

The Newsletter of Faith Lutheran Church

November 2018

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

Faith Office Phone:

1(708) 343-1030 (voicemail directs to pastor's email)



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

Sunday Morning Divine Worship 9:00 a.m.
Sunday Adult Bible Study 10:30 a.m.

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

A Note from Pastor Prentice...

I do believe our meeting with Cook County Commissioner Richard Boykin did open the eyes and ears of all that attended. We live with the solid hope of life eternal through our faith in the Triune God. Some of us are doing well, with riches on this earth, and then riches beyond in heaven; yet, some are not doing so well. What to do? That is not an easy question to answer.

Of course, acts of mercy and care are very important. How can we love our neighbor as Jesus asked of us, "And as you wish that others would do to you, do so to them." (Luke 6:31) Be kind to one another, as we hope kindness is give to us if we were in need. Here at Faith, we are trying. We have food for the needy (and we need to replenish with up to date goods). The staff is working to update the care cards so people can seek out the help they need, places such as BEDS, Pillars, Word of Hope, etc. We are attempting to find out what is needed in our community we serve, and perhaps soon, we will have some answers.

But in today's church, does mercy get confused with witness? Remember the great command, "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." (Matthew 28:19-20) The main task of the Church is to witness to the teachings of God, centered on as we Lutherans say, "a right understanding of Law and Gospel." We build churches to witness to a solid theology built upon Word and Sacrament. The altar at Faith was placed in this sanctuary to gather around to bow in worship and be fed the Words of Life, both by hearing and

through the Sacraments (Eucharist and Baptism). The main task of the Church is to save souls, and as Christians thus saved, we offer kindness and mercy because it is simply good to do.

Some say mercy is witness (or leads to), but I still feel they are distinct (and others do agree). Mercy is doing the love of Christ; witness is speaking the love of Christ. Mercy "may" lead (we pray) to witness. Witness should always be by the Word of God spoken to bring the sinner to repentance, so Christ may enter and save by His life, death, and resurrection; the sweet Gospel thus saves.

Let me add, there is no better witness to God than the LCMS, through a right understanding of confessional teachings and practice. A bold claim, but the Mormons, the Jehovah Witness, Islam, etc., they may do mercy; but their witness is false and leads to destruction. The Jews fail to heed God and His Son, they are still waiting (and some, Jews for Jesus do understand). Even the Roman Catholic's and Evangelicals miss the mark in witness. They either confuse works for faith, or miss out on the joys of the Eucharist and Baptism (the Sacraments).

Finally, mercy is what each one of us can do, when we are able. At the same time, we can offer a witness to Jesus. But what this Church must never falter on, or confuse is a clear witness to Christ and the gifts of Salvation offered. I do believe that comes first in the order of things...this discussion to be continued.

One closing note, the Advent Season is upon us, and the schedule of worship and events is now ready. The theme is "What Child is this?" Jesus is special, let's explore again "the reason for the season."

Blessings - Pastor Prentice

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) On November 11, we begin a study concerning prayer. Why we pray. How we should pray. What prayer does (and does not).

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.

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

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

Please watch the bulletin for an upcoming Voter's Meeting where we will discuss the budget for 2019, most likely in December.

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

- What great new service and teaching opportunities...so "go tell someone".

Sunday Morning Seekers

Bible Study

Concord and Coffee

Prayers for Hope, Healing, and Consolation

- The Thanksgiving to Christmas Schedule is available.
- 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.

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

- (Outstanding Issue) Still no news on the fire alarm system that is to be installed in the parish (office) house. We are making calls, and we have put monies down.

- (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.
- The Berghaus Organ will be tuned up for the Holiday Season of music.

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

- Nothing at the moment.

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

- Come to the Christ Eve Service about 1/2 hour early and join in on some goodies and punch. We will then sing some good songs, and hear of the wonders of God in His Son Jesus Christ.
- No Bible Study after the All Saints Service (11.4), we will have coffee and goodies; an opportunity to chat with your fellow sister and brother in faith.

Around the Parish - Dates and Other Happenings

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

Kuni Dvorak – November 14th

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

11/04 – All Saints Day 9 am

(Divine Service 3 - Holy Communion celebrated)

Join us for fellowship after service, no Bible Study.

11/04 to 11/06 Pastor travels to Seminary in Fort Wayne for the Good Shepherd Institute. The theme is good music of course, and a study on Prayer in the Church.

11/11– 25th Sunday after Pentecost 9 am

(Divine Service 3 - Holy Communion celebrated)

11/11 - Prayers, Hope, Healing and Consolation 10:05 am

(A time to heal and reflect)

11/11 - Bible Study / A Study on Prayer 10:30 am

11/11 - Seeker Worship / Prayers and Preaching 11:30 am

11/18 – 26th Sunday after Pentecost 9 am

(Divine Service 3 - Holy Communion celebrated)

11/18 - Bible Study / A Study on Prayer 10:30 am

11/21 - Thanksgiving Eve Service

7 pm

11/22 - Thanksgiving Day Service

9 am

11/25 – Christ the King Sunday

9 am

(Divine Service 3 - Holy Communion celebrated)

11/25 - Bible Study / A Study on Prayer

10:30 am