

FAITH MATTERS

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RADIO BROADCAST SUNDAYS 8 A.M. **KDUZ 1260 AM**

TV BROADCAST CABLE CH. 10 SUNDAYS 10 A.M. AND 5 P.M. TUESDAYS 5 P.M. THURSDAYS 10 P.M.

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Doctrine gets a bad rap.

It's easy for us to get excited about Jesus, about life in Christ, and about Christian community. We enjoy worship, fellowship, and even service. We get fired up for missional causes, and we devote ourselves to prayer. But doctrine...

boring: it's a set of ideas or beliefs that are taught or believed to be true.

But don't let the repetition and definition of doctrine fool you! There is nothing more exciting than diving deeper into God's relationship with us! There is nothing more relevant than gaining a deeper knowledge of who we are and who God is! There is nothing more important than understanding how we are saved! And there is nothing the world needs more than informed witnesses for the gospel!

Have I convinced you yet? If so, and suddenly you have a hunger to know more about this incredible faith God has given you, then you are in luck! This year, during our Wednesday Lenten services, we will be asking that classic Lutheran catechism question, "What does this mean?" We'll be exploring the deep theological discoveries and ideas that make up the Reformation Gospel.

So we'll be delving into deep, theological questions like:

How am I saved? What is original sin? How, then, should we live? Why do I still struggle with sin? And much more!

So we encourage you to join us on this Lenten journey, as we gain a deeper understanding of Jesus' work on the cross, for us. So join us as we kick off this theme on Ash Wednesday, March 1, at noon or 6:30 p.m. Then join us each Wednesday night afterwards, at 6:30, as we enjoy partnering with CTK and St. Matthews for another round-robin, diving into these themes. There's something for everyone: hymns, praise songs, deep meditation, and even some laughs. We also encourage you to seize the opportunity to hash out these deep doctrines further by joining a Faith Group during Lent!

So dig deeper! Embrace the doctrine! Unleash your inner nerd! Discover how deep the Father's love is for us!



See you in church! Pastor Dave



- *Q:* Why did Jesus have to die in order to save us? Couldn't God have done it by his divine power?
- A: This is one of the most perplexing questions in Christian history. That is partly because the New Testament authors made little effort to answer it. St. Paul provides some interesting hints in passages like

Romans 3:23-26 or II Corinthians 5:21. For the most part, though, the early church simply testified that Jesus' death occurred and that it worked. For his sake, God forgives us and saves us.

Starting early in church history, theologians have written various "theories of the atonement," but that is all they are—theories. There is likely some truth in all of them, but a certainty that no one of them is the explanation.

Martin Luther refers to most of those theories at various times, but his main conviction was that it is impossible for us to understand the strategy of God the Father that led to the Incarnation, crucifixion and resurrection of the Son. Rather than trying to figure out what happened "up there," we should focus instead on what Jesus said and did "down here."

So, Luther focused on the Biblical promises of what Jesus' death accomplished for us and did not speculate about "how" or "why" it happened the way it did. That is all we can really know, because it is all God has revealed to us—but it is enough. To know that "for our sake, (God the Father) made him to be sin who knew no sin (Jesus the Son), so that in him we might become the righteousness of God" (II Corinthians 5:21) makes the "how" and "why" moot points. In Christ Jesus, forgiveness of sin and salvation has been achieved, and by Word and Sacrament, those benefits are handed over to *you.* Beyond that, what more could we possibly need to hear?

SENIORS' SCENE

by Pastor Paulus Pilgrim

Forget the cold weather, it'll be nice where we're going for SENIORS' POTLUCK this month. Pack your suitcase and be sure your passport is up to date. WE'RE GOING TO ENGLAND AND IRELAND! Yay! I'm so excited!

What's it cost? Just a dish to pass and something in the offering basket on the dinner table. So mark your calendar and plan to join this special adventure on Thursday, March 30, beginning with potluck dinner at 12:00 noon.

Actually, we're going to England and Ireland through the eyes, pictures and commentary of David and Maureen Franzen. They recently made that trip and agreed to share their adventure with us. We're certain to have fun, and learn something new.

So plan to come, plan to bring someone new with you. Bring someone who will be uplifted by fellowship with all of us, by a brief devotion, and sitting back to enjoy traveling through a couple of countries many of us have never seen.

e you at SENIORS POTLUCK

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Christian Life Management

Dr. Harry Wendt, author of the *Crossways* Bible study, has an interesting perspective on stewardship, which is really Christian Life Management (CLM). He emphasizes two aspects of it. First, he urges Christians to keep their bodies healthy and their minds engaged in learning *so that* we are able to serve others for Jesus' sake. We maintain our health and strength the best we can, not for our own sake or even for God's sake, but so that we are able to be instruments of God's love for the world.

The other aspect of Dr. Wendt's CLM thinking concerns Christian giving. He insists there is no such thing, because we cannot give to God. God made it all and still owns it all. The possessions he entrusts to us are not really ours, because we did not bring them into the world and we will leave them all behind when we die. So, instead of asking, "How much should I give to God?" and then consider all the rest to be mine, Wendt says we should ask, "How much of what God has entrusted to me do I need for daily living?" and then consider how I can put the rest to work for God's mission in the world!

Imagine Capital Campaign

We have entered the third and last year of the *Imagine* capital campaign, and it started with a bang. Thanks to the generous support of the congregation and with the cooperation of our lender, Thrivent Financial, the church was able to make an *additional* principal payment of *\$212,000*! That will reduce the amount of the mortgage to about \$1.75 million and the length of the loan by nearly ten years. *Thank You* so much for your faithful support as we pursue the goal of paying off the loan by Faith's 150th Anniversary in 2020. That would be a full 15 years early and a great cause for celebration!

Music Notes

We've got a lot of exciting things coming up this month in Faith's music ministry. Compline will meet on March 5 at 7:00 p.m., and as we move forward it will continue to be held on the first Sunday of each month. Both the choir and bell choir will appear in services, and both continue to eagerly welcome any interested newcomers. Faith Singers will be participating in the Foundation Service on April 2 and helping to lead worship there – so if you typically attend that service and are curious about the choir, this would be the perfect time to come check it out! Finally, working with the FLY Band over the past month has been an inspiring and empowering experience for all involved. We are continuing to grow as an ensemble, and very soon will be helping to lead worship beyond youth night. Stay tuned!





FLY BAND

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Digging Deeper Options

Dig a little deeper into your faith and see how you can grow! Pick a class and plug in.
This series of classes will run Sundays, from March 5 - April 9 at 9:15 a.m.

Table Talk for the Twenty-first Century

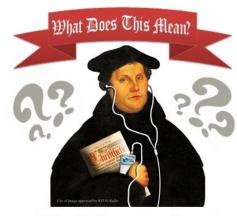
Martin Luther wrote, taught, and preached. He and Katie also welcomed many people into their home for conversation on matters of faith. His witness includes these informal times of sharing recorded as *Table Talks*. It is likely, however, that Luther was the main one doing the talking.

Today in our wired world it would seem everyone sees themselves as authorities and willing to expound endlessly on how they view the world and our place in it. Os Guinness, a faithful witness of our times asks us this question: "Are Christians ready for this new age? We, who are followers of Jesus stand as witnesses to the truth and the meaning of the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus as central to our calling. We are spokespersons for our Lord, and advocacy is in our genes." (from his book, *Fools Talk*)

Could there be new things to learn and various approaches for effective witness in this wired world? We will explore these matters making use of excerpts from Guinness' book. Come prepared for interaction.

Lenten Faith Group

You can join this group on Sunday's and be a part of a Faith Group before or after you worship. Watch a brief video starring your favorite pastors and then dig into some thought provoking theological questions on the Reformation Gospel.



The Reformation Gospel



The What and Why of Worship

What is the Kyrie? Why is there confession and absolution every week? Where did we get the creeds? How does Holy Communion work? Dig deeper into the elements that make up Christian worship and what they mean, to see how worship supports and shapes our faith.

Faith Lutheran Church Ministry Team and Council Members for 2017

Names in Bold are on the Church Council as well as a Ministry Team

<u>Church in the World Team:</u> Bill Petersen, Dean Winter, Tiffany Waller, Emma Wollan, Katie Brecht, Ken Holler, Kay Karg, Mollie Terlinden <u>Congregational Life Team:</u> Joy May, Marlys Miller, Sue Alrick, Jolene Mielke, Bonnie Knorr, Erika Kellen <u>Discipleship Team:</u> Cheryl Buboltz, Andrew Weckwerth,

Dick Lennes, Sandy Lennes, Kent Jacobson, Tessa Ewert, Lynne Lange, Christina Weckwerth Management Team: Niki Pokornowski (President), Wade Eastman (Vice President),

Ron Anderson (Treasurer), Jan Kreie (Secretary), Dave Westlund, Roger Tiede

Children, Youth and Family Team: Jon Kamrath, Dan Moe, Jodi DeMeyer, Angie Elton, Kevin Elton, Brooke Frusti, Tom Gifferson, Donna Moe Worship Team: Amanda Schueler, Megan Piehl, John Muske, Shelly Kirchoff, Carl Horton, Sherry Schuetz, Doreen Ziegler, Melissa Bradford

THANK YOU ALL FOR CERVING

THANK YOU ALL FOR SERVING!

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BACKPACK PROGRAM

Cost per week = \$1,000

Students served each week = 212

Remaining weeks in this school year = 15

Hunger Free funds remaining = \$13,000

Total expense remaining for this school year = \$15,000

Cost per student per week = \$5

Hutchinson

105 Second Avenue SW Suite #2 Hutchinson, MN 55350 320-587-2213

<u>Glencoe</u>

925 13th Street East Glencoe, MN 55336 320-864-5511

Website: www.common-cup.org



LENTEN REQUEST

Once again we have asked each member church has been asked to select one of the items from the backpack list and collect as much of that item as possible during Lent. Faith Lutheran has again selected the fruit/applesauce cups. In order to provide each child with one fruit cup and one applesauce cup for the remainder of the school year, we will need to collect 500 six packs of applesauce and 750 four packs of fruit cups. Please consider helping provide these needed items for the children of McLeod County.

Donations can be placed in the tote in either Common Cup Corner.

HELP SUPPORT THE "BACK PACK" **PROGRAM**



Annual 5K Walk/Run will take place on Saturday, May 13, at Masonic West River Park in Hutchinson. Registration forms are available in the church office, CCM office, or on the CCM website.

Community

Meal @ FLC

Sunday, March 5

4-6 p.m.

Fare for All Delivery

Thursday, March 30

4:00 - 5:30 p.m.

At the CCM Office



The Summer Feeding Program is looking for a Coordinator (this is a stipend position) for 12-15 weeks beginning May/June and running through mid-August. Hours are 10:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Monday - Friday. If interested, please contact Bev Bonte at the Common Cup office for more information or to apply.

Thrivent Action Plans

Have you heard of Thrivent Actions Plans? If you are a member of Thrivent Financial, you are eligible to sponsor two each year. It is a simple online application that you need to fill out. Then Thrivent will send you a \$250 card to use as "Seed Money" for an event or activity. This money can be used for fundraising events, educational events and other church/community activities. This year, we will run a monthly list of different opportunities at Faith that could use sponsorship. If you are a Thrivent Member, please contact the office if you are willing to sponsor one of these events. Please note that it can take a couple of weeks for this to be processed through Thrivent, so you will want to apply early for these events.

Coming up in March and April: Community Meals, Hunger Free Fruit, Faith Family Fun Activities, Mugs and Muffins, Compline, Release Time Celebration, Easter Breakfast, HEY Speaker, FLY leader meeting, and High School Free Lunch.





Faith Matters

Women's MINISTRY

Faith Lutheran Church Women

Only a little over a month to go! The FLCW Annual Rummage Sale will be April 27-29 this year. Donating to this event is a great way to support women's ministries at Faith and clean your house at the same time. Some new additions this year will include an outdoor garden area and a bistro for your dining pleasure while shopping.







Mugs and Muffins

Saturday, March 18 at 9:30 a.m. Bring a Mug and Bring a Friend, we'll take care of the rest. Speaker: Wendy Magruder



New Lenten Faith Group Study

(A Seven Week Series beginning March 1)

The Lenten Faith Groups are beginning! You can still join a group and dig into the Reformation Gospel. New this year is a large group meeting in the Faith Center to watch the weekly DVD on Wednesday's after worship. Then the group will break down into smaller discussion groups Plan to join us! You can also contact Marsha for more information on how to get plugged into a group: 587-2093 or marshas@faithlc.com.





The Reformation Gospel

Lenten Services and Themes

All services are at 6:30 p.m. unless otherwise noted.

March 1 (Ash Wednesday) - services at 12 noon and 6:30 p.m. with Holy Communion and Imposition of Ashes ~ Theme: Bondage of the Will March 8 - with confirmation following ~ Theme: Vocation and the Two

March 15 - Theme: Justification by Faith and the Freedom of a Christian

March 22 - with confirmation following ~ Theme: Law and Gospel

March 29 - with confirmation following ∼ Theme: Election

April 5 - with confirmation following ~ Theme: Simul iustus et peccator April 13 (Maundy Thursday) - services at 6 and 7:30 p.m. with Holy Communion (the first for sixth grade students) ~ Theme: Priesthood of all Believers



Thoughts and Prayers

Please remember all those who are serving our country through active duty:

Lance Corporal Colin Bos (Marines, Quantico, VA son of Dawn Bos)

Sgt. Jason Gaulke (El Paso, TX - nephew of Alice Fransen)

Andrew Hantge (Navy, Virginia Beach, VA - son of Marsha Schmit and Robert Hantge)

Mason Rutledge (Navy, Norfolk, VA - son of Lenny and Patti

TSgt Patrick Scharn (Air Force, Qatar - husband of Elizabeth Scharn)

Col. Rob Skaar (Duluth Air National Guard - son of Dave & Marian Skaar)

LTJG Brett Stadsklev (Navy, Norfolk, VA - son-in-law of Judy and Tom Felber)

Nathan Thunstrom (Marines, San Diego, CA - son of Andy & Shelly Hedin and grandson of Dennis & Barb Hedin)

Faith Lutheran Church **INFORMATION & STAFF DIRECTORY**

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Keith Lange, Maintenance	
Jim Brodd, Custodial Services Coordinator	brodd@hutchtel.net



Remember our Faith members in nursing homes & health care centers

Cedar Crest - Cosmos

Patricia Lambert

Cedar Crest - Silver Lake

Bernice Vorbeck

Cokato Manor

Patricia Paulson

Cottagewood (Buffalo)

Eleanor Lack

Dassel Lakeside

Doris Betker

Glencoe Nursing Home

Kathryn Wendlandt

Harmony River

Valerie Fimon

Ruth Hackbarth

Dave & Betty Jensen

Joanne Olesen

Harold Sanken

Harvey Skorheim

Charlie & Harriet Thor

Prairie Senior Cottages

Pat Fimon

Prairie View (Hector)

Jerome Lindquist

Woodstone

Don Fitzgerald

Betty Garberich

Lucille Yukel

Faith Matters

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OUR MISSION IS:

BUILDING FAITH

"EQUIP THE SAINTS FOR THE WORK OF MINISTRY, FOR BUILDING UP THE BODY OF CHRIST" EPHESIANS 4:12

TO LIVE OUT THAT MISSION, GOD CALLS US TO:

FOLLOW JESUS

ANNOUNCE THE GOSPEL INVITE ALL PEOPLE

> TEACH CHRISTIAN TRUTH HELP ALL WHO ARE IN NEED