



# The Faith Herald

*December 2020*

171 Lewis Lane, Hamilton, MT, 59840

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406.363.2964

Visit our office 9a-1p, Monday-Thursday

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**“Faith Lutheran is a Family of God built on love: worshipping, welcoming, serving and growing in Christ’s name”**

Greeting to you all!

The Holidays are a joyous time of year for many people. But for others the Holidays are not so joyous, due to loss: Loss of a loved one, loss of a job, loss of a relationship, receiving bad news from a doctor, just to name a few. While the holidays can be hard for some people to navigate through, we rest in God’s promise to always be with us, especially through these times.



We will be holding a “Blue Christmas Service” also known as the “Longest Night Service” on December 20th at 6pm broadcast on You Tube. This is a gentle contemplative service for those who are carrying pain or loss during this time of celebration. There will be a time for remembering our losses and our pain, confident that God’s light breaks into our darkness and is present with us, offering us peace. We will pray together and spend some time focusing on God’s promises from God’s Holy Word, knowing we are not alone. This will be a guitar led service.

From Matthew 11:28-30, Jesus says, “Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for you souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

If this Christmas season is hard for you, or someone you know, because of a pain or loss, join us for a “Blue Christmas Service.” This service is open to all.

Partners in sharing God’s grace,  
Pastor Paul

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**Join us for Evening Advent Services with the Holden Evening Prayer.....**

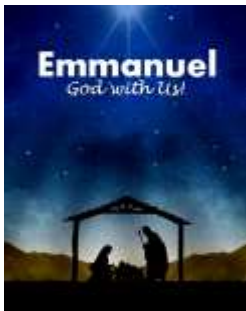
The service will be broadcast on **Wednesday evenings at 7 PM**, (December 2,9,16, 23). It can also be watched after the service. In the busy-ness of the month of December, it's easy to forget that advent is a time set aside to watch and wait; to prepare for the coming of Immanuel, "God With Us"!



*Can you contribute special music during Advent or Christmas?  
Please contact Celeste and we'll work together  
to schedule and locate music.*

**December Worship Notes**

Advent (the beginning of the Christian calendar year) started Sunday, November 29th. This is "the year of Mark", or Lectionary B, which means we will focus on Mark's version of the gospel, supplemented by readings from the Gospel of John. Mark is the earliest of the four gospels, believed to have been written around 70 CE, when the temple in Jerusalem was destroyed. Mark is the primary literary source for the gospels of Matthew and Luke, and a strong influence on John. Mark's gospel depicts women as leaders in the ministry of Jesus; exemplars of faith and the values He taught.



Due to the Covid pandemic and our effort to protect all those we care for, worship services this year will be broadcast live on You Tube and our Facebook page. This includes services on Sundays, Wednesday evenings and Christmas Eve. There will not be a Christmas morning service.

**Can You Contribute to Our Virtual Christmas Services?**

Just because there will be no in-person worship this Christmas season, that doesn't mean we won't have lovely and meaningful Christmas services! We have a great opportunity to pre-record the music and readings, and Josie VanDenburg has offered to compile and edit our offerings into two services that will be available for you to watch on You Tube or Facebook at your convenience (and share with your family and friends).

So here's how it works:

We will use the same bulletin templates we have always used for the December 24<sup>th</sup> and December 27<sup>th</sup> worship services. If you or your family are interested in contributing a reading, a carol, or special music, please let me know. You may choose to record it yourself and send it to Josie. If you wish to have Josie record it, she will be available the week of December 14<sup>th</sup> for private, socially distanced recording sessions at the church.

Please consider how you can contribute to this special Christmas offering to celebrate the birth of Jesus.

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Celeste Pogachar 239-3952



### Christmas Eve Candlelight Services:

Tuesday, December 24<sup>th</sup>

The service will be available any time after 4pm on YouTube.



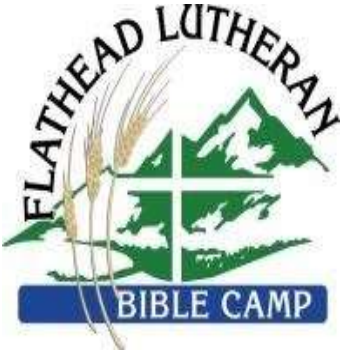
### Faith's Worship Readings

- 12/6 **Advent 2** Isaiah 40:1-11, Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13, 2<sup>nd</sup> Peter 3:8-15a, Mark 1:1-8
- 12/13 **Advent 3** Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11, Psalm 126, 1<sup>st</sup> Thess 5:16-24, John 1:6-8, 19-28.
- 12/20 **Advent 4** 2<sup>nd</sup> Samuel 7:1-11,16, Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26
- 12/24 **Christmas Eve** Isaiah 9:2-7, Psalm 96, Titus 2:11-14, Luke 2:1-20
- 12/27 **Christmas 1** Isaiah 61:10-62:3, Psalm 148, Galatians 4:4-7, Luke 2:2-40

### Shoebboxes Have Begun Their Journey

The Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes packed by Faith's many giving folks have begun their journey. We sent **145** boxes off to bring smiles to the faces of each child. These gifts are often simple by some standards but to someone who has little they can mean much more. The story of Jesus' birth and life is given to each child who receives a box so he or she is exposed to the word and works of God. These simple gifts can change lives. Thank you to all who participated and continue bring joy and spread the faith to children around the world.





## *FLBC News & Notes*

### **Shop with Amazon Smile to benefit FLBC!**

It's the holiday season! As you shop this season, use Amazon Smile (<https://smile.amazon.com/>) and select Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp as your beneficiary. Amazon will automatically donate .5% of your purchase price to FLBC (no additional cost to you!). Be sure to shop [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com/) this season!

**Summer 2020 Adult Volunteers!** Registration for adult volunteers (pastors, youth directors, nurses, grandparents, etc.) for the 2021 summer camping season is now open! Call (406) 752-6602 during the day for the best availability of weeks!



Look for the Summer 2021 camping brochure to be posted online later in December.

## *Retreats*

### **Youth Ski & Snowboard Retreat      *January 8-10, 2021***

For Jr and Sr High School youth. Come for an awesome weekend filled with good food, fellowship, snow games, worship and FUN! Spend your days skiing or snowboarding at Whitefish Mountain Resort or Blacktail Mountain Resort with your youth group.

Downhill snow sports not your forte? Some of the best cross-country ski trails in the Flathead Valley are a few miles from camp, or spend the day at camp relaxing, studying and enjoying the view of Flathead Lake. Post skiing activities include hot chocolate by the fire, group games, time to relax with new friends, and worship.

**For more information, go to [www.FLBC.net](http://www.FLBC.net) or call 406-752-6602**

### **Brawl of the Wild**

Thanks so much for supporting the special offering for Lutheran Campus Ministry! Money collected will be will be evenly split between U of M and MSU Campus Ministries! **Way to go, Bobcat and Griz Fans!**





**Plan Ahead!**  
Save the week of  
July 12-16, 2021  
for Faith Lutheran's Vacation Bible School

Pastor Paul will be on vacation from Nov 23rd until Dec 9<sup>th</sup>. Rick Brown will be on call for emergencies. If you can help moving Pastor and Gwen and have a cargo trailer give Pastor a call. 509-844-1120



**Important Budget Meetings  
Mark Your Calendar:**

**Sun. December 6<sup>th</sup>** Budget Questions and Answers after worship  
**Sun. December 13<sup>th</sup>** Congregational Meeting to approve budget

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The meeting on December 6 will be done via Zoom at 11 am. Please let the office know by email if you wish to join the meeting ([office@faithlutheranhamilton.org](mailto:office@faithlutheranhamilton.org))  
The Congregational Meeting on December 13th will be held via Zoom also at 11 am. The Constitution requires folks to hear others attending the meeting. A quorum for the meeting requires 15 people. This will constitute our congregational budget meeting. If you have any questions, please contact Sandy Russ at 406-531-0424.

A copy of the budget will be sent via email on December 1, 2020 and for those without email it will be sent by snail mail.

**THANK YOU**

**Many thanks to Claudia Williams and Susan Peterson for creating new paraments for the pulpit and lectern.**

**Many thanks to the Richardson and Mendenall families for decorating the church for the Christmas Season.**

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## MORE THANKS

As we have been unable to worship together in the church building, we miss seeing our church family this advent season. Thanks to Thrivent Action Team funds as well as a donation of wreaths by Helen and Curtis Fessler, we were able to deliver 18 advent bags to Faith's families and 15 bags to our less mobile congregation members. These bags contained advent wreaths, devotionals and activities, and an assortment of goodies. Thanks to Judy Griffin and Teresa Lane for delivering this seasonal cheer!

Linda Beyer & Celeste Pogachar

## Pray for our Military

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. Kyle Frazer**, son of Larry & Nancy Hansen, serving at Fort Polk, LA.
- **Master Sergeant Will Rollefson**, nephew of Larry Hansen, Special Forces, Seattle, WA.



### *Pray for At-Home Members and Friends...*

Pastor Dale Meador, Pastor Aprille Jordan, Eunice Romo, Quoia Anderson, Bill Jameson, Ken Price, Pastor Shannon Mayfield, Scott Southwick, Amber Wood, Richard Castor, Julie, Pat, Amber Lynch, Cliff Marks, Mary Ann, Ashley, Dennis Kimzey, Ken Cathey, Linda Bentz, Ron Osborn.

**Prayers for Covid-19 Recovery:** Earl Belcher, Liz Jameson, Holly Gyles, Dominic Farrenkopf.

**Prayers for comfort:** Family and friends of Pastor Ed Pomelear, family and friends of Pam Kaye, family and friends of Jane Davidson.

**Discovery:** Clara Felton

**Valley View:** Ruth Dillon

**Home Nursing Care:** Virginia Rotering, Smitty

**Incarcerated:** Jacob Bachman, George Davis

**The Beehive:** Morry Mitteness, Yvonne Olson

**Remington:** Betty Swift, Chuck Olson



*December Birthdays*

12/2	Mary Schmidt
12/4	Vicki Silvan
12/6	Heather Wintergerst
12/7	Sally Berland Steve Shook
12/8	Bob McKee
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	Sandy Drake Kristina McCloskey Grace Reichart
12/28	Emment Harden
12/29	Dan Mitchell
12/30	Emmalee Paterson,

**Dates To Remember**

- 12/2 7pm Holden Evening  
Prayer - streaming
- 12/5 Live Nativity at the  
Fairgrounds
- 12/6 Q and A for Budget by  
Zoom
- 12/9 7pm Holden Evening  
Prayer - streaming
- 12/13 Congregational Meeting by  
Zoom.
- 12/16 7pm Holden Evening  
Prayer - streaming
- 12/20 6pm Blue Christmas  
Service for all -  
streaming
- 12/24 Christmas Eve Candlelight  
Services - Streaming

**Office closed from December 25, 2020 thru January 3, 2021.  
The office will reopen on Monday, January 4, 2021.**

## ADOPT A FAMILY 2020

Kerry Hanson has given us a family of 6 to help this Christmas season. The family includes a 17 year old boy, a 6 year old boy, a 5 year old boy and a 6 month old girl and the parents. Call Kerry at 406-240-4672 to assist and find out their needs. Thank you all for blessing this family.

Update: There are several items remaining on our family's list. From snow boots and gloves, to books and toys, a grocery card and Walmart card .... Please call Kerry Hanson (240.4672) if you can help provide an item or two OR cash to purchase items. Thank you in advance!

## FLC NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Nominating Committee has begun the search for members to serve on the church council. For more information or to volunteer call Linda Beyer at 406-207-3471.

## COMMUNITY MEAL

The next Community Meal to be prepared and served by Faith Lutheran Church will be January 26, 2021.

If you need entry to the church and the door is locked during office hours – Monday thru Thursday 9am -1:00pm - please call the office at 406-363-2964. As you enter please wear a mask, if you don't have one, there will be masks available for you.

## Stewards & Staff of Faith Lutheran Church

Pastor	Paul Anderson	509-844-1120	PastorPaul6@gmail.com
President/Convener	Darrin Heitmann	370-4521	Darrin@pltmontana.com
Discipleship	John Marten	231-288-0242	Johnmarten1j4.7@gmail.com
Fellowship & Hospitality	Jane Mason	363-4568	13LJMason@gmail.com
Finance	Sandy Russ	531-0424	catsandy12178@gmail.com
Communication	Kerry Hanson	240-4672	K3thanson@gmail.com
Outreach	Judy Griffin	961-4390	idclairus@Yahoo.com
Property & Grounds	Dale Brady	363-2749	greenalley@bresnan.net
Worship	Susan Peterson	701-590-4064	smpete2@yahoo.com
Worship Coordinator	Celeste Pogachar	239-3952	celestepogachar@gmail.com



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