

Life Together at Faith Lutheran Church

May 2023

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

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



1124 Westchester Blvd. Westchester, IL 60154
<http://Faith-Lutheran-Church.com>

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 offer pastoral comfort and help "if" you contact me. Oh yes, even if in a hospital, they do not call...

A Note from Pastor Prentice...

I really want to share with you one of the key passages in our Mark study (Mark 10:46-52) -

And they came to Jericho. And as he was leaving Jericho with his disciples and a great crowd, Bartimaeus, a blind beggar, the son of Timaeus, was sitting by the roadside. [47] And when he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to cry out and say, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" [48] And many rebuked him, telling him to be silent. But he cried out all the more, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" [49] And Jesus stopped and said, "Call him." And they called the blind man, saying to him, "Take heart. Get up; he is calling you." [50] And throwing off his cloak, he sprang up and came to Jesus. [51] And Jesus said to

him, "What do you want me to do for you?" And the blind man said to him, "Rabbi, let me recover my sight." [52] And Jesus said to him, "Go your way; your faith has made you well." And immediately he recovered his sight and followed him on the way.

Up to now in Mark's Gospel account, Jesus was a bit silent on whom He was, but not now, silence is not an option. A blind man sees, cries out for mercy; and even though the crowds told him to "shut up", he could not. This Jesus, the Son of God, the Messiah, the Savior of the world stopped what He was doing, called for him, and Jesus nicely asked, "what do you want?" To be healed was the answer, and Jesus did not just heal him, but most importantly, Jesus reminded him of his faith. Yes, we may be healed of bodily ills, but the soul needs Jesus, and we get that by faith as we follow Him.

This man simply did not run home all happy (OK, maybe at some point), but he followed Jesus because his sight was healed. Not just his sight of images and trees, etc., but his "sight" of Jesus and what Jesus offers.

That is why we need to follow Jesus, no matter what happens. And what do you get when you follow Jesus? If we go all the way back to the first chapter of Mark, a demon is one of the first to recognize Jesus as the Son of God, with divine power and authority; and Jesus destroys all powers of darkness and sin, that would hope to overcome us.

It takes faith to receive all the power that Jesus offers, which is eternal salvation for a fallen soul. Oh, the demon knows of God, but has no faith; we by the power of the Holy Spirit, as we receive the Word of God, as we receive the Sacraments often; we follow Jesus, just as the no longer blind man does...all the way to heaven when our last breath on earth occurs.

Finally, notice the word "immediately", often used by Mark, when you put your faith in Jesus, you do not work your way over time to be healed...it is immediate.

We still bask in Easter joy, so continue to follow Jesus. And perhaps a little 75th Anniversary Mission reminder, the blind man could not be silent...so you too, when a chance is given, do not be silent (maybe an invite to Faith Church is a nice start). Share the joy of Christ, and how you are healed by Christ's death and glorious resurrection.

Ps) Please prayerfully consider a board position as our upcoming June Voter's

meeting is the time for elections.

Blessings to all - Pastor Prentice

Reports from the Faith Boards

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

01) The Gospel of Mark continues, the road to the cross is now underway. We really do want to complete this study before the summer break.

02) The next topic (most likely next fall) will be St. John's Revelation.

03) Concord, Coffee, and Prayers - Please watch the bulletin for upcoming times. We really do want to offer this time for discussion once a month.

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) ...

01) Landscape work in ongoing, new grass seed is taking hold; weed and feed was applied.

02) We plan on some tree removal in the near future, especially the one near the church on the north side (mostly dead).

03) We found out, the drain between the church and parish house was plugged with concrete (perhaps from the village years ago). So basically, it is useless as a drain, which is why water seeps into the basement.

04) We apologize for the Maundy Thursday parking lot fiasco with a ball game ongoing. As we move forward, we will try and coordinate better.

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

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

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.

Oh yes, a new "library space", (or just a nice place to chat) is being put together in the sanctuary hall (basement). If anyone has some extra shelves, please let the committee know.

Around the Parish - Dates and Other Happenings

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

Jorge and Jean Meza

- May 22

Butch Van Tholen – May 3rd

Tim Graves – May 4th

Nancy Van Tholen – May 15th

Abigail Meza - May 28th

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

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

May 1 to 3 - Pastor at NID Pastor's Conference

May 07 - 5th Sunday of Easter, Divine Service at 9 am

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

May 14 - We celebrate the Ascension, Divine Service at 9 am

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

May 21 - 7th Sunday of Easter, Divine Service at 9 am

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

May 28 - We celebrate Pentecost, Divine Service at 9 am

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