



Newsletter

2025

In This Issue

February Birthdays
In Our Prayers
February Worship Assistants

Save the Date

February 2
Ground Hog Day

February 4
Elders' Meeting,
5:30 P.M.

February 6
LWML Meeting
1:00 P.M.

February 13
Council Meeting
5:30 P.M.

February 14 
Valentine's Day



February 17
Presidents' Day

February 17
Ladies' Coffee at The View
9:00 A.M.

February 18
DEADLINE for MARCH 2025
NEWSLETTER

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH
15440 CR 306 – PO Box 1448
Buena Vista, CO 81211
719-395-2039
faithlutheranbv.org

Pastor's Corner

Are our loved ones in heaven looking down on us?

You may not like the truthful answer to this question, but the answer is no. Your loved one cannot see what you are up to... and, maybe that's not such a bad thing after all. Because do you always want your loved ones to see what you are up to? Would they always be happy with what they would see?

Revelation 21:3 says, "*Behold the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.*"

Our loved ones are safely in the arms of the Lord. They are truly in the bliss of heaven. If they were able to see what was happening here on earth, they would only be saddened by what they see. Sin, death, destruction, you name it. But these things have passed away for them.

This may deepen the sadness that we feel at the loss of those we love, but we will see them again in the resurrection. Also, a certain joy of the Sacrament of the Altar is that when we commune there, we also stand shoulder to shoulder with all the saints, past, present, and future. There we find comfort and confidence that we are united in Christ, even in death, but especially in everlasting life.

... Pastor's Corner Continued on Next Page

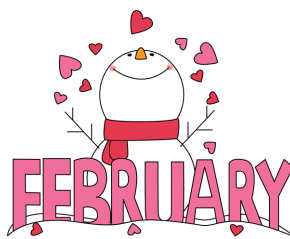
Pastor's Corner, Cont.

Perhaps you may also ask, "Pastor, what about ghosts?" I won't get too detailed here, but St. John writes in his first epistle, (1 John 4:1-3) *"Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world. By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you heard was coming and now is in the world already."*

Knowing what we do from the scriptures, even as much as we may want to believe that there may be a way to contact our loved ones from beyond the grave, these are merely tricks of the devil. He plays on our emotions, even our desires, to see or hear from our loved ones once again. But as John cautions, we must test the spirits. People who claim to be mediums, fortune tellers, etc... they are meddling with things they do not understand or know. And if they do know what they are doing, that is probably even worse for them.

There is a story in 1 Samuel 28 when Saul uses a medium to call up the spirit of Samuel who had passed away. Based on what we know about those who have died, the reality of this story is that the spirit who speaks to Saul was a demon, not Samuel. The notes in the Lutheran Study Bible point out that while Satan is the father of lies, he also knows and can speak the truth. And God can compel the spirits to speak the truth, as we even hear them testify to Jesus' divinity in the New Testament. Still, just because this supposed 'spirit of Samuel' tells Saul the same truth that Samuel had told him when he was still alive, it does not mean that this was actually Samuel speaking to him from beyond the grave.

While these answers are difficult to hear, I hope that you will put your trust in Christ and take comfort in the promises of the resurrection. We will see our sainted loved ones again when we, one day, stand before the throne of God at the marriage feast of the Lamb in life everlasting!



Greetings in Jesus' Name,

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH WORSHIP SERVICE STREAMING . . .

Please go to our Faith Lutheran Church YOUTUBE channel

- All services are on our new YOUTUBE channel.
- You can find it on our website at faithlutheranbv.org under streaming and archived services, or search for Faith Lutheran Buena Vista on YOUTUBE.
- Upcoming and archived worship services will be there.
- Please SUBSCRIBE to this channel when you get there.
- Unfortunately, no phone dialup is available with the new system.

Please check in 5 to 10 minutes early.

God bless and keep you.

*You're
Invited!*

Study ^{the} Bible
with us



SUNDAY

Sunday's Adult Bible Study. . . We're studying various topics.
Come find out what we're studying this Sunday at 9:00 A.M.



TUESDAY

LifeLight Bible Study . . .

LifeLight Bible Study. Study on Isaiah Part 1 continues, Tuesdays, 9:30 A.M., at the Kegler home and via Zoom.

Blessings and thanks for your commitment to study God's Word.

— Barb K.

Tuesday Evening Pastor's Bible Study. Pastor Sorensen is leading a Bible Study Tuesdays, weekly at 6:30 P.M., studying 1 Samuel.

— Come join us at Faith Tuesdays at 6:30 P.M.

THURSDAY



Men's Thursday Morning Bible Study at Faith, 9:00 A.M.

First Fruits for this month:
UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE we will again respond to the items the
MISSION currently needs –

They need Spaghetti Sauce, One-Dish Meals (canned),
Peanut Butter, Jelly, Tuna Packets, Ramen Noodles,
Canned Fruit and/or Pre-packaged Fruit Cups.

Financial contributions are also welcome!

Please take contributions to their back door and knock to donate.

HOURS: Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday 11 a.m. until 2 p.m.

. . . and a big *thank you* to all for donations
from all of us at the mission!



February 2, 2025



February 17, 2025



February 14, 2025



February Anniversaries

7 - Randy and Lisa Wagner
19 - Jody and Peter Lee Werner



February Birthdays

6 - Jaden Bever
25 - Kathy Behrmann

Last Half of December 2024 and First half of January 2025 Attendance and Offering Report

Date	Church	Communion	Offering
December 19	12	N/A	N/A
December 22	34	28	\$1,688.00
December 24	76	N/A	N/A
December 29	37	24	\$2,745.20
January 5	44	34	\$3,528.25
January 12	37	24	\$2,669.55

Subject: Newsletter suggestions (5 W's)

When submitting articles for the monthly Newsletter please include the following:

Who (who is doing the event and who to ask questions or give suggestions to)

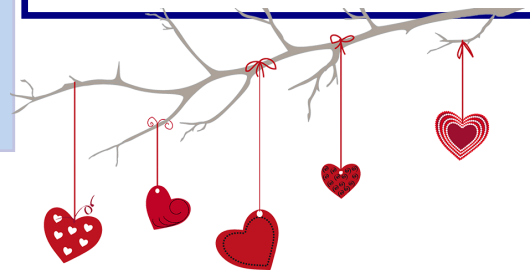
What

When - date and times.
(Start and ending times)

Where

Why

Volunteer needed?



We are looking for volunteers to put letters on the church sign.
Please let Cindy D. or Mark B. know if you are interested.

Our new streaming equipment has arrived and should be installed in the next few weeks. We are looking for volunteers to learn to run the equipment.

Again, let Cindy know if you are interested.



THRIVENT®
Be Wise With Money™

Thrivent Action Team

All Thrivent members are eligible to lead a Thrivent Action Team. However, the number of teams each member can lead per year depends on his or her membership type.

Benefit members are eligible to lead two Thrivent Action Teams per calendar year, and associate members are eligible to lead one per calendar year (maximum of three).

A \$250 Community Impact Card will be sent to you to use as seed money to get your project off the ground and make a bigger impact.

Those Serving Us This Month

Communion Setup

Month of February - Jody Werner

Altar Flowers

February 2 - OPEN

February 9 - OPEN

February 16 - OPEN

February 23 - OPEN

Greeter

February 2 - James Miller

February 9 - Jean Moltz-Weber

February 16 - Joel Tarcha

February 23 - Jerry Gallob

Ushers

February 2 - Sherry and Vaughn Bishop

February 9 - Jerry Gallob and
Jean Brinkmann

February 16 - Joel and Clare Tarcha

February 23 - Jerry Gallob and
Jean Moltz-Weber

Elders

Mark Brinkmann

Joel Tarcha

Bob Hickey

Reader

February 2 - Colleen Miller

February 9 - Jean Moltz-Weber

February 16 - Clare Tarcha

February 23 - Jana Schumann

Cleaning the Sanctuary

February 2 - 8 - Jana Schumann

February 16 - 22 - Mark Brinkmann

Cleaning the Basement

February 2 - 8 - Mark Brinkmann

February 16 - 22 - Jana Schumann



From Sharon Carter, Stewardship Chair:

The 2025 Flower Chart is posted for sign-up for all willing to bring Altar Flowers for Sunday Worship Services. Still many openings.

The **2025 FIRST QUARTER SCHEDULE** for Worship Service Assistants is also posted. Please check it for this quarter's weekly volunteer schedules.

A huge **THANK YOU** to all who volunteered to help and are willing to use your Time and Talents to serve our church for this year.

Thank you so very much.

Stewardship Chair, Sharon Carter 303-881-9840

sharoncarter00@gmail.com



Please submit your articles and other input
for the

MARCH Newsletter

to FLC's administrative assistant ON OR BEFORE

Tuesday, FEBRUARY 18TH, 2025

THANK YOU



If you need to get in touch with one
of the Elders, they have generously made
their telephone numbers available . . .

Mark Brinkmann 661.444.7865

Joel Tarcha 970.819.8459

Bob Hickey 719.649.0403

FLC Office Hours: Pastor Sorensen's office hours at Faith are:

9:30 A.M. to 12 Noon Thursdays. Other times by appointment only.

Deadlines: Please make sure any information needing to be included in Sunday's **bulletins** is given to FLC Administrative Assistant by the **Thursday BEFORE that Sunday service**. If it is received after Wednesday, the information will then be included in the following Sunday's bulletin. Our bulletins can then be published in a timely manner.

WWW: Check out our presence on the world wide web!

Faith's webpage is at faithlutheranbv.org.

If you look in the links section, you will find that our Facebook page is linked there as well.

— Stop in and **KEEP IN TOUCH** —

EVANGELISTS OF FAITH

February 2025

It's February and now we're solidly into the new year. Quick question....how are your New Year's Resolutions doing? Maybe some are going well, and others not so good. So, should we just give up on those that haven't gone so well? Maybe if they were trivial. But if they were really important resolutions it might be worth trying again. In January's article, I concluded with a few verses from Matthew...***"You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven."***, and suggested that this might be a good resolution for us as Christians. That being said, it's a hard resolution to keep. Our lights don't always shine in a way that gives glory to our "Father who is in heaven". Life's burdens may wear us down. Maybe we don't always see others, or the world in a positive light, but the directive is still worth going back to and resolving to try again. St. Paul gives us a word of encouragement in his letter to the Philippians when he says....***"I can do all things, through Christ who strengthens me"***. Sometimes the word 'do' is shown as 'endure'. Christ gives us that strength to 'endure' the temptation to give up on our resolution(s), and get back to the work that we have been given to do, that is...."let your light shine before others". As Christians, our light is extremely important for the world around us today. It seems that fewer and fewer in this world are "giving glory to our Father who is in heaven". That's a troubling sign. God's word is being questioned and generally ignored. It's looked upon as a hindrance in today's society. What can we do? Well, we can get our lights out from under the bushel basket and let them shine for everyone to see.

Hear the words found in 1 Peter 2:9: ***"But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His wonderful light"***.

He has chosen us to be in that wonderful light! What a blessing!

Tim Pleger, Evangelism Coordinator



Stephen Ministry



Look What God is Doing!

Hear about the surprising things that God is doing in Stephen Ministries.

By Connie Wright

O God of Mercy, God of Might

Hymn 852

*O God of mercy, God of might,
In love and pity infinite,
Teach us, as ever in Thy sight,
To live our lives in Thee.*

*And Thou, who cam'st on earth to die
That our lost world might live thereby,
O hear us; for to Thee we cry,
In hope, O Lord, to Thee.*

*Teach us the lesson Thou hast taught:
To feel for those Thy blood hath bought,
That ev'ry word and deed and thought
May work a work for Thee.*

*All are redeemed, both far and wide,
Since Thou, O Lord, for all hast died.
Grant us the will and grace provide
To love them all in Thee!*

*In sickness, sorrow, want, or care,
May we each other's burdens share;
May we, where help is needed, there
Give help as unto Thee!*

*And may Thy Holy Spirit move
All those who live to live in love
Till Thou shalt greet in heav'n above
All those who live in Thee.*

Motivation... Why do we, as children of God, serve others? Why do we care for others? Because we are told to do so? Because the Bible says we should? Maybe it is our duty? Or, to get into heaven? What is our motivation?

Godfrey Thring, an English pastor wrote this hymn and gives us a beautiful answer to these questions.

The first two verses tell us of a God who is not only mighty, but also full of mercy. Out of love and pity, He came to earth to die for each one of us, that we might live.

In response to God's mercy and love, and out of gratitude, we pause and plead to God to teach us how, in turn, we can work for Him. We realize that God loves others as much as He loves me, and I am, then, compelled to care for them just as if I were caring for Jesus Himself.

In the final stanza, we ask God to put love in our hearts until we can, in heaven, be united with all those who believe in Him.

So, what is our motivation? According to this song, it is our loving response to God's love for us and all those who Jesus died for!

Please join us this Lenten Season as we gather together.

Ash Wednesday, March 5th,
Pancake Supper at 5:30 P.M.,
Service at 6:30 P.M.

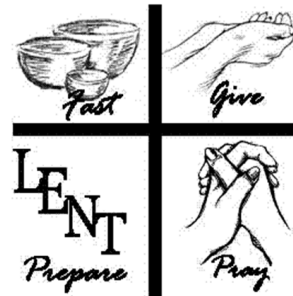
Thursday, Lent 1, March 13th,
Service at 6:00 P.M.

Thursday, Lent 2, March 20th,
Service at 6:00 P.M.

Thursday, Lent 3, March 27th,
Service at 6:00 P.M.

Thursday, Lent 4, April 3rd,
Service at 6:00 P.M.

Thursday, Lent 5, April 10th,
Service at 6:00 P.M.



Palm Sunday, April 13th, Service at 10:30 A.M.

Maundy Thursday, April 17th, Service at 6:00 P.M.

Good Friday, April 18th, Service at 6:00 P.M.

Easter Sunday, April 20th, Service at 10:30 A.M.

February 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 Bible Study 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Sunday Service 10:30a.m. <div>HAPPY GROUNDHOG DAY!</div>	3	4 LifeLight, 9:30 a.m. Elders Meeting, 5:30 p.m. Pastor's Bible Study, 6:30 p.m.	5	6 Men's Bible Study, 9 a.m. LWML Meeting, 1:00 p.m.	7	8
9 Bible Study 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Sunday Service 10:30a.m. Happy Feet Sunday	10	11 LifeLight, 9:30 a.m. Pastor's Bible Study, 6:30 p.m.	12	13 Men's Bible Study, 9 a.m. Council Meeting, 5:30 p.m.	14 <div>HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY</div>	15
16 Bible Study 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Sunday Service 10:30a.m.	17 Ladies' Coffee at The View 9:00a.m. <div>PRESIDENTS DAY</div>	18 LifeLight, 9:30 a.m. Pastor's Bible Study, 6:30 p.m. <div>DEADLINE for MARCH Newsletter</div>	19	20 Men's Bible Study, 9 a.m.	21	22
23 Bible Study 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Sunday Service 10:30a.m.	24	25 LifeLight, 9:30 a.m. Pastor's Bible Study, 6:30 p.m.	26	27 Men's Bible Study, 9 a.m.	28	

In Our Prayers

Please continue prayers for **JOANN FEEBECK**. The lymphoma type has been identified and a treatment has been recommended by the oncologist at UC Health who is a lymphoma specialist. She'll be getting the treatments in Salida. No date yet for the treatments.

Please add **GARY LONGWELL**, Dar's son, to your prayers. He has a pinched nerve in his "good" leg. Thank you from Becky and Dar.

Please pray for **JEAN MOLTZ-WEBER's husband, AL**. He's home from back surgery on December 30th, but still in a lot of pain. Also please pray that God will continue to look after them during their move to Colorado Springs. Jean sends her thanks.

Please pray for the **CALIFORNIA FIREFIGHTERS, DEVASTATED FAMILIES** and to **EXTINGUISH** the California fires.

If you are sick or injured, please contact
Pastor or one of the
Elders so that we may visit
and/or pray for you.

Please e-mail prayer requests to: timjo@centurylink.net

