

Faith Lutheran Church Green Bay December 2024 Newsletter



SERVICE SCHEDULE

Sundays at 8 am & 10:30 am (Christian Growth Hour at 9:20 am) Mondays at 6:30 pm

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:

Monday-Thursday 8:00 am—12:00 pm

Church Staff Numbers and Emails:

Main Phone Number 920 435-5524

Pastor Joshua Errer

ext. 207 492-9835 (cell) flcgb.pastor@gmail.com

Vicar William Ebel

ext. 204

flcgb.vicar@gmail.com

Paul Heiser | Director of Music

ext. 203

flcgb.music@gmail.com

Alex Wright | Director of Christian Education

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(224) 343-1467 (cell)

Deaconess Deirdre Batiansila | Campus Ministry with LCMS U lcmsugb@gmail.com

Angela Stiles | Media Publication/Administrative Assistant flcgb.media@gmail.com 435-5524

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flcgb.office@gmail.com 435-5524

Jodie Suomi | Bookkeeper

ext. 205

flcgb.bus.office@gmail.com

Faith Christian Preschool 965-0795 ext. 216 faithpreschoolgb@gmail.com

Other useful emails:

Christian Growth (Sunday School) Financial Secretary (Offerings)

Scrip Program

LWML (Lutheran Women in Mission)

flcgb.ss@gmail.com flcgb.donate@gmail.com flcgb.scrip@gmail.com

flcgb.lwml@gmail.com

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ at Faith Lutheran Church,

"We'll see you next time!" If you're like me, you have the privilege of hearing that phrase multiple times a week as you check out from your local Kwik Trip. It doesn't matter which one you stop at or why you are there, if you make it inside the store, an employee, with a smile on their face, will end your interaction with that welcome to return.

From a customer service perspective, the phrase is an incredible example of thorough employee training. To have every employee end every interaction with that same phrase does not happen by accident. It is intentional, purposeful, and designed to convey the company's desire for you to return. And return I do.

There are times, however, when the phrase almost seems like a taunt. More of a "You'll be back!" than a "be sure to chose us again the next time you need to make a quick trip to the store." And while it is not intended to be a taunt (I don't think anyway), it does display their confidence that you will return because they have provided a superior experience, service, or product that will have you coming back again soon.

When I started thinking about this phrase, I wondered, what would the church's version of this greeting be? At first, I was thinking about the benediction which sends us on our way with God's blessing. It happens at the end of the service, its consistent, and it is used by churches throughout history and of all different denominations. But, as beautiful as the benediction is, it does not have the same expectation that you will be back. So, I had to think more creatively.

Ultimately, I think the church's version of the Kwik Trip farewell is the confession of sins and the absolution. Like the farewell, it is not a taunt of we know you will return, it is a confident statement that observes what we know to be true in the world. Just like you need what Kwik Trip sells, you need the forgiveness of sins. Each time your sins are forgiven, you have received what you needed, and you are sustained for a time. However, as certain as you are to run out of milk, bread, bananas, or gas, you are even more certain to sin in thought, word, or deed. And when that happens, there is only one place that you can turn to have it dealt with, the Word of God spoken to the people of God. So, you come, week after week, and kneel before our Lord's altar so that you can bear your sins before him and hear his precious words spoken again and again, "I forgive you all your sins."

If you look around, you know that those around you will be back next week as well. What a wonderful gift we have been given to know that God is intentional, purposeful and has designed the words spoken to his children to convey his desire to return to him. It is a privilege to know that our God speaks his words out of Fatherly love for his children. It is a privilege to know that he does truly desire to "see you next time."



Whatever form your Christmas traditions take, it is likely that music plays some role in defining the holidays for you. With the advent (pun intended) of streaming music services and other handy digital sources it is possible for us to get just the right amount of holiday music at just the right time to suit our taste (We may never need the song "We Need a Little Christmas, Right This Very Minute" ever again). Over time things change ever so gradually. Perhaps you discover a new holiday song that captures your imagination and gently crowds out one of your favorites from years past. Or maybe the way you spend your holidays has changed. Families change – we all grow a little older, we move closer together or farther apart, new family members and friends are added, and sadly some of those we used to celebrate with are no longer with us.

The comfort we have as Christians is that the Word of God does not change, and the whole reason for the celebration of Christ's birth has not changed. We hear it as the Gospel reading on Christmas Day from John 1 "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and Word was God. He was with God in the beginning." Change is sometimes hard for us to tolerate because we are looking to be grounded in the things around us instead of the things that are eternal. Hard as it may be to believe, the over-the-top types of festivities we now associate with the Christmas season have evolved mostly over the last 200 years. In the relatively short span of our lives we assume that Christmas has always been much the same, when in fact it has not.

Why dwell on all this? It is because the patterns of worship here at Faith have changed over the years, and with it some of the music heard during the services. I remember the first year I served here at Faith there were more than a few people that were unhappy because the hymns that were used were not exactly the same as they had been for decades past – I had ruined the Christmas celebration! It was not that the Christmas carols we sang were unusual or strange; they weren't. What I discerned later was that there was a lot of change happening within the congregation at that time which made people uneasy, and that the easiest thing to identify as an unnecessary and irksome change was the music at Christmas. Fortunately we've all grown together over these many years and opened ourselves up to keeping many valued traditions like "Little Children Can You Tell" and the candle-lighting to "Silent Night" as well as using a variety of different Christmas hymns.

For this year's Christmas celebration, the adult choir will be singing at the 1:00 pm service which has been steadily growing in attendance. As in years past the children's choirs will be featured at the 4:30 pm service. There will not be a full half-hour of pre-service music before the 7:00 service. Instead the handbells will play throughout this beautiful evening service. The final, quieter candle-light service takes place at 10:00 pm. And, I would encourage you to return for the 10:00 am service on Christmas Day, which is a joyful continuation of the celebration with different carols and a different Christmas sermon from our vicar. All of these services are full

divine services with communion and there will be more pre-service music than usual.

May you be richly blessed by the celebration of our Lord's birth this year!

Paul Heiser | Director of Music



2024 ADVENT & CHRISTMAS SEASON SCHEDULE



Faith Lutheran Church - Green Bay Office: (920)435-5524 www.flcgb.com

Sun. 12/22



Midweek Services (Wednesdays at 6:30 nm)

(WC	uncsuays at 0.00 pmj
December 4	Advent Midweek Service
December 11	Advent Midweek Service
December 18	Advent Midweek Service

<u>Christmas Eve Services</u> (<u>Tuesday, Dec. 24</u>)

Holy Communion at all services
1:00 pm Festival Service with Adult Choir
4:30 pm Service with Children's Choirs
7:00 pm Festival Service with Handbells
10:00 pm Vigil Service

Christmas Day Service (Wednesday, Dec. 25)

Holy Communion 10:00 amChristmas Day Service

New Year's Eve (Tuesday, Dec. 31)

Holy Communion 6:30 pm New Year's Eve Service

PLEASE NOTE: Sunday School Christmas Service

	(at the 10:30 am Sunday Servic
Mon. 12/23	No Monday Service
Sun. 12/29	Sunday Morning Service
	9:00 am ONLY
	(There will only be one Sunday
	Service this day)
Mon.12/30	No Monday Service
	•

Other Special Events in December

Sun. 12/1	Deck the Halls
Sat. 12/7	Cookie Walk (9-11:30 am)
Sat. 12/21	Sunday School Rehearsal
	(gr. 2-8, 9-10:30 am)
Sun. 12/29	Christmas Tea (10:15 am)
Sun. 1/5	Christian Growth Resumes
	(9:15 am)
Sun. 1/5	Un-Deck the Halls

Merry Christmas and God's Blessings in the New Year!

Let your faith Grow! Bible Studies offered at Faith Lutheran Church



Christian Growth Adult Bible Study Sundays at 9:15 am in the Fellowship Hall

Christian Growth Hour has lessons for all age groups. Our Adult Bible Study dives deeper and aligns with the lessons that the children are learning at Sunday School. This encourages conversation within the household to discuss what was learned on Sunday. *High Schoolers are encouraged to attend this Bible Study



Men's Bible Study Tuesdays at 6:00 am in the Lounge

Tuesday mornings starting promptly at 6 am and ending at 7 am in the Lounge. Coffee and light breakfast will be provided. Currently studying the book of 1, 2, & 3 John



Morning Prayer Tuesdays at 9:00 am in the Sanctuary

Morning Prayer is in the Sanctuary on Tuesday Mornings at 9 am. All are welcome.



Tuesday Morning Bible Study Tuesdays at 9:30 am in the Lounge

Come to the Lounge on Tuesday Mornings for a discussion led Bible Study learning more about God's Word and daily life. Pastor Errer is currently leading the Bible Study on the book of Proverbs



The Feast Bible Study 1st Tues. of the Month | 6:30 pm in the Lounge

Join together with other young adult members of the congregation for Bible Study, devotions, fellowship, and food.

This bible study/discussion is lead by Director of Christian Education, Alex Wright and is held in the Lounge.



Podcast launched on Thursdays

Available on our website, Spotify, and other podcast programs

Each week on Thursdays, a podcast featuring our Director of Parish Music Paul Heiser and the preacher for the upcoming Sunday will give a little more background on the theological and liturgical aspects of the next worship service. They will also discuss one of the hymns for the upcoming service as well.

Thanksgiving Baskets

Thank you to everyone who donated toward the Thanksgiving Baskets this year. With your help, we were able to provide a Thanksgiving feast for 6 families.



Christmas Giving Tree

The Angels have landed and it is once again time to help families in need through our Giving Tree here at Faith Lutheran Church. There are many ways you can participate.
-Choose an angel off the tree, shop,

wrap and return the gifts to under the tree. Please attach the angel to the outside of the corresponding gift. -Gift card angels will also be on the tree. You may purchase them at the Scrip table or through the RaiseRight app/website.



Monetary/Scrip donations may be put in an envelope marked "Giving Tree" and placed in the offering or given to the church office. Please do not leave monetary donations under the tree. Gifts and monetary donations are due Wednesday, December 11th, 2024.

"Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God." -Hebrews 13:16

The Prayer Shawl Ministry and the Evangelism Committee thanks everyone in the congregation who participated in our Hat Project. With your knitting/crocheting talents we received 253 hats that will be distributed to Webster School and Freedom House. We are so appreciative of your overwhelming support for this project. There will be no Prayer Shawl meeting in December. Our next meeting will be Wednesday, January 8, 2025.



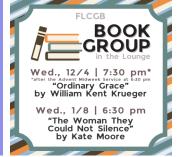
.This month at faith



ADVENT

























The Church Office hours: Monday-Thursday 8 am – 12 pm

Closed on:

- -Wednesday, Dec. 25 (Christmas Day)
- -Thursday, Dec. 26
- -Wednesday, Jan. 1 (New Year's Day)
- -Thursday, Jan. 2

Faith Lutheran Church's Annual

Cookie Walk

Saturday, December 7, 2024

TRADITIONAL
WALK THRU

9 am - 11:30 am
\$12/pound

(SPECIALTY COOKIES)

OPTION

10 am - 11:30 am
\$12/box

(ASSORTED COOKIES)



All proceeds go toward Faith Lutheran Youth Group

Faith Lutheran Church 2335 S. Webster Ave. Green Bay, WI 54301

Come visit our festive holiday atmosphere and let us help you with your holiday preparation. We will have thousands of cookies and candies beautifully displayed for you to choose from and purchase.

- Boxes & gloves will be provided for our traditional walk thru event.
- Price: \$12/lb
- Our Drive-thru option will begin at **10 am** that morning. (Follow the directional signs in our parking lot for this option.) Drive thru cookies will be boxed up in a variety assortment and will be \$12/box.

Sun	Mon	Tue
Service *Livestreamed* 8:00 am Christian Growth Hour 9:15 am Service 10:30 am Deck the Halls 11:30 am	Service 6:30 pm	Men's Bible Study 6:00 am Morning Prayer 9:00 am Tuesday Bible Study 9:30 am Banner Group 10:45 am The Feast Bible Study 6:30 pm
8 Service *Livestreamed* 8:00 am Christian Growth Hour 9:15 am Service 10:30 am	9 Service 6:30 pm	Men's Bible Study 6:00 am Morning Prayer9:00 am Tuesday Bible Study 9:30 am Banner Group 10:45 am Handbells 5:45 pm Adult Choir 6:45 pm
Service *Livestreamed* 8:00 am Christian Growth Hour 9:15 am Service 10:30 am echilogope Duc 8y 12/15	Service 6:30 pm NEWLHS Christmas Concert (at Hope) 7 pm	Men's Bible Study 6:00 am Morning Prayer 9:00 am Tuesday Bible Study 9:30 am Banner Group 10:45 am Handbells 5:45 pm Adult Choir 6:45 pm
Service *Livestreamed* 8:00 am Christian Growth Hour 9:15 am Sunday School Christmas Service (No Communion) 10:30 am	23 FCP, Trinity, & NEWLHS—no school (Resumes 1/6) No Monday Service	24 Christmas Eve Service Times: 1:00 pm 4:30 pm 7:00 pm 10:00 pm
29 Dollar \$unday—Funds raised will be going to Freedom House Service *Livestreamed* 9:00 am Christmas Tea 10:15 am	30 No Monday Service	New Year's Eve Service 6:30 pm



Cookie Walk Saturday, Dec. 7 9-11:30 am



Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
4 Advent Midweek Service 6:30 pm Cookie Walk Set Up 7:30 pm Trinity Christmas Program at Our Saviour (4-8 gr. 6:30-7:30 pm)	5	6 Cookie Drop Off 8 am-6 pm	7 Cookie Walk 9-11:30 am
11 Advent Midweek Service 6:30 pm	T.A.L.K. Podcast Daytimers' Bunko 2:00 pm DAYTIMERS' BUNKO DEADLINE	Trinity Christmas Program at Our Saviour (K-3rd 6:30-7:30 pm)	14
18 Advent Midweek Service 6:30 pm	T.A.L.K. Podcast FCP—Christmas Program 6:00 pm	20	21 9:00 am Christian Growth Christmas Practice (gr. 2-8)
25 Merry Christmas! Service 10:00 am Church Office Closed	26 Church Office Closed	27	28
1/1 Church Office Closed	1/2 Church Office Closed	1/3	1/4





Thank you to everyone who came out to Paintin' Pottery on Sunday Nov. 24 for a relaxing afternoon with fellowship. Mr. Alex will let you know when the products are all fired and ready.

Potluck Sunday will resume in January



On Sunday, **January 19**, our Faith Family Potlucks will be back! Bring your favorite hot dish, dessert, or side dish and join on the 3rd Sunday of the month for our Faith Family Potluck!

No sign-up required...just bring your favorite potluck dish to share.

WHAT IS HAPPENING IN Christian Growth

IN DECEMBER:

We still have Sunday School classes on Sundays from 9:15-10:15 until Christmas! Sat. 12/21 Sunday School Service Rehearsal (gr. 2-8 only)

Service

Sun. 12/22 Sunday School Sérvice 10:30 AM

Tues. 12/24 Choirs Sing at Christmas Eve 4:30 PM

9-10:30 AM

PHOTOS FROM NOVEMBER



OFFERING

EACH HEART REPRESENTS \$10 RAISED OUR GOAL IS \$500!



Our Sunday School Offerings this year are going toward supporting Lutherans for Life. Their mission has been dedicated to meeting the needs of every client in a compassionate and nonjudgmental manner, providing them with information & education, both material & spiritual, to alleviate obstacles to protecting and preserving human life in all of its stages, from conception to natural death; providing assistance, positive services & creative life- and family affirming choices with dignity.





Phone: (920) 965-0795 ext. 216 Email: faithpreschoolgb@gmail.com

We have a lot to give thanks for in November. We have enjoyed the beautiful weather, time with friends, and learning about turkeys.

We closed the month with a special visit from the 6th grade class from Trinity. We made Hot Cocoa cups to donate to the homeless shelter.





Scripture Verse: "When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy." - Matthew 2:10

In December we begin Advent and await the best present of all time... Jesus! We invite you to our Christmas program on Thursday, December 19 at 6:00 pm as the children sing the good news about Jesus' birth!

Important Dates in December:
12/19: Christmas Program 6:00 pm
12/23-1/3: No School—Christmas Break
1/6: School Resumes

Merry Christmas from FCP students and staff!

Ellen Petrie- Director/Teacher Andrea Schad -Teacher Angela Stiles- Aide

Please contact Ellen Petrie

While the school year has already begun, there is still time to join our program! If you or someone you know is looking for a fun, interactive, Christian education, please share the good news about Faith Christian Preschool.

at <u>faithpreschoolgb@gmail.com</u> or (920)965-0795 ext. 216 to schedule a tour.







HAPPENINGS AT TRINITY:

- 325 boxes were packed for Operation Christmas Child on Monday, Nov. 18!
- 6th Grade helped at FCP to make hot cocoa cups for the homeless shelter





UPCOMING DATES FOR TRINITY:

- 12/4—4-8 Christmas Concert at Our Saviour 6:30 pm
- 12/13—K-3 Christmas program at Our Saviour 6:30 pm
- 12/23-1/3—No School (Christmas Break)

FAITH'S INVOLVEMENT LAST MONTH

- 11 students from Faith enrolled
- Pastor Errer led chapel on 11/13

SAVE THE DATE!







UPCOMING DATES FOR NEWLHS:

- 12/16—Music Concert at Hope
 7:00 pm
- 12/23-1/3—No School (Christmas Break)



Stock Donations

If you are planning to give an end of year gift of stock to Faith Lutheran Church, please remember to initiate that transfer soon to ensure proper time for the transfer to be completed. Also, remember that cash and checks need to be in the building by December 31 to be included in this year's giving statement. IRA distributions must be received and cashed prior to December 31 to be counted in this calendar year. If you have questions about IRA distributions or non-cash asset transfers as a charitable gift to support the ministry of our congregation, please contact Pastor or our Financial Secretary (Caitlin Barton).

GIVE ONLINE



Online giving is a very simple and effective way to support Faith Lutheran Church. It is available through our website (flcgb.com) and click this button on the home page. If you have

any questions, please email flcgb.donate@gmail.com

OFFERING ENVELOPES

2025 Offering Envelopes are available. Numbers have been reassigned for the new year due to many members opting out and switching to electronic giving. Please do not use these envelopes until January, 2025 so you get proper credit. Thank you.

2024 Unified Offerings

YTD—\$550,582.48 (as of November 25, 2024)

SCRIP REBATES:

\$6,811.30 (as of November 20, 2024)

December Celebrations

Happy Birthday!

- 1 Molly Krueger
- 2 Howard Wachsmuth Landen Wilke
- 3 Jackson Just
- 5 Lou Ann Van Laanen Michael Zeimer
- 6 Garrison Anderson Nash Lemerond Douglas Steenbock
- 7 Samantha Shipley
- 8 Kay Hanna Holly LaFave Eugene Roohr
- 9 Jackson Gray
- 10 Becky Dole Michele Gaestel Kathy Grawien Gail Thiel
- 11 Adelaide Larsen Madeline Martin
- 12 Emily Bukowski Angie Smet

- 13 Heidi Baeb Amy Brozek Barbara Dorff Maxwell Lemerond
- 14 Amellia DelCarmen
- 15 Charlie Boeck Roger Haberland
- 16 Tim Boeck
 Donald Boersma
 Emily Gilson
 Guy Patzke
- Betty Spear 17 Anthony Hohn
- 18 Steven Destache Amy Georgenson MaKenna Kussow Alysha Shertz Matic
- 20 Christopher Omdahl 21 Ford Boeck
- Harper Madsen
 Carol Messerschmidt
 Melissa Roubal

- 22 David Stirdivant Cindy VanEss
- 23 Heather Zuehlke
- 24 Andrew Welnetz25 David Riebe
- 26 Clint Fontaine Mary Ann Hermsen
- 27 Christa Batiansila Melony Liethen-Martin
- 28 Hans Barth
- 29 Heather Fleck Tom VanEss Jeanne Wagner
- 30 James Athey Nicholas McGee Jolie VanDeHey
- 31 Alyssa Garner Donald Hendricks Evan Roubal Noah Roubal

- 7 Mark & Kathy Ebert
- 20 Ray & Karen Borchert
- 22 Joe & Gina Bents



Christmas Tea—December 29

Instead of our Faith Family Potluck in the month of December, we will be doing our Christmas Tea on December 29th in between services from 10:15 am—noon.

We encourage members of the congregation to participate in this fellowship event. There will be a sign up at the Welcome Center as we are looking for donations of breads, cookies, etc. to enjoy during the Christmas Tea. We will also be looking for helpers to serve and clean up. See you Sunday, December 29th!



If you would like to learn more about Fellowship Events and how you can get involved in either planning or support of an event, please contact the Church Office at flcgb.office@gmail.com

GIVE THE GIFT THAT GIVES BACK

Gift yourself by making your Christmas shopping easier!

Use Scrip when you head out to the stores, shop online, and don't forget that Scrip cards are great as stocking stuffers.

The Raise Right app also is a very simple way to order scrip and pay for items at stores, restaurants, and even vacations!



Orders must be placed by Sunday, December 15th to guarantee delivery before Christmas.

Bring order and payment to the scrip table on Sundays, or drop off to Angela or Angie in the church office.

Find Giftspiration With the 2024 Holiday Gift Guide

Find great gifting brands, use the holiday shopping list, and much more.

Get the guide at

RaiseRight.com/Resources/HolidayGuide





Available at Scrip Table in between services, in the office during the week, or on the app. (contact the church office for the enrollment code)



Download our RaiseRight mobile app







Check#

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Cash

FAITH LUTHERAN SCRIP

Make Checks Payable to:

Seller Initials:

FAITH SCRIP

See Full List of retailers at www.shopwithscrip.com

Christmas Order Form

Please PRINT YOUR name:	
Alternate pick-up person(s): Order Date:	

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P P	Aeropostale	10%		25		
Α	GAP/Old Navy	14%	_	25		
R	JC Penney (\$25/\$100)	7%				
E	L.L. Dean (ψ23/ψ100)	16%				
	T. J. Maxx (\$25/\$100)	6%				
	Amazon.com (\$10/\$25/\$100)	1.6%				
	Apple (\$15/\$25)	5%				
s	Bath & Body Works (\$10/\$25)	12%				
P	Bed Bath & Beyond	7%	\$	25		
	Best Buy (\$25/\$100)	4%				
C	Cabela's (\$25/\$100)	9%				
À	Dick's Sporting Goods	8%		25		
L	GameStop	5%		25		
Y	Wayfair	6%	\$	100		
Y	Pottery Barn	6%	\$	25		
	Shutterfly	9%	\$	25		
	ULTA	7%	\$	25		
	Buffalo Wild Wings	8%	\$	25		
_	Cold Stone Creamery	11%	\$	10		
D	Noodles	8%	\$	10		
	Olive Garden	8%	\$	25		
1	Panera Bread	8%	\$	25		
N	Starbucks (\$5/\$10/\$25)	4.5%				
G	Subway	6%	\$	10		
	Texas Roadhouse	8%		25		
F	Barnes & Noble (\$10/\$25)	8%				
	Marcus Theatres	8%	\$	25		
	Kohl's (\$25/\$100)	7%				
	Macy's (\$25/\$100)	10%				
	Target (\$10/\$25/\$100)	2.5%				
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Please sign below at pick-up, signifying order is correct

GRAND TOTAL

\$