



1402 East Avenue C, Bismarck, ND 58501

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www.faithbismarck.com

News and Views

February 2024

Volume 2024, Issue 1

MISSION STATEMENT

"We are building a welcoming, nurturing faith community that is guided by Jesus and shares the Gospel."



Interfaith

Potluck



Come together with friends and neighbors for an unforgettable potluck filled with laughter, connection, and mouthwatering dishes! Groups will also present and teach cultural dances. Join in the fun!

Saturday,
Feb. 10, 2024
11:30am-1:30pm



Faith Lutheran Church
1402 E Ave C
Bismarck, ND 58501

Event is free, but bring a dish to share if you are able.
New, warm socks to donate to area non-profits will also be collected.

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH CLERGY

Pastor Derek Harkins
(Fridays off)

Pastor Sylvia Bull
(Fridays off)

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

SUNDAY: 8:30am & 11 am

WED: 7:00pm

until Feb. 14, then

WED: 12:05 & 7:00pm

LIVESTREAM AT SUN 8:30
& WED 7:00

OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Thursday

8:00 AM - 12 PM

1:00 PM - 5 PM

Friday: 8:00 AM - Noon

**Pastoral Care
Emergency Number
701-595-0223**

Answering machine is available evenings and weekends when the office is not staffed.

Office is not open during the lunch hour.



HUFF HILLS FAMILY DAY

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2024

Huff Hills,

5455 County Road 80

Mandan, ND 58554

**A GREAT WAY TO TRY OUT SKIING AND OTHER WINTER ACTIVITIES WITH THE WHOLE FAMILY.
EVERYONE WELCOME! SIGN UP IN THE GATHERING PLACE OR CONTACT KENNY!**

FLC Executive Team

Jim Sheldon, Chair

Amy Steiner, Vice-Chair

Lyla Timm, Vice-Chair

Mark Schneider, Secretary

Matthew Nygard, Treasurer

Pastoral Ministries

Funerals:

Percy Tschider

Hannah Stuhlmiller

Wilma Wiedrich

Evelyn Bohrer

Bernice Utter

Diantha Nodland

Carol Nelson

Baptisms:

Maleah Dockter



FINANCIAL UPDATE

December General Fund:

Revenues: \$90,390.24

Expenditures: \$48,321.64

2023 Total:

Revenues: \$593,240.92

Expenditures: \$567,957.31

STAR WORD

reflection question

WHAT IS YOUR INITIAL
REACTION TO YOUR
STAR WORD? HOW
DOES IT INSPIRE
CHANGE IN YOUR
LIFE CURRENTLY?

During the past few years, we have handed out Star Words during worship around Epiphany (January 6). This year we celebrated Baptism of our Lord instead, but we know this practice is meaningful to many of you. You can receive a star word at <https://www.wordoftheyear.me> or by calling the church office. Then follow along with the star word reflection questions in the newsletter throughout 2024.

Church Memorials

For **General Fund**, in memory of Nick Joliffe, Hannah Stuhlmiller, Evelyn Bohrer and Diantha Nodland.

For **Endowment**, in memory of Nick Joliffe and Diantha Nodland.

For **Church School Tables**, in memory of Barb Holwegner.

For **Landscaping**, in memory of Carol Nelson.

For **Altar Guild**, in memory of Evelyn Bohrer and Diantha Nodland.

For **Memorial Choir, Music, FLCW Camperships, and WELCA** in memory of Diantha Nodland.

Details can be found in the Memorial Book in the Gathering Place.

Friends in Faith

My Friends in Faith,

As we move across the days of February we always pass through the day of love. As children we first encountered Valentine's Day which was celebrated at school. We made boxes, most of the time at home, for the kids in our class to put a valentine in. Our mothers would bring treats and we would have a party most grand.

And then there were the times that we wrote "I love you" on a card. Like I did to a cute girl in my 4th grade class in 1960. I don't remember who it was. I do remember the girls snickering at me.

Flowers, chocolates, and dinner (all served with a kiss) is typically how we spend Valentine's Day with our special someone. It is most important for us to have that special person to share our lives with.

Our special person does not have to be a spouse, boyfriend, or girlfriend. It could be a coworker, a neighbor, or someone you have known since childhood. If that person is not yet in your life, you will find him or her.

Remember this truth, that the family of Faith Lutheran loves and cares for you, my friends. You are our special people.

Bennett R. Kubischta

9 January 2024, 11:29 am



Library Link

by LeAnn Severson

I had the privilege of attending Karin Gunderson's presentation and harp performance here at Faith last fall. I was intrigued by her experiences as a harpist in hospice units and the incredible stories those people shared with her.

In her book, ENCOUNTERS WITH HEAVEN, Karin shared many of those stories that happen as people journey toward their heavenly home. Her inclusion of practical applications, devotional thoughts and prayers are helpful for those facing the loss of a loved one, a worrisome medical diagnosis or who fear death and the dying process. I purchased the book for our church library where it is available for check-out.

Thank you to Sandra Darling for donating Karin Gunderson's DVD of her harp music entitled LONG WINTER EVENINGS to our library. I recently viewed it and found the music, along with the beautiful scenes, to be soothing and tranquil.

Men of Faith Christmas Dinner

Thank you!

So many thank you's, it's difficult to know where to begin... but, let's give it a go!!! To the Men of Faith for their part in helping with the set-up and the Quality Control demands of the bars. To Marlene Adolf and Connie Isaak for their expertise in food preparation. To Miranda Bergquist for her donation of the ham's used for this meal. To Linda Lueneburg for providing the wonderful music. To the Crafty Ladies who designed and provided the center pieces. To the youth/parents who helped with the serving and clean-up for this event (you have no idea how much the "vintage folk" within the congregation appreciates your involvement). But, most of all, a huge thank you to all who came to support this event. 115 meals were served and your generous giving will provide \$1,150.00 to the youth that will be attending the upcoming gathering in 2024! Great Job Y'all.



Men of Faith Upcoming Events

February Meeting

The next scheduled Men of Faith meeting (Thursday, 1 Feb 2024@ 9:00AM) will include a presentation by Ben Kubischta titled, The Building of the Interstate in North Dakota - Crossing the Missouri. During this time, we will learn about all the roadblocks that the State Highway Department faced, which not only included routing, but the major task of being able to cross the Missouri. This will be open to anyone who is interested, so all are welcomed to attend!

Save the Date!

What does a starchy root vegetable and a slurry of meat, beans, tomato paste, spices, etc. have in common? Everything, when combined and served along with various baked goods!!! Yes, it is time for the 28th Men of Faith Potato/Chili Feed. This year's event will be held on Wednesday, 6 March 2024 from the hours of 5:00 to 6:30 PM. Proceeds from the free will offering will be forwarded to the Camp of the Cross for their ongoing Christian Ministry. Please place this on your calendar and keep watch for more information pertaining to sign-up sheets for eight 3 lb. batches of chili and ten pans of bars.



Faith
Lutheran
Men of
Faith

Potato/ Chili Feed

FUNDRAISER



Join us for the 28th annual
Potato/Chili Feed! Proceeds
from the free will offering will
benefit Camp of the Cross
Ministries.

**Wednesday,
March 6, 2024**

**at Faith Lutheran Church
5:00-6:30 PM**

*Dinner includes baked potatoes,
chili, and dessert bars!*



Pastor Derek's Parables



Grace and peace to you, sisters and brothers in Christ!

It's hard to believe since it seems like we were just celebrating Christmas, but we are quickly heading into the season of Lent. Both Pastor Sylvia and I are very excited about this year's Lenten theme. It is one we have talked about for a few years now and finally just decided we needed to make it happen. It's a topic many people don't really want to discuss, but it's one

that we need to discuss and preferably discuss in a safe place with a community that cares.

The theme for our Lenten Season this year is Holy Living, Holy Dying. It begins Feb. 14th on Ash Wednesday by remembering our mortality, that "we are dust, and to dust we shall return." During the Sundays and Wednesdays of Lent, we will reflect on the tensions between the reality of death and the promise of the resurrection. We live finite lives in limited, mortal bodies, yet God calls for us to live a kingdom life with an eye toward eternity. We will reflect on how Jesus is both a God who dies and a God of resurrection. We will consider how death has already been defeated and yet we still await the final victory. Between services on the Sundays throughout Lent, we will host a series of workshops on end-of-life issues, including Advance Directives, Long Term Care, Estate Planning, Funeral Planning, and Writing Your Obituary. Guests who have expertise in each field will lead these workshops along with Pastor Sylvia and I.

None of us really want to think about, let alone talk about and plan for our own death or our loved one's death. We'd prefer to just ignore it until it's too late, leaving behind a difficult task for our loved ones. I have sat in funeral planning sessions with families who really struggled to know what their loved one would have wanted because they never discussed it. I have also sat in on funeral planning sessions where the individual had planned out their service and made all of the arrangements before hand. The relief and peace that gave to their loved ones was clearly visible in each instance.

Having our affairs in order, no matter how old you are or what stage of life you are in, is an incredible gift to our loved ones. It is also good stewardship of this gift of life that God has given to us. No, we don't want to think about our death, but through the gift that God has given us in Jesus, we can hold on to the hope we have been given, that death is not the end. We can trust in the hope of the resurrection. Trusting God and holding on to that hope can give us the strength to plan and prepare for that time. We can face it head on because we know that we no longer need to be afraid.

I encourage you all to take part and participate in this Lenten journey. Participate in the workshops, book studies, reflections, and the conversations. It might be difficult and will certainly stretch us all, but I do believe it will be life-giving and will help to give us and our loved ones a peace which passes all understanding.

In Christ,
Pastor Derek



Holy Living, Holy Dying

Faith Lutheran Church
Lenten Series - Spring 2024

Wednesday Mid-week Lent Worship

12:05 and 7pm
Soup Lunch at 11:15am

Sunday Lent Worship

8:30 and 11:00am

End-of-Life Workshop Series

Sundays at 9:45am
Details at right

February 18: Learn to Write Your Own Obituary

Pastor Sylvia and Pastor Derek will lead this workshop on how to tell your life story through writing your obituary.

February 25: Advance Directives

Rev. Christina Martin, Spiritual Care Manager of Sanford Health, Bismarck, will lead this workshop on the process of making and updating an advance healthcare directive.

March 3: Estate Planning

Rev. Keith Pearson, ELCA gift planner, will lead this workshop on how to make an estate plan to steward your assets after death.

March 10: Long-Term Care

Reier Thompson, President and CEO of Missouri Slope, will lead this workshop on considerations and planning regarding long-term care.

March 17: Funeral Planning

Amy Miller, Funeral Director at Eastgate Funeral Home, will lead this workshop on how to plan and prepare for your funeral arrangements.

Lent Book Study

Read along with us this Lent as part of our Holy Living, Holy Dying series. Jan Richardson, writer, artist, and minister, asks "who am I, when the person who saw and knew me best in all the world is gone?" *Sparrow* traces a path through the first few years after the death of her husband, articulating not only the ache of grief but also the strange graces and stubborn hope that live within its landscape.

This study will be offered at two different times:

Mondays

7pm in-person (Gathering Place)

Wednesdays

10am in-person (East Room) or on zoom

January 29 & 31: Introduction & Part 1

February 5 & 7: Part 2

February 12 & 21: Part 3

February 26 & 28: Part 4

March 4 & 6: Part 5

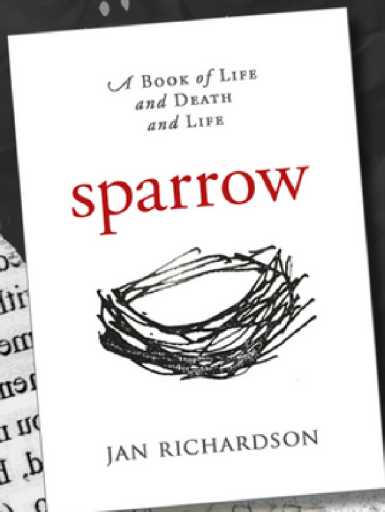
March 11 & 13: Part 6

March 18 & 20: Part 7 & Postscript

Far from being a progressive process, grief moves by turns and spirals, a twisting path that I am not sure can even be called a path because it is not always that clear or orderly.

Grief is the least linear thing I know.

Jan Richardson
from *Sparrow*



Books available now in the church office - pick up yours today!

FLCW Missions Group

Thank You!

Our last shipment of items to Lutheran World Relief was sent in October. The total number of items shipped this year was 143 quilts, 32 personal care kits, 26 baby kits and 100 school kits. None of this could be done without the help of so many such as the faithful quilters, sewers, anyone donating any supplies, the confirmation students helping to fill the school bags, and the Men of Faith for delivering the boxes to the trucking company.

In addition, we sent 372 pillow case dresses to the Orphan Grain Train in Jamestown, 25 sweaters and 65 Veteran quilts given to Missouri Slope Care Center. We also gave quilts to Missouri Slope Care Center, Camp of the Cross as well as some individuals and sheets and towels to Ministry on the Margins. We also need to thank Thrivent, Wal-Mart and the Eagles for the monetary donations provided to us.

As you can see, it takes many hands to keep this mission going. If you have given time, energy or financing, we thank you and hope we can do even more in the coming year!

STAFF EMAILS

**Need to reach one of our staff?
Emails can be found below!**

Faith Lutheran's General Email

faith.bisfaith@gmail.com

Derek Harkins

Senior Pastor

derek.bisfaith@gmail.com

Sylvia Bull

Associate Pastor

sylvia.bisfaith@gmail.com

Cheryl Johnson

Office Manager and Financials

cheryl.bisfaith@midconetwork.com

Caitlin McCleary

Communications/Administrative Assistant

communications.bisfaith@gmail.com

Kenny Opsal

Director of Education and Youth

kenny.bisfaith@midconetwork.com

Janine Johannes

Music Coordinator

janine.bisfaith@gmail.com

Cookie Walk Thank You!

THANK YOU to all who brought cookies, purchased cookies, volunteered to help... This was another great opportunity to share our hospitality and talents with our community.

This is the 9th year that we have hosted this event AND all together over \$18,000 has been raised. Over the years we were able to assist with many projects within our church, such as the staining and lighting project, the HVAC system updating, purchasing new staff office chairs, renovation of the library, and purchasing a freezer. This year's proceeds of \$2,000 will be used to upgrade the staff window treatments.



Church School News



Church school has been going well. We are almost done with the Old Testament stories and will be moving forward with the New Testament stories. We are now raising money for church school tables/chairs. We have purchased 60 chairs and are now moving towards updating tables.

Each year, the Women of Faith sponsor each camper that goes to the Camp of the Cross by paying 40% of the camper's registration! Please let Camp of the Cross know you are members of Faith Lutheran during registration, or call Camp of the Cross directly. They will send us a report of how many of our members registered, and we'll take it from there!

Youth News

Unfortunately, we did not get enough interest in the ski trip to be able to go this year. Instead, we will be having a Family Day at Huff Hills in Mandan on Saturday, February 17! This would be a great opportunity for people of all ages to try out skiing and other winter activities! If you are interested, please contact Kenny for more information.

Acolyting Schedule

February

Sundays

8:30- Open (need volunteers)

11:00- Eden & Lawson Reinhart

Wednesdays

7:00 - Brooklyn, Mallory & Mariah

Nelson (7/14)

Betty Forward (21/28)

Tech Assistant:

Brennan Nelson (7/14)

Kaitlyn Tschida (21/28)

Scholarship Opportunity!



All students who are active members at Faith Lutheran Church may apply for a college tuition scholarship for the 2024-2025 school year. Whether a graduating high school student or already at college, head out to our Faith website www.faithbismarck.com/forms and email the completed form and a current transcript to the office faith.bisfaith@gmail.com by the May 1st deadline.

The deadline to submit information to the News and Views newsletter is the 10th of each month prior to the next newsletter. The church bulletin deadline is at noon on Tuesday for the coming Sunday bulletin. Articles, schedules, etc., can be sent to: communications.bisfaith@gmail.com For additional information, call the church office at 701-223-2236

MISSION Focus



FEBRUARY: BECEP

BECEP, located across 14th Street from our church, works together with families and the community to support and promote Early Childhood Education. They serve children birth to 5 years old, and work with their families to give young children the best environments to grow and thrive in. We are asking for donations to help them in their mission! They are currently asking for boxes of tissues, as well as boys and girls tennis shoes in **children's sizes** 9, 10, 11 & 12.

"[Jesus] said to them, "Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it." And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them." - Mark 10: 14b-16



February 2024



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
4 8:30 Worship 9:45 Church School 11:00 Worship 4:00 Cub Scouts	5 7:00 AA 7:00 Lent Book Study	6 9:00 Quilting 2:00 Crafts 5:30 Choir 5:30 Bio Girls 7:00 Scouts	7 10:00 Lent Book Study 4:30 8th/9th Confirmation 5:30 Handbells 6:00 Church School 7:00 Worship	1 9:00 Esther Circle 9:00 Men of Faith	2 8:00 NA	3
11 8:30 Worship 9:45 Church School 11:00 Worship 4:00 Cub Scouts	12 7:00 AA 7:00 Lent Book Study	13 9:00 Quilting 2:00 Crafts 5:30 Choir 5:30 Bio Girls 6:00 Elem Comm 7:00 Ruth Circle 7:00 Scouts	14 Ash Wednesday No Church School 11:15 Soup Lunch 12:05 Worship 5:30 Handbells 7:00 Worship	15	16 8:00 NA	17 Huff Hills Family Day
18 No Church School 8:30 Worship 11:00 Worship 4:00 Cub Scouts	19 President's Day 7:00 AA	20 9:00 Quilting 2:00 Crafts 5:30 Choir 5:30 Bio Girls 7:00 Scouts	21 10:00 Lent Book Study 11:15 Soup Lunch 12:05 Worship 5:30 Handbells 6:00 Church School 7:00 Worship	22	23 8:00 NA	24 9:30 Altar Guild
25 8:30 Worship 9:45 Church School 11:00 Worship 4:00 Cub Scouts	26 5:45 Stewardship Comm 7:00 AA 7:00 Lent Book Study	27 9:00 Quilting 2:00 Crafts 5:00 HR Comm 5:30 Choir 5:30 Bio Girls 6:00 Compass Group 7:00 Exec Comm 7:00 Scouts	28 10:00 Lent Book Study 11:15 Soup Lunch 12:05 Worship 5:30 Handbells 6:00 Church School 7:00 Worship	29		

Faith Lutheran Church
1402 E Avenue C
Bismarck, ND 58501-4398
www.faithbismarck.com
(701)223-2236

Faith Lutheran Church February 2024 News and Views

Newsletter Mailing Update!

We are working on updating our mailing list for newsletters! **Mailed newsletters are now opt-in.** We are hoping to get a better idea of how people would like to view the newsletter from month to month, and hoping to cut down on printing and mailing costs by seeing who prefers a mailed copy, and who can receive the newsletter using other methods.

If you would like to put your household on the mailing list, or transition over to picking up a printed copy, receiving an email with a PDF of the newsletter, or looking online, please let us know! We would like to know how many paper copies to leave out toward the end of the prior month.

You can call the office at (701) 223-2236, email communications.bisfaith@gmail.com, or stop in the office to let us know what you would prefer! We also have sign-up sheets in the church or at <https://forms.gle/QjuRLp4RyijPU6899> if you would like to let us know that way.

Thank you for letting us know your preference on receiving the newsletter!