



FEBRUARY 2026

FOCUS ON FAITH

Faith Lutheran Church

MESSAGE FROM PASTOR

...and what does the Lord require of you...?

Micah 6:8

Amid life's difficult moments it is helpful to remember our common heritage. Though often forgotten, our national legacy includes the stories of those who have borne the burdens of subjugation and cruelty. These witnesses have much to teach about facing the challenges confronting us. In this Black History Month, I invite you to reflect on the inspiring and demanding words by James Weldon Johnson in what has become known as the Black National Anthem:

Lift every voice and sing till earth and heaven ring, ring with the harmonies of liberty. Let our rejoicing rise high as the listening skies, let it resound loud as the rolling sea. Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us; sing a song full of the hope that present has brought us; facing the rising sun of our new day begun, let us march on till victory is won.

Stony the road we trod, bitter the chastening rod, felt in the days when hope unborn had died; yet with a steady beat have not our weary feet come to the place for which our parents sighed? We have come over a way that with tears has been watered; we have come, treading our path through the blood of the slaughtered, out from the gloomy past, till now we stand at last where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.

God of our weary years, God of our silent tears, thou who hast brought us thus far on the way; thou who hast by thy might led us into the light, keep us forever in the path, we pray. Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met thee; lest, our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we forget thee; shadowed beneath thy hand, may we forever stand, true to our God, true to our native land.

God's peace,
Pastor John

ANNUAL MEETING AND BUDGET FORUM

Faith's Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday, February 22 immediately following worship. We'll hear updates about our ministry, elect leaders, vote on a 2026 budget, and make decisions about a new columbarium. Bob and Jacquie Becher will also provide appetizers and treats to enjoy! A Budget Forum will be held on the prior Sunday, February 15 during the forum time after worship. Our treasurer Tim Gergens will present our plan and will be joined by our church council leaders to address questions and receive your feedback.

ASH WEDNESDAY WORSHIP

February 18
Wednesday
7:00 p.m.

SHARED MIDWEEK LENTEN WORSHIP

Advent, Faith, Immanuel, St. John, and Trinity Lutheran Church
Lenten Spiritual Disciplines
Dinner at 6:00 p.m.
Worship at 7:00 p.m.

February 25 - Immanuel, Loving Kindness
March 4 - Trinity, Silence
March 11 - St. John, Sacred Imagination
March 18 - Faith, Care for Creation
March 25 - Advent, Celebration

COMMUNITY BOOK CLUB

March 23
Monday
6:30 p.m.
Faith Lutheran Church
All are welcome to join us in the library at Faith Lutheran Church. We will be discussing the book *The Jesus Cow* by Michael Perry.
Contacts: Cory Schoofs and Pastor Erin Coutts

Find the Faith calendar on the Faith website under the Events and Calendar page: [Calendar](#)

TOGETHER IN MISSION

February 7
Saturday
8:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m.
St. Matthew's Lutheran Church, Wauwatosa
Join us for our synod's annual learning gathering of pastors, deacons and lay leaders from across Southeast Wisconsin! Together we'll worship, celebrate our partnership in the Gospel, and attend workshops on a variety of ministry topics. Register by February 1.

For more information and to register:
[Greater Milwaukee Synod](#)

CROSSING THE CHASMS

March 7
Saturday
9:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
Redeemer Lutheran Church, Milwaukee
Crossing the Chasms is facilitated by Rev. Marilyn Miller and Joyce Caldwell, PhD. The daylong workshop is grounded in the biblical story of The Rich Man and Lazarus and examines the chasms of separation in our communities. Learning is situated in stories of participants, the Bible, and history. Through reflection on those stories, participants examine the construction and meaning of racism and the part we all play in upholding and maintaining the system. We will begin to identify steps and opportunities to grow in both understanding and action.

This event is limited to 35 participants.

To register: [Greater Milwaukee Synod](#)

NEW GROUP MEETING AT FAITH

TimberNook will be offering programs for children using the Faith woods. TimberNook providers create outdoor sensory-rich, child-directed experiences that blend the power of story with the therapeutic benefits of nature. To learn more: [TimberNook](#)

RUMMAGE SALE CANCELLED

The Faith rummage sale that was scheduled for February 14 has been cancelled. Thank you to all the previous donors, volunteers and shoppers who supported this event. There is no plan to reschedule.

-Jacqueline Becher

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS AND COFFEE HOUR

To sign up and view schedule:

[Worship and Coffee Hour Schedule](#)

TOM SCHOOLS PRESENTATION ON HIS SEMINARY TRIP TO EGYPT

January 25



MISSION OF THE MONTH

Mt. Meru Coffee Project

Once again, we are excited to focus our February Mission of the Month on Mt. Meru Coffee Project (MMCP). Established in 1999, the project enables the small coffee farmers living on the slopes of Mount Meru in Tanzania to have funds available to send their children to school, access and pay for health care, and to support local farm villages, markets, and merchants. The project provides small farmers with a fair price for their premium coffee. A fair price provides an increase in farm income, allowing the farmers to support their families with dignity.

Purchasing and drinking Mt. Meru Premium Tanzanian Coffee is the single most important way in which individuals, congregations, and businesses can support thousands of family coffee farmers in Tanzania. However, additional financial support from congregations and individuals has greatly helped the farmers advance their farming techniques, enhancing their incomes even more.

Faith has strongly supported the project almost from the very beginning. Not only do many of our members purchase their home coffee from the MMCP, but we use Mt. Meru Coffee in Faith's kitchen and we provide additional financial support from our February Mission of the Month. In recent years, our Trust Funds Committee has provided matching funds to double the impact as well.

To help us all better understand the important work of this ministry, Rick Frowein will visit our congregation on Sunday, Feb 1. **Rick Frowein is not only the President of the MMCP Board of Directors, but he also manages the coffee processing center at Martin Luther Lutheran Church in Milwaukee. He has made numerous visits to the coffee farms and processing centers in Tanzania. Rick will speak at our coffee hour forum and bring us up to date on the latest project news, both in Milwaukee and in Tanzania.**

But whether or not you can join us for the forum, please consider supporting the Mt. Meru Coffee Project with a financial gift to the February Mission of the Month. Help the MMCP continue their mission: **Supporting Families, Growing Futures, Changing Lives.**

PLEASE JOIN US FOR THE FORUM ON FEB 1 AT 10:45 TO HEAR RICK BRING US THE LATEST AND GREATEST INFORMATION ON THE MT. MERU COFFEE PROJECT !!!

EPIPHANY 2026





EPIC Midweek Lenten Worship 2026

Spiritual Practices

Feb 25 at Immanuel
Loving Kindness

Mar 4 at Trinity
Silence

Mar 11 at St. John
Sacred Imagination

Mar 18 at Faith
Care for Creation

Mar 25 at Advent
Celebration

Potluck Dinner at 6pm each week, followed by
Holden Evening Prayer Worship at 7pm