

FAITH ALIVE

February 2019

Our Mission

Our Mission is to lead people to Christ, incorporating them into the life of the church, and equipping one another for effective Christian living.

Our Vision

We are a vital, dynamic Christ-centered church reaching out to others and to one another in His name. Among us God is worshipped and glorified, faith is nurtured, and the abundant life is empowered.



Pastoral Staff

SENIOR PASTOR

Dr. Bruce Wilder

ASSOCIATE PASTORS

Pr. Jerry Watts

Pr. Carol Clark

Director of Operations

Amber R. Otero

Church Council

Joel Edwards, President

Matt Meyer, VP

Dustin Cook

Lisa Espelien

Daniel Gahan

Karen Kainer

Tamara Leyba

Heather Martin

Chrissy Pease

Alex Zimmerman

Faith Alive Editor

Katarina Nagy



From the Senior Pastor

Dear Friends in Christ:

Glory days...

Bruce Springsteen and the E Street Band sang about them.

Football fans in Cleveland remember them when Jim Brown averaged 5.2 yards per carry.

Church members talk about them.

As time goes on, many church people remember the glory days gone by with great affection when "things were so much better." Retired pastors I know talk about the "glory days" of "if you build it, they will come." In other words, church growth was as easy as building a new sanctuary in the right location... and then people would come and fill it.

I remember those glory days too. Truth be told, some things were categorically not better about them. Some things were much worse in those "glory days" than they are now. As for church growth, I've witnessed many a new church building through the years that never attracted the anticipated crowds.

That said, here are some statistics we all need to take into consideration (www.churchleadership.org):

· Every year more than 4000 churches close their doors compared to just over 1000 new church starts

· From 1990 to 2000, the combined membership of all denominations in the U.S. declined by almost 5 million members (9.5 percent), while the U.S. population increased by 24 million (11 percent)

· At the turn of the century in 1900, there was a ratio of 27 churches per 10,000 people, as compared to the year 2000 with just 11 churches per 10,000 people in America

· The United States now ranks third following China and India in the number of people who are not professing Christians; in other words, the U.S. is becoming an ever increasing "un-reached people group"

· Half of all churches in the US did not add any new members to their ranks in the last two years.

When I think and pray on these things, I give thanks to God for the many blessings that are ours as members of Faith. I thank the Lord for visitors each weekend and new members joining with each Welcome to Faith Seminar. Even so, we have work to do. Our mission is to lead other people to Christ. What are you doing in this regard? Are you greeting people you don't recognize after worship? Are you inviting friends, coworkers, neighbors and classmates to worship with you?

Glory days? I'd rather give all glory to God for what He is doing now than think about how much better things were 20 or 30 years ago. I want to move forward, not backward. I want to fix my eyes on Jesus and finish what He has marked out for us. (Hebrews 12:1-3)

Yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive that reads "Bruce".

GENERAL NEWS

Deaths

- † Kim Legant's mother, Connie Moss - December 3, 2018
- † Sue Brown's sister, Mara Sterner - December 5, 2018
- † Peggy Kelly's sister, Becky Talati - December 14, 2018
- † Susan Puls' brother, Ronald Reuber - December 29, 2018
- † Phil Middleton's sister, Marilyn Middleton - December 29, 2018
- † Phil Thomas - January 2, 2019
- † Pam Hall's mother, Elizabeth Skipper - January 3, 2019
- † Harriet Salathe - January 4, 2019
- † Bryan Byrd's father, Jim Byrd - January 2019
- † Mabel Desterhouse - January 9, 2019
- † Remo Gay's sister, Marilyn Montgomery - January 2019
- † Derek Wilder - January 20, 2019

Hospital and Home Visits

Our pastors visit members in the hospital and in rehabilitation centers, and also bring Communion to the homebound. If you are in need of this pastoral care, please contact the church office with the location and room number. Thank you!

Prayer Chain

Volunteers for this ministry respond to all prayer requests by praying for the names they receive. All names are confidential. To notify us of a prayer need, please contact Barbara Peterson at 898-6093 or Cheryl Dix at 280-2101 or 771-2014, or call the church office at 296-0762.

2018 GENEROSITY INITIATIVE - \$55,000

CareNet Pregnancy Centers of Albuquerque	\$6,050	Roadrunner Food Bank of NM	\$11,000
EEMN	\$10,450	Steelbridge of Albuquerque	\$11,550
Faith Comes by Hearing	\$6,050	The Salvation Army of Albuquerque	\$9,900

MEET THE STAFF



Anne & Chuck Clark

As the Children of Faith Preschool Director since September 2001, I have had the opportunity to work with so many of the Faith Lutheran Church families as well as the families in the community. It has truly been a rewarding journey to see so many of the COF children grow in their faith and become actively involved in serving the Lord in their lives.

I was born and raised here in Albuquerque, NM, and was blessed to be a member of FLC since I was a young child. Growing up at FLC taught me the importance of serving the Lord and committing your life to following Him. I was truly blessed to become the preschool director here at Faith over 18 years ago, and each year I have gotten to work with so many wonderful children.

I graduated from Southern California College in the spring of 1994 with my Bachelor's Degree in early childhood and elementary education as well as earning my multiple subject credential for K-8. I have worked in business management as well as education throughout my career. I have had the opportunity to work in early childhood education for over 20 years. It has been a true joy and pleasure to work as a teaching assistant, lead teacher, and currently as a preschool director. I am so fortunate to be able to work in a Christian Preschool and to share the message of Jesus each and every day.

My husband, Chuck, and I are thankful to be involved in a church where we can be supported and encouraged to grow in our relationship with God. Chuck is an Instructional Designer at the Albuquerque Police Academy. Our daughter, Abbie, attends Lubbock Christian University and is pursuing her degree in Early Childhood Education.

I am truly thankful to each and every one of you and the continual support you have given throughout the years!

Anne Clark, Children of Faith Preschool Director

PASTORS' GREETINGS



Pr. Jerry Watts

This February we are reminded to love Jesus by loving our neighbor. Of course God calls us to do this every day. Together as God's people we stir one another on to put this into practice **February 22-23** with our Feed the Need event.

Children, youth, and families are invited for fellowship, fun, and worship on Friday, February 22, followed by a morning of service at the Road Runner Foodbank on February 23. We are blessed by the support of Thrivent Financial and Chick-fil-A on Montgomery Blvd whose support will provide for the cost of meals and the fun so our volunteers are inspired and equipped to serve. I hope you will invite friends and families to join us for this annual tradition.



Last year we packed thousands of pounds of food for hungry families throughout New Mexico; what we will do this year I hope will be equally as impactful. But I pray the impact is greater than just what we can do in one or two days. My prayer is that these acts of service will inspire small groups, families, and individuals to continue serving the Lord in like manner all year long. When you invite friends and neighbors to serve with us they discover that we serve because Jesus first loved us. Conversations can abound providing opportunities to speak of His great love. Jesus does the extraordinary often through the ordinary; "Feeding the Need" through the power of the Spirit can very literally move from filling hungry stomachs to mending broken hearts. These acts of service, these opportunities for transformation can be part of our everyday lives all year long.

Find out more information on our website or in the Fellowship Hall and consider being a part of this Gospel work in February.

Pr. Jerry

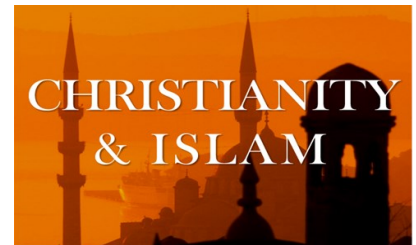


Pr. Carol Clark

I have a couple of opportunities for learning and fellowship to share with you this month.

Christianity & Islam Returns!

Christianity & Islam was first offered in the spring of 2016. After many requests for a return of this class, I am happy to tell you that it will repeat in February and March. This five-week class series will rerun on Sunday mornings beginning February 17 at 9:30 and 11:00 and Wednesday evenings beginning February 20 at 6:30.



Christianity & Islam is a very timely topic, which informs our understanding of current events, and so I hope many of you will participate. Our topic is NOT American politics and the military! Building on a strong theological foundation, we will look extensively at history to glean insights into the world today. This class is an excellent opportunity

to invite friends and family to Faith. Many non-members have attended this class in the past and been enriched with new understanding. I have hundreds of images to show as part of this class, and there is time for discussion and questions in each session. The following book is recommended reading for the class: *Seeking Allah, Finding Jesus* by Nabeel Qureshi. Please plan to purchase and read it in advance of attending the class.

Christianity & Islam will meet downstairs in the Lecture Hall. Registration forms are available in the worship bulletins and in the Fellowship Hall.

LUNCH AND LEARN

Lunch & Learn is our noontime fellowship group. Each month we gather for a good meal together at noon, followed by presentations on a great variety of topics. Here is what's coming up.

February - Faith member Chrissy Pease of Sound Choice Hearing will be our presenter on **Thursday, February 28**. With over 10 years of experience, Sound Choice Hearing fits and dispenses the most sophisticated hearing aid technology to suit all types of hearing loss, lifestyles, and budgets. This is an opportunity to learn about hearing evaluations and the options in hearing aids.

March - Our speaker in March is Elissa Ulibarri of Challenge New Mexico. Since 1992, Challenge New Mexico has been helping children and adults with disabilities experience therapeutic horseback riding - and the phenomenal benefits that come from being with horses. Join us on **Thursday, March 28**, for this presentation.

Please register in the Fellowship Hall for each Lunch & Learn opportunity. This helps our kitchen staff know how many meals to prepare. A \$5 donation is received to cover the cost of the food.

Dominus vobiscum.

Pr. Carol

MILITARY SUPPORT MINISTRY TEAM

PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY

Dominic Anderson	Russ Graef	Sean Ryan
John Bohnhoff	James Hansen	Brandon Saxton
Daniel Brinson	Chris Hinnerichs	Courtney Werth
Jeremiah Brinson	Robert Krause	William Werth
Brandi Brown	Phillip Levison	Craig Wheeler
James Butcher ★	Ryan Loyd	Canyon Wilder
Rebecca Castillo	Matthew Lueders	Patrick Winkels
William Cheshire	Gaetano Mangano	Shane Zimmerman ★
Chad Craner	Jonathan McDivitt	
Melissa Craner	Daniel Miranda	
Bria Day	Faun O'Brien	
Timothy Everhard	Ryan O'Brien	
Joshua Fanning	Carl Powell	
William Fink	Jason F. Ruetschilling	★ New Addition



Military Support Ministry Team Mission Statement

To support our men and women of the United States Military through sharing the word of God and encouraging their morale and welfare.

THANK *You!*

Dear Faith Quilters,

On behalf of the board, staff and residents of S.A.F.E. House, I'd like to thank you for your 2018 Quilt Auction donation of \$785 to our shelter. Your generous gift will help further our mission to shelter and empower survivors of intimate partner domestic violence. Please know that you did more than provide us with a gift - you aided the many adults and children who are working to rebuild their lives.

With full hearts we are grateful for you,

Patricia Gonzales, Executive Director

Pastor Bruce,

Thank you and your entire congregation for the care package sent to me while deployed to Afghanistan...especially during the holidays. It is great to get something from home. Merry Christmas!

Jonathan McDivitt

Dear Faith Lutheran Church,

You have been key to lives being transformed! Thank you for your continued giving and prayerful support for Steelbridge. Your November 2018 \$1,000 gift allows us the privilege to continue to serve those most in need.

Sincerely,

Pastor John W. Hill, President/CEO

Dear Pastor Bruce,

Thank you and your congregation so much for your 2018 Generosity Initiative donation of \$6,050 to Faith Comes By Hearing. Your gift is very timely, as the holidays are often a very difficult season for our service members and their families. Through your generosity we can provide the truth, hope, and peace of the Word of God to our troops and veterans via the Military BibleStick. Again, thank you. Together we are providing *Hope for our Heroes!*

Your Servant in Christ,

Morgan Jackson, Senior Vice President

Dear Faith Lutheran,

Thank you for the \$500 gift to help our Standing Rock seniors with firewood and coal. This money is extremely helpful especially with the winter weather we have been experiencing. Thank you also to the Quilters who provided lovely warm quilts. All of your assistance is appreciated!

Sincerely,

Ro Ellsworth Little

FEBRUARY 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
3 8:00, 9:30, 11:00a - Worship 8:00, 9:30, 11:00a - Adult SS* 9:30a - Groundfloor YW* 9:30a - Youth SS* 9:30a - EPIC*	4 9:30a - Dorcas Needlework Grp 6:30p - Cub Scout Pack 166 7:00p - Boy Scout Troop 166 7:00p - SOS Men's AA 7:15p - Campanas de Fe	5 8:30a - Faith Quilters 8:30a - Martha Mission 5:00p - REFUEL 6:30p - Stephen Ministry 7:00p - Emmaus Band	6 8:30a - Faith Quilters 9:30a - Ruth & Sarah BSG* 6:00p - Mid-week Programs* 6:00p - Chancel Choir 6:30p - Fruit of the Spirit 6:30p - Adult Bible Study	7 9:00a - Raising God's Miracles 10:00a - Mission & Service MT* 6:30p - Greeting Card Group OS*	1 7:00a - Men's Breakfast OS* 9:30a - Friday Morning BSG* 8:00p - Smokeless AA	2 7:00a - Men of Faith OS* 8:00a - Stephen Ministry Training 9:00a - Back to Basics AI-Anon 5:00p - Saturday Worship
10 8:00, 9:30, 11:00a - Worship 8:00, 9:30, 11:00a - Adult SS* 9:30a - Groundfloor YW* 9:30a - Youth SS* 9:30a - EPIC* 12:00p - Church Family Potluck	11 6:00p - Military Support MT* 6:30p - Cub Scout Pack 166 7:00p - Boy Scout Troop 166 7:00p - SOS Men's AA 7:15p - Campanas de Fe	12 8:30a - Faith Quilters 8:30a - Martha Mission 7:00p - Emmaus Band 7:00p - Church Council	13 8:30a - Faith Quilters 9:30a - Ruth & Sarah BSG* 6:00p - Mid-week Programs* 6:00p - Chancel Choir 6:00p - Dinner Out 50+ - OS* 6:30p - Fruit of the Spirit 6:30p - Adult Bible Study	14 9:00a - Raising God's Miracles OS*	15 7:00a - Men's Breakfast OS* 9:30a - Friday Morning BSG* 8:00p - Smokeless AA	16 7:00a - Men of Faith 8:00a - Stephen Ministry Training 9:00a - Back to Basics AI-Anon 5:00p - Saturday Worship
17 8:00, 9:30, 11:00a - Worship 8:00, 9:30, 11:00a - Adult SS* 9:30a - Groundfloor YW* 9:30a - Youth SS* 9:30a - EPIC* 12:15p - Women's MT*	18 9:30a - Dorcas Needlework Grp 6:30p - Cub Scout Pack 166 7:00p - Boy Scout Troop 166 7:00p - SOS Men's AA 7:15p - Campanas de Fe	19 8:30a - Faith Quilters 8:30a - Martha Mission 6:00p - Ambassadors MT* 7:00p - Women's Book Club 7:00p - Emmaus Band	20 8:30a - Faith Quilters 9:30a - Ruth & Sarah BSG* 6:00p - Mid-week Programs* 6:00p - Chancel Choir 6:30p - Fruit of the Spirit 6:30p - Adult Bible Study	21 9:00a - Raising God's Miracles	22 7:00a - Men's Breakfast OS* 9:30a - Friday Morning BSG* 8:00p - Smokeless AA	23 7:00a - Men of Faith 8:00a - Stephen Ministry Training 9:00a - Back to Basics AI-Anon 5:00p - Saturday Worship
24 8:00, 9:30, 11:00a - Worship 8:00, 9:30, 11:00a - Adult SS* 9:30a - Groundfloor YW* 9:30a - Youth SS* 9:30a - EPIC*	25 6:30p - Cub Scout Pack 166 7:00p - Boy Scout Troop 166 7:00p - SOS Men's AA 7:15p - Campanas de Fe	26 8:30a - Faith Quilters 8:30a - Martha Mission 5:00p - REFUEL 7:00p - Emmaus Band	27 8:30a - Faith Quilters 9:30a - Ruth & Sarah BSG* 6:00p - Mid-week Programs* 6:00p - Chancel Choir 6:30p - Fruit of the Spirit 6:30p - Adult Bible Study	28 9:00a - Raising God's Miracles OS* Noon - Lunch & Learn	Mid-week Menu 6 - Chicken 13 - Spaghetti 20 - Meatballs 27 - Pizza	

← Feed the Need February 22-23 →

* Abbreviations

BSG - Bible Study Group, EPIC - Encouraging People in Christ, MT - Ministry Team, OS - Off-Site, SS - Sunday School, YW - Youth Worship
 Mid-week Programs include: Dinner, WEBS, Grapple, SURF & Refuge

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH
10,000 Spain Rd NE
Albuquerque, NM 87111

Phone: 505-296-0762
Fax: 505-291-5576
Email: faith@faithabq.org
Website: www.faithabq.org

Children of Faith Preschool
www.cofschool.com

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage
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Permit No. 655

Current Resident or...

Thank the Lord for:

Mailing Address

Happy Birthday!

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1 Krista Bonfantine | 13 Reagan Allison, Joanna Eckstein,
Joan Reel, John Russell, Erik Strack | 23 Keith Bauer, Shang-Ying Clark, Wona
Deverman, Lisa Espelien, Jennifer
Manteufel, Annikah Vreeland |
| 2 David Anderson, Patricia Middleton | 14 Natalie Benson, Jeannine Bulot, Jackie
Pedersen | 24 Gideon Cook, Linda Cottle, Cheryl Dix,
David Harstad, Robbie Mech, Kim
Stake |
| 3 Lindsay Eckelman, Edna Moore | 15 Charly Cox, Rhyanne Dorrell, Joel
Edwards, Ken Rogers | 25 Emeline Allen, Ina Cook, Anup Dean,
Carrie Heincelman, Sarah Kelly, Jeff
Lawrence |
| 4 Scott Strachan, Jr. | 16 Irma Ontko, Samson Riddle | 26 Richard Desterhouse |
| 5 Donna Burnett, Emily Caldwell, Donna
Halvorson, Kathy O'Connor, Dick Peres | 17 Ron Christensen, Nicole Cox, James
McLeod, Trudy Randour | 27 Brad Jenkins, Mark Stavig, Lindsay
Stutz |
| 6 Shea Burrell, Nancy Capels, Irene
Fjelseth, Emily Gahan, Brittany Griffith,
Sherry Wubbels | 18 Andy Anderson, Marjorie Cromey,
Sharon Lanting, Peter Larson, Abbey
Strachan, Zoe Watts, Elizabeth Wilder | 28 Emily Doerr, Eric Dudley, Susan
Hennie, Lisa Lachmann, Alexis
Schesser, Doug Weiss |
| 7 Casey Dunbar, Grant Hall, Phil Mayo,
Barbara Ruggieri, Romy Webb | 19 Sue Brown, Theresa Campbell, Kati
Covel, Cheryle Hinnerichs, Michael
Leyba, Valerie McLeod, Byron Zelin | 29 Diane Umprovitch |
| 8 Marisa Oberdorfer, Matthew
Oberdorfer, Erik Peterson, Scott
Strachan, Sr. | 20 Sabrina Goodfellow, Lily Hausermann | |
| 9 Kristine Armijo, Yvonne Deshayes,
David Gibbs, Jeannie Kramer | 21 Linda Geiszler, Sally Lowder, Roger
Jacobson, Richard Sena, Samantha
Walker | |
| 10 Amber Otero, Jessica Burwinkle | 22 Beau Anderson, Mike Peters, Brad
Steward, Alex Zimmerman | |
| 11 Ron Blasing, Mary Harper | | |
| 12 James Beakley, Cori Espelien, Vicki
Kirkpatrick, Chris Rabi | | |