

Life Together at Faith Lutheran Church

April 2023

The Parish Life, News, and all else for Faith Lutheran Church of Westchester, Illinois – connecting you with His Church.

Faith Phone: 1(708) 885-0001
1(708) 650-4082 (pastor's cell phone)



Sunday Morning Divine Worship	9:00 a.m.
Sunday Scripture, Prayers, and Preaching	11:00 a.m.
Prayers for Healing, Consolation, and Hope (it is after Divine Service)	First Sunday of the Month
Sunday Adult Bible Study	10:15 a.m. (begins 9/18)
Private Confession/Absolution	Upon request.

Reverend David L. Prentice Jr., Pastor - pastor.prentice@comcast.net

Deacon(s): Tim Graves

Sub-deacon(s): David L. Prentice, III

Sick, ill, in need of pastoral care (any emergency) ...

Call Pat Prentice (630) 567-4082; she knows where I am at all times. Of course, my cell phone is (708) 650-4082. The Web Site will forward me an email (and some have used it). AND, the church phone above will forward your voicemail to me as well. Please remember, I can only help "if" you contact me.

A Note from Pastor Prentice...

Some thoughts on prayer to start things off; the midweek Lenten services are all about the great prayer taught by Christ - The Lord's Prayer, but I get it, attendance is low, we are busy people. That said, as we conclude the midweek services, I will condense my sermons into some "light" reading on this great prayer for you to reflect upon.

I hope we pray often, and one reason we do and should is the fellowship we have with our Lord. Prayer takes "us"; the "me" side out of the equation. In our recent Bible Study on Mark's Gospel, Mark 9:14-29 is an account of Jesus healing. Oh, Jesus gets it down, but the issue was with the disciples. They tried earlier to drive out the demon plaguing the child, but they could not. Now at the end, Jesus does

not scold them, Jesus just reminds them, "Disciples, you needed to pray." Perhaps they thought by being in Jesus' group of followers, they could do it simply by being associated with Jesus. Nope. It takes prayer to the Heavenly Father (or any person of the Trinity) to get it done. Jesus basically tells the disciples, you were not capable of doing it, and that is OK...but your Heavenly Father is capable of all things. So pray! Now will we receive all things in prayer? No, and that is another issue, but as a father (or mother too) receives all sorts of requests from a child, things that are good and beneficial will be provided. Again...pray...and pray often...because you can! God is listening.

Now onto part two, my thoughts on the 2023 Mission Life of Faith Lutheran; we have existed for 75 years. Thanks be to God! Sure, not as large as days gone by, but where the altar stands, the Word is preached, the Sacraments are provided, we are as mighty in the earthly and heavenly kingdom as our larger sister churches.

In Matthew's Gospel, the last thing Jesus said was:

Matthew 28:19-20

Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, [20] teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

When Faith was formed 75 years ago as a mission start, the good people decided Westchester needed a church plant, to do just what Christ asked, "Go...be church, Word and Sacrament is to be done!" Yes, things were different back then. Parishes were in the neighborhood. No Internet, people walked to church, etc. Yet today, we still have the same mission, and as long as Faith is a congregation, we should heed Christ's mission, to the best of our ability.

That said. We need to begin a discussion of where Faith goes from here, 25, 50, for 75 more years. Yes, many will not be around, but as long as Faith remains a congregation, we must make sure...we are heeding God's call as Jesus, through St. Matthew's Gospel has commanded.

So, can we form a committee to think about this, to discuss a plan for moving forward with Christ's mission, a mission that was started at Faith 75 years ago.

Pray about it, think about it. If you have ideas, please...step forward. Thinkers, planners, and doers are all welcome.

Finally, at the Voter's Meeting, we discussed Holy Communion practice. We will

continue as we have done for the past few years, coming up as family units. On special occasions, the chalice will come out but it is OK if no one uses it. The individual cups are just fine.

Blessings to all - Pastor Prentice

Reports from the Faith Boards

Education at Faith (Director Deacon Tim Graves) ...

- 01) The Gospel of Mark continues, and we are in chapter 8 at the moment.
- 02) The next topic (most likely next fall) will be St. John's Revelation.
- 03) Concord, Coffee, and Prayers - during Lent, every other week, please watch the Web,

Finance at Faith (Director is Rolland Wakeman) ...

Mr. Wakeman keeps a keen eye on the books, and so far, "well done". You can always ask him for any and all updates. We do have the latest update of finances available in the back of church.

Evangelism at Faith (Director Position is open) ...

- Invitation is perhaps one of the best outreach tools.
- We could use a Director to step up and consider the mission of Faith.

Properties at Faith (Director is Patrick Prentice) ...

We are trying to do more "around the church" cleanup work, both indoors and outdoors. A date is not set, but we want to do this quarterly. Watch the Web and the bulletin.

A more detailed to do list is in the works.

Stewardship at Faith (Director Position is open) ...

Position is open.

Parish Fellowship at Faith (Director Position is open) ...

Position is open.

Potluck was a huge success and this will continue in Advent.

We can certainly use a Director, especially as we begin to think about next year's 75th anniversary of Faith becoming a chartered congregation.

Library Committee ...

Yes, we do have one (Eunice Becker, Tim Graves, and Candy Smith) and work is underway to update our library located in the basement.

Around the Parish - Dates and Other Happenings

Monthly Birthdays ... and Anniversaries ... (if we forgot, email us, please)

Henry and Nancy VanTholen - April 6, 1963

Lucille Slottag - April 11

Calendar of events, worship, places where Pastor Prentice is ...

(Events also on the WEB, always up-to-date)

April 02 - Palm Sunday / Passion Sunday, Divine Service at 9 am with Prayers for Healing, Consolation and Hope following.

- Bible Study at 10:15 am
- Service of Scripture, Prayers, and Preaching at 11 am

April 06 - Maundy Thursday, Divine Service at 7 pm

April 07 - Good Friday Tre-Ori at noon at Messiah in Chicago. Pastor Prentice preaches on "It is finished", the second to last word.

April 07 - Good Friday at Faith, Service of Light at 7 pm.

April 09 - Easter Sunday, Divine Service at 9 am

- Easter Breakfast (No Bible Study)
- Service of Scripture, Prayers, and Preaching at 11 am

April 16 - 2nd Sunday of Easter, Divine Service at 9 am

- Bible Study at 10:15 am
- Service of Scripture, Prayers, and Preaching at 11 am

April 18 - Pastor at special Winkel in Elgin.

April 23 - 3rd Sunday of Easter, Divine Service at 9 am

- Bible Study at 10:15 am
- Service of Scripture, Prayers, and Preaching at 11 am

April 30 - 4th Sunday of Easter, Divine Service at 9 am

- Bible Study at 10:15 am
- Service of Scripture, Prayers, and Preaching at 11 am