

the voice



FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

Naples, Florida

“And let our people learn to devote themselves to good works, so as to help cases of urgent need, and not be unfruitful.”

Titus 3:14

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2021

The Voice of Faith is a monthly publication of Faith Lutheran Church of Naples, Florida. Please address comments and articles to: publish@flcnaples.com. The deadline for submissions is the 15th of every month.

The Joy of Worship

It was a bitter cold and foggy Sunday morning in the very depth of Winter after a heavy fall of snow and only one farmer and the pastor managed to arrive at the church for the morning service. “Well,” said the pastor “I guess there’s no point in having a service today.”

“That’s not how I see it,” said the farmer. “If only one cow turns up at feeding time, I still feed it.”

I wish this was a joke but something like this happened to me early in my ministry in Minnesota. From that moment on, I began to see how something very special occurs when two or more Christians gather together in Jesus’ name.

Lutherans, and myself as a Lutheran pastor, believe that worship is not so much about what we do, but about what God does for us. The public gathering of God’s people in Christ’s presence around His Word and His special gifts of Baptism, Absolution (forgiveness of sin) and Holy Communion, is all about God’s will to come and serve us. It is through His amazing grace, God initiates worship. And, God does it in such a way that we can hear, see, and taste. The Joy I find at Faith is that we value this gift in such a way because of the various styles of music, décor, and visual arts in the expression and inspiration of our worship.

Lately, It is part of my daily ministry to see worship as the primary opportunity to welcome the stranger into our midst, and to join us on our journey of faith. It is my prayer that we all welcome people to “come as you are,” knowing we are all broken and sinful in need of God’s grace. The time spent together is an opportunity to build relationships where we experience the love of God together.

I give thanks to God for joy that as we worship, we are strengthened and sent out into the world to share the Good News of Jesus Christ with others.

Pastor Don Treglown

February 2021 Mission of the Month

St. Matthew’s House

St. Matthew’s House started out because of a Bible Verse. In 1988, 7 churches and a synagogue in Collier county were inspired by Matthew 25:35 which reads: “For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me.”

On average, St. Matthew’s staff and volunteers prepare 60 meals per day to feed anyone who is homeless and/or hungry, totaling more than 20,000 meals served each year.

The facility has never missed a day of serving meals in over 25 years. Justin’s Place Feeding Ministry continues to feed the homeless, hungry, and in need, of our own community underneath a protective awning that shields diners from the intense southwest Florida elements.

This February, we at Faith want to make a difference in the lives of the homeless of Collier County by having a food drive. The following items are being requested:

- Canned Fruits and Vegetables
- Canned Pasta
- Mac & Cheese
- Peanut Butter & Jelly
- Crackers
- Chips
- Soup

Please bring your donation to Faith Lutheran Church in the Narthex anytime during the month of February so we can serve Christ by serving others.

Devotion: More than words

First things first when it comes to devotion, it is more than just reading and meditating on God's Word. So let's be honest, if someone shared that she wakes up every day at 5AM to do devotions, what immediately comes to mind? We would promptly think that she is taking time to herself to silently meditate on a particular Bible passage and be focused in on prayer. I don't think we would ever be naturally inclined to think that she could quite possibly mean that she wakes up extra early to make the lunches for her children, take out the garbage bins, or fold up that last bit of laundry that's been leftover from yesterday in the dryer. But alas, our primary perception of devotion is tied mostly to reading and meditating. I think that is too limiting. There's nothing wrong with this view, but I believe it's only part of the greater whole in living out our faith via devotion.

Devotion is more than contemplation, it also entails physical activity. Heart, head, and hands all led by the Holy Spirit. Basically, instead of zooming in, zoom out when it comes to how you view devotion. It should be broad and sweeping in how we define it. So maybe we should say that devotion is more so about one's heart immersed in God's Word giving cause to outward evidence in the community via prayer and good works.

Take for instance the woman mentioned above who might be currently immersing herself in Proverbs 31. She is really focused on verse 15 for the week thanking the Lord for the gift of being a mother and serving to be a blessing for her children in the home. Notice the two things at work: taking in all of what God has to say to her through His holy Word and the action flowing out of her heart shaped by it. Devotion must be rooted in God's Word, which should lead us to devotional living in all the things God calls to be (spouse, parent, sibling, co-worker, friend, etc.).

It is key to hold this down firmly because we are daily tempted to be devoted to things that are not of God. Open your eyes, there are countless people who are devoted individuals, but not devoted at all to the things of God. Open your heart, it might even be you. Stock market. Social media. Politics. School. Keeping up appearances. There is so much commitment and devotion all around us, but not to the things of God. God is at work in these things, but we too often fashion them to be our god(s). Without God's Word to pierce and shape us, our devotion will be focused on worldly things. But through God's Word we become anchored and devoted to what truly matters: God Himself.

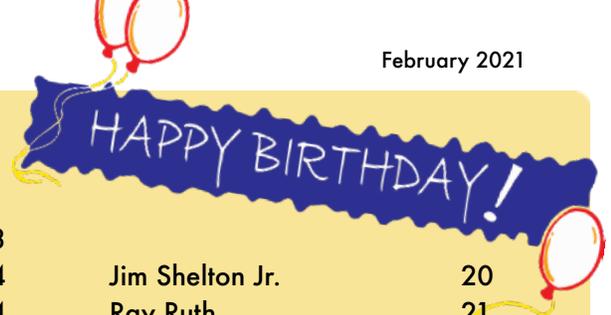
Hearing Jesus, empowered by the Holy Spirit, God's work is made manifest in us (John 3:21). Devotion brings forth fruit (John 15), the very thing which is from none other than God Himself (Galatians 5:22-23).

One more time, consider the mother again. If we stick to the narrow/zoomed in definition of devotion (reading and meditating), how then could we ever say what is said above is devotion? If we remain fixed on the confined definition the mother might feel like she is still somewhat lacking in her devotions. But taking the broad/zoomed out meaning of devotion (a heart immersed in Scripture that bears the fruit of God), devotion is truly rewarding, rich, and resonates through every fiber of one's faith. "Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments and how inscrutable His ways!" – Romans 11:33.

So for any of you dearly beloved in Christ who feel like you are struggling in your devotion(s), I must refrain at first from immediately recommending yet another devotional book to consume. Rather, I must ask: "What are you devoted to?" How you or I answer, will shed light on what our hearts are first and truly fixed on. We are challenged constantly by the world as we attempt to answer faithfully, obstacles that we will make known next month in the March Voice.

Facing this month ahead, remember this: a life of faith is one that daily learns anew by the work of the Spirit to devote to the things of God so that we in turn bear His fruit in our devotional living. For the good of our family. Our neighbor. Our church. For the sake of Him, Christ Jesus, Who devoted Himself completely to us on the cross.

Devoted together in Christ,
Pastor Sam



Julie Zeballos	1	Liz Maconachy	13	Jim Shelton Jr.	20
Jan Dickey	3	Sarah Bremseth	14	Ray Ruth	21
George Fotis	3	Steve Nurenberg	14	Bill Miller Jr	23
Mike Nurmikko	3	Ned Renfroe	14	Myron Brundage	25
David Opland	3	Kris Arsenault	16	Mike Buonpane	25
Jan Scholie	7	Sasha Takala	16	Dorothy Lupo	27
John Cheffy	8	Sammi Treglown	16	Michael O'Hara	27
Josh Takala	8	Grace Ward	16	Bill Miller	28
Tammy Gardner	9	Luke Mielke	17	Jennifer Outerbridge	28
Michelle Hudson	11	Lynne Laval-Yeh	19	Cassandra Sofianos	28
Amanda Boll	12	Jim McKay	19	Andrew Tuttle	28
Mark Durland	12	Darlene Baase	20		

Gene & Joy Krentz	1
Dennis & Cheryl Goodman	3
Roger & Lynn Baase	6
Emil & Jill Kolberg	8
John & Emma Gifford	10
Jay & Julie Dass	14
Neal & Terrie Tittle	15
Bill Howey & Cindy Eberhardt-Howey	24
Jim & Doris West	25



VBS: June 21-25, 2021

Rainforest Explorers: Jesus Leads the Way

Save the date Faith! We plan to have VBS this summer in June.

We request your prayers and support as we plan, schedule, and prepare to host our VBS safely and securely in Christ.

Keep your eyes and heart on the lookout along the way for more details and info that will be shared each month



Faith Lutheran Church

February 2021

434-5811

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	<p>1 9:30-2:00 p.m. - Cravin= to Craft (DR)</p> <p>3:00 p.m. - Worship, Music & Arts (YA)</p> <p>6:00 p.m. - Church Council (FH)</p>	<p>2 11:00 a.m. - Marine Lunch (FH)</p> <p>6:30 p.m. - Praise Band (S)</p> <p>7:00 p.m. - Mission/ Outreach</p>	<p>3 8:00 a.m. Men=s Bible Study (FH)</p> <p>10:00 a.m. - Art Class (YA)</p> <p>11:00 - 2:00 Itchin= to Stitch (FH)</p>	<p>4 9:45 a.m. - LOF Chapel (FH)</p> <p>10:00 a.m. - Art Class (YA)</p> <p>1:30 p.m. - Band Practice (FH)</p> <p>7:00 pm - Young Adult Bible Study</p>	<p>5 9:30 a.m. - LOF Chapel (FH)</p> <p>10:00 a.m. - Women=s Bible Study (FH)</p>	<p>6 5:00 p.m. - <i>Saturday Service</i> (S)</p>
<p>7 5th Sunday after Epiphany - Mite Sunday "SOUPER" SUNDAY</p> <p>8:00 a.m. - <i>Worship (Comm)</i></p> <p>9:00 a.m. - Fellowship (CY)</p> <p>9:15 a.m. - <i>Praise Worship (Comm)</i></p> <p>10:00 a.m. - Bible Study (FH)</p> <p>10:20 a.m. - Sunday School(CY)</p> <p>11:00 a. - <i>Worship (Comm)</i></p> <p>4:45 p.m. - High School (FH)</p> <p>5:45 p.m. - Confirmation (FH)</p>	<p>8 9:30-2:00 p.m. - Cravin= to Craft (DR)</p> <p>10:00 - Board of Properties Meeting (WR)</p> <p>6:00 p.m. - Executive Board Meeting (FH)</p>	<p>9 11:00 a.m. - Marine Lunch (FH)</p> <p>6:30 p.m. - Praise Band (S)</p>	<p>10 8:00 a.m. Men=s Bible Study (FH)</p> <p>10:00 a.m. - Art Class (YA)</p> <p>12:00 p.m. - Staff Meeting (FH)</p>	<p>11 9:45 a.m. - LOF Chapel (FH)</p> <p>10:00 a.m. - Art Class (YA)</p> <p>1:30 p.m. - Band Practice (FH)</p>	<p>12 9:30 a.m. - LOF Chapel (FH)</p> <p>10:00 a.m. - Women=s Bible Study (FH)</p> <p>Hours 8:30 - 3:00 p.m.</p>	<p>13 5:00 p.m. - <i>Saturday Service</i> (S)</p>
<p>14 Transfiguration Sunday</p> <p>Human Care Love Offering</p> <p>8:00 a.m. - <i>Worship</i></p> <p>9:00 a.m. - Fellowship (CY)</p> <p>9:15 a.m. - <i>Praise Worship</i></p> <p>10:00 a.m. - Bible Study (FH)</p> <p>10:20 a.m. - Sunday School(CY)</p> <p>11:00 a.m.. - <i>Worship</i></p> <p>5:45 p.m. - Confirmation (FH)</p> <p>Valentine's Day</p>	<p>15 President's Day LOF Closed</p> <p>9:30-2:00 p.m. - Cravin= to Craft (DR)</p>	<p>16 11:00 a.m. - Marine Lunch (FH)</p> <p>6:30 p.m. - Praise Band (S)</p>	<p>17 Ash Wednesday</p> <p>8:00 a.m. Men=s Bible Study (FH)</p> <p>10:00 a.m. - Art Class (YA)</p> <p>11:00 - 2:00 Itchin= to Stitch (FH)</p> <p>12:00 noon - Service. (S)</p> <p>6:30 p.m. - Service/ Comm. (S)</p>	<p>18 9:45 a.m. - LOF Chapel (FH)</p> <p>10:00 a.m. - Art Class (YA)</p> <p>1:30 p.m. - Band Practice (FH)</p> <p>7:00 pm - Young Adult Bible Study</p>	<p>19 9:30 a.m. - LOF Chapel (FH)</p> <p>10:00 a.m. - Women=s Bible Study (FH)</p> <p>Hours 8:30 - 3:00 p.m.</p>	<p>20 9:30 a.m. - OSL Meeting</p> <p>5:00 p.m. - <i>Saturday Service</i> (S)</p>
<p>21 1st Sunday in Lent</p> <p>8:00 a.m. - <i>Worship(Comm)</i></p> <p>9:00 a.m. - Fellowship (CY)</p> <p>9:15 a.m. - <i>Praise Worship (Comm)</i></p> <p>10:00 a.m. - Bible Study (FH)</p> <p>10:20 a.m. - Sunday School(CY)</p> <p>11:00 a.m.. - <i>Worship (Comm)</i></p> <p>4:45 p.m. - High School (FH)</p> <p>5:45 p.m. - Confirmation (FH)</p>	<p>22 9:30-2:00 p.m. - Cravin= to Craft (DR)</p>	<p>23 11:00 a.m. - Marine Lunch (FH)</p> <p>6:30 p.m. - Praise Band (S)</p>	<p>24 8:00 a.m. Men=s Bible Study (FH)</p> <p>10:00 a.m. - Art Class (YA)</p> <p>4:30 p.m. - Marine Officers (FH)</p> <p>6:30 p.m. - Lenten Midweek Service (S)</p>	<p>25 9:45 a.m. - LOF Chapel (FH)</p> <p>10:00 a.m. - Art Class (YA)</p> <p>1:30 p.m. - Band Practice (FH)</p>	<p>26 9:30 a.m. - LOF Chapel (FH)</p> <p>10:00 a.m. - Women=s Bible Study (FH)</p>	<p>27 5:00 p.m. - <i>Saturday Service</i> (S)</p>
<p>28 2nd Sunday in Lent</p> <p>8:00 a.m. - <i>Worship</i></p> <p>9:00 a.m. - Fellowship (CY)</p> <p>9:15 a.m. - <i>Praise Worship</i></p> <p>10:00 a.m. - Bible Study (FH)</p> <p>10:20 a.m. - Sunday School(CY)</p> <p>11:00 a.m.. - <i>Worship</i></p> <p>5:45 p.m. - Confirmation (FH)</p>	<p>B - Balcony</p> <p>CL - Choir Loft</p> <p>CR - Conference Room in Youth Annex</p> <p>CY - Courtyard</p> <p>DR - Discipleship Room</p> <p>FH - Fellowship Hall</p>		<p>HO - Pastor Hildebrandt's Office</p> <p>LOF - Lambs of Faith Preschool</p> <p>MG- Memorial Garden</p> <p>MR - Music Room (Upstairs)</p> <p>N - Narthex</p> <p>PO - Pastor T's Office</p> <p>PM - Pastor Sam's Office</p>		<p>PS - Preschool</p> <p>S - Sanctuary</p> <p>WOF - Women of Faith</p> <p>WR - Work Room</p> <p>YA - Youth Education Annex</p> <p>PL - Parking Lot</p>	

From the Director of Music

Hello Faith Family –

James 1:5 – If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him.

I would like to make the bold statement that “anyone can sing.” You may be thinking that this simply is not true, because you possibly know of someone who simply cannot carry a tune. You can probably recount many birthday parties when the group sings the *Happy Birthday* song and arrives at the third sung “happy birthday” they completely snap, crackle, and pop the intended high note. The cats begin howling and the dogs whining, because that happy birthday song was not all too pleasant. Well, there is a very simple explanation for why some people cannot sing on pitch...

I want you to think about how babies and children learn to speak a language. We recognize the cuteness of a baby making cooing and babbling sounds as they try to communicate with their outside world, but this act of babbling sounds is an extremely crucial element to how children learn language. When they begin to make sounds and start to formulate words, they are in the beginning stages of the development of their ability to physically replicate speech. This is also the beginning in the development of their listening skills to process the sounds of new words. These **language** acquisition processes are congruent to the same **musical** acquisition processes we can all go through. Imagine for a moment that a three-year old child was put into an environment where they no longer could develop their speaking ability and ultimately never learned any extended forms of their language. Now imagine this child as an adult – can you presume some difficulties in the attempts to extensively communicate with this person? This whole scenario is likened to how an individual can develop the ability to recognize pitch and produce a singing voice. Those who cannot sing on pitch are still at the stage of “tonal babble.” The same babbling and cooing stage a child will go through as they are immersed in language during the first stages of growth.

The next time you hear someone who cannot stay on pitch while singing a song or a hymn, it is not because they “cannot sing” but simply, that person has not fully developed their abilities to speak and process *musically*. To help develop the ability to speak musically, just as much as we speak every day, I encourage everyone to sing every day. Once you read your bible for your daily scripture, open a hymnal and sing one of your favorite hymns. Sing and give praise to our God with psalms and hymns every day – and in doing so, you will become stronger as your musical skills develop. Do not be afraid of your smaller abilities, because through practice and faith, we can achieve greater things through God.

2 Timothy 1:6-7 – For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands, for God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control.

In Christ,
Matthew Swingle

Come Aboard!

Are you interested in joining a fun group of Christ-loving individuals to help advance His mission? We'd love to have you as member of church council. Members of church council help to ensure that all ministries of Faith Lutheran Church function well to help spread Christ's message by serving the members of the church, visitors of the church, missions, and the community at large.

The following Church Council positions are up for election in February.....

- President of the Congregation
- Vice-President of the Congregation
- Director of the Board of Elders
- Director of Lambs of Faith Board
- Director of Stewardship Board
- Director of Education Board

There are currently no nominees for the Director of Education Board and Director of Stewardship board. Please prayerfully consider volunteering to be nominated for any of the vital positions listed above and please also spread the word. I would be more than happy to discuss the role of any of these positions with you. Please feel free to give me a call at 239-572-0923 or email vicepresident@flcnaples.com if you would like to discuss this further.

God Bless You!

Rowe Hudson
Vice President, Congregation

Lambs of Faith Update for February 2021

The Preschool is back in session after the Christmas break with 42 children. That is an increase from the Fall of 2020 when we started with 27. Parents are becoming more confident about sending their children in spite of the COVID-19 pandemic. Enrollment for the 2021-22 school year is going strong. Almost every day Miss Karen is giving tours and showing the School to potential students.

Thank you for your very generous donations to LOF through the Giving Tree. A trip to the Naples Zoo was very much enjoyed by the children in January because of those donations. In addition, new books, a new Science table and other supplies are possible because of your generosity.

Miss Phoebe, our Covid cleaner, is doing an excellent job of keeping the school "virus free" in spite of a broken wrist. Thank you, Phoebe! God bless you in your healing.

Thank you for keeping the Lambs of Faith in your prayers.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Frank



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
4150 Goodlette Rd
Naples, FL 34103
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faith@flcnaples.com
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
LUTHERAN CHURCH
Naples, Florida

OR CURRENT RESIDENT

Non-profit
Organization U.S.
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Permit #883

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