

# Faith Connection

## January 2024

### **SUNDAY WORSHIP**

**9:00 AM**  
In Person

Online  
available

**Join Us!**

*Loved by  
God.  
Living  
for  
Others.*

Live Stream  
on YouTube  
Faith Lutheran  
Church —  
Marshfield



ELCA

JANUARY 2024

“Behold, I am making all things new.” Revelation 21:5

Dear Friends in Christ,

One of the things that I have been hearing about these days is something called “post-pandemic re-engagement.” This term is used to describe how people are re-connecting with their wider community as the COVID 19 pandemic subsides. As I watched a tv news broadcast this week from Times Square in NYC, I heard it put another way. The reporter said that Times Square is filled with people again and added that it was a sure sign of “post-pandemic bounce-back.”

Did you see how many people put up their Christmas lights this year in mid-November? I thought that was a sign that the pandemic was waning (the mild weather helped, too). People were excited to be able to celebrate the holidays this year in a way that felt more normal. In addition, on Christmas Eve this year, I really appreciated the members who introduced themselves to me and said things like, “We haven’t been around here much since before the pandemic,” and “It feels good to be back at Faith Lutheran.” Comments like these signal to me that there is, indeed, re-engagement and bounce-back going on in some significant ways.

When I read the words in Revelation 21:5 (above), I am mindful of the times that we are in. Our lives and world have changed since before the pandemic began in March 2020. Even things that feel familiar to us may have a sense of “newness” about them. At Faith Lutheran, I am still new after two years of serving here, we have a number of new church staff, we have some new faces in the congregation and we have regular online worshipers who participate by livestream. Yet, at the same time, we know that Faith Lutheran has been around since 1954 and on Sunday, April 7th we will celebrate our 70th Anniversary.

How has your life changed since before the pandemic? Can you see ways that God is taking the “old” and making it “new” again? My prayer is that God will continue to move in our hearts in exciting ways as we “bounce” our way into 2024.

In Christ, Pastor Heather



# Family Education & Youth

## Education & Family Highlights **Adult Education**

December was a busy month for the Education & Family Ministry. Adult Education continues to meet Sunday Mornings in the Upper Room. They will be taking a holiday break with classes resuming on Jan. 7th.

### **GLOW**

GLOW and Confirmation classes will also resume January 7.

After several weeks of rehearsals, GLOW students performed the Christmas Play "Twas the Night Before Christmas" during the December 17th service.



Thank you's go out to Darlene Wittlinger, Jean Abel, and Linda Nelson-Schreiber for their musical efforts during practices, and a special thanks to Savannah Post for singing with the group.

GLOW students also wrapped up fundraising for the Fall Service Project to the Soup or Socks Food Pantry, with the final donation total to be set in January. GLOW will be voting on the spring service project during Teacher In-service next month.

### **Confirmation**

Confirmation students, in partnership with Thrivent and church volunteers, tied a total of twenty fleece



blankets for the Ronald McDonald House. Eighth grade students also delivered holiday gift bags from our women's group to church shut-in members on Dec. 10th.

### **Teacher In-Service & Mentor/Mentee**

There will be a Teacher In-Service Sunday, Jan. 14th. GLOW and Confirmation students will be working together on some educational activities while classroom teachers meet to discuss curriculum and other needs. This will start following the church service that day, with NO music time on the 14th. Mentor/Mentee Program will meet January 21.

Details will be forthcoming. A shout-out to Michelle Rhodes for joining the Education Mission team. The next team meeting is January 8.

### **January Birthdays!**

Jan. 16, 2018 Paxton Rasmussen



Jan. 21, 2019 Adriana Paola Post  
Jan. 21, 2019 Alexandra Paola Post

Jan. 28, 2019 Alivia Schiferl

### **Baptismal Birthdays:**

Jan. 7, 2018 Sophia Rhodes

## News from Faith Lutheran Youth **FLY on Sunday Morning**

High School FLY continues to gather on Sunday mornings after worship from 10 to 11 AM in the Youth Room. We will be gathering next on January 7th and 21st.

As is our recent tradition on the Third Sunday of Advent, Faith Lutheran Youth make gingerbread houses. Only this year we helped our 3rd through 5th graders make them. They turned out great and both groups has lots of fun!



### **Holiday Gathering**

We were grateful to be able to get together this year for our annual Holiday Gathering. We enjoyed supper, 3 group challenge games, followed by our famous sock exchange, the giant Saran-Wrapped Ball of Prizes (in a fast-paced unwrapping with oven mitts) and then our traditional game of Telestrations. We all had a blast and it was



great to have everyone from our 7th Graders to our FLY college student Alumni and a guest with us.

### **Can Collection**

We are still collecting aluminum cans (ONLY) in support of Mission Trip 2024. Keep collecting those cans and bring them in. They can be placed inside the church garage any day of the week. Or drop them off at Shaw's anytime and mention that money should go to Faith Lutheran Youth.

# Mission Team Updates

## Faith in Action Meeting— Join Us!

Faith in Action will be meeting Thursday, January 18th at 6:00 PM. Please join us if you are interested in helping plan and brainstorm outreach and congregational ideas and activities.

## Communication Highlights

- We are setting up a maintenance schedule for all computers to keep updates and performance high. Rich Tarter will be helping to maintain.
- FLC Logos have been narrowed down to 3 options by Mission teams, Congregation will be voting on Final Logo option in the upcoming weeks.
- Zoom video conferencing has not worked well for all teams. We are trouble shooting some different options. We will be testing some new audio equipment and setting a main zoom computer for meetings.

## Facility Team Highlights

- The boiler was checked by House of Heating after going into failure mode. The heater in the front entrance which runs out of the boiler was not working correctly but because it was pulling from the one boiler it caused it to overheat. A new fan was put in in the entry and everything is working correctly.
- Schindler agreed to honor the elevator quote until the end of December so council can vote on it.
- The light for the Little Free Pantry was installed. Youth will be paying for the installation.
- Quinn from Woodstock Construction came and looked at the side north door and will give us a quote.
- Flooring for the downstairs kitchen will be \$7,150-\$8,200. Rice's Capital is guessing close to \$7,588 with 50% down and final payment 30 days after completion.
- One of the upstairs bedrooms at the parsonage is cleaned out with items donated.
- If you would like to join our team please contact Pam Johnson by text 715-305-1673.

## ANNUAL MEETING NOTICE

The Annual Meeting will be Sunday February 18<sup>h</sup>. Annual Reports will be ready to pick up by January 28<sup>th</sup>.

### Teams Notice:

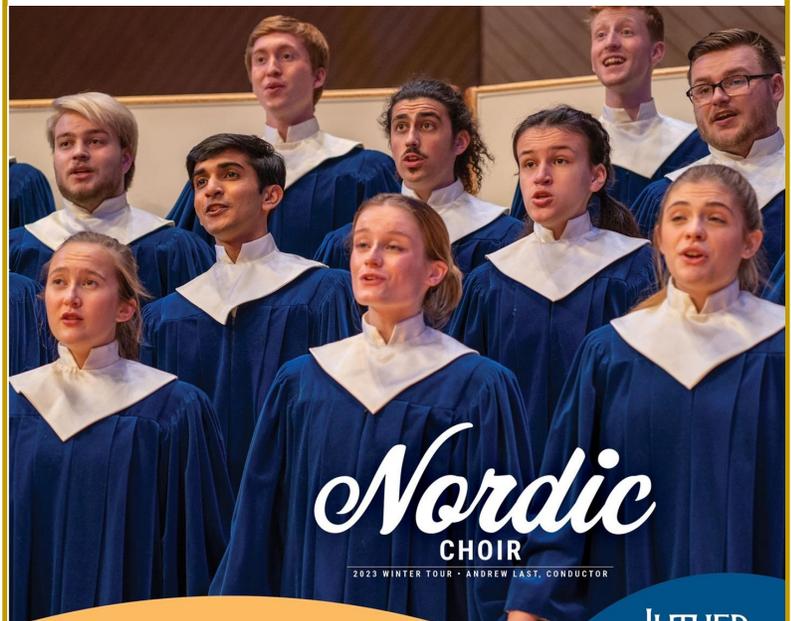
Financial reports due by Jan. 9th.

## One Night Only!

Luther College's Nordic Choir will be performing a concert on Monday, January 29, at 7:00 PM at First Presbyterian Church. They are Luther's premier choir, directed by Dr Andrew Last, and this will be their only stop in Wisconsin on their tour. Please plan to join us for this wonderful experience of choral music.

### Volunteer Hosts Needed:

We are seeking people to volunteer to host students for one night after the concert (Monday, January 29). Volunteer hosts would transport the students home after the concert, provide a place to spend the night, provide a light breakfast in the morning, and transport back to the church for the next leg of their tour. There is a minimum of two students at each home, beds are preferred for them, comfortable couches, air mattresses are acceptable. Faith Lutheran members can contact Bonnie Brix for more information and to volunteer! ([bonniesbrix@gmail.com](mailto:bonniesbrix@gmail.com))



**MARSHFIELD, WISCONSIN**  
**MONDAY, JANUARY 29th - 7 PM**

First Presbyterian Church, 200 S Lincoln Ave, Marshfield, WI 54449

LUTHER  
COLLEGE

# Council & Congregation Updates

## Finance Team Highlights

- Discussion continued regarding an Independent Church Audit. Kent contacted a few vendors and initial estimate was between \$15,000-\$20,000. Therefore it does not seem logical at this time to pursue an external audit. It was decided that a better Internal Audit Controls and Procedures document be put together and incorporate a third audit person. These will continue to be reviewed by the Finance Team.
- Reviewed job descriptions and Bylaws for Treasurer and Financial Secretary, made recommended changes to council.
- Reviewed New Mission Team Description for Continuing Resolutions and replaced outdated Memorial Mission Team Description.

### **Recommendations to Council:**

- To keep the congregation better financially informed: Starting in 2024, a quarterly statement and stewardship review report will be sent to the congregation via email.
- Benevolence to Synod should remain at 8%.
- Approved & recommended that Memorial Undesignated funds to pay upwards of \$1,500 to help cover waterproofing expense.

## Treasurer Update

The December general giving was \$57,203, which made up most of the shortfall for 2023. Our 2023 general giving was \$307,932, which was just shy of our \$309,000 budget for 2023. Thank you to everyone for supporting Faith Lutheran Church and its missions!

The Christmas offering was \$6,040. The council approved 50% to go to the Orenda Center/Personal Development Center, and 50% to help offset the \$6,275 of elevator repairs which will be made in January.

## Ways to Give

**CHURCH:** Offering basket will be passed during offering.

**TEXT:** Text **flcmarshfieldgiving** to #1.888.364.4483

**ONLINE:** Go to **www.faithmarshfield.com** and click on "DONATE."

**MAIL:** Mail a check directly to:  
*Faith Lutheran Church,  
207 S. Cherry Ave. Marshfield, WI 54449*

## To Be Remembered in Our Prayers



Please keep the following in your prayers: Kenneth Post; Maxine Morgan's mother, Lois; Barb Klawitter; Barb Klawitter's son-in-law Dan Wolf; Marion Oelhafen's brother Marlan Bloom; Ardith Henderickson; Lloyd & Diane Mueller's friend Chester Franke; Kathy Olson; Dave & Diane Herron's Brother-in-law Malcom; Paul Kapla; Marvel Woodward; Maxine Morgan; Autumn Sternweis; Colleen Anderson; Jerry & Sheveney Verhulst's brother-in-law, Wally; Buff Heller; Tom Krake; Lois Markwardt; Gary Schutz; Maxine Morgan's brothers, Randy & Keith; Clarence Topp; Len Luedtke; Kelly Cournoyer's uncles, Don and Jerry; Wendy Kinderman; Dave Herron's sister Mandi; Shari Rabehl; and Jim Pederson.

## UPDATED WEBSITE & EMAILS

**WWW.FAITHMARSHFIELD.COM.**

Only change is from **.org to .com** except  
Office Manager is now  
**[office@faithmarshfield.com](mailto:office@faithmarshfield.com)**.

## 2023-2024 Council Representatives

**Brenda Fellenz— President, Personnel**  
fellenzb@gmail.com

**Nancy Young — Vice-President, Social Concerns/Green**  
grayhorse@mac.com

**Nicki Quarne—Secretary, Education & Family Ministry**  
nicole.quarne@outlook.com

**Kent Mueller— Treasurer (AP), Facilities, Finance**  
treasurer@faithmarshfield.com

**Pam Johnson—Financial Secretary (AR), Facilities, FIA,**  
Finance, Education & Family Ministry—[majiella@gmail.com](mailto:majiella@gmail.com)

**Jamy Yohn—Worship and Music**  
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**Paula Hadlock—Youth**  
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**Maxine Morgan—Faith in Action**  
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**Diane Herron—Welcome Table**  
[ddherron6@gmail.com](mailto:ddherron6@gmail.com)

**Jeff Tisdell—Facilities**  
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**Justin Polzin—Communications, Education, FIA**  
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**FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
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### Faith Lutheran Staff Emails **\*UPDATED\***

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**Kim Vrana, Youth Director**

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**Cheryl Zimmerman, Communications**

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**Linda Nelson-Schreiber, Praise Band Director**

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**Morgan Schmidkofer, Choir Director**

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**Alicia Heinrich, Office Manager**

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**Dave Herron, Custodian**

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**Kent Mueller, Treasurer**

treasurer@faithmarshfield.com

**Marty Yohn, Co-Director of Education & Family Ministry**

**Brianne Thompson, Co-Director of Education & Family Ministry**

familyed@faithmarshfield.com

# January 2024 Faith Connection

**SUNDAY  
WORSHIP  
9:00 AM**  
*In Person*

**JOIN US!**

**Loved by  
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Living for  
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## Ways to Access the Sunday Service

- 1) In-person worship at 9 AM every Sunday.
- 2) Live-streaming on YouTube at 9 AM every Sunday.
- 3) On the Cable Access Channel 989 on  
Sundays at 6:00 PM & Mondays 4:00 PM. *\*New Times\**
- 4) Watch anytime on our YouTube Channel.
- 5) Watch anytime on our App. *(Download from your phone App Store, search Faith-Marshfield, install and open, create login.)*



Go to Youtube.com, type in  
Faith Lutheran Church —  
Marshfield



Go to Facebook.com and  
type in Faith Lutheran  
Church of Marshfield