

Faith Lutheran Church

FAITHLINES

- Cody Blust, Pastor
- Pat Hoar, Secretary
- Rebecca Keck, Music Director
- Shelley Grubb, Bell Choir
- Steve Conrad, Grounds
- Randy Peck, Custodian



FROM PASTOR CODY

“Nobody made a greater mistake than he who did nothing because he could do only a little.” ~ Edmund Burke

Throughout the scriptures we are called to help those who are in need. The Israelites are given commands to help those who they encounter, Christ gives us the example of helping others when they are in need, and Paul writes many times about the need to aid others. The life of a Christian is a life in service to others because it is through our service that we share God’s love. We are all called to help others but it can be tempting to see the examples of people serving in ways that have large impacts and think we cannot serve because we

could not have the same impact. Edmund Burke however, reminds us that even if we can only do a little to help, we can still make an impact. No matter the size of the impact that we can have we can still make one. We do not need to do something huge to change the world, but we can make a difference for someone. If we all use the gifts to have to make whatever impact we can regardless of how big or small we could make the world a better, kinder, and loving place. The opposition may seem strong, especially in these days, but if we all do what we can we will push back the opposition and make the world filled with God’s love.

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MIDWEEK SERVICE AND MEAL

The season of Lent is a time of reflection and preparation for the death and resurrection of Christ. As part of our Lenten practices, we will continue having Midweek Soup and Salad dinners beginning at 6 pm. through April 9<sup>th</sup> in the Fellowship Hall. If you would like to offer a soup or salad there is a sign up sheet on the bulletin board in the hallway.

LENTEN SPECIAL GIVING

In your offering booklets is a special envelope marked Lenten Giving. Church Council has designated this year’s Lenten Special Giving for the Church Renovation Fund. Make any checks out to Faith Lutheran Church. Thanks.

## JESUS CALLING

Our next meeting is Monday, April 7th at 11 a.m. in Room 210. We bring our lunch to share in a fellowship time after the study.

## THE COMPOSERS' CRAFT

Dietrich Hansen Buxtehude (1637-1707)

Dietrich Buxtehude was a Danish composer who was born in a territory that was then part of Denmark, not far from Germany, and is now in Sweden. His father was a skilled church organist, and Buxtehude wrote the music for his father's funeral. Buxtehude was educated in Germany and influenced by their musical style, accepting in 1660 an appointment as organist of St. Mary's Church in Helsingør, Zealand, which became the only church for which he played. You will not see his name in our present Evangelical Lutheran Worship book, from which we sing most of our Sunday hymns, but, rather, in the Sunday bulletin from time to time for writing music in the Baroque period that is today used as preludes primarily, and secondarily, oratorical music, sung by choirs. Buxtehude, logically, also wrote a substantial number of pieces for the organ. He died in 1707. DK

## DAILY DEVOTIONS

The first quarter daily devotional books Portals of Prayer and Christ in Our Home are available in the rack by the entrance door.

## EUCHRE

We will not be having Euchre in April due to Good Friday following on the third Friday. See you on May 16th!!



## BOOK CORNER

This month of March, being the time when St. Patrick's Day is observed, it seems to be appropriate to discuss, not a book, but information you can find in various books and online about the object of our honoring on that day.

St. Patrick was born, not in Ireland, but in Roman Great Britain about 386 A. D., to parents who had deep roots in the church, traditionally with the name Maewynn Succat. Ironically, he apparently did not receive a particularly meaningful religious instruction nor education in general. At age 16, he was kidnapped by Irish pirates and sold to a pagan cleric. He saw this time as a slave as a test of his faith by God. During that time, he committed himself to helping to strengthen the faith of Christians already established in Ireland, and to spread Christianity through the island. In 408 he escaped by boarding a ship that wound up in France, where he wandered, lost, for 28. Eventually he made his way back home to his parents, but then returned to France, where he obtained an education and was ordained a deacon in the church in 418. By 432 he was made a bishop by the pope and was sent to Ireland to fulfill his earlier quest to spread Christianity there. Not only did Patrick evangelize the pagans and strengthen the small churches present at the time, but he encouraged education and in no small way laid the groundwork for the Irish monks who have been said to have saved Western civilization by painstakingly preserving the scriptures through hand copying those and other writings on vellum, or animal-skin "paper," for posterity while Europe was being overrun by barbarian tribes. St. Patrick died about 461 and is buried at Down Cathedral (Church of Ireland, Protestant) in Downpatrick, U. K.

There are several churches worldwide name for St. Patrick, the most significant being the two in Armagh, County Armagh, Northern Ireland. The oldest is built on a hill in Armagh, where a smaller stone church was said to have been built at the direction of St. Patrick in 445 A. D. The design of the present church, part of the Protestant Church of Ireland, was done in 1268. The remains of the Irish chieftain Brian Boru are said to be entombed in the church from the 11th century, after his death at the hands of the Vikings, in what had been a victory for the Irish. In 1840, a Roman Catholic cathedral was built one mile away from the one on the hill, being completed in 1904. and, being in the valley, was very visible from the top of the hill in Armagh.



Church of Ireland  
St. Patrick's Cathedral

(Continued on page 4)

St. Patrick's Breastplate is a popular prayer attributed to one of Ireland's most beloved patron saints. According to tradition, St. Patrick wrote it in 433 A.D. for divine protection before successfully converting the Irish King Leoghaire and his subjects from paganism to Christianity. (The term breastplate refers to a piece of armor worn in battle.)

More recent scholarship suggests its author was anonymous. In any case, this prayer certainly reflects the spirit with which St. Patrick brought our faith to Ireland! St. Patrick's Breastplate, also known as *The Lorica of Saint Patrick* was popular enough to inspire a hymn based on this text as well. (This prayer has also been called *The Cry of the Deer*.)

**I arise today Through a mighty strength, the invocation of the Trinity, Through belief in the Threeness, Through confession of the Oneness of the Creator of creation.**

**I arise today Through the strength of Christ's birth with His baptism, Through the strength of His crucifixion with His burial, Through the strength of His resurrection with His ascension, Through the strength of His descent for the judgment of doom.**

**I arise today Through the strength of the love of cherubim, In the obedience of angels, In the service of archangels, In the hope of resurrection to meet with reward, In the prayers of patriarchs, In the predictions of prophets, In the preaching of apostles, In the faith of confessors, In the innocence of holy virgins, In the deeds of righteous men.**

**I arise today, through The strength of heaven, The light of the sun, The radiance of the moon, The splendor of fire, The speed of lightning, The swiftness of wind, The depth of the sea, The stability of the earth, The firmness of rock.**

**I arise today, through God's strength to pilot me, God's might to uphold me, God's wisdom to guide me, God's eye to look before me, God's ear to hear me, God's word to speak for me, God's hand to guard me, God's shield to protect me, God's host to save me From snares of devils, From temptation of vices, From everyone who shall wish me ill, afar and near.**

**I summon today All these powers between me and those evils, Against every cruel and merciless power that may oppose my body and soul, Against incantations of false prophets, Against black laws of pagandom, Against false laws of heretics, Against craft of idolatry, Against spells of witches and smiths and wizards, Against every knowledge that corrupts man's body and soul; Christ to shield me today Against poison, against burning, Against drowning, against wounding, So that there may come to me an abundance of reward.**

**Christ with me, Christ before me, Christ behind me, Christ in me, Christ beneath me, Christ above me, Christ on my right, Christ on my left, Christ when I lie down, Christ when I sit down, Christ when I arise, Christ in the heart of every man who thinks of me, Christ in the mouth of everyone who speaks of me, Christ in every eye that sees me, Christ in every ear that hears me.**

[Note that people sometimes pray a shorter version of this prayer just with these 15 lines about Christ above. The conclusion follows below.]

**I arise today Through a mighty strength, the invocation of the Trinity, Through belief in the Threeness, Through confession of the Oneness of the Creator of creation.**

When St. Paul referred to putting on the "Armor of God" in his letter to the Ephesians (6:11) to fight sin and evil inclinations, he could have been thinking of prayers just like this one! We may not wear combat gear in our daily lives, but St. Patrick's Breastplate can function as divine armor for protection against spiritual adversity. DK

**BIRTHDAYS**

- 04/02 Linda Lampl, Sharon Conrad
- 04/03 Amanda Miglin
- 04/04 Jenny Grinstead, Janelle Starner
- 04/06 Mariana Wolk
- 04/10 Corrine Lund
- 04/16 John Hoffman
- 04/17 Harrison Myrda
- 04/21 MaKenzie Curran, Kevin Mishey,  
Bode Sardinha
- 04/26 Linda Conkle, Debi Doup
- 04/27 Lesley Fischer

**ANNIVERSARIES**

- 04/06 Stan & Jill Park
- 04/13 Rick & Patty Keaton
- 04/26 Dave & Sharon Ulery
- 04/28 Mike & Meg Eesley



**HOLY WEEK/EASTER SCHEDULE**

Sunday April 13 at 8 & 10:30 am

Come celebrate Palm/Passion Sunday as we begin Holy Week

Thursday April 17 at 7:00 pm – Maundy Thursday (Note Time Change)

This service will include confession, individual absolution, and communion, and ends with the stripping of the altar

Friday April 18 at 7:00 pm – Good Friday (Note Time Change)

This is a service of darkness, readings, hymns and silent meditation. Because of the darkness and drama of the service, it is not recommended for small children. Due to the special nature of this service, it will not be live-streamed

Sunday April 17 at 8 & 10:30 am

Join in on our Easter celebration!

Sunday April 17 at 9:15 am

It is time again for a scrumptious, delicious, marvelous Easter breakfast provided by Kevin Mishey and his band of merry chefs! Come join us in the Fellowship Hall!

## SOUTHERN OHIO SYNOD NEWS

2025 Southern Ohio Synod Assembly  
June 6-7, 2025  
Africa Event Center  
Columbus Zoo & Aquarium  
4850 W. Olentangy Street  
Powell, OH 43065

The Southern Ohio Synod will gather in Assembly at the Africa Event Center at the Columbus Zoo & Aquarium (Powell, OH) on Friday, June 6, 2025 through Saturday, June 7, 2025 under the theme Anchored in Christ. Freed to Serve.

Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age. (Matthew 28:19-20, NRSV)

This year's assembly will be held in person for all voting members and visitors.

Faith Lutheran Church will be represented by elected voting members Marilyn Wilford and Kevin Mishey. If you have input or opinions to share with issues likely to be addressed, or that you would like to be addressed, you may contact either.

## ELCA NEWS

### **A message from the presiding bishop regarding an update on the listening panel**

March 24, 2022

For those of you who are wondering about the particulars of the process to address the issues that arose in the Sierra Pacific Synod, I want to give you an update on the ways in which we are moving forward. I have selected members of a Listening Team who have begun their work and will soon travel to the territory of the synod to conduct a series of interviews.

These interviews will be times of holy listening to people who have been affected in various ways by the situation. I have chosen members of the Listening Team to represent the diversity of the church and to reflect the communities most directly involved. They will conclude their work after Easter and will provide a report to me that will serve as an advisory document for my prayerful discernment and decision-making.

Please understand that I am seeking to balance the need to move quickly with the need to move thoughtfully and thoroughly. Certainly, the work of the Listening Team is just one part of the lengthy and deep work that we must do in the ELCA to continue to be transformed by the gospel for the work of justice and peace.

Please join me in holding in prayer the church and all those affected by these events.

In Christ,  
The Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton  
Presiding Bishop  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

## COLUMBIA GAS/GLOBAL ENERGY PARTNERS PIPELINE

Columbia Gas has notified us that they will be working to retire old pipe while clearing conflict ahead of the city pathway project. They have already started this work. Just a heads up since there may be interruptions of traffic on Mansfield Road in the next few months.

Faith Lutheran Church  
170 Mansfield Avenue  
Mt. Vernon, OH 43050  
Phone: 740-393-3666  
Fax: 740-393-2729  
E-mail: faithlutheranmtvernon@gmail.com

*Our Mission Is To Know and Share God's Love*



**We're on the Web!**  
**FLCMTV.org**

**Worship Sunday 8 & 10:30 am**  
**Sunday School 9:15**

## MISSION ENDOWMENT GRANT REQUESTS



The Mission Endowment Committee reviewed the status of the investments in the Mission Endowment Funds. They allocated \$14,223 for sharing this year, so after sending the title of \$1,422 to the Southern Ohio Synod, there is \$12,801 left for distribution to programs, outreaches, mission opportunities that can spread the good news of God and involve people in the joys of God's kingdom. The necessary form for a mission grant is available as an insert in this Faithlines, on the table in the hallway, and in the church office. The deadline to return it is **April 13th**. Get creative, do your research, identify outreaches that spread the gospel or the work of Christ, and fill out a form and email or drop off in the church office. Be sure to sign it and to identify who will carry out this ministry. Once the grant requests are approved, they will be shared with the congregation, and we will vote May 4th and then distribute the grants later in May.

## GIVING UPDATE

Antic. Need to date 2/28: \$ 42,231.33  
Receipts to date 2/28: \$ 25,890.00  
Spent in Mission  
and Ministry 2/28: \$ 41,830.68