



# VOICE OF FAITH

Our Mission: "Reaching, Teaching, Serving, and Sharing Christ"

*February 2026*



**By the sweat of your face  
you shall eat bread,  
till you return to the ground,  
for out of it you were taken;  
for you are dust,  
and to dust you shall return.**

Genesis 3:19

## FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH LCMS

2012 Sullivan Trail, Easton PA 18040

(T) 610-253-1625 (E) [faithlcms@outlook.com](mailto:faithlcms@outlook.com)

(W) [faithlcms.com](http://faithlcms.com) (F) [facebook.com/faithlcmeaston](https://facebook.com/faithlcmeaston)

(Y) [youtube.com/faithlcmeaston](https://youtube.com/faithlcmeaston)

## FAITH LUTHERAN PRESCHOOL

2012 Sullivan Trail, Easton PA 18040

(T) 610-253-1572 (E) [faithlcmspreshool@gmail.com](mailto:faithlcmspreshool@gmail.com)

(W) [faithlcms.com/faith-lutheran-preschool](http://faithlcms.com/faith-lutheran-preschool)

(F) [facebook.com/faithlcmspreshool](https://facebook.com/faithlcmspreshool)

# FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH LEADERS

**Hon. Rev. Scot Kerns**

618-920-3479

[kernsds@gmail.com](mailto:kernsds@gmail.com)

## CHURCH OFFICE

**Office Administrator**

Jean E Wehrle

**Hours - Mon to Fri**

9:00 am - 4:00 pm

**Phone**

610-253-1625

**Email**

[faithlcms@outlook.com](mailto:faithlcms@outlook.com)

## ELECTED COUNCIL

**President**

John Murdoch

**Vice President/Ministry Chair**

David Hanson

**Secretary**

Jackie Morrow

**Treasurer**

**\*\*Position Open\*\***

**Finance Board**

Deb Paolini

**Elders Board**

Greg Pioppi

**Property Mgmt Board**

**\*\*Position Open\*\***

**Preschool Board**

Janet Murray

**At-Large Cong. Member**

**\*\*Position Open\*\***

**At-Large Cong. Member**

Lorraine Varela

**At-Large Cong. Member**

Donna Lugg

## MINISTRIES

**Children**

Jackie Morrow

**Youth**

Bambi Guptill

**Adult, Fellowship & Social**

Jeanne Iacono

**Assimilation & Stewardship**

**\*\*Position Open\*\***

**Evangelism**

**\*\*Position Open\*\***

## CHURCH CONTACTS

**Faith Lutheran Preschool**

Jenny D'Angelo

**Financial Secretary**

Kyle Garon

**Organist**

Sue Tucker

**Security**

Greg Pioppi

**Sunday School Superintendent**

Carrie Midgley

**Ushers**

Gary Sandt

**Voice of Faith Editor**

Jean E Wehrle

**Worship Committee**

Greg Pioppi



## NOTE:

*Meeting dates, times and location may change.  
Please call ahead to confirm. See contact below.*

## 55+ BIBLE STUDY

Pastor Kerns

[kernsds@gmail.com](mailto:kernsds@gmail.com)

11:00 am Tuesdays in Fellowship Hall

## ALTAR GUILD

See Judy Dilts

## ACOLYTES

Confirmands - Talk to Pastor Kerns

## LCMS READ-ALONG BOOK CLUB

Pastor Kerns

[kernsds@gmail.com](mailto:kernsds@gmail.com)

12:00 noon Mondays in Fellowship Hall

## LWML - Lutheran Women's Missionary League

See Janet Murray or Pastor Kerns

12:00 noon Fourth Sunday in Fellowship Hall

## MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST

Ted Cheung

8:00 am First Saturday at Nazareth Diner

## THRIVENT

See Pastor Kerns

## WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Mary Ruth Murdoch

11:30 am Thursdays in Fellowship Hall

## ELDERS

**HEAD ELDER**  
**Greg Pioppi**

Ted Cheung  
Gary Sandt  
Frank VandeVeegaete

Erik Wendt  
Tom Zaro



**"Viva Las Vegas!"** I saw those words everywhere as soon as I got off the plane in Vegas. This phrase means in Spanish "Live Las Vegas" or "Long Live Las Vegas". Today it is synonymous with the whole Vegas experience along with the iconic welcome sign. It is literally seen by millions of tourists who plan to live it up in Las Vegas.

So, it is an interesting backdrop for a gathering of members of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod (LCMS) to meet in a discussion centered around differing views of pastoral formation in the hope that greater harmony in our Synod's life together may arise. More than 120 people (clergy and lay members) in January came together at a church in Las Vegas to fraternally discuss pastoral formation and the differing viewpoints held within the LCMS. This included representation from 20 out of the 35 districts from around the Synod and included 11 out of the 35 district presidents. After a time of prayer and study, the remaining time of the gathering was spent hearing presentations by speakers with contrasting positions and having break-out sessions to discuss what was said and opinions related to the various points.

The press kit from the gathering summarized the topics discussed as:

- Benefits of residential seminary as the standard pastoral formation option
- Online seminary as an effective option in addition to residential seminary
- History of Synod resolutions related to pastoral formation
- Types of pastors congregations and district presidents are looking for and why residential or online seminary options fulfill those needs

After hearing presentations on the previously discussed topics, attendees seated at assigned tables were given the task of answering together, as a whole table, where there was common ground on issues presented by the speakers.

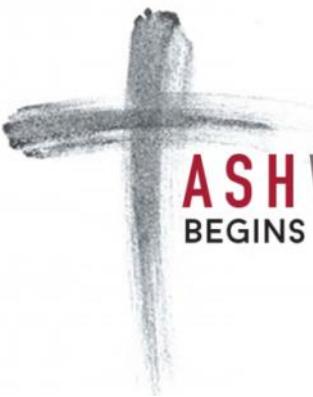
As mentioned before, the tables were assigned seating. This was to break up the 120 attendees based on their self-selected viewpoints related to pastoral formation. This included 90 with the viewpoint of "online seminary education can be an effective option for MDiv formation" and only 30 or less with the viewpoint of "residential seminary as the standard for MDiv formation". What this amounted to, is one to two people at each table of eight or so who believe that the Masters of Divinity (MDiv) degree should only be accomplished through residential seminary. Overall, discussions were plentiful while consensus was scarce.

One of the first tasks given to each table was to determine, "Here is where we agree". It was interesting that even for this first task of determining what we all agree on, my table spent roughly 25 minutes in discussion only to come up with the one thing we could agree on, which was that each side did not trust the other side advocating the opposing position. The reason for this disagreement is that pastoral formation in the LCMS was not the only issue at play. Hidden behind this issue were all sorts of other disagreements that each side was not verbalizing, at least at first, but were none the less important points that colored each side's view on the issue of pastoral formation.

Some people have asked me if I enjoyed my time in Vegas. Definitely, when people think of Vegas, they think of slot machines, living it up, and an overall good time. This was not the experience that I had. Yet it was important to the overall life of our church to be there, to be in the room, and to discuss these important issues together. In fact, Synod means to "walk together", but there are those who have such differing views, we cannot live and walk together until resolutions can be made.

Some say "Viva Las Vegas". I say "Viva LCMS" as it is our lives together, walking together in unity of faith that defines who we are as the LCMS. If you would like more information and have some free time, an LCMS Pastor from the Pittsburg area who was at the gathering was interviewed about the issues behind the issues and gives an excellent summary. A link to that video is here: <https://youtu.be/IhPwv2Xenwk?si=3kYQg6ujqoV3zFYc>.

It is my prayer that as we prepare to meet as a Synod in convention this summer in Phoenix, some resolutions to these issues may be found. Amen.



**ASH WEDNESDAY**  
BEGINS THE SEASON OF LENT

**JOIN US FOR  
WORSHIP WITH THE  
IMPOSITION OF ASHES**

**February 18, 2026  
7:00 pm**



**Wednesdays**  
**Feb 18, 25, Mar 4, 11, 18, 25**  
**at 6:00 pm**

Join us for fellowship and a delicious warm meal at our Soup Suppers at 6:00 pm in Fellowship Hall, then attend Ash Wednesday and Midweek of Lent Worship services at 7:00 pm.

If you would like to donate soup and/or bread for a meal, please sign up on the bulletin board across from the church office. Please plan to bring soup and sliced bread to Fellowship Hall by 5:45 pm. Thank you!

## **COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS**

JANUARY 12, 2025

Council President John Murdoch called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm. Council members present were John Murdoch, Greg Pioppi, Jackie Morrow, Debra Paolini, Sue Tucker (temporary Preschool Chair), Donna Lugg, and Lorraine Varela. Pastor Kerns and David Hanson were absent.

No motions were passed this month.

Items of note this month included organizing plans for the January 18, 2026, Special Voters Meeting, upcoming church events, repairing the leak in the

church roof over the Fellowship Hall hallway, and efforts to make paying bills quicker through the use of electronic fund transfers rather than the BillPay service currently in use.

Complete meeting minutes are available by request in the church office after their approval at next month's Council meeting. The next Council meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 9, at 7:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jackie Morrow, Council Secretary

## RAMBLINGS FROM THE HEAD ELDER

Ah February. One month closer to Spring. One month closer to hearing what I call the most beautiful words in the English language, "Pitchers and catchers report." A month to celebrate all of our U.S. Presidents; and of course, the month that has that one day to enrich florists, greeting card shops, chocolatiers, and jewelry stores. You know - Valentine's Day.

Now Valentine's Day is set aside by the Western churches to commemorate, some say Valentine of Terni, in what is now Italy. Others believe that it honors Valentine of Rome and a third possibility is Valentine of the African province of the Roman Empire. All three were clergymen, either a Priest or a Bishop and per legends, all three were ministering to the persecuted Christians in the region where they lived when they were martyred.

The name "Valentine", derived from *valens* (worthy, strong, powerful), was popular in late antiquity. About eleven other saints with the name Valentine are commemorated in the Catholic Church. So which one we are remembering? Your guess is as good as mine.

And did you know that St. Valentine in the Roman Catholic Church is known as the patron saint of Logistics, Epilepsy and Beekeepers.

We in the LCMS know Valentine as a real person who in the third-century was Christian and a physician. Around A.D. 270, under the reign of Claudius II in ancient Rome, Valentine laid down his life as a martyr for Christ. Valentine indeed died a martyr for Christ and the tradition of sending notes of love and encouragement on his feast day persists. So here's my challenge to you: Put the "saint" back in the day. On Feb. 14, celebrate the martyr who witnessed to the love that lasts forever, the love of the crucified, risen and returning Lord! A very happy St. Valentine's Day to one and all!

IHS, Greg Pioppi, Chairman Board of Elders



**Grades 2nd-12th  
who follow  
St. Andrew's  
example of quiet,  
faithful service.**



## 4TH ANNUAL FAITH AND FITNESS CLASS

Dear Members of Faith Lutheran Church,

As part of a community outreach program, I would like to offer the 4th Annual Faith and Fitness Class. This would be a 6 week program which would meet on Tuesdays and Fridays for approximately 60-90 minutes. **This 6 week program starts February 10th and end March 20, 2026. The classes will be from 10:30 am to 12 noon in Fellowship Hall.** These classes are intended for those individuals that may answer yes to any of these 3 questions:

- **Do you use a cane or a walker?**
- **Do you feel unsteady on your feet?**
- **Have you fallen in the past year?**

Of course others can join us, but this will not be a high impact exercise class. It will be offered to get people moving and offer some strengthening/balancing exercises to help prevent falls.

Emphasis is placed on flexibility, balance and core strength. Each routine will offer a modification to meet the ability of the participant. The first class will include an overview of terminology, such as the importance of warm up, cool down, sets, reps, etc.. Activity will most likely be 30-45 minutes.

An informal devotion will be offered during this time as well. This devotional time can include a time of thanks, prayer requests, perhaps a reading from Portals of Prayers or a short inspirational story from Guidepost, or a devotion from the Lutheran Hour Ministries. Participants could also reflect on their favorite bible passage and why it means so much to them. Simply, a time of thanks and sharing what makes us faithful.

I believe in having a set start time and end time, so participants can fit other activities into their busy lifestyles. I am willing to offer blood pressure monitoring and educating members on how to monitor their own pulse and certainly remind participants and members of our church on where the AED is located.

### About Me:

I have a teaching degree in Health and Physical Education and a Masters degree in Clinical Exercise Physiology. I spent 40 years in the field of Cardiac and Pulmonary rehabilitation and retired in January of 2022 from Lehigh Valley Health Network. I look forward to sharing my skill set to members of Faith Lutheran Church and perhaps friends from the community.

Please note that my email address is DarleneMGaron@gmail.com and my cell number is 610-392-4632. We will cancel due to inclement weather to ensure that we remain safe and avoid fall risks with icy conditions. I ask that you contact me directly if there is any question if we would be meeting. If there are any questions or concerns that would like to be addressed privately, please do not hesitate to contact me.

**PLEASE SIGN UP IN THE NARTHEX** or you can contact myself or the church office directly to add your name to the list. Days missed due to inclement weather will not be made up. The following are the dates that we will meet:

Tuesdays	Fridays
Feb 10	Feb 13
Feb 17	Feb 20
Feb 24	Feb 27
March 3	March 6
March 10	March 13
March 17	March 20

- Darlene Garon



### Please Note!

**55+ Bible Study** held on Tuesdays at 11:00 am will be **ON BREAK** from Feb 10 to Mar 17. 55+ Bible Study will resume March 24.

# KIDS' CORNER

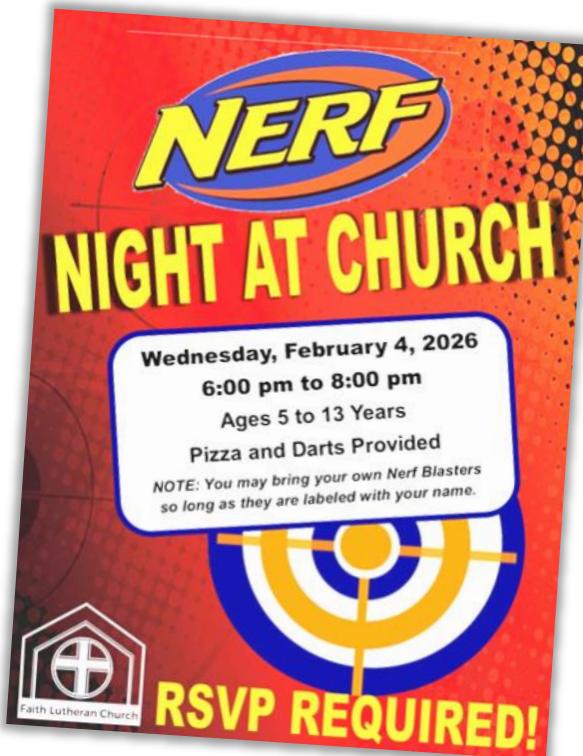


Welcome to the "Kids' Corner," where families and congregant members can stay up to date with Sunday School material and Children's Ministry offerings!

**Nerf Night** is coming up on Wednesday, February 4, from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm. Kids ages 5-13 will participate in a night of pizza and Nerf blaster fun! Basic blasters and darts will be provided, and kids can bring their own blasters from home as well (please label them to prevent mix ups). Register with the church office and join us for this fun event!

Thank you to all who donated to the **Baby Supplies Drive** benefitting Moms Offering Mom's Support (MOMS). Together we are able to do the work of Christ in helping babies and families in our area.

For questions about Children's Ministry offering, please contact Jackie Morrow



## 2026/2027 FAITH LUTHERAN PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION

**February 10 - Open to Church Members**

**February 17 - Open to the Public**

Registration forms available for download from our website; paper copies available in the office hallway. Please visit our website for more information at [faithlcms.com/faith-lutheran-preschool](http://faithlcms.com/faith-lutheran-preschool).

### TOTS

- **Must be 2 years old** by Sep 1, 2026
- 9:00 am to 11:30 am
- 2 Days: Tue and Thu - Tuition \$200 per month

### JUNIORS

- **Must be 3 years old** by Sep 1, 2026 and Potty Trained
- 9:00 am to 12:00 pm
- 3 Day Option: Mon, Wed and Fri - Tuition \$240 per month
- 4 Day Option: Mon, Tue, Wed, and Fri - Tuition \$270 per month

### SENIORS

- **Must be 4 years old** by Sep 1, 2026 and Potty Trained
- 9:00 am to 12:00 pm
- 3 Day Option: Mon, Wed and Fri - Tuition \$240 per month
- 4 Day Option: Mon, Wed, Thu and Fri - Tuition \$270 per month



## COFFEE & CATECHISM

### Every Sunday after Worship Fellowship Hall

ALL MEMBERS are highly encouraged to join us weekly after Sunday worship in Fellowship Hall as we learn about our Faith - what we teach, believe and confess. Ends by noon!



## 55+ BIBLE STUDY

**\*\* ON BREAK FROM \*\***  
**February 10 through March 17**

**Tuesdays at 11:00 am**  
**Fellowship Hall**

All are welcome to join Pastor Kerns weekly on Tuesdays for Bible Study specifically for adults age 55 and older.



## ALTAR FLOWERS

### Sign Up Poster in Narthex

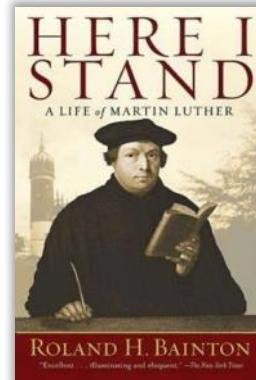
Cut flower bouquets beautify the altar while reminding us of the fragility of life. Dedicate flowers in memory of loved ones or in honor of a special family occasion such as birthdays, retirements, or anniversaries! Please make \$30 check payable to: Faith Lutheran Church, Memo - Altar Flowers



## LCMS READ-ALONG BOOK CLUB

**Mondays at 12:00 pm**  
**Fellowship Hall**

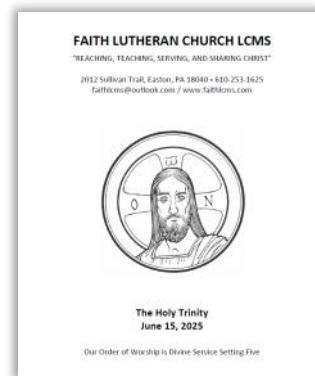
Read only during book club meetings. Join us every Monday at noon. Come as you are and enjoy the current story. There is always time to catch up on chapters. Join anytime!



## SPONSOR A BULLETIN

### Sign Up on the Bulletin Board

Help defray the cost of printing by sponsoring Faith's weekly bulletin! Dedications and anonymous Sponsors are welcome. Sign up on the Bulletin Board. One sponsor per week. \$20 per Sponsor. Cash, or Check written out to Faith Lutheran Church. Credit Cards accepted via your Realm Profile under the Giving tab (be sure to select the Bulletin Sponsor Fund).



## MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST

**Saturday, February 7 at 8:00 am**  
**The Nazareth Diner**

Held the first Saturday of every month, join Ted Cheung and your fellow Faith Lutheran members for fellowship and prayer.

Men's Prayer Breakfast held at:

The Nazareth Diner  
581 South Broad Street  
Nazareth, PA 18064

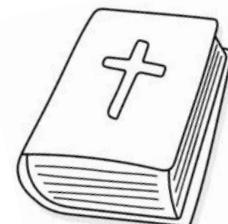


## WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

**Thursdays at 11:30 am**  
**Fellowship Hall**

Join Mary Ruth Murdoch for Bible Study in Fellowship Hall on Thursdays from 11:30 am to 12:30 pm. Current study topic is the **Book of Psalms**.

See Mary Ruth for more details



## FAITH LUTHERAN FAMILY PRAYERS



Please include the following families in your prayers this month. They will also be remembered in a special way during Sunday Worship.

### Faith Families

02/01	Robin Stewart	Carolyn Stielau
02/08	The Tafel Family	Ellen and Ted Toth
02/15	Kathy Troxell	Sue Tucker and Family
02/22	Alyssa VanEmburgh and Family	The VandeVeegaete Family

### Military Families

Kevin Jiorle  
Justin Muhlbach  
Spencer Muhlbach

Stephen Sargent  
Zachary Tolson



# February

[REDACTED]

**Faith Lutheran Members - Did We Miss Your Birthday?**

Update on Realm or email [faithlcms@outlook.com](mailto:faithlcms@outlook.com)

# February



**Did We Miss Your Anniversary?**

Update on Realm or email  
[faithlcms@outlook.com](mailto:faithlcms@outlook.com)



Next Meeting is  
**Sunday, FEBRUARY 22, 2026**  
**at 12:00 pm**  
in Fellowship Hall

Do you desire to share the Gospel message, and have a heart to serve? Join us to *Serve the Lord with gladness!* (*Psalm 100:2*). LWML meetings held the fourth Sunday of the month at noon in Fellowship Hall.

Visit [Lutheran Women's Missionary League \(LWML\)](#) for more information.

**REMEMBER OUR SHUT-INS**  
with Prayers and Cards

**VISITATION TEAM**  
Pastor Kerns & Gary Sandt



[REDACTED]



# Worship\*



## **Sun, February 1**

Officiant:

Assistant/Reader:

Usher:

Greeter:

Organist:

### **9:45 am**

Hon. Rev. Scot Kerns

Greg Pioppi, Ted Cheung

Sonya and John Bronico

Nicole Zelasko and Jase

Sue Tucker

## **Sun, February 8**

Officiant:

Assistant:

Reader:

Usher:

Greeter:

Organist:

### **9:45 am**

Hon. Rev. Scot Kerns

Frank VandeVeegaete, Gary Sandt

Juli VandeVeegaete

Darlene Garon, Judy Dilts

Sharon and Jack Smickle

Sue Tucker

## **Wed, February 11**

Officiant:

Assistant/Reader:

Organist:

### **7:00 pm**

Hon. Rev. Scot Kerns

Erik Wendt

Sue Tucker

## **Sun, February 15**

Officiant:

Assistant/Reader:

Usher/Greeter:

Organist:

### **9:45 am**

Hon. Rev. Scot Kerns

Gary Sandt, Frank VandeVeegaete

Sirma and Kyle Garon

Sue Tucker

## **ASH WEDNESDAY WORSHIP**

### **Wed, February 18**

Officiant:

Assistant/Reader:

Organist:

### **7:00 pm**

Hon. Rev. Scot Kerns

Greg Pioppi

Sue Tucker

## **Sun, February 22**

Officiant:

Assistant:

Reader:

Usher:

Greeter:

Organist:

### **9:45 am**

Hon. Rev. Scot Kerns

Ted Cheung, Greg Pioppi

Donna Lugg

Deb and Ed Paolini

Colleen Conrad

Sue Tucker

### **7:00 pm**

Hon. Rev. Scot Kerns

Erik Wendt

Sue Tucker



### **Wed, February 25**

Officiant:

Assistant/Reader:

Organist:

### **\* WORSHIP SCHEDULE SUBJECT TO CHANGE**

Please check the website and/or weekly bulletins for the most up-to-date information.

### **WORSHIP NOTES**

If you feel unwell, please stay home and worship with us on YouTube. Thank you for helping us keep our members and guests healthy!

### **FAITH NURSERY**

When little ones worship with us, our heavenly Father is thrilled! If any parent feels the need, the childcare room will be open for parents to accompany their child ages 5 and younger during worship.

### **INCLEMENT WEATHER REMINDER**

Decision to cancel or hold worship will be determined by officiant and head elder. Check WFMZ 69 for updates!



[youtube.com/faithlcmseaston](https://youtube.com/faithlcmseaston)

Be sure to visit our YouTube channel! Weekly worship streamed LIVE every Sunday (subject to change). Videos posted include past weekly and holiday worship, fun kid's messages, and various other videos.