

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH
50 LEVERSEE ROAD
TROY, NEW YORK 12182



Following Faith

MARCH 2016

Following Faith

The Newsletter of
Faith Lutheran Church

MARCH 2016



**EMPTYING
TO BE FILLED**

Lent is the springtime of the Church year, a period of preparation for Easter. God's gift to us in the resurrection of Jesus Christ and the sending of the Spirit is life in all its fullness. Too often the catastrophe is that there remains an undertow in daily life that carries us away into negativity and forgetfulness. Renewed lives become old again.

It's probably not so strange that Lent has a hard time catching on in the popular mood. For much of contemporary living, center stage is held by the individual consumer of life operating on his own profile and image to produce a trimmer, more effective person. When religion is a do-it-yourself project, God becomes a value-added asset in the process.

By contrast, the Christian faith promises new life; life in all its fullness to those who open themselves up to God, emptying themselves so that they can be filled with the life that flows from the Triune God.

Lent is not a time for reinventing the self by a supreme effort. It is a time for opening up to God and seeing through some of the shadows inside us. Jesus the Anointed One faced a swell of temptations in the desert. He saw through the fantasies of power and possession and emerged equipped by the Spirit for his work.

Lent in the desert is a time to reduce some of the chronic hype and pressure which plagues



**Faith Lutheran Church
50 Leverage Road
Troy, New York 12182
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www.faithlutherantroy.com

**Sunday morning worship: 10:30 a.m.
Adult Bible Study: 9:15 a. m.
Sunday School: during worship**

The Rev. William Hempel, Pastor

Church Council Officers:

**Donna VanZandt (President)
Sara Martin (Vice President)
Barbara Boord (Treasurer)
Diana Rieker (Secretary)
Fred Howard (Financial Secretary)**

Council Members

**Errol Bull (Property)
Elizabeth King (In Reach/Out Reach)
Sara Martin (Education)
Michael Moroskey (Property)
Carol Perrott (Missions)
Diana Rieker (Stewardship)
Ben Wagar (Property)**

us; a time when we protect ourselves a little more from the daily bombardment of images and stimuli, the pressures which keep us trapped with trivialities. It is the pressure points in your own life that become the promptings to use Lent to grow in faith. Avoid Mass-Media more and let yourself not hear

so much, watch so much, consume so much, so that you can be liberated from the sick hurry which dulls our capacity to hear the still small voice.

Lent is the time to live more simply in order to tighten up the drum skin, so that God's drumbeat can be heard more clearly in our lives. It is a time for carving out some solitude so that we can become aware of those senses that are deadened in daily life. The choice is yours. You have to decide what is most relevant.

Just giving up chocolate, which can be resumed in a great binge on Easter Day, does little good and can easily fill us with an unhelpful sense of spiritual achievement. Lent is an opportunity for spring cleaning while we encourage one another in observing it. Why should Weight Watchers have a greater care for one another's progress than followers of Jesus Christ?

Pastor Bill

COUNCIL SUMMARY

New Council members were welcomed. Nominations and appointments to Council officer positions were conducted. Ministry committee assignments were also determined. Council members will be installed before the congregation during service on February 28th.

An effort is underway to create and maintain a single repository for names and addresses. This single repository will serve multiple purposes (official church directory, newsletter distribution, contribution envelopes, giving records and more).

For any concerns or problems, please advise us. We will discuss and address issues at our next meeting on Monday March 7th, 2016 at 7pm.

Diana Rieker, Secretary



It is great to see that everyone has been braving all the snow that we have had to make it to Sunday school this winter! Oh – wait – the kids haven't been able to enjoy playing in the snow since we haven't had any! Anyway, we are happy to be back to the Spark curriculum. It seems to be working well once again.

As the Easter season is quickly approaching, I am going to work on putting together an Easter fundraiser that the kids can participate in. Hopefully I will find something that is quick, easy and helpful to those in need in our communities.

As always, please let me know if you have any thoughts or suggestions.

Sara Martin, Education Director

FLOWERS for MARCH

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|--------------|------------------------|---|
| March | 6th | To the Glory of God |
| March | 13th | To the Glory of God |
| March | 20th | In memory of Everett and Eugene Boomhower
Given by Joyce and Robert Duncan |
| March | 27th | To the Glory of God |

OUR FAITH at WORK

Our mission for the month of March will be in support of the work of Literacy Volunteers of Rensselaer County.

Did you know that there are 30,000 teens and adults in Rensselaer County alone who cannot complete a job application, write a letter to a child's school, or read the directions on a bottle of cough syrup?

Adult Education programs work with these individuals to help them learn English and obtain the skills needed to become employed, retain a job, get a promotion, read to their children, obtain the skills necessary to succeed, and achieve economic self-sufficiency for themselves and their families.

By donating to Literacy Volunteers of Rensselaer County, we can make a difference.

If you are interested in volunteering your time and talent, there are always tutor and non-tutor opportunities awaiting you. For information on becoming a volunteer you can call the office at 274-8526.

Thank you for your continued support.

Carol Perrott, Missions

SERVING FAITH in MARCH

Mar. 6 th	Altar	Joyce Duncan and Stephanie Wagar
	Lay Assistant Ushers	Errol Bull Barbara Boord and Irene Pagel
	Counters	Irene Pagel and Carolyn Rouse
	Coffee Hour	Heather and Errol Bull
Mar. 13 th	Altar	Donna St. John and Donna Gibson
	Lay Assistant Ushers	Rich Andersen Rikki Franklyn and Ron Moss
	Counters	Diane and Rich Andersen
	Coffee Hour	Dave and Dana Cerrone

Mar. 20 th	Altar	Donna St. John and Donna Gibson
	Lay Assistant Ushers	Aaron Cordes Roberta and Rob Hayward
	Counters	LouAnn Behrens and Janet Walsh
	Coffee Hour	Rikki Franklin
Mar. 24 th	Altar	Merilyn Niles and LouAnn Behrens
	Lay Assistant Ushers	Donna Gibson Beth and Joe King
	Counters	Joyce Duncan and Pat Brundige
Mar. 27 th	Altar	Nadeen Thompson and Polly Hayward
	Lay Assistant Ushers	David Truland Pat Brundige and Nadeen Thompson
	Counters	Evelyn and Bill Jarosz
	Coffee Hour	Donna Gibson

If you are unable to serve on your assigned Sunday, please arrange to trade dates with another assistant.

Thank you in advance for your assistance.

Donna Van Zandt, Worship Chairperson.

Schedule for Altar Guild by Pam Perras

Schedule for Coffee Hour by Heather Bull

CHOIR REHERSAL

Choir rehearsals are generally held every Thursday at 7:00 PM for about an hour. Anyone interest in joining is welcome to come and enjoy singing our praises to the Lord.

HOLY WEEK SERVICES

Palm Sunday	
Precession of Palms	10:30 AM
Maundy Thursday	
Holy Communion - Faith	7:00 PM
Good Friday Solemn Liturgy	
Evangelical Lutheran Church	7:00 PM
Easter Vigil Baptism Renewal - Eucharist	
Evangelical Lutheran Church	7:00 PM
Easter Eucharist	10:30 AM

At your request, we will be happy to send you a copy via the USPS.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The April newsletter deadline is Monday March 23rd. Please email your articles to barbboord@hotmail.com.

Assistance with the compiling and distribution of the Newsletter is always appreciated. Anyone that can give some time to this joint effort is encouraged to contact me at the above e-mail address.



DINNER CLUB

Dinner Club's Annual Banquet was held on February 13th a catered dinner was enjoyed by all the attendees. Officers for the coming year were inducted and the gavel exchanged.

The March Dinner Club is scheduled for March 12th starting at 6:00 PM. Anyone interested in an enjoyable evening of fellowship and good food is invited to attend.

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BARBARA BOORD ACTING NEWSLETTER EDITOR/COORDINATOR

Barbara Boord is coordinating the Newsletter efforts. Hard copies of the Newsletter will be available at church for pick up when you are present.

You may go to the church web site at: www.faithlutheranchurchtroy.com any time and view the newsletter.

We will email you a copy if you send your email address directly to Barbara at her email address shown below.



EASTER PLANTS

Once again we will have a variety of spring plants adorning the Altar for Easter Sunday. If you would like to place a plant in loving memory of or in honor of someone please fill in the information below and return it to Donna Van Zandt no later than March 21st.

I would like to purchase _____Easter Plant(s) at \$11.00 each in loving memory or in honor

Of _____

Given by _____

My plant(s) may be given to the sick or shut ins. _____ Yes _____ No

If possible please fill out a separate order form for each plant purchased.

Make check payable to WELCA.

Thank You

March 2016

He Is Risen Hallelujah!



Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3 <i>Choir 7:00 PM</i>	4	5
				Home Bureau 2:00 to 4:00 PM		
6	7 Council Meeting 7:00 PM	8	9	10 <i>Choir 7:00 PM</i>	11	12
			Speigle Elders 10:30AM-2:30PM			Dinner Club 6:00 PM
13	14	15	16	17 <i>Choir 7:00 PM</i>	18	19
				Home Bureau 2:00 to 4:00 PM		
20	21	22	23	24 <i>Maundy Thursday</i> 7:00 PM	25 <i>Good Friday</i> 7:00 PM <i>Evangelical</i>	26 <i>Easter Vigil</i> 7:00 PM <i>Evangelical</i>
			Speigle Elders 10:30AM- 2:30PM			
27 <i>EASTER</i> "Hallelujah He Is Risen!"	28	29	30	31		