



The Herald Faith Lutheran

March, 2020

Upcoming Events

Mid-week Lenten Services
Wednesdays, 7 p.m.
March 4, 11, 18, 25
Worship Center



Austin Korean Harmony Concert
Saturday, March 28, 7 p.m.
Worship Center
Reception following in the Activity Center
Tickets \$10



Gospel Service
Sunday, March 29, 10 a.m.
Worship Center

From Pastor Tom

On Ash Wednesday we began the season of Lent, the six weeks before Easter in which we focus on repentance, turning away from our sins, and renewing our devotion to God. Our objective during Lent is to draw closer to God who enables us to live in harmony with others. Here are the topics for our mid-week Lenten meditations:

Week One, March 4: *Forgiveness and Absolution.* We repent or turn away from our sins and receive God's forgiveness which frees us to live in relationship with other people.

Week Two, March 11: *Invalidation.* Our sinful nature leads us to invalidate others, to put them down. We repent and seek instead to build one another up.

Week Three, March 18: *Withdrawal.* Our sinful nature leads us to withdraw from others and avoid important issues. We repent and seek positive, constructive communication.

Week Four, March 25: *The Eyes of Christ.* Our sinful nature leads us to look inward. We are the eyes of Christ in the world today. We repent and seek to see the world as Christ does.

Week Five, April 1: *The Mouth of Christ.* The gracious words of Jesus announce God's love for us. We repent of our failure to speak in love and we reach out to others with the love of Christ.

Each week we will sing the *Holden Evening Prayer* liturgy and hear an appointed scripture lesson. Lent is not a season of celebration. There will be no joyful alleluias. Yearning for the promise of Easter, may our Lenten spiritual disciplines fulfill their intended purpose, draw us closer to God, and lead us to reach out to all people with the love of Christ.



THE FORTY DAYS of LENT

REFLECTION

RECONCILIATION

RENEWAL



News from the Nominating Committee

Nominees for council positions of CDC, Worship & Music, Youth & Parish Education have been secured, along with two 2021 Nominating Committee members.

Still needed are nominees for Vice-President and Treasurer, and two more nominating committee members from the congregation. Please prayerfully consider serving if you are asked.

Current nominating committee members are: Jackie Allen, Mary Beth Meiske, Wanda Muehlbrad, and Carol Roberts.



Council Highlights from January 27, 2020:

- ♦ Offerings given at mid-week Lenten services will be dedicated to Austin City Lutherans' Mariposa Family Learning Center.
- ♦ Spring Fling for 2020 will be held on April 4.
- ♦ We will have one Easter worship service this year, at 10 a.m., preceded by breakfast from 8:30-9:30 a.m. Free-will breakfast contributions will benefit the Youth Fund.
- ♦ Youth & Parish Education Committee shared plans for a mural to be installed on the Woodrow lawn.
- ♦ FLC ended 2019 with a deficit of \$10,055, which will be transferred from Emergency Reserves.



Austin City Lutherans Annual Meeting is March 8

Plan now to attend the annual meeting of Austin City Lutherans on **Sunday, March 8, at 2 p.m.**, at Abiding Love Lutheran in South Austin. Come hear how Bread for All Pantry and Mariposa Family Learning Center are making positive changes in our neighbor's lives. If you'd like to attend, but don't want to drive, let the office know and we can form a carpool.



Are you looking for information about Senior Care and how to pay for it?

We recently learned of a website www.PayingforSeniorCare.com that can help you locate information about senior care resources and find the public and private programs available to assist in covering the cost of such care. The website is a discovery tool. There is a database of tools, references, and articles that cover topics such as available care options, and free resources that are available in Austin.



Let the Games Begin!

Mark your calendars for **Saturday, June 13, from 3-5 p.m.** We're planning a time of fellowship and game playing including: cards, dominos, board games, puzzles, Farkle (dice game), indoor corn hole, AND any other game you'd like to bring. More details to come.



Lent 2020. . .

40 DAYS
of Giving

Ash Wednesday
Through Easter Sunday

All Lenten Offerings Will Support:



Mariposa Family Learning Center

MFLC is Austin City Lutherans' effort in SE Austin to provide young families with high-quality child care, supplemented by parent education and support. MFLC will use a "2-generation" approach – working simultaneously with children and their parents – with the goal of increasing each family's access to economic, social, educational, or spiritual resources. This transformational ministry has the power to positively alter the trajectory of a child's and his/her family's life.

MFLC is located at the Montopolis Friendship Community Center on Vargas Road in Austin's Montopolis neighborhood.



FAITH RINGERS
Adult Handbell Group

Practices:
March 4, 11, 18 at 7:30 p.m.
(after Lenten worship)
Room 210
No practice March 25

Play for Worship: March 22

YOUTH RINGERS

Practices:
March 1 & 8
11-11:15 a.m.
Room 210

Play for Worship: March 22

If you have an interest in ringing with these groups or want to know more about ringing, contact:
Karen McGuire
512-585-4558 or
mckarenk@yahoo.com.

Worship & Music



Join the
Faith Gospel Singers
on March 29,
as we sing some
favorite old hymns
during worship
at 10 a.m.

Help us make a
joyful noise to the Lord!

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

January 26	67
February 2	72
February 9	84
February 16	71
February 23	70

**Retirement & Nursing Center
on Burnet Lane**

On February 6, nineteen residents and staff plus six members of Faith worshiped together in services conducted by Pastor Tom.
The next service will be held
March 5, at 10:30 a.m.
Please join us!

MONTHLY FINANCIAL INFORMATION

<u>Month</u>	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Jan.	\$ 18,167	\$ 13,368	+\$ 4,799
YTD	\$ 18,167	\$ 13,368	+\$ 4,799

Members Serving in Worship March

All Sundays in March

Head Usher: Steve Zwernemann
Greeter: Therese Doss
Tellers: 2 needed
Altar Guild Saturdays: Rhonda Kunze, Viola Kunze
Altar Guild Sundays: Anne Kuempel, Chris Raemsch



March 1—10:00 a.m.

Assisting Minister: Karen McGuire
Lay Reader: Steve Zwernemann
Communion Helpers: 3 needed
Acolyte: 1 needed

March 8—10:00 a.m.

Assisting Minister: Kim Kieke
Lay Reader: 1 needed
Communion Helpers: 3 needed
Acolyte: 1 needed

March 15—Praise Worship—10:00 a.m.

Assisting Ministers: Praise Team
Lay Reader: Praise Team
Communion Helpers: 3 needed
Acolyte: 1 needed

March 22—10:00 a.m.

Assisting Minister: Kim Kieke
Lay Reader: 1 needed
Communion Helpers: 3 needed
Acolyte: 1 needed

March 29—Gospel Service—10 a.m.

Assisting Minister: 1 needed
Lay Reader: Ben Noyes III
Communion Helpers: 3 needed
Acolyte: 1 needed

Please Sign Up to Serve in 2020!

Assisting ministers, lay readers, communion servers, acolytes, greeters, ushers, Altar Guild workers, and tellers are all needed to assist before, during, and after worship. Training will be provided as needed. Contact the church office at 512-451-1116.



WORSHIP ASSISTANTS



WELCA 2020 Handbooks

Ladies, copies of the 2020 WELCA Handbook (in new full-page format) are on the table in the narthex. Please feel free to take a copy. If no copies remain, write your name and phone number on the signature sheet by the sign for the WELCA Handbooks and a copy will be made for you.

Valentine Brunch/Unit Meeting

On Saturday, February 22, the Activity Center had been beautifully decorated by Dot Olson and her family to celebrate Valentine's Day, and 20 women attended the delayed Valentine event to enjoy a delicious brunch and social gathering. A number of games were played, including What's In the Bag, Valentine Scattergories, Valentine Word Scramble, and several games of Bingo, with winners choosing an item from a small array of gifts. A Unit Meeting followed the event with the primary goal of deciding how to spend WELCA's 2018 leftover bazaar monies as well as proceeds from the 2019 bazaar. Members discussed several options and voted to spend their money to replace the current large gas stove in the church's kitchen with two (2) stoves including installation expenses. Some of the remaining monies will be used to buy armchairs to replace chairs currently in the Resource Center.

LWR Personal Care Kits

During Lent, Faith Lutheran is joining Lutheran World Relief in **A SEASON OF HOPE** to announce to the world the HOPE of Christ. Each week a different item will be collected that we'll use to assemble Personal Care Kits that give people around the world tools to stay healthy in life's most challenging situations. Beginning March 1, our collection schedule for Personal Care Kit items is as follows: **March 1 - bars of soap** (4 to 5 oz, any brand, in original wrapping); **March 8 - bath towels** (light-weight, maximum 52" x 2," dark color recommended); **March 15 - toothbrushes** (adult size, in original wrapping); **March 22 - combs** (sturdy); **March 29 - nail clippers** (metal, attached file optional); and **April 5 (Palm Sunday) - bars of soap**. Although the schedule has designated a date for each item to be collected, any of the items may be brought any time until the final collection date of April 5. The collection box for Personal Care Kits along with a printed collection schedule will be in the narthex. The congregation's help, as always, is much appreciated in participating with this worthwhile project. *Please note: According to an e-mail from Lutheran World Relief, the Personal Care Kits as usual will still include bars of soap; however, as of March 1, no boxes of bulk soap will be accepted nor, due to environmental concerns, will any fleece blankets be accepted.*



WELCA, continued**Quilt and Kit Blessing Service**

Pastor Tom Kesselring will bless the quilts and kits that have been prepared by Faith Lutheran members during the March 29 worship service. Samples of quilts, schoolbag kits, and personal care kits will be displayed at the front of the sanctuary.

**Capital North/Capital South Conference of the SWT Synod for Women of the ELCA**

The spring conference is being hosted by the women at Abiding Love Lutheran Church, 7210 Brush Country, Austin, Texas, 78749, on Saturday, March 7. Pick up a registration form in the narthex and get it in the mail with a small registration fee of \$12.00, which may be paid by check payable to Abiding Love WELCA. Although the registration deadline printed in the conference material was February 21, registrations will be accepted at the door; however, in order to prepare for everyone, they would like to know the number attending in advance.

Upcoming Events:

Saturday, March 7: Capital North/Capital South Conference at Abiding Love in South Austin.

Friday, March 27: Final packing date for quilts, schoolbag kits, and personal care kits in room 206 from 9 a.m. until 12 noon.

Sunday, March 29: Kit and Quilt Blessing by Pastor Kesselring for the quilts, schoolbag kits, and personal care kits prepared by Faith Lutheran members.

Tuesday, April 14: LWR In-Gathering for the Austin area at Palm Valley Lutheran in Round Rock from 8:30 a.m. until noon.

Faith Lutheran Women's Bible Studies

Ladies, if you aren't a member of either the Lydia or Rebecca circles, we would love to have you join us for a monthly Bible study with a short meeting afterwards to keep circle members updated on the status of ongoing projects. Listed below are dates, times, and places for the circles.

Lydia Circle with Ree Nurnberger as chair meets the 2nd Monday of each month in the Resource Center (January & February @ 3:30 p.m.; March-October @ 5 p.m.; November & December @ 4 p.m.).

Rebecca Circle with Charleen Schneider as chair meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month in the Resource Center at 9:30 a.m.



Youth & Parish Education

- ◆ Destani, Felix, Emily, and Jacob began work on the mural and will have it up in time to welcome neighbors to the Spring Fling on April 4.
- ◆ A sign-up sheet will be put in the church entryway for people who want to bring sweets and desserts to the Spring Fling for us to give out for freewill donations.
- ◆ We will continue attending Pastor Tom's Sunday School classes when he holds them in March. Misty will lead the younger children's class in room 203.
- ◆ We will provide Easter breakfast to the congregation from 8:30-9:30 a.m., on Easter morning. Come early and come hungry.
- ◆ We are happy that the proceeds from the Spring Fling and the Easter breakfast will help us in our fundraising efforts for the 2021 National Gathering.
- ◆ We will practice bells on March 1 & 8, and perform at worship on March 22. Following the church service we will have a fellowship and activity gathering.
- ◆ Spring Break is March 15 - 20.
- ◆ Jacob will be confirmed on May 31.



**Daylight Savings Time
begins March 8, at 2 a.m.**

**Set your clocks forward
one hour the night before.**



MEMORIALS AND HONORARIUMS

February 2020

Emergency Reserve Fund
Anne Kuempel

In Memory of Terry Pfennig



Dear Faith Lutheran Members:

Thank you for your ongoing contribution to Drive a Senior North Central Austin, which we really appreciate. Although the bulk of our drives are provided by volunteers, we have an ongoing financial need to keep the lights on and the computers going so we can schedule rides for our senior neighbors.

Thank you again for helping us keep the wheels rolling.

Sincerely,

Mary Anne Longenecker
Board President



FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH
6600 Woodrow Avenue
Austin, Texas 78757
Office: 512-451-1116

Website: *FaithLutheranAustin.org*
Faith is a Reconciling in Christ Congregation

Worship & Bible Study

Sunday 10:00 a.m.

Bible Study (all ages) 11:15 a.m.

3rd Sunday Praise Service 10:00 a.m.

Wednesday Day of Prayer

12:00 p.m. - Noon Prayer

Transition Pastor: Tom Kesselring

Organist/Choir Director: Sam Bauer

Director of Handbells: Karen McGuire

Accountant: Lynn Davidson

Administrative Assistant: Karen Noyes

CDC Director: Melissa McCoy

Sexton: Norbert Gardner

**MISSION STATEMENT OF
FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH**

**We at Faith Lutheran Church believe in Jesus Christ
as Lord and Savior of all life and creation.
In response to His grace and love toward us,
we are called to share His love by reaching out to all people.
We are called to be a worshipping, caring, learning community.**

March, 2020

Faith Lutheran Church
6600 Woodrow Avenue
Austin, Texas 78757-2596