The KEY

The newsletter of Faith Lutheran Church **December 2014**

Advent & Christmas Events at Faith

Don't miss a thing! Clip this page and keep it handy.

Sunday, Nov. 30	First Sunday in Advent
Friday, Dec. 5	7:00 p.m. – Lydia Circle Christmas Party
Sunday, Dec. 7	Second Sunday in Advent Noon – Christmas Program Rehearsal
Thursday, Dec. 11	6:30 p.m. – FLC Council & Staff Christmas Party
Saturday, Dec. 13	9:30 a.m. – Breakfast with Santa 5:00 p.m.—Young Adult Christmas Party
Sunday, Dec. 14	Third Sunday in Advent 11:00 a.m. – Christmas Program 12:00 p.m. – Birthday Party for Jesus
Wednesday, Dec. 17	Deadline to Dedicate Poinsettia & Greenery
Thursday, Dec. 18	11:30 a.m. – Preschool Christmas Program
Saturday, Dec. 20	Hanging of the Greens
Sunday, Dec. 22	Fourth Sunday in Advent 2:00 p.m.—Danish Christmas Service
Wednesday, Dec. 24	**Christmas Eve—Two Services** 5 & 8 p.m. – Candlelight services Reception to follow 8 p.m. service Child care available
Sunday, Dec. 28	First Sunday of Christmas—Two Services 9:00 a.m.—Traditional Worship 11:00 a.m.—Modern Traditional Worship
Wednesday, Dec. 31	11:30 a.m. – XYZ New Year's Eve Lunch

Holiday Office Closures

The church office will be closed December 25 & 26, and January 1 & 2.

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Hanging of the Greens

Each year, we decorate the sanctuary during Advent and Christmas. This year, decorating will take place on **Saturday, December 20.**

Now is the time to place your order to dedicate the wreaths, pine roping, and poinsettias that will remain in the sanctuary for this festive time of year. The deadline for poinsettia and greenery dedications is **December 17.** Poinsettias may be taken home after the late worship on Christmas Eve, Wednesday, December 24. The wreaths and roping remain in the sanctuary through Epiphany.

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY and return your form and payment to the Altar Guild mailbox, in the breezeway outside the sanctuary. You can also order online.

Christmas Lectionary

December 24
Christmas Eve
Isaiah 9:2—7
Psalm 96
Titus 2:11—14
Luke 2:1—14 [15—20]

December 25
Christmas Day
Isaiah 62:6—12
Psalm 97
Titus 3:4—7
Luke 2:[1—7] 8—20

Or

Isaiah 52:7—10
Psalm 98
Hebrews 1:1—4 [5—12]
John 1:1—14

Donor: _____

_____ Poinsettias @ $9.00 each $ _____

_____ Wreaths @ 18.00 each $ _____

_____ Pine Roping @ $28.00 each $ _____

Total Amount Enclosed $ _____

☐ Honor ☐ Memory ☐ Thanksgiving

_____

_____

2014 Church Council

David Bleich, President
bleichda2004(at)yahoo.com

Katie Brewer, Secretary
Katie.cardoni.brewer(at)gmail.com

Jody Manning, Treasurer
jody.manning10(at)verizon.net

Michael Hocker, Assistant Treasurer
mikeinpax(at)yahoo.com

Jeff Busse, Financial Secretary
idealistic64(at)yahoo.com

Lindsay Parsons, Asst. Fin. Sec.
Lindsay.parsons(at)gmail.com

Ken Rothaermel, Stewardship
traveljunky111(at)gmail.com

Anne Johnson, Legal Trustee
augustiniana(at)verizon.net

Jeff Olson, Legal Trustee
Jeffkepi(at)gmail.com

Michelle Williams, Legal Trustee
michelleinspain(at)yahoo.com

Greg Blatt, Property Trustee
gpb113(at)yahoo.com

Dean Morin, Property Trustee
Deans.morin(at)gmail.com

Kirsten Walter, Education
kirstenmwalter(at)gmail.com

Senia Lounberg, Outreach
slounberg(at)aol.com

Paulette Sandene, Fellowship
Sandenepc(at)aol.com

Marilyn Haugen, Social Ministry
Mb_haugen26(at)comcast.net

Andy Ruge, Youth Ministry
macruge(at)verizon.net

Worship Notes

Sunday School Christmas Program

Mark your calendars for our annual joyful noise! The children's Sunday School Christmas Program will be held during the 11:00 a.m. service on **Sunday, December 14.** Following the service, the congregation is invited to join kids and their families for a potluck lunch in the Fellowship Hall.

We will be rehearsing the music during the Sunday School hour starting in early November. CDs will be provided to assist children in learning the songs at home or in the car. The **dress rehearsal will be held on Sunday, December 7, at 12:00 p.m.**

Look for more details on the potluck in the upcoming Sunday bulletin announcements.

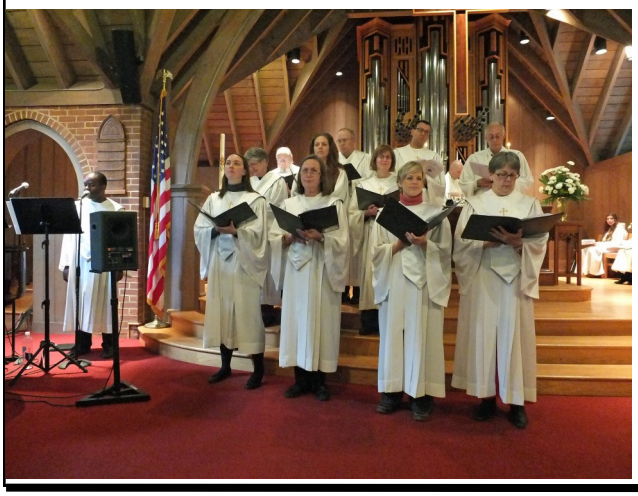
Christmas Eve Worship Services

There will be two worship services, at **5:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m.** Both services will include great music and the cherished candle-lighting tradition. The Church Council has voted to drop the 10:00 p.m. worship service, due to poor attendance (fewer than 25 people). For many years we had just two services, and then two years ago we added a third, at the earlier hour of 5 p.m. As more families with children have joined Faith, this has become the largest worship service. As in previous years, a reception will follow the 8:00 p.m. service.

Two Services on Sunday, December 28

There will be two traditional services on Sunday, December 28, at 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. Please make a note of it on your calendars!

Calling all members who love to sing (in tune)



The choir always wants to welcome new members. Perks for membership include getting to know a really fun group of Lutheran choristers; singing music by contemporary and classical composers; an increase in the understanding of musicality, and more importantly a deeper connection to, and contemplation of, God's word through music. **Practice is Wednesdays at 7:45 p.m. in the undercroft.** You say your schedule is too erratic to commit. Our director, Darrell, knows all about erratic schedules and will be glad to work with you.

So come, make a joyful noise with us!

Christian Education at Faith

Faith offers many opportunities for learning and growing in our Christian faith.

- Children's Sunday School and occasional Adult Discussions, **Sunday mornings, 9:45 a.m.**
- Confirmation classes for 6th-8th graders, **Sundays once a month**
- Lydia Circle for women, **2nd Monday of the Month, 7:30 p.m.**
- Bible Study in the Lounge, **Thursday Mornings at 10:00 a.m.** led by Pastor Yvette and lay leaders
- Life Abundant, **Tuesday evenings, twice monthly, 7:00 p.m.**
- Young Adult Bible Study, **1st & 3rd Sundays, 9:30 a.m.**

"Life Abundant" Small Groups

Contact: Pastor Brian, pastorbrian(at)flcva.org

Are you looking for an opportunity to grow deeper in faith, experience the support of Christian community, experience new forms of spirituality, and grow as a disciple and follower of Christ? If so, "Life Abundant" may be just right for you.

This winter we are replacing our Tuesday night Bible Study with a small group study we are calling "Life Abundant" (see passage below). Pastor Yvette and Pastor Brian will each lead a small group, and more will be formed as needed. These groups will meet at 7 p.m. twice a month on Tuesday nights. If there is interest, we may also form groups that meet at other times.

Each group will be limited to 8 people, and each session will include:
1) Time to check in with each other about how we are doing.
2) Discussion of a reading in spirituality which will be handed out ahead of time.
3) Prayer and Focus on ways to live out our discipleship of Jesus.

If you would like to be a part of such a group, please contact pastorbrian(at)flcva.org or pastoryvette(at)flcva.org.

" I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly." John 10:10

Young Adult Bible Study—"Living the Questions"

Contact: Bob Francis, bleebo77(at)gmail.com

1st & 3rd Sundays (December 7 & 21), 9:30 a.m.

"Living the Questions" is an open-minded study that strives to create and environment where participants can interact with one another in open discussion, rather than giving participants all the answers. Featuring thirty acclaimed scholars, theologians and other experts, LtQ encourages participants to discuss "what's next" for Christianity. Each of the 21 sessions begins with a 20-minute video segment that includes conversations with leading voices of faith, stories illustrating aspects of an evolving faith, and concrete spiritual practices and disciplines.

All materials are provided—no books necessary—so come to any or all of these engaging sessions!

Lectionary Study on Thursday Mornings

Contact: Dean Morin, 703.820.0292

Every Thursday, 10:00 a.m., Fellowship Hall Lounge

Prepare for worship each week by studying and discussing the readings for the upcoming Sunday with other members and friends of Faith. The coffee is brewed strong, and the discussion is stimulating!

Confirmation

Contact: Pastor Yvette, pastoryvette(at)flcva.org

Monthly Confirmation Class, Sunday, December 14, 3—5:30 p.m. Both confirmation **students and mentors** will participate in this session.

Saturday, January 24, Noon — Sunday, January 25, 3 p.m.
Confirmation Retreat, the Steinbruck Center at Luther Place Church, DC.
The retreat will include community service, learning, conversation, and fun! Together we'll check out what the bible says about poverty and injustice, and consider how Martin Luther's Small Catechism helps us figure out how to respond.

News from Faith Lutheran Preschool

Contact: Carrie Field, preschool(at)flcva.org

"And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying…
"Glory to God in the highest and peace to God's children on earth!"

We are excited to go into the Christmas season busy and full of fun! December will be an exciting month, as we bundle up for cold weather (hopefully a little snow) and of course, get ready to celebrate the birth of our Lord, Jesus Christ! As has become our tradition here at FLP, we have chosen an outreach service project through INOVA hospital. We are continuing to **support the Child Life Center** which cares for the needs of families battling cancer. If you would like to participate in our project, there will be a giving tree downstairs in the Preschool lobby.

Remember to mark your calendars for the annual Faith Lutheran Preschool **"Breakfast with Santa" on Saturday, December 13 from 9:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m.** There will be delicious goodies, fun activities and personal visits with Mr. & Mrs. Claus. Bring your cameras and invite your neighbors! Although we have fun with Santa, we will be preparing throughout December for the real meaning of the season, the birth of Jesus. On December 18th we will have our annual Christmas Program in the Sanctuary, followed by celebrations in the classroom. December 19th will be our last day of school before Christmas vacation. Classes resume January 6, 2015.

All of us at the Preschool wish you a very blessed holiday season full of happiness and good health.

Upcoming Men of Faith Events

Contacts: Pastor Brian, pastorbrian(at)flcva.org; Carl Hoffman, carl.f.hoffman(at)gmail.com

Saturday, January 31, 8:00 a.m. – Men's Breakfast

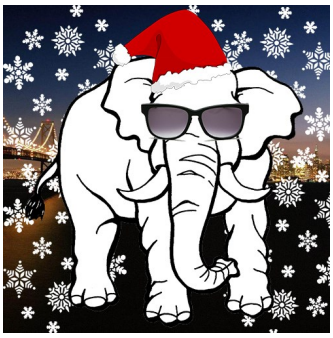
Saturday, February 21, 4:00 p.m. – George Mason vs. Rhode Island Basketball.
Tickets are $10. Please secure a seat by giving $10 to Pastor Brian by February 1.

Men of Faith Retreat, March 14 – 15, 2015
See the announcement on page 7 for more details.

Calling All Hockey Fans!

Contacts: Pastor Brian, pastorbrian(at)flcva.org

Saturday, March 28, 12:30 p.m.—Washington Capitals vs. Nashville
Again this year we bring together our Young Adult, Middle Adult, and Men's and Women's ministries for a joint outing. Tickets are limited, and cost $35, which includes a cap. Secure your seat by giving $35 to Pastor Brian.



Young Adult Ministry

Contacts: Pastor Brian, pastorbrian(at)flcva.org

Saturday, December 13, 5:00 p.m.—Young Adult Christmas Party
Come over to the parsonage (3313 1st St N) for a wine and cheese gathering, and White Elephant Gift Exchange (optional). Please email Pastor Brian if you plan to attend.

XYZ News

*"e**X**tra **Y**ears of **Z**est" - a social group for Faith's active seniors.*
Contact: Carolyn Baker, 703-671-0312

December is a four-outing month! On **Thursday the 4th**, we will enjoy the Christmas decorations at the Homestead Nursery. Then on to Annapolis for shopping and lunch at the Amish Market. The van leaves at 10:00 a.m.

Saturday the 13th is the 100-person choir and full orchestra Christmas show at the Bible Church on Braddock Road. The van leaves at 1:00 p.m.

Tuesday the 16th is our date for the Old Ebbitt Grill in Washington. We will leave at 10:30 a.m.

For New Year's Eve, we will go to the Red Lobster in Fairfax on **Wednesday, December 31st.** The van will leave at 11:30 a.m.

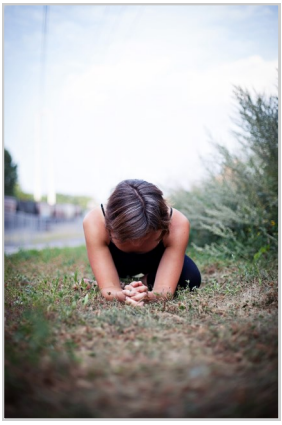
Men of Faith Retreat Planned for March

Contacts: Pastor Brian, pastorbrian(at)flcva.org; Carl Hoffman, carl.f.hoffman(at)gmail.com

2015 Men's Retreat
Get **March 14—15, 2015** on your calendars, men! That's when we'll have our **Second Annual Men's Retreat at Mar-Lu-Ridge**. It will be led by Pastor Brian and his good friend, Pastor Steve Holm, from Tempe, Arizona.

Save the Date! Women's Retreat Day

Contact: Pastor Yvette, pastoryvette(at)flcva.org



Saturday, February 21, 10 a.m. — 4 p.m.
Led by Rachel Bass-Guennewig, certified yoga instructor and ordained Lutheran pastor

Rachel will share her understanding of yoga as a spiritual practice that enriches our Christian faith and life, and together we'll enjoy good food, company, and movement. Come prepared to stretch, rest, learn and laugh. Everyone from beginners to yogis are welcome.

You can read more about Rachel at http://dailybreadyoga.wordpress.com.

Register online.

Hot chocolate will be provided!!

We'll leave Faith promptly at 1:30 and return by 4:30.

Admission $8 for 12 and under, $9 for 13+; skate rental $3/pair.

RSVP to Allison Baker: allison.baker10(at) gmail.com

Rejuvenating Faith: Windows Installed

Contact: Ken Rothaermel, traveljunky111(at)gmail.com

Next time you're at church, be sure to check out the **brand-new, double-pane windows that were installed in the Fellowship Hall** just before Thanksgiving. Some people have commented that the room is brighter, and we expect that our heating costs will go down, as well.

Fund raising for the capital campaign, which asks folks to contribute towards our $400,000 goal through gifts made as lump sum donations or up to three-year pledges, will take place in three phases: Phase 1 has already begun, and we are seeking major, advance gifts. If you would like to make such a major, advance gift, please contact Ken Rothaermel, Chair of the Campaign Committee.

Phase 2 will take place in January, when our Church Council and other leaders will pledge their support to the campaign and take us closer to our goal.

Phase 3 begins immediately following the announcement of the status of the advance and leadership gift totals, when we will ask all members and friends of the congregation to make a pledge. This phase is anticipated to last three months. Following phase 3, the Campaign Committee will provide an update to the congregation, and anticipate, through your help, to celebrate achieving our goal.

Please pray for this campaign, that we might reach our goals and make these necessary improvements as we continue to make Christ known in our community and around the world.

OAR Toy Collection a Success!

Many thanks to everyone who donated to Offender Aid and Restoration's (OAR) Christmas In October toy drive. **The big collection box was full to the top**, with 38 items, everything from sports balls to craft sets, gift cards, trucks, dolls, creative play items and more. Your gifts will brighten Christmas in two ways: for the children who receive them and for their parents whose family connections will be strengthened thru the program. Your generosity and support are greatly appreciated. Thank you.

Looking for more ways to connect? Help wrap up these wonderful gifts at the **OAR Wrapping Party, Monday, December 15, 6:30—8:00 p.m.**, at St. Andrews Episcopal Church (4000 Lorcom Lane, Arlington, VA 22207).

Creation Care: Wrap Up the Savings!

Contact: Greg Blatt, gpb113(at)yahoo.com

Now that the colder weather is upon us you have probably added extra blanket(s) to your bed. One other item in your house that could use a blanket is your hot water heater. A **hot water heater blanket can save up to $45 a year on your heating bills**, and a recent search at Home Depot found a hot water heater blanket kit for about $30 (including tape). Installation is relatively easy and can be done in approximately one hour. Having another person is recommended to help hold things in place. Below are the steps to install a hot water heater blanket.

1. Turn off the water heater. For electric heaters, turn off the breaker at the electric panel. For gas water heaters, turn the gas valve to the "Pilot" position.
2. Measure the height of the water heater and cut the blanket to fit if necessary. Leave the top of the water heater open—it is important not to block the vent on top of a gas unit.
3. Wrap the blanket around the water heater and temporarily tape it in place. For ease of installation, position the blanket so that the ends do not come together over the access panels in the side of the tank. Some tanks have only one access panel.
4. Using a marker, mark the areas where controls are so that you can cut them out. For electric water heater units, there will be two panels on the side of the tank. For gas, you'll need to mark an arch-shaped hole around the gas valves and burner. Be sure to leave plenty of room around the valve and burner areas below. Make the opening at least 1 inch wider than the valve and burner area. Also, mark the area where the pressure relief valve and pipe are. This will be a pipe that sticks out of the side of the water heater.
5. Install the blanket. Be careful to line up the cut out areas and then tape it in permanently in place.
6. Turn the water heater back on and set the thermostat to 130ºF. The wiring for an electric hot water heater may overheat if above 130ºF. Refer to the operations manual for your hot water heater to adjust the thermostat setting.

If you would like to know more about or be involved with Creation Care at Faith Lutheran Church, please contact Greg Blatt at gpb113(at)yahoo.com.

Stewardship Bouquets

This month we say "Thank you" to

… Sally Arason, Jim Talley, Lynn Riggs, Mary & Gerald Hubbard, Holly Jewell & kids, Tim Felker, the McAvoy family, and Marilyn Haugen, and others, for helping with the **homeless ministry of bagged meals and clothing in November.**

Mission of the Month: Angel Trees

Contact: Maril Olson, maril.olson(at)gmail.com

Angel Trees are here! You've probably noticed that the Fellowship Hall is decorated with four very special trees. Instead of the traditional ornaments, the Angel Trees are adorned with tags that detail a special need for the following organizations:

- **Good News Jail & Prison Ministry** – New or gently used Bibles and faith-based books and new greeting cards and stationary for inmates
- **Offender Aid and Restoration (OAR)** – Metro cards, gift cards for grocery stores, Target, and gas, and fast food coupons to help support adults transitioning back into the community from incarceration (and a big THANK YOU for all the gifts for children whose parents are incarcerated that you contributed in October, into November!).
- **Shelter House (formerly NOVACO)** – Gifts for families who are homeless due to fleeing from domestic violence
- **Arlington Street People's Assistance Network (A-SPAN)** – Basic needs for clients who are transitioning out of the shelter to a home (another big THANK YOU for the donations of items for the outdoor homeless population you contributed in November) .

Choose one or more tags, purchase the item(s) and place them unwrapped under the matching tree. We'll gather up the donations and deliver them to the correct organization. This year we are collecting items right up to Christmas, as many of the items are useful throughout the year as these organizations serve our community.

Any monetary gifts in December which use the Special Mission Offering envelopes in the pews, or through Faith's online giving portal, will go to two additional entities: **Arlington's Backpack Buddies Program and the ELCA's Good Gifts.**

Arlington's Backpack Buddies Program is a joint venture between the Arlington schools and AFAC. It provides weekend and holiday meal packs for "food insecure" Arlington County schoolchildren. Recent estimates have as many as 9,400 children in Arlington as food insecure, which can mean very little regular food when they are not in school. Children are referred to the program, and on Fridays at their school are sent home with a backpack of nutritious food. The backpacks are returned to school on Monday and redistributed the following weekend. At present, this is only being implemented at a handful of Arlington schools.

ELCA Good Gifts is a collection of over 50 gift-giving options that support work already being done in projects and programs supported by funds from the ELCA, in Lutheran congregations and companion churches both in the United States and abroad. Options range from buying livestock, water projects, health care, and training of several varieties, to a program akin to Backpack Buddies here in the United States.

Questions? Contact Maril Olson.

Volunteer at the A-SPAN Emergency Winter Shelter

Contact: Cindy Taylor, ctaylorara(at)gmail.com

Faith has been involved with A-SPAN's Emergency Winter Shelter (EWS) for over ten years. The Shelter is open daily from November 1-March 31. Faith has staffed the shelter once a month for an evening shift from 5:30-7:30 p.m. **Three volunteers are needed for each of our nights,** listed below, to serve as in the kitchen and clothing room. Kitchen volunteers assist staff members by serving the evening meal. Clothing room volunteers monitor the distribution of clothing to clients, help sort and organize clothing donations, and assist the staff with other activities as needed.

Faith's upcoming dates:
Tuesday, December 30—2 kitchen volunteers, 1 clothing room volunteer
Friday, January 23—2 kitchen volunteers, 1 clothing room volunteer
Thursday, February 26—3 kitchen volunteers
Thursday, March 19—3 kitchen volunteers

You can sign up online on Faith's website. If you have any questions, please contact Cindy Taylor.

A Bit More About the OAR Angel Tree

Contacts: Mary Hibbits, mohibbits(at)comcast.net

Offender Aid and Restoration, commonly referred to as OAR, is a local non-profit organization working with those involved in the criminal justice system. OAR administers court-mandated community service programs, teaches classes in the jail, and gives a helping hand to those recently released from jail or prison.

The needs of ex-offenders are many. This year's OAR Angel Tree will present donation opportunities to support those working to reenter our community as productive citizens. Clothing, shoes, gift cards, snacks and subway cards are a sampling of items that will be "tagged" on the OAR Angel Tree. Your donations will make a difference to those who need a second chance.

Many Thanks on Behalf of the Homeless Clothing Ministry

Marilyn Haugen, mb_haugen26(at)comcast.net; Mary Hibbits, mohibbits(at)comcast.net

Our thanks to all of you who have donated clothing and personal care items for Faith's clothing ministry to the homeless. We have had a wonderful response to our A-SPAN Mission of the Month "shopping bag" effort in November. Every item that has been contributed will make the life of a homeless client a bit better … if not this month, then in the winter months to come.

Unfortunately, the need never stops, so if you haven't yet returned your bag, we'll be able to put it to use whenever it arrives. Flyers with the list of needed items will be available in the Fellowship Hall for those of you who may have missed the bag hand-out last month. Donations can be placed in the bins by the Jackson St. doors.

Do You Hear What I Hear?

Contact: Terry Mallett, teresa.mallett(at)verizon.net

A friend is loving at all times, and a brother is born for adversity. Proverbs 17:17

December is a hectic month when the spiritual times of Advent and Christmas, is mixed up with secular celebrations. There's music and lights, decorations, food and gatherings, which make for a fun time of year. But for some, who through no one's fault, are experiencing troubled times, perhaps due to an unexpected move for a new job, a difficult divorce or a serious illness, feelings of loneliness can reach an apex during the holidays.

Faith's Stephen Ministers are trained to be confidential and caring listeners. Unlike hearing, listening is not that simple. Listening requires concentration to understand, and to give attention to another person. Hearing is a perception, while listening is a choice. By choosing to listen to your family members, acquaintances and friends, and especially to those who may not feel so joyful this month, you can give a wonderful gift.

If you are interested to learn more about compassionate listening, please contact Pastor Brian or Pastor Yvette about the Stephen Ministry training which will start in September 2015.

Hypothermia Help

The cold has returned, and with it come concerns about the region's most vulnerable population. Jurisdictions around the area are ready to help the homeless get out of the cold when temperatures dip below freezing.

Clip this brief and save it in your wallet; if you see someone in need, call one of the hotlines below to get help:

DC—Hypothermia Shelter Hotline: 800-535-7252

Arlington—Non-Emergency Police: 703-558-2222, or Emergency Winter Shelter: 703-228-7395

Alexandria—Non-Emergency Police: 703-838-4444, or Winter Hypothermia Shelter: 703-548-7500

Falls Church—Non-Emergency Police: 703-241-5053, or Winter Shelter: 703-854-1400

Fairfax—Non-Emergency Police: 703-691-2131

Thanksgiving—Preschool Style!

On Thursday, November 20, Faith Lutheran Preschool held their annual Sharing Feast, a festival of music, food and fellowship for the students, teachers, staff and families of the preschool. During the weeks leading up to the Sharing Feast, children learned special songs, baked muffins and made decorations from leaves and hand prints during art class. They helped Mrs. Felker tell the story of stone soup, then shared the soup with all their friends. It is a truly

Blue Christmas: An Invitation

Contacts: Rev. Jeanette Leisk, GSLC.PastorJen(at)verizon.net

Christmas can be a painful time for some. It may be the first Christmas without a loved family member who has recently died; it may be a time that has always been difficult. The anguish of broken relationships, the insecurity of unemployment, the weariness of ill health, the pain of isolation - all these can make us feel very alone in the midst of the celebrating and spending.

We need the space and time to acknowledge our sadness and concern; we need to know that we are not alone. Our spirits sink, as the days grow shorter. We feel the darkness growing deeper around us. We need encouragement to live the days ahead of us.

For these reasons, Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Alexandria, VA offers a special **"Longest Night" service on Sunday, December 21 at 7:00 p.m**. Come out, and join with us in sharing and hearing prayers, scripture, and music that acknowledge that God's presence is for those who mourn, for those who struggle - and that God's Word comes to shine light into our darkness. Everyone, regardless of church background (or lack of it) is welcome.

Meaningful Gift Ideas

If you're looking for some alternatives to your typical holiday (or any occasion) gifts, check out the options below!

ELCA Good Gifts
ELCA Good Gifts is a ministry of the church, where you can choose the gift that means the most to you and your loved ones. Through your gift selection, you can grow the church, fight hunger, or provide health care, transforming lives here and abroad. Any item you select will be used toward projects and programs already underway and being supported by funds from the ELCA. Please read about this work and explore the options online or peruse the catalog on the Social Ministries table in the Fellowship Hall.

SERRV International
SERRV offers handcrafted items created by a global community of artisans and farmers who directly benefit from sales of their products. SERRV is a fair trade, nonprofit organization. Many of you are familiar with their Divine Chocolates (which has an affiliation with Lutheran World Relief), but they offer a myriad of other items. Again, please explore their products on the SERRV website or peruse their catalog on the Social Ministries table in the Fellowship Hall.

Gifts of Hope
The Gifts of Hope Catalog, sponsored by our local Metro DC Synod, is available online and has 39 different gifts, with prices ranging from $10 to $250. These gifts support the mission and programs of area Lutheran social service organizations, camps, college and seminary, and our Synod's companion synods abroad. Your purchases will bring hope to others while you honor those on your gift list. View all gifts and the participating organizations on the Gifts of Hope website.

Worship Participants for December

		8:00 a.m.			11:00 a.m.		
	A/V	**ACOLYTE**	**A. MIN.**	**LECTOR**	**ACOLYTE**	**A. MIN.**	**LECTOR**
Dec. 7	Olson	Sarah Shaw	**Open**	Mary Hibbits	Alyssa Herbst	Katie Brewer	Lori Oney
Dec. 14	Booths	Terry Flannery	Jonathan Bertsch	Christina Bohringer	Michelle Lounberg	Allison Baker	Brenda Wallestad
Dec. 21	Booths	**Open**	Corey Holmes	Gina Brumback	Nikolas Lersten	Greg Mantell	Burt Wagner
		9:00 a.m.			**11:00 a.m.**		
Dec. 28	N/A	John Brandt	**Open**	Anne Johnson	Kayla Guerch	**Open**	Carl Hoffman

Christmas Eve Worship Participants

	ACOLYTE	**A. MIN**	**LECTOR**
5 p.m.	Nikolas Lersten	Corey Holmes	Mary Hibbits
8 p.m.	Henry Olson	**Open**	**Open**

Coffee Fellowship Team

	Set-Up	**Between Services**	**Clean-Up**
Dec. 7	Johnson		Kane
Dec. 14	Baker/Kosutic		Hoffmans
Dec. 21	Landry		Lounberg
Dec. 28	Burggraf		Sandene

Enjoy Worship?

Help make it happen! As you can see from the tables above, there are plenty of opportunities for anyone with an interest in serving as an acolyte, assisting minister, lector, or A/V assistant. Not sure what any of those people do? Just ask one of the pastors, or contact one of the following:

Acolytes: Paul Wengert, poor.yorick(at)verizon.net
Lectors/Asst. Ministers: Anne Johnson, Augustiniana(at)verizon.net
Communion Assistants: Sally Arason, arasonroscoe(at)aol.com
Ushers: Doug Lauer, dflauer(at)yahoo.com or Mary Beth Allen, 703.528.5817
Coffee Fellowship: Sue Burggraf, sburggraf(at)comcast.net
A/V Ministry: Annette Hocker, ahwahoo98(at)gmail.com

Sunday Lectionary

December 7
2nd Sunday in Advent
Isaiah 40:1—11
Psalm 85:1—2, 8—13
2 Peter 3:8—15a
Mark 1:1—8

December 14
3rd Sunday in Advent
Isaiah 6:1—4, 8—11
Psalm 126
1 Thessalonians 5:16—24
John 1:6—8, 19—28

December 21
4th Sunday in Advent
2 Samuel 7:1—11, 16
Luke 1:46b—55
Romans 16:25—27
Luke 1:26—38

December 24 & 25
See page 2

December 28
1st Sunday of Christmas
Isaiah 61:10 — 62:3
Psalm 148
Galatians 4:4—7
Luke 2:22—40

Faith Family Updates

December Birthdays

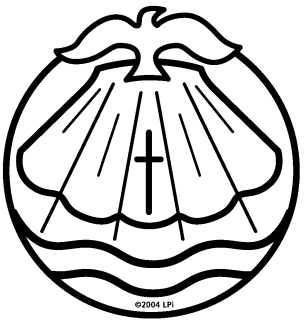
1	Betsy Herbst
3	Nelson Litterst
4	Wade Cleland
	Daniel Koski-Karell
	Frances Weaver
5	Wyatt Cleland
	Mitchell Curlin
7	Kattie Clark
	Ben Hoffman
	Kylie Hoffman
	Kristen King
8	Christina Bohringer
9	Kirsten Baker
	Nancy Benson
	Joslyn Osten
9	Bailey Petersen
10	John Cubbison
	Meghann Peterlin
10	Elijah Discount
12	Yvette Schock
	Mark Smith
	Andrew Rosti
13	Aileen Meyer
	Elinor Mueller
14	Jill Faris
15	Kris Finney
	Chris Bartholomew
16	Linda O'Brien
17	Kat Cleland
18	Martha Perry
18	Thomas Holland
19	Wil Danielson
	Bruce Deming
20	Betty Lightle
	Caroline Seipp
24	Aaron Martens
25	Kenrick Brown
27	Timothy Crowley
28	Mildred Aburn
	Michele McGuirl
	Clay Deming
29	Brian Abel
31	Billie Borlaug
	Elaine Shelleman
	David Babich

December Wedding Anniversaries

3	Paul Wengert & Denise Hart
10	Bruce & Clay Deming
12	Ken & Gina Brumback
	Andrew & Melissa Waters
21	Mary & Brian Sawich
22	Robert & Shannon Wilson
26	Harvey & June Brasse
30	Steven Webber & Jill Faris
31	Tom & Cindy Lersten

December Baptism Anniversaries

1	Michelle Abel
	Wesley Klapmust
2	Logan Duce
	John Wilson
7	Quinn Baker
	Jean Vogel
9	Benjamin Crowe
11	Lindsay Rosti
23	Lyra Cleland
	Nathaniel Discount
25	Elinor Mueller
27	Elijah Discount
27	Tucker Wright
28	Brooks Cleland
30	Sarah Smith



Celebrating the baptismal anniversary can be especially meaningful for young children who were baptized as infants, and offers an opportunity for parents and other adult role models to share their faith stories with the youngsters in their lives. Re-lighting the baptismal candle, reading the Bible or singing hymns are just some ideas for celebrating.

If you would like a copy of the ELCA Anniversary of Baptism service, please email office(at)flcva.org.

Celebrate with altar flowers! Dedicate the flowers adorning the chancel each week in honor of a special person or occasion. Through December, the cost per vase is $22.50. Starting in January, the cost will be $25.00 per vase.

Faith Lutheran Church

www.flcva.org
3313 Arlington Blvd.
Arlington, VA 22201
703 525-9283 office(at)flcva.org

DECEMBER 2014

Regular Sunday Schedule

8am	Worship with Holy Communion—S
9:30am	Worship with Holy Communion—S
9:45am	Learning for All Ages
11am	Worship with Holy Communion—S
2pm	Korean Worship—P

ABBREVIATIONS:

- BP - Bride's Parlor
- CR - Choir Room
- FC - Fabric Crafters
- FH - Fellowship Hal
- K - Kitchen
- L - Lounge
- VR - Nursery
- P - Preschool
- S - Sanctuary
- SM - Stephen Ministry
- U - Undercroft
- XYZ - eXtra Years of Zest (seniors)
- YACC - Young Adult Coffee and Conversation
- YAG - Young Adult Gathering
- MAG—Middle Adult Group

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
30 1st Sunday in Advent Traditional worship at 8 & 11 Contemporary worship at 9:30	**1** 7:30pm—Stephen Ministry	**2** 9:30am —FLP Yoga—FH 7pm—Saving Jesus Bible Study	**3** 6:30pm—Praise Team Rehearsal 7:45pm—Choir Rehearsal	**4** 10am—Bible Study/ Discussion—L 10am—XYZ to Homestead Gardens Nursery	**5** *Pastor Brian's Day Off* 7pm—Lydia Circle Christmas Party	**6** 1—6pm—Private Event—FH
7 2nd Sunday in Advent Traditional worship at 8 & 11 Contemporary worship at 9:30 9:30am—Young Adult Bible Study 12pm—Christmas Program Rehearsal 1:30pm– Youth Ice Skating	**8** *Pastor Yvette's Day Off*	**9** 9:30am —FLP Yoga—FH	**10** 6:30pm—Praise Team Rehearsal 7:45pm—Choir Rehearsal	**11** 10am—Bible Study / Discussion—L 10:30am—MONA 6:30pm—Council/Staff Christmas Party	**12** *Pastor Brian's Day Off* **JANUARY NEWSLETTER DEADLINE** 9:30am—Breakfast with Santa Setup	**13** 9:30am—Breakfast with Santa 1pm—XYZ to Christmas Show 1pm—Bagged Meal Prep 5pm—Young Adult Christmas Party 5:30pm– Bagged Meal & Clothing Distribution
14 3rd Sunday in Advent Traditional worship at 8 & 11 Contemporary worship at 9:30 11am—Children's Christmas Program 12pm—Birthday Party for Jesus 3pm—Confirmation	**15** *Pastor Yvette's Day Off* 7:30pm—Stephen Ministry	**16** 9:30am —FLP Yoga—FH 10:30am—XYZ to Old Ebbitt Grill	**17 POINSETTIA DEDICATION DEADLINE** 1:30pm—Newsletter Volunteers 6:30pm—Praise Team Rehearsal 7:45pm—Choir Rehearsal	**18** 10am—Bible Study / Discussion—L 11:30am—FLP Christmas Program 7pm—FLC Council	**19** *Pastor Brian's Day Off*	**20** Hanging of the Greens
21 4th Sunday in Advent *Newsletters Available* Traditional worship at 8 & 11 Contemporary worship at 9:30 9:30am—Young Adult Bible Study 2pm—Danish Christmas Service	**22** *Pastor Yvette's Day Off* 11am—Meals on Wheels	**23**	**24 Christmas Eve** 5pm—Candlelight Service 8pm—Candlelight Service 9:30pm—Reception	**25 Christmas Day** **OFFICE CLOSED**	**26** **OFFICE CLOSED**	**27**
28 1st Sunday of Christmas Traditional worship at **9 & 11** No Contemporary Worship	**29**	**30** 5:30pm—Volunteer at Emergency Winter Shelter	**31** 11:30a.m.—XYZ New Year's Lunch at Red Lobster	1 New Year's Day OFFICE CLOSED	2 OFFICE CLOSED	3

Faith Lutheran Church is a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Faith Lutheran Church
3313 Arlington Blvd
Arlington, VA 22201

Office: 703-525-9283
Website: www.flcva.org

STAFF

Rev. Brian Erickson, Senior Pastor
Pastorbrian(at)flcva.org

Rev. Yvette Schock, Associate Pastor
Pastoryvette(at)flcva.org

Darrell Partin,
Director of Music & Worship
Darrell(at)flcva.org

Carrie Field,
Preschool Director
Preschool(at)flcva.org

Jen Moore, Communications Coordinator & Office Administrator
Office(at)flcva.org

Juan Ulloa, Church Caretaker

PASTORAL CARE

Comfort Shawl Ministry
Provide (through the pastor) shawls for those in need of comfort.
Carrie Beyer
Cbeyer(at)comcast.net

Communion Ministers
Serve Holy Communion to members who are homebound or hospitalized.

Faith Family Freezer
Provide (through the pastor) meals to those in times of family distress
COORDINATOR NEEDED

Patient Companion Program
This program—through the Virginia Hospital Center—provides someone who sits at the bedside of a patient during their final hours.
Barbara Foelber
bgfoelber(at)aol.com

Prayer Chain
Lisa Thurston H: 703-216-4126
LThur0704(at)aol.com

Stephen Ministry
Provide Christian care to people in crisis.
Terry Mallett, Teresa.mallett(at)verizon.net

CD Ministry
Duplicate CDs of worship services
Coordinator Needed

ADMINISTRATION

Counting Teams
Meet after the 11:00 service to count and record the offerings.
The Finance Team
Finance(at)flcva.org

Newsletter Team
Labels and sorts the newsletter monthly.
Adriana Stone H: 703-536-5914

Notification Tree
Mary Beth Allen H: 703-528-5817

WORSHIP AND MUSIC

Acolyte / Crucifer
Youth who participate in Sunday worship.
Paul Wengert, poor.yorick(at)verizon.net

Altar Guild
Prepares the altar and chancel for worship.
Carol Tschudy H: 703-521-6792
Ctschudy(at)aol.com

Assisting Minister / Lector
Assists with worship and reads Scripture lessons.
Anne Johnson
Augustiniana(at)verizon.net

Communion Assistants
Assist with Communion distribution during worship services.
Sally Arason H: 540-783-2040
Arasonroscoe(at)aol.com

Friendship Folders
Maintains folders that are used on Sundays for sign-in, prayer cards, etc.
Paulette Sandene H: 703-273-8380
Sandenepc(at)aol.com

Pew Bibles
Ensures each pew has Bibles.
Sue Burggraf H: 703-522-1549
Sburggraf(at)comcast.net

Sound Ministry
Runs the sound system during worship and records services.
ACTIVELY RECRUITING TEAM MEMBERS

Ushers
Doug Lauer
Dflauer(at)yahoo.com

YOUTH

Youth Ministry/Confimration
Pastor Yvette
Pastoryvette(at)flcva.org

FYI (Faith Youth Incorporated)
Andy Ruge, Macruge(at)verizon.net

EDUCATION

Sunday School
Kirsten Walter Baker,
Kirstenmwalter(at)gmail.com

Little Lambs
2 year old Sunday School every other week in the Virginia Room during Sunday School
Cindy Lersten
Clersten(at)yahoo.com

Tuesday Evening Class
Pastor Brian
Pastorbrian(at)flcva.org

Thursday Morning Bible Study
Pastor Yvette
Pastor Yvette (at)flcva.org

Vacation Bible School
Meet in August to give a wonderful spirit-filled experience to children from age 4 through 5th grade (and older children may volunteer to assist).
2015 COORDINATOR NEEDED

OUTREACH

Greeters
Welcome worshippers as they enter the sanctuary.
COORDINATOR NEEDED

Website
Update and maintain Faith's website.
Jen Moore
Jenmoore(at)flcva.org

SOCIAL CONCERNS

Bagged Meal Program
Prepares and distributes meals the second Saturday of each month for Arlington's homeless.
Paul Wengert , Poor.yorick(at)verizon.net

Clothing Program (ASPAN)
Collects gently used clothing and new toiletries.
Marilyn Haugen,
mb_haugen26(at)comcast.net

Creation Care
Goal: to reduce Faith's carbon footprint.
Greg Blatt, gpb113(at)yahoo.com

Friends of the Seminary (LTSG)
Liaison between Faith and the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg.
COORDINATOR NEEDED

Meals on Wheels
Delivers prepared meals to shut-ins in the Arlington area.
Kay Flatin H: 703-379-0445

National Lutheran Home Auxiliary
Liaison for senior residential facility in Rockville, MD.
Nancy Benson H: 703-644-0609

FELLOWSHIP & COMMUNITY LIFE

Coffee Fellowship
Prepares coffee for and cleans up after fellowship on Sundays.
Sue Burggraf, sburggraf(at)comcast.net

Fabric Crafters
Makes items for the National Lutheran Home, Culpepper Gardens, and LWR.
Jeannette Dere H: 703-370-3793
Djdere(at)earthlink.net

Families of Faith
Pastor Brian
Pastorbrian(at)flcva.org

Moms & Babies
For moms with babies under 1 year.
Alicia Cornell
aliciacornell(at)gmail.com

Men of Faith
Meets once a month for breakfast, fellowship, and discussion.
Pastor Brian, pastorbrian(at)flcva.org

Middle Adult Ministry
Social gatherings for ages 40—65.
Pastor Brian
Pastorbrian(at)flcva.org

Women of Faith
Meet regularly for fellowship and study.
WELCA
Paulette Sandene
H: 703-273-8380
Sandenepc(at)aol.com

ACTIVITIES
Pastor Yvette,
Pastoryvette(at)flcva.org

eXtra Years of Zest
50+s who meet frequently for lunch and fellowship.
Carolyn Baker H: 703-671-0312

Young Adult Ministry
Social and discussion group for ages 18—39.
Pastor Brian
Pastorbrian(at)flcva.org