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Second Sunday After Epiphany  
8:00 am worship service

# **FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH | Inviting, Growing, Serving...**

## **Becoming fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ.**

January 14, 2024

### **WELCOME TO WORSHIP**

Faith is a growing faith community in the Aurora area. We're people just like you, who are hungry to know God better. We're looking for the answers to life's tough questions. We're struggling to be better parents, spouses, friends, and neighbors. We don't have all the answers but we're growing as we go.

Faith is a great place to find healing for broken hearts and broken lives. In every Sunday message you'll learn new skills and attitudes to help you live life with the kind of joy that God intends for us. You'll also meet people who are also growing in their journey through the joys and challenges of life. You'll find lots of "walking partners" for your journey here. There are no closed doors at Faith, just lots of opportunities to grow in Christ, friendship, and love.

Faith is a church with a great vision; however, accomplishing a great vision requires the participation of many great people like you. There's a place in our vision for you to use your unique gifts and talents.

### **CURRENT WORSHIP SERIES: THE ESSENTIALS**

With so many denominations and opinions on what it means to be a Christian, it can be difficult to determine what are the foundations to our faith. We'll look at what's essential, and what's not, when it comes to following Jesus.

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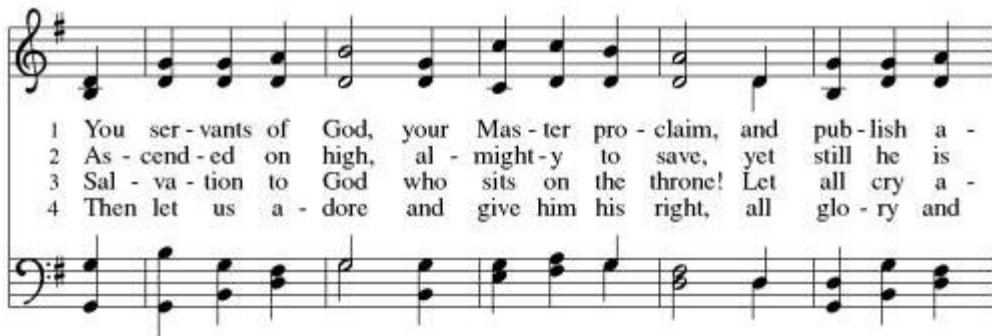
# The Gathering

## WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

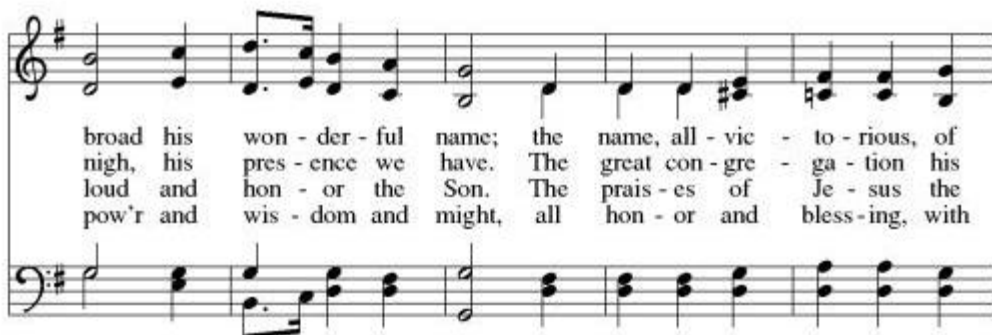
### OPENING HYMN

You Servants of God | ELW #825

*please stand*



1 You ser - vants of God, your Mas - ter pro - claim, and pub - lish a -  
2 As - cend - ed on high, al - might - y to save, yet still he is  
3 Sal - va - tion to God who sits on the throne! Let all cry a -  
4 Then let us a - dore and give him his right, all glo - ry and



broad his won - der - ful name; the name, all - vic - to - rious, of  
nigh, his pres - ence we have. The great con - gre - ga - tion his  
loud and hon - or the Son. The prais - es of Je - sus the  
pow'r and wis - dom and might, all hon - or and bless - ing, with



Je - sus ex - tol; his king - dom is glo - rious and rules o - ver all!  
tri - umph shall sing, as - crib - ing sal - va - tion to Je - sus, our king!  
an - gels pro - claim, fall down on their fac - es, and wor - ship the Lamb.  
an - gels a - bove, and thanks nev - er ceas - ing, and in - fin - ite love!

## GREETING

**P:** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C:** **And also with you.**

## KYRIE



**A** In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **C** Lord, have mer - cy.



**A** For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



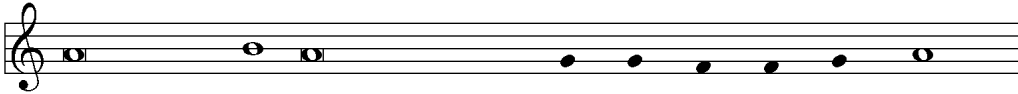
**A** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mercy.



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord. Amen

## HYMN OF PRAISE

*Refrain*



This is the feast of victory for our God.



Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.



1 Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose

2 Sing . . with all the people of God, and




blood set us free to be people of God.

join in the hymn of all creation:



Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and strength, and  
Bless-ing and hon - or, glo - ry and might be to



hon - or and bless - ing and glo - ry are his.  
God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



3 For the Lamb who was slain has be -



gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray,

Thanks be to you, Lord Jesus Christ, most merciful redeemer, for the countless blessings and benefits you give. May we know you more clearly, love you more dearly, and follow you more nearly, day by day praising you, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

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## The Word

### FIRST READING

1 Samuel 3:1-10

Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the Lord under Eli. The word of the Lord was rare in those days; visions were not widespread. At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his room; the lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the Lord, where the ark of God was. Then the Lord called, "Samuel! Samuel!" and he said, "Here I am!" and ran to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call; lie down again." So he went and lay down. The Lord called again, "Samuel!" Samuel got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call, my son; lie down again." Now Samuel did not yet know the Lord, and the word of the Lord had not yet been revealed to him. The Lord called Samuel again, a third time. And he got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." Then Eli perceived that the Lord was calling the boy. Therefore Eli said to Samuel, "Go, lie down; and if he calls you, you shall say, 'Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.'" So Samuel went and lay down in his place. Now the Lord came and stood there, calling as before, "Samuel! Samuel!" And Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening."

### SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 6:12-20

"All things are lawful for me," but not all things are beneficial. "All things are lawful for me," but I will not be dominated by anything. "Food is meant for the stomach and the stomach for food," and God will destroy both one and the other. The body is meant not for fornication but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. And God raised the Lord and will also raise us by his power. Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Should I therefore take the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? Never! Do you not know that whoever is united to a prostitute becomes one body with her? For it is said, "The two shall be one flesh." But anyone united to the Lord becomes one spirit with him. Shun fornication! Every sin that a person commits is outside the body; but the fornicator sins against the body itself. Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God, and that you are

not your own? For you were bought with a price; therefore glorify God in your body.

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *please stand*

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

P: The Holy Gospel according to John, the 14<sup>th</sup> chapter.

Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

### GOSPEL

#### John 14: 1-10

“Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also.

And you know the way to the place where I am going.” Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.” Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.” Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works.



P: The Gospel of the Lord.

Musical notation for the phrase "Praise to you, O Christ." in G major, 4/4 time. The melody is written on a single staff in treble clef. The notes are: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), B4-A4 (half), G4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), D4 (half).

Praise to you, O Christ.

**MESSAGE**

Jesus = God = Love | Pastor Rob

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

As with Gladness Men of Old | ELW #302

*please stand*

Musical score for the hymn "As with Gladness Men of Old" in G major, 4/4 time. The score consists of three systems, each with a vocal line in treble clef and a piano accompaniment line in bass clef. The lyrics are as follows:

1 As with glad-ness men of old did the guid-ing star be-hold;  
2 As with joy-ful steps they sped, Sav-ior, to thy low-ly bed,  
3 As they of-fered gifts most rare at thy cra-dle, rude and bare,  
4 Ho-ly Je-sus, ev-'ry day keep us in the nar-row way;  
5 In the heav'n-ly coun-try bright need they no cre-a-ted light;

as with joy they hailed its light, lead-ing on-ward, beam-ing bright;  
there to bend the knee be-fore thee, whom heav'n and earth a-dore;  
so may we with ho-ly joy, pure and free from sin's al-loy,  
and when earth-ly things are past, bring our ran-somed souls at last  
thou its light, its joy, its crown, thou its sun which goes not down;

so, most gra-cious Lord, may we ev-er-more be led by thee.  
so may we with will-ing feet ev-er seek thy mer-cy seat.  
all our cost-liest trea-sures bring, Christ, to thee, our heav'n-ly king.  
where they need no star to guide, where no clouds thy glo-ry hide.  
there for-ev-er may we sing al-le-lu-ias to our king.

## APOSTLES CREED

**C:** I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.

## PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

**A:** As we celebrate Christ embodied in human form, we pray for God's blessing  
on the church, the world, and all of creation.

**A:** Encourage the ministry and mission of the church, God of truth. Let the  
leaders of your church be trustworthy and accountable stewards, that all its  
resources and outreach bring hope and healing to communities. God of grace,

**C:** receive our prayer.

**A:** Delight in the goodness of your creation, God of fig trees and fertile soil. Heal  
areas of the world harmed by human greed. Restore those recovering from  
natural disaster. Protect our forests and waterways and all the creatures that  
live in them. God of grace,

**C:** receive our prayer.

A: Call the leaders of every neighborhood and nation to serve faithfully, God of wisdom. Give them visions of justice and unity. Lead them to action that promotes equitable partnership and uplifts those on the margins of society. God of grace,

**C: receive our prayer.**

A: Hold in your care any who suffer and struggle, God of compassion. You who know our inner hearts, be present with any who are oppressed, victims of racism or cultural bias, and all who long for respite or restoration. God of grace,

**C: receive our prayer.**

A: Give this congregation the anticipation and excitement of Samuel, so inspired and empowered to do your work in the world, God of unity. Make us faithful as we build communities of inclusion and mutual care. God of grace,

**C: receive our prayer.**

P: Gracious and loving God, we pray for the family and friends of Faith... God of grace,

**C: receive our prayer.**

P: Knowing the Holy Spirit intercedes for us, we offer these prayers and the silent prayers of our hearts in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

**C: Amen.**

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## *The Meal*

### **PEACE**

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

### **OFFERING**

## OFFERING RESPONSE *please stand*



☞ Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our  
cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the  
seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.  
Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u - nite them with the  
prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your  
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

## OFFERTORY PRAYER


A: Blessed are you, Holy One,  
for all good things come from you.  
In bread and cup you open heaven to us.  
Meet us at this table,  
that we receive what we seek  
and follow your Son, Jesus,  
in whose name we pray.

C: **Amen.**


## GREAT THANKSGIVING



**P** The Lord be with you. **C** And al - so with you.



**P** Lift up your hearts. **C** We lift them to the Lord.



**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



**C** It is right to give him thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right and salutary . . .we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:



Heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho - san - na.



Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who



comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

## **PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

**P:** In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

### **LORD'S PRAYER**

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those  
who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory,  
forever and ever. Amen**

## **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

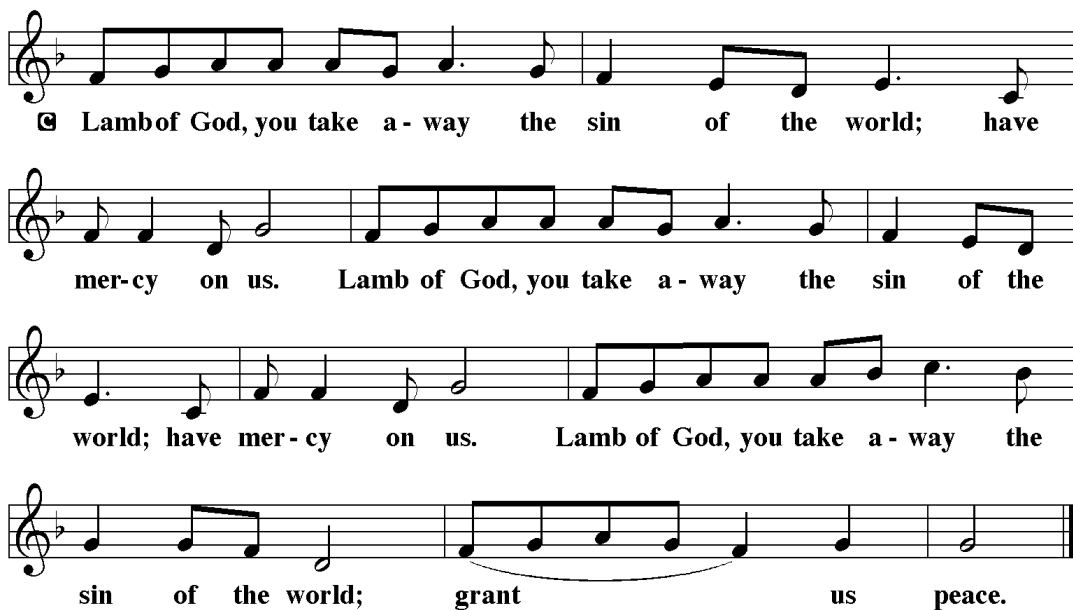
**P:** At Jesus' table, heaven and earth are joined as one.  
Come and see.

**C:** Thanks be to God.

## **COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION**

### **AN INVITATION**

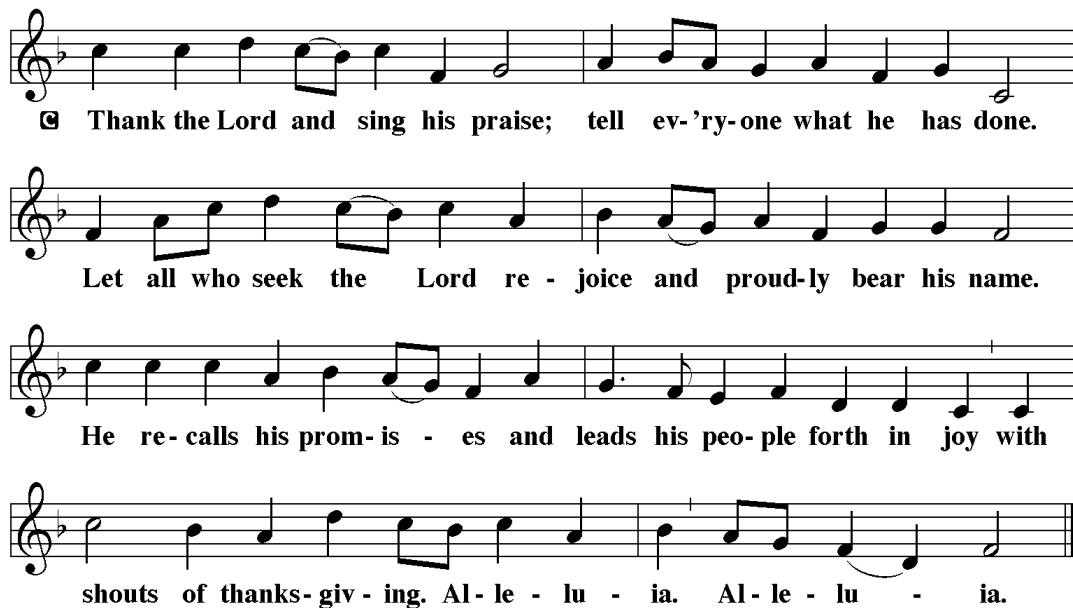
*We invite you to share in Holy Communion this morning, regardless of your church background or lack thereof. We believe that God is present in the bread and wine as it becomes the body and blood of Jesus Christ and that this presence is a gift of grace in the lives of those who receive it. All are welcomed to the table enjoy this gift of God's love and mercy. Grape juice is in the center of the communion tray. Gluten free wafers available at the usher stand, please ask an usher to assist you.*



**C** Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sin of the world; grant us peace.

**P:** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in His grace.

**C:** Amen.



**C** Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.  
Let all who seek the Lord re - jice and proud-ly bear his name.  
He re - calls his prom - is - es and leads his peo-ple forth in joy with  
shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

*please stand*

A: Giver of every gift,  
Christ's body is our food, and we are Christ's body.  
Raise us to life by your power  
for the benefit of all and to your glory,  
now and forever.

**C: Amen**

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## *The Sending*

### **BLESSING**

P: God who names you,  
Christ who claims you,  
and the Holy Spirit who dwells in you,  
† bless you and remain with you always.

**C: Amen.**



# CLOSING HYMN

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise | ELW #834

1 Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,  
2 Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light;  
3 To all, life thou giv - est, to both great and small;  
4 Thou reign - est in glo - ry; thou dwell - est in light;

in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,  
nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in might;  
in all life thou liv - est, the true life of all;  
thine an - gels a - dore thee, all veil - ing their sight;

most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,  
thy jus - tice like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove,  
we blos - som and flour - ish like leaves on the tree,  
all laud we would ren - der; oh, help us to see

al - mighty, vic - to - rious, thy great name we praise!  
thy clouds which are foun - tains of good - ness and love,  
and with - er and per - ish, but naught chang - eth thee.  
'tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth thee!

## DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. You are God's beloved.

C: Thanks be to God.

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# NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

## **Welcome to Faith!**

We are so glad that you have chosen to worship with us today! Have questions about Faith? Wondering how to get connected or get more involved? We'd love to help. No matter where you are in life or how many times you've visited, we're here to guide you towards your next best step. Stop by the welcome center located near the main entrance. If this is your first time at Faith, let us know, we've got a special gift just for you!

## **FAITH'S CONSTITUTION UPDATE**

The constitution of Faith Lutheran Church has not been updated since 2005. The synod has made several suggested modifications available over the years. After several months of research and discussion, your Congregational Council has voted to recommend to conform to the Model Constitution for Congregations of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, current as of August 2022. A copy of the new constitution was emailed to all members. Additional copies are available at the welcome center. We will conduct an informational session on this constitution and the changes to our current document, along with a question and answer period, before our Annual Meeting on January 28, 2024.

## **BINGO NIGHT 21+ Event**

**Sat 1/20 | 5:00 PM**

Doors open at 4:30 PM. Bingo starts at 5:00 PM. Cost is \$5 per person at the door. Bring an appetizer to share. Prizes will be awarded throughout the night! So that we know how many to set up for, please sign up online or at the welcome center. Come join in the fun!

## **NEXT**

**Sun 1/21 | 9:00 & 10:30 AM**

If you've ever wondered how to get involved at Faith, or how to take the next step, don't worry. We've created a simple next step for you. It's a small gathering called NEXT. This informal gathering lasts only about 20 minutes after services and will provide you an overview of our mission, strategy, and environments to help you determine your best next step for continuing your faith journey. Meets fireside

## **ADULT ONLINE STUDY GROUP**

**Begins Tues 1/23 | 7:00 PM**

### **Becoming a Contagious Christian**

Learn how to share the gospel in natural and effective ways, being the person God made you to be. By applying training principles learned in this study to real-life situations and relationships, you'll identify and develop an evangelism style that's effective for you. This 6 week online study will be facilitated by Becky Marchiando. Please sign up at the welcome center so that we may send you Zoom credentials required to participate. Come join us!

## **ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**

**Sun 1/28 | 10:45 AM**

All members are invited to attend Faith's annual congregational meeting. Agenda items will include a review and celebration of 2023, approval of the 2024 spending plan, the election of council members and nominating committee members. Council will hold an informational Q&A on Sunday, January 21 at 10:30am in the sanctuary to discuss agenda and content for annual meeting. Bring your coffee and questions.

## **BLOOD DRIVE**

**Sat 2/3 | 9:00 AM**

Faith is hosting a blood drive in the church auditorium Saturday, February 3. Save the date and make your appointment today [www.discoveringfaith.com](http://www.discoveringfaith.com). Walk-in's welcome too!

## **MOM'S GROUP: A Moment for Mom**

**Sat 2/10 | 10:00 AM**

We are hosting moms of children infants-elementary school to come together for a time of learning, laughter, and treats. Take a moment to connect with other moms, while enjoying a yummy breakfast, hearing from a knowledgeable speaker on topics related to parenting, and building your mom village along the way. Our group meets the 2nd Saturday of each month, through May, 10:00 AM - 12:15 PM. For more information about our guest speaker and topic lineup, and to register for events, please visit [www.discoveringfaith.com/amomentformom](http://www.discoveringfaith.com/amomentformom).

## **ANNUAL CHILI COOK OFF**

**Sat 2/10 | 5:00 PM**

Community Life team is hosting Faith's Annual Chili Cook-Off. Do you make the best Chili? Enter your Chili today! Don't Cook? Join us in the tasting and judge your favorite Chili! Sign up at the welcome center. Open to all ages.

## **KIDWERKS**

**Sundays at 9:30 AM**

Kidwerks~in person AND online!

Join us as we dive into learning about new virtues each month through stories from the bible so that we can grow in our understanding and relationship with God. To register go to [discoveringfaith.com](http://discoveringfaith.com) or for more information please contact [jenn@discoveringfaith.com](mailto:jenn@discoveringfaith.com)

## **REVOLUTION**

**Sundays | 5:00 PM**

On Sunday Nights at Faith, we've created an event that attracts **middle & high school students just like you**. After all, we figure you want to be wherever your friends are. We make this time as fun and relevant as we possibly can. The goal is for you to leave feeling energized to go out there and tackle another week!

## **Giving at Faith! As Easy as Click & Give**



As followers of Jesus Christ, we embrace irrational generosity. We know it changes lives—ours and the people we're reaching. At Faith, taking action on your generosity is simple. Just scan the QR code with your camera and give. Simple, safe, and secure.

**Prayers**

If you would like to add someone to our prayer list and have the prayer team pray for them, please contact the church office at [\(630\) 862-3500](tel:6308623500) or send an e-mail [prayerteam@discoveringfaith.com](mailto:prayerteam@discoveringfaith.com)

Prayer concerns will be listed for four weeks unless otherwise noted.

**Care**

If you know of someone who is in need of emotional, physical, or spiritual support, please contact our care team at: [careteam@discoveringfaith.com](mailto:careteam@discoveringfaith.com)

**Pastoral Emergency**

In the case of an emergency that requires immediate Pastoral Care, please contact Pastor Rob directly on his cell phone at [\(630\) 248-5515](tel:6302485515).





Pastor Rob Douglas

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