

the voice



FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

Naples, Florida

**“Be strong, and let your heart take courage,
all you who wait for the LORD!”
Psalm 31:24**

January
2022

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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Are You Growing Rich and Gaining Wisdom?

“Let the Word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish another with all wisdom”

Colossians 3:16

I have been receiving the *Kiplinger Report* over the past year. In the current report, the economic forecasters are making their predictions for 2022. They review such financial indicators as the price of fuel, interest rates, retail sales, unemployment, real estate activity, stock market analysis and so on. Taking this information, they try to predict what the new year may be like for working class America. Sometimes they are right and sometimes they are wrong.

Of course, we view these predictions differently. We know that God is in control. It is God that can help us fix our eyes, not just on the strengths and weaknesses of Faith Lutheran Church, but on the cross and the precious people living all around us in Southwest Florida. God has put you and me in this place and time for a purpose.

As Christians, living under God’s grace in Christ, our purpose is identified for us in God’s Word. Jesus taught us to “love God and our neighbor.” (Matthew 22:37-39) Jesus told us to “go and make disciples of all nations...” (Matthew 28:19-20) This is why you and I are alive today and living where we are. God has planted us here to let the light and love of Christ shine through us into the darkness all around us. God wants us to have and share true riches and His eternal wisdom.

Last year, I received a rechargeable flashlight for Christmas. When it is fully charged, the light is strong and bright. When the batteries run down, the light gives off an orange glow than quits. When I charge up the batteries and don’t use them for a while, they run out of power very quickly. So, if I want the light to work, I need to put a fresh charge on the batteries.

You and I are like those rechargeable batteries. We don’t stay charged up unless we are daily in God’s Word. Thus St. Paul urges us to “let the Word of Christ dwell in you richly.”

I challenge all of us to make this resolution for 2022: to grow daily in God’s Word and teaching and to ask God to grant us wisdom to know and do His will.

A Blessed New Year to All!

Pastor Don Treglown

Confession: New Year’s (or is it just New Year?) is my least favorite holiday. For many reasons in fact. One, I am not a stay up late person. I don’t think I ever was. Once it hits 9PM all cognitive functioning ceases to exist in me, just ask Liz. She has now come to an understanding not to tell me anything important or something I need to remember once it’s past 9PM. Two, it means Christmas is officially over and I have to now move on. I love Christmas and there is a part of me not willing to let it go when its 12 days are over. Three, the New Year means I should now be getting around to taking all the lights off and putting decorations away. Holding off until February is apparently socially “unacceptable.” It’s so much better to get them out than put them back...am I right? Maybe it’s just me. Why is it impressed upon me to stay awake for something I don’t want to be ushered into? It feels forced. Nevertheless it happens every time whether I like it or not.

So much in life seems that way. Maybe because it simply is. It is a common ground we all share to a greater or lesser extent. That is, whether we plan for it or not, we are ushered into various unpleasant seasons in life. It can be day to day or year to year. Even when we don’t like these things, we can still learn in them with humility and grace.

A lot of you felt forced over this past year into things beyond your control or capabilities. Frustrating indeed. Probably even disconcerting. Have you learned or grown in any of those situations? Was there a moment of acceptance or are you still caught in reluctance? Maybe that’s my problem with the New Year. I’m reluctant to welcome something I’m not particularly looking forward to. I need to learn better. Be graceful. Above all, I need to get beyond myself, my world and look to Christ. Seek Him out to learn better in things I don’t like and be more accepting / trusting in Him when He allows challenges (day to day, year to year) to happen in my life.

Are you reluctant about something you’re stuck in that calls you to move on from? Look to Jesus and His death and resurrection, how He has moved us from death into life. What are you having a hard time accepting right now? Seek the Lord and His strength. Is there anything right now that is frightening to you? Draw near to the Lord in His Word and Sacrament where He is readily found.

It is Christ alone Who can get us to move on out from our world into His own. Christ’s world, His Kingdom, is one of acceptance, grace, and power.

Learning together in Christ,
Pastor Sam



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

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



Our mission of the month for January is Disaster Relief. We are blessed to have had a generous amount of supplies that we were able to send to to help with the aftermath of the recent tornados in Kentucky. Now it's time to rebuild our stock so that we can assist again when the time is needed. If you would like to contribute, please contact the Church Office for a list of things that are needed.

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 • National Youth Gathering
 • Parent and Student meeting
 • January 9, 2022. 4:30 PM.
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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>January 30 4th Sunday after Epiphany 8:00 am -Worship (S) 9:00 am – Fellowship 9:15 am – Worship (S) 10:10 a.m.- Bible Study (FH) 10:10 am Sunday School 11:00 am - Worship (S) 4:30 pm – High School (FH) 5:45 pm – Confirmation (FH)</p>	<p>31 9:30 am - Cravin' to Craft (DR)</p>					<p>1 New Year's Day 5:00 pm - Saturday Service (S)</p>
<p>2 8:00 am –Worship/Comm. 9:00 am - Fellowship (FH) 9:15 am - Praise Worship/Comm. 10:10 a.m.- Bible Study (FH) 10:10 am Sunday School 11:00 am – Worship/ Comm. 4:30 pm – High School (FH) 5:45 pm – Confirmation (FH)</p>	<p>3 LOF and Church Office Closed 6:30 pm – Board of Elders (FH)</p>	<p>4 11:00 am - Marine Lunch (FH) 6:30 pm - Praise Band</p>	<p>5 8:00 am Men's Bible Study (FH) 11:00 - 2:00 Itchin' to Stitch (FH)</p>	<p>6 Epiphany 9:30 am – LOF Chapel (S) 1:30 pm - Band Practice (FH) 5:00 pm – Girl Scouts (YA) 6:30 pm – Choir (MR)</p>	<p>7 9:30 am – LOF Chapel (S) 10:00 am - Women's Bible Study (FH)</p>	<p>8 5:00 p.m- Saturday Service (S)</p>
<p>9 Epiphany Sunday Baptism of our Lord 8:00 am –Worship 9:00 am - Fellowship (FH) 9:15 am - Praise Worship 10:10 a.m.- Bible Study (FH) 10:10 am Sunday School 11:00 a.m.. - Worship 4:30 pm – Youth Gathering Meeting (FH) 5:45 pm – Confirmation (FH)</p>	<p>10 8:00 am - Undecorating (N) 9:30 am - Cravin' to Craft (DR) 6:00 pm – Executive Committee (FH)</p>	<p>11 9:00 am – Bible Study (DR) 11:00 am - Marine Lunch (FH) 5:30 pm – WOF Meeting (DR) 6:30 pm - Praise Band</p>	<p>12 8:00 am Men's Bible Study (FH) 12:00 pm –Staff Meeting Photos (FH)</p>	<p>13 9:30 am – LOF Chapel (S) 1:30 pm - Band Practice (FH) 5:00 pm – Girl Scouts (YA) 6:30 pm – Choir (MR)</p>	<p>14 9:30 am – LOF Chapel (S) 10:00 am - Women's Bible Study (FH)</p>	<p>15 9:30 am – OSL Meeting (DR) 10:00 am – Marine GROWL (FH) 11:00 am – Mangum Baptism (S) 5:00 pm Saturday Service (S) Voice Deadline</p>
<p>16 2nd Sunday after Epiphany 8:00 am –Worship/ Comm. 9:00 am - Fellowship (CY) 9:15 am - Praise Worship/Comm. 10:00 a.m.- Bible Study (DR) 10:20 am SundaySchool(CY) 11:00 a.m.. – Worship/Comm. 12:00 noon – Congregational Meeting (FH) 4:30 pm – High School (FH) 5:45 pm – Confirmation (FH)</p>	<p>17 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Office & LOF Closed</p>	<p>18 9:00 am – Bible Study (DR) 11:00 am - Marine Lunch (FH) 6:30 pm - Praise Band</p>	<p>19 8:00 am Men's Bible Study (FH) 11:00 - 2:00 Itchin' to Stitch (FH) 7:00 pm – Marine Meeting (DR)</p>	<p>20 9:30 am – LOF Chapel (S) 1:30 pm - Band Practice (FH) 5:00 pm – Girl Scouts (YA) 6:30 pm – Choir (MR) 7:00 pm – Young Adult Bible Study (FH)</p>	<p>21 9:30 am – LOF Chapel (S) 10:00 am - Women's Bible Study (FH)</p>	<p>22 5:00 - Saturday Service (S)</p>
<p>23 3rd Sunday after Epiphany 8:00 am -Worship (S) 9:00 am – Fellowship 9:15 am – Worship (S) 10:10 a.m.- Bible Study (FH) 10:10 am SundaySchool 11:00 am - Worship (S) 4:00 pm – Dave Anderson Concert (S) 4:30 pm – High School (FH) 5:45 pm – Confirmation (FH)</p>	<p>24 9:30-2:00 pm - Cravin' to Craft (DR) 6:00 pm – Church Council (FH)</p>	<p>25 9:00 am – Bible Study (DR) 11:00 am - Marine Lunch (FH) 6:30 pm - Praise Band</p>	<p>26 8:00 am Men's Bible Study (FH)</p>	<p>27 9:30 am – LOF Chapel (S) 1:30 pm - Band Practice (FH) 5:00 pm – Girl Scouts (YA) 6:30 pm – Choir (MR)</p>	<p>28 9:30 am – LOF Chapel (S) 10:00 am - Women's Bible Study (FH)</p>	<p>29 8:00 am – Rummage Sale and Bake Sale (FH) 5:00 - Saturday Service (S)</p>

Beginning Tuesday January 11, 9:00 – 10:30 AM Bible Study “Heaven & Hell”

Our Winter Bible study this year begins the second Tuesday in January. Couples and singles are welcome. We will meet in Faith’s Disciple Room.

Every Christian has already heard about heaven and hell, right? What more does God want to teach us? Come and see as Susan and Randy Taylor lead our study.

This Bible - based study will be held over about 10 – 12 weeks. Please note that the “start time” each Tuesday is 9:00 AM. We plan to finish by 10:30 AM but may run over a bit depending on the interest and discussion each week. Finishing before 11:00 AM will help members who have commitments later on Tuesday mornings.

Thank you for your generous contributions each month to the LWML Mite Money collections. Quarterly our collection is sent to the District and National treasurer. The amount is divided so that the mission grants voted on at the National and District Conventions can be met. Already three National mission grants of \$100,00.00 have been distributed. Our total for the year is \$1468.50. That is fantastic! Please plan to continue contributing each month in the large purple and white box in the Narthex the first weekend of the month. Every Mite (penny) counts!

Hello Faith Family –

Psalm 98:1 “Sing to the LORD a new song, for He has done marvelous things; His right hand and His holy arm have worked salvation for Him.”

The weeks following Advent and Christmas seem to be a melancholic transition for some of us. We leave behind us the wonderful season of decorations, joyful and festive music, an abundance of gifts and gift giving, the birth of Jesus, time with friends and family, and goodwill amongst everyone. We are given the blessed gift to look forward to another season of caroling and spirited celebrations a year from now, yet, as we wind down from the emotional high of Advent and Christmas, some of us may experience those “Post-Christmas Blues” ...

A few weeks before Christmas, I was reminded of a simple statement about being a church worker: we make a difference in the lives of our congregations through the *Message*, *Music*, and *Ministry*. The *Message* can bring comfort to the weary or to provoke the complacent. The *Music* provides an avenue for the heart, mind, and soul to connect to themselves and to the hearts of others. The *Ministry* allows us to express and share our faith and good works with others.

So how can we utilize *Music* to wane us out of those Post-Christmas Blues? Although we are beyond the season of gift-giving, this does not mean we have to stop serving our fellow brothers and sisters in Christ. As I look towards the coming weeks, I am reminded of the text to the hymn “You Call Us, Lord”:

You call us, Lord, to be a people set apart, to feel with thoughtful mind and think with tender heart. You call us, Lord, to care for self and neighbor too, to take the risk, and dare to show what love can do. Thus chosen, now, O Lord, we ask for faith in Your unfailing grace to make us equal to the task. (2003 Worship & Rejoice Hymnal #583)

Hymns, like the one above, are succinct reminders that although we may be beyond the “Season of Goodwill towards all” we must constantly, thoroughly, and lovingly serve our brothers and sisters as Christ taught us. These reminders through our songs can help balance out our holiday and seasonal emotions.

Serve your brothers and sisters and come before Him with a song.

Blessings,
Matthew



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



FAITH
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Naples, Florida

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