

FAITH MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
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Faith, Hope, and Love “We care because God cares”

1 Corinthians 13:1-13 *If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. If I give away all I have, and if I deliver up my body to be burned, but have not love, I gain nothing. Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends. As for prophecies, they will pass away; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will pass away. For we know in part and we prophesy in part, but when the perfect comes, the partial will pass away. When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I gave up childish ways. For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I have been fully known. So now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love.*



We all believe in something. To believe or have faith in nothing would leave us unable to function. Many people put their faith in a variety of religious beliefs. Others put their faith in their own personal brand of “spirituality” or the idea that there is no god at all. Still others believe that human reason and progress are the key to everything. Even believing the reality of the things we can see and touch takes a certain degree of faith. The question then, is: what is that thing you put your faith or trust in, that most shapes who you are and the way you look at everything around you?



For us as Christians the center of our faith is Jesus. This Jesus came to earth to live, and die and rise again to form the foundation of how we see the world. In Christ, we recognize that we all fall short, that we all need forgiveness, and that something fundamentally needs to change with the current state of the world and ourselves. Furthermore, just as each person who seeks hope does so based on their central beliefs, we as Christians have come to recognize that the only true hope is found in Jesus Christ.

So someone might ask, what do Christians hope for? Is it that God will make me a better person and that I will be able to make a difference in this world? Is it that my hands and body, mind and spirit will one day be restored, that I will be reunited with loved ones who have died, or that I will live forever in some kind of heavenly paradise? These are certainly things we hope for as Christians. However, these are not the heart of our Christian hope.



The heart of our Christian hope is a restored relationship with God. God’s love has a profound effect on our lives both now and forever. It is the love of God that leads to love of neighbor. It is the love of God and a relationship with Him that will make heaven and our eternity with God the perfect paradise it will be. It is that restored relationship, won for us by Christ on the cross, started with us here on earth, and experienced perfectly once and for all with God in eternity that gives meaning to everything else. *So now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love*, because God is love! God wants to share His love with us directly and through each other, and He has gone to great lengths to do so. This why we as a church and as individuals seek to go to great lengths to share that love of God with others. “We Care Because God Cares!”

See additional words from the Pastor on next page ...

Continued from page 1.....

As many of you who attended church on June 18th already know, our church now has a new logo as seen at the top of the first page article. This logo will be used at the top of the LED sign that was donated for use in front of our building. This logo can also be the one which can be used on t-shirts, communications, and other items. The goal of the sign and the new logo is to help us communicate more clearly to the community what we are about, and what we are doing as a church.

Many of you have already expressed your appreciation for how this logo communicates Christ's command to God's people to love God and love your neighbor. Others have expressed an appreciation for how it can be used as a tool to communicate about faith to someone (as seen in the opening article). I've even heard one person express how they see the trinity in the logo. I'm grateful for both your positive and your open feedback.

As with all changes, I know there may be some questions about the reasons and choices involved in developing the new logo. If that is the case, I encourage you to come and talk to me and I will be happy to further share about the work that the Church board and design team went through in our decision making process.

I want to thank the entire design team for their efforts; design work can be a challenging process. I also want to thank all those who have worked or are still working on the process of getting the front sign put in place. Due to several items still involved in the installation process, our hope is to have the finished sign in place in approximately 3 months.

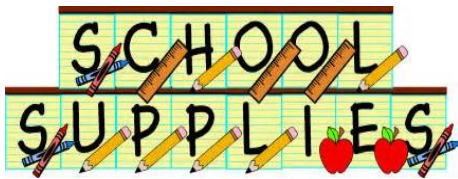
May God use all these efforts as one more way in which He helps us to impact our community.
In Christ,

Pastor Eric Schreck



MATEHUALA, MEXICO SCHOOL KITS

Beginning in July our mission will once again be preparing and sending Matehuala School kits. Matehuala where we went on our mission trips. Lists of school supplies will be available in the Narthex. You can purchase items and return them to church by July 30. For questions please see Dorothy Kehe. Kits will be mailed at the beginning of August to be taken to the Mission churches by August 15



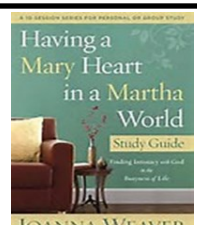
SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

Blessing to Cheyenne Nicholson on her graduation from Chesterton High School! Faith's High School Sunday School class made a fleece blanket for Cheyenne to help her remember that God's love is wrapped around her. The Youth and Family Action Team presented the blanket to Cheyenne at the Pentecost Pot Luck.

Since so many of our families are traveling, we are taking a break for the summer. Sunday School classes will resume the week after the church picnic. See you in September!

WOMEN WANTING WISDOM

WWW will meet July 17 at 6:30 at the home of Deb Porter to continue the study 'Having a Mary Heart in a Martha World'. For questions or directions please see Deb Porter.



SAVE THE DATE!!! Our annual Faith church picnic is tentatively scheduled for August 27th. Food & fun for family and friends. More to come!!!

THOUGHTS FROM THE DEACONESS

“What do we know about God?”

When I taught at the university, I would ask my students what they were looking forward to when they went home for the summer. Answers included: my own bed, home cooked meals, no studying, friends, pets, siblings and parents. While most of them loved being at VU, they also loved being at home.

Home can pull up many memories and images. For some, it is the place that is sweet and where our hearts are at peace. Walking in the door after a long day can feel like putting on a favorite bathrobe. But we also know that for many people, home is not a good place. In fact, some people leave home and hope to never return.

For those of us who have the blessing of a comfortable home, we still find ourselves trying to make it better. Some of that desire comes from knowing that our home is a gift from God. We want to be good stewards and care for this gift. Other times, we just want a change. So we redecorate and remodel and buy new furniture. All to make home feel more like home. And yet, something is missing.

As Jesus was nearing the end of his life, he began using words like betrayal, handed over, and death. The disciples didn't understand. How could Jesus be leaving them? He was their “home”.

“Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going.” Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.” (John 14:1-6)

And so, what do we know about God? God knows the unsettledness we often feel in this life. God knows that our earthly home doesn't bring total peace. God knows that there are days when life just stinks and good is hard to find. So, the Trinity is hard at work preparing a place for us. They eagerly wait for the day when we can move in. Heaven is our home.

Best Wishes to our members celebrating birthdays this month:

Loretta Frank	July 2
Hannah Coronado	July 4
Gail Hoover	July 5
Paul Nord	July 5
Peyton Marton	July 8
Mike Porter	July 14
Mark Price	July 14
Dayla Fryman	July 24
Mike Blouir	July 24
Cheyenne Nicholson	July 30



Please join us for Game Night on Friday, July 14 from 6:30-9:30.

Bring your favorite games and snacks. Soft drinks will be provided!

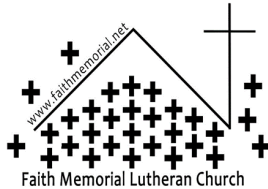
Carol's Small Group is requesting donations of dish towels and wash cloths to replenish the supply in our Fellowship Hall. Donations may be left in the Narthex.

Thank you!

Faith Memorial
Lutheran Church

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A HUGE THANK
YOU...

From Hilltop Neighborhood House for your donations to their wish list.

FAITH MEMORIAL WORSHIP SCHEDULE

The Fourth Sunday after Pentecost, July 2, 9:00am Holy Communion
The Fifth Sunday after Pentecost, July 9, 9:00am Word & Prayer
The Sixth Sunday after Pentecost, July 16, 9:00am Holy Communion
The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost, July 23, 9:00am Word & Prayer
The Eighth Sunday after Pentecost, July 30, 9:00am Holy Communion
The Ninth Sunday after Pentecost, August 6, 9:00am Holy Communion
The Tenth Sunday after Pentecost, August 13, 9:00am Morning Prayer
The Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost, August 20, 9:00am Holy Communion
The Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost, August 27, 9:00am Morning Prayer

