



www.faithlutheranjc.org

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA
PO Box 325 926 West 6th Ave
Junction City OR 97448
Office: 541.998.2601
A Reconciling in Christ Congregation

Pastor Stuart Holland, 971.344.7537 Cell
pastorstuart@frontier.com
Sandy Wiese, Council President
sandywiese66@gmail.com
Gail Goshert, Music Director
Gailmail67@gmail.com



Rays of Sonshine – April 2019

Choices, choices, ah the choices

We have now entered into one of those times in the church. You have met and worshipped with the candidates and may well be running down lists of pro and con. Questions like “Which one is better?” and “What if we make the wrong choice?” (and the perennial favorite “I don’t wanna change!”) are all running through our head along with many others. So let’s talk about this.

First off, we’re coming up on the Easter season, the time the church remembers that God didn’t leave the disciples huddled bewildered in Jerusalem while a dead Jesus rotted in a hole in the ground. We remember that the women were the first witnesses to the resurrection and therefore the first to bear this good news to the world. We celebrate that resurrection means we can stand up again free and strong, that our lives are not bound forever by chains of evil. Given that this is the season, do any of us REALLY think that God will abandon Faith, Junction City? Me neither.

Seriously, the God who loved creation into being, who spoke and the sun rose and called every star into being; does ANYONE think that such a God (who mind you knows every sparrow that falls) would somehow FORGET the church? No and a thousand times no.

“But what if we make the wrong choice?” Um, were you just listening? God DOES NOT abandon us in our choices. So how do we make good choices?

I’m going to encourage each of you to listen to your spiritual heart. Really and truly. Ask questions like “how would I feel coming to this person for spiritual counsel?” “Would I want them to pray for me?” “Could I pray for them?” And even the dreadfully practical sounding “on a scale of 1 to 10, how would I feel about having this person in the pulpit Sunday after Sunday?” Instead of trying to come up with lists of “how they would fit with my life” or attempts to “objectively consider” these people, ask your gut “would I want to look into their eyes and receive a blessing?” “Could I receive communion from them?”

Ask the squishy feeling questions and really listen to the answer. This is because our feelings about pastors and pastoral relationships point to pastoral needs that are being met or unmet. Would you call them first if you got bad news at the doctor? Would you be willing to cry with them because you’re scared? These are questions about pastoral presence and care.

But what about the objective lists you ask, that’s the Call Committee’s job. They’ve got lists and lists and charts and stuff. They’ve been poring over this for a while and have talked with the candidates multiple times. For that matter, on each time the candidate visited, the committee spent most of the day with each candidate. They’ve done the list thing and the evaluation thing. They’ve spent time considering things like ‘Fit’ and ‘Vision.’

This means, Dear Ones, that you are now quite free to spend your time asking “what do I like about them?” and “how do I feel about them?” questions in the full confidence that God is at work in you to will and to do God’s Good Will.

Interim Pastor Stuart Holland

www.sicutcervus.wordpress.com

Office Hours: Mon/Wed 9a-Noon; Tue 10:30a-Noon

Pastoral Call Process Update

It has been just one year since your ***Discernment & Call Committee*** began the work of rediscovering who we are as a congregation, what we desire as a body of Christ, where Faith and its people fit in our local community and the world at large. We are humbled and happy to be doing this on your behalf.

We have now completed two day long on-site interviews, worship sessions and meet & greet opportunities with two candidates, Pastor Peggy Yingst of Oregon and Pastor Roberta Smythe of Montana. The interviews and tours of the town area, church and parsonage were conducted by the call committee; the worship and reception were open for all to attend as an opportunity for the people of Faith to get to know the candidate thru a worship of their own design and Q & A session where we could all ask questions and find out who these people are as a pastor and a person.

The Committee will be meeting this week to discuss and “evaluate” the candidates and **we would very much like to hear from each of you in the next few days regarding your thoughts.** Please read Pastor Stuart’s letter in this newsletter and then read it again; good thoughts and advice from the pastor!

Continue with your prayers for this process of discernment as we proceed in the search for our next pastor, pray for Faith as a family of God’s children and pray for the candidates as they anxiously await our decision. We pray that God will guide our church according to His will.

Your Call Committee:

Larry Clough	541.954.0568	cloughstamp@yahoo.com
Teri Fries	541.515.8588	terifries@gmail.com
Sandy Garrett	541.914.8577	sbuddygarrett@yahoo.com
Jean Larkin	541.514.9820	mizzholly@msn.com
Donna Lee	541.393.7051	sophienoel123@yahoo.com
Irene Lund	541.554.9785	margaretirenelund@gmail.com
Frank Marrs	541.998.6243	marrs_cynthia@yahoo.com

STEWARSHIP OF SERVICE - April

Thanks for giving of your time and talents this month...

Date	Lay Reader	Worship Asst	Altar Flowers	Coffee Hour	Custodians – Have church & hall cleaned by this date
3/31	11:00 am Joint service at JC United Methodist, Potluck follows				Jean/Joe L
4/7	Nancy Clough	Cynthia M	No flowers	Janet Clark & Rosemary Gappa	Scott/Lori Z
4/14 Palm Sun	Irene Lund	Scott Z	Palms	Faith Friends	Scott/Lori Z
4/21 Easter	Scott Z	Scott Z	Judy Simpson	Judy & Jean	Hired Cleaning
4/28	Cynthia M	Cynthia M	Judy S		Judy S & Lamee S
5/5	Linde W		Judy S	Jean & Joe Larkin	Judy & Lamee

APRIL

Ushers: Dorothy Senchina & Judy Simpson
Altar Guild: Donna Lee & Lucille West

MAY

Ushers: **Volunteers are needed**
Altar Guild: Lori Zimmerman & Friends



*He, bearing His cross, went out to a place called the
Place of a Skull ... where they crucified Him. --John 19:17-18*

Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises! -- Psalm 98:4

Never a truer scripture fit the wonderful and joyous music we heard from the **Grand View University Choir** on March 19th when they presented their tour program, *O Day Full of Grace*, which proclaims that all of our days are in God's hands! What an awesome sound coming from 33 college men and women led by Dr. Kathryn Pohlmann Duffy from the Des Moines IA University.

A big **THANK YOU** to the many people involved in making this overnight visit to Junction City a true success in every sense! There are many to thank ... for the pizza and salad bar dinner; concert reception tasty treats; Gail playing the organ; Eddie as the host; overnight housing hosts from the congregation and others in the community; early rising breakfast providers; the massive collection of sack lunch fixings; those who washed dishes and decorated the hall; the angels who provided linens and mattresses for the parsonage to house six (!!) men; Danish Ladies Aid for sponsoring the event; all the prayers and super good spirits to make the visit a really positive experience for everyone.

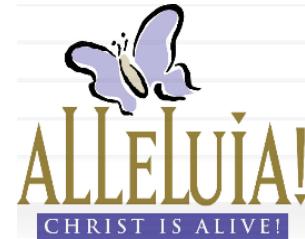
The choir was amazingly talented and the opportunity to have all that youthful enthusiasm at church for even a short amount of time was inspiring and exciting! The Choir has a blog about the tour at their website, click here [Grandview Choir Tour](#). (It may take a little time to appear, it's worth waiting for.)

Holy Week & Easter Services

April 18, 7:00 pm	Maundy Thursday – at Faith Lutheran
April 19, 7:00 pm	Good Friday – at JC United Methodist
April 21, 6:30 am	Sunrise Community Service at Stroda's tree farm in Cheshire

Join us and invite your family and friends to this week's services.

April 21, 10:30 am **Easter Worship at Faith Lutheran**



Alleluia! Christ has risen! The Lord has risen indeed. Alleluia!

Weekly Bible Studies...

Tuesday evenings at 6 pm (except first Tuesday's are at 7 pm) in the hall led by Pastor Stuart. We are currently finishing the book of Judges. No prior knowledge needed, that's why we're meeting... to learn! New people *always* welcome.

Wednesday mornings at 7:30 am the men meet for bible study at the hall which is followed by breakfast at nearby restaurants.

We are still in need of folks to volunteer as ushers for the months of May and July, contact Jean if you can help.

*Junction City Arts Council
in Oregon*

www.jcartscouncil.com

3rd Sunday at 3:30
Free will donations accepted

Sunday April 14 at 3:30 pm
JC United Methodist Church

The Spire Duo

Emma Rose Lynn, Soprano
Andrew Pham, Piano

A program of art song in English that mirrors the cyclical nature of the changing seasons.

**First Tuesday Potluck,
April 2. Bring something
scrumptious at 6:00 pm and
enjoy yourselves!**



Sandy Garrett in charge. ☺

**April 16, 10a-1p
Pizza Lunch for high school students**
looking for folks to assist with set up, serving,
clean up and financially. Contact Nancy Clough
to help, naclough@yahoo.com 541.915.0151

3/5/2019 Council Minutes in part

Present: Pres. Sandy Wiese, Nancy Clough, Dorothy Senchina, Cynthia Marrs, Gary Keller, Scott Zimmerman, Pastor Stuart Holland

Treasurer Report – January:

Operating Income - \$9,126
Operating Expense - \$7,021

Pastor Report: Election of Oregon Synod Bishop will occur at the May 10-12 synod gathering in Eugene. A meeting to discuss process of electing a bishop will be at Our Redeemer Lutheran April 28.

Old Business: 1) Cynthia accepted the Vice Pres. Council position. 2) Two pastoral candidates will be on-site for interviews in March. Pastor Stuart encouraged all to prayerfully consider each candidate.

New Business: 1) March 17 will be installation of council member. 2) Parsonage heat ducts need to be cleaned, Irene is looking into pricing. M/S/P to pay one half of the cost from budget maintenance funds.

Next meeting, April 2 at 4:30 pm.

**Garage sale end of July... keep going through
your STUFF and save appropriate, still
useable items for the sale!**

Linde Wicklund, who has been assembling the children's worship activity bags, would like to hear from you! **What are your favorite Bible stories?** Linde will be glad to hear about them during a coffee hour or give her a call at 541.746.6653.

"All this is from God who reconciled us through Jesus Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation." -- 2 Corinthians 5:18

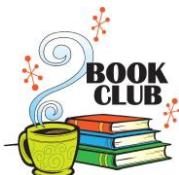
Who is your Neighbor? Everyone!

Collection boxes in the hall for your donations.

Toiletries...small toiletry items for Local Aid baskets.

Socks & glove donations for those on the streets... Turns out socks are a key factor in foot health and therefore general health. Socks need not be new – just clean and still have some wear.

Bunches of Lunches... sending home meals with students on non-school days who don't have enough to eat. Your donations of **oatmeal packets** and **fruit cups** is appreciated!! Don't want to chop? You can donate money towards this effort and we'll shop for you! Make your check out to Faith Lutheran and indicate the money is for **Bunches of Lunches** so you'll receive contribution credit.



Irene Lund is looking to start up the book club again. Is anyone interested?? Contact Irene if you are. 541.554.9785
margaretirenelund@gmail.com

"You are my righteousness, I am your sin. In Christ we can become what we were not. Amen! Lord Jesus, You are my righteousness, I am your sin. You took on you what was mine; yet set on me what was yours. You became what you were not, that I might become what I was not."

Lent Prayer – Martin Luther

I may not be perfect,
but Jesus thinks
I'm to die for



APRIL 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
March 31 11:00 Worship at JC United Methodist Church, potluck	1 7p Weight Watchers	2 4:30p Church Council 6p 1 st Tuesday Potluck 7p Bible Study	3 7:30a Men's Bible Study/Breakfast	4 9-12 LWR Quilters 1-4 Memory Makers	5 Vincent Centeno BD	6 9-4 LWR quilting
7 9:15a Choir Practice 10:30a Worship	8 7p Weight Watchers	9 6p Bible Study, hall Zane Larson BD	10 7:30a Men's Bible Study/Breakfast	11 10a Hens & Chicks, carpool to Cott Grv	12 7p Game Night at the Larkin Home	13 8-10a FREE Breakfast at JCUMC
14 Palm Sunday 9:15a Choir Practice 10:30a Worship 3:30p Concert at JC United Methodist	15 7p Weight Watchers	16 10a Pizza Lunch, JCHS 6p Bible Study, hall	17 7:30a Men's Bible Study/Breakfast	18 9-12 LWR Quilters 1-4 Memory Makers 7p Maundy Thursday @ Faith	19  7p Good Friday @ JC United Methodist	20 9a Stashbusters, quilt group Pr Stuart Holland BD
21 Easter 6:30a Sunrise Serv. 9:15a Choir Practice 10:30a Worship	22 7p Weight Watchers	23 6p Bible Study, hall	24 7:30a Men's Bible Study/Breakfast 3p May newsletter items due to Jean	25 9:30a Hens & Chicks	26 "HE HAS RISEN! He is not here." Mark 16:6	27 8-10a FREE Breakfast at JCUMC
28 10:30a Worship & Blessing of LWR quilts	29 7p Weight Watchers	30 6p Bible Study, hall Jesse Knudsen BD	May 1 7:30a Men's Bible Study/Breakfast	May 2 9-12 LWR Quilters 1-4 Memory Makers	May 3	May 4 9-4 LWR quilting Gary Keller BD

SUNDAY Readings

5 Lent	April 7	Isaiah 43:16-21	Psalm 126	Philippians 3:4b-14	John 12:1-8
Palm Sunday	April 14	Isaiah 50:4-9a	Psalm 31:9-16	Philippians 2:5-11	Luke 22:14-23:56
Maundy Thurs	April 18	Exodus 12:1-14	Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19	1 Corinthians 11:23-26	John 13:1-17, 31b-35
Good Friday	April 19	Isaiah 52:13-53:12	Psalm 22	Hebrews 10:16-25	John 18:1—19:42
Easter	April 21	Isaiah 65:17-25	Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24	Acts 10:34-43	John 20:1-18
2 Easter	April 28	Acts 5:27-32	Psalm 118:14-29	Revelation 1:4-8	John 20:19-31

Newsletter Editor, Jean Larkin mizzholly@msn.com Cell 541.514.9820, Hm 541.998.2475
 MAY news/announcements/prayer updates due to Jean by **3 pm Wednesday April 24.**

APRIL 2019 NEWS
FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH
PO BOX 325
JUNCTION CITY OR 97448

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

As members of Faith Lutheran Church (ELCA) we affirm that Christ has made us one body with many members, all sharing in God's grace and unconditional love. We celebrate both the diversity and inclusive unity of all people as created by God. Following Jesus' example we embrace all people regardless of ethnicity, physical and mental abilities, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, or economic circumstance.

With welcoming hearts we invite you into full participation in the life and ministry of our congregation.

Faith is a Reconciling in Christ (RIC) congregation. For more information, <http://www.reconcilingworks.org/about/>



Alleluia, Christ has Risen!!!

The Light of the world knows no power failure.

As a community we gather in Christ's love to support one another in prayer:

Family & Friends of these recently deceased loved ones: Karen Jones

Newer requests: Elsie Peterson, Darla Knudsen, Sharon Reaves, Tina, We pray for all those who are lonely or forgotten in their time of need, we pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

Allan Close	Billy Vendetti	Bobbi & Lamar Nelson	Bobbie Gates	Celest
Clint Gillette	Darlene	David Heggestad	Denise Miller	Doris Geiger
Efrem/Dale/Amy Zimmerman		Gary Garrett	Glenn Robinson	Jim Norlie, Pastor
Larry Dugan	Linde Wicklund	Linnis Jones	Mara Taylor	Marie Lockett
Marilyn/Dale Huth	Nerissa Townsend	Norine	Oluf	Ruth Buckley
Shari Pierce	Steve Christiansen	Tracey	All Military & their Families	

Please review the list for those who can be removed from community prayer.