

## Lenten Chosen Bible Study Monday's 5:30 pm

February 19th - March 18th
No Study the Monday of Holy Week and Not on Easter Monday Restart April 8th, Last Day April 15th MORE: https://www.faithisle.org/lent

FAITH LUTHERAN<br>CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES<br>Corrected (unapproved) council minutes Feb. 20,2024<br>Page 1 of 2

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m. by president Karen Gabriel.
Members present were: Karen Gabriel, Rose Marie Nutt, Nancy Hendry, Dennis "Doc" Moss, Tim McArdle, Sue Temte, Kourtney Sawatzky, Pr Josh Blair, Diane Gibas, and Craig Lemieux via zoom.
Members absent were Derek Karels, Sherry Strecker, Aliesha Holbert and Brianna Heise.

Diane gave devotions.
The agenda was approved with modifications after a motion by Kourtney, seconded by Nancy.
The minutes of the December 12, 2023 meeting and January 16, 2023 meeting were approved after a motion by Nancy, seconded by Rose Marie by a vote of nine ayes, one abstain.

The treasurer's report was received. Pr. Josh explained the when people designate money for a special use it does not go into a separate fund, but rather goes into the general fund with a notation it is to be used for the designated use. This procedure has been in effect for a long time. Council would like this explained further.

We will invite Craig Magnan to talk to us at a later date, when our treasurer Aliesha Holbert is here.
Revenues were up in January. The treasurer's report was accepted after a motion by Diane, seconded by Nancy with a vote of nine ayes and one abstain.

Pastor Josh gave his report. Worship services are planned up to Maundy Thursday. He conducted two funerals and three baptisms, One more baptism is scheduled for after Easter.

He met with Faith ministry teams.
The volunteer dinner was a success.
He doing pre-marital counseling with three couples. Two of the weddings will be held at Faith Church in the fall.
He is working with candidate training for the ELCA. There will be changes for the licensed lay minister process similar to the synod authorized minister (SAM) program. The ELCA is updating the process.

He is working with the Isle ministerial for plans for National Day of Prayer.
He went to game day last Sunday. It was fun but few attended. Future game days will be planned with a different format.
He presided over the Ash Wednesday service at the nursing home.
Dealt with heating issues. Finally got the heating system fixed. The problem was thermostats. We now have heat in pastor's office, the sacristy and the store room.
He is providing emergency coverage for the Hinckley Lutheran Church as they are looking for a new pastor.
The confirmation class is almost done with the old testament and will be starting the new testament soon.
The youth mission trip is all paid for except the fuel and food.
Pastor requested April 3 and 4 off as he is having eye surgery. He also requested September 8 off as he goes to lowa with his family.
Kristi will take vacation March 3-10.
Kourtney made the motion seconded by Doc to approve the time off.
Pastor also said he has been doing a lot of reading.

To Grow and Sewe

FAITH LUTHERAN<br>CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES<br>Corrected (unapproved) council minutes Feb. 20,2024<br>Page 2 of 2

Old Business
We have changed communication companies. We were paying \$356 a month to Frontier for two phone lines and Internet. We have changed to SCI for $\$ 185$ per month. We now have one line (it was determined we don't ned two as many people call pastor and Kristi on their cell phones) and we have an upgraded internet connection.
People enjoyed the volunteer appreciation dinner. With so many snowbirds gone we will consider something in the summer to include them.

New Business
Some of the insulation over parts of the church need to be upgraded, but that is for future consideration.
The Heartland Annual Assembly will be held. Doc and Karen will represent Faith.
We received a resignation letter from Brianna Heise. Because of her schedule at school she felt it best to resign from council. Doc made the motion, seconded by Rose. The motion passed. We will look for a possible person of interest to assume Brianna's seat.

We received a building request from Danie Powell for Feb. 29, March 7, 14 and 21 from 5 to 7 p.m. The cost will be $\$ 5$ per session for the community room. The request was approved. after a motion from Doc, seconded by Rose.
Office staffing was discussed for special projects. The church has received a donation to cover the cost of getting some projects done. Tara Soderstrom will come into the office to get this work done. Kristi and Tara will determine the process of using the time to the best outcome. Doc made the motion to pay $\$ 20$ per hour, seconded by Nancy. The motion passed. In a motion to amend the motion, This work will be done with executive team approval as long as donated money is available. After a motion by Kourtney, seconded by Doc, the amended motion passed.
We received a request for a donation to Isle Days but no action was taken.
Under ministry team reports:
Worship and music has planned services up t Maundy Thursday.
Prayer team has prayer journals available in the narthex.
Connect sent four boxes to college students they are providing snacks after the contada practices and are planning on a Maundy Thursday pot luck.
Local and Global Missions is collecting blankets for the 60 for 60 program. next month will be jackets.
Youth are selling butter braids, cake rolls and honey as an on-going fund raiser. They have lenten resources for kids and are beginning to think about VBS.
Building and property needs to change out a couple of pews, The hallway still needs painting. There is a local painter who is looking for a community service project, we just need to get the paint.
We need some pots and pans and knives for the kitchen. There is money in the memorial fund for purchases. Technology: Three people have volunteered to be trained to operate the sound booth. Tim will get going on that.

The next meeting will be March 19 at 6 p.m.
Doc will give devotions. Josh made the motion to adjourn seconded by Doc. the meeting was adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

# The Chosen Bible Study 

## Interview with Pastor Josh

## Why do you like the Chosen Series?

It brings the Gospels to life in a way that is relatable to the ways we behave in modern day. You see the characters from famous bible stories in entirely new ways that help you to understand the stories better.

## Do you think the series is biblically correct?

The series is very biblically accurate. Teams of theologians, biblical scholars, pastors, rabbis and historians all worked together to portray the Story in an accurate light.

## What would you say to someone thinking about joining The Chosen bible study?

Its real easy, we watch a video and talk about how what we saw surprised us or correlates with our lives.

## Does it matter if someone missed the first few weeks of the study?

No, you can opt in at any time. We watch one and talk about it. Even if you come for one or two weeks, you will fit right in.

## Join us!

We will have The Chosen Bible Study every Monday during Lent at 5:30pm. We will watch one episode per week and discuss. Hosted by Pastor Josh.

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## PALM SUNDAY

The feast commemorates Christ's triumphal entry into Jerusalem, an event mentioned in each of the four Gospels. Its name originates from the palm branches waved by the crowd to greet and honor Jesus as he entered the city.

## MAUNDY THURSDAY

Maundy Thursday is part of the Christian celebration of Easter and marks the night of the Last Supper as told in the Bible. At the Last Supper, Jesus instituted Holy Communion. Jesus commanded that people should love one another, he then washed the feet of his disciples as an act of kindness.

GOOD FRIDAY

Good Friday
commemorates the death and crucifixion of Jesus Christ.


## EASTER SUNDAY

It marks the
Resurrection of
Jesus three days
after his death by crucifixion.
Easter is the
joyful end to the
Lenten season of fasting and penitence.

EASTER MONDAY

The Monday after
Easter began
Jesus's 40 days on earth before he ascended to heaven. During this time, Jesus appeared to believers, healed the sick and spread the word of God.

# Following the Way of Jesus: a Lenten Holy Land Journey 

Learn more about the Holy Land and where Jesus taught, walked and died with the ELCA's "Following the Way of Jesus: a Lenten Holy Land Journey" begins on the Sea of Galilee. Through this journey you will explore the Holy Land, the theology of Sumud and what it means for Palestinian Christians today.

## Reflect on these discussion questions as you watch the 6 video series.

## Link to the series: https://shorturl.at/uQ046

## 2/19: Week 1: Sumud the Way of Jesus

1. As you watched the video, what did you notice, and what did you wonder?
2. What is your favorite image of Mary and Jesus, and why?
3. How is Mary, through her song, an example of sumud?

## 2/26: Week 2: Good News or Great Joy For All People

1. As you watched the video, what did you notice, and what did you wonder?
2. What would it mean for the promise of "good news of great joy for all people" to be fulfilled in the Holy Land and in the world?
3. What do we learn from Palestinian Christians about living with sumud in a time when the "good news" is not good news for all?

## 3/4: Week 3: Belovedness in the Wilderness

1. As you watched the video, what did you notice, and what did you wonder?
2. What are some of the ways you have "seen Jesus" acting in your life and in the world?
3. Jesus resisted the temptation to use his power for good, in order to use it for the sake of others. What does this "way of Jesus" look like today?

3/11: Week 4: A Counter Cultural Message

1. As you watched the video, what did you notice, and what did you wonder?
2. Who do Jesus' words comfort, and who do they challenge? How do they make you feel?
3. What does sumud have to do with speaking up about injustice?

## 3/18: Week 5: Things That Make Peace

1. As you watched the video, what did you notice, and what did you wonder?
2. Martin Luther King, Jr. wrote about the difference between "negative peace" (the absence of tension) and "positive peace" (the presence of justice). How does that apply to the Holy Land? How might it apply to your own community? 3. What are the "things that make for peace?"

## 3/25: Week 6: Journey to the Cross

1. As you watched the video, what did you notice, and what did you wonder?
2. Given what we've learned about the way of Jesus, and the concept of sumud, how do these ideas relate to the story of Jesus' journey to the cross?
3. What insights from this series will you carry with you into Holy Week and beyond?


# We Pray for: 

days, March 6, 13, 20
Lenten Bible Study, Mondays
Bold Women's Sunday, March 3 WOW Bible Study, March 11 Maundy Thursday, March 28
Good Friday Cantata, March 29
Easter Sunday worship, March 31
FIA - Wednesday @ 5:30 p.m. Confirmation - Wednesday @ 6:30 p.m. Youth Group - Wednesday @ 7:30 p.m.

60 for 60 - winter jackets YAGM-Global missions in Senegal

Ongoing youth fundraisers
9:30 Worship
Sunday School
Sunday Coffee Fellowship
Church Council
Building \& Property
Caring Ministry Team Children's Education Ministry Team Connect Ministry Team Finance/Human Resources

Music Ministry
Prayer Ministry Team
Prayer Shawl
Quilting
Stewardship Ministry Team
WELCA
Worship Ministry Team
Youth Ministry team
Youth Group
"Common Prayer Time"
Every Wednesday - pray from home or at Church
"Pray with your directory"
Lift up individuals/families in the church directory each time you pray.

## Need of personal prayer: Seek prayer

 during communion on Sunday's or conpray with you.
## Spice up your Prayer Life...

## Prayer Bowls

Many of us may not fully understand the effect our prayers have from God's perspective. In Revelation 5:8 it talks about golden bowls full of incense. These are believed to be the prayers of believers. Then, in Revelation 8:4-5, it says that our prayers ascend before God...like incense. So, when we pray it's as if a golden bowl of incense is being carried to the very throne of God in heaven. Then, in God's perfect timing, our prayers are mixed with his fire (his power) and cast back down to earth to change situations as answered prayer. While the answer may not be what we may have expected it to be, it will be as God knows it NEEDS to be and at EXACTLY the right time. Our prayers are important and they are special, for they rise like incense before the throne of God.

It's not about how many words we pray or the manner in which we pray, as long as our prayers are hearffelt, faith-filled, and authentic. Even with our best intentions of keeping our prayer requests before God, life does get busy and we may be a little inconsistent in remembering to pray. Over the last few months we have been trying to help you be a little more consistent in your praying.

For March, we would like to introduce the use of PRAYER BOWLS as a way of remembering. It is a way to remind ourselves of situations and individuals we need to lift up in prayer. A bowl (any bowl) can be placed where it will be seen and passed by multiple times during the day. Whenever you hear about the needs or special requests of family members or friends...or when you turn on the news and see reports of tragedies...write a short prayer on a small piece of paper and put it in the prayer bowl. Whenever you pass by the bowl, pull out one, two or more slips of paper and pray for what has been written on the paper. At the end of the day, return those slips that need continued prayer and on those that have been answered, write "Thank you, God!"

We will also have a PRAYER BOWL located in the narthex, along with slips of paper on which to write a prayer. Add your prayers to the bowl. Take from the bowl, a prayer and add it to your personal prayer bowl or to your prayer journal. Let's keep praying for each other. We know God hears us...and we know he will answer our heartfelt prayers.

## Let our prayers rise as incense before God for our prayers matter to him!

## Children's Prayer Time

Dear Jesus, I know you are always with me because you said you would never leave me. Bless my parents, teachers, and all those who love and care for me. Give me strength to be truthful, honest,


kind, and helpful
to others. AMEN
Dear Heavenly Father, as we enter March, you bring an awakening of new life and a new season as we move from the cold and darkness of winter to the longer and warmer days of spring. With it you bring new life and new energy to the things around us. You give us Lent as a time to reflect on our life, on how we are living, and how we are serving you by serving those around us. And, then you surprise us with Easter. You show us the true meaning of forgiveness with your undeserved grace and unconditional love. You give us a new life and a new beginning. You take our weaknesses and turn them into strengths, empowering us to live, not for ourselves but for others.

- Bless our time together each week as we meet for our Lenten meals and worship services. We thank you for this time when we can draw closer to you and to each other.
- Be in the planning of our youth mission trip this summer. May we be encouraged to support their fund raising events.
- We ask your blessings on our youth who will be taking classes in preparation for their 1st communion. May they come to feel your presence in their life as they partake in their first communion on Maundy Thursday.
- As we gather for our Lenten Bible study, help us gain insight and knowledge into your son's life and let it stir up a call to live a life like Christ's.
- There is so much suffering each day all over the world and especially here in our own community and among those in our congregation. We uplift all who are homebound, those in care facilities, all who are on our prayer network and the many who we personally pray for each day. Surround them with your love, make your presence known in their lives, and bring them your peace and healing.
- We know you are present in the lives of all who worship here. Continue to strengthen our prayer lives and make our prayers meaningful, plentiful and powerful. Continue to bless the work of our members and encourage them to continue to be a witness of your unconditional love. In March we especially pray for the following:
- week of March 3 - Carl Magnan; Craig and Barb Magnan; Holly Main, Mary, and Ivan Jablonski; Tim McArdle.
- week of March 10 - Donna McClain; Tony and Melissa Mellema; Byron and Lisa Menke; Mark and Lori Menke.
- week of March 17 - Dustin and Kate Mensing; William Michaelis and Ellory Christianson; Curt and Di Miller.
- week of March 24 - David, Nancy, Megan, Emily, and Daniel Miller; Debi Miller and Tom Bipes; Joyce Miller.
- week of March 31 - Claire Minor; Donna Moore, Dave Morneau; Doc Moss; Arleen Nagel.ek of February 4- Bob and Denise Larson; Brandon, Jennifer, and Kendra Larson; Don and Pearl Larson; Grace Lazorik.
- Continue to bless our musicians as they prepare to present this years Good Friday cantata called "Here is Love". May all who attend, realize just how deep and wide your love is for all mankind, through the life, death and resurrection of your son, Jesus.
- We thank you for the generosity of everyone who donated blankets for our " 60 for 60 ". May all who receive them feel the love and prayers contained within the blankets.
- We ask your protection and safety for our 6 young adults who are involved in Global Missions in Senegal. May their ministry bear fruit in the lives of the people they are serving.
- We thank you for the many women who have and are currently making a difference in people's lives by how they are living out their baptismal call in being a disciple of Christ. Help us recognize and celebrate these bold women in our church and community on Sunday, March 3rd.

We thank you for Easter. We thank you for your son, Jesus and we thank you for the opportunity to live as Easter people. AMEN

## Blessing: Ellory Christianson, Diane Gibas, Nancy Hendry, Dave Morneau, Doc Moss, Carolyn Nutt, Pam Peterson, Mary Sears.

## "Our Lord has written the promise of the resurrection, not in books alone, but in every leaf in spring-time." - Martin Luther



Note: Prayer shawls are available in the Chapel
Please take and give away to anyone whom you feel is in need of prayer. we ask that you record in the Shawl book, the date and to whom the shawl is given.
(This helps to not deliver multiple shawls to the same individual.)

## 60 FOR 60

## Dear Faith Church Family,

As you know, on September 10, we celebrated our 60th anniversary. To celebrate our blessings, the Local and Global Missions team has put together a list of items to collect throughout the year - 60 items per month to represent our 60 years.

During the month of February, we have collected about a dozen blankets to date. So far we are short of our goal of collecting 60 blankets. There is still time to bring any sized blanket or quilt to place in the donation bin. Blankets will be donated to local organizations that connect with people in need and Lutheran Social Services. Thank you for meeting this need for those neighbors in our local community as well as those served by Lutheran Social Services.

During the month of March, we are collecting winter jackets. We are hoping that at this time of year, winter jackets will be on sale. Winter jackets of all sizes from infants to adults can be donated. New jackets can be donated to Lutheran Social Services. Gently used, clean jackets will be donated to local organizations that connect with people in need. Be on the lookout for great sales!

For those of you who like to look for sales or for the snowbirds who want to buy ahead, here is the list for the year. We will provide details as we introduce the new item each month.

| September | Snacks for school $\mathbf{5 4 9}$ items |
| :--- | :--- |
| October | Cash or food for Isle Food Shelf \$790 and 203 items |
| November | Community volunteer service $\mathbf{4 7 0}$ recorded volunteer hours |
| December | Gift - Isle school gifts,, ELCA, Toys for Tots, charitable donations, etc $\mathbf{7 1}$ gifts |
| January | Socks and gloves $\mathbf{9 1}$ pairs |
| February | Blankets about a dozen to date |
| March | Winter jackets (find sale items for next year) |
| April | Baby needs/items (diapers, formula) |
| May | 60 hours of community volunteer service |
| June | Hygiene items and laundry soap |
| July | School supplies |
| August | Water bottles for school kids |

Thanking God for our blessings and thanking you for your generosity, Local and Global Missions Team

Bev Severson
Diane Gibas
Karen Gabriel
Nancy Hendry

## March 2024



## Lenten Suppers and Service Wednesday's

Supper 6:00 pm
Service 7:00 pm
March 6, 13, 20

## Easter Sunday

Traditional 8:00 am
Breakfast 9:00 am
Contemporary 10:00 am
March 31

## Lenten Chosen Bible Study

 Monday's 5:30 pmFebruary 19th - March 18th No Study the Monday of Holy

Week and Not on Easter Monday. Restart April 8th, Last Day April 15th

## If you find that you are unable to fulfill the task on your given Sunday, please find someone to take your place and let the office know as soon as possible!!

## SERVERS for Worship March 2024

| Scripture Readers: |  |
| :---: | :---: |
| March 3 - | Tonja Eklund |
| March 10 - | Tonja Eklund |
| March 17 - | Karen Gabriel |
| March 24 - | Karen Gabriel |
| March 28/Maundy |  |
| March 31 - | 8 Sue Temte |
|  | 10 Craig Magnan |


| Acolytes: |  |
| :--- | :--- |
| March 3- | Aidan Heise |
| March 10- | Dylan Heise |
| March 17- | Rylan Heise |
| March 24- | Blake Karels |
| March 28/Maundy |  |
| March 31- | 8 Ryah Kuhlman |
|  |  |


| Ushers: |  |
| :---: | :---: |
| March 3 - | David Miller |
|  | Bob Pedersen |
| March 10 - | David Miller |
|  | Bob Pedersen |
| March 17 - | Doc Moss |
|  | Conrad Thomsen |
| March 24 - | Doc Moss |
|  | Conrad Thomsen |
| March 31 - | 8 Larry N, Kristi Pedersen |
|  | 10 Rod \& Pam Peterson |

Communion Assistants:

| March 3 - | Nancy Rizer-Schmidt |
| :---: | :---: |
|  | Kathy Harrison |
| March 10 - | Nancy Rizer-Schmidt |
|  | Kathy Harrison |
| March 17 - | Diane Gibas |
|  | RoseMarie Nutt |
| March 24 - | Diane Gibas |
|  | RoseMarie Nutt |
| March 31 - | Larry Nutt |
|  | Kristi Pedersen |


| Greeters: |  |
| :---: | :---: |
| March 3 - | Dee Berg |
|  | Kathy Harrison |
| March 10 - | Dee Berg |
|  | Kathy Harrison |
| March 17 - | Kevin \& Melanie Slama |
| March 24 - | Tara \& Tyler Soderstrom |
| March 31 - | 8 Doc Moss |
|  | 10 Nancy Rizer-Schmidt |

## Coffee Servers:

| March 3 - | Tonja Eklund, Brea Eklund, |
| :---: | :---: |
|  | Chelsea Hunziker Families |
| March 10 - | Bruce \& Laurie Richards |
|  | Geoff \& Shanessa Gesell |
| March 17 - | Rose Marie Nutt, |
|  | Aliesha Holbert |
| March 28/Maundy | Connect Team |
| March 24 - | Alex \& Blair Larson |
|  | Philip \& Janine Thielen |
| March 31 - | 9AM Easter Brunch - Youth |

## March Birthdays

3/01 Paige McPherson
3/02 Justin Borgfelt
3/02 Ronda Bjornson
3/03 Bev Lemm
3/03 Jane Lemieux
3/05 Melissa Johnson
3/06 Briana Bruske
3/06 Holden Thielen
3/08 Carol Kuelbs
3/09 Deegan Pedersen
3/09 Nevaeh Gesell
3/10 Doug Halvorson
3/12 Joanne Anderson
3/13 Jake Sawatzky
3/14 Cole Oswald
3/16 Elinor Bertek
3/18 Jim Leschak

3/19 Marlene Green
3/19 Paul Magnan
3/20 Lindy Madson
3/22 Aaron Bitzan
3/23 Scarlett Rens
3/25 Joyce Kloncz
3/28 Blair Larson
3/28 Evelyn Samuelson
3/29 Jody Amundson
3/31 Tonja Eklund
3/31 Ivan Bitzan

## March Anniversary

3/19 Les \& Donna Pinz

Save your receipts from Teals and bring them to church.
Teals donates 1\% back to our Youth Group. On average, we receive an annual check of approximately $\$ 1,000.00$.

Thank you, Teals!


We would like to say a big Thank You to all of those who volunteer in our Church and in our Community. We especially want to thank Joan Lundquist who gives many hours of her time at ONE MORE TIME in Isle. Each month Faith Lutheran Church receives a donation that goes into the Good Samaritan Fund. This donation helps Faith Lutheran Church give to those in need.


Church Office Hours
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 9:00am-2:00pm
Monday \& Friday - Closed

To Grow and Serve

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E-mail: yougotfaith@frontier.com

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Lutheran Church
PO Box 71
Isle, MN 56342

## United in faith,

our mission is to grow in FaíhFINDINGS

