

# The Follower

"Come, follow me." Matthew 4:19



A monthly newsletter of Faith Lutheran Ministries

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January 2026



**MLK**  
MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.  
DAY OF SERVICE

Monday, Jan. 19  
Campus Closed



January 25 - 30



student-led  
**worship**

Sunday, January 25

## Worship Service Times

Sunday Worship Services

**Traditional - 8:15 am**

**Contemporary - 10:45 am**

Holy Communion is served on the 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of each month.

Livestream available at:

<https://faithlutheranlacey.online.church>

## Gather & Grow

### Children's Sunday School

Sunday School is open for children ages 3 – high school. We gather in the church at 9:30am. Join us weekly!

**The Acts of the Apostles**— Leader: Michael Kramer  
Luke's sequel to his gospel is all about foundations. The study continues Sunday, Dec. 28 @ 9:30 am in the Cypress room.

## 3M's Fellowship

The 3Ms are a group of **More Mature Members** and friends, ages 55+.

The group normally meets in the Community Center weekly on Thursdays at 10 am to share in fellowship and study God's Word, however, they will meet in the church during the season of Lent.

For more information, contact Jim Nordness at 360-923-0289 or leave a note in his church mailbox. You may also call the church office at 360-491-3552.

## Prayer Chain

If you would like to be a part of the Faith Lutheran Prayer Chain, please let the church office know.

Prayer requests should be sent to Holly Carr, 253.533.0022 or [teecarr5@gmail.com](mailto:teecarr5@gmail.com). Immediate prayers should be texted.



**Jan. 4**

**Set up:** Robyn Hofstad, Monica Materiale

**Refresh:** Rachel Wilson

**Clear:** Erin Holmquist

**Jan. 18**

**Set up:** Marie Koehler

**Refresh:** Rachel Wilson

**Clear:** Leona Carufel

## Altar Guild Needs You!

Altar Guild is looking for a few extra hands. We would love to have you join us!

If you are interested in joining us or would like more information, please contact Robyn Hofstad at [robynhofstad@yahoo.com](mailto:robynhofstad@yahoo.com) or call, 360-561-8244.

## Pinochle



Don't forget Pinochle, monthly on the third Thursday. We are always looking for more people to come. If you have friends who play but are not members, please invite them. The more the merrier. We bring a snack to share and eat around 11:30, then we play from 12 -2 or so. Plan to come join the fun!

Our next game is on January 15 in the Community Center Cypress room.

## Threads of Faith



Threads of Faith typically meets the *second Saturday* monthly to work on quilts.

*We'll see you Sat, Jan. 10, 9 – 11 am!*

Contact Barbara Eriksen with questions at 360- 915-3333.

## Office Reminder

As a reminder, please inform the church office anytime you have changes to your address, phone number, or email address. This way we can keep our records current and we can be sure you are getting the information we send out. Please call or email the office at 360-491-3552 or [faithlutheranlacey360@gmail.com](mailto:faithlutheranlacey360@gmail.com).

## Care Warriors on a Mission

You are important to us! We want to support you in prayer and help when you need it.

Please ask your family to contact us when sickness, emergencies or scheduled/unscheduled surgeries and medical procedures are required. We want to be an extension of God's love to your family.

Church office, 360-491-3552  
Glenn Dunnam, 360-791-4175  
SuAnn Denning, 360-790-8982

## Faith Lutheran Youth

### Open Gym Nights

Students in **5th–12th grades** are invited to Open Gym on Saturday, January 10 and January 24, from 6:00–8:00 PM. These evenings provide a fun, safe space for fellowship, games, and building friendships.

### High School Youth Group

Our High School Youth Group (9th–12th grades) will continue meeting every other Wednesday night, beginning January 7, from 6:00–7:30 PM. This semester, students will be continuing "*The Faith*" by StoryMakers, a series that invites teens to explore what it means to live out their faith by walking through the **Apostles' Creed**. Through teaching, discussion, and prayer, students will deepen their understanding of what they believe and why it matters.

Please keep our youth and leaders in your prayers as we begin this new year together.

Interested in being involved? Reach out to Justin Bevers at [jbevers02@gmail.com](mailto:jbevers02@gmail.com) or call/text 360-292-0353.

## Sunday Morning Fellowship

Happy New Year from your fellowship team.

We would like to thank everyone who helps on Saturdays and Sundays to set up, clean up and provide baked goods and fruit for everyone to enjoy. It is a blessing to have delicious treats and warm drinks as our weather turns cooler. You are all welcome to bring Christmas treats on Sunday mornings. You can place them on the food table on Sunday mornings or drop them off between 9 and 10 on Saturday mornings when we are in the kitchen setting up. If you have any questions, contact Ruth at 360-493-2979.

## Sanctity of Human Life

### Sanctity of Human Life Sunday January 18, 2026

On January 22, 1984, President Ronald Reagan issued a presidential proclamation designating the third Sunday of January (or close to that) as National Sanctity of Human Life Day.

Pastors, churches and life organizations across the United States use this day to bring awareness to the attacks that are daily waged against human life through the abortion industry.

One of the best ways we can protect unborn lives is by bringing into the light the darkness of abortion, and supporting local Pregnancy Help Organizations who daily reach women and families with messages of hope and life.

The Lord called me from the womb,  
from the body of my mother he named my name.

**Isaiah 49:1**

## Baby Bottle Campaign

January is Sanctity of Human Life month, and we will be celebrating by handing out baby bottles from Options Pregnancy Clinic for you to fill with coins, bills or a check. The Baby Bottle Campaign will start on Sunday, January 11 and continue for a month. Be on the lookout for baby bottles after each service. Thank you for your support for life!!



**Baby bottles will be due on  
Sunday, February 15.**

## Birthdays and Anniversaries

### January Birthdays

Bart Shrum	Jan 1
Alex Read	Jan 2
Nicholas Chappel	Jan 9
Shaun Abbott	Jan 10
Randy Eriksen	Jan 11
Jeff Hughes	Jan 16
Jim Pedrick	Jan 17
Robin McMillen	Jan 18
Ethan Carr	Jan 20
Bill Hamaker	Jan 21
Zander Staidle	Jan 21
Diana Strand	Jan 23
Robert Burnett	Jan 27
Trisha Rule	Jan 28
Jenny Wilson	Jan 28
Jim Gilbert	Jan 30
Rachel Wilson	Jan 31



### January Anniversaries

Chris & Michelle Chappel	Jan 3
John & Dianna Zander	Jan 7
Dean & Jan Pigman	Jan 13



*Don't see your name or birthday/anniversary up here? Contact the church office 360-491-3552.*

## Thrivent Choice Dollars

If you are a Thrivent account holder, likely you are aware that you can have impact through Choice Dollars. Depending on the type and number of accounts you have, you can regularly direct Choice dollars to any of several thousand approved charitable organizations. Faith Lutheran Church and Faith Lutheran School are two of those. While the amount may not be great, the impact of your giving always is. Visit [Thrivent.com](http://Thrivent.com) for additional information.

Also, Thrivent members are eligible to join Thrivent Action Teams which can get seed money towards fund-raising for any number of projects, including scholarships, silent auctions (like Faith's annual auction), or raising money for school supplies. If you are a Thrivent member and are interested, contact Michael Kramer ([michael\\_kramer@sbcglobal.net](mailto:michael_kramer@sbcglobal.net)).

## Sanctuary Project: Giving

We hope that our congregation members and our Faith school and childcare community will continue to prayerfully consider giving to this project. Giving any amount is appreciated! There is a special "Sanctuary Project" fund set up to make sure all donations go to the right place.

**Envelopes:** We have brightly colored envelopes with special labels available in the Fellowship Hall, School office, and Church office. Cash or checks can be put in those envelopes and put in the offering, or given to the school or church offices. Please write **Sanctuary Project** in the memo line on any checks meant for the project.

**Breeze:** If you give via the Breeze app, there is a special line on the drop-down menu for the **Sanctuary Project**, so you can designate your donation correctly.

**Offering:** If you put a check in the offering, please make sure to put **Sanctuary Project** in the memo line.

**Thrivent Choice Dollars:** If you have a Thrivent account with Thrivent Choice dollars available, you can designate them for the **Sanctuary Project** at Faith Lutheran through Thrivent. If you have questions about how to do that, please contact your Thrivent representative.

**Required Minimum Distributions (RMD's) or Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCD's):** Certain retirement accounts, like IRA's and 401(k)'s, require a minimum amount of money you must withdraw each year from the account once you reach a certain age. You can direct your financial representative to direct those RMD's and QCD's to the Faith Lutheran **Sanctuary Project**. The church tax ID#, which you will need to give to your financial representative handling the distribution, is 91-0869828. The end of the year is the perfect time to do that!

**Designated Donation:** If you would like to make a project donation directly, you can send it to the church office or contact Jenn Bache for assistance. Just make sure it's designated for the **Sanctuary Project**.

If you have any questions about the project, please let me know. My email is [mattkoehler@flschool.org](mailto:mattkoehler@flschool.org)

Thank you for your donations!

## So Many Blessings

By Matt Koehler, Campus Manager

Almost every month in my newsletter article, I talk about all the things going on with the campus facilities. With almost 9 acres, six buildings from 60 to 10 years old, and hundreds of people using our facilities almost every day, there is certainly much to do keeping everything in good shape. But as we start the new year, I wanted to remind everyone (and myself) about all the blessings that happen around here every day. In December, we had a variety of Christmas programs with children singing and praising God, special services to celebrate the birth of our savior, and class and staff Christmas parties to celebrate the holiday together. It took me two trips to take all the giving tree gifts to the Salvation Army because of the wonderful generosity of our Faith family. And in our first month of our three-month fundraising drive for the Sanctuary Project, we are almost to our \$150,000 goal at the time I'm writing this! Thank you so much to everyone who gives of their time, talents, and treasures to make these things happen!

As often happens during heavy rains and windy days, our Community Center roof developed a couple small leaks, but Madsen Roofing came and sealed them up to avoid serious damage. This company is always so helpful and responds quickly for us. We also had a leak in a water heater pump, and a few other plumbing issues around campus, but thankfully M & M Plumbing was able to come and help us keep things "flowing". M & M is a family owned, Christian business that has been such a blessing to us over the years. These are just two of the many local companies we depend on to help us keep our campus running smoothly. I fix what I can, and Property Trustee John Schmedake volunteers many hours each month to help with my never-ending "to do" list, but calling in expert help is vital to the health of our campus. And I'm so thankful for the small group of dedicated volunteers that help with the many ongoing jobs like cleaning up leaves, mowing, weeding, painting, putting up Christmas lights, and so much more.

I also want to mention and thank our fantastic custodial staff. Seven days a week, they make sure our bathrooms are cleaned, floors are vacuumed and mopped, garbage is taken out, and all the other important cleaning tasks are done to keep our students, visitors and all of us healthy and safe. Joey, Brian, Ashley, Eric, Johanna, Jacqueline, and Rick are the glue that keeps our campus together.

We keep making progress toward our Sanctuary Project. I was hopeful that we would be able to raise our goal amount in the three months, but God has blessed us with so many generous people who have donated in the first month that I anticipate we will exceed our goal! I continue to get information, seek out contractors and bids for the various parts of the project, and prepare for the start of the project. There are a lot of moving parts to the project that will have to be coordinated and planned, but God keeps leading me to the right people and companies so I'm confident it will all come together.

I do have one need that I haven't found an answer to yet, so I thought I would ask for your help. We will need a place to put all the pews while we do the construction phase of the project, so I'm looking for someone with a large shop or warehouse space that we can borrow or rent for a month or two. We have 30 pews that will need a temporary home in June and July, so if you know someone who might have a property that can help us, please let me know.

Once again, I'm so thankful for the many blessings I see every day around our Faith Lutheran community, and I appreciate all of you who keep our campus in your thoughts and prayers!

*grateful ♥ thankful ♥ blessed*



## National Lutheran Schools Week

Faith Lutheran School will celebrate NLSW, Jan. 25 – 30, with special dress-up days and activities that highlight our school spirit, faith, and community.

### Students Sing in Worship: Sunday, Jan. 25

Students will sing at the Faith Lutheran worship services at **8:15 AM** or **10:45 AM**.

### Middle School Bake Sale: Sunday Jan. 25

A bake sale will be held between services as a fundraiser for LEST.

### Dress-Up Days & Activities

- **Monday, Jan. 26 – School Spirit Day**  
Wear orange, blue, or your Faith Lutheran gear. *Pep Assembly at 2:30 PM*
- **Tuesday, Jan. 27 – Western Day**  
Dress like a cowboy or cowgirl. *Line dancing in PE & JPJII Jazz Band at 2:45 PM*
- **Wednesday, Jan. 28 – Hawaiian/Tropical Day**  
Wear your best island attire. *Drawing contest & Kona Ice (11:00 AM–1:00 PM, prepay required)*
- **Thursday, Jan. 29 – Pajama Day**  
Wear your cozy PJs. *Movie & popcorn in the afternoon*
- **Friday, Jan. 30 – Jersey Day**  
Show off your favorite team jersey. *Bowling Field Trip for K–8 from 1:00–3:00 PM*

## Join our Substitute Team

Faith Lutheran Christian School is looking for enthusiastic individuals to join our substitute teacher list. If you, or someone you know, has teaching experience, please reach out to the school office for more information. We'd love to have you on our team!

## 2025-26 Enrollment

Enrollment for the 2025–2026 academic year continues. We look forward to welcoming new students and their families and appreciate your timely attention to the enrollment process.

[Flschool.org](http://Flschool.org) or 360-491-1733

## Niche.com Reviews

Faith Lutheran Christian School has partnered with Niche.com to help showcase our wonderful school to families in our community and beyond. We are seeking positive reviews from families and alumni to highlight what makes FLCS special.

Your reviews help:

- Boost our school's reputation
- Attract new families
- Increase visibility in searches
- Provide authentic social proof for prospective families

Leave a review here:

<https://www.niche.com/k12/faith-lutheran-christian-school-lacey-wa/>

## FLS Basketball Games

Come out and support our 5th-8th grade boys at their upcoming basketball games:

- 1/8, 3:45 PM - Peace Bremerton @ FLCS
- 1/13, 3:30 PM - FLCS @ Cornerstone (West Olympia Campus - 333 Kaiser Rd NW Olympia)
- 1/15, 3:45 PM - Faith Lutheran Tacoma @ FLCS
- 2/6, 4:00 PM – FLCS @ Parkland Lutheran



## Childcare News

Happy New Year, Faith Congregation!

We have had a year full of blessings so far. My prayer for this new year is that we remain faithful in listening to what God is calling us to do in the year ahead. There are many exciting things happening, and we are truly blessed to be a part of them.

As we stepped into the Christmas season, our teachers were full of excitement as they decorated and celebrated the season with the children. If you get a chance to stop by the childcare center, you won't be disappointed by the creativity and joy that has gone into each classroom.

We currently have **three full-time openings** available in our **Junior Kindergarten classroom**, which serves children ages **4–5**. Other than that, we are nearly full!

This year we have also welcomed a few new staff members, each of whom has been such a blessing to our center. I cannot boast enough about our childcare staff and their dedication to caring for the children and families we serve. I am so proud of their hard work and commitment. Two of our new staff members may already be familiar to many of you—Samuel Bache and Evan Bevers, both alumni students. We are so thankful to see things come full circle. If you see them, please let them know they are doing a great job!

I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas and a Happy New Year. We ask for continued prayers for the health of our staff and children during this winter season. Thank you for your continued support.

In Christ's Service and Yours,  
Mrs. Julie, Director

### Special screening package for \$129 for our members includes:

- Carotid Artery Disease Screening
- Atrial Fibrillation Screening
- Peripheral Artery Disease Screening
- Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm Screening

Call to schedule an appointment near you! **800-324-9458** and use code: **HABC001**



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## Giving is a *Breeze*

The Church uses a software program that deals with social needs of the Church. This software is called Breeze. It allows for an easier way of getting information out to the Church members as a whole as well as small groups.

One aspect of this software is it has a modular that we can track church contribution.

To establish your on-line giving using the Breeze on-line giving program, follow the link:

<https://faithlutheranlacey.breezechms.com/give/online>

Please be aware the Breeze on-line giving bank transfer feature does include a processing fee of 1%. The processing fee for credit cards is 2.9% plus a small transaction fee. Faith will absorb these fees but you have the option to give back both the transfer and credit card processing fees by simply checking the box. Upon doing so, the fees will be added to your donation.

If you have any questions, please contact either Veronika Dunnam, financial secretary at [financialsecretary@faithcampus.org](mailto:financialsecretary@faithcampus.org) or Becky in the church office.

## Texting is a *Breeze*

With this software, we have an extended opportunity to communicate with you through text messaging. We are able to generate messages through the app directly to your phone. These messages are legitimate and not spam or fraudulent. Please make sure your information is up to date with the church office so you don't miss important notifications.



## Text to Give

To donate by text, a donor simply:

1. Text the amount they'd like to give to **(360) 732-8020** (e.g. \$50). Remember to include a space between your dollar amount and your keyword. If a user submits \$50Missions, they will receive a "Sorry, not sure what you meant" error message. The proper format must be \$50 Missions in order for the command to be received properly.
2. If a person has donated by text before, they'll receive a text in response confirming that their gift has been received successfully and they're done.
3. If it's the first time a person is donating by text, they'll be sent a message that says, "It looks like you are a new giver; to begin: (link provided). It will be a link to the church's online giving page. Clicking on the link they will be asked to supply their payment method (credit card, debit card, or bank account). This payment source will then be linked with their phone number so that, in the future, all they will need to do is text in the amount. (They will not need to re-enter their payment information.)"
4. If the donor didn't specify a fund by keyword, donations will automatically go to the default fund in Breeze. **Example giving by keyword: \$50 missions** Note: *Donors can only give to one fund at a time.*

We've made giving easier! Scan the QR code with your mobile device for instant access to Breeze Online Giving.





# January 2026



Faith Lutheran Church & School

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 	2	3
4 8:15a Traditional w/HC 9:30a Confirmation 9:30a Gather & Grow 10:45a Contemp w/HC	5 Welcome Back FLS!	6 	7 2:45p Chapel	8 10a 3M's Bible Study 5:15p Wiggle Church	9 Popcorn Fri 	10 9a Threads of Faith 6p FLY Open Gym
11 8:15a Traditional 9:30a Confirmation 9:30a Gather & Grow 10:45a Contemporary	12	13 6:30p Elders 6:30p Praise Team	14 2:45p Chapel 4:30p Auction Mtg 6p PIE	15 10a 3M's Bible Study 11:30a Pinochle	16 No School / Prof. Development	17
18 8:15a Traditional w/HC 9:30a Confirmation 9:30a Gather & Grow 10:45a Contemp w/HC	19  Martin Luther King Jr. Day <i>School &amp; Childcare Closed</i>	20 6:30p Praise Team	21 2:45p Chapel 6:00p Council	22 10a 3M's Bible Study 5:15p Wiggle Church	23	24 6p FLY Open Gym
25 <i>LEST Bake Sale</i> 8:15a Traditional 9:30a Confirmation 9:30a Gather & Grow 10:45a Contemporary <i>National Lutheran</i>	26 <i>Schools Week</i>	27 6:30p Praise Team	28 2:45p Chapel	29 10a 3M's Bible Study	30	31



# January 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>4</p> <p>9:30a Confirmation 9:30a Gather &amp; Grow 11a Casa de Alabanza 12p Cristo Vive 12:45 Lacey AOG 4p SS Roller Derby</p>	<p>5</p> <p>3:30p FLS BB 5:30p Pacheco BB 6:30p EJVBC</p>	<p>6</p> <p>3:30p FLS BB 5:30p SS Roller Derby 7p Reign Fastpitch</p>	<p>7</p> <p>3:30p FLS BB 6:30p EJVBC</p>	<p>1</p> <p>Bring on the NEW YEAR!</p>	<p>2</p> <p>5:30p Pacheco BB</p>	<p>3</p> <p>10a Roller Derby Boot Camp</p>
<p>11</p> <p>9:30a Confirmation 9:30a Gather &amp; Grow 11a Casa de Alabanza 12p Cristo Vive 12:45 Lacey AOG 4p IAI Church 4p SS Roller Derby</p>	<p>12</p> <p>3:30p FLS BB 5:30p Pacheco BB 6:30p EJVBC</p>	<p>13</p> <p>5:30p SS Roller Derby 6:30p Elders 7p Reign Fastpitch</p>	<p>14</p> <p>3:30p FLS BB 4:30p Auction Mtg 6p PJE 6:30p EJVBC</p>	<p>15</p> <p>10a 3M's Bible Study 11:30a Pinodile 3:45p FLS BB Game 6p PNW Premier VB</p>	<p>16</p> <p>8:30a Lifeline Screening 5:30p Pacheco BB 6:30p SS Roller Derby</p>	<p>17</p> <p>10a Roller Derby Boot Camp</p>
<p>18</p> <p>9:30a Confirmation 9:30a Gather &amp; Grow 11a Casa de Alabanza 12p Cristo Vive 12:45 Lacey AOG 4p IAI Church 4p SS Roller Derby</p>	<p>19</p> <p>3:30p FLS BB 5:30p Pacheco BB 6:30p EJVBC</p>	<p>20</p> <p>3:30p FLS BB 5:30p SS Roller Derby</p>	<p>21</p> <p>3:30p FLS BB 6p Council 6:30p EJVBC</p>	<p>22</p> <p>10a 3M's Bible Study 3:45p FLS BB 5:15p Wiggle Church 7p Reign Fastpitch</p>	<p>23</p> <p>3:30p FLS BB 5:30p Pacheco BB 6:30p SS Roller Derby</p>	<p>24</p> <p>10a Roller Derby Boot Camp 6p FLY Open Gym</p>
<p>25</p> <p>9:30a Confirmation 9:30a Gather &amp; Grow 11a Casa de Alabanza 12p Cristo Vive 12:45 Lacey AOG 4p SS Roller Derby</p>	<p>26</p> <p>3:30p FLS BB 5:30p Pacheco BB 6:30p EJVBC</p>	<p>27</p> <p>3:30p FLS BB 5:30p SS Roller Derby 7p Reign Fastpitch</p>	<p>28</p> <p>3:30p FLS BB 6:30p EJVBC</p>	<p>29</p> <p>10a 3M's Bible Study 3:45p FLS BB 7p Reign Fastpitch</p>	<p>30</p> <p>3:30p FLS BB 5:30p Pacheco BB 6:30p SS Roller Derby</p>	<p>31</p> <p>10a Roller Derby Boot Camp 2p TCI Clothing Shop</p>