



"Together in Christ's love, we joyfully serve, actively witness, and dedicate ourselves to caring, teaching, and growing through the Word."

Faith Lutheran Abilene

December 2020

Greetings Faith Lutheran!

Having to wait for good things is, for me, difficult. Maybe you share that same feeling. It was difficult to wait for my confirmation day, driver's license, High School graduation. It was difficult to wait for the day I would marry Amanda, be ordained, purchased our first home, and the births of our four daughters.



Advent is THE season where we wait and prepare for the Savior's return.

While we wait, God's Word prepares our hearts and minds for His Advent. The beginning of the Church Year, Advent, takes us back in time where God's people, Israel, were waiting for God's promised savior—Jesus. Advent, also, shows us what the Savior has done for us—Jesus true God has become true Man, so that He can take our place, suffer in our stead, rise from the dead, and ascend into heaven, and one day, he will come again. What a great day that will be—no more sin, no more death. Until, that day I look forward to the time we will share together.

From my house to yours we want to wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

~ Pastor Barlau



Advent Services''

Advent midweek services are intended to focus our preparation on the Christ who has come and who will come again.

*Wednesday, December 2 @ 6:30 PM

*Wednesday, December 9 @ 6:30 PM

*Wednesday, December 16 @ 6:30 PM



Children's Christmas Programs -- Sunday, December 13th 9 AM and 10:30 worship services

Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship Services -- Thursday, December 24th @ 4:30 and 6:00 PM

Christmas Day Worship Service -- Friday, December 25th @ 9 AM





"Live Nativity" at Faith - Sunday, December 6 – 5:30pm - 7:30pm

Join us as we will host a "live nativity" event at Faith Lutheran on Sunday, December 6th, 5:30-7:30. We are seeking volunteers to play the parts. Everyone, consider participating and be sure to ***come and view!*** Prayerfully consider what you can do to help as we share the account of Christ's birth! ***To God alone be the glory!***

NOTES FROM MINDY: Christian Education Changes



Sunday School/Christmas Program Practice for PK-12th grade will be held November 29th and December 6th starting at the end of the first service until 10:25 a.m.. **We will still keep our program practice on Saturday, December 12th from 2:00-3:30 p.m.. Parents do not have to stay for practice.**

→ The Christmas program will be celebrated at both services on December 13th. I am making some modifications, but I believe we'll be able to make it happen! *If your child would like to participate in the program, please bring them during the service that you attend.* The theme of the program this year is **JOY!** It's so fitting for this season!

→ Finally, on Sunday, December 20th, we will have Sunday School for the final time in 2020. We will celebrate Jesus' birthday! We will meet from the end of the first service to the beginning of the second service. We will NOT have Sunday school on December 27th or January 3rd. We will resume on Sunday, Jan. 10th.

****Mark your calendars now:** Winter midweek will be held Wednesday, January 13th through Wednesday, March 3rd. Classes will be available for 3rd-5th grade, 6th-8th graders in confirmation, and adults. No nursery will be available. *Please note: *Classes begin at 6:30 p.m. and end at 7:30 p.m..**

Children's Christmas Program Practice Overview

The children's Christmas program is almost here! The program will be held on **Sunday, December 13th** during both worship services. Program practice began on Sunday, November 1st during Sunday School time and will be held every Sunday until the program date. All kids, ages nursery to 8th grade, are invited to participate. Please let Mindy know if your child would like to have a speaking part.



Please remember to practice the music and speaking parts!

LYF (Lutheran Youth Fellowship)

The youth will be meeting at the church for Youth Group on Sunday, December 6th, 3 p.m. to head out and carol. We will return to the church for fellowship and food while we enjoy Shelli's homemade pizza! Afterwards the kids can get into costumes, etc., and participate in Faith's Live Nativity. All youth 7th-12th grade are invited and encouraged to attend!



2020 Christmas Poinsettias: The church will purchase 2 poinsettias. You are encouraged to "purchase one or more" for a \$10 donation with proceeds going to help member families in need.

Poinsettias can be given "to the glory of God" or "in memory of a loved one" and names will be listed in the Christmas Eve worship bulletin. Checks can be made to Faith Lutheran. Please put "Poinsettia" in the memo line. All are encouraged to participate! Contact the Church Office via email: faithabilene@gmail.com or via telephone (785) 263-1842 in order to sign up.

Faith Lutheran Church supports the Abilene Area Food and Clothing Center (Food Pantry) during the month of December. Please bring your food items to the church for collection and put them in the church narthex. There will be a place designated along the south wall. All pantry goods, cleaning supplies & paper goods are needed. Check the bulletin board for a list of suggestions! Prayerfully consider what you can do to reach out to "the least of these" (Matthew 25:40).





Men of Faith Breakfast & Bible Study is scheduled for Saturday, Dec. 5th at 8:00 am in church basement kitchen. Contact Justin Kuntz at (785) 643-3383 for details! ALL men are invited.

Faith's Lutheran Women in Mission (LWML)

The regular meeting will be held on Monday, Dec 7th at 6:30 pm at church in lieu of the Annual Christmas Get-Together due to covid. Donna Ascher might have a surprise or two...so please, let her know at (785) 479-2348, if you plan to attend! All ladies are invited! Social distancing is adhered to. *** With college schedules changing, no "finals boxes" will be prepared. Maybe we can do something next spring.

*** *Thank you to everyone who donated to the LWML'S collection drive for Laundry Love and the personal care donation!*



***Book Club** will not meet in December. Be back in January to discuss Karen Kingsbury's, "Halfway to Forever" - date to be determined.

- 1 - **Darek Graves**
- 3 - **Mindy Sanders**
Logan Schaich
Brooklyn Stahl
- 4 - **Eddee Anderson**
Trent Stahl
- 5 - **Travis Luthi**
Mackenzie Riffel
Owen Tichenor
- 6 - **Andrew Capsey**
- 10 - **Holly Hageman**
- 11 - **Kristen Rahe**
- 13 - **Joshua Gustin**
- 14 - **Kris Gilchrist**
Nola Sanders



- 17 - **Mitchell Feeney**
- 19 - **Kathy Gay**
Ellary Krause
- 20 - **Jodi Gay**
Krista Leusman
- 21 - **Caryss West**
- 23 - **Sabrina Holland**
Mark Signer
- 27 - **Cindy Manning**
- 28 - **Mason Rogge**
- 29 - **Ruth Engelhaupt**
- 30 - **Jenna Hayes**
Shelli Panzer
- 31 - **Corbin Rogge**



Kyle & Jessica Haslouer
12-15-2007

December Anniversaries:

Rocky & Ginger Sanders
12-27-1975



R.W. & Donna Cook
12-29-1959



November Council Meeting Highlights: Youth: There are few attending events and the call is for all of us to encourage the youth to remain active and participate. ☒ Pastor Barlau has been researching moving options and companies to move his family to Abilene. The most probable option will bring the household goods the first week on January 2021. Church members will be called upon to help unload and settle the family into the rental house upon their arrival. ☒ The \$5,000 gift from an Indiana parishioner at Pastor Barlau's current church will be used toward the moving expenses. ☒ Zach Krause is making arrangements for replacing the HVAC system in the rental house. ☒ The church Operating Manual section on Chair of Board of Education is currently being reviewed and modified. ☒ Church & rental house hail damage will be repaired/replaced when the contractor is available and the weather permits. ☒ A three month contract will be made with the Roll-n-Smoke barbeque wagon owner to park occasionally in the east parking lot. ☒ The church sound system will be checked and tweaked after Pastor Barlau arrives.



Together In Mission – Faith Lutheran Church proudly supports
 Rev. Daniel Conrad and Rev. Jacob Gaugert -missionaries to Mexico and Africa.
 Please keep them in your daily prayers
<http://www.faithabilene.org/mexico-and-west-africa-missionary-support.php>



**FAITH LUTHERAN ABILENE WAS ORGANIZED AS A
 CONGREGATION ON OCTOBER 31, 1950**

The first minister, Reverend Harold Kamman, was ordained and installed at Faith on August 20, 1950. He served as our pastor until November 24, 1957. Some of you may remember him from that time, or at least from Faith's 60th anniversary celebration in 2010. In the picture at the right, he is at the upper left of the group of our past ministers. When he left Faith, he got married and began serving in Oklahoma for many years. We have received information and a call to consider helping to support the Rev. Harold Kamman Chapel Expansion Fund in Oklahoma City. This Concordia Community Foundation supports the Concordia Life Plan Community to advance their ministry to the aging. Their mission and pictures of the proposed chapel are described in a pamphlet that is posted on the bulletin board above the parament cabinet. It includes so much information and methods of support through your giving. Take a moment to check it out!



Faith Lutheran has a “prayer chain.” To begin a prayer request call or to be added as a caller to the prayer chain please contact Debbie Jenne(785-280-0985).



Faith Lutheran is on “Facebook.”
 Like us and follow us.

Website

www.faithabilene.org

Faith Lutheran is on YouTube.
 Search for “Faith, Abilene.”



**** LCMS Kansas District News **** at www.kslcms.org.

FAITHful SERVANTS for the month of December 2020



Elder: B. Hageman
Organist: B. Schwab
Altar Guild: S. Holland & C. Krause

Special Services - Ushers

Dec 2nd (Wed) - J. Rogge
 Dec 9th (Wed) - Tom Rahe
 Dec 16th (Wed) - J. Rogge
 Dec 24th (Christmas Eve) - A. Minson & B. Minson
 Dec 25th (Christmas Day) - TBA

Sunday Morning Services	Lectors	Ushers	Bulletin Bureau
Dec 6 - 9:00am	M. Aufdemberge	J. Rogge	J. Zwiebel
10:30am	G. Taplin	L. Riffel	
Dec 13- 9:00am	Children's Christmas Program	A. Minson	D. Jenne
10:30am	Children's Christmas Program	B. Minson	
Dec 20 - 9:00am	K. Horsfall	G. Minson	Corn Family
10:30am	J. Kuntz	TBA	
Dec 27 - 9:00am	C. Eaton	J. Rogge	P. Taplin
10:30am	Tom Rahe	Tom Rahe	

NOTE: A master assignment list reflecting any changes will be posted in the upstairs living room/classroom

Your Support is Appreciated!



Faith Lutheran Youth collect aluminum cans (please place behind the wooden fence) and ink cartridges/cell phones (please place in the church narthex). Monies raised go to help our youth group. Since September '03, the LYF group has collected 8,665 pounds and \$3,297.73 and mailed in ink cartridges/cell phones for a total of \$1076.96. Thank you for recycling!



Dillons Community Rewards (DCR #KA839)

Faith Lutheran is signed up as an eligible non-profit to receive rewards every time you shop. If you have a Shopper's Plus Card, please enroll your number in Community Rewards. In your browser type in www.dillons.com/communityrewards and sign in using your new or existing online account. Click on "Enroll now." Enter "Faith Lutheran Church – Abilene" or our organization number **KA839** and click on "enroll." Monies received benefit our "Mercy Fund."

****20 households' use resulted in \$63.31 donated to FLC the 3rd Qtr of 2020. A total of \$2,091.44 has been now been received!**

**Please note that Faith Lutheran Church is not endorsing Dillons nor encouraging you to shop there. We are asking you to please take advantage of this reward offered.*



Faith Lutheran collects Auburn Pharmacy bottle caps for the "caps-to-cash" program. Please put the caps in the plastic bucket located in the church narthex. Each cap redeemed receives 25 cents that is placed into our church "Mercy Fund."

BEST CHOICE



Faith Lutheran Women in Mission collect *Best Choice* and *Boxtops for Education* labels! The collection box is on the parament cabinet. It may seem like a small thing, but we were able to receive \$300 in the past year from sending in these labels. That money was then used to support our various mission projects.



Boxtop for Education labels are given to Immanuel Lutheran Preschool, Junction City, for their use.



If you are a member of Thrivent, please consider directing your Thrivent Choice Dollars to Faith Lutheran Church – Abilene, KS. All

proceeds benefit both the "Youth Group" and the "Contingency Fund."

Online:

1. Visit Thrivent Choice – www.thrivent.com
2. Click on "log in" at the top right of your screen and enter your MyThrivent user ID and password. (If you haven't registered on Thrivent.com, click on "register now" to register for full access.)
3. Look for your designated Choice Dollars on the right side of the screen.
4. Click on "Direct Choice Dollars" in the Thrivent Choice® box on your MyThrivent page.
5. Search the catalog of organizations to find Faith Lutheran Church – Abilene, KS.
6. Click on "Direct Choice Dollars Now" to direct your designated Choice Dollars to FLC – Abilene, KS.

By Phone:

1. Call 1-800-847-4836 and when prompted, say "Thrivent Choice."
2. When prompted, say, "Choice Dollars."
3. Say or enter your Social Security number.
4. Press 1 to direct Choice Dollars or press 2 to hear the Thrivent Choice program terms and conditions.
5. A representative will then work with you to direct Choice Dollars to FLC – Abilene, KS.



Consider using smile.amazon.com/ instead of just amazon.com. The sign-on is the same and so are all the products.

Type: **"Faith Lutheran Church, Abilene, KS"** as the charitable recipient of .05% of your purchases, and hit the search button. Faith Lutheran Church, Abilene, KS will appear for you to select. Amazon will send a check quarterly of all of our Faith-Abilene designated purchases. You only need to designate once, and every time you use the smile.amazon.com portal to make a qualified purchase, you are donating to Faith.

DECEMBER 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Read the Bible in 2 years! By reading the verses Printed at the bottom of Monday-Saturday, you will accomplish reading the Bible in 2 years. <i>"Search the Scriptures, because they are these which testify about Me." John 5:39</i>		1 Psalms 120-125	2 6:30pm Advent Service Psalms 126-134	3 Psalms 135-137	4 Psalms 138-143	5 8 am Men of Faith Breakfast Psalms 144-150
6 2nd Sunday in Advent 9:00am Worship w/Lord's Supper 10:00am Christmas Program Practice 10:30am Worship w/Lord's Supper 5:30-7:30pm Live Nativity @ Faith	7 Proverbs 1-3	8 Proverbs 4	9 6:30pm Advent Service Proverbs 5-6	10 6:30pm Boards 7:00pm Council Proverbs 7	11 Proverbs 8	12 2pm Christmas Program Dress Rehearsal Proverbs 9
13 3rd Sunday in Advent 9:00am Worship w/Lord's Supper 10:00am Children's Sunday School 10:30am Worship w/Lord's Supper	14 Proverbs 10-11	15 Proverbs 12-13	16 6:30pm Advent Service Proverbs 14-15	17 Proverbs 16-17	18 Proverbs 18-19	19 JANUARY CALENDAR ITEMS DUE TOMORROW Proverbs 20-21
20 4th Sunday in Advent 9:00am Worship w/Lord's Supper 10:00am Children's Birthday Party for Jesus 10:30am Worship w/Lord's Supper	21 WINTER BEGINS Proverbs 22-23	22 Proverbs 24-25	23 Proverbs 26-27	24 CHRISTMAS EVE 4:30PM CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE 6PM CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE Proverbs 28-29	25 The Nativity of Our Lord CHRISTMAS DAY 9AM Worship Proverbs 30-31	26 Ecclesiastes 1-2
27 1st Sunday after Christmas 9:00am Worship w/Lord's Supper **No Christian Education** 10:30am Worship w/Lord's Supper	28 Ecclesiastes 3-4	29 Ecclesiastes 5-6	30 Ecclesiastes 7-8	31 New Year's Eve Ecclesiastes 9-10		

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH – 1600 N. BUCKEYE – ABILENE, KANSAS – PH. 263-1842 – www.faithabilene.org

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