



## Life of Faith

March 2022

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February 27 marks the official end of Pastor Nancy Gradwohl's time as pastor at Faith Lutheran Church. Sadly, Pastor Gradwohl suffered a broken leg after falling on February 17 so was forced to leave earlier. We hold her in prayer for speedy recovery and give thanks for her years of ministry in our community. We wish her Godspeed and many blessings as she continues her ministry in recovery and in wherever God calls her next.



Special thanks to Pastor Barbara Rossing for immediately stepping in to lead worship after Pastor Gradwohl's injury.

### PLEASE NOTE:

In-person worship resumes at 9:30 a.m. on February 27 with masks required

Live streaming will continue to be available for all

See Worship Committee Report on pg. 3 for preaching schedule

Pastoral Care concerns: Please contact Rosalyn Francis at 509-433-1043

Rosalyn will connect you with appropriate resources

Pr. Gradwohl can receive mail c/o Gordie Gradwohl, 1 North Shore Drive,

Orondo, WA 98842

### DATES TO REMEMBER:

March 13: Congregational meeting after worship to elect Call Committee

March 17: Church Council Meeting

## **SPECIAL CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING**

The Faith Lutheran Church Council held a special meeting on January 27 to elect new officers and develop plans after Pastor Gradwohl's resignation. With the end of Bev Cagle's term as president of the congregation, it was important to elect new officers so that the process of calling a new pastor could begin as soon as possible. The following slate of new officers was unanimously approved:

Karl Kranz, President  
Greg Steeber, Treasurer  
Connie Thomassen, Vice President  
Jan Monroe, Secretary

President Karl Kranz has been in communication with the synod office and the process for calling a new pastor has started. Please watch for updates on this as we move forward.



## **REGULARLY SCHEDULED CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING** February 2022

- Pastor Nancy has accrued 6 weeks of vacation time which will allow her to stay in the parsonage until the end of April as needed. Her injury and subsequent surgery will dictate how this will work out.
- Karl Kranz will do an exit interview with Nancy as possible.
- When we no longer use the parsonage, we will start paying property taxes again. Research will be done to see if renting to a non-profit would make a difference.
- There was strong giving with low expenses resulting in a surplus of \$8,783 at the end of January.
- The mortgage on the parsonage was paid off February 14, 2022 and the budget adjusted accordingly.
- The Property Committee has identified the following projects that need attention:
  - Window work in the sanctuary
  - Grates installed in front of main entry to sanctuary
  - Louvers installed
  - Address water issue under the fellowship hall
  - Shade sails will be purchased and installed before outdoor services resume. \$1,400 received from the synod plus additional money from the budget will pay for this project.
- The Worship Committee will coordinate the preaching/presiding schedule during this interim time. Services are currently covered through April.
- In person worship will resume on February 27 – masks required.
- Rosalyn Francis has volunteered to receive pastoral care concerns and direct them to the appropriate people. There are multiple resources in our congregation, our community and synod.
- Morgan Fraizer Summer Camp – There was a coordination problem with the SAIL program that uses the fellowship hall on Tuesday's and Thursdays the same time the camp would be using it. There is need to develop a calendar system to address these kinds of conflicts.
- A Call Committee is being assembled. Amy Carlson, Mary Steeber, Mike Camp, Laurie Reister and Danny Thomassen have agreed to serve if elected. One more candidate is needed. There will be a congregational meeting after worship on March 13 to elect a Committee.
- Approval granted to UVC for use of Fellowship Hall March 16 from 3:30 – 4:30.
- Next Council Meeting: March 17.

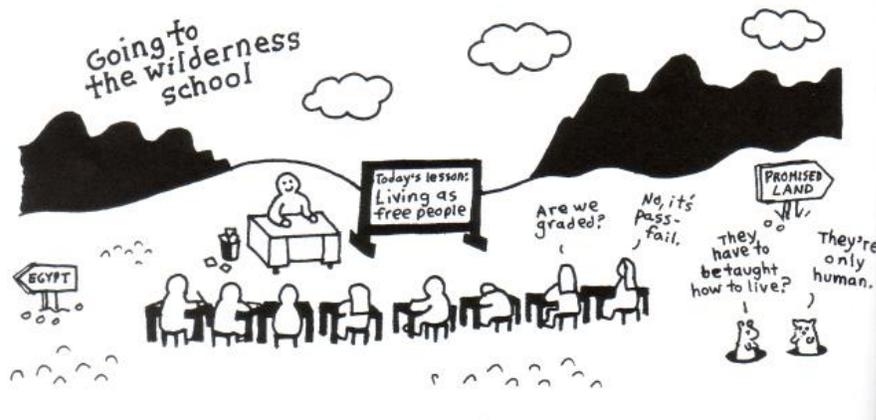
## WORSHIP COMMITTEE

- The Worship Committee will manage leadership for pulpit supply during this interim time. The schedule through March is as follows:
  - February 27, March 6 and 13: Pastor Barbara Rossing, Professor, Lutheran School of Theology Chicago
  - March 20: Pastor Phil Misner, Assistant to the Bishop, NW Intermountain Synod, ELCA
  - March 27: Dane Breslin, Luther Seminary Intern working in Wenatchee
- Ash Wednesday, Lent and Holy Week will be observed with simple services. Watch for details.
- Special thanks to Amy and Reed Carlson for taking leadership of Wednesday zoom services during Lent as well as Holy Week services.

## CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING with Pr. Phil Misner, Assistant Bishop February 24



Pastor Phil Misner met with the Council to discuss the upcoming call process. A congregational self-reflection and the selection of a Call Committee are the first steps. Candidates can come from nominations by members of our Faith Lutheran community, the Synod or from pastors. Pastor Misner will preach and preside at Faith on March 20 and will also meet with the congregation to discuss the process further and address any questions or concerns we may have.



## Spiritual Practices by Pat Murphy

The most obvious spiritual practice is to attend church. Attending in person forces me to stop from my world and focus on listening to God as well as celebrating the sense of community attending with others brings. That has changed during Covid times.

My most dominant practice is to find God through nature. The stillness and beauty of creation has always fascinated me since I was very young. The scope and power of nature helps remind me there is something much larger than me out there and humbles me. A lot of times I feel it when hiking or sitting in the forest, but I can also feel God's presence by just stepping outside, sitting quiet, and listening. And when I catch myself doing something stupid, I sometime feel the gentle hand of God pulling me back from the precipice which makes me smile.

Finally, is the issue of thankfulness. I try to remember as often as I can to thank God for all the wonderful things in my life and even though things are never perfect, I like to think I've got things pretty easy. Just saying thank you to God, to Heather, to anyone, is an easy way to sustain my spirituality.

## HOLY LAND TRAVEL OPPORTUNITY

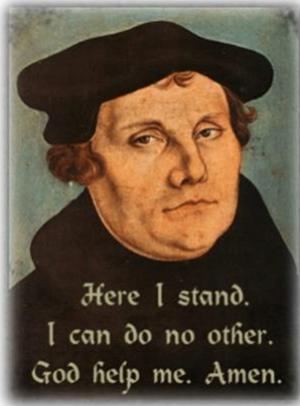
### *The Land of the Bible: Ancient Sites and Current Struggles*



This tour opportunity will be hosted by Lutheran School of Theology Chicago (LSTC) Professor and Faith Lutheran Church member Barbara Rossing. It is scheduled for **May 16-28, 2022** and is open to a mix of students, alumni, friends and family. Price: \$2300 plus airfare. Email Barbara if you are interested: [brassing@lstc.edu](mailto:brassing@lstc.edu).

While many Christian tours of the Holy Land focus entirely on the sites associated with events and people of the Bible, this 13-day study tour does this and much more. There will be visits to key biblical sites in the Galilee (Nazareth, Capernaum, Magdala, Megiddo, Caesarea Philippi), Jerusalem (Temple Mount, Mount of Olives, Church of the Holy Sepulcher), Caesarea Maritima, and Bethlehem. There will also be opportunity to dialogue with key persons and groups struggling for peace and justice today as well as consider water resources from ecological and justice perspectives. In the best sense, this trip is a pilgrimage for participants because engaging “the world of the Bible” does indeed involve both ancient sites and current struggles and how they are intertwined. [EO JCBS / Tours · The Land of the Bible with Ancient Sites & Current Struggles 2022 with Lutheran School of Theology Professors Klaus-Peter Adam & Barbara Rossing.](#)

## HISTORY CORNER: Part 3 of 4, Submitted by Danny Thomassen



Most people who could read were scribe-monks in monasteries, teachers, university professors, administrators of the Roman Catholic Church, and

privileged aristocratic populations exposed to formal educations. Martin Luther was a prolific writer and hymnodist and with the invention of the Gutenberg printing press (1439 A.D.) the distribution of his works throughout the German speaking countries of Europe increased. During Martin's lifetime 3.1 million copies of his work was produced; *excluding his translation of the New Testament Bible into the German language* (i.e. 200,000 sold first 12 years). Luther had personally written 1,500 "broad sheets" during 1520-26. Of the 2,170 editions of his work product; 1,097 were published in Wittenberg, Germany, 683 in Augsburg, and 390 in Basel, Switzerland; a German-speaking country and liberal hotbed for Protestant revolution. The Reformation in Germany was closely followed by the Switzerland movement of Huldrych Zwingli (1484-1531) in Zurich and John Calvin (1509-1564) in Geneva. Luther was Europe's most published author and he ultimately had significant influence refining the German language as we know it today.

Luther was convinced that Satan was incessantly active in the world and a contender within the universe between the struggle of good and evil forces. Evil dark powers existed in the world; good power was only accessible

through prayer seeking the light of Jesus Christ. The Kingdom of God was not a religious cult of intolerance, sanctimonious eccentric phenomena, or superstitious beliefs that were contrary to human reason. God was received by the experience of devoted meditations, participation in the "two-sacraments" (*Baptism & Eucharist*) and the individual's personal intimate relationship with Jesus. One of Martin's greatest achievements was to bring diversity into religion, to progress the society of his times from the "Dark Ages" (500-1500 A.D.) into early modernity of European western civilization's Age of Enlightenment (1680-1790 A.D.). He would strive to do away with religious fantasies: the magic of the Mass was gone, purgatory was abolished making the dead inaccessible, visions of the Virgin Mary was set aside, confessions to Catholic priests eliminated, indulgences discouraged and the physical environment of the church emptied of images and sacred objects. Luther worked to codify, consolidate, and fortify faith by perpetuating his set of propositions instructing the laity with questions and answers stated in his Catechism. Religious doctrine was becoming more of an intellectual matter founded on Biblical evidences of true Christianity, a truth that was often sensed and felt within the person's heart rather than cognitively grasped. Luther vigorously opposed the oppressive authority of the Roman Catholic Church that was deluding the ignorant masses of his times with ill-founded superstitions, clerical deceit/tyranny, embellished fanaticism and the dominance of influential power exercised by earthly human jurisdictions over the laity. (*Conclusion next month; birth of the Lutheran Church*)

## **IMMIGRATION/RACE JUSTICE GROUP (I/RJG)** *February 17, 2022*

- Current balances and recent distributions were discussed.
- Our final book study on the *1619 Project* will be May 5. Book suggestions (current or past) can be sent to Alex for consideration at next meeting.
- We received a grant of \$1,000 from the Faith Lutheran Church endowment. It was given immediately to the Peshastin immigrant family building a new house after their home burned.
- *Building Bridges* is scheduled for March 25, 26 for Wenatchee for Immigrant Justice at WVC.
- Fund raising was discussed and we will continue brain storming on March 24. Possibilities could include additional grant sources, occasional Farmer's Markets, community benefit night at München Haus, etc.
- Direct Service Updates and Reports:
  - Participants shared how individually they are contributing to the wellbeing of the immigrant community from doing visitations to families, volunteering at NWIRP, mentoring at Cascade High School, and preparing for an anti-racism workshop.
  - Assistance Guidelines - After considerable discussion, the group chose to include some additional guidelines into our "Direct Assistance Guidelines" policy. The "Guidelines" policy is an internal use document and is not to be the overriding priority as we continue to help individuals.
- NEXT MEETING: *call Alex for details, 509.548.7012 or lxhappns@nwi.net*



### *March Birthdays*

*2 Ted Fridericks  
5 Sarah Butruille  
8 Johnna Rieke  
11 Kevin Rieke  
20 Susan Wagner  
31 Brett Johnson*

*Thanks to all who contributed articles and general interest information for this newsletter! Please forward contributions to Mary Steeber at [mary.steeber@gmail.com](mailto:mary.steeber@gmail.com) by March 24 for the April issue.*

