

# May 2018

## Faith Lutheran Church

### NEWSLETTER

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Pastor: Rev. Christopher Natan Sperb

*Glorifying God the Father and filled with the Holy Spirit, we celebrate our relationship with Jesus and invite others to join our celebration.*

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#### **Ascension—Pentecost—40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

This year, the month of May brings us three important celebrations: The Ascension of Our Lord (May 10), The Day of Pentecost (May 20), and the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of our Congregation (May 20). Undoubtedly, they are very distinct events, but they are importantly connected as well.

When we think about the Ascension of our Lord Jesus, we may wonder: “Why didn’t Jesus remain on earth instead of ascending into heaven? If Jesus were with us, we could ask Him questions and see His miracles. Life and faith would be so much easier!” Jesus has an answer for us. He said, “*It is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper shall not come to you. But if I go, I will send Him to you*” (John 16:7). The “Helper” Jesus is talking about is the Holy Spirit. He was sent to the disciples on the Day of Pentecost, fifty days after Jesus’ resurrection. And He continues to come to us today through God’s Word, when we hear/read it and when it’s given to us in our Baptism and the Lord’s Supper. God’s Word is the only way God has chosen and promised to send us His Holy Spirit, so that we “*may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing [we] may have life in his name*” (John 20:31).

Our Triune God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—has been with Faith Lutheran Church during these forty years of existence. The words spoken by Moses to the People of Israel as they were entering the Promised Land are very fitting for this important milestone of our congregation: “*The LORD your God has blessed you in all the work of your hands. He knows your going through this great wilderness. These forty years the LORD your God has been with you. You have lacked nothing*” (Deuteronomy 2:7).

Therefore, the focus of our anniversary commemoration should be on the many blessings and faithfulness of God through Christ. Remember that the ascended Lord Jesus has been and continues to be the Lord of this congregation; He has redeemed the congregation’s past by his grace and mercy and he will do so for the future generations; and the Holy Spirit will carry on His blessed work in us through God’s Word faithfully proclaimed and received in the Sacraments.

A blessed Ascension, Pentecost, and 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration to all!

In His Service,  
Pastor Christopher Sperb

## Director of Christian Education

Summer is Near!

We had a wonderful month of April studying the Big Words of the Bible; Atonement, Sanctification, Redemption, and Reconciliation. Also, we want to thank the congregation for coming out to our 3rd Annual Easter Breakfast. It was a spectacular morning full of worship, fellowship, and delicious food. We look forward to the month of May with Mr. Todd back in the States and learning about apologetics. You don't want to miss out on this wonderful time of community. Come join us on Friday nights at 7:00 pm in the fellowship hall! Also, look out for more information about playing ultimate frisbee in our field with the young adults! All youth, parents, and young adults are welcome to join us!

The Young Adults had a splendid month of April. We learned about two wisdom books of the Bible and went on a very adventurous hike at Catocin. We look forward to the month of May with another hike and two small group gatherings. All young adults are welcome to join us! Not on the email list? Send Meghan O'Hara your email address to [dce@faithmd.org](mailto:dce@faithmd.org). Hope you can join us for these wonderful times together!

### GAHU

5/4 - GAHU Gathering @ 7:00 pm

YW Servant Event Meeting @ 9:00 pm

5/6 - Ultimate Frisbee with YAM @ 12:30 pm

(Lunch provided)

5/11 - GAHU Gathering @ 7:00 pm

5/18 - GAHU Gathering @ 7:00 pm

Last High School Time (MENCHIES) @ 9:00 pm

5/25 - GAHU Gathering @ 7:00pm

### YAM

5/5 - Hiking Loch Raven Reservoir @ 9:00 am

5/8 - Small Group @ 7:30 pm

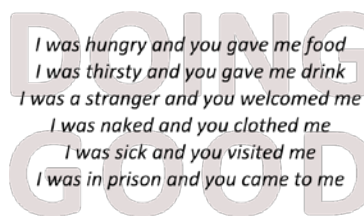
5/22 - Small Group @ 7:30 pm

**Meghan O'Hara**



## Small Group Ministry

31 "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on his glorious throne. 32 Before him will be gathered all the nations, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. 33 And he will place the sheep on his right, but the goats on the left. 34 Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. 35 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, 36 I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.' 37 Then the righteous will answer him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? 38 And when did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? 39 And when did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?' 40 And the King will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.'" (Matthew 25:31-40 ESV)



What of the 5 Practices (maybe not all of them) do you find present in Matthew 25?

- Seeking the Kingdom
- Hearing from Jesus
- Talking with People
- Doing Good
- Ministering Through Prayer

How is Jesus calling you to do good to another?

<http://joiningjesus50daydevotional.blogspot.com/2014/12/day-46-of-50.html>

**WHY JOIN A SMALL GROUP? Join one to have FELLOWSHIP with other brothers and sisters in Christ, SERVE together, and LEARN how God is working in and through you!** Need more information? Contact DCE Meghan O'Hara via email at [dce@faithmd.org](mailto:dce@faithmd.org) or by phone at (410) 795-8082 ext 204 if you would like to get INVOLVED. We hope that you consider this opportunity to grow in your faith and with fellow members of our church family.

## Worship Ministry

### *Made Alive*

#### Verse 1

I once was dead in sin alone and hopeless, A child of wrath  
I walked condemned in darkness

But Your mercy brought new life, And in Your love and  
kindness, Raised me up with Christ and made me righteous.

#### Chorus

You have bought me back with the riches of, Your amazing  
grace and relentless love, I'm made alive forever with You  
life forever, By Your grace I'm saved, (By Your grace I'm  
saved)

CCLI Song # 6534390 Brian Eichelberger | Zach Bolen © 2013 E On The Eye Chart (Admin. by Music Services, Inc.) Erase And Rewind (Admin. by Music Services, Inc.) Songs From The Penalty Box (Admin. by Music Services, Inc.) We Are Younger We Are Faster Music (Admin. by Music services, Inc.) For use solely with the SongSelect. Terms of Use. All rights reserved. ww.ccli.com  
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As the beauty of spring emerges all around us, it is hard to imagine that the splendor of the blossoming trees and flowers are just a twisted ugly shadow of the original creation before sin entered the world. How marvelous and grand the perfection in heaven must be! While spring is renewal here on earth, we can look forward to renewal in our heavenly bodies. Through Jesus, in His life, death and resurrection, we have been made alive. By His love and grace, we truly are saved!

Please join us May 6<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> as we continue to celebrate the season of Easter at 8:00 and 10:45. Then come as we celebrate the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Faith Lutheran Church at one service on Pentecost, May 20<sup>th</sup> at 9:00. Both the adult and children's choirs will be joining us as well as other special music. We will then return to our regular service schedule on May 27<sup>th</sup> as we continue with the season of Pentecost.

May you always have God's word in your heart and a song of praise on your lips!

Connie Simmons

## Lutheran Hour Ministries

### *Children's Booklets from LHM*

LHM children's booklets are ideal to use for Vacation Bible School, fairs and festivals, classrooms, holidays, outreach and more! Give one to a neighbor or friend. Anyone can use these fun and colorful booklets to discuss prayer, how to share their faith, and more – each in a way kids will understand and remember.

The following is a list on the booklets available...

### Let's Be Disciples

Jesus' first disciples were ordinary people like you and me. He called and they followed. He taught and they listened and learned. As God loved the world through His Son, He loves the world now through us. We can all be His disciples and spread the Good News of Jesus.

### Do You Know Who Jesus Is?

This booklet is geared towards pre-school to third-grade children. It is written in rhyme to teach children the answer to the question, "Who is Jesus?"

### Sharing Your Faith

This booklet is geared towards pre-school to 3rd grade children. This children's book is full of fun rhymes for youngsters (and parents). It reminds readers that both words and actions are part of telling others about Jesus.

### Learning to Pray

This booklet is geared towards pre-school to third-grade children. It is written in rhyme to teach and encourage children (and Parents) to spend time with God in prayer.

### The Easter Story

This Easter children story book is about Jesus' life on earth. Watch Him as He enters Jerusalem, speaks with His disciples, is betrayed, arrested and, eventually, crucified.

### The Christmas Journey

This Christmas children story book is about God's expedition to earth as the Babe of Bethlehem. Enjoy this little booklet as it rhymes its way through the Nativity story of Jesus' birth.

### The Bully

This booklet is geared towards pre-school to 2nd grade children. This children's story book is about a boy affected by bullying. Enjoy this little booklet as it rhymes its way through David's story at school.

These booklets are available in packs of 25. If you would like copies, please contact me.

John Baker

[johnnab@comcast.net](mailto:johnnab@comcast.net) , 410-465-8558 or at the late service

## Women's Ministry Team

### "Daughters Of The King" Women's Ministry Update

In May of 2017 several ladies of the congregation prayerfully gathered to begin making plans for an exciting new ministry at Faith, a women's ministry now known as "Daughters of the King." It's hard to believe it's already been a year since that momentous occasion! This ministry is off to an amazing start and we invite you to join us in celebrating this important milestone!



### Monthly Women's Ministry Gathering: One Year Anniversary Celebration and Bridal Shower for Meghan O'Hara

**Saturday, May 19th  
9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.**

As you may know, Meghan O'Hara, our Director of Christian Education, is getting married this summer and will be moving to St. Louis thereafter. Because Meghan has played such an integral role in our Daughters of the King ministry, we'd like to take the opportunity to honor her with a bridal shower during our Gathering this month. Please see the church bulletin for more details regarding this exciting event!

If you are interested in contributing to or helping out with this event, please contact Kim Schlauch (kimschlauch@gmail.com).



## Missions Ministry Team

This month's Highlighted Mission Envelope effort will be in support of:

### Tender Care Pregnancy Centers, Inc.



TCPC believes that every woman who experiences an unplanned pregnancy desires to feel loved and supported. No woman should feel so alone, so coerced, so hopeless that she feels her only option is to abort. They believe the women in Carroll County need the services of Tender Care Pregnancy Centers to love and support them through their pregnancies. Centers are also located in Hanover and Gettysburg, PA.

Tender Care's mission is to provide safe, nonjudgmental care to individuals with pregnancy related concerns in the hopes of a positive choice. They provide pregnancy testing and verifications, limited 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> OB ultrasounds, options counseling, parenting classes, material assistance, and community referrals. TCPC is a faith-based non-profit (501(c) 3) organization committed to serving Christ in the community. See first-hand what is done through this organization by visiting them at \*95 Carroll Street in Westminster. They will give you a tour and explain their services.

Our Prayer Shawl Ministry is also contributing various handmade items for the babies and mothers who participate in their programs.

*Our congregation was able to share our blessings with Marriage & Relationship Education Center by donating \$855.00 for the month of March 2018.*



### Friday, May 11<sup>th</sup> - Secret Keeper Girl Masterpiece World Tour

A special one-night show created to connect Moms and tweens. Through music, games, and teaching, you'll pray, play and grow closer together while focusing on inner beauty and Godly characteristics. Volunteers are needed for this high-energy event! Register online at [www.mrecenter.org](http://www.mrecenter.org)

## National Day of Prayer



On **Thursday, May 3rd**, Faith Lutheran Church will commemorate the 66th annual National Day of Prayer, "Pray for America - Unity," based on Ephesians 4:3. **The church will hold an open**

**house from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.** At 12:00 noon Pastor Sperb will join other religious leaders of many faiths, throughout the nation, by simultaneously reading a special prayer written by Dr. Ronnie Floyd. Shortly after the Prayer Service, we are planning to show the movie "The Case for Christ." The church will also provide an evangelism table with handouts; prayer stations will be in the Sanctuary, and light refreshments will be available. There is no cost to attend the event.

## LCEF Sunday

### (Lutheran Church Extension Fund)



Next month we will lift up the ministry partnership of Lutheran Church Extension Fund (LCEF) on **LCEF Sunday, May 6<sup>th</sup>**. This year's theme "Grounded in Faith" will highlight the partnerships that LCEF makes possible by investors just like you.

As an example, through a partnership with LCEF, in the inner-city of Baltimore, Md., Faith and Work Enterprises has started a very unique ministry and outreach program of work force development in the form of manufacturing "Be Blessed" chocolate bars. This new ministry as well as many others, have begun largely with the support of LCEF. These chocolate bars and a bag of "This is Most Certainly Brew" ground coffee were given to your LCEF Advocate as a thank you for hosting LCEF Sunday. Just as coffee and chocolate pair perfectly together, so do LCEF and LCMS ministries.

LCEF strives to stay **grounded** in its mission to be the preferred provider for loans, support services and investment opportunities. By supporting LCEF with your investment, LCEF can continue to support ministries across the country. Visit the LCEF display in the narthex, or speak with your LCEF Advocate, Pastor Sperb, on May 6<sup>th</sup> for additional details.

## Mother's Day Brunch



Please join us as we celebrate our 5th annual Mother's Day Brunch on **Saturday, May 12th**, check in begins at 9:30 a.m. with brunch from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Cost is \$5.00 per person. Any questions please contact Debbie Foster- [Fostersykesville@aol.com](mailto:Fostersykesville@aol.com) or call 410-967-1770

## FLC 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration



Come and join us on **Sunday, May 20<sup>th</sup>** to help celebrate our **40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary** as we gather together to praise God for all He has done through the ministry here at Faith Lutheran Church. There will be one Worship service at 9:00 a.m., followed by a celebration luncheon at 11:00 a.m. held in the fellowship hall. Sunday school for children and adults will not be held on that Sunday. Please sign up on the sign-up sheet located in the narthex, and include the number of people attending. We hope you are able to join us for this very special celebration.

## Vacation Bible School



**June 25<sup>th</sup> - 29<sup>th</sup>**  
**9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.**

Strap on your life jacket and get ready for a rip-roaring river ride with Splash Canyon (Concordia Publishing).

Children will see that life is full of thrills and spills; we may not know what's around the bend, but God does! Kids discover that Jesus is God's promise on life's wild ride. *"For all the promises of God find their Yes in Him."* **2 Corinthians 1:20. Registration is now open!**

Please visit our website to reserve your spot on the adventure! [www.faithlutheraneldersburg.com](http://www.faithlutheraneldersburg.com)



## Youth Sunday School Mission Statement

Making Christ the center of each lesson, we will teach the children the Gospel message of Jesus Christ, show enthusiasm for Jesus so they will want to share it with others, and make the Gospel message relevant to every age or level of learning.

### Sunday School

**Sunday School Opening begins promptly at 9:30 a.m.**

Please join us as we continue our new interactive opening. Connie and Ben Simmons continue to enrich us as we prepare our children to be a special part of our worship service with their voices.

### Sunday School Envelopes

The 2018 Sunday School envelopes have been distributed or placed in your mailbox. Please remember to continue bringing in your offering to support our mission

### **Ages 3, Pre-K and K “FaithWeaver Now”**

Weaving faith into today’s families NOW.

### **Grades 1-8 “Growing in Christ”**

The Spring quarter will focus on “God Creates a World and a People.”

**High School  
Ephesians: The Church: God’s Servant**



### Sunday School Missions

Our Compassion International child has completed the program. Our collections will be divided between the following programs.

\*2018 Servant Event Youth Works program to send materials for children when our Servant Event team goes this summer.  
<https://www.youthworks.com>

\*Concordia Day Care and Community Center in Bangkok, Thailand.  
<http://www.cwefthailand.org/concordia-day-care--community-center.html>.

\* Holy Trinity Institute (Instituto Santíssima Trindade).  
<https://www.facebook.com/santissimatrindade/>

As well as supporting these programs to help children, we hope the children will see the connection to our brothers and sisters around the world.

### Spring Adult Bible Study Classes

#### Luther’s Catechisms

**Pastor Sperb**  
(Sanctuary)

#### Christian Financial Management

**By Dave Ramsey**

**Bruce Otto and Stephen Giguere**  
(Modular)