



The Faith Herald

May 2020

*“Get up to a high mountain,
and lift up your voice with strength...
herald of good news!” Isaiah 40:9*

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

Dear Members and Friends of FLC

Psalm 95:1-3, “O come, let us sing to the LORD; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation! Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise! For the Lord is a great God, and a great King above all gods.”

Oh, how I miss not worshipping together in our sanctuary—being together, making a joyful noise together in God’s presence with all of you. Since the governor’s announcement to begin opening things up, I am working with the council in figuring out what “opening up” for worship here will look like. As for right now, the council has agreed with me to hold worship on May 17th just for our seniors in high school and their families. This is a youth Sunday and these seniors will be receiving their senior quilts on this day. Because of the Covid19 virus, our seniors have missed so much of their senior-high-school experience. In talking with the seniors and their families, they are excited that we are planning to do this, especially for all that they have not been able to do. This service will be live streamed so that all of us from FLC , and your friends, will be able to tune in. I will be meeting with the council on May 18th to discuss when we will be opening for worship for the public and what that will look like. If you have any suggestions or input regarding this, please let me know. I will keep you informed as I know more.

As for now, we will make a enter God’s presence making a joyful noise together from our homes until that day when we enter God’s presence together in God’s house, here at FLC.

May God continue to bless you all richly.

Partners in sharing God’s grace,
Pastor Paul

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Our High School Seniors, that could be reached prior to print

Tristan Hanson was baptized into the Lutheran Church as an infant. He began attending Faith Lutheran church around the age of 3. Tristan has always enjoyed attending church and his faith in Jesus Christ is very important to him. One of his fondest memories of attending church was when he and his brother would be on the floor in the back. In order to keep him quiet, his mom would give him goldfish, Cheez Its, vanilla wafers, and graham crackers, teddy grahams to be specific. Tristan said that they would color as well—he then quickly said, “We were still listening.” The crackers and snacks have evolved into juice and crackers now. Tristan attended confirmation at FLC and was confirmed in 2016.

Since school has been canceled and online learning has started, Tristan mostly misses the social interacting. Tristan will be attending Rocky Mountain College in Billings MT. He will be playing golf for the school. Tristan will be majoring in biology with an emphasis on premed. He plans to become a doctor of some kind and to return to practice medicine in Hamilton. Tristan would like to give back to the Hamilton community that he feels has given so much to him.

When asked what he would miss the most, Tristan said “I will miss home, church, and the social interacting with his family and friends from the community.” Tristan would like his FLC community to pray that he has a safe, inspirational and fun experience while attending Rocky Mountain College. He would also like for us to pray that his homesickness is held to a minimum. May God walk with you Tristan in the next chapter of your life as you continue to walk with and follow Jesus.

Holly Mahon is a vivacious energetic young woman who enjoys people and life. Holly was baptized when she was young. She attended confirmation at FLC and was unable to finish because of health reasons. She is interested in finishing her faith instruction, now as a young adult.

Since school has been canceled and online learning has started, Holly misses her social interaction with her friends, and teachers. Holly has missed not being able to play tennis, and she especially misses her lab classes—“these classes are just not the same on video,” she says. Holly will be attending the University of Montana. She will be majoring in neuroscience with an emphasis on premed. Holly loves Montana, and after receiving her degree(s) would like to have a carrier in Montana.

Holly says that she will miss the beautiful mountains in the Bitterroot Valley. She is going to miss High School, but as the Senior class president, Holly is looking forward to helping plan their 10 year class reunion. Having been the class whose last day of being at High School with friends, faculty and staff ended on March 12, 2020, Holly is confident there will be a lot of students at this reunion.

Holly would appreciate the prayers of the FLC community. Prayers that she would have a fruitful, interactive, and fun experience in college. She would also like prayers to stay connected with her friends from Hamilton. May God walk with you Holly into the next chapter of your life.

Quoia Anderson has been attending FLC for quite some time with her grandma and grandpa, Tom and Barbara Anderson. She was baptized while in junior high and was confirmed on May 5th, 2016. Quoia has always enjoyed attending church and participating by sharing her gift of music in leading some of our Call's to Worship, and our Holden Evening Prayer Service as well as other services.

Quoia, since doing high school online, says she misses the structure of the 7 hr. school day. She misses the social interaction with friends and faculty.

Quoia will be attending the University of Montana in the fall and plans to pursue a degree in psychology. She has a real passion for helping people who suffer from mental illnesses, depression etc. She plans to become a therapist and would like to do pro bono work helping those who need help but are unable to afford it. Quoia would like to settle in the Bitter Root Valley after her education.

Quoia says she will miss the youthfulness of high school. She will miss the teachers and the personal care they provide for the students. She will also miss her family, her cats, the small town feeling and the fresh air. She plans to come back and visit often.

Quoia would like FLC to pray that she will find strength, guidance and safety during her college experience. She would also like prayer that her experience is fun and positive as well. May God walk with you Quoia as you begin a new chapter in your life.

From Dr. Seuss' book "Oh the Places You'll Go", let's keep all of our seniors, Tristan Hanson, Bryce Reed, Quoia Anderson, Cady Rollins, Weston Buhler, Grace Reichart and Holly Mahon, in our prayers for the places they'll go.

A Big *thank you!*

You were all so generous with your donations to help our young people and chaperones to have some cash for their big trip to New York City, where they were to sing in Carnegie Hall. We were able to give each of them \$50 for food money or souvenirs and they were all thrilled. As you may have guessed, their trip was canceled four days before they were to depart. Praise the Lord that they were kept safe in Montana, because New York City soon became the epicenter of COVID-19 in our country.

I received phone calls about the money because they did not feel right about keeping it and wanted to return it. I suggested they turn it back as a donation to the scholarship fund, basically it will eventually get to them in a different form.

Please keep our young people in your prayers, they are struggling with missing not only their New York trip, but the end of their senior year in high school, and possibly graduation. This is not an easy time for anyone.

This month we would be having senior quilt Sunday, as well as awarding scholarships to both the graduating seniors and those in other years of college. The Easter breakfast is our only fundraiser for the scholarship program, and that was definitely not held this year. If you find it in your heart, please add an extra donation with your offering for the scholarship fund this year. Thank you again for all your generosity!

Sincerely,
Karen Heller



Worship for May

Sunday, May 3: Acts 2:42-47, Psalm 23, 1 Peter 2:19-25,
John 10:1-10

Monday, May 4: Bitterroot Taizé 7pm, from FLC

Sunday, May 10: Acts 7:55-60, Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16,
1 Peter 2:2-10, John 14:1-14

Sunday, May 17: **Senior Sunday**, Acts 17:22-31,
Psalm 66:8-20, 1 Peter 3:13-22, John 14:15-21

Sunday May 24: Acts 1:6-14, Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35
1 Peter 4:12-14, 5:6-11, John 17:1-11

Sunday May 31: **Day of Pentecost**, Acts 2:1-21,
Psalm 104:24-34, 35b, 1 Corinthians 12:3b-13,
John 20:19-23

National Day of Prayer

Thursday, May 7, 2020, 7pm

via You Tube from Cornerstone Bible Church!

<https://www.facebook.com/cbc406/>



Save the dates:

Faith Lutheran's VBS will be July 12-17, 2020

Hosted by FLBC counselors

This Year's Theme:

God's Enduring Love!



The last week of May, Faith will determine if we will be hosting VBS

VBS Requests

Although we are currently facing uncertain times with cancellations, postponements, and limited services, we still need to plan for when life returns to normal. So, with a hope for a return to normal by July, here are a couple requests for supplies for the VBS crafts. We will be making star jars the day we learn about God's promises to Abraham and Sarah. Clean 8 to 12 - 14-ounce jars with tightly sealing lids are needed for this project. Jars that are taller rather than wide are best...examples are condiment jars, relish, olives,



some pickles, etc. We could also use some old maps that we will cut up for the Day 5 craft when we learn about Paul, Timothy and Lydia who spread God's message and love to others. Older Montana highway maps would be great as kids would recognize more communities, but any maps would work. Your help with these items is always appreciated! Stay safe and remember to be positive as God's Enduring Love (our VBS theme) we will get us through this!



Getting to Know Our Newest Members.....

Part 2 (part 1 was in the April newsletter)

(A portion of our new members were received and welcomed at worship on Sunday, March 15th. Those who were unable to be at worship on that day will be received when we can all gather together again.)



Paul and Gwen Anderson relocated to Hamilton in January of 2019 when Paul accepted a call to be our pastor. Previously, Paul was a pastor of a combined Lutheran/Presbyterian parish in Fairfield, Washington for almost 15 years. Paul grew up on a dairy farm in Illinois. In 1975-76 he attended Lutheran Bible Institute, where he became friends with Steve Van Gilder. Paul then toured with an LBI ministry team for 2 years. Gwen was raised in Montana and migrated to Washington after high school. They met in 1980 in Rochester, Washington, where Paul was a church youth director and a salmon farmer. Gwen started college in 1990 and earned a teaching degree. Paul attended seminary at Wartburg in Dubuque, Iowa, graduating in 2004. Paul and Gwen have been married almost 34 years and have three grown children, who all live in Washington. They have seven grandchildren, ranging in age from 1 to 19 years.

Emily Denney moved to Corvallis in July of 2018 with her husband Tommy and daughters Caroline (age 4) and Evelyn (age 3). The Denney family began attending Faith about a year later. They were drawn to our church because there were young children for their daughters to socialize with. Emily is a family medicine physician at Marcus Daly Hospital. Emily and Tommy grew up in Texas. After attending medical school in Texas, Emily completed her residency in Maine, and most recently was stationed in Delaware, on active duty in the United States Air Force. The Denney's enjoy cooking, reading, hiking, fishing, and maybe hunting. At Faith, they hope to get involved with hosting coffee hour.

John and Leanne Marten moved to Florence from the east coast (Pennsylvania and Virginia) almost 4 years ago when Leanne became the Regional Forester for Region 1 of the Forest Service. While in Pennsylvania, John began studying to become an ELCA pastor. His theological studies were paused when they moved to Montana. They love activities outdoors. They are parents to two grown children; one in Iowa and the other in North Carolina. At Faith, John serves as an Assisting Minister and is currently the Steward of Discipleship on our church council.

Susan and Ollie Sinclair and Curt Smidesang moved to the Bitterroot Valley two years ago to a ranch up Burr Creek, where they raise black angus cattle and paint horses. Before that, they ranched at Fish Creek (between Alberton and Superior), beginning in 1997. Curt was raised on a farm/ranch in North Dakota, and then moved to a ranch in Ekalaka, Montana. He and his wife Janice had three daughters. Middle daughter Susan was born in nearby Miles City. When Susan was in grade school, the family relocated to a small ranch in Elma, Washington, where Curt also worked at a John Deere implement dealer and later purchased a NAPA auto parts store, and Janice ran a Montgomery Wards store, where Susan worked as a teen. Susan met Ollie and fell in love while working at a timber company. Ollie has two grown children, and he and Susan and Curt adore their 7 grandchildren and 2 great grandchildren. Curt brought Ollie to Montana to hunt and fish and Ollie was hooked (so to speak!) Ollie started a (mostly) commercial construction company in 1991, and still travels between Montana and Washington to manage its operations. Curt was widowed two years ago. In his younger years he was a pilot and owned an airplane. He enjoys woodworking projects.



Community Meals have Resumed!

The Family Shelter of the Bitterroot will resume providing meals Monday through Friday to those in need on Monday, April 6th. (The next and last meal Faith will help with will be May 26th) Meals will be prepared by the staff at Triple Creek Guest Ranch, packaged, and then transported by Family Shelter of the Bitterroot volunteers. Meals will be

handed out between 5:30 and 6:30 each evening at the Cornerstone Bible Church parking lot on Fairgrounds Rd.

The Dennis and Phyllis Washington Foundation will provide a \$1500 matching grant to the Family Shelter to help defray the 50 miles per day cost of transporting the meals if the Shelter can raise \$1500. If you would like help to match this grant, please send your donation to Family Shelter (attn: Gary Locke) P O Box 656 Hamilton MT.



Giving Status April 2020

Giving for April was \$11,530.00.
Expected giving for the month was \$16,598
FLC received \$5,068 less than expected.

YTD FLC has received \$43,864.
We had expected to receive \$44,121
FLC has received \$257 less than expected.

eGiving at Faith Lutheran Church

April 20, 2020

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

I want to bring you up to date on our efforts to bring eGiving to Faith Lutheran. We have decided on Vanco. Vanco is compatible with Servant Keeper, our membership records program. This will make it easier for our Financial Secretary to record individual giving.

The application has been submitted to Vanco and I hope we will be up and running before long.

We await the material and directions we need to get set up.

I would like to reiterate some of the suggestions I shared last time. I believe it is most effective for you to arrange with your bank bill pay option to send a check on a set date each month. You can change the amount you give as needed, change the date or discontinue if necessary.

To go this route, go to your bank account on line and choose “Bill Pay” and then choose “pay a person” Because you do not have an account number to which to send it put NA in the account number space. There is a memo line that appears on the check, click on “make a Memo or comment”, I put “Envelope #_xx_” there. This makes sure you are appropriately credited for your donation. I also made this a recurring donation, now I don’t have to remember to write a check every month. Your bank may phrase it differently. Give them a call if needed.

I am going to encourage you to use the **bank bill pay option** – there is no charge for this. If you choose to make a bank transfer through Vanco there is a 1% charge + a transaction fee of \$0.45. There is a choice to add those fees with your donation, thus giving the church the benefit of your entire contribution.

If you would like to contribute using a credit or debit card, Vanco is the way to go. I don’t know about you but sometimes we have spent too much money. Well, I need to pay the bill and it would be nice to use my credit card for church and delay till the next month when I have more funds. However, there is a 2.75% + \$0.45 charge for using the credit or debit card. Again, there is a choice to add these fees with your donation.

We will be doing some educational sessions to share more with you and explain the options and how it all works.

One additional item – We have been approved for a Small Business Administration loan. The funds are already available for us to use. These funds will be used to be sure our staff does not lose any work during this time of shutdowns and stay at home directives. We must use the funds from the loan as specified by the rules. This will allow us to have it declared a grant and will not have to repay the loan.

With God’s Love and Caring,

Sandy Russ

Steward of Finance

406-531-0424 catsandy12178@gmail.com





FLBC Update!

Folks have been asking about the possibility of summer camp at FLBC, as well as their counselors coming to Faith to lead our VBS. Below is the latest update from Margie Fiedler. Please pray for the ministry of the camp.

The FLBC board met April 28, 2020, and in consultation with our health department, has decided to keep camp closed through most of June. We have postponed our June events, and are in the process of contacting campers from our June weeks, to hopefully move them to later weeks in the summer. Our summer staff (**including our own Josie VanDenburg!**) will arrive late June, and we will be doing much of our staff training online. **We pray we will be able to open in late June**, however we will not open if we cannot feel prepared and confident about welcoming campers.

We also know that *if* we are able to open camp this summer, that *it will look very different* from what we've known at FLBC. We are working hard to make changes in how we operate programming, in order to stay in small groups- taking ideas from our successful offsite small group model and bringing them to onsite camping. We also are writing protocols that will be reviewed by our health department as to how we will do food service (more meals to go?), how the check-in procedure may change (temperature check before a freeze pop?) and how we will continue to pride ourselves in super clean facilities, while disinfecting, scrubbing and cleaning even more. All of this in order to keep risk down and our staff and campers healthy and safe.

The FLBC board will meet again May 26th, to determine if we will be open in July and August. If you register your child for camp by May 1st, you can save \$50 and before June 1st, save \$25. You will need to sign off on a form about exposure to the virus, temperatures taken, and that you have not traveled outside of MT for 14 days prior to coming to camp. If you decide not to send your child to camp this summer, we encourage you to roll your deposit to 2021, or donate all or part of it, if possible. We will provide full refunds, if that is your request.

Yes, we are eager to welcome you, whenever that can be...and we know when that happens "that all the trees of the field will clap their hands." For YOU!!

With thanks and praise to God, Margie Fiedler , Executive Director

Please mark your calendars for these FLBC sponsored events date changes:

May 22-25- Memorial Day Weekend Work Retreat-*rescheduled* for Labor Day weekend: September 4-7; our regular Labor Day family camp program will happen the same weekend.

June 11-13- Women's Retreat- *rescheduled* for September 11-13; Pastor Miriam Schmidt will still serve as our retreat leader.

June 12th- Partners Luncheon- *rescheduled* for October 10th. Luncheon will take place just prior to the annual meeting.

FLBC virtual campfires, worship, and music can be found
<https://www.facebook.com/watch/flatheadlutheranbiblecamp/566603417310416/>,
on FLBC's Facebook page, and more activities can be found at <https://flbc.net/resources/>.

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Council Highlights from April 13, 2020

Making offering payments online will soon be available. (See Sandy's letter, page 7)" While you can go directly through your bank and ask for a check be drafted from your account on a reoccurring basis, which is free, there is another option coming soon. If you would like to give through a debit card or credit card, that is being arranged for now.

The church would have a \$10 charge per month processing fee total. Thank you, Sandy, for your efforts.

- 1. The church has applied for a government payroll loan.** The application was submitted last Thursday. This application process is part of the Payroll Protection Program. We are waiting to hear if we are approved. It was cautioned that if we were to receive the loan, we proceed carefully, and not utilize the funds until all of the ramifications are known. We have brought in close to \$8,000 since the COVID 19 outbreak. While that is lower than last year's giving, we are encouraged that our members understand the importance of continued giving during this time. Thank you Faith parishioners! **Money Received April 20th! One day before the funds were all gone for the program.**
- 2. Timeline for congregational worship in the sanctuary.** It is still uncertain at this time when we might be able to worship AT Faith. We need to be prudent, especially with our congregation and the compromised states of many of our members.
- 3. Purchasing a tripod and considerations for other online worshipping needs.** It was noted that a tripod will be purchased out of worship funds. The online services have been well received. It has been a blessing to the homebound folks who are typically unable to attend in person. The thought is to continue online service offerings even as in person worshipping returns. Pastor will put together a budget/list of things that might be needed going forward.
- 4. Outreach to our homebound.** Darrin brought up reaching out to Sapphire, Beehive, etc., which Pastor and Celeste are in the process of doing. The thought is to let our parishioners know they can watch online. It was also mentioned that we might need to help them with devices.

Faith facelift. A huge thank you to Dale and his Property and Grounds Committee for their ongoing completion of projects. They have painted the fellowship hall, have new lights ready to installed, and more! This is a perfect time for Spring spruce ups!

Hospitality and Fellowship will be so important once the pandemic has passed. Jane and her committee already have plans in the works.

Kerry A. Morris-Hanson



New hall lights!

Pray for our Military

Please remember our family and friends that have joined the military and 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:



- **Mike Hebert**, grandson of Don & Shirley McGourty, US Army, serving in Colorado Springs, CO
- **Colonel Timothy Spaulding**, nephew of John Trangmoe, USAF, Group Commander, Edwards Air Base, CA.
- **Master Sgt. Andy Wetzsteon**, son of Susan & Lonnie Wetzsteon, at Nelli's AFB, Las Vegas, NV
- **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 at Ft. Campbell Hospital.
- **Capt. Kyle Frazer**, son of Larry & Nancy Hansen, serving at Fort Polk, LA.
- **Master Sergeant Will Rollefson**, nephew of Larry Hansen, Special Forces, Seattle, WA.

Please call or email us with your prayer requests

Pray for our Members and Friends...

- **Prayers for:** Carl Swanson, Luken & Heidi, Gail Lewis, Larkin, Judy & Peter, Christie, Ed, Linda, Sulley, Dan Bailey, Nate Anderson, John, Leta and Ray, Timothy Hawes, Karl, Shirley Hanson, Dale Hughey, Peggy Lewis, Irene Stengrimson, Victoria Moore, LaVonne Beers.
- **The Beehive:** Morry Mitteness, Yvonne Olson, Bertie Henderson
- **Valley View:** Ruth Dillon
- **Remington:** Betty Swift, Chuck Olson
- **Home Nursing Care:** Virginia Rotering, Smitty
- **Incarcerated:** Jacob Bachman, George Davis

Stewards & Staff of Faith Lutheran Church

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Faith Herald May 2020

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Return Service Requested

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Address Label Here

Dates To Remember in May

- May 7:** National Day of Prayer, Via You Tube
Cornerstone Bible Church, Facebook
- May 10:** Mother's Day
- May 17:** Senior Quilt Sunday
- May 25:** Memorial Day, Church office closed



Birthdays

<i>Cliff Marks</i>	<i>May 1</i>	<i>Morry Mitteness. Logan Sidoruk</i>	<i>May 15</i>
<i>Katie Exner, Nancy Osborn</i>	<i>May 3</i>	<i>Tracy Walczak</i>	<i>May 16</i>
<i>Maxwell Buhler, Will Heitmann</i>	<i>May 4</i>	<i>Tom Anderson, Judy Griffin</i>	<i>May 18</i>
<i>Anita Bell</i>	<i>May 5</i>	<i>Donna Jakobson</i>	<i>May 18</i>
<i>Deidra Markette</i>	<i>May 6</i>	<i>Sage Beyer</i>	<i>May 22</i>
<i>Lavonne Beers</i>	<i>May 8</i>	<i>Darrin Heitmann</i>	<i>May 23</i>
<i>Greg Mitchell, Nancy Marks</i>	<i>May 8</i>	<i>Lucas Brady</i>	<i>May 24</i>
<i>Nathan Brady</i>	<i>May 13</i>	<i>Dick Hoeben</i>	<i>May 28</i>
<i>Danielle Harden</i>	<i>May 14</i>	<i>Pete Seifert</i>	<i>May 29</i>
		<i>Walker Buhler</i>	<i>May 31</i>

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