



# FOCUS ON FAITH WEEKLY

✦ FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH ✦ GREENFIELD INDIANA ✦

## This Week at Faith Lutheran Church

Sunday Jan. 5	Monday Jan. 6	Tuesday Jan. 7	Word Day Jan. 8	Thursday Jan. 9	Friday Jan. 10	Saturday Jan. 11
<b>Second Sunday after Christmas</b>  <b>9:15 am Divine Service</b>  11:00 am Sunday School and Adult Bible Study	<i>Preschool</i>  <b>The Epiphany of Our Lord Divine Service @ 7:00 pm</b>	<i>Preschool</i>  <b>Private Confession &amp; Absolution with Pastor from 5:00 pm-7:00 pm</b>	<i>Preschool</i> 9:30 am Bible Study <b>11:00 am Morning Prayer</b> 6:00 pm 6th/7th Gd. Jr. Catechesis 6:00 pm Choir 7:00 pm Faith by Heart Chapel 7:30 pm 7th & 8th Gd. Jr. Catechesis	<i>Preschool</i>  6:30 pm Elders  Dance in the CLC from 6:00-9:00 pm	<i>Preschool</i>  Tri Kappa Bridge Club @ 12:30 pm	

Weekly Divine Service: Sunday 9:15 a.m.

Sunday School and Bible Study: Sunday 11:00 a.m.

Private Confession and Holy Absolution with Pastor is available on Tuesdays from 5:00-7:00 pm or by appointment

**Pastor Wm. Daniel O'Connor email: [pastorwdo@faithgreenfield.org](mailto:pastorwdo@faithgreenfield.org)**

Administrative Assistant e-mail: [secretary@faithgreenfield.org](mailto:secretary@faithgreenfield.org) Focus on Faith Deadline: 9 am Thursday

**Office Hours:** 9:00 am—1:00 pm Monday through Friday

### FROM LUTHER

“The temple also was called His sanctuary and holy habitation, because He manifested His presence therein., and let Himself be heard through His Word. He will show herewith that His government and the whole Christian institution exists entirely in the Word and faith, and not in outward things.” Luther’s Explanatory Notes on the Gospels, p. 201-202.

### THANK YOU

Pastor O’Connor would like to thank everyone who remembered him at Christmas with cards and gifts, and especially everyone in the congregation who contributed to his Christmas bonus. “It is always nice to be remembered at the holidays, and to receive so much good will from my church family truly warmed my heart. Thank you so much for your kindness and generosity!”

## REMEMBERING THE SAINTS

**Basil the Great of Caesarea, Gregory of Nazianzus, and Gregory of Nyssa, Pastors and Confessors** (January 10) – Basil and the two Gregorys, collectively known as the “Cappadocian Fathers,” were leaders of Christian orthodoxy in Asia Minor (modern day Turkey) in the latter part of the fourth century. Basil and Gregory of Nyssa were brothers; Gregory of Nazianzus was their friend. All three were influential in shaping the theology confessed by the Council of Constantinople of 381, which we confess today in the Nicene Creed. Their defense of the doctrines of the Holy Spirit and Holy Trinity, together with their contributions to the liturgy of the Eastern Church, make them among the most influential Christian teachers and theologians of their time.

Collect: Almighty God, You revealed to Your Church Your eternal being of glorious majesty and perfect love, as one God in a Trinity of Persons. May Your Church, with pastors like Basil, Gregory and Gregory, receive grace to continue steadfast in the confession of the true faith, and remain constant in her worship of You.

## STEWARDSHIP

**January 5, 2025 — Second Sunday after Christmas**

**Luke 2:40 — “And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him.”**

At Christmas God became man. And as a man, Jesus grew up and increased in strength and wisdom. We are called to follow in the footsteps of Jesus, to grow in His image. The power for this growth comes from receiving the grace of Jesus in His Word and Sacraments. How is the Lord calling you to grow this year?

## WOMEN’S RETREAT CAMP LUTHERHAVEN

Hot Chocolate! Campfire Devotions! And more at Camp Lutherhaven’s Women’s Retreat! Ladies, you’re invited to join with a community of women on January 24-26, 2025 and together dig into how God makes Everything Beautiful as the new year begins!

Check out [www.lutherhaven.org](http://www.lutherhaven.org) for more information and to register.

## ALTAR FLOWERS 2025

The Altar Flowers for January 19th is empty and there are still lots of dates available throughout the whole year. Have you signed up for flowers yet?

Flower cost is \$40.00 for both vases or \$20.00 for one vase. Make check payable to Faith Lutheran Church. (If you prefer, include with your weekly offering). Please include note or memo that the amount is for flowers. The flower arrangements may be taken home immediately after the worship service. The Altar Guild member on duty that Sunday will assist you in removing the flowers. If you have questions, speak with Debby Thompson.

## Worship Anew!

January 5, 2025 — Second Sunday after Christmas

Psalm 119: 97-104; 1 Kings 3:4-15; Luke 2:40-52

**“Filled with Wisdom”**

Sermon Text: Luke 2:40

Rev. Thomas Eggold

God’s Wisdom saves you. The teachers in Jerusalem were being taught by the One in whom all wisdom is found. In Christ Jesus, the Passover Lamb was sacrificed for our sins once and for all. In Christ Jesus, the punishment for our foolishness was received. We have been forgiven and heaven is ours.

## THE TOGETHER PROJECT

We are making big strides in our **Together** campaign! Several projects are completed or underway. The most recent project was a Weight Room remodel, and new permanent outdoor bleachers have arrived. Will you accept the invitation to be part of **together**? Help us cross the finish line! Email [kander-son@lhsi.org](mailto:kander-son@lhsi.org) for more information.

## APPLICATIONS FOR LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL

Applications are open for the 2025-2026 school year. Visit [LHSI.org](http://LHSI.org) for more information!

## YOUTH MUSICIANS ARE INVITED TO LUTHERAN SUMMER MUSIC!

Lutheran Summer Music Academy & Festival (LSM) is the nation's premier faith-based music academy for high school students. Students come together from all over the country to immerse themselves in joyful music-making and build a supportive and welcoming community, living together on a college campus.

During the day, students receive advanced musical instruction through large ensembles (Festival Choir, Band and Orchestra), chamber music, private lessons, and elective classes (such as musical theatre, composition, church music, jazz band, conducting, music therapy). In the evenings, students attend recitals, evening prayer services, and social events with their friends.

LSM 2025 takes place at Valparaiso University in Indiana from June 22-July 20\* (Full Session) or June 22-July 6 (Half Session) and is open to students who have completed grades 8-12.

*\*Early check-outs will be coordinated for students attending the LCMS National Youth Gathering.*

To learn more, watch this [LSM Experience Video](#), view this [digital brochure](#), or go to [LSMacademy.org/program](http://LSMacademy.org/program)

## IMPACT

Camp Lutherhaven's Winter High School Retreat is scheduled for Martin Luther King Jr. Weekend, **January 17-19, 2025**.

**Theme: Chasing After Wind**

*I have seen all things that are done under the sun; all of them meaningless, a chasing after the wind.*  
(Ecclesiastes 1:14)

For high school students, thinking about the future is filled with lots of uncertainty. At the top of the list are jobs, careers, or professions to pursue. Of equal concern is whether marriage and children are a part of their future, or not. Then there are the less tangible pressures of focusing on being successful, intelligent, or happy, which the world wants people to make their ultimate future pursuits. All of this can be burdensome, or a "chasing after the wind," as Ecclesiastes repeatedly reminds us. The focus of this retreat is to see how God has a direction for our lives, which He reveals to us in scripture. This is a call to stop "chasing after wind" and to approach the future fully trusting in what God desires for us.

Feel free to reach out to Camp directly if you have questions or would like more information!

## LUFEST 2025

Invites your friends and join us for an unforgettable night celebrating and supporting Lutheran High School at the beautiful Biltwell Event Center. Early Bird Tickets are available at [LuFest.org](http://LuFest.org).

We also seek donations of new, high-quality items, services, or experiences to include in the live and silent auctions. These may be dropped off at the LHS office weekdays between 7:30 am and 4:00 pm. Please call the Development Office with any questions.

## CHURCH LEADERS

**Council:**

- Brian Atkins (Chairman)
- Chris Ebling (Vice-Chairman)
- Amy Surburg (Recording Secretary)
- Joel Leonard (Treasurer)
- Jeff Dickmander (Properties Chair)
- Tom Fitzwater (Stewardship)

**Elders:**

- James Froiland
- Shawn Houser
- Mark Jenkins
- Chris Ebling
- Chuck Jones

**Parochial Education:**

- Debbie Kuehn
- Melissa Ebling
- Susan Pearson
- Chuck Jones
- Tawney Kearns

**Parish Education:**

- Matthew Surburg
- David Temme
- Libby Leonard

**Financial Secretary:**

- Jim Arthur

## Ushers and Greeters Needed

Please contact Richard Curry or Jim Arthur if interested or desire more information.

## Soundboard Operators

We are looking for people to assist with operating the soundboard during the worship service. So that you know - training will be supplied to anyone interested. You can sit with a sound person during service before making any commitment. Please contact Brian Atkins (317-435-0842) if you are interested or have any questions.

## PROPERTY DIRECTOR

If there are concerns, regarding the buildings and property, please contact Jeff Dickmander at (413) 522-2591.

## RECEIVING IN FAITH: Sunday, December 29, 2024

9:15 am Service: 90

## RESPONDING IN FATH: SUNDAY, DECEMBER 29, 2024

<b>General Fund</b> .....	<b>\$3,090.77</b>
Memorials .....	40.00
FFC Rental .....	133.00
LCMS .....	100.00
<b>Total</b> .....	<b>\$3,363.77</b>

## IN THE LORD'S SERVICE SUNDAY, JANUARY 12, 2025 THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD

- Organist..... David Temme
- Crucifer ..... Paul Surburg
- Acolytes ... Solomon Wagner and Kevin Wilson
- Communion Assistants ..... James Froiland  
..... and Tom Fitzwater
- Greeters ..... Bob and Lori Yeager
- Ushers ..... Will Voss, Jim Arthur,  
..... and Richard Curry
- Youth Assistant..... None
- Altar Guild ..... Chris and Melissa Ebling
- Jr. Altar Guild ..... Jaxon Ebling
- Fellowship/Refreshments..... The Fox Families

**BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK**

Richard Thompson ..... 01/11

**BAPTISMAL BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK**

Chris Ebling..... 01/06

**WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES**

No Wedding Anniversaries in January

**PRAYER CHAIN**

*Please contact Lori Yeager (email: lori-yeager@comcast.net/ phone: (317) 431-9514 for prayer chain requests. You may also contact the office.*

*Please inform the church office if a prayer, baptismal birthday, anniversary or birthday was missed or incorrect this week.*

*Thank you.*

**IN OUR PRAYERS**

***Note:*** *Prayer requests will be listed for four weeks, unless longer is requested*

*Kris Brand*  
 Back and Knee Pain  
*Todd Shultz (Tamzen Shultz's Son)*  
 Cancer  
*Eric Neuendorf (Dan Neuendorf's Nephew)*  
 Ulcerative Colitis  
*Cheryl Skvarenina*  
 Cancer  
*Darla White (Friend of Lori Yeager)*  
 Breast Cancer  
*Pattie Fitzwater*  
*Woody Yarwood*  
 Cancer  
*Deborah Walker (Evelyn Drake's Sister-in-Law)*  
 Lung Cancer  
*Melvin Biberdorf (Brother of Laura Bearman)*  
 Cancer

*Doris Bond*  
 Homebound  
*Barbara Waterman*  
 Homebound  
*Woody Yarwood*  
 Homebound  
*Joe & Cheryl Skvarenina*  
 Homebound

**Serving our Country**

Nick Arthur Zachary Archer  
 Noah Heiwig (friend of the Yeagers)  
 Lukas Fielder (the Dickmanders' nephew)