

Welcome to Faith Lutheran

February 25, 2018



SECOND SUNDAY
in Lent

Pastor Ellen Schoepf
prellen@faithlutheranokemos.org
4515 Dobie Road
Okemos, MI 48864



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.



- To make disciples for Jesus Christ. . .
.. **we Gather** in faith for worship, prayer,
study and fellowship
.. **we Equip** the people of God with a faith
that works in real life
.. **we Serve** the world in the name of Jesus Christ
-



Faith Lutheran Church's Welcoming Statement:

We, at Faith Lutheran Church, welcome you as a child of God. As Paul said in his letter to the Galatians, “for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith.” (Galatians 3:26)
We strive to be a place where everyone is welcomed and affirmed.

No matter your age, gender identity, sexual orientation, race, ethnicity, marital status, faith background, political leanings, or mental or physical ability - you are welcome as you are. As children of God, we are all one in Christ Jesus and rely on the unconditional nature of God’s love and grace to be our help and guide.

Email address

faith@faithlutheranokemos.org

Websites

Faith Lutheran Church ≈ www.faithlutheranokemos.org
North/West Lower Michigan Synod ≈ www.mittensynod.org
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America ≈ www.elca.org

Facebook

facebook.com/faithlutheranokemos

You also can find the audio available on Faith’s website under worship
Sermons

Handling the Truth

At the climax of the movie *A Few Good Men*, Jack Nicholson's character utters the now famous line: "You want the truth? You can't handle the truth." Perhaps the line has become so popular because we all recognize that hiding unpleasant truths is something we all do. Sometimes that takes the form of so-called white lies we tell to protect those we love. But sometimes we avoid the hardest truths in our lives, our families, our businesses, and our congregations because we fear what will happen when everyone stares in the face something we have been avoiding.

In today's gospel, Jesus challenges his disciples by naming his fate out loud: suffering, rejection, and death. These are truths his disciples may have wondered about as opposition to Jesus' ministry mounted, but Peter's reaction shows us that they were not ready to face them head on. In the season of Lent, Jesus' death in Jerusalem always looms on the horizon. For us now, facing Jesus' death is no longer a question for the future. We all know how the story ends. But we still struggle with the truth of a God who chose to reveal God's own nature through servanthood, humiliation, and weakness. We still struggle with the call to pick up our own crosses and name the hard truths about our own lives and failings.

We enter Christian community by first having the truth of a promise made over us. In baptism, God declares faithfulness, grace, and mercy over our lives and deaths. It is with confidence in this truth that we gather together to name hard truths in our lives and our world, knowing that in love God can receive and heal it all. Led by faith in Christ and following in his footsteps, we can handle the truth.

Second Sunday in Lent
Sunday, February 25, 2018

Introduction to the day

The second covenant in this year's Lenten readings is the one made with Abraham and Sarah: God's promise to make them the ancestors of many, with whom God will remain in everlasting covenant. Paul says this promise comes to all who share Abraham's faith in the God who brings life into being where there was no life. We receive this baptismal promise of resurrection life in faith. Sarah and Abraham receive new names as a sign of the covenant, and we too get new identities in baptism, as we put on Christ.

If hearing assistance is needed, please ask an usher for a personal PA receiver.

The ushers also have large print copies of today's worship folder available.

If it will be difficult for you to stand along with the congregation during any part of the worship service, please feel free to remain seated.

There is a nursery available during the worship service for those who wish to use it. It is located at the end of the hall beyond the coat racks.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*We cordially greet all who have come to worship today.
Please register your attendance and join us in fellowship after the service.*

Prayer Requests

PRELUDE

"O Sacred Head, Now Wounded"

arr. Sherman

Faith Bells

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father,
and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

God of heaven and earth,
you come in close and make us yours.
Equip us by your Spirit to confess our sin,
embrace your forgiveness,
and seek the way you set before us in your Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

With honesty of heart, let us confess our sin.

Merciful God,

forgive us.

Our will is handcuffed to sin, and we cannot break free.

We have spoken when we should have kept quiet.

Silence.

We were silent when we should have said something.

Silence.

We acted when we knew better.

Silence.

We were still when we know we should have moved.

Silence.

**For the wrong we have done,
for the good we have failed to do,
have mercy on us,
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

Amen.

People of God, look to the ✝ Son,
given to heal you and set you free
because God loved the world so much.
Take hold of life—eternal life!

Amen.

GATHERING SONG

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

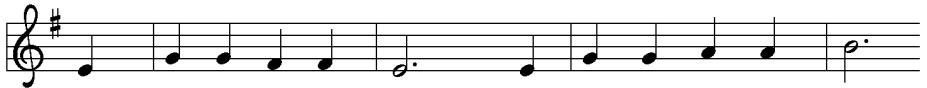
ELW #803

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

KYRIE



- 1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.
- 2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.
- 3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.
Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O God, by the passion of your blessed Son you made an instrument of shameful death to be for us the means of life. Grant us so to glory in the cross of Christ that we may gladly suffer shame and loss for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

The assembly is seated.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING: Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16

As with Noah, God makes an everlasting covenant with Abraham and Sarah. God promises this old couple that they will be the ancestors of nations, though they have no child together. God will miraculously bring forth new life from Sarah's old womb. The name changes emphasize the firmness of God's promise.

A reading from Genesis.

¹When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to Abram, and said to him, "I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. ²And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous." ³Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, ⁴"As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. ⁵No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. ⁶I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. ⁷I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you."

¹⁵God said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. ¹⁶I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her."

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING: Romans 4:13-25

Paul presents Abraham as the example for how a person comes into a right relationship with God not through works of the law but through faith. Though Abraham and Sarah were far too old for bearing children, Abraham trusted that God would accomplish what God had promised to accomplish.

A reading from Romans.

¹³The promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. ¹⁴If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. ¹⁵For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

¹⁶For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, ¹⁷as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”)—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. ¹⁸Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become “the father of many nations,” according to what was said, “So numerous shall your descendants be.” ¹⁹He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah’s womb. ²⁰No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, ²¹being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. ²²Therefore his faith “was reckoned to him as righteousness.” ²³Now the words, “it was reckoned to him,” were written not for his sake alone, ²⁴but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, ²⁵who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



We are turn - ing, Lord, to hear you; you are mer - ci - ful and kind -



slow to an - ger, rich in bless - ing, and with love to us in - clined.

GOSPEL: Mark 8:31-38

After Peter confesses his belief that Jesus is the Messiah, Jesus tells his disciples for the first time what is to come. Peter's response indicates that he does not yet understand the way of the cross that Jesus will travel.

The holy gospel according to Mark.

Glory to you, O Lord.

³¹[Jesus] began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again.³²He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. ³³But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

³⁴He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ³⁵For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. ³⁶For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? ³⁷Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? ³⁸Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON

Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

HYMN OF THE DAY

In the Cross of Christ I Glory

ELW #324

CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Renewed in the promises of baptism, let us pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

Prayers of intercession are prayed.

To each petition, the assembly responds:

Lord, in your mercy,
receive our prayer.

*The presiding minister concludes the prayers,
and the assembly responds:*

Trusting in your covenant of mercy, O God, we lift our prayers to you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

*The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say,
"Peace be with you," or similar words.*

The assembly is seated.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING

"I Will Keep My Eyes on You"

(Berry)

Chancel Choir

OFFERING RESPONSE

Jesus, Lamb of God *All in All*

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'Jesus, Lamb of God'. It consists of two systems of music. Each system has a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are: 'Je - sus, Lamb of God, wor - thy is your name;'. The first system ends with a semibreve note on the word 'name;', and the second system ends with a quarter note on the word 'name.'. The music is written in a simple, homophonic style with block chords.

Text: Dennis Jernigan, refrain of "You are my all in all"
Music: ALL IN ALL, Dennis Jernigan

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OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

God our provider, you have not fed us with bread alone, but with words of grace and life. Bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from your bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ.

You call your people to cleanse their hearts
and prepare with joy for the paschal feast,
that, renewed in the gift of baptism,
we may come to the fullness of your grace.

And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -



san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy God, our living Water and our merciful Guide, together with rivers and seas, wells and springs we bless and magnify you.

You led your people Israel through the desert, and provided them water from the rock. We praise you for Christ, our Rock and our Water, who joined us in our desert, pouring out his life for the world.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his life, death, and resurrection, we await your salvation for all this thirsty world. Pour out your Spirit on this holy food and on all the baptized gathered for this feast: wash away our sin, that we may be revived for our journey by the love of Christ.

Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.

Amen

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Return to God with all your heart. Receive bread for the journey,
drink for the desert.

COMMUNION

The body of Christ, given for you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you.
Amen.

COMMUNION SONG



- 1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
- 2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
- 3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

CONGREGATIONAL SONG

Just as I Am, without One Plea

ELW #592

CONGREGATIONAL SONG

There is a Redeemer



1 There is a Re - deem - er, Je - sus, God's own Son,
 2 Je - sus, my Re - deem - er, name a - bove all names,
 3 When I stand in glo - ry, I will see his face;



pre - cious Lamb of God, Mes - si - ah, Ho - ly One.
 pre - cious Lamb of God, Mes - si - ah, hope for sin - ners slain.
 there I'll serve my king for - ev - er, in that ho - ly place.

Refrain



Thank you, O my Fa - ther, for giv - ing us your Son and



send - ing your Spir - it till the work on earth is done.

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ
strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

Compassionate God, you have fed us with the bread of heaven.
Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage: may our fasting be hunger for
justice; our alms, a making of peace; and our prayer, the song of
grateful hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

BLESSING

May God who has called us forth from the dust of the earth,
and claimed us as children of the light,
strengthen you on your journey into life renewed.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine upon you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor

and give you ✝ peace.

Amen.

SENDING SONG

The God of Abraham Praise

ELW #831 v. 1-4

DISMISSAL

Marked with the cross of Christ,
go forth to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

“The God of Abraham, Praise”

arr. Michael Burkhardt

From sundaysandseasons.com.

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A Warm Welcome



Sisters & brothers in Christ, welcome to
worship! May your time in the Lord be rich
and blessed.

Pastor	Ellen Schoepf	prellen@faithlutheranokemos.org
Secretary	Katie Love	klove@faithlutheranokemos.org
Director of Christian Education		Katie Love
Director of Music		Debra Borton-McDonough
Organist/Pianist		Bruce Williams

February 18, 2018 Attendance 95

Serving Faith	February 25	March 4
Acolyte	Kaden Steinke	Owen Kadrofske
Altar Care	Tammy Heilman & Peggy Crum	Gretchen Bills & Gail Barricklow
Communion Assistants	Kaden Steinke	Owen Kadrofske
	Bob Shorman	Diane Wilke
	Rich Weingartner	Warren Heilman
Greeters	Jeff & Melinda Schultz	Mike Eschelbach
Lay Assistants	Bob Shorman	Diane Wilke
Readers	Elaine Harrison	Warren Heilman
Ushers	Harrison	Williams Family
Nursery	Jennifer and Maia Guenther	Alexis Hereza

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Faith Family & Friends

February 25, 2018

Log onto Faith's website www.faithlutheranokemos.org 24/7 for updates

DEADLINES

Sunday worship folder announcements—Tuesday of each week
Submit to Katie at klove@faithlutheranokemos.org

March Faith Family News newsletter—

Please submit by Monday, February 26

Submit to Katie at klove@faithlutheranokemos.org

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Please lift up in prayer this week:

- † Members—Max Ambs, Lowell Barricklow, Ellen Milne, Tammy Heilman, and Virginia Tashner.
- † Friends and family—
Harriet, Todd Barricklow, Greg Beckwith, Carol Coyer, Kay Coker, Chris Cotter, Terrie Becker, Brian Fent, Allyson, Heather, Erin, Al, Sai, Jeanne Hicks, Emily, Rod Kaschner, Eshwar Lingamgunta, Jenn Leitch, Brian Johnson, Meredith, Jeanne and Leonard, John Joseph Lanzetta, Johnathon Manitta family, Loretta Milne, Bethany Robison, Karen Smiley, Jean Smith, Scott Seeley, “Little Zee” (3 yr. old daughter of a friend of Brenda Kopf’s), and the White family.
- † Our mission partner congregation—Lansing Redeemer Lutheran Church
- † Those in military service—Jon Schoepf, Lani Yearicks,
Melody and Adam Wright and Joe Galvin.
- † Samaritas children who seek adoption. Pray for each to be adopted and for Jesus to be their lifelong friends

NORTH/WEST LOWER MICHIGAN SYNOD PRAYER PARTNER

As Jesus calls us to be one, even as he and the Father are one, please include Rev. John Ferra and the congregation of Immanuel Lutheran Church of Muskegon, Michigan in your prayers of intercession this week.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Weekly Offering	2/18/18	Year-to-date as of 1/31/18	
Loose Cash	\$ 60.00	Income	\$17,166
Flowers	\$ 75.00	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>\$25,058</u>
World Hunger	\$ 25.00	Net Income	-7892
Facility Rental	\$ 100.00		
Youth			
Shrove Dinner	\$ 315.00		
Blast off for Books	\$ 21.00		
National Gathering	\$ 25.00		
Retreat	\$ 80.00		
Bottle Recycle	\$ 14.00		
Books	\$ 8.00		
Michigan Refugee Hope	\$ 938.00		
Parish House	\$ 155.00		
Vision 2020	\$ 50.00		
General Fund	<u>\$3210.00</u>		
Subtotal	\$5076.00		
Simply Giving	\$2952.00		
 Total	 \$8028.00		

Vision 2020 Progress

	Goal	Pledged	Total Paid
Parking Lot	\$ 35,000	\$ 13,975	
Pavilion	\$ 30,000	\$ 2,100	
Transformation Fund	\$ 66,500	\$ 10,625	
Audio/Video	\$ 35,000	\$ 4,700	
Organ	\$ 24,000	\$ 24,000	
MIDI	\$ 9,500	\$ 9,500	
Not Designated	\$	\$ 37,715	
Total	\$200,000	\$102,615	\$ 53,978

ALTAR FLOWER DEDICATIONS

Today's altar flowers are given to the glory of God by...

Vase 1: Walter, Brenda, Becca, Katy, Austin and Amy in celebration of Ciara's 5th birthday.

Vase 2: the Belonga Family in memory of Beth's mother Lil Jennings.

THIS WEEK'S CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS

Today

9:00 a.m. Sunday School

10:00 a.m. Worship

Monday, February 26th

2:00 p.m. Women's Study

Tuesday, February 27th

Noon Study in Pastor's office

Wednesday, February 28th

7:30 a.m. Men's Study

9:30 a.m. Quilting and Samaritas ACTION

5:30 p.m. Joyful Noise

5:45 p.m. Meal is served

6:00 p.m. The Green Team Hosts Planet Earth Documentary during dinner.

6:15 p.m. Faith Bells

6:30 p.m. Trinity & Confirmation and activities for pk-3rd

7:15 p.m. Worship

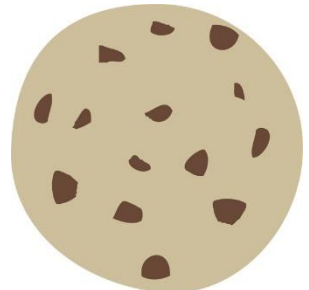
The Book study and Nooma Video series will resume following Lent

Thursday, March 1st

Friday, March 2- Sunday March 3: Marriage Retreat

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Help us bless Captain Christopher Laughlin, serving as ELCA Chaplain at a military base in MO. **We will be sending him homemade cookies!** Please bring your cookies to church on Sunday, March 4th. We will mail them out on Monday, March 5th. Please contact Katie Love with any questions. Thanks!!



EASTER BASKET FOOD DRIVE

My children, we should love people not only with words and talk, but by our actions and true caring.

1 John 3:18

The Caring Committee is sponsoring the annual Easter Basket Food Drive. Meridian Township Human Resources Dept. provides us with the names of 20 families that need a little extra help. Faith members are blessed to be able to help by providing any/or all the items listed below.

Cereal	Peanut Butter
Muffin Mix	Boxed Desserts
Juice	Easter Candy
Boxed Potatoes	Easter Egg Coloring Kits
Tuna	Mac & Cheese
Canned Fruits and Vegetables	

Cash donations help with the purchase of the hams, eggs, and milk for the families. **The delivery date is Palm Sunday, March 25**. Please see the sign-up sheet on the information board in the narthex.

Thank you for your support, care for others and prayers as we do HIS work in the community



Food Collection

EASTER BREAKFAST



8:30-9:30 a.m.

Sign-up sheet is in the Narthex.

Please contact Brenda Kopf with any questions.

517-927-1800

WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE!

Weekly Lenten Services will take place beginning on Wednesday evening, February 21 at 7:15 p.m. The traditional Soup Supper will be offered before worship. This year, our Lenten focus in Wednesday services will be The Beatitudes.

CAREGIVING MEETING

MARCH 8, 2018 @ 11:30

Jessica Corson with Anew Moon Yoga & Wellness,
Meditation and Relaxation

**COME JOIN FOR A LITE LUNCH AND
DISCUSSION. ALL ARE WELCOME!**

**Mark your calendars for our upcoming
topics:**

April 12th – Video (PBS special) Caring for Mom & Dad. This is an hour-long video.

May 10th – How to manage emotionally as the Caregiver when your loved one is placed in assisted living or long-term care facility. Speaker – Heather Kaslo



**BROWN
BAG
LUNCH**

60 +/-
March 28, 2018
11:30 a.m.

Brown Bag Lunch and Talk. Michelle Haskell, from the Nussdorfer Center in Lansing and Laurie Hereza, from Faith Lutheran Church. They will provide information and updates on the Parish House Project at Faith. If you are able to join us, please use the sign-up sheet on the 60 +/- board. We will provide the beverages.

Any Questions please contact Marla Holle at 349-5265.



COMMUNICATIONS

In an effort to reduce paper and copier use, we will be printing separate announcement bulletins on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month. These announcement bulletins will be available on different colored paper in the narthex. There will still be a weekly Friday E-News and monthly Newsletter. Please contact Katie Love with any questions. klove@faithlutheranokemos.org

**March Announcement Bulletins will be new on
Sunday, March 4th & Sunday, March 18th.**

Parish House Updates/News

To help enable independence and encourage important life skills for budgeting and planning meals, we will be collecting gift cards to Meijer and cash donations for the youth for groceries. They have been working on these skills and we will continue to work with them as they move here beginning next week. Donations can be given at the regular offering time in a separate envelope marked "Groceries".



****Rescheduled from February****

**Euchre Tournament
Friday, March 16th at 7pm**

Come and join Membership Development for a fun night of Euchre. If you do not know how to play that's o.k.- we will teach you! Bring your own beverage, we will provide a few snacks that won't get the cards dirty! Sign up in the Narthex on the Membership Development clip board. Hope to see you there!

February:

25th: No Teen Night on Sunday as we will be returning from up North.

March:

- 4th 9 a.m. Sunday School PK-3 and Trinity 4-6
- 7th: 6:30-7:10 Trinity (4th-6th) Confirmation (7th-8th) and activities for (pk-3rd) 7:15 p.m. Lenten Worship Service.
- 11th: 9 a.m. Sunday School PK-3 and Trinity 4-6
- 14th: 5:45 Trinity & Confirmation Serving Night at OCC.
- 17th: 1:00 Confirmation Day Event, 6:00 p.m. Confirmation and Youth Lock-in.
- 18th 9 a.m. Sunday School PK-3 and Trinity 4-6
- 21st 6:30-7:10 Trinity (4th-6th) Confirmation (7th-8th) and activities for (pk-3rd) 7:15 p.m. Lenten Worship Service.
- 25th: 9 a.m. Sunday School PK-3 and Trinity 4-6
- 28th-April 8th No Sunday School/Trinity/Confirmation Programming.



Trinity & Confirmation

Missions Work

On Wednesday, March 14th all Trinity and Confirmation kids are invited to join as we travel to Okemos Community Church to help pack food for the “Weekend Survival Kit’s” program. We will need permission slips for all

children attending. We will also need drivers. We will be leaving the church at 5:45 p.m. and returning around 7:30/7:45. Please sign up your Trinity or Confirmation Student by Monday, March 12th

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/508094caaa623a3f49-wednesday2>



Confirmation Day Event:

Saturday, March 17th. 1-6 p.m.:

Fun, Food, Games, Study and making their Faith Journey Scrap Books.

Followed by..

Confirmation & High School Lock in.

Saturday, March 17th 6 p.m. – midnight.

Students can stay midnight until morning worship if desired. Please let Tara know.



**2018 ELCA
YOUTH GATHERING
JUNE 27 - JULY 1**

Visit the SPONSOR Board in the Narthex to sponsor a portion of our trip to Houston!! Thanks for your support!

BLAST OFF FOR BOOKS

The 2018 ELCA Youth Gathering
Houston Literacy Campaign



The teens going to the ELCA gathering are collecting books for the children of Houston as part of our offering. These books will be handed out at community book fairs, camps and other events around the city

as part of the Gathering's Service and Learning experience.

Ways you can participate

1. Place a monetary donation in the BLAST OFF FOR BOOKS box in the narthex. We will use that money to buy the designated books.
2. Use the list provided on the BLAST OFF FOR BOOKS table to purchase the books requested. **Please note ONLY books on the list will be accepted.** Books must be new or gently used. On the list there is a link to an amazon page that has all the books listed for purchase.

Please let Katie or Tara know if you have any questions!!

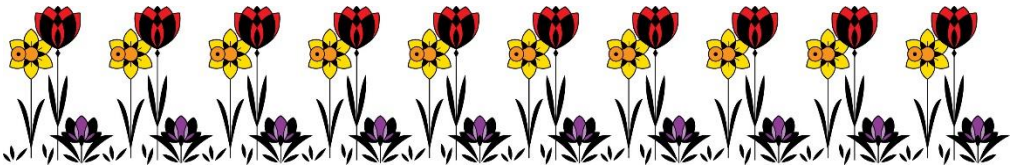
Thank you for your support!!!

GREEN TEAM NEWS

On February 28th, during the Lenten evening dinner, the Green Team will be showing a segment of Planet Earth II, a BBC produced documentary on the beauty and grandeur of God's creation. The 45-minute segment will be on Jungles of the world. From the producers:

"Jungles are the richest places on Earth. A magical world of surprise, drama and unforgettable wild characters. From the jungles of Brazil, home to caiman hunting jaguars and strange jungle dolphins that swim in the tree tops, to Costa Rica where ninja frogs fight huge wasps, we watch as the animals face life in the most competitive place on Earth. We follow alongside the beautiful indri as she bounces through the forest in Madagascar and stay out late at night to witness glow-in-the-dark creatures never before filmed! There are even mini 'dragon lizards' with a special trick to deal with life in the jungle!"

We hope you will join us for the viewing of this special film starting at 6:00. The Green Team.



2018 EASTER FLOWER DEDICATION

Order deadline: March 18th

I would like to order the following flower(s) to be placed in the sanctuary on Easter Sunday:

<u>QUANTITY</u>	<u>FLOWER(S)</u>	<u>ORDER TOTAL</u>
_____	Daffodil(s) \$10 ea.	_____
_____	Tulip(s)* \$10 ea.	_____

*Color selection for tulips: Purple Pink Yellow Red

Please PRINT your dedication(s) below:

Name person(s) dedicating:

In memory of:

In honor of:

In celebration of:

Make checks payable to Faith Lutheran Church
Place this dedication form in Katie Love's mailbox or office.

*Please pick up your flower(s)
after worship service Easter Sunday*