

APRIL 2018

Faith Matters

Pastors' Page



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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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He is Risen!

He is Risen indeed!

Right? Right!?

Holy Week is the most important time of the year. **If you are reading this before Holy Week, make it an absolute priority to immerse yourself in the powerful worship services during this amazing week.** The events of Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday were history altering. Resurrection Day-Easter Sunday- is the crown. The risen Christ, busting out of the grave, and bringing us with him, is the most amazing news ever to be proclaimed!

He is risen!

He is risen, isn't he?

I mean, rising from the dead-that's not an everyday occurrence. It kind of defies everything we know about human biology. People don't just climb out of the grave after a few days. And yet, our faith absolutely depends on this seemingly impossible claim. *"If Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation has been in vain and your faith has been in vain,"* St. Paul declares in 1 Corinthians 15:14. When it comes to the resurrection, it's all or nothing. If someone discovered the remains of Jesus, Christianity falls.

So can we rely on the resurrection?

And for that matter, can we rely on the Bible that tells us about the resurrection, or the church that preaches the resurrection? What about other religions? What about science?

These are great questions, vitally important questions. Because if we can't answer these questions, or, as Paul declares, *"If for this life we have only hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied."* -1 Cor. 15:19

If you have asked these questions, or if you have been asked these questions, then our Spring Faith Group series is perfect for you! Join us after Easter for "If We Have Only Hoped in Christ: The Reliability of the Gospel," as we examine these questions and more.

So come! Come and question, come and worship, and come and grow. Then you can come to the conclusion, that *"in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died. For since death came through a human being, the resurrection of the dead has also come through a human being; for as all die in Adam, so all will be made alive in Christ."* - 1 Cor. 15:20-22.

See you in church!
Pastor Dave

Stump the pastor

Q: As we go through Holy Week, is the death or the resurrection of Jesus more important?

A: That question has arisen throughout Christian history. Some Christian denominations tend to emphasize one more than the other or to pit one against the other. The question, however, is a bit like asking whether the front

or the back of a coin is more important. The two cannot be separated and provide value only when they are kept together.

Without the resurrection, the cross would only have been the abject defeat that Jesus' enemies declared it to be. Without the cross, the resurrection would have been meaningless, merely a mirage or a charade.

As it is, the resurrection was God the Father's stamp of approval on everything Jesus said and did, including especially his death on the cross. The resurrection did not overturn or dismiss the cross, but validated it. The *crucified* Jesus was raised from the dead and only by his death was death's power destroyed in the resurrection. It is only in Christ Jesus, crucified *and* risen, that our hope is genuine and our salvation secure.

SENIORS' SCENE

Our April **Seniors' Potluck** meeting is **Thursday, April 26**, beginning with potluck dinner at 12:00 noon as usual. We hope that warmer weather will clear up the ice and packed snow under foot, so we can make our way to this meeting more safely. If not, please be careful.

Our program for this meeting is to hear from Dr. Steven Mulder, who is the administrator of Hutchinson Health. When we experience illness or injury, we need a health care system to help us through it, and to experience the best avenues toward recovery. We need advocates for healthy living, hopefully to help us avoid at least some of the illnesses we could otherwise encounter. Only God Himself can heal, of course, but we pray for helpful servants, therapies and medications He can use to bring us healing. I hope we remember to pray for doctors, nurses, dietitians, ambulance personnel, therapists and all who do their best to serve us with kindness as well as expertise. No health care system is perfect, though some people seem to expect that. I always remember a doctor I know well saying, "Medical practice is not a precise science," meaning that being a doctor, surgeon, etc., is filled with a fair amount of guesswork. We are often amazed, or sometimes disappointed, at outcomes of surgery, prescriptions, etc.

Dr. Mulder will update us on what's happening at Hutchinson Health. He can also answer questions about current programs, and perhaps future developments to serve us even better. Come with your questions and with a new friend you think Seniors' Potluck can serve through good food and good fellowship, all centered in our Lord Jesus. "See you at Seniors' Potluck."

BLESS THE YEARS Sunday is coming! As always, it is on the first Sunday in May, **May 6**. We'll reveal some faith servants in "Spotlight on Seniors" for 2018, and highlight seniors' contributions to our Faith Lutheran family, together with Seniors' needs and trials. At "Digging Deeper" on that day, we'll have our intergenerational "**Mingle Box**," organized by our Congregational Life Team. Seniors will be a significant part of each worship service through ushering, welcoming, assisting with communion, even acolyting, lesson reading, and the sermon. We're hoping to get a Seniors Choir up and running again, just for this worship service, and possibly an intergenerational number together with young children. On the surface, it is a celebration of our elders. In the trenches, it becomes a symbol of how we as a congregation, touch people of all ages, minister to and with our senior citizens. May God bless us as we celebrate seniors.



Spotlight on Aging

It was a windy, gray cold afternoon when I had the privilege of being invited to the home of Maynard and Shirley Holtz. We sat in the living room visiting like old friends until the coffee had finished brewing and then moved into the dining room to enjoy, like all good Lutherans, coffee and dessert as they began to share their journey of Faith.

Shirley grew up on a farm between Buffalo Lake and Hector. She attended eight years of country school and graduated from Buffalo Lake High School. She was baptized, confirmed and married in a country church in Brookfield township, southeast of Cosmos. When Shirley was 12, she was asked to play piano for Sunday School and at age 14, right after confirmation, she started playing organ for church services, a job she held for the next seven years.



Maynard was born in Litchfield and attended country school in the Forest City area. The Korean conflict was happening when he graduated from Litchfield High School and he chose to enlist in the Navy instead of waiting to be drafted. Completing his four years of service, Maynard found his way to 3M, where Shirley already had her office job. It took a week for Shirley to notice that new employee in blackrock and it was love at first sight. First date, engagement and wedding bells all occurred within a few months. They knew from the start they were made for each other. After sixty years of marriage, the family has grown - three children, Keith and Cindy, Debra and Scott, and Craig and Kay. There are eight grandchildren and five great granddaughters.

Both Maynard and Shirley came from strong faith backgrounds. They remember fondly Sunday school, confirmation and Luther League. Shirley remembers when asked if she could be the church organist at age 14 needing family support to get her to her job. The farm was 10 miles from church on a gravel road and she would need a ride every time the church needed her to play. It was a big commitment from her parents, but one they were proud to do.

I was certain when asked if they had ever been tested in their faith they would both remember Shirley's long recovery from back surgery four years ago. To my surprise they both told me they believed with prayer and trust in God, things would get better. After 22 years at 3M, Maynard started selling Lutheran Brotherhood insurance. He admits to having many talks with God, both before and after starting that new job. Prayer has gotten them through career changes, health issues and is a huge part of their daily life.

Both Maynard and Shirley have worn many hats since joining Faith Lutheran Church in 1958. When the kids were growing up, they taught Sunday school, release time and worked with children's choir. Being a good example for their children was very important to them. Maynard has served on council, various committees and still ushers. He is willing to lend a helping hand wherever needed. They both appreciate the staff at Faith and especially enjoy the Digging Deeper sessions. Of course, the First Word service is their favorite. Could it be the organ music and traditional hymns?

Shirley told me her career as organist at Faith started in 1958 when they joined the church. She was the backup organist, but took over the job full time in 1966. Their family was young and, since mom was in the balcony working, it was dad's job to take care of the kids. No messing around in that pew! In the last 52 years, Shirley has worked for 15 different pastors. During the time Pastor Skeie was pastor, Faith had three services. Each service was the same, just at different times. Shirley played for all three services. In the last few years, church service styles have changed and so has the music. Organ music is played only at the First Word service. Playing the organ is still an every week commitment, but a shorter work day.

The coffee pot was empty; it was time to say goodbye. But I took home with me an understanding of a couple who have for over 60 years supported each other and included God in their daily lives - a beautiful example to follow.

Interview by Virginia Brodd

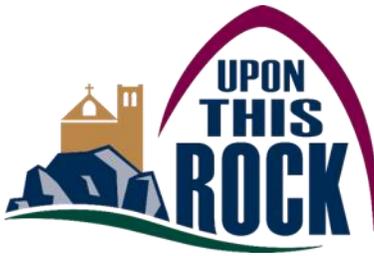
The Legacy of Money

Luke 8:1-3 may not be a very well-known passage in the Gospel, but it is an interesting one. It connects two other episodes in Jesus' ministry with a description of the group that traveled with him. Luke reports that "the twelve were with him, as well as some women who had been cured of evil spirits and infirmities: Mary, called Magdalene..., and Joanna...and Susanna, and many others." Then, Luke concludes by noting that they "provided for them out of their resources."



It is not only churches today that depend on freely-given offerings to do ministry. Jesus did, too. Without the faithful gifts of those women, he would not have been able to devote himself to his ministry.

The legacy of money in Christianity goes back to the very beginning and, throughout the centuries, its importance and influence has never varied. Giving expresses trust in God to provide all that we need for this life and it provides the necessary resources for the work of God's kingdom. Please continue to give as God enables you, so that the ministry He has entrusted to Faith Lutheran Church can be done.



Upon This Rock Capital Campaign

Although we still talk about the "new" building addition, it has already been in service for eight years! It has been heavily used throughout that time and, in fact, is starting to show some wear and tear that is being addressed. That is actually a great sign. Church buildings have value only so far as ministry occurs in them. The worst possible thing for a church is to be as pristine as a museum.

For these years and more, the family of Faith has provided steady and generous support to pay for this ministry space. As we have begun *Upon This Rock*, the new capital campaign, we are amazed and grateful for the generosity that continues. As we give according to how God first blesses us, it may still be possible for us to pay the mortgage entirely by Faith's 150th anniversary in 2020. What a great goal!

"If We Have Only Hoped in Christ"



The Reliability
of the Gospel



**New Faith Group 6-week series begins immediately after Easter.
See additional insert for more details and sign-up for a group TODAY!**

April and May Educational Opportunities



Defending the Faith from the 1st Century to the 21st

The Christian Church had barely gotten started before a variety of false teachings began to threaten the Gospel, and false teachings remain a threat today. This study of I John will explore how the apostle defended the faith then and how his guidance can help us defend it today.



New Member Reception

New members will be received at Faith Lutheran on April 22 with orientation sessions on April 8, 15 and 22 during the education hour. A "meet the staff" luncheon will be served on April 15 for all new members. If you or someone you know is interested in joining Faith, please contact Marsha Schmit at 587-2093 or marshas@faithlc.com.



A "Parenting Discussion Group" with Pr. Dave and Andrea Wollan will meet in the Office Conference Room. Watch for details to be announced at church and on the Facebook page.



Mingle Box will be back on Sunday, May 6, Bless the Years Sunday, in the Faith Center. See the Seniors' Scene on page 2 for more details.

Graduation Reception for High School Seniors will be in the Faith Center one Sunday in May. Watch for details at church.



Scholarship Time - Faith Lutheran has four scholarships for current high school seniors and college students. Application forms are available at the church and on the website at faithlc.com. Application Deadline to apply is Sunday, April 29, 2018.

Summer Intern Applications - Faith will again be employing interns for the summer. Details and applications for that are also available at the church and on the website. Deadline to apply is Monday, April 2.



The Annual Augustana District Convention

Saturday, May 5, 2018

from 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

at Faith Lutheran Church

All interested people from member churches are warmly invited to attend. Registration forms, agenda and speaker details are all available on the Augustana District website, augustanadistrict.org, and in the church office.

Registration fee increases after April 20, so don't delay in registering if you want to attend.

RUMMAGE SALE

April 26, 27
and 28, 2018



The Rummage sale takes many hands from beginning to end and you can plug in to help in the way that best works for you. On Sunday, April 22, hands are needed to set up tables right after the 10:10 services. For those who like to bake, donations are needed for the Bake Sale. Helping hands are also needed to organize, work the sale, and help clean up on Saturday. There are sign-up posters around the church so you can indicate where you can help.

Donations of items to sell can be dropped off at the main office doors beginning Monday, April 23, at 8 a.m. through Wednesday, April 25, at 5 p.m. Greeters are needed to help people unload their cars and move things into the sale areas.

Items that can be donated are: furniture, collectibles, clothing, household goods, books, games, toys, garage items, sporting goods, gardening items, plants, etc.

Items that can NOT be donated are: large appliances, TV's, computers, exercise equipment and such.

Proceeds from this sale go towards the church mortgage and a variety of other ministries at Faith.

Sale hours

Thursday, April 26, 2-7 p.m.

Friday, April 27, 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.

(afternoon Blue Light specials)

Saturday, April 28, 8-11 a.m.

(Bag Sale: 1st bag \$3, 2nd bag free)

Questions: Call Virginia Brodd - 587-5943; Roberta Yukel - 587-6619; or Bobbi Knudson - 587-2227.

Calling ALL Men of Faith

Wednesday, April 4, 2018

at 6:00 p.m. in the Faith Center

Enjoy food, refreshments, and fellowship. Paul Cravens will lead the opening devotion. **Kevin Elton will then share his faith story.**



Kevin is originally from Hawley, Minnesota.

He moved to Hutchinson in July of 2011, where he currently resides with his wife, Angie, two-year old son, Michael, and pup, Roscoe.

Kevin speaks appreciably of his “nine precious years teaching mathematics to students in grades 7-12.” He now serves as Assistant Principal at Loyola Catholic School in Mankato.

He has six years of outdoor camping ministry experience, with two years additional youth ministry involvement. Kevin has been a member of Faith Lutheran since 2015 and serves on the Children, Youth, and Family Ministry Team.

Recently, he was elected to the Green Lake Lutheran Ministry Board of Directors.



Mugs and Muffins

Saturday, April 21 at 9:30 a.m.
Faith Center at Faith Lutheran Church

Join us for a morning of fellowship as we hear

Karna Blake

share her faith story.

**Bring a mug, bring a friend
and we will provide the rest.**

**I can do all things through Christ who
strengthens me. Philippians 4:13**



Imagine 220 Adult Baptisms in Two Months!

From our American experience, it is a remarkable scene to see one adult baptism a year, even in a congregation such as our own. Yet, in a new mission we are supporting in northern India, their director reports that in January and February, through 14 baptismal camps, 220 adults were baptized. This is amazing.

It should be noted that a great majority of these baptisms are for people coming from the Muslim faith, a move that often brings the converts into direct conflict with their families. This step is not taken lightly. It comes, however, when seekers have come to see in Christianity a God who is “gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.” These descriptive words simply have never been central to their experience of Allah in Islam. It should also be noted that, in these same two months, 370 people came as “seekers” to learn more of Jesus Christ.

Faith Lutheran Church has stepped up to cover \$1,000 of an Augustana District commitment of \$6,000 for 2018 to support four pastors of this mission, All India Masihi Jamat. Dr. Christoph from Germany, one of our mentors in witness to Muslims, led us to this mission.

Matthew 25:40 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.'



Hutchinson

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Hutchinson, MN 55350
320-587-2213

Website: www.common-cup.org

Glencoe

1022 12th Street East
Glencoe, MN 55336
320-864-5511

Vineyard Methodist Church provides **Laundry Love Ministry** which takes place the 3rd Tuesday of each month, **April 17**, from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. at the Maytag Laundromat located at 1025 Hwy 7. Any donations to this program are greatly appreciated!



Community Meal
Sunday,
April 8
4-6 p.m.

Fare for All
Delivery
Thursday,
April 26
3:00-5:00 p.m.

Diaper Distribution takes place the last Tuesday of each month, **April 24**, from 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the CCM office. **Donations are always welcome & very much needed** and can be left in either Common Cup Corners by the entrances.

5K Walk/Run previously held in May is being replaced with the **Stroke & Stride for CCM** to be held on **Saturday, August 18, 2018**, at the Hutchinson Aquatic Center. Cost will be \$50 per person or \$100 per family. Registration forms will be available soon.

It is that time of year again when Common Cup Ministry purchases tents and camping supplies to be given to homeless or others in need of interim shelter. If you would like to donate a tent, money to purchase a tent, or know of a place tents can be purchased for \$20-\$30, please contact Bev at the CCM office. Thank you!



Common Cup's **Thrift Store** is located in Glencoe at 712 11th Street E. All proceeds from sales will directly benefit individuals and families that are in need throughout McLeod County. Donations of clothing, dishes, bedding, household items, small tools, small appliances, furniture and kids toys, puzzles and games are greatly appreciated. **Hours are:** Sunday & Monday: Closed; Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday 10:00 a.m.- 4:00 p.m.; 1st & 3rd Saturday 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. **Stop by and check it out!**

WHY VOLUNTEER



Extra benefits that may be available as you volunteer your time to Faith Lutheran Church:

⇒ **Thrivent Member:** There are two options for you to recommend how Thrivent's charitable funds are distributed to 501c(3) nonprofit organizations, including Faith Lutheran Church.

* **Choice Dollars** – Faith Lutheran Church is approved for this program. You can simply visit <http://thrivent.com/thriventchoice> or contact your local Thrivent Rep and recommend a distribution of Thrivent's charitable funds to Faith Lutheran Church. It's time to begin designating 2018 funds, now through March 31, 2019.

* **Action Teams** – Thrivent provides \$250 of seed money from its charitable funds that can be put towards the expense of a project. Some projects where this money could be used are: monthly Community Meals, Easter Breakfast, Youth Space renovations, or the Drive-in Diner. Visit <http://thrivent.com/actionteam> or contact your local Thrivent Rep. If you are interested in applying for Action Team money, please contact the church office and a complete list of options can be provided to you.

⇒ **3M Employees:** There is a volunteer program at 3M that allows 30 volunteer hours to be matched with \$500 from 3M to the organization for which you volunteered.

⇒ **Hutchinson Health Employees:** There is also a volunteer program at Hutch Health that allows 30 volunteer hours to be matched with \$500 from Hutch Health to the organization for which you volunteered.

We know that all of our time is valuable, and the portion of that time spent volunteering is very much appreciated by those that you support. If you would like to volunteer at Faith, please contact the office and we will be happy to help you plug in. *Thank you* for supporting Faith Lutheran Church with your talents!



Thoughts and Prayers

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



Remember our Faith members in nursing homes & health care centers:

- Corporal Colin Bos (Marines, Camp Pendleton, CA - son of Dawn Bos)
- Sgt. Jason Gaulke (El Paso, TX - nephew of Alice Fransen)
- Mason Rutledge (Navy, Norfolk, VA - son of Lenny & Patti Rutledge)
- Col. Rob Skaar (Duluth Air National Guard - son of Dave & Marian Skaar)
- LT Brett Stadsklev (Navy, Norfolk, VA - son-in-law of Judy & Tom Felber)
- Corporal Nathan Thunstrom (Marines, overseas deployment - son of Andy & Shelly Hedin and grandson of Dennis & Barb Hedin)
- PFC Ryan Wersal (Army, Fort Meade, MA- son of Roger & Laurie Wersal)

Buffalo Lake Nursing Home

Joan Fitzloff

Cedar Crest – Silver Lake

Patricia Lambert
Bernice Vorbeck
Lucille Wehking

Cottagewood (Buffalo)

Eleanor Lack

Dassel Lakeside

Doris Betker

Glencoe Nursing Home

Helen Sandlund

Harmony River

Margaret Alrick
Pearl Betker
Irene Christensen
Dave & Betty Jensen
Joanne Olesen
Charlie & Harriet Thor

Prairie Senior Cottages

Pat Fimon

Prairie View (Hector)

Jerome Lindquist

Woodstone

Don Fitzgerald
Betty Garberich
Lucille Yukel

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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