

the voice



# FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

Naples, Florida

“This is the confidence we have in  
approaching God: that if we ask anything  
according to His will, He hears us”

1 John 5:14

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October  
2019

*The Voice of Faith is a monthly publication of Faith Lutheran Church of Naples, Florida. Please address comments and articles to: [jrobertson@ficsnaples.com](mailto:jrobertson@ficsnaples.com). The deadline for submissions is the 15th of every month.*

## When God Says Yes

While preparing for the funeral of one of Faith's most beloved members, Ruth Stropparo, we had to make some decisions about the cover of the bulletin. We decided on an image of Jesus watching over lambs in a field. It also included the words of the 23<sup>rd</sup> Psalm. The day before the funeral, August 24, 2019, I picked up the bulletin and took it into the sanctuary to prepare. The phrase, "Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil." I had to think a bit until I remembered that "yea" is an old-fashioned way of saying "yes".

That next week, I came across 2 Corinthians 1:18-21 in my devotion and saw that verse 20 reminds us that "all the promises of God in Him are yea, and in Him Amen, unto the Glory of God for us." All of His promises are Yes for Us! Here are some of those precious promises:

1. First of all, God says "yes, I will save whosoever will come to Me in faith." That is such a comforting yes to all sinners.
2. God says "yes, I will help you." I know that we all struggle at times with life and its stresses. It helps knowing God is not only ready and willing, but also able to help us with our problems and challenges.
3. God says "yes, I will hear and answer you." James 4 reminds us that sometimes, we "have not because we ask not." Our problem may be God is waiting for us to ask.
4. God says "yes, I love you even though you may not love Me back." Take time out today and read Romans 8:39 and then be encouraged that God loves you!
5. Finally, God says, "Yes, I will be with you all the way from the cradle to the grave and beyond." Yes, even though I am in the valley of the shadow of death, I have nothing to fear for Jesus is my companion always.

May these affirming words of encouragement help us all to realize that God is a God of "yes" if we will simply know Him. Please read and meditate on the words of Psalm 27:13-14.

"I believe that I shall look upon the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living! Wait for the Lord; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the Lord!"

Thank you Lord for all your promises,  
Pastor Don Treglown

## When God says "No"

Please forgive me for not knowing the source, but there's a quote that has always stuck with me: "Believe not in the power of prayer, but believe in the power of the One you're praying to." I can think of no better statement to keep me humble when I am led to pray to our Holy God. For way too often than I ever want to admit do I enter a conversation with our Lord selfishly wanting an unequivocal, outright "Yes!" whenever I lay out a petition before Him. Prayer is one of the most incredible gifts God has given us to use to be with Him and bring peace not just to our own lives but certainly to those we interact with each day. Nevertheless, due to my sinful nature, I only take yet another precious gift of God and try to use it for my personal gain.

Now to be clear, there is nothing wrong with making known our personal needs and wants to our Father Who loves us and asking Him to provide. He in fact encourages it. Still and all, in our praying we can get caught up in ourselves. Instead of being immersed in the perfect love and wisdom of our Father, how often do we become enthralled with our imperfect wisdom and love of self while praying? We begin to focus (quite wrongly I should say) on the power of our words rather than the power of the God Who's leading us to pray them.

*"And when you pray, do not keep on babbling like pagans, for they think they will be heard because of their many words. Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask Him. This, then, is how you should pray: 'Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name...'" - Jesus, Mathew 6:7-9*

**Continued on the next page**

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Because God's Name is hallowed above every name and His Will alone is perfect, sometimes we get the answer we prefer not to hear from Him: "No." So, how does that play out in our faith? Two ways I think:

### No means no

Simply put: God is God, I am not. What we ask for may not always be to our good. God knows us better than we know ourselves; if His response is "no" it is indisputably for our own good. When our Perfect Father says no, we trust and go along with what He says. If we struggle with "no", we might then be led to pray: "Lord God, help me to trust in Your goodness and plan for me." ...Thy will be done on earth as it is heaven...

### No means not yet

We live in an amazing time. At no other point in history have we been able to pretty much get anything we want right when we want it. Movies on demand. Amazon same-day shipping. Grocery stores daily stocked for us to get whatever we are hungry for at any given time of the day. Astounding. But have we let this lifestyle though shape our expectations in regards to our faith? Hopefully you're nodding your head with me in agreement because it's a resounding "yes!" I, like you, am guilty as charged. Too often have I asked something of God and then ended with an attitude of demanding expectation, "There. I said it in the right way, I should be getting this soon if not already." Thank God though for His timing because waiting is good for our faith. There will be times in response when God says: "Not yet. I hear you, I'm already at work in what you're asking, but you must wait. Hold on and trust Me." They are also meant for our good. I can think of no better example of this than of God and His interaction with Israel in the Old Testament.

Time after time Israel's prayers would be lifted up: "Lord God, when will You deliver us?!" What was God's response? "Not yet but I will soon" (see Micah 5:2; Isaiah 35:5-6; Isaiah 42; Daniel 7:13-14; Zechariah 9:9; Jeremiah 31:31). God's timing was perfect. He sent His Son Jesus Christ into the world 2,000 years ago to redeem all of us in His sacrificial death on the cross and victorious resurrection from the grave. It was the answer no one fully expected, but the one everyone needed. Jesus Christ was God's answer then, He is God's answer to us now and forever. When we're told to wait, we look to Jesus Who is the founder and perfecter of our faith (Hebrews 12:2). When we're told to hold on, we recall our risen Lord's words: "I am with you always..." (Mathew 28:20); that is, God doesn't leave us on our own to figure out what to do while we wait. No. He accompanies us. Walks with us. Finally, when we're told not yet, we look forward with hope-filled certainty that Jesus Christ will return (John 14:1-3 ; Hebrews 9:28). God always delivers.

In his book, *Prayer: Experiencing Awe and Intimacy with God*, Tim Keller writes: "Our prayers should arise out of immersion in the Scripture. [We] speak only to the degree we are spoken to... The wedding of the Bible and prayer anchors your life down in the real God" (55, 56). **Our praying should come out of what we hear first.** The first thing we need to be listening to is God Himself, Who always comes to us through His Word. For God is real and present in His Word and that alone mends our hearts to faithfully respond to His yes's, no's, and not yet's in our conversations with Him. So when God says yes, let us keep ourselves fixed where our joy is found: in the Word made flesh Jesus Christ (John 1). And when God says no, let us hold fast to His promises in His Word alone.

Praying along with you,

Pastor Sam



Gil Gaugert	1	Nancy Revell	14
Sara Hudson	1	Dave Anderson	15
Olbin Cardenas	2	Laurie Andrea	17
Corinne Delany	2	Randy Abraham	19
Sabrina Hamilton	2	Cheryl Wolfe	19
Davie Harrington	2	Julia Marceau	20
Sue Stearns	3	Emily Ward	20
Laura Boll	5	Jim Widmann	20
Jack Ackerman	6	Bill Howey	22
Vicki Sofianos	6	Barbara James	23
Lisa Jane Kobzina	7	Chris Esenberg	24
Roger Pyatt	7	Val Peterson	24
Sandi Werner	7	Julie Inman	25
Lois Ligman	8	Jon Hodges	26
Bob Scudieri	8	Chris Paganes	27
Susi Dahlke	10	Sharon Geffert	28
Alice Koch	10	Laura Ligman	29
Meghan Gannon	11	Craig Pajer	30
Susie Toenjes	11	Ken Runstadler	31

John & Mary Beth Born	2
Adam & Michelle Schmitt	5
Michael & Nancy O'Hara	6
Norman & Rhonda Kraft	19
Jim & Darlene Baase	20
Brad & Dawn Hazelett	30



It's that time again! Pregnancy Resource Center's annual Walk 4 Life & Fun Fest is on Saturday, December 7th from 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM at Golden Gate Community Park. For more information and to sign up to Walk 4 Life, scan the QR code with your phones camera or QR App. Be sure to join the Faith Lutheran Church team. See you there!



Faith Lutheran Church

October 2019

434-5811

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		<p><b>1</b></p> <p>11:00 a.m. - Marine Lunch (FH)</p> <p>6:30 p.m. - Praise Team (S)</p> <p>7:00 p.m. - Outreach &amp; Missions (YA)</p>	<p><b>2</b></p> <p>8:00 a.m. - Men's Bible Study (DR)</p> <p>11:00 a.m.- Itchin' to Stitch (FH)</p> <p>6:00 p.m. - Bell Choir</p>	<p><b>3</b></p> <p>9:45a.m.- LOF Chapel (S)</p> <p>1:30 p.m. - Band Practice (FH)</p> <p>6:30 p.m.- Choir (MR)</p>	<p><b>4</b></p> <p>9:30 am - LOF Chapel (S)</p> <p>10:00 a.m. - Women's Bible Study (DR)</p> <p>6:30 p.m. - First Friday Family Event - <b>Movie Night (FH)</b></p> <p>Hours: 8:30 to 3:00 p.m.</p>	<p><b>5</b></p> <p>5:00 p.m. - Saturday Service (S)</p>
<p><b>6 Pentecost 17 Mite Sunday</b></p> <p>8:00 a.m. -Worship (Comm)</p> <p>9:00 a.m. - Fellowship (CY)</p> <p>9:15 a.m. - Praise Worship (Comm)</p> <p>10:00 a.m. - Bible Study (DR)</p> <p>10:00 a.m. - Sunday School</p> <p>11:00 a.m.. - Worship (Comm)</p> <p>4:45 p.m.- High School (YA)</p> <p>5:45 p.m. - Confirmation (YEA)</p>	<p><b>7</b></p> <p>9:30 a.m. - Cravin' to Craft (DR)</p>	<p><b>8</b></p> <p>11:00 a.m. - Marine Lunch (FH)</p> <p>6:30 p.m. - Praise Team (S)</p>	<p><b>9</b></p> <p>8:00 a.m. - Men's Bible Study (DR)</p> <p>6:00 p.m. - Bell Choir</p>	<p><b>10</b></p> <p>9:45a.m.- LOF Chapel (S)</p> <p>1:30 p.m. - Band Practice (FH)</p> <p>6:30 p.m.- Choir (MR)</p> <p>7:00 pm - Young Adult &amp; Family Bible Study at Maconachy's</p>	<p><b>11</b></p> <p>9:30 am - LOF Chapel (S)</p> <p>10:00 a.m. - Women's Bible Study (DR)</p> <p>Hours: 8:30 to 3:00 p.m.</p>	<p><b>12</b></p> <p>8:00 - 12:30 p.m. - Young Marines (FH)</p> <p>5:00 p.m. - Saturday Service (S)</p>
<p><b>13 Pentecost 18</b></p> <p>8:00 a.m. -Worship (S)</p> <p>9:00 a.m. - Fellowship</p> <p>9:15 a.m. - Worship (S)</p> <p>10:00 a.m. - Sunday School/ Bible Study</p> <p>11:00 a.m. - Worship (S)</p> <p>4:45 p.m.- High School (YA)</p> <p>5:30 p.m. - Confirmation (YA)</p>	<p><b>14</b></p> <p>9:30 a.m.- Cravin' to Craft (DR)</p> <p>10:00 a.m. - Board of Properties (WR)</p>	<p><b>15</b></p> <p>11:00 a.m. - Marine Lunch (FH)</p> <p>12:15 p.m. - Staff Meeting (DR)</p> <p>6:30 p.m. - Praise Team (S)</p> <p><b>Voice Deadline</b></p>	<p><b>16</b></p> <p>8:00 a.m. - Men's Bible Study (DR)</p> <p>11:00 a.m.- Itchin' to Stitch (FH)</p> <p>6:00 p.m. - Bell Choir (MR)</p> <p>7:00 p.m. - Member Care (DR)</p>	<p><b>17</b></p> <p>LOF Closed</p> <p>1:30 p.m. - Band Practice (FH)</p> <p>6:30 p.m.- Choir (MR)</p>	<p><b>18</b></p> <p>LOF Closed</p> <p>10:00 a.m. - Women's Bible Study (DR)</p> <p>Hours: 8:30 to 3:00 p.m.</p>	<p><b>19</b></p> <p>10:00 a.m. - CPR &amp; First Aid Class (FH)</p> <p>5:00 p.m. - Saturday Service (S)</p> <p>6:00 p.m. - Youth Cooking Class (K)</p>
<p><b>20 Pentecost 19</b></p> <p>8:00 a.m. -Worship (Comm)</p> <p>9:15 a.m. - Praise Worship (Comm)</p> <p>10:00 a.m. - Bible Study/ Sunday School</p> <p>11:00 a.m.. - Worship (Comm)</p> <p>4:45 p.m.- High School (YA)</p> <p>5:45 p.m. - Confirmation (YA)</p>	<p><b>21</b></p> <p>9:30 a.m. - Cravin' to Craft (DR)</p> <p>7:00 p.m. - Church Council (DR)</p>	<p><b>22</b></p> <p>11:00 a.m. - Marine Lunch (FH)</p> <p>6:30 p.m. - Praise Team (S)</p>	<p><b>23</b></p> <p>8:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study (DR)</p> <p>5:00 p.m. - Marine Officers (FH)</p> <p>6:00 p.m. - Bell Choir (MR)</p>	<p><b>24</b></p> <p>9:45a.m.- LOF Chapel (S)</p> <p>1:30 p.m. - Band Practice (FH)</p> <p>6:30 p.m.- Choir (MR)</p> <p>7:00 pm - Young Adult &amp; Family Bible Study at Maconachy's</p>	<p><b>25</b></p> <p>9:30 am - LOF Chapel (S)</p> <p>10:00 a.m. - Women's Bible Study (DR)</p> <p><b>6:00 p.m. - LOF Trunk or Treat (P &amp; FH)</b></p> <p>Hours: 8:30 to 3:00 p.m.</p>	<p><b>26</b></p> <p>8:00 - 12:30 p.m. - Young Marines (FH)</p> <p>11:00 a.m. - Carlson Memorial (Garden)</p> <p>5:00 p.m. - Saturday Service (S)</p> <p><b>6:00 p.m. - Oktoberfest (K, FH)</b></p>
<p><b>27 Pentecost 20</b></p> <p>8:00 a.m. -Worship(S)</p> <p>9:00 a.m. - Fellowship (CY)</p> <p>9:15 a.m. - Praise Worship (S)</p> <p>10:00 a.m. - Bible Study/ Sunday School</p> <p>11:00 a.m.. - Worship (S)</p> <p>4:45 p.m.- High School (YA)</p> <p>5:45 p.m. - Confirmation(YA)</p>	<p><b>28</b></p> <p>9:30 a.m. - Cravin' to Craft (DR)</p>	<p><b>29</b></p> <p>11:00 a.m. - Marine Lunch (FH)</p> <p>6:30 p.m. - Praise Team (S)</p> <p>7:00 p.m. - Executive Board Meeting (DR)</p>	<p><b>30</b></p> <p>8:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study (DR)</p> <p>5:00 p.m. - Serenity (DR)</p> <p>6:00 p.m. - Bell Choir (MR)</p>	<p><b>31</b></p> <p>9:45a.m.- LOF Chapel (S)</p> <p>LOF Trick or Treat to Gulf Shore Ins.</p> <p>1:30 p.m. - Band Practice (FH)</p> <p>6:30 p.m.- Choir (MR)</p>		

With deepest gratitude, the family of Ruth Stropparo, would like to say the most sincerest "Thank You!" to our Faith Family.

During Ruth's illness, she was overwhelmed by the love shown her with cards, gifts, flowers, phone calls, texts, emails and visits!

And most importantly, Prayers!

Ruth was loved by so many; all the Pastors and staff at Faith put together a beautiful Memorial/Celebration/Tribute of her life that captured her true essence.

Since her Heavenly Homecoming, the love has continued to pour in., and we remain grateful! THANK YOU!!

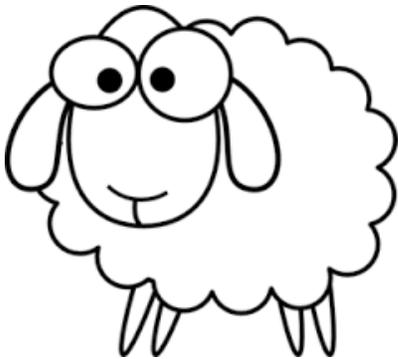
"And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose." Romans 8:28



In Exodus 32:13, God said to Abraham:

"I will make your descendants as numerous as the STARS in the sky....." In our Lambs of Faith PreSchool we have 54 of those STARS. On Wednesday, September 4, 2019, the first day of the 2019-2020 school year began. There are 15 two year olds, 9 three year olds and 30 four year olds all under the guidance and leadership of Karen Graham and her very capable teachers.

The children are excited to get started on the new things they are going to learn. September is a month of getting them settled and getting them familiar with the discipline of being in school. Teaching them to follow directions, to sit still, and listen to the teacher. It's an exciting time.



## October Mission of the Month - Faith in Action

### 1. Our Mission

The mission of Faith in Action is to increase the morale of deployed U.S. service members from all branches of the military. Started by Homer Helter after 9.11.01, Pastor Treglown has headed this project since January 2003. What we do is provide care packages containing name brand items that are not readily available during deployment. We also send God's Word, Devotionals, and personal letters to each recipient.

### 2. Our Purpose

We ship to service members who are deployed to combat zones. We especially like to ship to those who do not have access to exchanges (PX/BX) to purchased hygiene and food products and to those who do not receive mail or moral support from home.

### 3. Who we support

We support our troops by preparing and shipping care packages consisting of high-quality snacks, hygiene, food, and other items just for fun. Our tagline quoted by Homer is to "bring comfort and smiles to our deployed troops one care package at a time."

We ship between 100-250 Troop Care Packages four times a year. Our next target date for packing is Saturday, November 9, 2019 at 8:30am. All are welcome to help. Please join with us together in the Fellowship Hall on the 9<sup>th</sup> for a fun filled morning. The main groups helping are:

The Women of the 239, Mom's Club of Naples, The Marine Corps League, the members of Faith Lutheran Church, and several other volunteers.

## Women of Faith

*"Whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God"*  
1 Corinthians 10:31

Our mission: to foster fellowship, friendship and spiritual growth among all women of faith.

The Women of Faith held their annual long-range planning meeting Saturday, September 7th, where ten ladies fellowshiped, prayed and made plans for the 2019/2020 Event Year. We are looking forward to another year of gratifying service to Our Gracious Lord! We look forward to nurturing current relationships and beginning new ones ... All women in the church are welcome and encouraged to join us for our monthly meetings and many social events throughout the year.

### Officers:

President: Pam DiSarro	239-564-4495	pamdisarro@aol.com
Vice President: Patty Wood	314-503-7747	lkandpat@comcast.net
Secretary: Jan Nurenberg	239-877-4731	janisnurenberg@comcast.net
Treasurer: Joann Johnson	239-287-1101	starbrite08@gmail.com
LWML: Donna Jean Christy	239-530-1268	christy4comcast.net

### Committees:

Cravin' to Craft	Itchin' to Stitch	Bereavement Committee
Prayer Shawl Ministry	Event Committees	

### Fall Craft Bazaar and Bake Sale!

If you are new to Faith, you may be unaware of this big event. So, what is it all about? The Women of Faith put on this annual event on the first Saturday of November. That's November 2<sup>nd</sup> this year, just a month away. This is a fundraiser, which enables Faith to give to various missions, to help students at our seminaries, and to buy supplies such as tablecloths, coffee carafes, and more, to help with fellowship events. We charge members of our community for space in the Fellowship Hall, the Courtyard, or the Veranda to sell hand-crafted products to community attendees.

Of course, the members of Cravin' to Craft have the largest space for displaying our wares. We also offer lunch and drinks and conduct a bake sale of handmade goodies at great prices.

However, the event is more than a fundraiser. The fundraiser affords Faith members an opportunity to interact with non-members and to demonstrate our Christian love. We also distribute cards with service times for the holidays and flyers with information about our December Cookie Sale.

So, mark your calendars and be sure to attend to do a little pre-holiday buying. We will have décor items to brighten your holidays (fall, Thanksgiving, Christmas), household items to improve the function of your home, and assorted other special goods. If you purchase from the WOF table, you may enter to win a special prize item we choose each year. If you cannot make it on Saturday, you may make purchases after each weekend service as well. So, let us make this another successful event. If you have questions, call Patti in the church office for information. She can also put you in contact with a member who can answer any questions she cannot.



# FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

Naples, Florida



Faith Lutheran Church is a member of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod. We strive to be a friendly, family oriented church united under the goal of enriching our community through the message of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Faith Lutheran Church  
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[www.flcnaples.com](http://www.flcnaples.com)

## Weekly Worship Opportunities:

Saturday:

5:00 p.m.                      Traditional

Sunday:

8:00 a.m.                      Traditional

9:15 a.m.                      Contemporary

11:00 a.m.                      Traditional

Holy Communion will be served every Saturday and the first and third Sundays of every month



FAITH  
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Naples, Florida

OR CURRENT RESIDENT

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