

THE

FAITH HERALD

February 2026 NEWSLETTER



VALENTINE CARE PACKAGES FOR OUR “KIDS”

It is that time of year when Faith lets our college, trade school & military “kids” know we are thinking of them. Please join us on Sunday, February 1st to fill some boxes with messages, treats and lots of love. Want to add someone to the list?... Give the name and address to the office. If you would like to contribute a treat, please drop off non-perishable food items on or before Feb. 1st. We are planning on 20-25 boxes. This is a wonderful tradition that our “kids” deeply appreciate!



FAITH LUTHERAN

CHURCH (FLC), ELCA

FLC is a family of God built on love: worshiping, welcoming, learning, and serving in Christ’s name. All are welcome.

SUNDAY WORSHIP

9:30 AM

In Person: 171 Lewis LN
Hamilton, MT 59840
Live Stream: YouTube @
www.faithlutheranhamilton.org
or
facebook @
Friends of Faith Lutheran

Pastor Paul Anderson

509-844-1120

flchamilton.pastorpaul@gmail.com

FLC Office Hours:

Mon. - Fri. 9 am-1 pm

Phone: 406-363-2964

Email:

faithlutheran59840@gmail.com

Website:

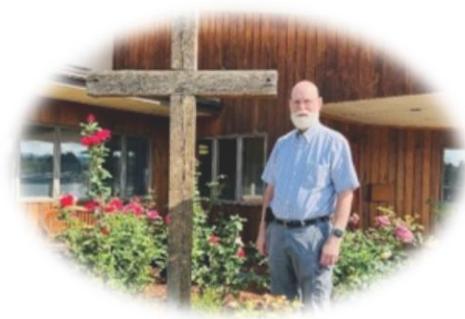
www.faithlutheranhamilton.org

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Friends of Faith Lutheran



P a s t o r ' s P o n d e r i n g s



Dear Friends and Members of FLC

As I thought about what to put into our Newsletter this month, I have been troubled with all of the division and hate that continues to spread throughout our country. I found this article from my friend and colleague Bishop Keith Marshall (Bishop of the Southwest Washington Synod) helpful, and I hope that you will as well.

Partners in sharing God's grace,
Pastor Paul

Beloved Members of the Southwestern Washington Synod,

I find myself at a loss for words in this moment. I sit shocked and heartbroken, crying out to God, asking where we are to turn in a time as our divisions continue to grow and what has become normalized is so shocking and startling. As your bishop, I find myself deeply concerned for our hearts, our communities, our families, and ourselves.

Along with the violence and hate we see on display daily, I am concerned to what extent that level of dehumanization and desensitization has taken hold among us. I am troubled and concerned that violence, hate, and rhetoric have become so normalized that we risk embracing the very things we claim to be crying out against.

I am troubled that these efforts to dehumanize others may lead many to walk away from what we hold as Lutherans to be true: that two things can be true at the same time, for we are people of "and," not "either/or."

The gospel calls us to live in this tension, not to escape it. We are called to resist the normalization of dehumanizing those with whom we disagree and to rise above the forces that would harden our hearts. There is nothing more antithetical to the gospel than denying the humanity and Imago Dei of another. When we begin to do so, we begin to embrace that which we know is not true and not of God.

In this moment, I invite you to guard your hearts and minds from the violence and hate. Do not blind yourself to it, nor ignore it, hoping it will simply go away. Rather, I invite you to follow the way of Christ: praying for all who grieve, naming injustice wherever it occurs, and refusing to let fear, anger, or ideology eclipse our calling to love our neighbor, to stand with the marginalized, and to bear faithful witness to the gospel.

"And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." -Philippians 4:7

Rev. Keith Marshall
Bishop, Southwestern Washington Synod

COUNCIL CORNER

February 2026



As we begin a new year together, we give thanks for God's faithfulness and for the strength of our church family. The past year has been filled with worship, service, and fellowship made possible by the dedication of our members. Because of you, our church continues to grow not only in numbers, but in spirit and purpose.

A special reminder that our Annual Congregational Meeting will be held on February 8th immediately following worship services. This important gathering allows us to come together as a church family to thank and honor our outgoing council members (Dean, Brooke and Susan), elect new council members, and appoint special committees to help guide our ministry in the coming year.

Our church is truly run by its members, and each person's participation matters. As Scripture reminds us:

"Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others."

—1 Peter 4:10

We need your prayers, your presence, and your willingness to serve. This is your church, and your involvement helps shape its future.

As we step into this new year, let us move forward together with renewed faith, hope, and commitment, trusting God's guidance in all that we do.

We need you—now more than ever.

Warm regards,
LaDonna Grotbo
Steward of Communication

FLC COUNCIL MEMBERS:

President/Convener: Cory Keith
Communication: LaDonna Grotbo
Discipleship: *Brooke Kimzey*
Fellowship/Hospitality:
Susan Wetzsteon
Finance: *Dean Drake*
Outreach: Jane Mason
Property/Grounds: Greg Houser
Worship: Amber Richardson

FLC STAFF:

Pastor: Paul Anderson
Office Secretary: Jennifer Larson
Bookkeeper: Heather Wintergerst
faithlutheran59840.financial@gmail.com
Custodian: Rick Brown
You may reach out to council and staff members by:
calling: 406-363-2964
or emailing:
faithlutheran59840@gmail.com

If you would like to look at the Faith Lutheran Church Financial Statement, please email the Steward of Finance, Dean Drake:
flchamilton.finsec@gmail.com

ASH WEDNESDAY & IMPOSITION OF ASHES

Ash Wednesday service will be at 7 pm (on Wed., Feb. 18th). However, Pastor Paul will be providing the Imposition of Ashes from 12 to 1 pm here at Faith for those that are unable to attend the 7 pm service. Come as you are anytime between 12 and 1 pm. Pastor Paul will also be visiting people at their homes to provide the Imposition of Ashes. Please let him know if you would like to be added to his schedule.

LENT

Lenten Lunch: Starting Wed., Feb. 25th
(details TBA soon)

Soup Suppers: 6 pm Wednesdays
starting Feb. 25th here at Faith

Holden Evening Prayer Services: 7 pm
Wednesdays starting Feb. 25th

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Wednesday evenings 5:30 ish- 7 ish
Starting January 28-for 6 weeks
Book/ theme: forgiveness
Stories of Forgiveness by Kathrine Schwarzenegger
Pratt
More info- can call/text 406-261-2545 or
email brookekimzey@yahoo.com



It's getting to be that time of year when we eagerly await the Super Bowl 2026. Well, not everybody, but our one big food drive is highly anticipated as we watch our narthex table fill to overflowing from week to week with cans of soups, stews, chili, etc. for our Souper Bowl of Caring 2026. The past three years have netted 836 pounds of food for our local food pantries. On behalf of all our volunteers at Haven House, we appreciate the huge donation that results from our ***Souper Bowl of Caring Tackling Hunger*** drive at Faith Lutheran Church. Beginning January 18th through February 8th, please think about picking up a few extra cans while shopping and let's see that mountain of cans grows to overflowing.

Thank you, Jan Serfass

COMMUNITY MEALS

The Faith's February Community Meal commitment is Tuesday the 24th. Meal prep begins at 1 pm in the Faith kitchen and serving is at the Cornerstone church on Fairgrounds Rd from 5-6 pm. Volunteers are greatly appreciated! For more information contact Linda Beyer at 406-207-3471.

February

Faith Lutheran Church, ELCA

2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 Worship 9:30 am Valentine Packing Party after worship	2 Simple Way 3 & 5:30 pm	3	4 Quilting 9 am-noon Women's Bible Study 5:30 pm	5	6	7
8 Worship 9:30 am Annual Meeting after worship	9 Simple Way 3 & 5:30 pm	10	11 Women's Bible Study 5:30 pm	12	13	14
15 Worship 9:30 am	16 Simple Way 3 & 5:30 pm	17	18 Ash Wednesday Imposition of Ashes 12-1 pm Quilting 9 am-noon Women's Bible Study 5:30 pm Ash Wed. Service 7 pm	19 Men's Breakfast 9 am	20 Deadline to submit content for the newsletter	21
22 Worship 9:30 am	23 Simple Way 3 & 5:30 pm	24 Community Meal prep 1 pm serve 5 pm @ Cornerstone	25 Lenten Lunch (details TBA) Women's Bible Study 5:30 pm Soup Supper @ Faith 6 pm Holden Evening Prayer Service 7 pm	26	27	28

Lucas E.	1	Jessica E.	17	Jacob H.	28
Millie U.	2	Zachery F.	19		
Brooke K.	5	Judi R.	21		
Mark L.	9	Michelle M.	24		
Cory K.	11	Olivia H.	25		
Carron G.	12	Cole K.	25		
Ellen D.	14	Jeb V.	25		
Everett D.	15	Don C.	28		

