

MARCH 2026

Faith CONNECTIONS

Official Newsletter of
Faith Lutheran Church, Marshfield, WI



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IMMIGRATION ADVOCACY GROUP

This newly formed group will meet at 5:30pm on Tues Mar. 24th in the Upper Room (in-person/zoom). All are welcome to join us as we learn more about how to form a Response Team at FLC and other ways to be of support. See Pastor Heather or Jean Swenson for more information.

Five Bricks of Faith

FROM PASTOR HEATHER BROWN

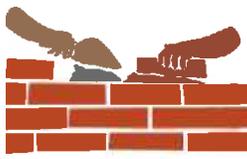
Dear Faith Lutheran Friends/Family:

Our Lenten theme for 2026 will focus on the Five Bricks of Faith. Each week during Lent we will use a brick saved from the parsonage to symbolize five foundations of our discipleship -- Holy Hospitality, Sharing Our Sacred Stories, Grateful Giving, Simply Serving, and Persistent Praying.

As we journey through Lent this year, we will explore Dr. Martin Luther King's vision of "The Beloved Community." The civil rights movement in the United States that Dr. King led was a movement that began in the Church. The core value of the quest for Dr. King's Beloved Community was agape love. Dr. King described agape love as "understanding, redeeming goodwill for all." He also said it was "overflowing love which is purely spontaneous, unmotivated, groundless and creative . . . the love of God operating in the human heart." Further, Dr. King said that "Agape does not begin by discriminating between worthy and unworthy people... It begins by loving others for their sakes" and "makes no distinction between a friend and enemy; it is directed toward both... Agape is love seeking to preserve and create community" (King's 1959 Sermon on Gandhi).

This Lent you are invited to reflect on how you embody the Beloved Community and how you are incarnating God's agape love in your life in meaningful and steadfast ways to help a challenged world.

Loved by God – Living for Others,
Pastor Heather



BRICK BY BRICK IN 2026

Faith is the Mortar holding us together

Lenten Theme: BRICK BY BRICK IN 2026

Holy Hospitality – All are Welcome (Matt 25:35)

Sharing Our Sacred Stories – Go and Tell (Mark 5:18-20)

Grateful Giving – My Cup Runs Over (Psalm 23:5)

Simply Serving -- Love in Action (James 2:17)

Persistent Praying – Come, Lord Jesus (1 Thess 5:17)

Faith is the Mortar that holds it together!



SOUP SUPPER CO-COORDINATORS

CATHY SEEVERS – SEEVCAT@TDS.NET

TREVA TISDELL – TTIZZY76@GMAIL.COM/715-387-4569

The Soup Supper meals last month were so good!. There are four more coming up in March. So, if you've missed the last two, be sure to come to the upcoming ones. It's a great way to visit, reconnect, and share a good meal. Soup Suppers are served each week following the Wednesday Lenten Service at approximately 6:15 p.m. Each team could use help with desserts and/or set-up and clean-up. If you are able, please bring a dessert to share and/or help with cleaning up afterwards. If you can help with set-up, sign up on the poster in the Gathering Area and the Team Coordinator will call you with the time you are needed.

- March 4 – Hosted by Boy Scout Troop #382, they are serving Cheezy Broccoli and Chicken Noodle Soup with Ham & Cheese and Turkey sandwiches
- March 11 – Hosted by Facility and Worship & Music Teams, they are serving Potato Minestrone Soup and Assorted Bread and Muffins
- March 18 – Hosted by the FLC Women, their soup and sandwich is TBD
- March 25 – Hosted by the Social Concerns/Green Team, they are serving Chicken Rice Vegetable and Muffins



SERVICE TIME

IN-PERSON 9:00 AM

WAYS TO WATCH

1. Live-streaming on our App, Facebook & YouTube.
2. Cable Access 989
Broadcast Times:
 - Sunday at 12 Noon
 - Monday at 11:30 AM
 - Friday at 11 AM
3. Always access on App, Facebook & YouTube.



PRAYER LIST

Please keep the following people in your prayers:

John Campbell; Stan Panek; Darlene Krake; Dave & Diane Herron's niece, Joelle; Diane Mueller; Jessica Tingué's sister, Julie; Mike Voss; Jean Gerretsen's grandson-in-law, Sam.

(Names will remain on the prayer list for three weeks unless otherwise requested.)



MEET YOUR 2026-2027 *Council*

At the Annual Meeting on February 15th, 2026, the Congregation voted on a new church council along with new members for the Endowment Committee, Nominating Committee and delegates to the Synod Assembly in April 2026 to represent Faith Lutheran Church.

- Pictured Above left to right - Back row
 - Nancy Young, Pastor Heather Brown, Marty Yohn, Don Streiff, Treasurer Kent Mueller
- Pictured Above left to right - Front Row
 - Alivia (Youth Rep), Chivaun Rabbit, Renee Stafford, Sally Rakovec, & Jen Smith.

Not pictured: Amelia Zellner

President - Nancy Young,

Vice President - Marty Yohn

Secretary - Chivaun Rabbitt

NOTE FROM COUNCIL:

Attention FLC Members - Below is a welcome statement that the Council will be considering in March. It was drafted by the Social Concerns Team and is based on the teachings and actions of Jesus and the theology and practice of the ELCA. Please contact a church council member if you have any comments.

You Are Welcome. No exceptions.

Faith Lutheran Church affirms you as a child of God, without regard to your age, skin color, ethnicity, physical or mental ability, gender identity, how much you earn, who you love, where you come from, where you are in your faith journey, or what is in your past. You are unique and precious and we welcome you in Jesus' name.

NEXT COUNCIL MEETING MAR. 22ND, 2026 AT
10:20 AM



February Recap Faith, Joy & Celebration

FROM CO-DIRECTORS
JUSTIN POLZIN & BRIANNE THOMPSON

On February 8, we celebrated with our new First Communion students as they received Communion for the very first time. It was a beautiful and memorable moment for our students and their families.

On February 22, our Education Team and families hosted our annual Café of Faith event. Students prepared breakfast, took orders, served guests, and helped with setup and cleanup. They gained valuable life skills while joyfully serving our families, council members, and staff. They did an incredible job!

We also hosted a Soup Supper following the Lenten service on February 25. With the help of many volunteers and generous support from our congregation, we enjoyed a warm and welcoming evening together.

With gratitude, The GLOW Education Team

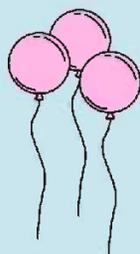
Happy BIRTHDAY

BIRTHDAYS:

- EMMA – 03/02
- COLSON – 03/25

BAPTISMAL BIRTHDAYS:

- JAXON – 03/03
- BREELEIGH – 03/15
- HADLEE – 03/21



FEBRUARY HIGHLIGHTS

- FEB. 1 – FIRST COMMUNION CLASS
- FEB. 8 – FIRST COMMUNION SERVICE
- FEB. 13 – GLOW KIDS NIGHT OUT
- FEB. 15 – 3RD/4TH GRADE SPOTLIGHT SUNDAY
- FEB. 22 – GLOW CAFÉ OF FAITH
- FEB. 25 – EDUCATION TEAM SOUP SUPPER

GLOW UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, March 8th

GLOW Sparklers sing during service

Sunday, March 15th

NO Classes (Marshfield Spring Break)

Sunday, March 29th

5th Grade Spotlight Sunday

February OVERVIEW

RISE Confirmation

Students Confirmation students wrapped up a fun and engaging evening on February 4 with a scavenger hunt. Working in teams, they challenged themselves to put the parts of the Apostles' Creed in order from memory. It was wonderful to watch their teamwork, energy, and friendly competition.

Students also took active roles in the Ash Wednesday service, assisting with readings, prayers, and blessings. Standing before the congregation and participating in worship leadership was a meaningful experience for them.

FLAME – Adult Education

FLAME is currently on Lesson 5, No Experience Necessary, and we expect to complete this unit by mid-March.

Following this study, the group will be reviewing different perspectives of two historical booklets published by the Worldwide Church of God (copyright 1959, 1961, 1968, 1979) learning more about the Crucifixion and Resurrection. We look forward to meaningful discussion and thoughtful engagement.

Worship & Music Team

CHAIR LINDA NELSON-SCHREIBER



Worship & Music Highlights:

We thank all of our volunteers who sign up to serve as greeters, ushers, readers, and communion assistants during our church services - and at the welcome desk and for the coffee hour. The sign up sheet to volunteer is located at the usher table behind the pews in the sanctuary and is passed around during the church service.

We will having a Good Friday Service and two Easter Sunday services.

Easter Blooms

This year, the Altar Team will be decorating with Easter Blooms (Tulips, Lilies, Daffodils) to beautify the Chancel area on Easter Sunday. Please fill out the the Easter Bloom Form and turn into the office if you would like to donate one in honor/in memory of loved ones.

If you have any questions call the church office 387-3757. The last date to receive funds and forms is March 31st. If you are bringing your own Easter bloom, please drop them off by April 2nd.

Make Check out to: Faith Lutheran Church

Memo: Easter Blooms



FAITH Update

Lutheran Youth

FROM YOUTH DIRECTOR JUSTIN POLZIN

✨ FLY Youth Ministry – February Wrap-Up

February kicked off a fun and meaningful start to our year of events! We went to the Marshfield Escape Room where 24 students and youth (including 7 from First Presbyterian Church) gathered for an evening of communication, teamwork, and connection.

We also hosted our first fundraiser of the year, serving Turkey Wild Rice Soup and Grilled Cheese Sandwiches following the Ash Wednesday service. The youth truly demonstrated what it means to serve with welcoming hearts.

🔥 What's Coming in March

In March, we will be preparing for our next fundraiser and hospitality event, our annual Palms & Pancakes Breakfast. We hope to see many of you there! Come hungry and ready to enjoy a delicious breakfast served by our youth.

We are also planning our next fun youth event and we want YOUR ideas! If you have suggestions for activities, service opportunities, or ways we can connect with our church and community, we would love to hear from you.

FLY Sundays Group Gathering

FLY Sundays are open to all youth in 7th grade through senior year. FLY alumni are always welcome to join us as well!

Each Sunday may include:

- Prayer
- Connection time

- Games
- Bible lessons
- A safe space to share and be heard

If you're curious or have questions about joining, we would love to connect with you.



🚗 Mission Trip Update

Planning continues for our Youthworks Mission Trip to Indianapolis, IN in 2026.

Our Advisory Team will be meeting to further develop trip details, with advisors stepping into specific leadership roles. Youth will also have opportunities to take ownership in various aspects of the planning process.

Our next meeting is March 11, where plans will begin taking clearer shape. Additional team-building activities and preparation opportunities will be announced soon — stay tuned!

♥ Fundraisers/Donations

Palms & Pancakes Breakfast is coming soon! Come eat, connect, and allow our youth to serve you.

Additionally, if you are cleaning out your garage or storage areas, we are collecting aluminum cans to support FLY events. Cans can be dropped off anytime or contact Justin for pickup.

Continued on next page...



FLY Youth Continued...

Thank You

Thank you to our congregation for your continued prayers and support. Your encouragement truly makes a difference in the lives of our youth.

And to our FLY students and families — thank you for your energy, kindness, and willingness to serve. You bring joy and life to our church community.

Stay Connected

Youth and parents—join the FLY Group in the Faith Lutheran app for updates, reminders, and event announcements.

UPCOMING EVENTS

-  MAR. 1ST - FLY GROUP MEETING 10 AM
-  MAR. 8TH - FLY GROUP MEETING 10 AM
-  MAR. 11TH - YOUTH ADVISORY MTG 5:30 PM
-  MAR. 15TH - 22ND - SPRING BREAK
-  MAR. 29TH - PALMS & PANCAKES



FLC Women Updates

Spring Rally

Contact Dawn Harder at 715-965-1487
SAVE THE DATE: Join us for the 2026 Chequamegon Conference WELCA's Spring Rally on April 26th, at 12:00 PM at Trinity Lutheran in Unity, WI. Secure your spot for \$20 before April 13th.

Don't miss this opportunity to come together for fellowship, inspiration, and growth. We look forward to seeing you there!



PALMS & PANCAKES

Mission Trip Fundraiser

WHEN: MARCH 29th, 10:00 AM

FOLLOWING WORSHIP SERVICE



2026

FAITH IN ACTION TEAM PRESENTS



FUN GAMES, CANDY & EGGS

EASTER

SATURDAY 28 MARCH 1:00 PM

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

Faith Lutheran Church - 207 S Cherry Ave, Marshfield, WI
faithmarshfield.com Info +715-387-3757

Faith in Action Team CHAIR TBD

5TH ANNUAL EGG HUNT: Mark your calendars! The Faith in Action Team is hosting our 5th Annual Egg Hunt on Saturday, March 28th at 1:00 PM outside. Open to children ages 2-12.

How You Can Help:

Donations appreciated: Candy, snacks, or small toys for filling plastic eggs. Pre-filled eggs are welcome, too! Donations can be placed in the box labeled Egg Hunt in the Gathering Area.

If you'd like to volunteer for this event, please contact Michelle or Ryann Rhodes or Brianne Thompson. Thank you for your support, and we look forward to celebrating this fun tradition together!

Facilities Management Team CHAIR PAM JOHNSON

Facility Highlights:

- We are looking into updating the AED. Thank you, Bill Yanke, for doing the research. Council will look into this more as Facility recommended a new one.
- Water Fountain by the upper stairs classrooms is cleaned, draining but too much pressure when it is turned on. Watch out or you may get soaked. A work in progress.
- Water Pipe: The water pipe in the west stairwell going to the basement burst. The pipe broke at the elbow. Thank goodness there was a group meeting that night and called to let us know. House of Heating was called and they were able to fix the broken pipe. It was fixed in about 2 hours. Clean up went well and things are basically back together. Thank you to those who came and helped clean up- Diane and Dave Herron, Justin Polzin, Ryann Rhodes, Kent and Cindy Mueller, and Pam Johnson.



Finance Team Updates

Treasurer's Report

FROM TREASURER KENT MUELLER

General giving for January 2026 was \$23,513, compared to \$18,847 for 2025 and \$16,742 for 2024. The January general giving was \$2,170 lower than the budgeted amount for general giving. Income exceeded expenses by \$541 for January.

Items to note for January:

Income:

1. The capital improvement fund increased by \$778 for January. The Culvers fundraising check for \$473 was received in January. Also included was \$110 of donations from members and \$295 for the excess donations for the poinsettias, which was designated to go to the capital fund. See attached summary, which will be distributed each month.

2. We received \$734 from Forward Bank for the Charitable Money Market Accounts. Anyone that has one of these accounts can designate Faith Lutheran to receive a percentage of the investment amount. This is an annual benefit that we receive from Forward Bank to give back to the community.

3. We received \$594 from Thrivent as part of their Thrivent Choice Dollars program. Anyone that has Thrivent accounts can designate Faith Lutheran to receive these benefits that are provided by Thrivent Financial. We should receive additional amounts in coming months. Unless specified, these amounts are income to the general fund.

Expenses:

1. The annual state elevator inspection fee of \$110 was paid.

If you have any questions, please let me know before the meeting and I will provide responses to everyone.

Finance Team

INTERIM CHAIR
ALICIA HEINRICH

The Finance Team met on February 12th and continues to steward Faith Lutheran's resources with care, transparency, and an eye toward the future. If you are interested in joining the team, please see Pastor Heather Brown. The next meeting is March 12th, 8:30 AM.

Highlights

- Council approved the Youth Credit Card and its policy for proper accounting and usage.

Role changes

- Alicia plans to transition out of her Interim Finance Team Chair role. A new chair will be needed this spring. If interested, please see the Office or Pastor Heather.
- Sheveney Verhulst is the new Financial Secretary and has started as of the 1st of January, 2026. Any questions regarding now go to Sheveney instead of Pam Johnson.



Financial Updates Continued...



Care Fund Update

FROM TREASURER ALICIA HEINRICH

In February, no requests have been made. There was one donation to the Care Fund in February.

Balance as of 01/31/2026	\$	8,929.26
Contributions	\$	150.48
Ending Balance 02/28/2026	\$	<u>9,079.74</u>

Capital Campaign Progress THIRD YEAR KICK-OFF

FROM CHURCH COUNCIL

Our third year of a multi-year campaign to support the Capital Building Fund to help with repairs and other large expenses, is off to a good start. Upcoming campaign fundraisers will be the M&M fundraiser, Brat Frys, Easter Blooms, etc. This has helped us with items like boiler repairs, elevator repairs and planning for roof replacement. Thank you all for your continued generosity!

\$10,000



\$0

updated on 02/28/26

- W&M - Culvers 2025 \$ 473
 - Poinsettias \$ 295
 - Member donations \$ 110
- Total \$878**

Memorial and Other Funds Report

FROM TREASURER CINDY PRUST

For more details or any questions, please contact Cindy Prust. Here are the totals as of 02/01/25:

Undesignated Memorial	\$16,455.40
Flowers & Altar	\$ 2,603.35
Piece Corp	\$ 1,970.89
Music Ministry	\$ 4,273.24
Churkey Ed. Fund	\$ 2,629.28
God's Work, Our Hands	\$ 984.20
Property Improvement	\$ 857.58
Kitchen Remodel	\$ 2,570.95
Faith In Action	\$ 987.27
Fresh Expressions	\$ 573.47
Audio/Visual	\$ 250.00



SAVE THE DATE

Marshfield Area EMPTY BOWLS

Saturday, March 14, 2026

11:00 - 2:00PM

NEW LOCATION - EAGLES CLUB

1104 South Oak Avenue

Marshfield, WI 54449

Empty Bowls is a fund raiser for Soup Or Socks

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>1 9:00 WORSHIP 10:00 GLOW in Classrooms 10:00 ADULT ED in MO 10:00 FLY in YR 10:15 W&M Meeting in CR 5:00 Mutual Ministry Mtg in UR</p>	<p>2 Office Closed 6:30 Facility Team Mtg in UR 7:00 Al-Anon in CR</p>	<p>3 9:30 Peer to Peer Group in CR 10:00 Staff Mtg in UR 11:00 Staff ED Mtg in UR 7:00 Boy Scouts #382 in CR</p>	<p>4 5:15 LENTEN SERVICE 6:00 SOUP SUPPER—BOY SCOUTS 6:00 NA Meeting in CR 6:30 Choir Practice in CH</p>	<p>5 8:00 Piece Corps in FH 1:00 Social Concerns Earth Day Pictures with Office Manager 6:30 Ed & Fam Team Mtg in UR</p>	<p>6 Office & Building CLOSED</p>	<p>7</p>
<p>8 9:00 WORSHIP FAITH CHOIR Sparklers Choir 10:00 GLOW in Classrooms 10:00 ADULT ED in MO 10:00 FLY in YR 10:00 Refresh in God's Word in CR 10:15 Exec. Council Mtg in FH 10:30 Praise Band Practice in SA 6:30 Prayer Vigil at 1st Presb.</p>	<p>9 Office Closed 6:30 Social Concerns/Green Zoom Mtg 7:00 Al-Anon in CR</p>	<p>10 10:00 Staff Mtg in UR 11:00 Staff ED Mtg in UR 7:00 Boy Scouts #382 in CR</p>	<p>11 5:15 LENTEN SERVICE 6:00 SOUP SUPPER—FACILITY/W&M 5:30 FLY YAT Mtg in UR 6:00 NA Meeting in CR 6:30 Choir Practice in CH</p>	<p>12 8:00 Piece Corps in FH 8:30 Finance Team Mtg in UR 6:00 Communications Mtg in UR 7:00 Scout Troop 345 in CR</p>	<p>13 Office & Building CLOSED</p>	<p>14</p>
<p>15 9:00 WORSHIP / PRAISE BAND 10:00 ADULT ED in MO <i>(Final day to send in WELCA offering)</i> TBD Endowment Meeting</p>	<p>16 Office Closed 7:00 Al-Anon in CR</p>	<p>17 10:00 Staff Mtg in UR 11:00 Staff ED Mtg in UR 1:00 Altrusa in FH 1:00 Personnel Mtg in UR 2:30 Book Club in UR</p>	<p>18 9:00 Miriam Circle in UR 9:00 Elizabeth Circle in FH 5:15 LENTEN SERVICE 6:00 SOUP SUPPER—FLC WOMEN 6:00 NA Meeting in CR 6:30 Choir Practice in CH</p>	<p>19 8:00 Piece Corps in FH 6:00 Faith In Action Mtg in UR</p>	<p>20 Office & Building CLOSED</p>	<p>21</p>
Spring Break						
<p>22 9:00 WORSHIP / FAITH CHOIR <i>Temple Talk: Education</i> 10:00 GLOW in Classrooms 10:00 ADULT ED in MO 10:15 Council Meeting in CR</p>	<p>23 Office Closed 7:00 Al-Anon in CR</p>	<p>24 10:00 Staff Mtg in UR 11:00 Staff ED Mtg in UR 12:30 PEO in FH NEWSLETTER DEADLINE 5:30 Immigrant Advocacy Group 6:00 NAMI Meeting in RR 7:00 Boy Scouts #382 in CR</p>	<p>25 5:15 LENTEN SERVICE 6:00 SOUP SUPPER—GREEN TEAM 6:00 NA Meeting in CR 6:30 Choir Practice in CH</p>	<p>26 8:00 Piece Corps in FH 7:00 Scout Troop 345 in CR</p>	<p>27 Office & Building CLOSED</p>	<p>28 1:00 PM FIA Egg Hunt</p>
<p>29 Palm Sunday <i>5th Grade Spotlight</i> 9:00 WORSHIP FAITH CHOIR <i>Fair Trade Sale</i> 10:00 Palms & Pancakes FLY Fundraiser in FH 10:00 GLOW in Classrooms 10:00 ADULT ED in MO</p>	<p>30 Office Closed 1:30 Ruth Circle at Maxine Madison's House 7:00 Al-Anon in CR</p>	<p>31 10:00 Staff Mtg in UR 11:00 Staff ED Mtg in UR 7:00 Boy Scouts #382 in CR</p>	<p>Updated 03.04.26</p>	<div style="background-color: #333; color: white; padding: 5px;"> <p>ROOM LEGEND/KEY CH = Choir Room, Basement CR = Community Room, Basement ED1 = Education Confirmation Room 1, Education Wing Upper Level FH = Fellowship Hall, Basement GA = Gathering Area MO = Mission Team Volunteer Office, Main Level Sanctuary Hallway OM = Office Manager Office SA = Sanctuary UR = Upper Room</p> </div>		



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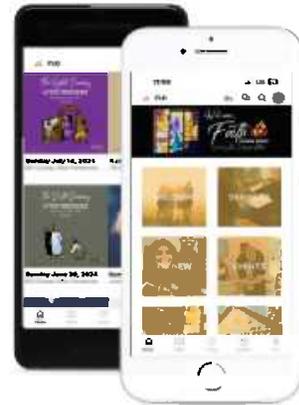
Office Hours:
Tuesdays-Thursdays 8:30 AM-2:30 PM

Service Time:
Sundays 9:00 AM



**FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH
LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT:**

We gather on the ancestral lands of the Anishinaabe, Ho-Chunk, Menominee, and Stockbridge-Munsee peoples. Central Wisconsin remains home to Indigenous persons—resilient friends and neighbors—who continue to work, worship, and create better futures for all. As a community rooted in faith and stewardship, we commit to listening, learning, and caring for these sacred lands and waters - in the spirit of healing and hope.



Faith Lutheran Church Marshfield

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