

INSIDE

- p. 1 "From Pastor Rita"
Dates at a glance
Special Announcements
- p. 2 Message from
Bishop Finegan
- p. 3 "About Faith Lutheran"
Homebound members
Office Notice
- p. 4 Important dates
And notices
- p. 5 Racial Equity Challenge
And "Messages to Faith"
- p. 6 Council Minutes
- p. 7 March Calendar

Dates at a Glance

- + Mar. 14, 2021
Daylight Savings
Time (*Forward*)
- + Mar. 28, 2021
Palm Sunday

**Office hours for
Faith Lutheran Church:**
Monday through Friday
9AM—2PM

**Incase of Pastoral
Emergencies Pastor Rita
can be reached at
1(312) 478-6212
Or by email at
critawilliam@gmail.com**

From Pastor Rita

March 2021

*As a deer longs for flowing streams, so my soul longs for you, O God.
(Psalm 42:1)*

Dear congregants,

We are all aware that Lent is a period of 40 days leading up to Easter. Lent is meant to be a time of reflection and repentance. Early Christians developed the season of Lent as a time of preparation in order to experience the full meaning of Jesus' death and resurrection.

This year was more challenging due to the pandemic, but also rewarding in the sense that, we all have learned many new ways to live our lives differently than what we have been living all these years, connecting with each other and with God in our best possible ways.

During this time of waiting and preparation, I encourage you to focus on prayers, scripture reading, or meditation. Let us pray this Lenten season to ensure we come out of this situation more strongly and courageously as an individual and as a church.

Let us rejoice and be glad in the grace given to us through the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ!

**Blessings,
Pastor Rita.**



In-person Worship has resumed!

Join us Sundays at 10:30am*

You can also watch live on Facebook

** We begin with organ music at 10:20am*

Later the service may be watched on our website

<https://www.faithlutheransaultstemarie.org/>

March





Dear Northern Great Lakes Synod,

The other day, right in the middle of a phone conversation, my office phone suddenly stopped working. I was incredibly irritated, and I yelled into my empty office how I felt about that phone. Several days later, I was snowshoeing, and my extendable walking pole contracted unexpectedly to about 14 inches, making it useless. Again, I found myself hurling verbal insults at an inanimate object. The snowy and peaceful silence of the wooded trail was shattered as I called my pole “stupid” and tried to forcibly manipulate it back to its appropriate length. But no matter how much I pulled and twisted and complained, it wouldn’t budge. Stupid thing.

With a vaccine being slowly rolled out, it feels like we should be in the homestretch of the pandemic. But the finish line seems to recede the closer we get. If you feel weary and irritable, with no patience for even the smallest inconvenience, you are not alone. We brace ourselves for the big things – loss and death, ongoing challenges to returning to what we miss, the need to be supportive to loved ones, but the little things...they can send us over the edge. Perhaps you too have experienced an adult temper tantrum over something that, pre-pandemic, would have been more manageable. These days, our skin is thinner and our emotions nearer the surface. Criticism that would have bounced off the armor of personal confidence now cuts deep. We have no reserve, no wherewithal, no room in a psyche already full to overflowing to cope rationally with one more thing.

In a presentation about what it takes to be resilient, I learned the number one thing was being realistic. So, let’s be realistic. This is hard. We want to be done. We want to hug and sing and gather around the family table with loved ones we haven’t had supper with in over a year.

All in good time. The day will come. We just need to wait a ...little...bit...longer. Some months at least.

So, we wait. We wait for our well to be filled, our strength to be renewed, our spirits to be refreshed. I have found that laughter helps...and play. But most of all, I have found that acknowledging the feelings of weariness, naming that I am tired of waiting, and then extending grace to myself and others, goes a long way to getting past it.

The prophet Isaiah has something to say about waiting.

But those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength,

they shall mount up with wings like eagles,

they shall run and not be weary,

they shall walk and not faint.

~Isaiah 40:31

Wait with me. Wait for the Lord. Wait for new life, for forward movement, for a fainting spirit to rise up on wings. God is with you, and God is at work; creating vaccines, supporting health care workers, helping leaders think through the details, and offering all of us the promise that with God’s help, our weariness will give way to new strength.

And in the meantime, find joy, in even the little things. It took two pliers, my husband, and a jar opener to get my pole back to its proper length. I’m ready for another snowshoe. If you hear someone yelling “stupid” in the woods, just ignore it.

Yours in Christ,
Bishop Katherine Finegan



THE PATHFINDER is the monthly

newsletter of the

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America community at :

**Faith Lutheran Church, 1600 Park Street,
Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan. (906) 632-7246**

The deadline for the Pathfinder is
the 15th of each month.

Please send articles, comments, news items

c/o Pathfinder Editor, 1600 Park St. Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783
or e-mail to faithlc1966@att.net

Pastor: Rev. **Rita Chirala**

Church Office Administrator/Editor: Sean Uhrig

Congregation Council: Catherine Tibbett,

Will Karr, Vicki Luoma, Wayne Olsen,

Ese Osumili, Steve Sanderson, Jack Armstrong,
and Ken Randall

Homebound



Our homebound and nursing home members are often so isolated that your phone call, visit, even a card can mean the difference between lonely existence and continued life in our faith community. What can you do? Please reach out to those who have been such a vital part of our congregation and give back.

Faith Lutheran Church
is a member congregation of the
Northern Great Lakes Synod of the
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.
Synod website: nglsynod.org
Denomination website: elca.org

Online giving is here!

You can now make an electronic contribution on our website. Just go to our website:

www.faithlutheransaultstemarie.org

Scroll down to just above our videos. There, you will find a green button that says

“Online Giving”.

Click that and enter in your information, and Faith will receive your contribution within 48 hours.

The online giving company we went with (Tithe.ly) is one of the largest and most secure companies who specialize in online church giving, so your information is safe and secure. If you would like any help going over this process, please call the church office and Sean would be happy to help you.

Beverly Tankersley– Medilodge– Rm B3
1011 Meridian St. SSM, MI 49783

Alice Isaacson– P.O. Box 1858
SSM, MI 49783 (906)259-0402

Copper Garrett- 5036 W. Five Mile Rd.
SSM, MI 49783 (906)632-8727

Linda Doran- 590 Three 1/2 Mile Rd.
SSM, MI 49783 (906)632-6483

Eva Mohr– E 5040 State Highway M35
Escanaba 49829 (906)789-0423

Ruth Ronquist- Merlin Home– 1703 Hyde St.
SSM, MI 49783 (906)253-2331

Walter Pell- 605 W. Portage Ave.
SSM, MI 49783 (906) 635-6002

Diane Borrousch- 2023 W 4th Ave.
SSM, MI 49783 (906) 635-9606

Al Picotte- P.O. Box 580
Cedarville, MI 49719 (906) 630-8806

Mary Oja -
McKinley Manor, 110-E
2023 W 4th Ave.,
SSM, MI 49783
(906) 632-7496





MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

Gail & Jim Knight
62 years 3/28/59

Linda & Michael Doran
46 years 3/15/75

Dave & Pat Deatrick
45 years 3/13/76

Matthew & Tiffany Kagarise
5 years 3/12/16



MARCH BIRTHDAYS

4th Catherine Tibbett

7th Annette Wojnaroski

8th Kenneth Lake

8th Linda Doran

13th Mary Oja

13th Billy Norton

14th Jeanne Thompson

15th Gary Suriano

19th Ken Randall

18th Aili Allen

30th Greg Brewster

30th Ashley Flickinger

31st Susan Cox

Worship opportunities during the time of Lent

Wednesday, March 3rd at 7:00pm
On Zoom

Sunday, March 7th at 10:30am
In-person or live on Facebook

Wednesday, March 10th at 7:00pm
On Zoom

Sunday, March 14th at 10:30am
In-person or live on Facebook

Wednesday, March 17th at 7:00pm
On Zoom

Sunday, March 21st at 10:30am
In-person or live on Facebook

Worship opportunities during Holy Week

Palm Sunday, March 28th at 10:30am
In-person or live on Facebook

Maundy Thursday, April 1st and Good Friday, April 2nd
More information will be in the weekly mailing/email as these dates approach.

Easter Sunday, April 4th at 10:30am
In-person or live on Facebook

After-service Zoom gatherings are returning!

This Sunday, after worship, join us on Zoom for a virtual coffee hour. Zoom information will be in the weekly mailing/email.

Midweek Lenten Zoom Gathering

Every Wednesday of Lent, we will be having 30- 40 minute midweek Lent contemplative worships via Zoom at 7pm. You can make a request for your free copy of a Lenten devotional by contacting the church office. Zoom information is included in our weekly mailing/email.





Racial Equity Challenge Schedule

What is the Racial Equity Challenge?

Participating in the Racial Equity Challenge is a personal commitment to devote time during Lent to engage in provided resources. Each day of the challenge will be a new opportunity to consider different voices and perspectives—a time to read, watch, listen, and learn.

When does the Challenge take place?

The Challenge begins February 18 and runs through March 29.

What do I need to do?

Each participant will access the Challenge material here on our website and be encouraged, but not required, to join a cohort that will meet weekly for conversation via Zoom.

How much does it cost?

Participating in the Racial Equity Challenge is free to all participants!

When do the cohorts meet?

There are 6 different cohorts to choose from (listed below). Once you have chosen the cohort that works best in your schedule, be sure to register at the link below (cohorts are limited to no more than 10 participants each). Your cohort leader will be in touch prior to your first meeting with Zoom information.

- Sundays 1pm CT/ 2pm ET with Pr. Christina Forsythe of Porterfield/Beaver – This cohort is full
- Sundays 3pm CT/ 4pm ET with Pr. Tommy Richter of Zion, Manistique
- Sundays 6pm CT/ 7pm ET Pr. Steve Gauger of Calvary, Rapid River – This cohort is full
- Mondays 10am CT/ 11am ET with Pr. Jared Howard of Faith, Calumet – This cohort is full
- Mondays 3pm CT/ 4pm ET with Pr. Rich Likeness of Ascension, Minocqua – This cohort is full
- Mondays 6:30pm CT/ 7:30pm ET with Pr. Keith Kolstad of Zion, Marinette – This cohort is full

Registration and more information available on the Synod website at:

[Nglsynod.org/racial-equity-challenge](https://nglsynod.org/racial-equity-challenge)

To Our Faith Lutheran Family”

Thank you so much for the beautiful flowers, all the kind & encouraging cards & words, and the prayers at the most difficult time of our loves. Much thanks to Pastor Rita for Adam’s funeral service & heartfelt appreciation to Sean for making sure the program was perfect.

Love Steve, Jamie & family

The family of Bert Kinnear Jr.

wishes to express their gratitude for the many prayers, sympathy cards, food, and memorials to Faith Lutheran Church, in the loss of our husband, father, and grandfather. We will truly remember your thoughtfulness in our time of sorrow. A special thank you to pastor Rita for her comforting words at Bert’s memorials service, and to the Elks for the wonderful Luncheon afterwards. Also thank you to the C.S. Mulder Funeral Home for their kind and helpful ways.



**Faith Lutheran Church
Council Meeting
January 19, 2021**

The meeting was called to order by President Cathy Tibbett at 7:08 p.m.

Members present: Sandy Lawson, Cathy Tibbett, Will Karr, Wayne Olsen, Ese Osumili, Jack Armstrong, Vicki Luoma, Pastor Rita Chirala

Members absent: Steve Sanderson

Devotions: Vicki Luoma gave devotions. Devotions for February – Cathy Tibbett

Sandy Lawson made a motion to accept the minutes of November 17, 2020. Seconded by Will Karr. Motion carried. Sandy Lawson made a motion to accept the minutes of December 8, 2020. Seconded by Jack Armstrong. Motion carried. Will Karr made a motion to accept the minutes of January 5, 2021. Seconded by Jack Armstrong. Motion carried.

Future meetings:

Annual Congregational meeting – February 14, 2021

Council meeting - Tuesday, February 16, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

Counters: February – Cathy Tibbett, Jack Armstrong

Old Business:

Future Church services – Sandy Lawson made a motion for the church to be open for in-person services beginning February 7, 2021. Seconded by Wayne Olsen. Motion carried.

Annual meeting – The annual meeting will be February 14, 2021 after the church service. Wayne Olsen made a motion to hold the Annual meeting electronically and in person, if possible. Seconded by Sandy Lawson. Motion carried.

Council members to be nominated – Three positions are open on the Church Council.

Online Giving – Will Karr is continuing to investigate online giving.

Committee to revise Church Constitution – Sandy Lawson, Will Karr, and Cathy Tibbett will meet Feb. 9 at 1:00 to work on revising the constitution.

New Business:

Ash Wednesday – There will be a service in the morning at 10:30. There will be a drive thru to receive ashes from after the morning service until 3:00. Sandy Lawson made a motion to implement Pastor Rita's plan for Ash Wednesday. Seconded by Jack Armstrong. Motion carried.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Rita gave her Pastor's report.

Committee Reports:

Christian Education – Sunday School materials have been delivered to the students. This will be continued.

Come to the Table – No Report, **Endowment** – No Report, **Fellowship** – No Report

Worship and Music – The Christmas Eve service was beautiful. People were happy to have DVD's and to be able to take communion. Sean did a wonderful job taping and putting the DVD together. Ruth Ann and Pastor will plan Ash Wednesday service. Pastor Rita will prepare mid-week devotions during Lent. DVD's will not be made for Easter. Live streaming will continue. Next meeting Feb. 24 at 6:30 p.m.

Membership – No Report

Outreach – The pavilion at Sherman Park will be available this summer. The cost is \$250.

Stewardship – A stewardship letter will be sent to each member of the congregation.

Finance – Wayne gave the Financial report.

Property – No Report

Memorial – No Report

Campus Ministry – No Report

WELCA – No Report

Staff Support – The evaluation for Sean Uhrig will be Feb. 3 at 1:00. A motion was made by Sandy Lawson to accept the committee reports including the pastor's report. Seconded by Wayne Olsen. Motion carried.

Motion to adjourn: Will Karr made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Sandy Lawson. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Vicki Luoma, Council Secretary



MARCH 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Psalm 105:1-11, 37-45	2 Hebrews 11:1-3, 13-19	3 Jeremiah 30:12-22	4 1 Peter 2:4-10	5 Exodus 19:9b-15	6 Exodus 19:16-25
7 John 2:13-22	8 Psalm 84	9 Hebrews 9:23-28	10 Mark 11:15-19	11 Ephesians 1:3-6	12 Ephesians 1:7-14	13 Numbers 20:22-29
14 John 3:14-21 <i>Daylights Savings Time</i>	15 Psalm 107:1-16	16 1 Corinthians 10:6-13	17 Isaiah 60:15-22	18 Hebrews 4:1-13	19 Matthew 1:16, 18-21, 24a	20 John 12:1-11
21 John 12:20-33	22 Psalm 119:9-16	23 Acts 2:14-24	24 Haggai 2:1-9, 20-23	25 Isaiah 7:10-14	26 Philippians 2:12-18	27 Jeremiah 33:10-16
28 Mark 14:1-15:47 Palm Sunday	29 Psalm 36:5-11	30 1 Corinthians 1:18-31	31 Isaiah 50:4-9a			

PATHFINDER



FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH*

YEAR OF MARK & JOHN

MARCH 2021

LENT

Phone: 906-632-7246

Email: faithlc1966@att.net

Website: <http://www.faithlutheransaultstemarie.org>

* A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

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SAULT STE. MARIE, MI 49783

