
Sue Rose	546-9006	roses5657@gmail.com
Charley Larson	363-3444	cjlarson@cybernet1.com
Rick Brown	381-6329	rbrown172@gmail.com
Sandy Russ	777-5132	catsandy12178@gmail.com



We appreciate your trust in us!

*Peace and God's love be with us all,
Ann Damrow
Mutual Ministry Committee Chair*



From the Emergency Assistance Committee:

This has been a very unusual year for your Emergency Assistance Committee. There have only been 5 assists so far this year. The Salvation Army which has served as the clearing house for requests for assistance now has a new coordinator. His name is Fidelis Temukum. The Salvation Army and the Ministerial Association are working on a new system to simplify the assistance process. As soon as a decision has been made you will be informed. Thank you, people of Faith, for your caring and commitment to helping those in need.

~ Nancy Osborn



Brawl of the Wild

Thanks so much for supporting the special offering on November 15th for Lutheran Campus Ministry! The results are in! **Bobcat supporters donated \$207.50** in the blue cups and **Grizzly supporters contributed \$125.50** for a **total of \$433!** Even though the Bobcats won the football game and the FLC challenge giving them bragging rights for the next year, proceeds will be split evenly between the U of M and MSU Campus Ministries. **Better luck next year, Griz!**

Freedom in Christ Prison Ministry

brings counsel, worship, and Bible study to inmates and staff at the Montana State Prison in Deerlodge. It's Montana Lutherans' transformative (to inmates and volunteers!) response to Christ's call to visit those in prison.

Freedom in Christ is funded by individuals, congregations, the Montana Synod and the ELCA—and it needs your help! If you have a heart to serve the folks at Deerlodge, connect at www.ficprisonministry.com.

"The Bible makes clear we are to remember and visit those in prison. Evidence shows inmates who participate in faith related programs are much more likely to remain free and become happier, useful members of society. When I participate in an event at the prison I usually come away believing that I have been blessed as much or more than the inmates."
Volunteer Rolf Tunby



2016 Fall Health and Wellness Presentations in Hamilton

Free



Location: St Francis Pastoral Care Center (411 S. 5th St.)-Everyone Welcome

December 1st- Thursday, 12:30pm- Reduce Stress and Fatigue-Promote Focus

and Relaxation- Joan Morgan, Occupational Therapist Registered/Licensed (OTR/L) Learn and practice mindfulness breathing techniques to increase oxygen flow to your brain and body, reduce stress, anxiety, and fatigue, and promote focus, calmness and relaxation... use during daily activities. Exercise, and after work or school---great for ALL ages!!!

Location: Marcus Daly Memorial Hospital, Blodgett & Canyon View Conference Rooms

December 8th-Thursday 5:30pm- Caregivers and Executors Matter: Katherine Herczeg, MSN, APRN, Bitterroot Physicians Clinic Spouse and Larry Johnson, Attorney at Law

Aging is inevitable and being prepared for end-of-life regardless of your age reduces the burden on your loved ones. Learn how to take care of yourself and those you care for and the important items to have in place from a Living Will to Advance Directives. Leave with a check list you can use to get your personal affairs in order.

Sponsored by Daly Hospital Foundation

From All of Us...

**Thank You to the organizers and all those who worked so hard on our
65th Anniversary dinner for such and wonderful and touching party!**

There's Never Been a Day

Chorus: There's never been a day like this day to me,
There's never been a day like this day I see,
There's never been a light that shines so bright
As this day, this glorious day.

We vow here before you, dear Lord of our heart,
To love and to cherish till death do us part,
Our lives bind together, this day and forever.
On this day, this glorious day.

Your God shall be my God, as Ruth said of old.
Our home filled with goodness more precious than gold,
We kneel now before you, awaiting to serve you
On this day, this glorious day.

Dear Father we thank you for your gifts of love;
For food, home and blessings that come from above.
We sing to your glory as we tell the story,
On this day, this glorious day.

It's your golden anniversary, dear Bob and Rachel
Your half century of love inspires us all,
We all thank you and now ask God to bless you
On this day, this glorious day.

There's never been a day like this to us,
There's never been a day like this day for us,
There's never been a light that shines so bright
As this day, this glorious day.



Rev. Rod Kvamme gave Norma Hill the song at an event she attended in the early 70's. Norma introduced it to the congregation. Rachel Gerloff wrote the fourth verse, and for many years it became a theme song for faith and was sung at all events. Rev. Carl Rohr believes Rev. Kvamme wrote the song.

December Birthdays

12/3	Paige Auch
12/7	Sally Berland, Steve Shook
12/9	Holly Mahon
12/12	Lila Farrenburg
12/14	Josie VanDenburg
12/17	Sandy Russ
12/18	Elaina Lewis
12/20	Cole Harden
12/21	John Carlson
12/22	Peggy Trexler
12/26	Kristina McCloskey, Sandy Drake
12/29	Dan Mitchell, Emmalee Patterson



With Gratitude

Dear Friends,
 On behalf of all associated with Lutheran Social Services of Montana I write to extend thanksgiving for you generous gift of \$208.
 Thank you for your generosity and valued ministry support.
Tom Schlotterback
VP of Mission Advancement



Thank you Tanin Buhler and BJ's Restaurant for preparing the lovely brunch we enjoyed on Consecration Sunday!

Yummy!

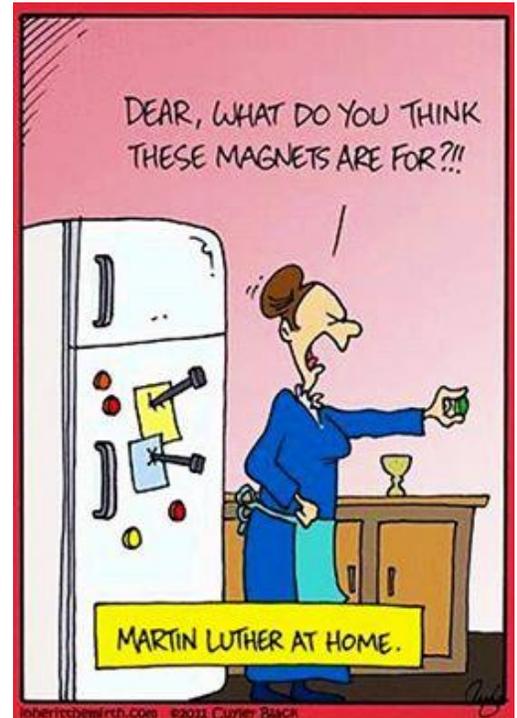


Thank you people of Faith and my wonderful Sunday School Class for all you prayers, cards, flowers, phone calls and words of encouragement that you have sent my way during this pacemaker process. The final process will be done on December 22 and after that I look forward to getting back to "normal." ~ *Nancy Osborn*

Thank you everyone who attended our 65th anniversary dinner. We collected 227 lbs. of food for Haven House.



The construction of Jennifer Larson, and her family's new Habitat for Humanity home at 511 N. 6th St. continues. Please keep them in our prayers as they continue on with their new journey. While praying for the family, also consider volunteering to help with the construction. You don't have to have experience building a house, but if you do that is fantastic too. There are many opportunities, from cooking, delivering and setting up lunch to pounding nails, painting and caulking. The list goes on. For more information you can go to: www.ravallihabitat.org you can also contact Erin, the volunteer coordinator for Habitat, at 531-4353, 375-1926 or www.volunteerhfhrc@yahoo.com.



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Dates To Remember

- 12/7 Caring Visitors Meeting
- 12/11 Special Council Meeting After Worship to Approve 2017 Budget
- 12/15 Faith Herald Deadline
- 12/17 Kids' Christmas Program Practice
- 12/18 Kids' Christmas Program
- 12/19 Council Meeting
- 12/22 Faith Herald Folding Party
- 12/24 Christmas Eve Worship at 4pm and 7pm
- 12/25 Christmas Day Worship at 10am-**MERRY CHRISTMAS!!**
- 12/26-12/31-FLC Office Closed**

