

Merry Christmas



And Happy New Year

Faith Lutheran Church

December 2021

"He Came Down!"

While attending a workshop, the leader walked to the blackboard and drew an arrow pointing down. He said, "It's all about this" as he pointed to the arrow. Again, he said, "It's all about this."

18"Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. ²⁰But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." ²²All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

*²³ "Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and they shall name him Emmanuel," (Matthew 1:18-23)*

Jesus came down to show us the way to heaven. Jesus came down to reveal the very heart of God. Jesus came down!

One very unique principal of the Christian faith is that God comes to us, rather than any effort on our part to somehow go up to God. The Gospel story begins with our inability to get up to God. We simply have no means to do such a thing. There is a separation that cannot be crossed or transcended. However, God's plan to bridge the gap is to come down to us in Jesus Christ.

I believe that all of our beliefs and principals of faith can be lumped up in this one brief phrase "It's all about God coming down." As to why and how God comes down is the rest of the Gospel. Yet, it begins very simply, God comes down for you and for me.

I pray this simple yet profound truth may guide your hearts and minds through this Advent and Christmas season.

Together in Christ,
Pr. Ron Nichols

COUNCIL REPORT

The Faith Lutheran Church Council met Wednesday, November 10, 2021.

Pastor Ron reported that Faith Lutheran Church is well into its planning for the Thanksgiving service which will be Wednesday, November 24, 2021. There will be a Thanksgiving Day dinner. He has been having difficulty visiting residents at the Madison Care Center as it has been closed so much due to COVID. He will be gone from December 27, 2021 to January 2, 2022.

Decorating for Christmas will take place on Saturday, November 27, 2021. There will be community caroling on December 19, 2021.

An offering protocol will begin in 2022. The purpose is to ensure the integrity of individuals involved in handling offering money and to ensure the confidentiality of those who donate.

Council elections will take place on Sunday, November 14, 2021 after worship as well as review and approval of the 2022 budget.

Becky Mortenson has requested that a new treasurer be sought.

Darcy Daline has taken the education director position. The council thanks her for being willing to guide the Sunday School.

The full minutes of the meeting are posted on the bulletin board across from the office and copies are available in the Church office.

W-ELCA NEWS

Ruth Circle- 12/14 @ 9:30am

The WELCA Christmas Gathering will be 9:30 Wednesday, December 8th. Come for brunch, enjoy the Little Blessings, sing familiar Christmas carols, and share Christmas traditions. Everyone welcome!

Discipleship News

Faith Lutheran participated in the "Trunk of Treat" community activity held on Halloween. It was a great success with many children and families attending.

We plan to put together a display for the "Holiday Lights" being held at the Lou T Fisk Park. Please take a stroll anytime between December 3rd through January 2nd to see the lighted displays!

We are always looking for eager individuals to join our committee!

Faith Lutheran Staff & Officers

Pastor Ronald Nichols

Office Staff

Music Director: Linda Anderson

Office Manager/ Financial Secretary:
Sharon Ronglien

Education Coordinator: Darcy Daline

Helper: Lisa Strand

Little Blessings Teacher: Kelli Fernholz

Senior Choir Director: Gary Boraas

Executive Council

President: Ryan Giles

Vice-President: David Kriese

Secretary: Jeanene Munsterman

Treasurer: Becky Mortenson

Mark Siegert

Linda Anderson

Kelly Zahrbock

Melanie Miller

Taylor Shelstad

Education Committee

Jodi Kallhoff

Deb Meyer

Jessica Borstad

Becky Mortenson

Darcy Daline

W-ELCA

Kathy Harwick

Karen Nesvold

Eileen Trelstad

Property Committee

Dave Amundson

Ron Toenies

Mark Siegert

Worship Committee

Gail Smith

Linda Anderson

Mary Wodrich

Lorrie Ehrenberg

Jerome Kallhoff

Discipleship Committee

Melanie Miller

Tamara Bissett

Kelly Zahrbock

Brittany Engesmoe

Stewardship Board

Jerome Kallhoff

Darcy Daline

David Kriese

Global Missions

Kris Hanson

Jody Dahle

Stan Olson

Curtis Seefeld

Betty Tollefson

Char Heinzen

Technology Committee

Judy Kriese

Maynard Meyer

Lorrie Ehrenberg

Jeanene Munsterman

Jessica Borstad

Eric Nygard

Ryan Giles

Linda Anderson

Gail Smith

*The Executive Council meets the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 7pm.

**All other committees are to meet once a month and report to the Executive Council.

Notes from Linda

There are 18-19 members in our Joyful Noise Singers and Ringers this year. They are an energetic group and love to sing!

Our Joyful Noise Choir prepared and mailed 7 Care Packages to our college freshmen in November.

You are invited to the Little Blessings Christmas program "Let's Dress Up for Christmas" on Thursday, December 9, at 6:00 PM.

Thank you to those who attended our annual fall retreat. We had a great time learning about the importance of bees...and the beatitudes! Next year's retreat will be Saturday, November 5.

Worship Committee News by Gail Smith

We invite people to bring poinsettias for our Christmas Eve Service. If you wish, you can contact the office to have your poinsettia in memory or honor of someone. You may take your flower home after Christmas, but we ask you have them marked. They can be brought to the church after December 14th.

A huge thank you Doug and Elly Peterson for the live Christmas tree in the narthex.

I can't express enough thanks to all who helped decorate this year for Christmas. I would not be able to do it without your help. Thank you!

Good News from Global

Thanksgiving season is nearly upon us and we have SOOOO much to be thankful for ! This is also the time of year that we embark on our annual ELCA World Hunger Drive. Dates this year are November 7- December 5. Last year by God's grace, Faith Lutheran members and our Endowment Board, combined to give over \$11,500 to ELCA World Hunger !!! 10 years ago we used to say that 1 in 6 people in the world were hungry . Things are slowly improving as now the statistics show that 1 in 9 people in the world (that is 800 million !) are hungry and as Christians, we have every intention of responding to this great need. ELCA churches have worked on world hunger issues for over 40 years now and are fighting to end hunger around the world by building relationships with others and LISTENING to what they need ! To get at the root cause we must support our brothers and sisters in need not only with food but health care, education and helping them build sustainable ways of making a living. All of these things heal a soul and this is exactly what Jesus calls us to do ! So how can we do this together ? You can write a check to Faith Lutheran Church with World Hunger on the memo line and drop it in the offering plate or bring it to the office. There are envelopes in the church pews designated for your world hunger gifts - fill these and drop them into the offering plate , Grab a barn or piglet bank and collect all of your change (we accept bills too !) and turn it into the office . Lastly, farm families, please consider a donation from the amazing and abundant harvest we have this year . The elevators would be pleased to cut a check to Faith Lutheran World Hunger ! All donations must be into the office by Sunday Dec 5. So pray... and please ... give generously . Thankyou !

Blessings to all! Global Missions Committee

DECEMBER

WORSHIP

ASSISTANTS

Acolyte

5 - Marley & Brianna
12 - Grant & Nolan
19 - Zoey & Gavin
24 - Christmas Eve
Malcolm & Greta

26 - Lyndsey & Jace

Lay Reader

5 - Darcy Daline
12 - Sharon Ronglien
19 - Ruth Glomstad
24 - Christmas Eve

Bart Hill

26 - Ed Olson Jr.

Ushers

5 - Team 2
12 - Team 1
19 - Team 7
24 - Christmas Eve
Team 6

26 - Team 5

Screen

5 - Lorrie
12 - Jeanene
19 - Lorrie
24 - Christmas Eve

Lorrie

26 - Lorrie

Videographer

5 - Maynard
12 - Dan W.
19 - Dan L.
24 - Christmas Eve
Jeff H.

26 - Maynard

Communion

5 - Kathy H. & Stan O.
12 - Cindy H. & Cheryl R.
19 - Tammy W.
24 - Christmas Eve

Angie A. & Deb M.

26 - Tamara B. & Arlette J.

1 Owen Gloege
1 Luke Summerlet
1 Blakely Mae Monson
2 Amanda Heinrich
3 Isaac Hansen
3 Regan Johnson
5 Warren Trygestad
6 Keith Olson
6 Dana Carmody
6 Kathryn Wollschlager
6 Kinsley Daline
6 Kada Daline
8 Anne Kennedy
8 Greta Hacker
8 Griffin Kranz
9 Tony Smith
10 Harper Ludvigson
10 Riley Bornhorst

11 Savannah DuFrane
12 Pam Goetsch
12 Lukas Goetsch
14 Decklan Lee
16 Mariah Mortenson
16 Ronald Kriese
16 Noah Arndt
17 David Berg
17 Devyn Fernholz
19 Eva Zahrbock
19 Ella Goetsch
21 Verona Berg
21 Jaxton Wells
22 Gilbert Redepenning
23 Dick Clemensen
23 Rachel Halvorson
26 Julie Ludvigson
26 James Monson

27 Todd Erp
27 Carley Strei
27 William Wagner
29 Waylon Ludvigson
30 April Call
30 Tyler Jacobson
31 Cheryl Heimerl
31 Patty Nygard



Statement of Activities

November 30, 2021

	Current Month Actual	Current Month Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Annual Budget	YTD Last Year
Income						
GENERAL OFFERINGS Totals:	8,535.83	25,271.71	214,139.30	277,988.79	303,260.50	184,777.55
MISC. INCOME Totals:	0.00	0.00	1.94	0.00	0.00	3,392.79
CAPITAL IMPROVE. INCOME Totals:	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
BD OF LAY MIN/EVAN Totals:	1,714.28	1,250.00	15,932.81	13,750.00	15,000.00	44,335.18
BD OF WORSHIP Totals:	30.00	233.34	2,722.50	2,566.66	2,800.00	2,677.61
BD OF EDUCATION Totals:	0.00	0.00	1,902.40	0.00	0.00	258.00
BD OF STWRDSHP/PARISH FELL. Totals:	0.00	0.00	1,000.78	0.00	0.00	68.87
BD OF CHURCH PROPERTY Totals:	0.00	0.00	3,415.00	0.00	0.00	315.00
BD OF GLOBAL MISSIONS Totals:	0.00	0.00	126.87	0.00	0.00	129.00
INTEREST Totals:	0.00	0.00	0.45	0.00	0.00	1.08
INCOME Totals:	0.00	0.00	486.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE Totals:	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CD Totals:	0.00	0.00	2.85	0.00	0.00	0.00
BEQUESTS Totals:	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Income Totals:	10,280.11	26,755.05	239,730.90	294,305.45	321,060.50	235,955.08
Expense						
BD OF LAY MIN/EVAN Totals:	12,641.35	17,746.22	173,084.52	195,208.28	212,954.50	151,597.28
BD OF WORSHIP Totals:	799.00	827.09	5,401.91	9,097.91	9,925.00	6,801.38
BD OF EDUCATION Totals:	486.23	925.50	2,287.99	10,180.50	11,106.00	1,790.79
BD OF STWRDSHP/PARISH FELL. Totals:	27.70	172.91	473.13	1,902.09	2,075.00	(211.68)
BD OF YOUTH Totals:	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
BD OF CHURCH PROPERTY Totals:	2,692.06	5,558.35	51,428.94	61,141.65	66,700.00	55,194.86
BD OF GLOBAL MISSIONS Totals:	0.00	1,500.00	3,319.71	16,500.00	18,000.00	3,482.00
TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE Totals:	0.00	25.00	331.80	275.00	300.00	238.17
Expense Totals:	16,646.34	26,755.07	236,328.00	294,305.43	321,060.50	218,892.80
Income - Expense:	(6,366.23)	(0.02)	3,402.90	0.02	0.00	17,062.28

Thank you! We appreciate your continued gracious giving.
 Tithes and offerings can be mailed, made online at www.faithlutheranmadison.org
 or PayPal (to faithluthsecretary@gmail.com)

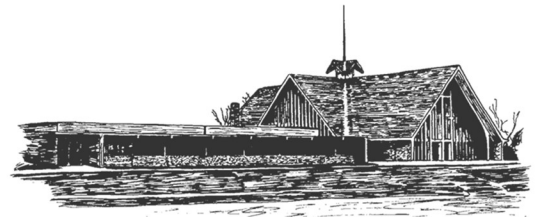
December 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
			9am Hot Muffins 3:30-5pm Joyful Noise 3:30-5pm Confirmation 6pm Faith Ringers			
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
9am Worship 10am Sunday School 10:30 Senior Choir			9am Hot Muffins 9:30am WELCA Brunch 3:30-5pm Joyful Noise 3:30-5pm Confirmation 6pm Faith Ringers 7pm Church Council	8:30-12pm Do Day 6pm Little Blessing's Christmas Program		
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
9am Worship/ Baptism 10am Sunday School	Newsletter Articles Due 	9:30am Ruth Circle	9am Hot Muffins 3:30-5pm Joyful Noise 3:30-5pm Confirmation 6pm Faith Ringers			
19		21	22	23	24	25
9am Worship/ Children's Christmas Program 10:30am Senior Choir			9am Hot Muffins 3:30-5pm Joyful Noise 3:30-5pm Confirmation 6pm Faith Ringers	11:30-12:30 Second Har- vest & Meal	5pm Christmas Eve Service	
26	27	28	29	30	31	
9am Worship						

Faith Lutheran Church
106 8th Street
Madison, MN 56256
www.faithlutheranmadison.org



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**
God's work. Our hands.



Faith Lutheran Church

Sunday Worship at Faith: 9:00 a.m.

Broadcast on KLQP 92.1 FM: Sundays 11:30 a.m.

Cable Channel 8: Sundays 3:30 p.m.

Facebook: 3:30 p.m. [Faith Lutheran Church](https://www.facebook.com/FaithLutheranChurch)

Website: 3:30 p.m. www.faithlutheranchurchmadison.org

Pastor Ron Nichols

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