



FOCUS ON FAITH WEEKLY

✦ FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH ✦ GREENFIELD INDIANA ✦

This Week at Faith Lutheran Church

Sunday Jan. 12	Monday Jan. 13	Tuesday Jan. 14	Word Day Jan. 15	Thursday Jan. 16	Friday Jan. 17	Saturday Jan. 18
The Baptism of Our Lord 9:15 am Divine Service 11:00 am Sunday School and Adult Bible Study	<i>Preschool</i> <i>Pastor's Family Day</i>	<i>Preschool</i> Private Confession & Absolution with Pastor from 5:00 pm-7:00 pm	<i>Preschool</i> 9:30 am Bible Study 11:00 am Morning Prayer 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 Church Council Dance in the CLC from 6:00-9:00 pm	<i>Preschool</i>	

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

Administrative Assistant e-mail: secretary@faithgreenfield.org Focus on Faith Deadline: 9 am Thursday

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

FROM LUTHER

“The Law was no longer to have validity, because the Man had now come for Whose sake the Law had hitherto been observed. John, too, now looked upon his office as terminated; for now He had appeared Who baptized not only with water, but also with the Holy Spirit.” (commenting on today’s Gospel: Luke 3:15-22, in Luther’s Works – volume 22, p. 161)

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!”

STEWARDSHIP

January 12, 2025 — The Baptism of Our Lord

Luke 3:21 — “Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying...

We know why the people were baptized, but why was Jesus baptized? He didn't need repentance or forgiveness. The answer is that He did it for us. The reason God sent His Son into the world is to fulfill all righteousness for us, to do what we could not do. The whole of Jesus' life, everything He did and said, was one great offering to the Father in our stead to fulfill all righteousness for us. With our righteousness fulfilled in Jesus and given to us in Baptism, our hearts now overflow with thanksgiving and praise.

ALTAR FLOWERS 2025

The Altar Flowers for 2025 are slowly filling up but there are lots of dates still 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.

RECEIVING IN FAITH: MONDAY, JANUARY 6, 2025 EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD

7:00 PM Service: 13

WOMEN'S RETREAT CAMP LUTHERHAVEN

Camp Lutherhaven in Albion, IN is hosting its 31st annual Women's Retreat January 24-26, 2025. All women are invited to this peaceful and inspirational getaway to enjoy spiritual renewal, connection, and lots of laughter in a Christian community.

For more information or to register, please visit www.lutherhaven.org. Come and join the fun! Invite a friend and double the impact!

KANTOREI CHOIR SINGING JANUARY 26

The Kantorei from Concordia Seminary, Fort Wayne, will be joining us in worship at the Divine Service on Sunday, January 26th. The choir is led by Kantor Kevin Hildebrand, and is composed of students at the seminary. In addition to singing throughout the service, the director or members will speak during the 11:00-12:00 Bible Study hour and a lasagna dinner for them and all members of Faith Lutheran will take place in the CLC at noon.

Refer to sheets in the narthex to sign-up for the dinner, assist in preparing the hall, preparing food and cleanup. A donation box to defer cost of lasagna and paper goods is also available in the narthex. Please see Debby Thompson for questions.

LUFEST 2025

It not too late to invite 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.

We are also seeking 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 by January 24. Please call the Development Office with any questions.

Worship Anew!

January 12, 2025 — The Baptism of Our Lord

Psalm 29; Romans 6:1-11; Luke 3:15-22

“Baptized Into Christ”

Sermon Text: Luke 3:21-22

Rev. Shane Jonker

“For it we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his” (Romans 6:5 ESV). This week we celebrate the Baptism of Our Lord in the Jordan, God in the flesh, and so also we celebrate our Baptism into Christ. What a great comfort in the midst of temptation and trial, sin and death, and every distress that we can say to ourselves, “I am baptized into Christ!”

KFUO RADIO

For churches outside the St. Louis area for the week of January 12:

KFUO Radio, the broadcast voice of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, shares Christ for you anytime, anywhere on **KFUO.org** via worship services, Bible and theology studies, practical talk programs, and sacred music. Find your favorite programs on demand at kfuo.org and the KFUO Radio app! Find us on social:

@KFUOradio on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/kfuo), [Twitter](https://twitter.com/kfuo), and [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/kfuo).

CHRIST FOR YOU this week on KFUO (AM 850) and KFUO.org: We continue our study of Isaiah on Sharper Iron (weekdays at 8:00 am, CT) with chapters 19-24. On Thy Strong Word (weekdays at 11:00 am, CT), we wrap up John’s first letter, and continue with 2nd and 3rd John. Don’t forget to tune into Concord Matters this Saturday (1/18 at 10:00 am, CT) to learn about confessional subscription. What is it, and why do our churches practice it?

ASSOCIATION OF LUTHERAN CHURCH MUSICIANS

At the end of Tuesday (January 14) more than a **20% registration discount off full price will expire** on a unique opportunity to attend a **National Worship and Music Conference** featuring the internationally acclaimed choral ensemble **VOCES8**, from Great Britain, both singing and presenting workshops. Worship and hymn singing will be experienced in the magnificent **Duke University Chapel** and the equally stunning **Holy Name of Jesus Cathedral**. The **Raleigh Ringers** will play and lead educational sessions. Learn from a wide variety of **workshops on worship and music**.

Please join us in Raleigh/Durham NC, August 4-8, 2025! Book special rate accommodations at the beautiful conference hotel while availability lasts.

Please take advantage of this discount by Tuesday (January 14) and join us in Raleigh/Durham, August 4-8, 2025. Cancellations received by June 15, 2025 will be fully refunded minus a \$45.00 cancellation administration fee. Save dollars and register today online or by mail (must be postmarked by 1/14/25).

APPLICATIONS FOR LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL

Applications are open for the 2025-2026 school year. Visit LHSI.org for more information!

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 kanderson@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

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!

CHURCH LEADERS

Council:

- Brian Atkins (Chairman)
- Chris Ebling (Vice-Chairman)
- Amy Surburg (Recording Secretary)
- Joel Leonard (Treasurer)
- Jeff Dickmader (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 Dickmader at (413) 522-2591.

RECEIVING IN FAITH: Sunday, January 5, 2025

9:15 am Service: 76

RESPONDING IN FATH: SUNDAY, DECEMBER 29, 2024

General Fund	\$3,864.40
LCMS.....	50.00
Parking Lot Pavement.....	100.00
Total	\$4,014.40

IN THE LORD'S SERVICE SUNDAY, JANUARY 19, 2025 SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

- Organist Chris Wilson
- Crucifer/Acolyte.....Jaxon Ebling
- Communion Assistants..... Chris Ebling
..... and Mark Jenkins
- GreetersJeff and Julie Dickmader
- Ushers..... Jim Arthur, Richard Curry
..... and Robert Fox
- Youth Assistant Kevin Wilson
- Altar Guild..... Chris and Melissa Ebling
- Jr. Altar Guild.....Jaxon Ebling
- Fellowship/Refreshments The Dobbs,
..... Thompson and Wilson Families

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

Aaron Surburg 01/12
 Solomon Wagner 01/13
 Dave Pearson 01/16

BAPTISMAL BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

Cameron Douglas 01/15
 Dave Pearson 01/16

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

Pollyanna Strothmann (Fell)
Pastor Brandon Froiland (The Froilands' Son)
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

Death: *Jeff Corlew's Family*

(Passing of Jeff's Mother)

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)