

the voice



# FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

Naples, Florida

“Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without  
wavering, for He Who promised is faithful.”

Hebrews 10:23

June  
2021

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## 5 Reasons I Love Being a Pastor at Faith Lutheran Church (20 years & counting)

Someone said to me on Sunday, “You sure have been at Faith a long time”. My response was “it sure doesn’t feel like 20 years”. That short conversation got me thinking about what I appreciate about *being* a pastor at Faith.

Lately, it hasn’t been too difficult to find people in ministry who complain about the ministry. But, I am so grateful for God’s Call to preach both Law & Gospel and that Jo and I have been able to serve God and Faith Lutheran Church for over 20 years.

Here are some of the reasons I love being a pastor (not that I didn’t enjoy being a missionary) at Faith Lutheran:

1. **The privilege of preaching Law & Gospel sermons.** I have seen the “power of God unto salvation” (Romans 1:16)
2. **The joy of serving with God’s people.** I have had the opportunity to work with people who love God and filled with the Holy Spirit find powerful ways to serve God.
3. **The joy of Word & Sacrament ministry.** I have the benefit of seeing God’s Word, Baptism, and Lord’s Supper equipping God’s people to be transformed by God’s Love, Mercy, and Grace.
4. **The excitement of teaching and training the next generations.** There is a special joy that comes from sharing what I learned as a child with others and teaching them to do the same (2 Timothy 2:2)
5. **The ability to rejoice and grieve with God’s people.**

The births, weddings, hospital visits, shut-in visits, and even funerals are special. Each event, makes me thankful I get to be in a place to seek to be a blessing to Faith families during these times. I have rejoiced with those who rejoice and have wept with those who weep.

So often, I get a front row seat to seeing the eternal Word of God and His Sacraments change and transform lives.

Yes, I love being a pastor

Pastor Don

P.S. Are there burdens at Faith? Sure. But are there blessings? More than I can say.

Did you know that we are now beginning to place sermons on our YouTube channel? They can be found along with all of the other videos, or by selecting the “Sermons” playlist. To access the channel go to [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com) and search for FLC Naples.

While you are there please make sure to click the subscribe button, as well as the bell, this will allow you to get notifications whenever we post new content.



### Psalms and Sunsets starting Saturday, June 12

Every Saturday in June all children/youth and their families are invited to join us for 5PM worship, then afterwards head to the Lowdermilk Beach for devotions / sunset. Feel free to pack your dinners!

If you’re unable to join us for the Saturday worship, you are certainly welcome to meet up with us later at the beach around 6:15/30PM.

## Devotion During Disappointment (part 2)

God works in and through the mundane. Last month in looking as to how to apply devotional living while encountering people who are disappointed, it was important to know that we need to focus on the person and devote ourselves to simply listening. Devote ourselves to one another. But what happens if the situation flips? That is, what happens when I'm disappointed in myself and my devotional living? The struggle is real as the saying goes.

When it comes to devotions, I think a lot of us desire for them to always be stirring, fervent, and powerful each time. It does happen, but maybe not as frequent as we would hope. The majority might also prefer to think on devotions as a personal investment in which that is the only way they are truly genuine, authentic, and beneficial. More often, our devotional time with God and life in Him comes across as a chore and is perhaps more aligned with it being a discipline. To our surprise however, discipline is good. God works in and through the mundane; devotion and discipline go hand in hand. Maybe it is simply the practice itself that is key. Peradventure when we are personally disappointed, the discipline itself is good, right, and salutary. When we become disciplined in something, it eventually deepens into a ritual, which can be a surprising gift when we are weary and disappointed. Remaining disciplined and sticking to ritual helps us when we are on the struggle bus.

When life just seems to have cracked into multiple pieces, disciplined devotion remains a key gluing fixture. We've all been warned against "going through the motions" when it comes to devotion or worship. But on the other side of it, going through the motions because it's ritualized in us is not all bad. It's certainly not harmful when the motions are worth going through. The wife and mother may see the week that lies ahead before her after having a uniquely difficult previous week in her marriage or parenting. She begins to play the highlight reel in her head and the questions consume her: "what am I doing wrong? Am I a failure?" Yet she presses on forward and goes through the motions of remaining disciplined as a wife and mother. She still gets up early, makes the school lunches, prays for her husband, prays for herself, prays for her children, drives them to school and bears the frustration of school carline, checks her email as to yet another event she has to put on the calendar to attend. All this throughout the week. And then the weekend hits. She brings what is left of her marriage and parenting to worship. She goes through the motions. But God works in and through the mundane. This disciplined ritual sculpts her life, her marriage relationship, her relationship with her children, her relationship with Jesus. Even when she is questioning whether God is holding on to her, she is still holding on to God's purposes and plans for her and the world. God's working and ordering in the drudgery is good, and the disciplined devotional life strengthens this child to continue abiding in that promised goodness in the midst of disappointment.

My prayer for each of you my dear Faith family is to continue "going through the motions." Do not abandon the worship and devotional rituals that might appear fruitless on the surface level. God is continually at work. Continue to abide in the love of Jesus. Remain disciplined in your devotional living, or as Paul says: "be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain" (1 Corinthians 15:58). Why? God works in and through the mundane. Nothing you do is in vain; for the Lord always knows, hears, and responds to you. Commit for even so the Lord is without fail committed to you. Keep the ritual; it is worth its weight. Keep the faith; it is beyond value. The Lord keep after you; you are worth it to Him.

Humbly counting the cost with you,  
Pastor Sam

God's love and joy be with you Faith family!

Thank you for your praying. VBS is fast approaching. As we get ready to welcome our beloved VBSers we are in need of items to help bless their time together here:

### For Crafts we need:

Elmer's Glue 4 oz. bottles – 10 bottles  
Pony Beads  
Small child size paint brushes – 10

### Decoration request for rainforest theme:

Artificial shrubs &/or potted plants  
Blue disposable plastic table clothes  
Rope – to drape and look like vines

Any bit helps to make our VBS more memorable for these children. Thank you, and may our Good Lord continue to help and bless us all!





Kelsey Gardner	1	Nick Marsit	11	Floyd Foist	20
Nancy Fish	4	Roger Christy	12	Janice Beaudet	22
John Peterson	4	Carl Dickey	13	Jan Nurenberg	22
Amanda Sherwood	4	Pastor Sam Maconachy	13	Emilie Gehrke	23
Kathie Gayle	5	Ally Arsenault	14	Carl Koenemann	23
Leslie Ackerman	6	Jake McClendon	15	Carolyn Hunter	25
Charlotte Bremseth	6	Kevin Hawkesworth	16	Aria Wells	26
Carole Ruth	6	Joann Johnson	16	Ken Badke	27
Joey Chernoch	8	Rusty Thornley	16	Julia DePuye	27
Joey Woods	8	Bethany Weiss	17	John Gifford	27
Ralph Becker	9	Tina Espiritu	18	Karen Frank	28
Missy Gannon	9	Ella Hazelett	18	David Templin	28
Kay Hasse	9	Alex Herwig	18	Mike Werner	30
Carolyn Dorr	10	Mardelle Wuerger	19		



Berch & Susan Gannon	2	Bill & Renate Musser	22
John & Nancy Weiss	2	Gil & Lois Poretti	22
Ron & Karen Doerr	8	Ned & Beth Renfro	22
Glenn & Kay Hasse	10	Pastor Sam & Liz Maconachy	23
Steve & Jan Nurenberg	10	Rowe & Michelle Hudson	24
Nick & Jennifer Outerbridge	14	Ray & Carole Ruth	24
Ray & Pat Wiese	14	Gerald & Chae-Sun Hoogland	25
Gary & Jane Glotzhober	15	Randy & Sara Abraham	26
Art & Della Johnson	19	George & Ricki Bond	28
Roy & Joyce Couch	20		
Jim & Karen Frank	22		

### Lambs of Faith

Graduation of the 4 year olds was held on May 19, 2021. We are so blessed to see these children eagerly move on to Kindergarten in the Fall.

After the Beach Day at Loudermark Park on Monday June 24, 2021 the Preschool will be done for this school year. The teachers are already making plans for the next school year of 2021-2022.

We wish you all a blessed & safe summer. See you in the fall!

Karen Frank

### New Member Class

Spread the Word! If you or anyone you know is looking for a family to belong to, Pastor Don and Pastor Sam are having New Member classes every Monday evening in June at 7PM. It all starts June 7 and runs for 4 weeks. Please contact the office or Pastor Sam ([pastormac@flcnaples.com](mailto:pastormac@flcnaples.com)) to sign-up.

Note: we will be maintaining government advised social distancing practices by meeting in the Fellowship Hall.

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 Band (S)</p> <p>6:30 p.m. - Mission &amp; Outreach (YEA)?</p>	<p><b>2</b></p> <p>8:00 a.m. - Men=s Bible Study (FH)</p> <p>11:30 a.m. - Itchin' to Stitch (FH)</p>	<p><b>3</b></p>	<p><b>4</b></p> <p>10:00 a.m. - Ladies Bible Study (FH)</p>	<p><b>5</b></p> <p><i>5:00 p.m. - Saturday Service (S)</i></p>
<p><b>6 Second Sunday after Pentecost</b></p> <p><i>8:00 a.m. -Worship (Comm)</i></p> <p>9:00 a.m. - Fellowship (CY)</p> <p><i>9:15 a.m. - Praise Worship (Comm)</i></p> <p>10:10 a.m. - Bible Study (FH)</p> <p>10:20 a.m. - Sunday School Last Day (CY)</p> <p><i>11:00 a.m.. - Worship (Comm)</i></p> <p><b>Mite Sunday</b></p>	<p><b>7</b></p> <p>9:30 - 2:00 p.m. Cravin' to Craft (DR)</p> <p>6:00 p.m. - Executive Board (DR)</p> <p>7:00 p.m. - New Member Class (FH)</p>	<p><b>8</b></p> <p>11:00 a.m. - Marine Lunch (FH)</p> <p>6:30 p.m. - Praise Band (S)</p>	<p><b>9</b></p> <p>8:00 a.m. - Men=s Bible Study (FH)</p>	<p><b>10</b></p>	<p><b>11</b></p> <p>10:00 a.m. - Ladies Bible Study (FH)</p>	<p><b>12</b></p> <p>8:30 a.m. - Packing for Troops (FH)</p> <p><i>5:00 p.m.- Saturday Service</i></p>
<p><b>13 Third Sunday after Pentecost</b></p> <p><i>8:00 a.m. -Worship (S)</i></p> <p>9:00 a.m. - Fellowship (CY)</p> <p><i>9:15 a.m. - Worship(S)</i></p> <p>10:10 a.m. - Bible Study (FH)</p> <p><i>11:00 a.m. - Worship (S)</i></p> <p><i>4:00 p.m. - OSL Praise and Prayer Service (PL)</i></p>	<p><b>14</b></p> <p>9:30 - 2:00 p.m. Cravin' to Craft (DR)</p> <p>10:00 - Board of Property Meeting (WR)</p> <p>6:00 p.m. - Church Council (DR)</p> <p>7:00 p.m. - New Member Class (FH)</p> <p><b>Flag Day</b></p>	<p><b>15</b></p> <p>11:00 a.m. - Marine Lunch (FH)</p> <p>6:30 p.m. - Praise Band (S)</p> <p><i>Voice Deadline</i></p>	<p><b>16</b></p> <p>8:00 a.m. - Men=s Bible Study (FH)</p> <p>11:30 a.m. - Itchin' to Stitch (FH)</p>	<p><b>17</b></p>	<p><b>18</b></p> <p>10:00 a.m. - Ladies Bible Study (FH)</p>	<p><b>19</b></p> <p>9:30 a.m. - OSL Meeting (DR)</p> <p><i>5:00 p.m. Saturday Service (S)</i></p> <p>6:30 p.m. - Youth Psalms &amp; Sunsets at Lowdermilk Park</p>
<p><b>20 Fourth Sunday after Pentecost</b></p> <p><b>Father's Day</b></p> <p><i>8:00 a.m. -Worship (Comm)</i></p> <p>9:00 a.m. - Fellowship (CY)</p> <p><i>9:15 a.m. - Praise Worship (Comm)</i></p> <p>10:10 a.m. - Bible Study (FH)</p> <p><i>11:00 a.m.. - Worship (Comm)</i></p>	<p><b>21</b></p> <p><b>9:00 a.m. - VBS</b></p> <p>7:00 p.m. - New Member Class (FH)</p>	<p><b>22</b></p> <p><b>9:00 a.m. - VBS</b></p> <p>11:00 a.m. - Marine Lunch (FH)</p> <p>6:30 p.m. - Praise Band (S)</p>	<p><b>23</b></p> <p>8:00 a.m. Men=s Bible Study</p> <p><b>9:00 a.m. - VBS</b></p>	<p><b>24</b></p> <p><b>9:00 a.m. - VBS</b></p>	<p><b>25</b></p> <p><b>9:00 a.m. - VBS</b></p> <p>10:00 a.m. - Ladies Bible Study (FH)</p>	<p><b>26</b></p> <p>Private Baptism (S)</p> <p><i>5:00 - Saturday Service (S)</i></p>
<p><b>27 Fifth Sunday after Pentecost</b></p> <p><i>8:00 a.m. -Worship (S)</i></p> <p>9:00 a.m. - Fellowship</p> <p><i>9:15 a.m. - Worship (S)</i></p> <p>10:10 a.m. - Bible Study (FH)</p> <p><i>11:00 a.m. - Worship (S)</i></p>	<p><b>28</b></p> <p>9:30 - 2:00 p.m. Cravin' to Craft (DR)</p> <p>6:30 p.m. - Elders (FH)</p> <p>7:00 p.m. - New Member Class( FH)</p>	<p><b>29</b></p> <p>11:00 a.m. - Marine Lunch (FH)</p> <p>6:30 p.m. - Praise Band (S)</p>	<p><b>30</b></p> <p>8:00 a.m. Men=s Bible Study</p> <p>11:30 a.m. - Itchin' to Stitch (FH)</p> <p>4:30 p.m. - Marine Officers (FH)</p>	<p><b>Summer Hours</b></p> <p><b>June 1 - August 31</b></p> <p><b>8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.</b></p>		

## Mission of the Month - Mission Nation Publishing

Mission Nation Publishing is a five year old ministry to sensitize churches to the blessings God is giving us through missionaries coming to America. In five years eleven books have been published, six are biographies. The books teach about God's love for all people. The picture St. John paints in Revelations 9:7 is of a multi-ethnic heaven, *"I saw a multitude from every nation, tribe and language, surrounding the throne of God..."* Even though America is 59% white English speaking, the LCMS is 90% white English speaking. Our glass is half full.

Mission Nation gives a voice to the new missionaries, so they are seen as human beings with the same challenges we all have – but who have come through fire, been refined, with courage, faith, and love beyond human understanding. They are gifts to the church. No one at Mission Nation is paid, but we have sold over two thousand books to Lutheran churches. Now we believe the Lord is opening a door to share the books with children in Lutheran schools. Children are going to read many kinds of books; shouldn't they read about God's hand in bringing new people to Christ?

Bethany Szobody is a young mom in North Carolina. After a presentation I made about the books, Bethany purchased four biographies. When she returned home she said her eleven year old daughter, Myra, pulled The Despicable Missionary book out of her hands and could not put it down.

The book is about a Christian girl growing up in Pakistan, Julie Dass. The book shows what it was like to be Christian and a girl - in Pakistan - and how Julie came to forgive those who had persecuted her. The book teaches about different cultures, is good literature and shares the good news of God's love for every ethnic group. It also shows the power of forgiveness to overcome ignorance and bullying.

We have identified five schools in the United States for a nationwide project to test the books in the seventh and eighth grade classrooms of Lutheran schools. With the help of Faith Lutheran we want to supply books for the test project. We plan to send a total of two hundred and fifty books to the five churches at a cost of \$4,000.

In the last century children read books about missionaries coming from America. Now the sons and daughters, grandsons, and granddaughters of those brought to Jesus overseas are being sent here, to strengthen the church. Children today have many options for books to read. We believe a Christian book that tells the story of God's love and forgiveness should be one of those options.

Thank you everyone for your support of STARability, the April Mission of the Month. They received \$2,495.00 to help transform the lives of individuals with disabilities. They do this through social, vocational and educational connections to the community while strengthening awareness and respect for individual abilities. Thank you FLC!

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### Faith Healing Prayer Team "Good, Good Father" Praise and Song Gathering

Mark your calendars and ready your lawn chairs! Faith Lutheran Church's Healing Prayer Team will have a praise and sing-a-long of thanksgiving for our true 'Good, Good Father' on Sunday, June 13 beginning at 4:00 PM in front of the main doors of our church.

We know that Father's Day this year is set for Sunday, June 20. Our gathering will not conflict with the usual fathers' day as Faith's gathering is set for one week before the 20<sup>th</sup>. We hope this Faith gathering enhances your personal observation of the national fathers' day holiday the following Sunday.

Each of us became a child of God the moment we believed in Him. He is our truly perfect Father and we will come together to praise Him for who He is and thank Him for making us His own. The day will include our own Randy McClendon who will lead our special songs to our God. Between songs, the Healing Prayer Team will also lead us in scriptures and devotions and prayers that focus on our Father's love for us and our thanks to Him.

There will also be time for people desiring prayer for healing of body, mind or spirit, for themselves or for loved ones. Prayers can be done in private either during the praise time or afterwards.

Come on out and join our brothers and sisters in Christ for this time to honor our Good, Good Father. See you there!

For Faith's Healing Prayer Team,  
Randy Taylor

Hello Faith Family –

The past month and a half have been an exciting, but also stressful, span of time for me. It was a fulfilling adventure of construction, scaffolding feats, deliveries, arrivals, and new equipment. We were able to observe the dedicated contractors and how they were able to transform the backwall of the loft into a clean, uniform, and beautiful new design. The entire construction phase went very well, and I am very pleased with the final product. I hope you, as the community of Faith, are also pleased with the results. Yet, as I reflect on the previous month, I am constantly reminded of one crucial lesson, “be patient and trust in the Lord our God.”

During the week of construction at the end of April, we received an update from the main factory that the organ console was still a handful of weeks from its completion and shipped-by date, and that it potentially could stretch into the first part of June before it would ship out from the main factory. I would be lying if I told you that I was not disappointed at this news. Our society has uniquely settled into the satisfactions of near-instant gratification, and I am definitely pointing a finger at myself as I have grown accustomed to many elements of life that have become extremely “quick and easy.” Yet, the organ project developed into an unremitting reminder that I have to “be patient and trust in the Lord our God.” His blessings are given to us on His timing, not on our humanly expectations.

This lesson of patience and trust reminded me of the wonderful hymn text of “Day by Day” (Tune: BLOTT EN DAG) by the Swedish author Carolina Sandell Berg:

*Day by day and with each passing moment, strength I find to meet my trials here; Trusting in my Father's wise bestowment, I've no cause for worry or for fear. Help me then in ev'ry tribulation so to trust your promises, O Lord, that I lose not faith's sweet consolation offered me within your holy Word. Help me, Lord, when toil and trouble meeting, e'er to take, as from a father's hand. Gives unto each day what He deems best—Lovingly, its part of pain and pleasure, mingling toil with peace and rest.*

The entire hymn reminds us that no human can accurately predict and foretell the future – it is only God who knows what will occur and when it will occur, so therefore we are able have assurance that He will remain in complete control of all things which are occurring.

We will have the opportunity to sing this hymn on the third weekend of June. I hope it can serve as a constant assurance that God “has the wheel,” and that we must be patient and have trust in Him as He leads our lives.

(P.S. If you started singing “Day by Day” from the hit Broadway show *Godspell*, then you get extra Music Director points from me!)

Blessings,  
Matthew

At the May meeting of the Worship, Music & Arts Committee discussion continued about the landscaping on the campus of Faith Lutheran. Although this falls under the auspices of the Properties Committee, a collaboration is happening between that Committee and the WMA Committee.

It is the attention to fine tune our landscaping in order to ensure that proper plantings are created that are environmentally friendly, receiving proper sunlight, water, etc. We also want to concentrate on the Memorial Garden, planting of flowers beds, the maintaining of them and regulating the maintenance of the flowers. We would also like to limit the appearance of mysterious plantings.

With all said, I am seeking volunteers to become part of a landscaping/ garden committee. Most importantly, a volunteer Chairperson would be a welcome contact. We are blessed at Faith Lutheran that our new Director of Finance, Sharon Sutton, is a graduate Master Gardener and would be willing to serve as a consultant to this Committee.

Please contact me to become involved. In addition, I would love to have any interested individuals become members of the Worship, Music & Arts Committee.

Michael Schmidt  
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# 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.

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## 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



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LUTHERAN CHURCH  
Naples, Florida

OR CURRENT RESIDENT

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