



Faith Family

News

April 2024

*In response to God's grace flowing
through Christ, we grow in faith
and show Christ's love.*

The Story Goes On

On Maundy Thursday, we experienced the institution of the Lord's Supper by Jesus. As he shared the bread and the cup of wine, he created a Holy Communion in which we connect with our congregation. We also experienced Jesus praying in the Garden of Gethsemane. In his prayer, we hear that Jesus does not want to die. Nevertheless, he prays to his heavenly Father "remove this cup from me; yet, not what I want, but what you want." We all connect with our congregation in the words of the prayer that our Lord Jesus taught us, "Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven." Years ago, a young man, who had never been in a church and was not raised by Christian parents, was brought to a worship service. He was most impressed by more than 200 worshippers who said together, out loud, the same words. The words were our Lord's Prayer. He said that we were all in this together.

On Good Friday, we looked up to the cross of Jesus who connected with us in his death. Years ago, the niece of Bob and Pat Glyshaw came for Bob's memorial service. In their backyard, she took a photograph that, when printed, showed a white cross in a blue sky. The horizontal line of the cross was a cloud. The vertical line was caused by the sun shining on her camera lens.

On Resurrection Day, Jesus gives us the courage to die in the sure and certain hope of resurrection and life of the eternal variety with Jesus. Therefore, we celebrate Easter not for just one week but for a week of weeks and every Sunday in the whole church year. From the empty tomb, we all go out to share in words and deed, the Good News with our community nearby and around the world.

The story of the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus just keeps going on. As Mark wrote his version of the story of Jesus, we all live and tell our own version of the story.

I was blessed to have been born into a storytelling family. I had no choice in the matter. My parents and my older brothers and sister all told about their experiences in the form of stories. My mother worked as a retail salesclerk in downtown Columbus, IN where I grew up. As my mother told stories about events and people downtown, I thought it was the most interesting place in the world. My father hunted squirrels. As he cleaned the squirrels, he told the story of the hunt. He told the story in such a way that I imagined his hunt to be exciting as hunting lions and tigers or bears.

As an adult in the 1980's, I was blessed to have several professional storytellers teach me the art of storytelling. Several members of Faith remember my ring story which I preached here twelve years ago, and they asked me to tell it again; so, I will tell it in the sermon on April 7.

In the 1990's I began to tell stories in first person as well-known people in history. That began when a Roman Catholic professor at Gannon University (a Roman Catholic school in Erie, PA) asked me to speak as Martin Luther to his history class. I did a 40-minute presentation as Martin Luther followed by a 40-minute discussion. It was a great learning experience.

I spoke as Martin Luther, here, twelve years ago, and I have been asked to do it again. Therefore, after consulting with my version of Martin Luther, he consented to preach here on April 28.

*Pastor Paul Schwartzkopf
Sabbatical Pastor and Storyteller*

Preaching with Pastor Paul on Sundays of Easter

April 7 — 2nd Sunday of Easter — “Forgiveness Works”

Several members of Faith who heard me tell my ring story twelve years ago have asked me to tell it again. It is a contemporary example of the mission Jesus gave the twelve in Mark 6:7-13 and the church in Acts 1:1-14.

April 14 — 3rd Sunday of Easter — “Jesus Heals”

In Mark 6:53-56 people rushed to bring the sick to Jesus for healing. In Acts 3:1-10, people laid a lame man to beg near the beautiful gate of the temple. Peter, in the name of Jesus, gave the man more than money.

April 21 — 4th Sunday of Easter — “Don’t Worry, Proclaim Good News”

In Mark 13:9-11, Jesus says not to worry about suffering, proclaim the good news of Christ Jesus. Sure enough, in Acts 17:1-9, Paul proclaims, and Christians are persecuted.

April 28 — 5th Sunday of Easter — “Martin Luther, a Faithful Servant”

Mark 9:34-35 and 1st Corinthians 1:10-18 address disagreements in the Church. Martin Luther dealt with many disagreements. In response to requests, Pastor Paul will do a first-person presentation of Martin Luther.

Announcing Synod-Wide Survey

Help us “PIE” the Bishop
and raise \$2,000 for ELCA World Hunger!

“Let anyone who has an ear listen to what the Spirit is saying to the churches” (Revelation 2:7, 11, 17, 29; 3:6, 13, 22).

YOU are invited to participate in the next phase of our synod-wide listening and vision process through an online survey that will be live April 3-17. To access the survey, please go to the following link beginning April 3: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CSIS-Survey>.

Help us meet our goal of at least 500 completed surveys! If we meet our goal, we will celebrate at our Synod-Wide BBQ and Hymn Fest on Friday, June 7 during Synod Assembly.

At least 300 completed surveys = a pie in the face of Deacon Jason Fisher, Director for Evangelical Mission

At least 400 completed surveys = a pie in the face of both Deacon Jason Fisher AND Pastor Amy Zietlow,
Assistant to the Bishop for Transformational Leadership

At least 500 completed surveys = a pie in the face of Deacon Jason Fisher, Pastor Amy Zietlow, AND Bishop
Greg Busboom

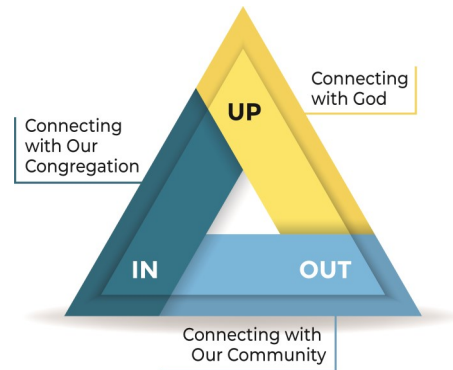


In addition, thanks to a generous CHALLENGE GIFT from disciples of Jesus in our synod, if we reach our goal of 500 surveys, \$2,000 will be given to the ELCA World Hunger Appeal.

YOUR VOICE and the voices of ALL in our synod are needed! Thank you in advance as we listen together for how the Spirit is calling us to move forward together!

Reaching Up... Connecting with God through Worship

Total ministry is a balanced ministry as we reach up, in, and out... connecting with God, our congregation, and our community



Dichsen Family Returns May 5

Pastor Adam and family will return from sabbatical on May 5 — stay tuned for details of that special Sunday.

Announcing Synod-Wide In-Person Listening Gatherings

Mark Your Calendars Today and plan to participate in one of our 4 upcoming **In-Person Listening Gatherings** across the synod as part of our comprehensive synod-wide listening and visioning process. The closest one:

Saturday, April 20

- Peace Lutheran Church, Springfield
 - 2800 West Jefferson Street
 - 12:00-2:00 p.m. (lunch provided)
 - Facilitated by Pastor Peter Reuss, GSB Consulting, and Bishop Greg Busboom

Please visit [CSIS-ELCA.org/listening24](https://www.csis-elca.org/listening24) to register for this listening session.

YOUR VOICE and the voices of ALL in our synod are needed! Thank you in advance as we listen together for how the Spirit is calling us to move forward together!

Leading in HOPE †,
Bishop Greg Busboom

Prayer Chain

If you would like to be added to the email Prayer Chain to be kept up to date on prayer needs for our members and friends, please let us know in the church office at faithlutheran62650@frontier.com and we will add you to the email list.

Bells in Motion Concert at Faith

Bells in Motion will be presenting an *Out of this World* concert on **Sunday, May 5 at 4:00 pm**. This is a free concert, but a donation would be appreciated. Some of the music they will be ringing is the Star Trek theme, Star Wars medley by John Williams, music from Lord of the Rings, plus other favorites such as Fly Me to the Moon.

If you want to be entertained and mesmerized by awesome bell ringing, you need to come to this concert. The kids and grandkids will love it as well.

Music is a great way to connect!

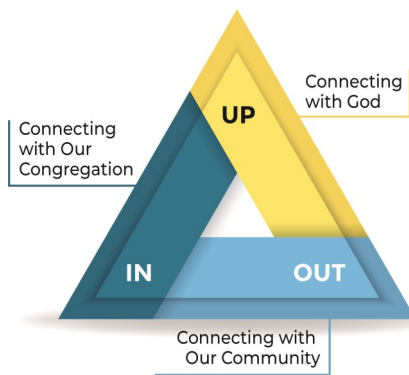
We are also always looking for people to sing or play special music for a prelude or a stewardship offering.
jrwelch53@msn.com or 217-652-7009 (phone/text)



We Remember Kristine Yvonne Roegge

Kris Roegge died on February 23; a funeral service was held on February 28 at Faith, and she was buried at Arenzville North Cemetery. We give thanks to God for our partnership in ministry and for the hope we share in eternal life.





Reaching In... Connecting with our Congregation through Discipleship and Fellowship

Total ministry is a balanced ministry as we reach up, in, and out... connecting with God, our congregation, and our community

Discipleship Group

Join our monthly discussion at **10:00am on Wednesday, April 17**, in the Faith Library. If you haven't given us a try before, this would be a great time to start. For more information, please contact Kelly Hartz at (217) 502-1979 or by email at khartz@sompo-intl.com.

Youth Group Help Wanted

One of the hats worn by Pastor Adam is youth leader. In his absence, we are looking for people willing to lead an event, host a meal, or lead a youth Sunday school class. If you are interested, please let Kelly Hartz know. We have a wonderful group of youth, and you would be blessed by your time with them!

Women of Faith Fellowship Night

Women's fellowship nights are back! Join us on **Wednesday, April 10th at 6:00pm** in the Great Room for coloring, conversation, and yummy snacks. Feel free to bring a friend!

Men's Breakfast

Come and connect with other men as we share our faith and enjoy some good food on **Saturday, April 6**. At 8:00, we hang out in the kitchen, helping to cook, drink coffee, and visit. At 9:00, we sit down for

Men's Prayer Group

While Pastor Adam is away, the Men's Prayer Group is seeking to grow our group! You can meet in person at Faith on Wednesday mornings at 7:00, or on zoom. Contact one of the guys to let them know you are coming: Gilbert Joehl, Kevin Krohe, or Larry Kuster.

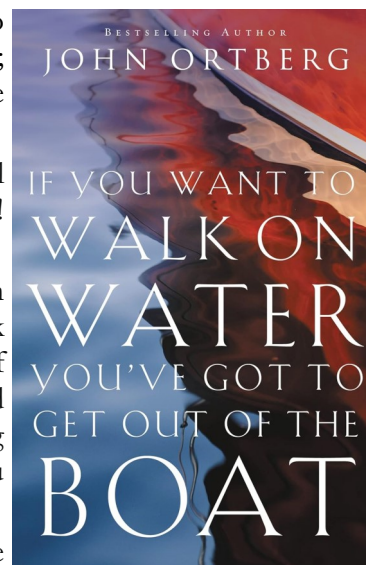
Sabbatical Book #3 - "If You Want to Walk on Water, You've Got to Get Out of the Boat"

Pastor Adam has selected a number of books to read on sabbatical, but would like to invite you to join in reading some of them with him. We will discuss them together; then, when he returns, he will host a series of discussion sessions to share what we have learned.

If You Want to Walk on Water, You've got to Get Out of the Boat, by John Ortberg will teach you how to move beyond fear to discover God's unique calling for your life! Glen VanderKloot will lead discussion on **Sun., April 28**, Justice Room at 10:45am.

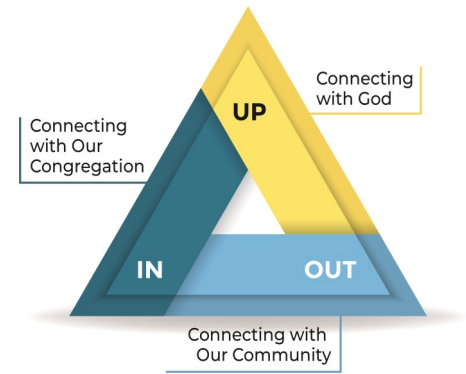
Peter may have been the first one out of the boat, but Jesus' invitation to walk on water is for you as well. But walk on water? What does that even mean? This book helps you answer Christ's call to greater faith, power-filled deeds, and a new way of knowing how to discern God's call, transcend fear, risk faith, manage failure, and trust God. Relating the story in Matthew 14 to life today, teacher and bestselling author John Ortberg invites you to consider the incredible potential that awaits you outside your comfort zone.

Out on the risky waters of faith, Jesus is waiting to meet you in ways that will change you forever, deepening your character and your trust in God.



Reaching Out... Connecting with our Community through Outreach

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Rescheduled 75th Anniversary Service Project

Back in the fall, our planned 75 minutes of service for our 75th anniversary was postponed due to weather. Now that temps are rising and spring is here, we'll be setting a new date and sending out information soon. Anyone is welcome to join us, even if you weren't able to previously. Stay tuned for more details to come!

THANK YOU!

I wanted to say a quick thank you to everyone who helped make our Midweek Lenten Nights a big success! Thank you for your willingness to try something new and being open to building relationships with others. It was a joy to witness and be a part of.

With gratitude,
Monica Proefrock

Faith Family Bowling Outing

You're invited to a fun afternoon of bowling with your Faith family! Join us on **Sunday, April 14th at 2:00pm** at the Bowl Inn in Jacksonville. We'll request a lane with bumpers, so little ones are welcome to join the fun. Please sign up at the coffee sales table so we know how many lanes we'll need. The cost to play is \$5 per person per game, so you can play as many as you'd like. Faith will cover the cost of shoe rentals. Hope you can join us!

Christian Karaoke Night at Faith

Warm up your vocal cords, practice your favorite hymn, gospel, praise, Christian song and join us for the first ever Christian Karaoke night at Faith Lutheran Church. Put **Wednesday, April 24th at 6:30pm** on your calendar and get ready for a fun night of sharing and singing. Invite your friends to join the fun! We'll gather in the Great Room. All the technology will be set up and ready to go!

Snacks will be provided by Faith Lutheran Youth for a free-will offering. If you would like to help by providing a snack, please contact Martha Krohe.

Questions about the music should be directed to Patty Nelson.

Jacksonville Food Center

The good news first. In February, thanks to a wonderful, thoughtful idea by our Church Council president Kelly Hartz, Faith Lutheran Church made a huge difference by supplying lots of canned soups in honor of "Souper Bowl Sunday" to the Jacksonville Food Center. Food donated to the Center is weighed to estimate the monetary value. There is no way actual prices can be used. The weight of the soup donation was 123.8 pounds, and the estimated cost was \$664.00. A BIG PLUS was Faith's monetary donation for February: \$435. Our church kindly donated over \$1,000 to the Food Center in February!!

Numbers of people needing food supplement are ever increasing. Government help to those in need has depleted as pandemic extra measures have been cancelled. Melissa Hall, the Food Center Director, plus a Food Center Board member have attended a Jacksonville City Board meeting and applied for help from Jacksonville. We will see what develops. In the meantime, we can all remember the Food Center with our donations of food and dollars.

Lillian Korous and Pat Glyshaw

Worship Assistants

Chancel Committee

April 7 Pat Glyshaw
April 14 Kris Roth
April 21 Martha Krohe
April 28 **need volunteer**

Communion Assts.

April 7 Pam Devlin
April 14 Doris Robinson
April 21 Kay Schnitker
April 28 Hallie Mayner

Readers

April 7 Barb Davenport
April 14 Patty Nelson
April 21 Carol Kilver
April 28 Carol VanderKloot

Coffee Hosts

April 7 Barb Davenport
April 14 Martha Krohe
April 21 Kay Schnitker
April 28 Hallie M. & Liddy S.

Greeters

April 7 Hallie Mayner
April 14 Barb Fishback
April 21 Liddy Stark
April 28 **need volunteer**

Ushers

April 7 Pat Glyshaw
April 14 Patty Nelson
April 21 Hallie Mayner
April 28 Liddy Stark

If you would like to help with assisting for the 9:30am worship services, please contact the church office (faithlutheran62650@frontier.com) or **sign up in the gathering area** at the podium by the east doors.

Altar Plants

(\$15 donation appreciated)

Plants are placed in the chancel that remain for an extended period of time.

If you would like to donate, please call or email the church office (245-8919 or faithlutheran62650@frontier.com) or **sign up in the gathering area at the podium by the east doors;** please make checks payable to Faith Lutheran Church (1385 W. Walnut St.).

- April 7 By the Dichsen family in celebration of Rigby's 12th birthday on April 10
& By Vicki Robson in memory of Kelly's birthday, and in memory of Chuck & Judy Dillard's anniversary
- April 14 By the Roth family in celebration of Maria Snodgrass' birthday on April 16
& **Open for donation**
- April 21 **Open for donation**
& **Open for donation**
- April 28 **Open for donation**
& **Open for donation**

Financial Assistants

- April 7 Ken Devlin & Malinda Carlson
April 14 Kelly Hartz & Greg Kimler
April 21 Malinda Carlson & Gaylon Martin
April 28 Kelly Hartz & Monica Proefrock

Friends From Faith

A ministry team led by Naomi Hahn: on the last Sunday of each month — everyone is welcome to send a greeting card. **On April 28**, visit the tall white table just outside the sanctuary where you can select a card, sign a card, or deposit a card in the mailbox to send. Cards and stamps are provided for your use. If you have extra cards or stamps to spare, please bring them and donate them in the provided jar.

Plastic Caps & Lids

We stopped collecting caps in December, but the Jacksonville Public Library is now accepting caps and lids.

Newsletter Deadline

April 21