

FAITH at WORK

January 2020



FROM THE PASTOR

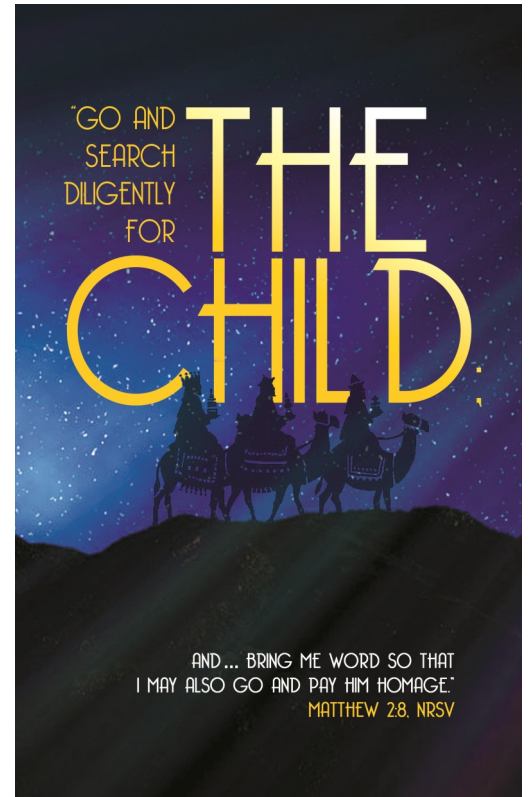
Sisters and brothers in Christ -

What is your favorite fruit?

For me there are a lot of great options: blueberries taste delicious and can be a great treat while hiking. Citrus of all kinds are a delight in the winter and are a common breakfast. Strawberries are a pleasant dessert and taste of summer. Apples... you get the idea.

Fruit shows up a lot of places in the Bible as well. In the gospels Jesus uses parables with a fig tree and curses one that did not bear fruit. Vineyards (and therefore grapes) show up in both the Hebrew Bible and New Testament (Noah even plants one after the

(continued on pa. 2)



Faith Lutheran Church

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ark has grounded). In the New Jerusalem that is promised, there is a tree of life with twelve kinds of fruit (one for each month) for the healing of the nations.

That tree, with twelve different varieties of fruit is the best ancient approximation of a grocery store. Without our fridge and freezer, we would have far fewer options about what we ate - depending on what was in season where we lived rather than fruits (like the citrus I am enjoying as I type this) that come in from thousands of miles from away. The tree of life, has a fruit that is ripe and in season every month of the year. For John of Patmos, a man who grew up in a time when almost everyone had experience with hunger and want, this tree represented food, fresh for the eating. This food did more than merely fill one's stomach - it healed the nations of the world.

Bearing fruit - using one's gifts, is a common refrain of Jesus parables.

This epiphany season, we will be considering what fruit, what gifts, that God has blessed us with. We will be continuing of a tradition of following a fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22 - 23) and considering in what ways God wants us to bear fruit in the coming year.

I encourage you to read through Paul's letter to the church at Galatia and to consider how you might bear fruit.

Peace in Christ,

Pastor Mark



Choir Thank You

The choir was a wonderful blessing during worship on December 22nd. We are very appreciative of Bob Brudvig working with our voices and making truly delightful music. Thank you to all of the people who shared their gift of music.

Thank You from Pastor Mark and Nance

Thank you for the generous gifts, they are much appreciated.

PRAYER CHAIN : CAN YOU HELP?

"Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not quench the Spirit." We are commanded to pray for one another, to pray for the whole church, to pray for our enemies, to pray for the creation.

We are asking anyone in the prayer chain to lift up the concerns of Faith Lutheran Church weekly (which could be as little as taking a few seconds and asking God's to be with all of those concerns and as much as lifting them up by name) and to pray for other concerns as they are shared. If you would like to be on the prayer chain, please let Alice Weber know about it.

We are looking for a new person to head up this activity. If you are interested, please let Alice Weber know: email: baweber@comcast.net



EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

January 6th

The feast of the Epiphany is the celebration of the God who comes among us so that we can kiss the lips that breathe life into us and can grasp the hands that uphold the earth. The ordinary becomes extraordinary: a child becomes the vessel of the unseen God so that earth and heaven are united. God's love, incarnate in Jesus, captures all of creation in its embrace and we, God's witnesses, call others to kiss and embrace that love made manifest in us and in all the works of God's hands.

Readings: Isaiah 60:1-6, Psalms 72:1-7, 10-14, Ephesians 3: 1-12, Matthew 2: 1-12

Lutherfest 2020

Tickets go on sale December 1st!

This year's event features six seated servings of a selected craft beer, artisan cheese, and a tasty appetizer. We are excited to have offerings from five breweries and six creameries.



We are grateful for our sponsors to date: St. Mark Lutheran Church (Salem), Faith Lutheran Church (Albany), Emmaus Lutheran Church (Eugene). These generous sponsors make it possible for all proceeds from ticket sales to go directly to support campus ministry programming.

Tickets can be purchased online from the [Luther House](#) web site – simply click on the Lutherfest 2020 picture. For the fourth year, the Lutherfest Traveling Trophy will be presented to the congregation with the most guests in attendance, so invite your friends! Consider buying a table of 8 for \$400 to enjoy the afternoon with seven of your friends! Consider buying a \$60 individual ticket as a Christmas gift for that hard-to-shop-for person in your life.

Come and join in the fun!

Bishop's Visit

Just a brief note that Bishop Laurie Larsen-Caesar will be coming to Faith Lutheran Church from 2 to 4 pm on Saturday February 15 and will be speaking to us about prayer. We will be having small reception (Cookies and Coffee) after her visit. We hope you can join us.



Camp Lutherwood Annual Meeting

Save the date for Saturday, February 1st for the Annual Meeting of the Camp Lutherwood Association. The meeting will be held from 1-3pm at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Albany. More details coming soon

Creek Restoration Work Day

Save the date for special winter Work Day on Saturday, February 8 to help with a creek restoration project. All ages are welcome and lunch will be provided. Watch for more information in January.

Summer Registration Now Open

It's time to register for Summer 2020! Be sure to register before January 15th to take advantage of the Early Bird discount!

Give the gift of camp this Christmas with a gift certificate for a week at Camp Lutherwood! Contact the office at 541-998-6444 to purchase a gift certificate for a special camper in your life!

IRA Rollover for 2019

The law is now permanent that allows donors age 70 1/2 and older to withdraw up to \$100,000 each year from the total of all their IRA accounts tax-free if they give the money directly to a charity. Any distribution to charity counts towards the donor's required minimum distribution from their IRA accounts even though the charity, and not the donor, is the recipient. Previously charitable gifts from an IRA were taxed as regular withdrawals. If you have an IRA and are 70 1/2 or older this law offers a great opportunity for you to make a gift to your local congregation and to Camp Lutherwood!

Summer Staff Applications

Camp Lutherwood is now accepting applications for all positions on our 2020 summer staff. Applicants must be 18 before June 13, 2020. Check out our website at www.lutherwoodoregon.org/employment for more information and to apply. For questions, contact Charlotte at 541-998-6444 or charlotte@lutherwoodoregon.org

Please contact the office (541) 998-6444 or office@lutherwoodoregon.org with any questions. Be sure to update us with any new contact information and check out our website and social media so you can stay up to date on all that is happening at camp.

The History of Chrismons

In 1940, Reverend George Pass, an elderly minister who visited her home during the Christmas season, influenced Frances Kipps Spencer. Reverend Pass was from a poor church and, in order to acquire the materials to make decorations, asked Mrs. Spencer for her discarded wrappings. His creations from these meager materials were then shared with his congregation.

Reverend Pass' great devotion moved Mrs. Spencer and her husband, Harry, to continue the tradition and make their own ornaments for decoration of their tree.

In 1957, Mrs. Spencer volunteered to be in charge of the decorations for her church, The Ascension Lutheran Church of Danville, Va. She decided instead of traditional balls and colored lights, that handmade ornaments would be more appropriate.

The Danville Museum's account of Spencer says: "Mrs. Spencer asked, 'How would Mary celebrate Jesus' birthday?' The answer from our culture and time period would be to have a cake with candles and his name on it. Mrs. Spencer then looked upon the traditional Christmas tree as a cake and placed on the tree the name Jesus and his title, Christ. Instead of using the name and title in English, however, she used Greek monograms. Thus the letters in Greek, '*Chi Rho*,' became one of the earliest Chrismons because they are the monogram for *Christos*, the Greek word for Christ."

Four instructional books were written by Mrs. Spencer with the help of her congregation so that this "ministry" might be shared throughout the United States and the world.

As the popularity of Chrismon making grew, it became increasingly difficult to get supplies. In 1964, Rufty's Garden Shop in Salisbury, NC became the chief supplier of Chrismon components. Harold and Barbara Rufty searched and found manufacturers in New York and Japan who could supply the necessary materials for making Chrismons.

One should not underestimate the contributions of Harold Rufty to the growth of Mrs. Spencer's Ministry. He was willing to satisfy this small market ignored by the established crafts industry

"Early Christians used symbols of the early church to transmit the faith and beliefs of the artist/teacher to the viewer. Thus the inspiration was shared and passed on." - Frances Kipps Spencer

Chrismon Crafting

It was noted by the Altar Guild that many of our Chrismons are in need of repair or replacement. If you would like to be part of the team to generate new Chrismons, let Jeff Fleisher or Nancy George know. We will start working on them in February /March time frame so they are ready for next Christmas.

Community Announcements and News

Jan.1: Moyer House Holiday Open House @ Linn Historical Museum (Brownsville)
11 AM—4 PM It's free!

Jan. 11:& 12: East Albany Lion's Club Sportsman & Gun Show @ Linn County Expo Center
9 AM to 5 PM. Tickets are \$6.00

Jan. 14: An Evening with Elizabeth Rush (Author of Rising: Dispatches from the New American Shore. This book was a finalist for this years Pulitzer Prize in non-fiction. Free @ 6:30 PM Corvallis Public Library.

Jan. 17 & 18: Winter Rod & Speed Show @ Linn County Expo Center (All day)

Jan. 17 & 18: Albany Civic Theater presents A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder 7:30 PM (Other dates as well)

Jan. 18 Paul Drescher Ensemble: Schick Machine @ LaSalle Stewart Center in Corvallis
7:30 PM Admission at the Door is \$35 -\$40.

Jan. 24– 26: Mid-Winter Festival @ Linn County Fair and Expo (All Day)
(Square, round and clogging dance.)

Jan. 28: Annual Big Show of Little Art @ Gallery Calapooia 11AM

Jan. 31: Willamette Valley Quilt Festival @ Linn County Expo Center 10 AAM—5 PM
Tickets: \$7.00 Kids under 12 are free.

Jan. 31: Corvallis Swing Weekend @ Oddfellows Hall 223 SW 2nd St. Corvallis OR
Swing Dance Society hosting 3 nights of dancing. Tickets \$60 RSVP
See Corvallis Swing.com for more information.

Jan 31 : Majestic Theatre Presents: Terry Prachett's Guard's Guard's!
Tickets: \$14 -\$16, with a special opening night price of \$10
Show time : 7:30 PM (Other dates available)



January's Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29 9:00 AM Adult Education 10:15 AM Worship Service - 11:30 AM Fellowship & Social Concerns	30	31	1	2 8:00 AM Reports to Council Due 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM Boy Scout District Mtg.	3 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM String Band Practice 4:30 PM - 7:30 PM Janitor	4 10:00 AM Altar Guild Meeting
5 9:00 AM Adult Education 10:15 AM Worship Service - 11:30 AM Confirmation 11:30 AM Stewardship Mtg.	6 11:30 AM Evangelism & Mission Committee 7:00 PM Boy Scouts	7 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM Cub Scouts	8 9:00 AM Quilting & TOMS 7:00 PM Council Meeting	9 4:30 PM - 7:30 PM Janitor Cleaning 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM Special Olympic Board Meeting	10 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM String Band Practice	11
12 9:00 AM Adult Education 10:15 AM Worship Service -	13 1:15 PM - 3:00 PM Modern Travel Club 7:00 PM Boy Scouts	14 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM Mary Martha Circle 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM Cub Scouts	15 Newsletter Deadline 9:00 AM Quilting & TOMS	16 10:00 AM Bible Study 4:30 PM - 7:30 PM Janitor Cleaning	17 Annual Reports Due! 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM String Band Practice	18 8:00 AM Mens Breakfast 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM Circle of Friends
19 9:00 AM Adult Education 10:15 AM Worship Service - 11:30 AM Confirmation	20 8:00 AM Newsletter Deadline 7:00 PM Boy Scouts	21 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM Volunteer Caregivers Appreciation Event 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM Cub Scouts	22 9:00 AM Quilting & TOMS 10:00 AM Property Committee	23 10:00 AM Bible Study 4:30 PM - 7:30 PM Janitor Cleaning	24 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM String Band Practice	25
26 9:00 AM Adult Education 10:15 AM Worship Service - 11:30 AM Confirmation 11:30 AM Fellowship & Social Concerns	27 7:00 PM Boy Scouts	28 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM Cub Scouts	29 9:00 AM Quilting & TOMS	30 10:00 AM Bible Study 10:30 AM - 3:30 PM Blood Drive 4:30 PM - 7:30 PM Janitor Cleaning	31 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM String Band Practice	1 10:00 AM Altar Guild Meeting

For the most up-to-date version,

[visit our online calendar](#)

Worship Leader Team—January

	Worship Leader Team 2020				
January	5	12	19	26	
Assisting Ministers	Terry	Janice	Jackye	Carol	
Lector	Wally	Charles	Vicky	Jackye	
Altar Prep	Nance	Elaine	Aaberg's	Oster's	
Kid's Sermon		Kayleigh			
Ushers	John	Elaine	Rosemary	Vicky	
	Paula	Nance	Jon	Kim	
Acolytes	Evie	Aaron	Dexter	Aaron	
Sound Technician	Stan	John	Bob	John	
ALL WORSHIP ASSISTANTS					
If you are not available on your assigned day please notify Nancy George,					

**Want to participate in any committees this year?
If so, please notify the appropriate council member.**

Evangelism: Cynthia Bonville
Youth /Education: Andie Daniels
Property: Jon Aaberg

Fellowship & Social Concerns: Vicky Heintzman
Stewardship: Gordy Gamet
Worship & Music: Terry Virnig

**PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER THOSE
NEEDING STRENGTH, GUIDANCE AND
HEALING:**

Tim B
Brenda Carroll
Sandy Hina
Robert Jon
Daniel Sullivan
Linda Gail Voet
Cheryl Wolverton
Melba Wright
Brandon
Christopher
Noah Holman
Susan Johnson

Catherine Baarsch
Barbara Rose
Jerry Sheffield
Pat Norby
Eleanor Barr
Ray Barr
GiGi Douglas
Ron Wold
Chiera Family
SangSau Tran
Donna Zolotoff
Vern Zimbleman

Silas Haynes
Edwarda Prochnau
Cindy Harms
Lori Guerrero
Izzy Covalt
Lynn Christensen
Mona Crawford
Jon Aaberg
Ed Taylor
Kris & Shedd
Waskosky
Bob Hall



**PLEASE REMEMBER
THESE FRIENDS IN
PRAYER**

**REMEMBER OUR
HOMEBOUND:**

Lou C, Bonnie K, Rita E,
Betty K. Donna Z, Ruth I.

**OUR SYMPATHY & PRAYERS
TO THOSE WHO MOURN THE
LOSS OF LOVED ONES**



Faith at Work

2020

Faith Lutheran
Church
930 Queen Ave SW
Albany Oregon
97321

Sundays
Sunday School
9 am
Worship
10:15 am

541-928-7660

faithalbany.org

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proaxis.com](mailto:faithalbany@proaxis.com)

PLACE
STAMP
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