



DECEMBER 2012 NEWSLETTER

Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church

714 N Grand Avenue

Pierre, SD 57501



9th Annual

"Festival of the Crèche"

(Crèche: a three dimensional representation of the Nativity)

Sunday, December 2

1:30 p.m.- 4:00 p.m.

Faith Ev. Lutheran Church

1:30-4:00 – View the Crèches in the church

Fellowship Hall during a come-and-go reception.

*Holiday cookies and breads along with tea and coffee
will be served.*

3:00- Live Crèche and reading of the Christmas Story.

The Sundays of Advent and Christmas Day

These services will center around the themes of the historic hymn

"O Come, O Come Emmanuel"

December 2—Advent 1

"O Come, Wisdom"

December 9—Advent 2

"O Come, Adonai"

December 16—Advent 3

"O Come, Branch of Jesse"

December 23—Advent 4

"O Come, Key of David"

December 25—Christmas Day

"O Come, Dayspring"



Thanksgiving, Advent & Christmas Schedule

Thanksgiving Day Service

November 22

10:30 a.m.

Advent Services

Interviews With Isaiah

First Sunday of Advent, December 2

8:20 & 11:00

"O Come, Wisdom"

Wednesday, December 5

"The Light"

7:55 p.m.

Second Sunday of Advent, Dec. 9

8:20 & 11:00

"O Come, Adonai"

Wednesday, December 12

"The Spirit"

7:55 p.m.

Third Sunday of Advent, Dec. 16

8:20 & 11:00

"O Come, Branch of Jesse"

Sunday School & Youth Programs

N-3 9:45 a.m. 4-8 11:00 a.m.

Wednesday, December 19

"The Journey"

7:55 p.m.

Fourth Sunday of Advent, Dec. 23

8:20 & 11:00

"O Come, Key of David"

Christmas Eve Worship

"The Child" Isaiah 9:6

Candlelight Service

5:00 and 7:30 p.m.

Christmas Day Worship

"O Come, Dayspring"

With Holy Communion

10:30 a.m. only

New Year's Eve Worship

With Holy Communion

7:00 p.m.

Witness, Mercy, Life Together



A Message From Pastor Urbach

A blessed Advent & Christmas!

Spring, Summer, Fall, Winter—what are your favorite seasons? Mine...well, glad you asked. The answer is...Advent/Christmas and Lent/Easter.

Our Christmas tree this year will be special to me because it is from my front yard. It is a beautiful tree, but after dying grass and pricked fingers from pine needles, I thought it was time to re-do my corner next Spring. So this year's tree is pretty special. Trees—Healing! In the Biblical Book of Revelation we find marvelous passages about trees and healing.

"Then the angel showed me the river of life, as clear as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb down the middle of the great street of the city. On each side of the river stood the tree of life, bearing twelve crops of fruit, yielding its fruit every month. And the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations." Rev. 22:1-4

What an image of heaven. As a matter of fact read chapters 21 and 22, to get a full picture. Heaven is remarkable. The trees bearing fruit and the leaves bringing healing...healing for the nations. There, in heaven we will see the face of the Lamb of God.

The year 2012 has been a year of healing for me. Prior to this year I felt I was pretty dent proof. This year I know what it is like to struggle with pain and aging body parts. So, the healing that I have prayed for this beloved people of God over these 38 years has meant even more as people have prayed for the pastor. Thank You! Pain and discomfort can isolate us, but I have been so grateful and thankful to also be a part of your prayers.

When I think of trees, I think of heaven and the trees of healing. Trees — I think of the cross, trees—I think of the manger, trees—I think of our beautiful State Capitol Rotunda, trees—I think of a special tree in our sanctuary, trees—I donated trees to the City of Pierre in honor of my grandchildren. These trees in Steamboat Park by the amphitheater that I hope will bring shade to you and your families. So trees, healing and "faces".

"They will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads." Rev. 22:4.

On Sunday, November 18 & 25 I could not raise my left arm to speak the words of Numbers 6 to you.

"The Lord said to Moses, Tell Aaron and his sons, 'This is how you are to bless the Israelites. Say to them: "The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace." So they will put my name on the Israelites, and I will bless them." Numbers 6:22-27

These wondrous words of Numbers 6, that your pastors speak to you each Sunday now hang over my office door. This beautiful piece of art was a gift to me from Hilary Lee & Shane Shepherd on the occasion of their wedding in November! Now as you enter my office or leave my office the very Words of God convey God's Blessings upon your life journey. I would say it again, speaking these privileged words over you continues to move me even after the thousands of times I have spoken them.

I have hundreds of moments & memories of my life as pastor among you as I prepare for my 39th Christmas Eve with you. God willing I will have a 40th year with you and then I will see Christ-

mas from the pew side. I properly should have waiting one more year for the tree but this will be the right year to re-do some things at my home and in the yard. But, back to "faces", lately I seem to wander off in thought about what a joy Faith has been to me. Through my mind runs the pictures of hundreds and hundreds of faces. I have been able to proclaim to you about our Lord who has turned His face toward you to give you peace.

"Lay on the sick Thy healing hand And make the fallen strong to stand; Show us the glory of Thy face Till beauty springs in every place. "On Jordan's Bank The Baptist's Cry" LSB 344 v 4

An Eternal Healing

An Eternal Tree

An Eternal Face

Advent, crèche's, candles, carols, healing, gifts, wonderful worship services, O my goodness, one of my favorite times is upon us, the festive season of Advent & Christmas.

Thanks be to God for all of you, what a joyful church family my family has been placed in.

A mighty & blessed December to you.

Pastor Brad Urbach





Memorial Garden

On All Saints' Sunday we acknowledged the names that have been placed in the Memorial Garden since last All Saints' Sunday. They are: Wm. J. Nielsen, Brooks Monfore, Doris Steffen, Albert "Al" Steffen, Pete Young, Marlene Young, Edward Erbe, Cora Erbe, Herman Biskey, Edith Biskey, Arthur Groff, Mary Ellen Groff, Louis Kopplin, Marion Kopplin, Delores L. Jorgenson, Krystal Dawn Russell and Don Sturm.

Next year on All Saints' Sunday we will acknowledge the next set of names. Memorial sheets are to be submitted by

October 1, 2013.

You will find request sheets for placing new names on Memorial Stones in the Memorial Garden in the Stewardship Tract Rack, the Information Desk and the Tract Rack. All of these are in the Narthex. If you have questions or suggestions please address them to Larry Coyle, the Chairman of our Memorial Garden Committee.



Surprise Package

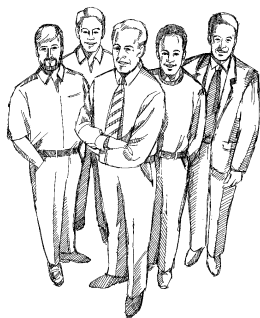


The musical group **Surprise Package** will be performing their annual

Christmas Concert at 7:30PM, Monday, December 10th and 7:30 PM, Tuesday, December 11th at Lutheran Memorial Church at 320 East Prospect Avenue. The performance will feature the following vocalists: Kathy Cruse, Rebecca DallaGrana, Rachel Engbrecht, Carol Gengler, Priscilla Hofer, Jack Horner, Dave Huft, Dawn Hurney, Carol Johnson, Tim Larson, Ben Orsbon, Michael Pangburn, and Kriste Schock along with Director, Larry Lyngstad, Accompanist, Joyce Goehring, and other musicians. Come and enjoy the sacred and secular music.



Men's Night Out



The men of the Congregation are invited to our Men's Fellowship Christmas Party. We will meet in the

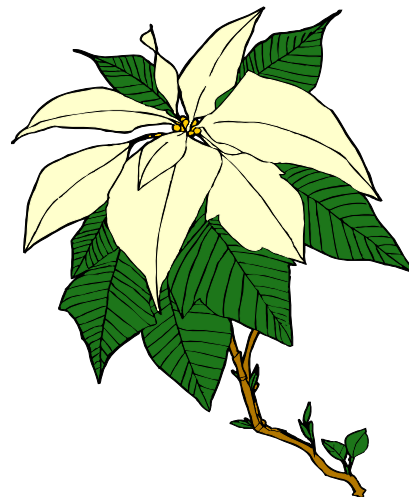
Living Room. Please bring a snack to share, beverages will be provided. We will play a few hands of Court Whist with gift certificates for the highest and lowest scores.

That's Monday, December 3 at 7:00 p.m.



Class Photos

We thank Laurie Graves for the confirmation photo of the class of 1974. We are still needing photos of 1962, 1963, 1964, 1965, 1966, 1968, 1971, 1972, 1977, 1978, 1980, and any photo prior to 1960. If you have any of these, we would appreciate a copy to hang on our wall.



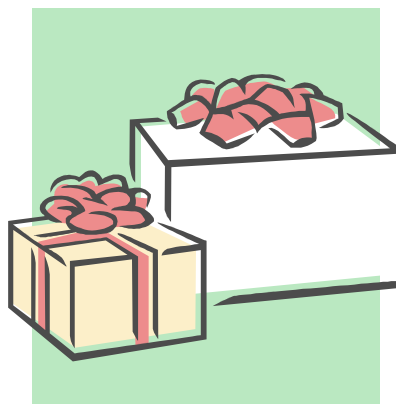


A Message from Pastor Baumann

Habakkuk 2:4b “but the righteous will live by his faith.”

Advent greetings in the name of our coming King—the Lord Jesus Christ! Advent—it’s a time of waiting and anticipation. The very word Advent means “coming.” This season of the church year should stir our hearts and our minds to anticipate the arrival of the Babe at Bethlehem as we wait for His coming. Sometimes it’s not easy to wait, and we all know what it’s like to wait. We wait for payday to come, for that new addition to our family, for our wives to get ready to go out, for our husbands to apologize, for our kids to take out the trash, we wait for those warmer days of spring to arrive. We all know what it’s like to wait, and sometimes it’s just plain hard to do. As we look at the world around us, we wait. We wait for the King to come again to restore, renew, and right creation. It’s a tough world we live in. It’s hard to see sickness and sadness, divorce and discord, violence and vengeance have their way in our world. Yet, once again we are in a time of waiting. Not only do we await the celebration of Jesus’ birth at Bethlehem, but we await Christ’s second coming, His final return when He will judge all the living and the dead, when He will forever do away with sin, death, and the devil. It is certainly a day to wait for! As you wait this day for

whatever it might be—prince charming to coming along, a job opportunity, or perhaps the end of the school year— may you also await in eager expectation the return of your Savior, and may you be filled with joy at the news Jesus’ coming birth at Bethlehem. “The king shall come when morning dawns and light and beauty brings. Hail Christ the Lord! Your people pray: Come quickly, King of Kings!” – v.5 Hymn 348 LSB



Christmas Program and Practice Schedule

Music practices will be held during regular Midweek and Sunday School times throughout the month of December

Christmas Programs

Sunday, December 16th
N—3rd Grade

“Christmas Jubilee”
9:45 a.m. in the sanctuary
(during regular Sunday School time)

Sunday, December 16th
4th—8th Grade
“It Wouldn’t Be Christmas Without...”
11:00 a.m. in the sanctuary

Our Dress Rehearsals are:

Saturday, December 15th
N—3rd grades at **10:00 a.m.**
4th—8th grades at **1:00 p.m.**

Any questions, please feel free to contact Pastor Baumann at the church office at:
(605) 224-2216.



Preschool News

Faith Lutheran Preschool has had a busy and fun filled November. We are talking about the first Thanksgiving and learning several nursery rhymes. We even had a 'Bear Day' when we each brought our favorite bear and did lots of fun things with them. Our color for December is green, the shape is triangle and the letters are JKL. Instead of our mall tree, we will be decorating a tree in the Living Room at Faith. During December we



make a gift for our parents, decorate our own tree at preschool, learn the story of Jesus' birth and get ready for our Christmas program. It will be held in the Christian Life Center at 10:30 AM on Wednesday, December 20 and at 10:30 AM and 2:30 PM on Thursday, December 21. Please come if you would like and enjoy an old fashioned Christmas program! The best part of this time of year is teach-



ing the children the real meaning of Christmas and how much Jesus loves each of us. Praying that your Advent and Christmas holidays are bright with the love of Jesus! Jan Larson



Debt Retirement

We continue to be blessed with gifts to both our Building Account and Debt Retirement. Because of your kindness, we were able to send two advanced payments in addition to our November 1 monthly payment. We saved \$5,881.01 in interest. We have now made 80 advance payments saving \$340,362.73 in interest and the principal on our loan is now \$849,268.45.

Thank you for your good stewardship and long-range vision to support our parish.



Official Acts

Baptisms

Rylee LaVon Youngberg
Sidney Barbara Youngberg
David Dean Miller
Arie Richard Olson
Ruby Marie Bonn
Hailey Emma Bonn

Deaths

Deanna Kay Smith
Michael Owen Nugent
Donald A. Sturm



Wedding

Hilary Lee & Shane Shepherd

Blood Drive

Faith Lutheran will have a Blood Drive on Tuesday, December 13 from 11:15 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Call Char Russell at 224-1160 for an appointment or go to www.bloodhero.com and then enter code: pierrefaith.





AN ADVENT PROMISE

*"Every valley shall be lifted up
and every mountain and hill be
made low;
the rough ground shall become
level, the rugged places a plain."
Isaiah 40:4*

We often miss Advent's power because December's weeks are full of secular events and preparations for Christmas. Each year the busy-ness of the season serves to distract us from having an Advent season that truly prepares us for the Promise and celebration with all its meaning.

O Come, O Come Emmanuel!

Set us free from all the things that hold us captive.

Sometimes life can seem like a kind of wilderness; one dark valley after another, another mountain to climb. It may be illness, a broken relationship, a loss of some kind, trouble at home, trouble at school, trouble on the job. We seem to walk in darkness, or perhaps we're wandering in the desert. Thick clouds of worry hang over us, or have we

been guilty of some things we aren't proud of?

O Come, O Come Emmanuel!

Lift us up out of the dark valley into the sunshine.

The readings of Advent open up a whole series of promises and powerful images, where Isaiah reminds us that God is ready to come and save us. Our imaginations are set free to see and experience that "a time will come for singing." We will have the opportunity to hope beyond our wildest dreams. Our hearts will be open to imagine the love of God embracing us in the coming of one like us; one who knows our life and its struggles.

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel!

Help us over the mountain we're facing.

We can enter into Advent by simply slowing down and breathing more deeply. Advent is a humble season; a season of self-awareness. Quietly ask God to enter your heart; allow Him to calm the

restless ache of the human journey. Invite Him to fill you with the peace and love that only He can give. Pray in the days ahead that this will be a blessed time.

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel!

Smooth out the rough places that are draining us of energy and job.

Give thanks for His coming, and for the Promise that precedes it. And now, before a single decoration goes up, we have prepared ourselves for Christ's coming with the foundation of faith. Emmanuel – God with us! The time of rejoicing is just up ahead!

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel!

Enable us to rejoice in Your presence and power. Amen.

Karen Lindbloom
Music Coordinator



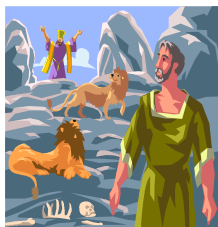


Faith Lutheran Daycare

Greetings from Faith Lutheran Daycare!

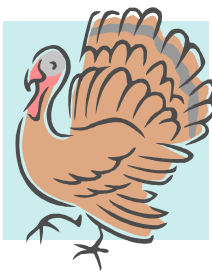
Winter is upon us and boy are we ever ready to get into the snow! The children have patiently been waiting for the snow and for their (and the staff's) favorite time of year... Christmas!

This past month in our Bible stories we have talked about the love that Ruth had for her family, Samuel and listening for when God is speaking to us, David and Goliath; overcoming things that are bigger than we are, and Daniel in the Lion's Den and knowing that God will protect us. We have learned about many things from the Bible this month and the children seem more and more eager to be learning more of God's word!



We know that we have been very blessed as a daycare with wonderful fami-

lies and children. We are one of the only daycares in town that are able to freely



talk about God and His love for us. We are so thankful for everything that we have. Our Thankful Turkey this year is overflowing with feathers of things that we are thankful for.

The entire month of December we will be talking about Jesus. The events that lead up to His birth, His birth, and the impact that He has had on all of our lives. We are very grateful for the sacrifices He made for us and are grateful for how much we know He loves us!



On November 20th we had our Thanksgiving "Dinner" for daycare for which we invited our parents. We were able to each say something we were thankful for before

we had our wonderful food that we were REALLY thankful for.

Our daycare has 16 wonderful staff members that have gone above and beyond in the love and care of these children. We currently are almost full at Faith Lutheran Daycare. We await the new babies that are going to be starting in this new year. We currently have room in our Preschool age group (3+ years) and our afterschool program.

Daycare can always use donations of items such as Kleenex, baby wipes, craft items, and paper. If you ever want to donate anything you are welcome to drop things off at the daycare office at any time.

We hope everyone has a wonderful love filled Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Your friend in Christ,

Jennifer Carr

YOUTH PAGE

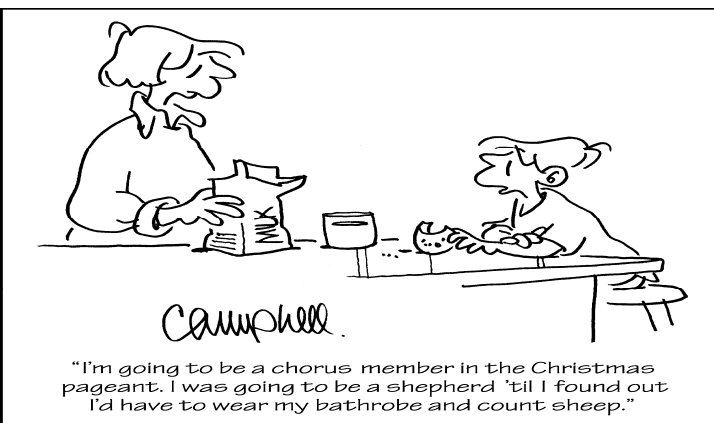
HIGH SCHOOL LOCK-IN Friday, Dec. 21st!!! We are just a few short weeks away from our lock-in which will take place from **7pm to 7am Friday, December 21st here at Faith Lutheran.** Please be sure to grab a waiver/consent form, fill it out, and return it to Pastor Baumann's office. We would hope that you could be with us the whole evening, but if you must come late or leave early, it is fine as long as you have your parent's consent to do so. The cost to attend is \$5 as well as bringing a snack **or** bag of chips **or** cheese or veggie platter **or** some type of food item for the evening to share. We are looking forward to a wonderful evening together of fun activities and time spent with great people.

LIVE LOVE(D)!!! 2013 National Youth Gathering in San Antonio, Texas July 1-5

We are locked in with our numbers and who is going at this point. 31 youth and 5 adults are registered. The next step is a concentrated effort on fundraising. A listing of upcoming fundraising events for the National Youth Gathering is being made available and can be found on the Information table in the narthex. Grab one of the green fundraising sheets today!



National Youth Gathering fundraising is underway! Those heading to the National Youth Gathering are selling candles at this time. We are selling candles until November 30th. We make \$9.50 on every candle we sell! These are great and easy fundraisers for us. If you are going to the National Youth Gathering, be sure to pick up your order forms from Pastor Baumann to sell to family and friends you know if you have not done so already. We will also be selling these fundraising items in between services today as well at a table located in the Narthex.



December 2

Early: Andrew Leif, Jordain Rathbun

Late: Kaci Deal, Molly Tschetter

December 9

Early: Matthew Pease, Brandon Berheim
Late: Cade Larson, Brittney Munyon

December 16

Early: Alyssa Bump, Courtney Brandt
Late: Matthew Green, Brandi Ziebart

December 23

Early: Julia Jares, Caitlin Bolte
Late: Devin Kampfe, Jaden Filler

December 24

5:00 Colton Shoop, Connor Shoop,
LeAndra Hoefener, Jacob Fuerst,
Kaiden Karst
7:30 Whitney King, Colton Graves, Abby
Lingle, Wylin Baker, Megan Arneson

December 25

10:30 Emily Weber, Kimberlee Geuther

December 30

Early: Rachel Hartmann, Emily Overturf
Late: Tanner Monfore, Dawson Monfore

December 31

7:30 Justin Meier, Logan Lenz

Acolyte Reminder

Acolytes, if you are unable to serve on your assigned Sunday, please find someone to trade with and let the office know who will be filling your assigned space. This is an important part of our service. Parents and the rest of our congregation enjoy seeing our youth take part in the services.

Thanks for your help in this matter.

