



The Herald Faith Lutheran

April, 2021

April Worship & Prayer Opportunities

Maundy Thursday Service
Live streamed on Facebook
April 1, 7 p.m.

Good Friday Service
Live streamed on Facebook
April 2, 7 p.m.

Easter Sunday
Outdoor Worship with Holy Communion
Front lawn, weather permitting
Live streamed on Facebook
April 4, 10 a.m.



Weekly Sunday worship services are live streamed.
Access with the Facebook link on FLC's website
FaithLutheranAustin.org.

You do not need a Facebook account to view the live streamed services.

**A phone-in option is also available for those
without internet access.**

Wednesday Prayer Service with Zoom
12—12:30 p.m.

From Pastor Mamy

¹⁸ Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

1 Thessalonians 5:18 NRSV

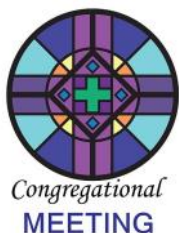
This is my first article in the monthly newsletter, and I must thank God for working through all of you to bring us here to Faith L.C. in Austin, TX. So far, I am able to put names with faces for a few members in the congregation. As we are still doing the Sunday services live online, I still have a long way to go to be able to see and to remember all of you. One of my goals is to be supportive of the ministries of God's people in everyday life. My daily task, which fits my identity and previous experiences, is to accept challenge, discern how to live faithfully and responsibly, and be willing to be molded in living out God's will.

I am looking forward to getting to know more about all of you, and I invite you to come and talk to me and share your stories anytime, or call me, or we can meet by Zoom. Also, I would appreciate if you let me know as soon as a Pastoral visitation is needed. We can discuss the best way to accomplish it.

It is always fascinating for me the Spring and the Easter seasons as it is like a double celebration. Spring and Easter seasons have one thing in common, we are witnessing the signs of new life and growth. During the Easter season, we announce that "Christ is Risen – He is Risen Indeed." It is an "every Sunday" celebration. We continue to celebrate the gift of life each day. We are reminded during Easter that we have forgiveness of sins and the gift of eternal life with a loving God. We live each day knowing that Jesus is "the resurrection and the life." Jesus is indeed the Way, the Truth, and the Life. With that, we are comforted knowing that God through Jesus walks with us each step of the way, every day. Happy Easter!

Peace,
Pastor J. Mamy & Noel Ranaivoson





Spring Congregation Meeting May 2, 12 p.m., with Zoom

Faith's spring congregation meeting to elect council representatives and receive annual reports will be held after worship Sunday, May 2, at 12 p.m. The meeting will again be held using Zoom. Since outdoor worship is planned for that Sunday, the meeting will be delayed until noon in order to allow those in attendance at worship to travel home. See more information from the Nominating Committee below regarding the council election.

Eligible voters are defined in our constitution as confirmed members of Faith who have both communed and made a contribution of record to this congregation at least once during the current or preceding calendar year (2020 or 2021). A contribution of record means one to which your name or envelope number is attached. If you put cash in the offering plate without your name or envelope number, that is **not** considered a contribution of record. This rule (C8.02) is required by the ELCA of all its affiliated congregations.

Eligible voters will receive instructions on how to attend the meeting either by email or postal mail the week prior to May 2. Questions may be directed to the church office by email or phone.

Nominating COMMITTEE

Nominees for Vice-President and Secretary have agreed to serve, but candidates for Outreach and Property council representatives are still needed. Council terms are two years, beginning July 1. One more person is also needed to serve on the 2022 Nominating Committee.

If you can serve in one of these positions, please contact a member of the 2021 Nominating Committee: Don Kuempel, chair; Misty Dush; Jo Ann Jones; and Rachel Harmon.



WELCA News

On Sunday, April 4, we celebrate Easter, the day our Savior Jesus Christ rose from the dead. The two greatest church festivals--Christmas and Easter--were first announced to human beings by angels as both events, incarnation of God at Christmas and resurrection of God's human child from death at Easter, were too "cosmic" for mortals to convey.

The April issue of ELCA's Gather Magazine concludes its Bible study on "Journey with Angels" and travels with angels who "firmly lead people from bleak walls of captivity and shadows of death into the light of freedom and joy." As you go through the study, listen for feasting, funny, and alleluia angels "who come to tell us news we are hungry to hear--that the door to laughter and life are open!" Scripture verses include: Psalm 78:25; Genesis 18:1-2, 6-14; Genesis 19:1-7; Genesis 19:12-16; Judges 6:1-6; Judges 6:11-12; 1 Kings 19:1-9a; Mark 16:1-8; Matthew 28:1-8 and Revelations 19:1-6. Through this study "We have seen how God sends angels to pull people out of despair" into great hope and life and "biblical witness strongly suggests that God still sends angels today to bring us food, laughter, and a new vision of life lived in God's eternal presence." Included in the April issue of Gather, along with many other interesting and uplifting articles, are the Daily Lenten Devotionals through Saturday, April 3. Also, please take the time to read the other interesting articles in the issue!

This month I again wish to share with you a portion of ELCA's Pastor Barbara Beale's article in the latest online issue of the Grapevine entitled "The Second Mark of Discipleship--Studying" as follows: "Why are we called to STUDY GOD'S WORD, this second characteristic of Discipleship: For one and most important reason--whenever we affirm our baptisms and respond with the words, 'we do, and ask God to help us and guide us,' we are promising God that we will: **live** among God's faithful people; **hear** the word of God and share in the Lord's Supper; **proclaim** the good news of God in Christ through word and deed; **serve** all people following the example of Jesus; and **strive** for justice and peace in all the earth. While we may consider the Bible as belonging to the church, our women's organization, WELCA, inspires its members to read and study God's Holy Word as individuals and as part of the community of faith. When we actively and regularly study the Bible and other theological books (for example: Luther's catechisms and other biblical commentaries), we are revitalized by God's message. We learn to love and know God through regular Bible study." (From Living Faith Congregational Planning Guide 2000 ELCA, admin. Augsburg Fortress).

Capital South Conference of the WELCA will have their Spring Conference as an online event Saturday, April 24, from 1:00 - 4:00 p.m. The event titled "Lift up your hearts! Embracing our relationships with God and one another in this time of grief and confinement" features Rozella Hardee White, Life and Leadership Coach, Creator, and Consultant. Bible Study leader is Pastor Anna K. Gordy, multi-disciplinary artist and therapeutic art life coach. Musical offerings will be by The Chickletts, a group of women from Christ Lutheran Elm Creek. All women are invited to gather for a day of fellowship, fun and study. Registration is a suggested donation of \$10. To register for the event, go online to: Lift Up Your Hearts! Capital South Conference WELCA.

Lutheran World Relief (LWR) plans to have an in-gathering of kits and quilts in early November and hopefully we will be able to gather before that date to complete and pack Faith's LWR contributions of school and personal care kits and quilts. The tables in sewing room 206 still have stacks of incomplete kits as they were left a year ago last March and items most needed to complete **School Kits** are: crayons (12 or 24 count); scissors (blunt); pencil sharpeners; erasers (2-1/2"), and rulers (12 inch). For each **Personal Care Kit**, the following items are needed: 1 light-weight bath-size towel (between 20"x40" and 52"x27", dark color recommended); 2-3 bath-size bars of soap equaling 8-9 oz (any brand, in original wrapping); 1 adult-size toothbrush; 1 sturdy comb; and 1 metal nail clippers (attached file optional). Those kit items can be purchased now and kept in your individual homes to be deposited in the narthex when we meet again for in-person church services.

Hopefully, you have received at least your first dose of the COVID-19 virus vaccine which indicates we are getting closer to that day when we can get together again. The "down time" we currently have is a good time to get some other things done--i.e., gathering school kit and personal care kit items for Lutheran World Relief and completing projects for the church bazaar which we hope to be able to safely hold this November. Donations for a bazaar already have been piling up in the Oliver House!

We've been through a difficult year but have much to be thankful for--including having a new pastor, Pastor Mamy, to lead our church. It will be great when we can meet again for church services, circle meetings, and all our WELCA meetings and events, but for now please take care and stay safe! Best wishes to all of you for a very "Happy Easter!"

Charleen Schneider
WELCA Unit President





Lenten Offerings will support the ELCA World Hunger Campaign

We hope that those of you with internet access have been taking advantage of learning more about how and where the ELCA World Hunger campaign has been helping folks around the world – and in our own backyard. Go to www.elca.org and search “World Hunger” and/or “40 Days of Giving 2021.” You’ll find stories about how your contributions will change people’s lives, and devotional materials concerning what it will take to end hunger in the world. Make checks payable to Faith Lutheran Church, notating “Lent” or “World Hunger” at the bottom.

Easter Sunday – April 4 Outside In-Person Worship Bring your food donations for Bread for All

If you are planning to attend the outside in-person Easter worship, consider bringing food donations for Bread for All as part of your Easter offering. Most-needed items are peanut butter, rice, dried beans, canned vegetables, and canned fruit. *We are also accepting empty one-dozen-size egg cartons, sturdy re-useable bags, and “newspaper sleeve” bags.* **Put your donations on the table in the narthex.** If needed, volunteers will be available to help carry your donations into the church. Your donations will be taken to Bread for All the next morning (Monday, April 5) for distribution that evening. THANK YOU!

If you aren’t planning to attend but want to support Bread for All with food or funds, call Cathy Z to arrange a pick-up.

Council Highlights from February 22, 2021:



- An outdoor worship service with Holy Communion will be held on March 7, weather permitting; it will also be Pastor Tom’s last Sunday to lead worship at Faith.
- Pastor Mamy’s first Sunday to preach and lead worship at Faith will be March 14; it will be an online service. His installation date has not been determined at this time.
- 678.5 pounds of food and \$340 were collected for Bread for All Pantry on January 30.
- Six pipes were damaged during the winter storm. Mike Davidson and Ken Schaefer were able to repair all but one, which has been shut off. Sheetrock and finishing work remains to be completed.
- Plans are being made to honor our three graduating seniors with an outdoor praise service and luncheon on May 16.



MEMORIALS AND HONORARIUMS

March, 2021

CDC

*Mike & Lynn Davidson
Wanda Muehlbrad
Wanda Muehlbrad
Wanda Muehlbrad
Wanda Muehlbrad*

*In Memory of Lucian Morrison
In Memory of Lee Roy Itz
In Memory of Dennis King
In Memory of Donald Redding
In Memory of Bill & Flora Thompson*

Emergency Reserve

*Spencer & Joyce Altman
Bertha Emshoff
William Jansen & Ingrid Dehn
Ray & Karen McGuire
Ray & Karen McGuire
Ben & Karen Noyes
Ben & Karen Noyes
Carl Schoener
Calvin & Diane Streeter
Jason, Jahnna, & Scarlett Ward
Larry Wieland & Bryan Lorance*

*In Memory of Lucian Morrison
In Memory of Lee Roy Itz
In Memory of Iris Wieland
In Memory of Lucian Morrison
In Memory of Iris Wieland
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In Memory of Iris Wieland
In Memory of Lee Roy Itz
In Memory of Lee Roy Itz
In Memory of Iris Wieland
In Memory of Iris Wieland*

Music & Handbell Fund

Mike & Lynn Davidson

In Memory of Iris Wieland

Unified Budget

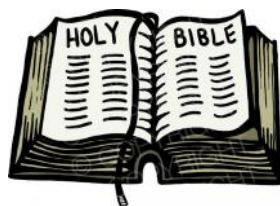
Alan & Shelly Van Dyke

*In Honor of Pastor Tom & Renee
Kesselring*

Youth

Brenda Sakewitz

In Memory of Lucian Morrison



Scripture Readings for April

Pastor Mamy encourages you to read Sunday's scriptures in advance of worship:

April 4

Acts 10:34-43
Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24
1 Corinthians 15:1-11
Mark 16:1-8

April 11

Acts 4:32-35
Psalm 133
1 John 1:1—2:2
John 20:19-31

April 18

Acts 3:12-19
Psalm 4
1 John 3:1-7
Luke 24:36b-48

April 25

Acts 4:5-12
Psalm 23
1 John 3:16-24
John 10:11-18



Member Deaths

Lucian Morrison died March 14. His graveside service was held on March 27, at Cook-Walden Capital Parks Cemetery in Pflugerville. Pastor Mamy Ranaivoson officiated.

Iris Wieland died March 18. Her graveside service was held on March 21, at Dessau Lutheran Cemetery in Pflugerville. Pastor Mamy Ranaivoson officiated.

MONTHLY FINANCIAL INFORMATION

<u>Month</u>	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Jan.	\$ 17,345	\$ 8,470	+\$ 8,875
Feb.	\$ 11,475	\$ 8,185	+\$ 3,290
YTD	\$ 28,820	\$ 16,655	+\$ 12,165

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

Figures are approximate, since multiple people may attend via each Facebook connection.

February 24	16
February 28	44
March 3	14
March 7	107
March 10	13
March 14	49
March 17	10
March 21	61

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

Pastor: Manny Ranaivoson

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.**

April, 2021

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