

the voice



FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

Naples, Florida

And I am sure of this, that He who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

Philippians 1:6

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January
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.

Daily Devotions for the Individual

Daily devotions is a phrase I have heard my whole life. Each start of a new year like, January 2021, gives us all the opportunity to start anew the discipline of Bible reading and prayer. Some years, I start the day with devotions and some years I end the day with devotions. I have used “Portals of Prayer” and the Lutheran Hour devotional books for a number of years. This year, in addition, I will be using the *Treasury of Daily Prayer* published by Concordia Publishing House.

What I like about individual daily devotions is the opportunity to draw near to God. “Let us draw near to God with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water” (Hebrews 10:22) This verse takes Old Testament language and helps me with my faith today. I want to be prepared for coming near to God. Confession, Baptism, and Prayer remind me of the privilege of drawing near to God. These Faith related actions help us in both formal worship or in our personal devotional times.

Here are some of the steps I do for my personal devotional time:

1. Make an appointment with God. Write it down on the calendar as a reminder.
2. Decide on a time frame. I find 15 minutes in the morning works for me.
3. Choose a place. Finding the right place is key. Try to minimize distractions.
4. KISS: Keep It Simple Sinner/Saint. Bible Reading and Prayer works!
5. Commit to your plan.

For me, there is one important part to all of this. Through high school and college, I finally realized that I should not be forced to do daily devotions. This only leads to rebellion and resentment. What I have found to be true is that spending time with God (drawing near to Him) is a privilege that Christians get to do and not a burden or obligation that we have to do.

Planning on drawing even nearer to God in 2021.

Pastor Don Treglown

Before Covid-19 took hold and shopping in person was still somewhat preferred, if you went to a bookstore and spent time in the “religious” section you would find rows of books dedicated on devotional living. Books dealing with topics running the gamut of specific readings, “cute” hodgepodge collections of daily inspirational quotes to thumb through, even those gems meant to dig deep and bring inner reflection.

One thing that hasn’t changed with Covid’s arrival is our culture’s addiction to consumerism. This addiction makes a huge dent on devotional living, painting it to be yet another product to invest in. “Renew your life!” “Revitalize your faith!” “Quick, easy family devotions!” They’re all there. Bright and catchy titles to capture our attention and wallets, but only end up hallowing out what we’re all desiring: true, deep, authentic devotional living.

One would hope we would wake up to see all the one too many books we’ve shelved, dare I say Portals of Prayer we idolize and hoard, tabs we’ve saved on our browser, pages we’ve dog-eared in our veiled attempts to get “better” at being Christian through devotions. Even still, the genre of devotional material is exponentially expanding as time marches on. So why do we, in following Jesus, feel such strong desire to improve our devotion time?

This is a topic that requires deep thought and reflection. So for the next few months ahead in attempt to be faithful and intentional, while also trying to spare you of one huge letter, we will consider what devotions mean and how they play out in our lives as Christians.

I guess then this will yet be another set of devotions to put in your library...how ironic.

Devotedly yours in Christ,
Pastor Sam

Mission of the Month

J.P., Aimee, Celeste, Bella, and Isaac Cima
John.Cima@lcms.org
www.cimafam.com
www.lcms.org/cima

Dear friends at Faith in Naples,

Advent greetings from a sunny Phnom Penh! What a joy to write this update, knowing that even, and especially, in the midst of COVID-19, God still “advents” into this world. We are honored to be adopted as your “Mission of the Month” and inspired by your passion for God’s global mission!

Our family is serving in our 14th year in Asia. Even as we continue to miss serving in Vietnam (2007-2017), we are in love with Cambodia. The opportunities and challenges here are a good fit for our family’s gifts and passions.

The urgency of sharing God’s love is palpable, as only 2% of the Cambodian population is Christian. We love simply reaching out to those immediately around us. Our house has become the neighborhood children’s “hub” and we wouldn’t have it any other way. We are constantly sharing Jesus with kids and, when opportunities come, their parents. Recently we organized an outreach Halloween party. Because 1) Cambodians know of Halloween, and 2) Cambodian religious traditions interact with the spirit world, we thought Halloween would be a perfect opportunity to speak about Jesus, the Holy One at whom the demons shuddered. But evangelism is only step one.

Generally speaking, the Cambodian church struggles retaining new believers. This is a problem of discipleship. That’s why J.P. works primarily as a mentor and theological educator for pastors and church leaders. Recently he led a three-day seminar exploring God’s mission in the book of Acts and drawing lessons for today. He also recently travelled to a remote village and taught 60+ leaders about the nature of Christian worship, highlighting that it is not transactional but transformational.

One of our greatest joys is to intentionally disciple our church’s youth group. We gather at our home every Saturday night for fellowship, food, and Word. Recently, two young women were baptized into Christ right in our living room (because our local church was not able to meet due to COVID-19 restrictions)!. J.P. has also started working with key youth leaders, training them to lead Bible study so that capacity is built in local leaders rather than just foreign missionaries.

Apart from keeping our family sane, Aimee is called to support other missionaries in the Asia region. As a part of the Asia administrative team, she coaches missionaries in Hong Kong, Macau, and Papua New Guinea. This is perfect for her gifts as a visionary, strategic thinker.

Our children, Celeste (13), Bella (11), and Isaac (3) are navigating COVID-19 challenges with perseverance and joy. With recent COVID-19 scares in Cambodia, they are back online 100% of their school time, but we hold out hope that they might return to on-campus learning after the new year.

THANK YOU for your ongoing prayers and support. We cannot do what we do unless we are *sent*. We are your missionaries here in Asia because you send us. But you are also our missionaries there in Naples! Know that we pray for you and are cheering for you as you face the challenges of ministry in this volatile environment. It is a real comfort to know that even when so much that we rely on is taken from us, God’s faithfulness to work through His Word shines through.

In Christ,
The Cima Family



Jon Bremseth	1	Dave Bremseth	12	JoAnn Hill	25
Karen Doerr	3	David Minke	12	Katherine Boll	28
Lorraine McKay	4	Jernae Woods	12	Paul Dorr	28
Gil Poretti	4	Cheryl Goodman	14	Ruth Lundi	28
Beverly Werling	4	Brooke McClendon	14	Chelsey Mangum	28
Carol-Ann Bloise	5	Marilynn Miller	15	Nancy Weiss	28
Dawn Hazelett	5	Sharon Moller	15	Alyssa Barcarolo	29
Wayne Toenjes	6	Lawson Sherwood Jr.	15	Jacob Englund	29
Debbie Buonpane	7	Katie Griffin	16	Pam Hawkesworth	29
Gerry Kaput	7	Sandy Thoburn	16	Walter Inman	29
Grace Seitz-Shelton	7	Harper Treglown	16	Della Johnson	29
Lisa Richardson	8	Larry Herrmann	18	Paul Sullivan	29
Joan Broecker	9	Beth Renfro	18	Sandy Walker	29
Steve Moller	9	David, Jr. Treglown	22	Titus Weiss	29
Stella Sherwood	9	Barrett Gonzalez	23	David Harrington	30
Jayne Allred	10	Michael Paganis	23	Ashley Peterson	31
John Nilsen	10	Calvin Sofianos	23		
Amanda Gedvillas	11	Caleb Outerbridge	24		

Donald & Irene Haring	3
Don & Tina Espiritu	11
Brian & Katy Wells	11
Roy & Sue Stearns	12
Steve & Tammy Gardner	13
Brian & Sandy Fleming	14
Andrew & Bethany Weiss	20
David & Lorrie Minke	22



Sunday School starting January, 3, 2021

Thank you Faith family for your prayers! We are excited to announce that we will be starting Sunday School again for ages 3 – 12 with our blessed Sunday School teachers Andrea Peterson, Michele Peterson, and Amanda Sherwood. Ages 4 – 6 will be with Amanda, 7-12 with Andrea and our 3 year olds with Michele. In our loving attempts to remain safe and healthy, we will be gathering outside in the courtyard each Sunday from 10:20 – 10:40 AM.

We thank the Lord Jesus for His strength, the joy He gives us, and His loving work in each of you!

Lambs of Faith Report for January 2021

The children were delighted to entertain their parents with a short christmas program on December 16, 2020. The program was held outside in front of the nativity scene. Everyone wore masks and social distancing was practiced.

Preregistration for school year 2021-2022 will begin in January 18, 2021. Call Miss Karen at 239-434-9277 with any questions or for a tour of the school.

Thank you for your generous donations from the Giving Tree. Since we aren't having the Rummage Sale in February because of COVID, your donations were a blessing to the school.

Please keep Lambs of Faith in your prayers,
Karen Frank

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>January 31 4th Sunday after Epiphany <i>8:00 a.m. -Worship (S)</i> 9:00 a.m. – Fellowship <i>9:15 a.m. – Worship (S)</i> 10:00 a.m.- Bible Study (FH) 10:20 a.m. SundaySchool(CY) <i>11:00 a.m. -Worship (S)</i> 4:45 p.m. – High School (FH) 5:45 p.m. – Confirmation (FH)</p>					<p>1 10:00 a.m. - Women's Bible Study (FH)</p>	<p>2 5:00 p.m. - Saturday Service (S)</p>
<p>3 Epiphany Sunday <i>8:00 a.m. -Worship/Comm.</i> 9:00 a.m. - Fellowship (CY) <i>9:15 a.m. - Praise Worship/Comm.</i> 10:00 a.m.- Bible Study (FH) 10:20 a.m. SundaySchool(CY) <i>11:00 a.m. – Worship/ Comm.</i> 4:45 p.m. – High School (FH) 5:45 p.m. – Confirmation (FH)</p>	<p>4 9:30 a.m. - Cravin' to Craft (DR) 6:30 p.m. – Board of Elders (FH)</p>	<p>5 11:00 a.m. - Marine Lunch (FH) 3:00 p.m. – Worship, Music & Arts (YA) 6:30 p.m. - Praise Band</p>	<p>6 8:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study (FH) 10:00 a.m. – Art Class (YA) 11:00 - 2:00 Itchin' to Stitch (FH)</p>	<p>7 9:45 a.m. – LOF Chapel (FH) 10:00 a.m. – Art Class (YA) 1:30 pm - Band Practice (FH) 7:00 p.m. – Young Adult Bible Study (FH)</p>	<p>8 9:30 a.m. – LOF Chapel (FH) 10:00 a.m. - Women's Bible Study (FH) 1:00 p.m. – Stahl Baptism (S)</p>	<p>9 8:00 a.m. - Undecorating (N) 10:00 a.m. – Marine Devil Dogs (FH) 5:00 p.m.- Saturday Service (S)</p>
<p>10 Baptism of our Lord <i>8:00 a.m. -Worship</i> 9:00 a.m. - Fellowship (CY) <i>9:15 a.m. - Praise Worship</i> 10:00 a.m.- Bible Study (DR) 10:20 a.m. SundaySchool(CY) <i>11:00 a.m.. - Worship</i> 5:45 p.m. – Confirmation (FH)</p>	<p>11 9:30 a.m. - Cravin' to Craft (DR) 6:00 p.m. – Church Council (FH)</p>	<p>12 10:00 a.m. – Bible Study (DR) 11:00 a.m. - Marine Lunch (FH) 12:15 p.m. –Staff Meeting (DR) 6:30 p.m. - Praise Band</p>	<p>13 8:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study (FH) 10:00 a.m. – Art Class (YA)</p>	<p>14 9:45 a.m. – LOF Chapel (FH) 10:00 a.m. – Art Class (YA) 1:30 pm - Band Practice (FH)</p>	<p>15 9:30 a.m. – LOF Chapel (FH) 10:00 a.m. - Women's Bible Study (FH) Voice Deadline</p>	<p>16 9:30 a.m. – OSL Meeting (FH) 5:00 p.m. Saturday Service (S)</p>
<p>17 2nd Sunday after Epiphany <i>8:00 a.m. -Worship/ Comm.</i> 9:00 a.m. - Fellowship (CY) <i>9:15 a.m. - Praise Worship/Comm.</i> 10:00 a.m.- Bible Study (DR) 10:20 a.m. SundaySchool(CY) <i>11:00 a.m.. – Worship/Comm.</i> 1:00 p.m. – Private Baptism(S) 4:45 p.m. – High School (FH) 5:45 p.m. – Confirmation (FH)</p>	<p>18 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Office & LOF Closed</p>	<p>19 10:00 a.m. – Bible Study (DR) 11:00 a.m. - Marine Lunch (FH) 12:15 p.m. –Staff Meeting (DR) 6:30 p.m. - Praise Band</p>	<p>20 8:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study (FH) 10:00 a.m. – Art Class (YA) 11:00 - 2:00 Itchin' to Stitch (FH)</p>	<p>21 9:45 a.m. – LOF Chapel (FH) 10:00 a.m. – Art Class (YA) 1:30 pm - Band Practice (FH) 7:00 p.m. – Young Adult Bible Study (FH)</p>	<p>22 9:30 a.m. – LOF Chapel (FH) 10:00 a.m. - Women's Bible Study (FH)</p>	<p>23 5:00 - Saturday Service (S)</p>
<p>24 3rd Sunday after Epiphany <i>8:00 a.m. -Worship (S)</i> 9:00 a.m. – Fellowship <i>9:15 a.m. – Worship (S)</i> 10:00 a.m.- Congregational Meeting (FH) 10:20 a.m. SundaySchool(CY) <i>11:00 a.m. -Worship (S)</i> 5:45 p.m. – Confirmation (FH)</p>	<p>25 9:30-2:00 p.m. - Cravin' to Craft (DR) 6:00 p.m. – Executive Board (FH)</p>	<p>26 10:00 a.m. – Bible Study(DR) 11:00 a.m. - Marine Lunch (FH) 6:30 p.m. - Praise Band</p>	<p>27 8:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study (FH) 10:00 a.m. – Art Class (YA)</p>	<p>28 9:45 a.m. – LOF Chapel (FH) 10:00 a.m. – Art Class (YA) 1:30 pm - Band Practice (FH)</p>	<p>29 9:30 a.m. –LOF Chapel (FH) 10:00 a.m. - Women's Bible Study (FH)</p>	<p>30 5:00 - Saturday Service (S)</p>

An article of gratitude for the January VOICE

It is in sincere gratitude that I highlight the joyful giving of the members of Faith Lutheran Church.

One shining example was the group of energetic individuals who made themselves available on November 30 for the annual Hanging of the Greens. Because of the efforts of each of them, the Sanctuary of our church home is festive and beautifully awaiting celebration of the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ. I would express my personal thanks to each individual which includes the entire Cravin' to Craft group for a productive morning. A special thanks as well to those who provided goodies to sustain the energy level.

We are blessed by each of you who serve to the Glory of God. We look forward to using your energies to reverse the process following on Saturday, January 9 at 8am.

Michael L Schmidt, Chair
Worship, Music & Arts Committee

Training in Praying for Healing Opportunity

This message is to inform you of a wonderful opportunity for you to learn about praying for healing. This training will be conducted on Monday, January 25, Tuesday the 26th and Wednesday the 27th. The training will be led by Fr. Joe Maiocco and held at St. John's Episcopal church. The address of St. John's is 500 Park Shore Drive, Naples 34103.

This training includes more intensive examination of Jesus' healing that are recorded in the gospels, as well as some coaching and practice praying for healing, and will occur from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM. We need to let St. John's staff know in the next three weeks who from Faith will attend this training, although we would prefer to have numbers for them by Jan 1, so please reach out if you would like to attend. We also ask that you bring your own lunch.

If you have questions about this training, you can talk with either Pr. Treglown or Pr. Maconachy. Both of them have already taken the training. You may also ask me (Randy Taylor) or any of the other Faith Healing Prayer Team members. Other team members are Susan Taylor, Ron and Ramona Mitchell, Judy McDermott, Barbara James, Jim and Marilyn Miller, Janet Guenther and Carl and Ruth Koenemann.

Please call or email Randy Taylor, Faith's Chairperson of the Healing Prayer Team if you want to learn more by taking the training. Please respond before January 1 to Randy via e-mail (rtaylor530@aol.com) or telephone (314-807-2115).

God bless you in your growth in faith and knowledge of our LORD Jesus.
Randy Taylor

Pregnancy Resource Center's (PRC) Walk for Life was a success. Faith Lutheran participated on December 5th by serving breakfast sandwiches from our tent at the Golden Gate Community Park. We delivered \$2,385 in contributions from our Faith members. Also, with a Thrivent Action Team we were able to provide \$250 worth of baby goods – a stroller, car seat, baby clothes and other baby items for the mothers' to be. Thank you to all members for supporting this wonderful Right to Life organization.



Healing Prayer Event at Faith Lutheran Church

Come join the Christian Healing Center of Naples in their monthly healing prayer event. It will be held in the FLC Fellowship Hall, 6:30PM to 8PM, on Wednesday, January 13th, 2021. **This event will also be available via Zoom if you would prefer to participate virtually.**

There will be an educational presentation related to healing prayer, followed by opportunity to participate in healing prayer, if so desired.

Health and safety precautions will be observed.

The Christian Healing Center of Naples provides healing prayer ministry to anyone in need. More information is available at www.chcnaples.org or by calling Mike Johnson at 239-315-4630.

From the Pastor's and Staff of FLC Naples, we would like to wish you all a blessed new year. We look forward to the blessings of the Lord in the coming year.





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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(239) 434-5811

faith@flcnaples.com
www.flcnaples.com

Weekly Worship Opportunities:

Saturday:

5:00 p.m. Traditional

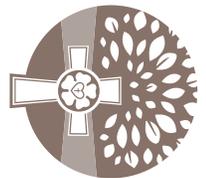
Sunday:

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

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