

Pastor Janneke's Page

Faith Lutheran Church, Sioux Falls, SD
February 24 & 25, 2018

What is 40 Days for Life?

In this Lenten season, I invite you to join Pastor Aker, myself, and thousands of Christians around the nation in a peaceful prayer vigil called "40 Days for Life." Faith Lutheran's vigil date is Saturday, March 17.



In this season, we give thanks for the amazing grace of God that He would send His Son to give His life for us and for the forgiveness of all our sins. Can we give just an hour of our lives to *pray*? We've been blessed with the privilege of life—how can we use that privilege to speak up for the lives of others? Let's pray for our unborn neighbors; let's pray for those struggling with the possibility of an abortion or any other action against God's gift of life. Let's pray for those who are hurting from an abortion in their past. Let's pray for our society, that we would value and welcome even those who are the most weak or vulnerable.

Faith's prayer vigil takes place from 7am-7pm on March 7. The location is the sidewalk in front of Sioux Falls' Planned Parenthood affiliate (6511 W. 41st St). You can sign up for an hour-long portion of the vigil or find more information at the welcome desk in Faith's entryway.

What's happening on April 22?

If you've been reading your News Notes, perhaps you noticed that we are planning a unique event at Faith for Sunday, April 22. Here are a few more details: this event will be called **Contemplate** and will be geared toward middle school youth, high school youth, and adults of all ages. Together, we'll be contemplating the possibility of serving in professional church work, perhaps as a pastor, teacher, missionary, Director of Christian Education (DCE), or deaconess. The need for workers in the Lord's harvest field is tremendous (Matt. 9:37). Let's begin conversations within our families, congregations, and Lutheran schools about church work. Let's encourage those youth and adults in whom we see the potential for serving in full-time church work. *Contemplate* will feature some special music, food, stories and Q & A with local church workers, and information from our Concordia Universities and Concordia Seminaries. Attending does not mean you must "sign on the dotted line" and become a pastor or missionary! I encourage you to simply come and learn more. **Please mark your calendars for Sunday, April 22, from 5:00-7:00 p.m.**

What's in the entryway?

Here's a brief rundown of some of the things in Faith's entryway:

SCRIP: The **S**chool Tuition **R**eduction **I**ncentive **P**rogram is offered to promote the Christian education of the students at Sioux Falls Lutheran School. SCRIP helps parents earn tuition credit for their own tuition account. You can also purchase SCRIP in support of the school or in support of school families even if you do not have children at the school. Through the SCRIP program you can purchase gift cards to many local businesses, restaurants, grocery stores, etc. Marge Holm is available at the welcome desk Saturday evenings and Clara Johnson and other volunteers are available on Sunday mornings to help you with SCRIP purchases.

Church Library: Faith has made some great improvements to its church library over the past several years. If you haven't checked it out lately, I encourage you to do so! There are great resources in a variety of categories, such as Defending the Faith, Devotions, Men or Women of Faith, and much more. (Thank you, Chris Hartman, for your dedication in maintaining our library!)

Donations: Faith accepts donations for a number of things in our entryway, including pop tabs for Ronald McDonald House, Box Tops for Education (for SFLS), and used printer cartridges/used cell phones (for SFLS). Also, we are currently gathering winter weather items for needy neighbors (see "Bundle Up Sioux Falls" in the News Notes).

Children's Activity Bags: These are available for children to use during worship services. They include quiet toys, books, drawing pads, and crayons to keep little hands occupied.

What about "blogs"?

Blogs have been increasingly utilized in the past several years by people in all walks of life. I've been interested in creating a blog for a while and I finally got around to it! I've just launched a blog at timesofrefreshing.blog. The title is drawn from Acts 3:20. Blogging gives me an opportunity to share some thoughts or devotions that I may not have time for in sermons or Bible study. Check it out and share your thoughts.

Also, please check out Pastor Aker's blog, "Armor of God," at coreyaker.wordpress.com. You can find daily Lenten devotions both on Pastor Aker's blog and on our church website.

Blessed Lent,
Pastor Kory Janneke