

Faith News and Notes for December 7, 2025

PLEASE Note on The Pew Attendance Card which Service you attended

FAITH FLAME and FAITH NEWS AND NOTES are online at faithlutheran-npb.com

Welcome, welcome, welcome in the name of the Lord! We are so glad you are here with us and our prayer is always that the sweet presence of the Lord would be manifested here every time we gather together. May you be encouraged and equipped in your faith today!

Advent Mid-Week Bible Study Hope, Peace, Joy, Love

From Pastor Mark: It's the most wonderful time of the year, so the song goes. Christmas is full of wonder, but often we get so caught up in the same thing every year that we start to lose that wonder. That's why our Advent mid-week Bible study is called *The Wonder of Christmas*. It's a video series from Right Now Media, and we meet on the first three Wednesdays in December.

Dec. 3: The Wonder of His Presence

Dec. 10: The Wonder of His Plan

Dec. 17: The Wonder His People

Each Wednesday we start at 7 PM, with the study lasting about an hour and a half. Hope to see you there. The Study is also offered via Zoom, with the link emailed each Wednesday afternoon.

Christmas Tree Trimming and Sanctuary decorating



Join us today, immediately following the second service for some holiday fun!



This morning we welcome Robin Seitz, from **A21**, a global non-profit committed to fighting the worldwide problem of human trafficking. Robin, who was confirmed right here at Faith, is the daughter of Bert and Linda Seitz.



"We are driven by a radical hope that the cycle of human trafficking can be broken."

Our approach is to **Reach, Recover, Restore.**

Reach - Educating everyone to understand, identify, and reduce the risk of Human Trafficking

Recover - The difference between exploitation and freedom.

Partnering with authorities to obtain the freedom of victims and conviction of traffickers.

Restore - The difference between victimization and independence.

Empowering victims of Human Trafficking in their unique journey toward restoration.

Faith's Christmas Season Calendar

Worship

(Second Sunday in Advent — Peace)

Sunday, December 7th, 8:45 & 10:45

Congregational Breakfast

Sunday, December 7th, 10 AM

Christmas Tree Trimming and Sanctuary decorating

Sunday, December 7th -- After the 2nd service

Advent Mid-Week Bible Study

Wednesday, December 10th — 7PM

(In person and virtual)

Angel Tree Wrapping Party

Saturday, December 13th, 10 AM — 1PM

Worship

(Third Sunday in Advent—Joy)

Sunday, December 14th, 8:45 & 10:45

Advent Mid-Week Bible Study

Wednesday, December 17th — 7PM

(In person and virtual)

Deliver Angel Tree gifts to Belle Glade

Thursday, December 18th

9:00 AM meet at church; 10:30 AM depart for Belle Glade

School Christmas Program

Friday, December 19th,- 7 PM

Women of Faith Christmas Party

Hobo's Gourmet Kitchen

Saturday, December 20th, 11AM—2PM

Messiah Concert

Saturday, December 20th, 6:30 PM

Worship

(Fourth Sunday in Advent—Love)

Sunday, December 21th, 8:45 & 10:45

Toddler Christmas Program

Monday, December 22, 3:30 PM (Gym)

Christmas Eve Worship (Candlelight Service)

Wednesday, December 24th, 7 PM

Christmas Worship (With Communion)

Thursday, December 25th, 10 AM

Holy Communion

In this Sacrament, Jesus gives us Himself, His true Body and Blood as we receive the bread and wine. Jesus instituted this when he celebrated Passover with his disciples, and assures us that each time we receive it, we again remember his death and receive the full benefits of His grace and all that he offers. In keeping with the Scripture and the teachings of the Lutheran church, we ask each person to consider these questions:

- *Do I acknowledge the fact that I am indeed a sinner and that I am sorry for my sins?
- *Do I believe that Jesus Christ is my Savior from all sin?
- *Am I trusting in Jesus' promise that I receive full forgiveness and strength through this Sacrament?
- *Do I believe and agree that the body and blood of my Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, are truly present in, with and under the bread and wine?
- *With the Lord's help, will I seek to amend my sinful life and live in conformity with His holy will?

If you answer yes to all these questions and are baptized, you are welcome to come and receive all that Jesus offers in Holy Communion. May the Lord bless your personal reception as well as your daily living under His power and blessing.

We offer assistance for the **hearing impaired**. Just speak to one of our ushers, who will be able to help you. Please return the hearing device to an usher as you exit. We have a **Nursery** for infants through age 3 that is available during of our services for you to use. The nursery is through the hall on the right side of the sanctuary (facing the altar).

Old Testament *Isaiah 11:1–10*

¹There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit. ²And the Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. ³And his delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide disputes by what his ears hear, ⁴but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. ⁵Righteousness shall be the belt of his waist, and faithfulness the belt of his loins. ⁶The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the young goat, and the calf and the lion and the fattened calf together; and a little child shall lead them. ⁷The cow and the bear shall graze; their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. ⁸The nursing child shall play over the hole of the cobra, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder's den. ⁹They shall not hurt or destroy in all my holy mountain; for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea. ¹⁰In that day the root of Jesse, who shall stand as a signal for the peoples—of him shall the nations inquire, and his resting place shall be glorious.

Epistle *Romans 15:4–13*

⁴Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. ⁵May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, ⁶that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁷Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. ⁸For I tell you that Christ became a servant to the circumcised to show God's truthfulness, in order to confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, ⁹and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, "Therefore I will praise you among the Gentiles, and sing to your name." ¹⁰And again it is said, "Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people." ¹¹And again, "Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples extol him." ¹²And again Isaiah says, "The root of Jesse will come, even he who arises to rule the Gentiles; in him will the Gentiles hope." ¹³May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

Gospel *Matthew 3:1–12*

¹In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, ²"Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." ³For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah when he said, "The voice of one crying in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord; make his paths straight.'" ⁴Now John wore a garment of camel's hair and a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. ⁵Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region about the Jordan were going out to him, ⁶and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁷But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? ⁸Bear fruit in keeping with repentance. ⁹And do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father,' for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children for Abraham. ¹⁰Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees. Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. ¹¹"I baptize you with water for repentance, but he who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. ¹²His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and gather his wheat into the barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."



A Life Quote for Sunday, December 7: “Children brightly signaled hope in our sin-infested world of old—consider the births of Seth, Isaac, Moses, Samson, Samuel, John, and, finally, of course and paramount, Jesus. And we, too, must become as children.” *James M. Kushiner, Fellowship of St. James*

A Life Thought in the Church Year for December 7 – Advent 2: We rejoice that God Himself defends the cause of the poor and needy (Psalm 72:4) and that He does this primarily through us, His saints. We must be careful, however, that we don’t fall into self-righteousness and become a pharisaical “brood of vipers” (Matthew 3:7), always pointing out the sins of others while neglecting our own. Instead, as children of Abraham, we are all to “bear fruit in keeping with repentance” (Matthew 3:8), remembering that the things of God’s Word were “written for our instruction” (Romans 15:4), as well as for the instruction of others.

Congregational Breakfast TODAY!



Join us today for Faith’s monthly Congregational Breakfast in the Michel Building.*

*We warmly welcome our visitors. As you leave the Sanctuary, the Michel Building will be on your right.

Note: Sunday School is not held the first Sunday of each month so that we can all join for breakfast.

Prayer Requests



Our Homebound: **Sandy** Aiken (now living at Courtyard Gardens of Jupiter), **Alma** Coates, **Carla** Sesola (now living in Missouri), **Donna** Van Bommel (now living at Palm Beach Memory Care, NPB)

Other Requests: **Faith Lutheran Teachers, Students and their families;** **Gail** Bolognese, **Andrea** Emde, The **family of Esther Fiene**, **Judith** Gonnerman, The **family of Fran** Hickman, **Dave** Johnson, **Rick** Knudtson, **Istvan** Krisko, **Gordon** Lerner, **Kathy** McCoy, **Nancy** Meyer, **Ernie** Munter, **Carole** Satterthwaite, **Tricia** Shankin, **Sally** Schwartz, **Bob** and **Laura** Tegart, **Walt & Sharon** Wiley, **Lynn** Wilke, and **Ron** Woita.



Christmas Eve Worship — 7PM (With Candle lighting)

Christmas Day Worship — 10 AM (With Communion)

Women of Faith Christmas Party



Saturday, December 20, 11AM — 2PM

Hobo's Gourmet Kitchen

\$20 per person (kindly pay at the door)

BYOB

Bring a wrapped Christmas ornament for an exchange.

Sign-up in the Narthex. The deadline is Monday, December 15th.

Angel Tree Wrapping Party

Saturday, December 13, 10 am — 1 pm



Stay as long as you would like. We will serve brunch, drinks and snacks.

Enjoy Christmas music and fellowship while wrapping.

Feel free to bring your own scissors, tape and wrapping paper.

Text or call Carri Leininger if you have any questions: 561-722-4988

Gifts will be delivered to Belle Glade on Thursday, December 19.

Meet at the church at 9AM for a 10 AM departure, returning around 2PM.

For more information, call Mark Leininger: 561-722-4994

NOTE: We ask that gifts be dropped off by Thursday, December 11th.

This week's altar flowers



In Memory of Kumar Newton
by The Newtons

2026 Flower Chart

Be sure to post your important dates on the
2026 Flower, now displayed in the Narthex.

In Memory of
In Honor of
To the Glory of God



Eileen Frerking

Roxanne Finn

Advent 2025
November 30 — December 25
Hope — Peace — Joy— Love



The Christ-Child in a manger is a familiar site at Christmas. But the meaning of this quaint scene often gets lost in the flurry of the holiday. God has come to us—to you and me—as a human, with the divine purpose of rescuing us from our sins. In *Born to You ... a Savior*, we treasure the Father's beloved Gift of love to each of us.

In the Narthex, there is a small Advent booklet with daily devotions that we encourage everyone to pick up.



A suggested donation of \$15 is appreciated.

We are also looking for cookie donations to serve at the reception,
following the concert.

Thank you in advance.

Poinsettias to Beautify our Altar



Please help the Altar Guild decorate the altar with poinsettias.

If you would like to share in this project, kindly fill out the form below and drop it in the offering plate.

Checks should be made payable to Faith Lutheran Church and note "Poinsettias" on the memo line.

You may pick up your plant(s) after the service on December 25th, or leave it to decorate the Church during the Christmas season.

The deadline to order is Monday, December 15

As we order our plants this year, we remember our Fran Hickman as for years Fran was responsible for seeking out the best place(s) to purchase the poinsettias, picking up the plants, and caring for them in the Chapel before the Sunday they were placed on the Altar. We all miss you, Fran.

Each Poinsettia is \$15. ____ (Quantity)

Name: _____

The Sharon Hess Book Nook



What is our BOOK NOOK? Who is it for? It is a small library within the church intended for people of all ages who want to know God better and love Him more. Our location is above the kitchen, in the fellowship hall.

New Books added this month include (all within the Arch series books):

Jesus Wakes the Little Girl by Bard

Where is Jesus??? by J. Shade

The Parable of the Prodigal Son

The Lost Coin by N. Dreyer

Each book is on or near the rotating rack.

Join us for Canasta



The Canasta Club continues to meet every Thursday (except December 25th and January 1st), from 10:30 until mid-afternoon in the Michel Building's Upper Room. There is no cost and we will teach you how to play. The group breaks around noon for a brown bag lunch brought by the attendees. It is a great time for fun and fellowship. If you would like more information, call June Johnson 561-329-7521 or Arline Reilly 561-281-3438. Note: December 11th meeting will be held at the home of Arline Reilly.

Support our School!!

We recently received word from the beach that it is requesting the sand from our playground be returned ASAP!

Since our school wing was constructed in 1985, we have always used sand as a soft surface, however, over the years the sand has ended up in the classrooms, in your cars, and in the shoes of our little ones. In celebration of our school's 64th Anniversary, we have decided to replace the sand with a soft surface material like in our playground at our 301 campus.



Total cost including
sand removal is
\$47,000

Donate by check or
Vanco



See Mrs. Tucker or Ms. Slavin for more information

THIS WEEK AT FAITH

Sunday, December 7

- 8:45 AM Traditional Service
- 10:00 AM Congregational Breakfast (No Sunday School today)
- 10:45 AM Contemporary Service
- 12:00 PM Contemporary Worship Practice
- 12:00 PM Christmas Tree Trimming and Sanctuary Decorating

Monday, December 8

- 10:00 AM—11:15 AM Women's Bible Study Fellowship (Michel Building, classrooms)
- 6:55 PM—8:45 PM Men's & Women's Bible Study Fellowship (campus-wide)
- 7:00 PM Gambler's Anonymous (Chapel)

Tuesday, December 9

- 12:00 PM—2:00 PM Lifewise (Michel Building/Classroom C)

Wednesday, December 10

- 10:00 AM—12:00 PM Food Pantry

Thursday, December 11

- 9:00 AM—11:00 AM Weight Watchers (Michel Building/Classrooms A&B)
- 10:30 AM Canasta Club (Arline Reilly's home)

Friday, December 12

- 9:30 AM Weight Watchers (Michel Building/Classrooms A and B)

Saturday, December 13

- 8:00 AM Weight Watchers (Michel Building/Classrooms A and B)
- 10:00 AM—1:00 PM Angel Tree Wrapping Party (Gym)

Sunday, December 14

- 8:45 AM Traditional Service
- 10:00 AM Sunday School (Ages 3-7: Classroom 3. Ages 8-12: Conference Rm.)
- 10:45 AM Contemporary Service
- 12:00 PM Contemporary Worship Practice

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH
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Pastor	Rev. Mark Stillman
Pastor Emeritus	Rev. John Frerking
Director of Music Ministry	Dr. David McCalla
Praise Team Director	Janet Cunningham
Office	Jen Iacobucci
Bookkeeper	Angie Pendas
Director of Accounting	Janet Cunningham

FAITH LUTHERAN PRE-SCHOOL — 561-842-2487

Lisandria Slavin: Administrative Director

Pilar Tucker: Director — Evelyn Lawrence: Assistant/After School Director

NEW DAY ADULT CARE CENTER — 561-844-0012

	8:45 AM	10:45 AM
Altar Guild	Lou Raffa	Barbara Cahill
Communion Assistant	June Johnson	Barbara Cahill
Greeter	Jim Beermann	Arline Reilly
Lector	Mary Jo Petterson	Chuck Pedersen
Usher	Parry Bolognese	John Fortini

Your Church Elders

Ben Schuemann, president: 561-385-6648

Mark Leininger: 561-722-4994	Susan Russo: 561-371-5135
Tracy O'Daniell: 815-482-5566	Ben Schuemann: 561-385-6648
Mary Jo Petterson: 561-339-0941	Bert Seitz: 561-818-0543
Lou Raffa: 561-601-4058	Matt Henshaw: 561-315-8052

OUR VISION

We believe God calls us to engage, encourage and equip our church, community and world with His unfailing love.

We will **engage** all people in meaningful relationships with God's unfailing love as the foundation.

We will **encourage** all people to a closer relationship with Jesus.

We will **equip** all people to live a loving, powerful, Spirit-filled life.