

FEBRUARY 2026

FAITH CHRONICLE

The monthly newsletter of Faith Lutheran Church



Faith Lutheran Church
6142 State Route 31
Cicero, NY 13039

Pastor's Page

SISTERS AND BROTHERS OF FAITH CHURCH,



Once in a while time slips through my fingers. I make notes in my calendar to start committee reports and council reports. My calendar reminds me which day to start building the bulletin for Sunday more than a week away and select hymns for the next month or season. Habit trained me to give four days to let my Bible reading simmer before writing a sermon. Call me a compulsive planner. I accept that title.

The time came to check out what I was writing for the February newsletter. All I found at first sight was last month's message. I let at least a week slip through my fingers. If I had been on top of my game I would have realized Ash Wednesday falls on February 18 this year. Lent and the forty days of preparation for Easter are roaring into my color-coded calendar. How could I be so lax? The answer is simple: January is when the council members and I write our reports on what happened the previous year. Planning our voters' meeting for January 25 took up much of my attention. It was too easy to get preoccupied with last year instead of working on this year.

All our reports were due by the January 12, 2026, council meeting. For the curious (and those who could care less), our congregation council reviews all the reports before we submit them to the congregation. That meeting at 7 PM on the second Monday of the new year was interesting in a good way. We received our monthly reports AND looked our annual reports. The latter group of reports surprised us. Look at everything we accomplished!

Property committee replaced a furnace, paved the parking lot, bought an Automated External Defibrillator, mowed the yard, inspected emergency lights, improved access to the message sign, and installed a flag pole in memory of Ben Foster. Mutual Ministry supported the pastor and office staff consistently and worked on nurturing the spiritual growth of all members. Our food pantry helped feed the hungry in a commendable way. We collected snacks for CanTeen several times. We engaged the community in other ways, including descending upon Cicero Plank Road Chamber of Commerce with good numbers. (Ask anyone who attended the December luncheon about the presence of "Rev. Allan and his entourage!") The Finance team reported we ended the year with a positive balance—a very good thing given the higher costs of heat and snowplowing in the winter.

Faith Lutheran Church is a small church by almost any standard. A few people do many things. Our annual report review reminded the council how almost everyone did something. As Council President Bill Stevenson keeps reminding us, there is always more we can do if we keep our eyes open for our neighbors and their needs. Now, take a moment as we approach Lent to remember what we did in 2025 in Jesus' name—and his call to care for our neighbors. Faith Church worked hard being faithful to God and neighbor. We will soon enter Lent to prepare for new life at Easter. May our new life continue to grow and honor God. May that little church set between Cicero North Syracuse High School and the new roundabout on Route 31 give God pleasure by living out their faith.

Blessing for all this new year,

Pastor Allan

SOUPER SUNDAY

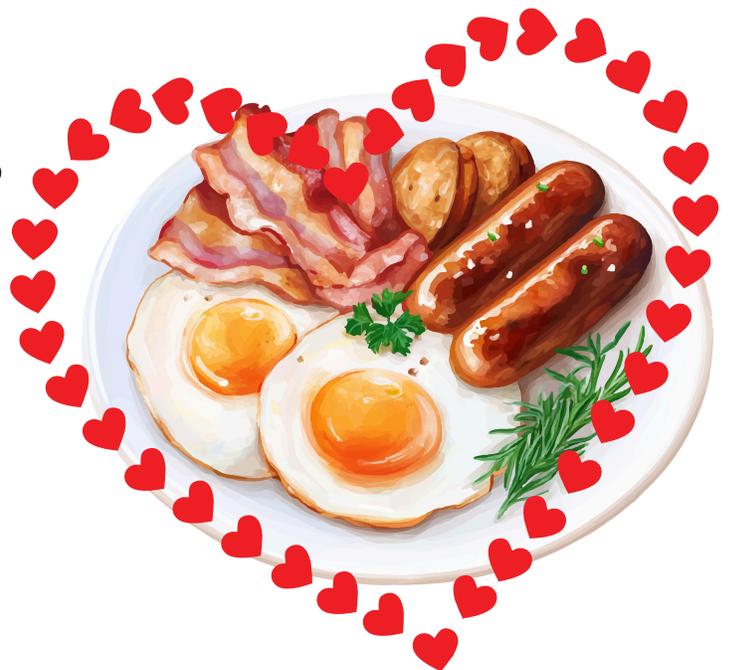


February 8th is Souper Sunday! Join us after service for soup and fellowship. Sign up on the sheet in the Narthex with your name and what you'll be bringing—soup, bread, or dessert. Admission is easy: just bring a can of soup for the food pantry. Good food, good company, and a good cause!



VALENTINE'S DAY SWEETHEART BREAKFAST

The Men's Breakfast Group will sponsor the annual Valentine's Day Sweetheart Breakfast in honor of the ladies of the congregation. The date will be Saturday February 14th, which happens to be Valentine's Day! What better than to start off your day, around 9:00am, with a homemade breakfast completely free, just good food and good conversation with friends. There will be a signup sheet on the narthex bulletin board, so please sign up as soon as you know you will be attending. Any of your female friends and/or relatives are also invited but you need to sign them up as well.



Our mission: As a Community of Faith in Christ, we Live in Grace and Share the Gospel of Salvation.

Adopted by the Congregation, September 28, 2008

In Our Prayers

OUR FRIENDS AND RELATIVES

Ayden (Diane Senzarino's grandson), Bruce, Toni, Patricia Fosdick, Mary Swanson (Friend of the Bronners), Pat Green, Rich LaMonte, Gary Schumacher, Arnold Hogan (Dawn Spink's father), Betty Craner, Ann Grim (Patty Carter's mother), Nick, Clara Long, Pamela Strohl (friend of Kathy Newcomb), Betty and Gary Winther, Jean Kelley, Joan and Lamont Hahn, Phyllis Harm, Maureen Anderson, Phyllis and Francis Letizia, Ginny Gronozio, Doris Heath, Elaine and Dell Blume (Friends of the Winthers), Philomena and Garrett Bronner (Chuck Bronner's parents), Joe Houser, Charlie Bullock, Alice, Lynda, Maria (Friends of Diane Monthie), Daniel Canastra and Quentin Canastra (Ri Ho's son and grandson), Rose (friend of an AA member), Don Richmond (Ralph Richmond's brother) Danny Whitney (Friend of Lynn Werner), Joe Krywalski, Katlyn Fleury, Chuckie (friend of parishioner)



MILITARY & THEIR FAMILIES

Leah Bratt (Sarah Bratt's sister), Sam (Leah's husband), Zachary & Daniel Rosney (Pat Green's great nephews), Jackie, Kenny and Isaac Bowne (Betty Gay's grandchildren), Eric Currier (Dan Currier's son), Sam Yonkers (friend of Barb & John Snyder)



FLOWER CHART: The Altar Guild has placed this year's Flower Chart on the bulletin board in the Narthex. We all love having live flowers on the altar for Sunday morning worship. Please consider providing flowers for a memorial or special occasion. Sign up on the chart, then bring the flowers to church on Sunday morning or call Linda Keller or Diane Monthie for information or to make special arrangements. Also, you can request live flowers by placing a donation in an envelope with your name and information in the collection plate at least 2 weeks before your selected date. And, of course, we will be most grateful for any donation to the general flower fund.

The Altar Guild Will Meet February 22nd

Our Guiding Principles: Jesus is Lord; We are a Community of Faith; We Invite All People to Share in God's Grace; We pray First; We Act on the Holy Spirit's Guidance; We Give Generously of Ourselves as God has given to us.

Adopted by the Congregation, September 28, 2008



The Men's Breakfast Group is sponsoring the Sweetheart Breakfast this month and will meet again in March

We gather to share a meal, build friendships, and grow in faith together. Look for a sign-up sheet on the narthex bulletin board

The Quilters Will Meet In February

We enjoy not only sewing, but also wonderful fellowship together. We are happy to teach anyone—no experience needed. Come join us!



FOOD PANTRY



DISTRIBUTION

Sunday February 8: 11:30am -1:00 pm
Monday February 9: 4:30 pm - 5:30 pm



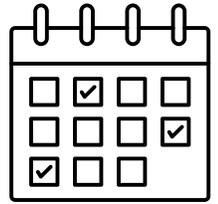
The food pantry always appreciates donations of nonperishable items.

If you can volunteer, please let Tracy know. If you might be interested in taking over this role of the Food Pantry coordinator, contact Tracy. She is willing to go over all that is involved with the Food Pantry.





Calendar at a Glance



- 2/2 Mutual Ministry Meeting 7:00 pm
- 2/8 Souper Sunday Lunch After Service
- 2/8 Food Pantry Distribution 11:30 am - 1:00 pm
- 2/9 Food Pantry Distribution 4:30 pm - 5:30 pm
- 2/9 Council Meeting 7:00 pm
- 2/14 Valentines Day Sweetheart Breakfast 9:00 am
- 2/18 Ash Wednesday Services Noon and 7:00 pm
- 2/22 Altar Guild Meeting
- 2/25 Lent Lunch and Devotional 12:00 pm

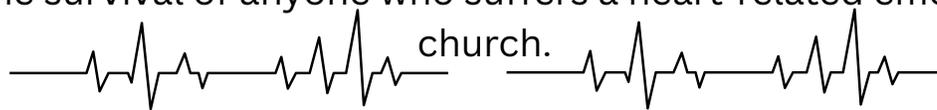


Pastor Allan will hold services on Ash Wednesday, February 18, 2026, at noon and 7 PM. Imposition of ashes are available to all who desire the symbol of penitence and the desire to live a new life in Christ.

During the season of Lent, we invite you to gather with us at noon for a shared lunch and devotional. Take time to reflect on God's Word, deepen your faith, and enjoy fellowship. Beginning February 25th and continuing through Holy Week, come for nourishment of both body and spirit.



 The Automated External Defibrillator is mounted on the wall outside the sanctuary. The council voted in January to cover the cost of training for church members and church staff. Betty Winther is heading up the recruitment drive for training and will accept current training certification from nurses, teachers and coaches, and first responders. Our goal is to have plenty of people able to assist in improving the survival of anyone who suffers a heart-related emergency in our



THOSE WHO SERVE

ALTAR GUILD

Lorrie Monthie & Linda Keller

MUSICIANS

Lindsay Brown, Barb Schwartz

TELLERS:

Week 1

Linda Keller and Rose McCarthy

Week 2

Maria Scheuer and Barb Stevenson

Week 3

Ralph and Cassie Richmond

Week 4

Barb Stevenson and Maria Scheuer

Financial Report for 2025

	December 2025	2025 YTD
Income	\$19,106.42	\$225,567.10
Expense	\$14,649.48	\$222,418.53
Totals	\$4,456.94	\$3,148.57

A copy of the monthly financial report to the Church Council is available in the Church office.

2/1 Service

Worship Assistant	Lorrie Monthie
Reader	Betty Winther
Cantor	Betty Gay
Greeter	Diane Monthie

2/8 Service

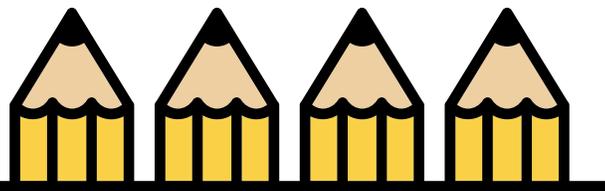
Worship Assistant	Bill Stevenson
Reader	Barb Snyder
Cantor	Lauri Hoover
Greeter	Barb & John Snyder

2/15 Service

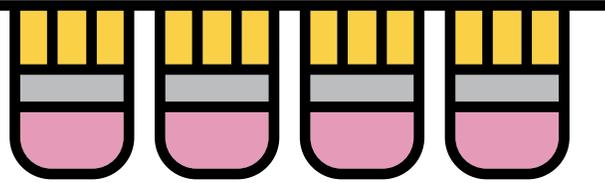
Worship Assistant	Arnold Hansen
Reader	Bill Stevenson
Cantor	Rose McCarthy
Greeter	Kathy Newcomb

2/22 Service

Worship Assistant	Lorrie Monthie
Reader	Cassie Richmond
Cantor	Cassie & Ralph Richmond
Greeter	Bill Azzoto



Nursery School Notes February 2026



Registration has begun for the 2025-2026 school year. Our Three-Year-Old Class will offer two and three day per week sessions. Our Four-Year-Old Class will offer three and five day per week sessions (classes are dependent on enrollment and finalized in September.) We appreciate your spreading the word to those you may know who are interested in enrolling their child for preschool. They may leave a message at 315-699-6087, email at flnsnsyr@gmail.com or visit us on Facebook to leave a message there. Our Facebook page is a great place to see some of the great things we do here at the preschool and also find a link to our website that gives even more information regarding tuition rates, etc.

Winter has definitely arrived. The snowy weather outside has gone right along with our classroom themes as the children participated in many activities focused on winter and snow. In January we enjoyed our Snowflake and Pajama days. This month the children will celebrate Valentine's Day with parties in our classrooms. We will also have Pancake Day.

February Break is during the week of February 16. There will be no school and students will return on February 23.

Lastly, thank you so much for participating in our third annual bottle/can drive fundraiser. It was an amazing success thanks to your help! We are so appreciative of your donations during the months of December and January. This month we will be holding a Gertrude Hawk Candy sale, with orders arriving in time for Easter. There will be information on the entrance table for anyone interested in placing an order.

We hope everyone stays warm and healthy this winter!



Benjamin Stevenson	02/04
Gary Schumacher	02/09
Joseph Martino	02/11
Patricia Fosdick	02/14
Danette Colburn	02/18
Gary Winther	02/18
Patricia Green	02/20

Faith Lutheran Church Council Directory

CHURCH PHONE: 315-699-5224 flchurch31@gmail.com

Church Secretary: Rebecca Neider

OFFICERS:

**President Bill Stevenson
Vice President Patty Carter
Council Secretary Barb Snyder
Treasurer Kathy Newcomb**

CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL VOTING MEMBERS:

**Pastor Allan Ferguson
Financial Secretary Barb Stevenson
Christian Education
Mutual Ministry, Co-Chair Cassie Richmond
Mutual Ministry, Co-Chair Chuck Bronner
Mutual Ministry, Co-Chair Bruce Hahn

Property Committee, Co-Chair John Snyder
Property Committee, Co-Chair Jim Kelley
Property Committee, Co-Chair Gary Winther**

**Congregational Life Diane Monthie
Community Outreach/Evangelism Jeanne Bronner**

STEWARDSHIP

COUNCIL NON-VOTING POSITIONS:

**Superintendent of Sunday School
Co-Chair Diane Monthie
Co-Chair Lorrie Monthie
Bookkeeper Maria Scheuer**

**If you need to reach any of the Council members, please contact
the church office for the person's contact information**

Please call or email the office when you or a member of your family is sick or in the hospital.

If you have given up your land line telephone and would like your cell phone indicated in the church records. Please notify the office.

Please call or email the office if your telephone # or email address has or is changed.

The Church number is 315-699-5224 – email address is flchurch31@gmail.com



If you are unable to make it to the Sunday morning service stream the service on the Church's Facebook account on your computer and phone.

Service starts at 10am.

Facebook: @FaithLutheranChurchCiceroNY

You can also follow Faith Lutheran Church on Instagram: @FLC.Cicero



Do you have any news or notes you would like for the members of the Congregation to see in the December issue of the Faith Chronicle? Please have your submission into the office by February 18th. If you would like to see other things in the newsletter, please let the office know and we will see what we can do to get it in. Thank you.



If you would like to unsubscribe to Faith Lutheran's newsletter or bulletin distribution. Please notify the office at flchurch31@gmail.com and we can remove your name from the lists.

February

2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Sunday Service 10 am	2 M&M meeting 7pm	3 Choir 6:30-7:30	4	5 Lakeshore Heights Mtg 6:30-7:30 pm	6	7 Saturday Groups 11-3 7 - 8
8 Sunday Service 10 am Food Pantry 11:30-1:00 Souper Sunday After Service	9 Council Mtg 7pm Food Pantry 4:30-5:30	10 Choir 6:30-7:30	11	12 Lakeshore Heights Mtg 6:30-7:30 pm	13	14 Saturday Groups 11-3 7 - 8 Valentine's Day Sweetheart Breakfast 9:00 am <i>Sponsored By The Men's Breakfast Group</i>
15 Sunday Service 10 am	16	17 Choir 6:30-7:30	18 Ash Wednesday Services 12:00 pm and 7:00 pm	19 Lakeshore Heights Mtg 6:30-7:30 pm	20	21 Saturday Groups 11-3 7 - 8
22 Sunday Service 10 am Altar Guild Meeting	23	24 Choir 6:30-7:30	25 Lent Lunch and Devotional 12:00 pm	26 Lakeshore Heights Mtg 6:30-7:30 pm	27	28 Saturday Groups 11-3 7 - 8

Faith Lutheran
CHURCH