

the voice



FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

Naples, Florida

“But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons.”

Galatians 4:4-5

**December
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.

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The Sights of Christmas at Faith

It always thrills me to point out the different sights you see in the Sanctuary during Advent and Christmas here at Faith Lutheran Church. Here are just a few of the items that you will see:

1. **Advent Wreath** You will see a circular candle holder near the altar decorated with evergreens, banners, and candles. During the season of Advent one candle on the wreath is lit each Sunday until all the candles, including the Christ candle are lit. The purple candles represent the Hope, Peace, and Love that are found in the birth of Jesus Christ. The pink candle represents Joy in the Lord. Finally, the white candle reminds us that Jesus is the spotless lamb of God.

Colors to look for: Purple, Blue, Pink, Red, Green, and Black

2. **Christmas Trees** We can thank Martin Luther for the tradition of Christmas Trees. Not only did he set a fir tree (Think O Tannenbaum) up in his home in 1536 but he also set up the tree with candles to remind his children of the starry heavens from whence the Savior came.

Colors to look for: Green, Red, White, Gold, Silver

3. **Chrismons** These are what decorates our trees here at Faith. Chrismons, meaning “Christ Monograms” traditionally are white and gold designs made from Christian symbols that point to Christ. Did you know that Chrismons were first developed in 1957 by the women of Ascension Lutheran Church in Danville, VA.

Colors to look for: White and Gold

And now for my favorite Sight of Christmas:

4. **People** When I see people visit, worship, connect at Faith it reminds me of what Christmas and Faith Lutheran Church are all about. We are people who are called out of the world into a relationship with Jesus Christ. When Jesus said, “I will build my Church” in Matthew 16:18 He wasn’t talking about constructing a building, decorations, or hanging of the greens. He was talking about creating a world wide body of believers.

Colors to look for: All Shades, All Combinations, All Colors

I invite you all to “Come and See the Newborn King – Jesus Christ!”

Looking forward to seeing you this Christmas,
Pastor Don Treglown

Mission of the Month

Since its beginnings in 1939, Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service (LIRS) has been serving people across the world in need of new homes and new communities. Originally formed to serve and resettle refugees from war-torn Europe, LIRS connected sponsoring Lutherans in the U.S. with Lutheran refugees in Germany. Following World War II, when one out of every six Lutherans in the world was a refugee or displaced person, Lutherans, with the participation of 6,000 congregations, resettled some 57,000 refugees in the United States. LIRS promotes works of mercy that flow from the Gospel. LIRS welcomes everyone – regardless of age, experience, country of origin, or faith.

Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service lives out the call to do the work of “Christ’s compassion, mercy, welcome, and passion for justice” through our core programs, developed to support vulnerable families, children, and immigrants, fleeing war, persecution, and unimaginable violence in search of a better life.

Continued on next page:

The Sounds of Christmas

It's generally known and accepted that one's sense of smell holds the strongest connection to memory and nostalgia. If there was to be a second under smell, I would be willing to bet that hearing is next. That is, in my obvious professional scientific opinion of course.

What we hear can strongly trigger deep emotion, affection, and memory. Hear no further than to whenever a sleigh bell rings a fond memory of Christmas it brings...at least it seems. Lovers of the Christmas season are always eager and excited to fill their homes and cars with their favorite tunes. Melodies, words, instruments that warm and bring delight from the ear to the heart. They are Christmas' runes.

Do you hear what I hear?
 Last Christmas I gave you my heart.
 Holy infant so tender and mild.
 Yea, Lord, we greet thee.
 All I want for Christmas is you.

There's a lot to hear in this season of celebrating our Savior's birth. Sounds of welcome, joy, comfort, and mirth.

What is it you look forward to hearing most each Christmastide? For me it's a lot of things. But the biggest tenor of them is hearing all of God's people gathered together in one sonorous chord "Gloria in excelsis Deo!"

I love the smell of evergreen, cinnamon, oranges, and cloves.
 I'm quite fond of the taste of nutmeg and ginger
 I relish each time I feel the warmth of embracing my wife and daughters around the
 Christmas tree
 I gives me great delight to see our family, read all the Christmas letters from dear
 friends far away...

But even so, it's not until I hear it each time that I realize what I love most every Christmas is hearing God's Word proclaimed unto me, Immanuel – "God is with us."

This too is for you to glean dear friends. Listen well. Hear that the Lord is always near to you.

That beautiful sweet saving sound of the Gospel.

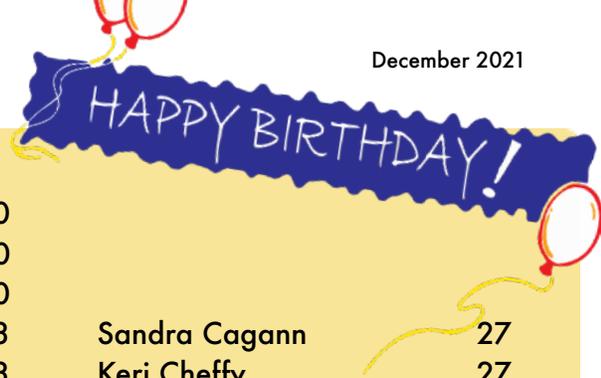
The Lord Emmanuel is with you,
 Pastor Sam

Mission of the Month continued from previous page:

Today, our work takes many forms:

- refugee resettlement, which involves everything from picking refugee families up at the airport to assisting them in finding jobs, enrolling their children in school, and taking English classes;
- working closely with our network of partner organization to receive our Afghan neighbors and connect them with essential services like food, clothing, housing, school enrollment, and employment authorization;
- reuniting families and caring for unaccompanied children;
- advocacy on Capitol Hill to promote fair, humane immigration policy;
- and work with faith communities such as yours to spread the word of welcome and offer opportunities for congregations and communities to connect to our refugee and immigrant neighbors.

Now is the time to take bold and courageous action in solidarity with migrants and refugees fleeing violence and persecution. Join LIRS in the work of welcome by advocating, volunteering, or making a gift today. Find them on the web at www.lirs.org.



John Ross	1	Fred Geitner	10		
Adam Schmitt	1	Art Johnson Jr.	10		
Andy Kasurow	2	James Miller	10		
Dan McDermott	2	Howard Field	13	Sandra Cagann	27
Monique Mielke	2	John Fish	13	Keri Cheffy	27
Andy Ward	2	Barbara Ettinger	14	Winston Dickerson	28
Steve Mielke	3	Richard Gayle	16	Grace Ferguson	28
Celeste Becker	4	Christian Andrea	17	Brad Hildebrandt	28
John Heintzman	4	George Ferguson	18	Sara Abraham	29
Kae Ferber	5	Kurt Johnson	19	Brett Ackerman	29
Paul Geffert	5	Cindy Lukas	21	Steven Gehrke	29
Bud Ahlbrand	6	Andrew Minke	21	Rick Paganes	29
Henry Wassmann	8	Bob Cagann	22	Carol Farnam	30
Ramona Mitchell	9	Tauba Ingenthron	23	Marischen	
Linda Austin	10	Chae-Sun Hoogland	25	Nordmeyer-Brundage	31
		Carl & Ruth Koenemann	16		
		Randy & Susan Taylor	18		
		Val & Gail Peterson	19		
		Joann & Kurt Johnson	27		
		Ken & Sharon Badke	29		
		Jim & Grace Shelton	30		



Lambs of Faith - On Wednesday, December 8, 2021, the children will be singing at the beginning of the the Advent Service at 6:30 pm.

The children are getting ready for their Christmas program on wednesday, December 15, 2021. There will be some old and some new songs that they will be singing as they tell the story of the birth of the Christ Child. Anyone interested is welcome to attend beginning at 9:30 am.

Please keep the Lambs of Faith in your prayers,

Respectfully,
Karen Frank

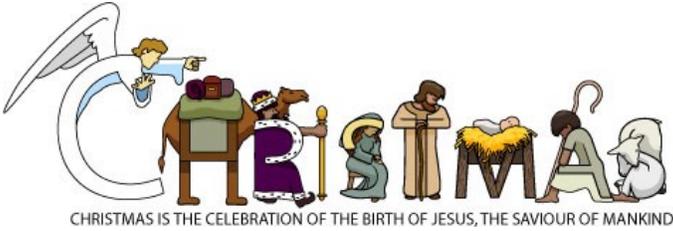
Cookie Sale -- Now is a good time to get all the Christmas cookies you need for the holidays. The Faith Lutheran Annual Christmas Cookie Sale will be held Saturday, December 11th from 9:00 am - noon and Sunday, December 12th 8:00 am - noon or until the cookies are gone. Multiple size trays and containers will be available. Come early because they disappear fast! Call Sammi Treglown 537-2957 if you have any questions or if you wish to pre-order your cookies. Cookie Sale proceeds will benefit the Lambs of Faith Preschool.

National Youth Gathering, July 9 – 13, 2022

- Sign-up still open for any High School youth interested in coming with us!
- Also, we need a few more adult volunteers to attend with us. Contact Pastor Sam for more info is interested.

Next meeting for parents and youth:

- Sunday, January 9, 4:30 PM

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
 <p>CHRISTMAS IS THE CELEBRATION OF THE BIRTH OF JESUS, THE SAVIOUR OF MANKIND</p>			<p>1 8:00 am - Men's Bible Study (FH) 11:00 - Itchin' to Stitch (FH)</p> <p>Advent Midweek 1 Waiting with Comfort 6:30 pm – Service (S)</p>	<p>2 9:30 am – LOF Chapel (S) 1:30 pm –Band Practice (FH) 5:00 pm – Girl Scouts (YA)</p>	<p>3 9:30 am – LOF Chapel (S) 10:00 am - Women's Bible Study (DR)</p> <p>WOF Setup for Party (FH)</p>	<p>4 11:30 am – WOF Christmas Party (FH) 5:00 p.m- Saturday Service/Comm. (S)</p>
<p>5 Advent 2 8:00 am –Worship/Comm. (S) 9:00 am - Fellowship (CY) 9:15 am - Praise Worship/Comm.(S) 10:10 am - Bible Study (FH) 10:15 am- Sunday School 11:00 am – Worship/Comm.(S) 4:30 pm – High School (FH) 5:45 pm – Confirmation (FH)</p>	<p>6 9:30-2:00 pm - Cravin' to Craft 10:00 am- Brass and organ practice (S)</p>	<p>7 10:00 a.m.- Bible Study (DR) 11:00 am - Marine Lunch (FH) 6:30 pm - Praise Team (S)</p>	<p>8 8:00 am -Men's Bible Study (FH)</p> <p>Advent Midweek 2 Waiting with Prayer 6:30 pm – Service (S)</p>	<p>9 9:30 am – LOF Chapel (S) 1:30 pm –Band Practice (FH) 7:00 pm – Young Adult Bible Study (FH)</p>	<p>10 9:30 am – LOF Chapel (S) 10:00 am - Women's Bible Study (DR) 4-6 pm – Cookie Sale (FH) 6:00 pm – Christmas Brass and Organ Concert (S)</p>	<p>11 8:00 – 12:30 pm – Young Marines Cookie Sale 9 am to 11:00 am (FH Narthex) 2:00 pm – Arsenault Wedding (S) 5:00 pm- Saturday Service / Comm. (S)</p>
<p>12 Advent 3 8:00 am -Worship (S) 9:00 am - Fellowship (CY) 9:15 am - Praise Worship (S) 10:10 am - Bible Study (FH) 10:15 am- Sunday School 11:00 am – Worship (S) 4:35 pm – High School (FH) 5:45 pm – Confirmation (FH)</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14 10:00 a.m.- Bible Study (DR) 11:00 am - Marine Lunch (FH) 6:30 pm - Praise Team (S)</p>	<p>15 8:00 am- Men's Bible Study (FH) 9:30 am – LOF Program(S) 11:00 - Itchin' to Stitch (FH)</p> <p>Advent Midweek 3 Waiting with Joy 6:30 pm – Service (S) Voice Deadline</p>	<p>16 1:30 pm –Band Practice (FH) 5:00 pm – Girl Scouts (YA)</p> <p>LOF Closed</p>	<p>17 10:00 am - Women's Bible Study (DR)</p> <p>LOF Closed</p>	<p>18 9:30 am – OSL (DR) 5:00 pm Saturday Service (S)</p>
<p>19 Advent 4 8:00 am –Worship/Comm. (S) 9:00 am - Fellowship (CY) 9:15 am - Praise Worship/Comm.(S) 10:10 am - Bible Study (FH) 11:00 am – Worship/Comm.(S)</p>	<p>20</p> <p>LOF Closed</p>	<p>21 10:00 a.m.- Bible Study (DR) 11:00 am - Marine Lunch (FH) 6:30 pm - Praise Team (S)</p> <p>LOF Closed</p>	<p>22 8:00 am- Men's Bible Study (FH)</p> <p>LOF Closed & Church Office 8:30 – 12:00 p.m.</p>	<p>23 1:30 pm –Band Practice (FH) 7:00 pm – Young Adult Bible Study (FH)</p> <p>LOF Closed & Church Office 8:30 – 12:00 p.m.</p>	<p>24 Christmas Eve 3:00 pm –Service (S) 5:00 pm Service/Comm. (S) 7:00 pm Service/Comm. (S) 9:00 pm Service/Comm. (S)</p> <p>LOF Closed & Church Office 8:30 – 12:00 p.m.</p>	<p>25 Christmas Day 9:30 am – Service (S) No 5:00 pm Saturday Service</p>
<p>26 One Service Sunday 9:30 am – Service (S)</p>	<p>27 Christmas Monday LOF and Church Closed</p>	<p>28 10:00 a.m.- Bible Study (DR) 11:00 am - Marine Lunch (FH) 6:30 pm - Praise Team (S)</p> <p>LOF Closed, Office Hours 8:30 – 12:00</p>	<p>29 8:00 am - Men's Bible Study (FH) 11:00 - Itchin' to Stitch (FH)</p> <p>LOF Closed, Office Hours 8:30 – 12:00</p>	<p>30 1:30 pm –Band Practice (FH) 7:00 pm – Young Adult Bible Study (FH)</p> <p>LOF Closed Office Hours 8:30 – 12:00</p>	<p>31 5:30 pm - New Year's Eve Service with Communion (S)</p> <p>LOF Closed Office Hours 8:30 – 12:00</p>	 <p>Remember No Meetings in December</p>

From the Director of Music

Hello Faith Family,

Psalm 150: 3-4 "Praise Him with trumpet sound; praise Him with lute and harp! Praise Him with tambourine and dance; praise Him with strings and pipe! Praise Him with sounding cymbals; praise Him with loud clashing cymbals!"

One of the most famous and most influential organ firms in America was the *Aeolian-Skinner Organ Company*. When one hears, or tries to recall, a particular American organ sound, most of the time it will surely be an Aeolian-Skinner organ.

The "Skinner" Organ Company initially started out as *The Skinner & Cole Company* in 1902. Through a new partnership in 1904, Skinner & Cole evolved into the *Ernest M. Skinner & Company* in the form of a contract with the Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Holy Trinity in New York City. Some years later, The E.M. Skinner Organ Company and the Aeolian pipe division merged in 1932 to form *The Aeolian-Skinner Organ Company* of Boston, Massachusetts. This newly formed company celebrated many years of highly successful organ building and many standardizations of organ building mechanics, which are still used to this day, until their closure in 1972.

Our organ at FLC is unique because of this specific Aeolian-Skinner digital sound library. This sound library was personally compiled and designed by the Vice President of the Allen Organ Company. For several months the Vice President and the Allen Organ Company traveled to record several organs in Philadelphia to create this new digital library suite for their newest organs. These organs were designed by one of Aeolian-Skinner's most influential tonal directors from 1933-1956, G. Donald Harrison. Aeolian-Skinner organs are famous for their delicate and even voicing, decisive speech, and superior blending of choruses, allowing clarity in polyphonic textures as well as graceful solo melodic lines. I personally like to claim that Aeolian-Skinner organs are like a "big, warm hug" that wraps you up in subliminal textural sound.

As we discussed in a previous Voice article, American organ builders started a reform movement to move away from the orchestral-like organs and sought to return to the Baroque- and Classical-style instruments. Mr. Harrison of the Aeolian-Skinner Company expertly combined the two tonal philosophies of large, orchestral-like organs with the eclectic classical-style without compromise to the depth and color of the tonal productions. These instruments were masterfully designed and became known as the "American Classic" style that could support the thick, and sonorous orchestral music of Wagner, Elgar, and other Romantic composers while having the clarity and brilliance of tone to play the music of Bach and other Baroque and Classical composers.

I commonly use the Aeolian-Skinner digital library to play the Offertory Meditations during our Divine Services to continue the traditions of the "American Classic" organ. After the holidays, I plan to record a special video to demonstrate the sounds of each of the digital libraries, so that you get a true sense of what "each organ" sounds like.

I hope you are excited for the first annual "Faithfully Christmas" Brass and Organ Concert. This will be a great event to brighten our hearts and spirits for the Christmas Season through music!

Blessings,
Matthew

Thanksgiving Eve Service

Wednesday, November 24, 2021, 6:30 PM

Everyone is welcome and invited to join together as God's beloved people for our yearly Thanksgiving Eve Worship. A special service of praise and thanksgiving.

Are We There Yet?

Here we are in the Christmas season again, and while every Christmas season is a special time, I must say this one holds a little more excitement for me. Last year we were somewhat strangled by the effects of Covid-19, and so participation in the various Christmas events, especially the wonderful services celebrating the birth of our Savior, were sparsely attended. My excitement for this year is a hope to see full pews again. The ability to live, love, and pray together as a Church family is so important.

Every parent can recall a time when the most frequently asked question of their kids during a road trip was....*are we there yet?* I have been asked a similar question a few times recently....*when are we going to get back to normal?* I remember not too long ago, some were saying the lunacy we were going through (no handshakes, no hugging, masks making it difficult to be heard clearly, social distancing, etc.) was the “*new normal*”. I was not of that opinion then, nor am I now. God did not create us to live in fear like that. We may not yet be back to the normal we had a couple years back, but we are getting very close. I know our Pastors want that just as much as we do.

As we continue to work back toward that “*old normal*”, I ask you to join me and others to encourage one another and remind one another why we are all on this faith walk together. Encourage Church attendance in person, fellowship with our Church family, and the sharing of prayers and the joy of worship. That’s how God created us to live, and we give thanks to Him for all our blessings.

Ron Mitchell
Congregation President

Ready to Serve?

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.....

- General Secretary
- Treasurer
- Director, Board of Member Care
- Director, Board of Properties
- Director, Board of Fellowship
- Director, Outreach and Missions

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

Thank You

The family of Tom McKay, son of Jim & Lorraine, wish to thank you, our church family, for your kindness, support and love during this difficult time. It will always be remembered.

We would like to thank you for your cards and calls of support. We have felt your prayers surrounding and comforting us as Gil heals from his fractured hip. He is doing much better and we hope to return to our Faith family soon. Merry Christmas, Gil and Lois Poretti



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
(239) 434-5811

faith@flcnaples.com
www.flcnaples.com

Weekly Worship Opportunities:

Saturday:

5:00 p.m. Traditional

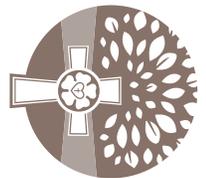
Sunday:

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

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