



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

*Faith Lutheran Abilene*

## February 2020

**1 Peter 5:8**, "Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour."



A friend once told us the following story: it seems that Satan and three of his cohorts were lounging around after dinner one evening, discussing what might be done to win people's hearts for hell. One junior tempter exclaimed eagerly, "I've got it! I've got it! Let's tell people there is no God!"

Satan looked at him with disdain and replied, "That's ridiculous. The knowledge of God is written into people's hearts; you'll never get away with a lie like that."

Then another young devil chimed in, "I know! I know! We'll tell people there is no heaven; there is no hell."

To which Satan responded, "You fool! Everyone knows that there's often no justice in life. You'll never convince more than a very few that there is no justice in eternity."

Finally, the tempter leapt to his feet. "I have it!" he shouted. "We'll not say there is no God, no heaven, no hell. We'll just say there is no hurry." Satan's face lit up as he rubbed his hands in glee. "Excellent!" he responded. "The perfect lie. With it we'll win the world."

Time and again, in spiritual conversations with people, talking about the relationship with the Lord Jesus, we encounter people who seem receptive. They aren't belligerent. They don't close the door in our faces.

Yet, they ignore the invitation of God's grace. They might tell us, "This fall when the kids are in school, we can start making it to church. Or they might say, "After Christmas when things calm down -- that's our resolution for the New Year." Or sometimes we hear, "This spring when the weather is better, and it's not such a hassle getting around."



After all, what's the hurry? We'll get there.

Sadder still are Christ's own people who believe, or at least act as though they believe, Satan's "No hurry" lie. They put off sharing their faith, waiting for some golden opportunity when the stars align, the weather's just right, when they're all studied up on the Bible to speak about Jesus. That, as we may expect, may never happen. In the end, sadly, Christians trot out many of the same excuses used by unbelievers for not responding to God's Gospel invitation.

The fields are white *now*, Jesus says in Matthew 9:35-38, the harvest is ready *now*. The laborers are ... *us*. If we have failed in the past, we can begin again, and again, if we have to -- and we will have to. Because -- no surprise here -- failing is what we do. Thankfully, our Lord Jesus forgives us and empowers us by that forgiveness to go and tell His story to a world that needs to hear some really good news *now*.



From *The Lutheran Layman*, October 1981 issue, "There Is No Hurry," by Jane Fryar

Watch for future changes in our Newsletter. The previous article is reprinted from the February 2019 edition. If you have suggestions for what you would like to see in newsletters, please contact one of these ladies in person or at their email address: Ellen Basso at [ellenbasso@eaglecom.net](mailto:ellenbasso@eaglecom.net), Amber Kuntz at [amberlkuntz@gmail.com](mailto:amberlkuntz@gmail.com), or Ginger Sanders at [faithabilene@gmail.com](mailto:faithabilene@gmail.com)

## 2020 Winter Midweek Information

✠ **Winter Midweek Program** began on Wednesday, January 8 and will continue for 7-weeks through Wednesday, February 19. The program begins at 6:00pm with a light meal, followed by class at 6:30pm. The winter midweek program is designed for youth Pre-K through 6<sup>th</sup> grade. Please join us!



✠ **2020 Adult Midweek Bible Study** began at 6:30pm on January 8 and will continue for 7-weeks through February 19. Couples and individuals young and old are encouraged to participate. Chuck Eaton will lead the study:

### **Missio Dei: The Mission of God**

Our Wednesday Evening Bible Study will focus on how God continues to come to the world through the people of the local congregation. This is an appropriate focus through the Epiphany Season of the Church Year as it has a direct correlation to the season's focus: The season of light, but is squeezed between Christmas and Lent. The message of this season ought to shine brightly for it teaches an important topic: the mission of the church.

**Adults: please join us for the meal that begins at 6:00 PM!!**

Food provided by: Feb 5<sup>th</sup> - Zwiebel/Brake; Feb 12<sup>th</sup> - LWML; Feb 19<sup>th</sup> - Sanders



We will meet Saturday, Feb 1 at 10 am to tie blankets to give to DCF (Department of Children and Families). All women are invited to help either that morning or take a blanket home to tie and return ASAP so we can get them distributed. Debbie will bring snacks and there will be no formal meeting or Bible Study. Thanks for all the help and the children in need thank you.



**LYF News:** \*Super Bowl subs will be made on Saturday, February 1st at 10am. They will be available for pick up after 11am. Thank you to everyone who purchased a sub to support our group.

\* LYF will meet Sunday, February 9 after Sunday School in the church basement and the Gustin family will serve as host. We will gather together for a brief Bible study/devotion by Ethan, and talk more about the upcoming mission trip. LYF is intended for all youth 7th-12th grade. Please join us and bring a friend!

## Men of Faith

→ Saturday, February 1<sup>st</sup> at 8am will meet for breakfast & fellowship in the church basement.

All men are invited!

→ Tuesday, Feb. 4 at 6:00 p.m will serve at the Salina Rescue Mission. We will need 3-4 of our members to help. Please speak with Chris Bielefeld if you are able to go.



**Fellowship Breakfast** will be held at Joe Snuffy's on Thursday, February 13<sup>th</sup>, at 8:30am. All church members are welcome! A signup sheet will be placed on the parent cabinet.



**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 Choir

Lift your voices to God! Choir will practice at 5:00pm on Wednesdays. Please join us!



 LUTHERAN HOUR MINISTRIES **February** celebrates and remembers the work of *Lutheran Hour Ministries*. Sharing God's Word by radio, began October 2, 1930, when the Lutheran Laymen's League (LLL) began *The Lutheran Hour*. From this beginning, the LLL has developed Lutheran Hour Ministries that brings God's Word to people in Canada, United States and 33 International Ministry Centers who also reach into many adjoining countries.

"*Bringing Christ to the Nations and the Nations to the Church*" **The Lutheran Hour** can be heard Sundays at 7:30 am, **WIBW 580 AM** or anytime at [www.thelutheranhour.org](http://www.thelutheranhour.org)



### HAPPY BIRTHDAY



Feb. 2 – Debbie Hanna	Feb. 17 – Chris Bielefeld
Feb. 4 – Brian Zwiebel	Feb. 18 – Abby Stoll
Feb. 6 – LaShon Graves	Debbie Holt
Rhonda Johnson	Feb. 19 – Devyn Love
Feb. 7 – Jordan Turner	Madisyn Rippert
Alan Ostermann	Feb. 20 – Kyle Haslouer
Feb. 8 – Beau Backhus	Pat Taplin
Carter Love	Feb. 22– Becky Schwab
Feb. 10 – Aiden Hughes	Feb. 24 – Amy Beisel
Zachary Juhl	Mark Biggs Jr.
Katee Bowers	Feb. 25 – Madisyn Riffel
Feb. 15 – Zach Krause	Feb. 26 – Spencer Riffel
	Feb. 28 – Angela Horsfall

### Happy Anniversary!

Steve & Mary Frances Rippert  
2-1-1982

Chris & Katie Medlock  
2-11-2008

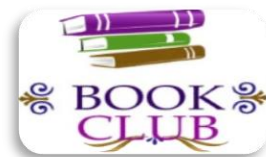


### *Official Acts for January 2020:*

**Transfer Out: Floyd & Lillian Bosch (St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Clay Center, KS)**

**Transfer In via Affirmation of Faith: Ruth Engelhaupt**

**Women's Book Club** is Sunday, February 16, 3pm, at the home of Karen Schoenbeck, 1903 Faith Ave. The book is, "EVIDENCE OF MERCY," by Terri Blackstock. All ladies are invited to participate! Please contact Karen (263-7779) if interested.



### **January Council Meeting Highlights**



**\*New Business:** A Call Committee is being formed. President Aufdemberge will chair the group consisting of the three elders, Council representative Dave Graves (elected at the Council meeting), and two at large congregational members to be elected at the February 2<sup>nd</sup> Voter's Meeting.  Items for the upcoming February 2<sup>nd</sup> Voter's Meeting Agenda were reviewed.  With Pastor Panzer's leaving, who is responsible for what statistical data reporting was discussed along with how and when to report it.  Amber Kuntz will be handling & designing the web page modifications and updates along with maintaining the online calendar.

**\*\* LCMS Kansas District News \*\***

To keep up with the events of the District, please go their website at [www.kslcms.org](http://www.kslcms.org). It is easy to be added to the monthly newsletter mailing. Simply subscribe at the bottom of the website home page. If you are a Facebook user, the page to follow is, "Kansas District LCMS."



**Faith to Go - a congregation of helpers**

*Need assistance with transportation? Volunteers are available to help you. Make the call!*

Mary Frances Rippert: 785-342-0221 || Elizabeth Wischer: 785-342-4809 || Doris Johnson: 620-364-9288  
Ellen Basso: 785-263-2174 || George Taplin: 785-263-0577 || Jim or Karen Schoenbeck: 785-263-7779

**Faith Lutheran has a “prayer chain.”** To begin a prayer request call Debbie Jenne (785-280-0985) or one of the Elders. If you would like to be added as a caller to the prayer chain, please speak with Debbie.



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



[www.faithabilene.org](http://www.faithabilene.org)

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



**FAITHful SERVANTS** for the month of **February 2020**



**Elder:** R. Sanders

**Altar Guild:** K. Backhus

**Organists:** B. Schwab (2/2; 2/9)  
K. Gilchrist (2/16; 2/23)

**Ushers:** February 2<sup>nd</sup>: M. Gustin & L. Brake  
February 9<sup>th</sup>: J. Rippert & C. Bielefeld  
February 16<sup>th</sup>: B. Minson & D. Minneman  
February 23<sup>rd</sup>: L. Westendorf & G. Minson  
Wed. Feb 26<sup>th</sup>: D. Minneman & B. Minson

Church Service	Acolytes	Lectors	Greeters	Bulletin Bureau
<b>February 2</b>	S. Medlock	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader: S. Riffel	Ostermann	J. Schenck
	I. Rippert	2 <sup>nd</sup> Reader: C. West		
<b>February 9</b>	G. Panzer	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader: G. Taplin	Gilchrist	J. Zwiebel
	C. West	2 <sup>nd</sup> Reader: B. Zwiebel		
<b>February 16</b>	Biggs	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader: Z. Juhl	Eaton	D. Jenne
	Biggs	2 <sup>nd</sup> Reader: D. Minneman		
<b>February 23</b>	L. Corn	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader: H. Corn	Brown	Corn Family
	E. Gustin	2 <sup>nd</sup> Reader: T. Rahe	Manning	
<b>February 26</b>	L. Corn	1 <sup>st</sup> Reader: J. Basso		
<b>(Ash Wed)</b>	E. Gustin	2 <sup>nd</sup> Reader: G. Minson		

*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 8390 lbs for \$3237.73 and mailed in ink cartridges/cell phones for a total of \$1038.46.



### 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](http://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."

\*\*21 households' use resulted in \$59.94 donated to FLC the 4<sup>th</sup> Qtr 2019. A total of \$1,844.89 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.*



"Giving back for the benefit of our communities"

**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](http://Thrivent Choice) – [www.thrivent.com](http://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/](http://smile.amazon.com/) instead of just [amazon.com](http://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](http://smile.amazon.com) portal to make a qualified purchase, you are donating to Faith.

# FEBRUARY 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><b>Read the Bible in 2 years!</b> By reading the verses printed at the bottom of Monday-Saturday, you will accomplish reading the Bible in 2 years.</p> <p><i>“Search the Scriptures, because they are these which testify about Me.” John 5:39</i></p>						<p><b>1</b></p> <p>8am Men of Faith 10am LYF-Super Bowl subs 10am LWML @ Faith</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Genesis 42-44</p>
<p><b>2 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday after the Epiphany</b> THE PRESENTATION OF OUR LORD</p> <p>9:00am Worship w/Lord’s Supper 10:15am Elder’s Meeting 10:30am *NO Christian Education* ~ Quarterly Voter’s Meeting</p>	<p><b>3</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Genesis 45-46</p>	<p><b>4</b></p> <p>6:00pm Men of Faith @ Salina Rescue Mission</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Genesis 47 - 48</p>	<p><b>5</b></p> <p>5:00pm Choir 6:00pm Meal 6:30pm Confirmation/ Midweek Classes</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Genesis 49-50</p>	<p><b>6</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Exodus 1</p>	<p><b>7</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Exodus 2</p>	<p><b>8</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Exodus 3-4</p>
<p><b>9 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday after the Epiphany</b></p> <p>9:00am Worship w/Lord’s Supper 10:15am Sunday School/Adult/ Youth Bible Studies 11:30am LYF @ Faith</p>	<p><b>10</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Exodus 5-6</p>	<p><b>11</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Exodus 7</p>	<p><b>12</b></p> <p>5:00pm Choir 6:00pm Meal 6:30pm Confirmation/ Midweek Classes</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Exodus 8-9</p>	<p><b>13</b></p> <p>8:30am Fellowship Breakfast 6:30pm Call Process Meeting</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Exodus 10</p>	<p><b>14 Valentine’s Day</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">MARCH CALENDAR ITEMS DUE SUNDAY</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Exodus 11-12</p>	<p><b>15</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Exodus 13</p>
<p><b>16 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday after the Epiphany</b></p> <p>9:00am Worship w/Lord’s Supper 10:15am Sunday School/Adult/ Youth Bible Studies 3:00pm Women’s Book Club @ Schoenbeck’s</p>	<p><b>17</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Exodus 14</p>	<p><b>18</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Exodus 15</p>	<p><b>19</b></p> <p>5:00pm Choir 6:00pm Meal 6:30pm Confirmation/ Midweek Classes</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Exodus 16-17</p>	<p><b>20</b></p> <p>6:30pm Boards 7:00pm Council</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Exodus 18</p>	<p><b>21</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Exodus 19-20</p>	<p><b>22</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Exodus 21-22</p>
<p><b>23 The Transfiguration of our Lord</b></p> <p>9:00am Worship w/Lord’s Supper 10:15am Sunday School/Adult/ Youth Bible Studies</p>	<p><b>24</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Exodus 23-24</p>	<p><b>25</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Exodus 25-27</p>	<p><b>26</b></p> <p>6:30pm Ash Wednesday Service</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Exodus 28-29</p>	<p><b>27</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Exodus 30-31</p>	<p><b>28</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Exodus 32</p>	<p><b>29</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Exodus 33</p>

**FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH – 1600 N. BUCKEYE – ABILENE, KS – PH. 263-1842 –**

**[www.faithabilene.org](http://www.faithabilene.org)**

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