

The Newsletter of Faith Lutheran Church

September 2018

The Parish News of Faith Lutheran Church of Westchester, Illinois – connecting you with His Church.

Faith Office Phone:

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<http://Faith-Lutheran-Church.com>

Sunday Morning Divine Worship	9:00 a.m.
Sunday Adult Bible Study	10:30 a.m. (starts 9/9/18)

Reverend David L. Prentice Jr., Pastor - pastor.prentice@comcast.net
Deacon(s): Tim Graves

A Note from Pastor Prentice...

Of late, a reality does exist for all of us Christians and it goes like this, "why do bad things, or trials and afflictions happen to us?" The answer is, well, complicated in a way. On one end, perhaps we simply sit back and say, "Hey, we are saved; we soon will die and go to heaven. What more do I want?" On the other end, great despair or concern of why a loving God would allow or put us through such hardships might arise. Yet in reality, there is much more to this and a loving God does NOT leave us hanging. That is why the upcoming special service opportunity is being added (see below), and why the start of Bible class will be a study on how we address Trials and Afflictions in a Biblical manner. At the same time, for one more month I will leave the Grief Share Information for all to look at, you can attend one or more sessions I do believe.

Some have asked, "We need more people in the pews." Of course, I do agree, we have plenty of room to stretch out for sure." Yet, the true answer is that the Holy Spirit will handle all this, all we need to do is His bidding and offer proper Word and Sacrament ministry in His house. Now the Holy Spirit does want us to share the Gospel with others, but their ears and eyes will be opened by the Holy Spirit. And the reality, sometimes their hearts will be hard to the Message of Salvation; but that is not our worry. Keep trying. But when you all come into His house or someone does that seeks a Church home, I will make sure the Word is preached, prayers are offered as needed, care is met, and teaching is done to strengthen us as we await a glorious reunion with the Saints in heaven.

So, trying to answer the call (and besides the above good service and teaching being added), I am adding as a start and as a trial, an 11:30 worship service on the 2nd Sunday of each month. So if someone says that 9:00 am is too early, well "what's your excuse?" Maybe no one will show up at first, but we will try (all of us) and invite a friend to come and sit in His house and hear the Good News in a distinctively Lutheran (LCMS) perspective. I will use the LSB Prayers and Preaching as a start, and I may call it a seeker service. There are many out there that need what we have to offer...the Triune God presented in a right teaching. Maybe some will disagree, but we can certainly discuss that within His walls.

In the end, who really knows what the Holy Spirit has in store for Faith Lutheran of Westchester? But we will keep trying and we will keep praying to Him for guidance along the way.

Blessings - Pastor Prentice

Sunday Morning Prayers for Healing, Hope, and Consolation - Come join me in the chapel after the 9 am service, and on the 2nd Sunday of each month for prayers to heal our broken hearts, bodies and mind. Though we suffer, we cannot be crushed because Jesus loves us and stands by us. If you need prayers, please come. If you know a friend or family member who needs a healing touch and especially those without Christ, invite them. The service is about 15 minutes (a good start).

Grief Share / Handling Crisis - Of late, many of us have experienced loss in various ways, or a crisis, and it is hard to deal with. Telling you, Jesus loves you and prepares a room in heaven for those that departed in the faith is a fact; but does not offer some extra practical advice for us who wait the final days. Having a crisis and saying, Jesus shares in our pain is great, but we also need some extra help along the way. I have been pondering these things and here is at least one that may help (more to come):

- Elmhurst Hospital has a Grief Support Group, and a Coping with Grief Support Group. The new sessions begin this August and are free, just go! I do believe they conclude in January, and then cycle around again.

Grief Support Group - begins August 2, meets the first and third Thursday of every month from 9:30 to 11:00 a.m.; in the Willow Conference Room, the lower level.

Coping with Grief Support Group - begins August 7, meets the first and third

Monday of every month from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.; in the Maple Conference Room, the lower level.

Both groups meet at Elmhurst Hospital, which is at 155 E. Brush Hill Road, Elmhurst Illinois, 60126.

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

Call Pat Prentice (630) 567-4082; she is the acting Church secretary and knows where I am at all times. Of course, my cell phone is (708) 650-4082. If you call the Church phone (708) 343-1030, I get an email alert to my Comcast account. The new Web Site will also forward me an email.

Faith Prayer Ministry...

I ask prayers for our shut-ins, and after a prayer, "perhaps" when all is good, nothing to do, give them a call. If you need an Address / Phone Book, please request via email or ask on Sunday.

Christa Scardina (and Mike)
Ruth Brockmann

Larry and Kuni Dvorak
Mr. Kaapke

If you have a prayer request, please phone or email, and tell pastor, "please let the church pray for ...", or ask for private prayers.

Reports from the Faith Boards

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

01) We begin 9/9/18 at 10:30 am with a study of Dealing with Trials and Afflictions.

02) Upcoming studies are being planned, here is a sneak peak.

* 1 Corinthians - our walk with faith, some good tools are within.

* Revelation of John - always a good study, we have dug up a great DVD series.

* A study on prayer (most likely the next class).

03) Concord and Coffee will begin in October, watch for the beginning date. This time together has been well received.

Finance at Faith (Director is open) ...

There is nothing new to report, but if you have questions or concerns, just ask. The bills are getting paid, the monies are being counted. Thanks to all.

Evangelism at Faith (Director is open) ...

- What great new service and teaching opportunities...so "go tell someone".
- Invitation is perhaps one of the best outreach tools.
- Remember to see and tell others of the Web Site, the staff always keeps it up to date.
- Please assist as able when we have our Outreach events. We can certainly use helpers.

Faith Engages the Community / Evening with Cook County Commissioner Richard Boykin -

In our community, we have tough issues confronting every day life. In our community, we elect leaders to help us live together in harmony. Commissioner Boykin is an elected leader with a passion for service.

He has agreed to come and join Faith and the community on September 25. We meet at 6:30 p.m. to have some coffee and greet the man. At 7:00 p.m., we begin our discussion and go until (in reality, he needs to leave). Perhaps 8:30 ish.

Want to know more about him, see his Web Site at www.richardboykin.com.

So start to formulate some questions on how we can engage community life in a God fearing, and harmonious way. This is a good start.

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

- (Outstanding Issue) No news on the fire alarm system that is to be installed in the parish (office) house.
- (Outstanding Issue) Carillon Chimes - well, the system has taken a turn for the worst, the receiver may have gone bad. Working on a solution at a good cost.

Stewardship at Faith (Director is open) ...

- Nothing at the moment.

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

- Thinking about an Advent / Christmas time happening...so put on your thinking caps to ponder how this might come to be.

Around the Parish - Dates and Other Happenings

Monthly Birthdays ... and Anniversaries ... (if we forgot, email us)
Nick and Carolyn Pampenella - September 24, 1994

David Prentice III – September 8th

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

- 09/02 – 15th Sunday after Pentecost 9 am
(Divine Service 4 - Holy Communion celebrated)
- 09/09– 16th Sunday after Pentecost 9 am
(Divine Service 4 - Holy Communion celebrated)
- 09/09 - Prayers, Hope, Healing and Consolation 10:05 am
(A time to heal and reflect)
- 09/09 - Bible Study / Dealing with Trials and Afflictions 10:30 am
- 09/09 - Seeker Worship / Prayers and Preaching 11:30 am
- 09/14 - Pastor and Pat attend a Kleinig Day at St. John's (all day)
- 09/16 – 17th Sunday after Pentecost 9 am
(Divine Service 4 - Holy Communion celebrated)
- 09/16 - Bible Study / Dealing with Trials and Afflictions 10:30 am
- 09/17 - 19 Pastor at Concordia Seminary for Symposia (all day)
Title: "The Cross Alone is Our Theology"
- 09/23 – 18th Sunday after Pentecost 9 am
(Divine Service 4 - Holy Communion celebrated)
- 09/23 - Bible Study / Dealing with Trials and Afflictions 10:30 am
- 09/27 and a few days beyond - Pastor and Pat "may" be out of town, more information will be posted.
- 09/30 – 19th Sunday after Pentecost 9 am
(TBD - watch for bulletin news)
- 09/30 - (TBD - watch for bulletin news) 10:30 am

Specials Dates / looking ahead ...

09/25 - An Evening with Cook County Commissioner Richard Boykin
6:30 pm we gather and goes till 8 pm (or so); this event is part of our "Faith Engages the Community Series".

Happenings around the town ...

Walk for Health - this is a free program of the LaGrange Aging Well Team. At 10:30 am to 12:00 pm, on the 3rd Wednesday of every month, at the Park District of LaGrange Recreation Center.

Walk with them on an indoor 1/8/ mile padded walking track and learn valuable tips to keep you healthy and active. No registration, no distance requirement, and it is totally FREE.

More information is a www.pdlg.org or at (708) 352-1762.