

FAITH MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
753 N. CALUMET AVE.
VALPARAISO, IN 46383

(219) 462-7684

WWW.FAITHMEMORIAL.NET



Praise and Thank the Lord!

Psalm 150:1-6 *Praise the LORD. Praise God in his sanctuary; praise him in his mighty heavens. Praise him for his acts of power; praise him for his surpassing greatness. Praise him with the sounding of the trumpet, praise him with the harp and lyre, praise him with tambourine and dancing, praise him with the strings and flute, praise him with the clash of cymbals, praise him with resounding cymbals. Let everything that has breath praise the LORD. Praise the LORD.*

Don't always feel like dancing or giving thanks? Not that long ago in a short period of time I experienced an unexpected house repair that could have been much worse, lost luggage that was eventually found, and came down with a cold that slowed me down, but fortunately still allowed me to enjoy some plans that were important to me. Every one of these things had a silver lining, but still I had to remind myself that there was indeed reason to be thankful.

We can all think of situations in which it is even harder to see a silver lining. World hunger, disasters, and various other forms of human suffering are all around us. You may have some areas of your own which cause you to struggle to find a reason to give thanks. Yet no matter what is before us God is worthy of our praise. He brings hope into our hardest moments. He brings salvation and a sure and solid future into the most unsteady of times. Whatever we face we face in Christ, and whoever we face we face in Christ as well. Each hungry or struggling person God places in our path is another opportunity to serve the Lord. Each special need God uniquely gifts us to meet is a blessing.

As I once again look at our congregation and all that he has blessed us with I am truly thankful. I am thankful for the encouragement, support, and gifts that many of you have given me throughout the year. I am also grateful to see similar things being done in our church, for each other, and throughout the community. I'm also thankful for many of the projects being done that will hopefully help us better serve and reach out to our community.

In the months ahead, you should see several efforts beginning to bear fruit. In November, a pastor from *Food for the Poor* will be sharing how we can show God our thanks by sharing with, "the least of these."

There will also be a concert, which will allow us to give thanks to God to the "clash of cymbals" as well as many other instruments, as we prepare for the regular contemporary worship opportunity we will begin offering to our church and community, Thursday nights beginning on January 17. The concert will also be a fundraiser for *Food For the Poor*. Several Valparaiso University students along with our staff and several of our members have been putting a great deal of work into preparing for this concert and what is to follow. I am grateful for all of these individuals.

Another blessing on the horizon involves technology. Not only have we been working to make some needed repairs and improvements on some of our technology, but we have another VU student who will be working with us to improve our use of social media in order to help us better reach out and share the message of the gospel and who we are as a congregation of believers.

I don't begin to have room here to list all the things going on for which we are thankful. (Just look at the rest of this newsletter!) Bottom line, for all of you who have been a blessing to me and others, thank you and most of all thank God!

Also if you are able to attend or know someone else who might enjoy the concert on November 16th come lift your voice with us and give thanks to God for all his many blessings as we also give thanks for the opportunity to help others.

In Christ,

Pastor Eric Schoeck

GIVE THANKS!
A Free Night of Praise and Celebration
Featuring the band:
"The Logicians"
Location: **Faith** LUTHERAN CHURCH
Time: **Thursday,**
November 16, 2017
7:00 PM
Contemporary Christian Concert followed by a Dessert Reception
Cash & Food Donation Accepted to Support Immanuel Food Bank
&
FOOD FOR THE POOR
Saving Lives... Transforming Communities... Renewing Hope



Food for the Poor is an ecumenical Christian non-profit organization based in Florida, that provides food, medicine and shelter among other services to the poor in Latin America and the Caribbean. On Sunday, November 12, the Rev. Paul Short will be here at Faith to preach and give us more information about the program.

CITRUS FRUIT SALE

Porter County Lutherans For Life



Porter County Lutherans for Life is again sponsoring a sale of fresh Florida Indian River Groves navel and mandarin oranges, grapefruit and tangelos through November 5. Fruit delivery is in early December, ideal for Christmas gifts for neighbors and co-workers. Cost of a 10 pound box of fruit is \$23; a 20 pound box is \$29. Smaller gift boxes are available for \$20. Proceeds from the sale will assist PCLFL in sponsoring a fair booth, providing fetal models to Lutheran schools, and distributing literature with the message that all human life is precious to God from birth to natural death. Please see Michelle Grossnickle or call the office at (219) 462-7684 to leave her a message.



VOTERS ASSEMBLY

When: Sunday, November 12

Time: 12:00 noon (*In the Gathering Space*)

Elect 2018 Board Members and vote on the budget for the year.



Saturday, November 18

10:00-2:00

Sunday, November 19

10:00-2:00

AT

Faith Memorial Lutheran Church

753 N. Calumet Ave.,

Valparaiso, IN 46383

(219) 462-7684

Hand made items and Bake Sale



THE MARK MAKERS' BOOTH
at SELF School's Christmas Bazaar
750 Ransom Road — Valparaiso
November 11 — from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.



THOUGHTS FROM THE DEACONESS

“What do we know about God?”

“Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! The Lord has taken away the judgments against you, he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more. On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. The Lord, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing as on a day of festival.” Zephaniah 3:14-17

These verses from the prophet Zephaniah won't be heard in church until the third Sunday in Advent in December 2018. But they are worth reading far more often as they have much to say about God. And what we hear about God is a great comfort in a world that seems to be falling apart.

We read that God is a judge who has taken away any judgment against us for our sins. We stand justified and no enemy can attack us.

God is in our midst and not just gazing at us from the lofty heights of heaven. The image reminds us of the name “Immanuel” for Jesus. God is with us. God is present with us no matter how difficult and dark the days. We don't need to be afraid.

God is a great warrior who wins every battle that is fought.

God is a lover. We don't often think of God in that way. We know that God loves us, but to see God as lover changes the perspective of God's relationship with us.

But at the end of the verses, there is another aspect to God, an aspect that could slip by without notice. God exults over us with singing. God sings over us, just as a parent would sing a lullaby or dear friends sing “Happy Birthday”. God glories and rejoices over us. God is thrilled to have us as sons and daughters.

And so what do we know about God? God loves us so much, that there are heavenly songs written about us and sung throughout creation.



FAITH MEMORIAL NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS!

Sam Grossnickle	November 3
Bob Hassel	November 3
Kirk Martinsen	November 3
Thomas Price	November 5
Becky Graef	November 6
Rebekah Peterson	November 6
David Brandt	November 7
Sandy Hernandez	November 12
Bruce Berner	November 13
David Pilz	November 13
Halcy Frymann	November 14
Charlene Leffert	November 23

FOOD DRIVE

THE Contact and Care Committee will be gathering food for the Christian Food Pantry the last week in October and during the month of November. We are working in conjunction with the [500 turkeys.com](http://500turkeys.com) food collection program. All food items will be appreciated; however, in preparation for Thanksgiving dinner, donations for jello salads and green bean casseroles would be helpful. The items needed are canned green beans, mushroom soup and French fried onions, and jello and any kind of canned fruit. Other ideas include brownie mix, canned cranberries and zip lock bags.

Last month the Pantry served 214 families, providing food for 458 people. Our generosity is making a difference in the lives of these families.



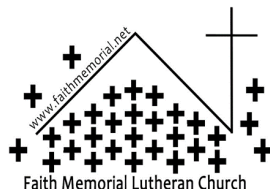
Soup Suppers during the Advent Season will be held on three consecutive Wednesday evenings from 6:00-7:00pm prior to Evening Prayer Service at 7:00. The dates are:

- Wednesday, December 6
- Wednesday, December 13
- Wednesday, December 20

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Lutheran Church

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Email:
office@faithmemorial.net



THANKSGIVING EVE
CHURCH SERVICE AT
FAITH MEMORIAL

Please join us for our
annual Holy Commu-
nion Service on Thanks-
giving Eve, November
22, at 7:00pm.



FAITH MEMORIAL WORSHIP SCHEDULE

All Saints Sunday (w/Remembrance of the Faithful Departed,) Nov. 5, Holy Communion
The 23rd Sunday after Pentecost, Sunday, November 12, 9:00am Morning Prayer
The 24th Sunday after Pentecost, Sunday, November 19, 9:00am Holy Communion
Thanksgiving Eve, Wednesday, November 22, 7:00pm, Holy Communion
Christ the King Sunday, Sunday, November 26, 9:00am Holy Communion
The First Sunday in Advent, Sunday, December 3, 9:00am Holy Communion
The First Wednesday in Advent, Wednesday, December 6, 7:00pm Evening Prayer
The Second Sunday in Advent, Sunday, December 10, 9:00am Childrens' Service
The Second Wednesday in Advent, Wednesday, December 13, 7:00pm Evening Prayer
The Third Sunday in Advent, Sunday, December 17, 9:00am Holy Communion
The Third Wednesday in Advent, Wednesday, December 20, 7:00pm Evening Prayer
Christmas Eve, Sunday, December 24, 9:00am Morning Prayer and
7:00pm Service of Lessons and Carols
The Nativity of Our Lord, Monday, December 25, 9:30am Holy Communion

