



# THE Messenger

Vol. 22, No. 1

A Newsletter of Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church of Antioch, Illinois

Fall 2021



## DRESS YOURSELF WITH KINDNESS



They often embarrassed their mother by the way they acted in public. It seemed to her that her sons were always, truly *always*, arguing.

At the supermarket, the brothers would fight about which cereal she should buy. When they were home they could never agree which movie to watch or game to play. Sometimes she doubted that her two boys would ever survive their childhood together.

While they often bickered, the brothers were also fiercely loyal to each other. If any other child from the neighborhood made fun of or picked on one of them, the other was sure to come to his defense. It baffled their mother!

How could they quarrel so, yet a short time later seek to protect their would-be rival? Blood truly must be thicker than water!

This scenario is a reality for many of us. Sibling rivalry, it seems, is universal. And for the most part, defense of one's own family is equally universal. Playground conversations usually prove this true.

God has another scenario he wants us to follow. He encourages us in the Bible to treat *all* people as though they were family. "Make every effort to add to your faith ... brotherly kindness" (2 Peter 1:5,7).

There are dozens of things that make each of us different from everyone else in the world. They include where we live, the color of our eyes, our talents, the size of our paycheck, and we obviously could go on.

Even though we enjoy associating with people who are like us, God

wants us to treat *everyone* the way we would treat an idolized big brother or sweet little sister. After all, God's love prompted him to send his Son, so that *everyone* who believes in him has life in his name.

Blood is not necessarily always thicker than water. Every person who is made a child of God through his Word and the water of baptism also becomes our brother or sister in Christ. They are family. *WE* are family.

And every single one of us would also like to see the family grow. We all rejoice when a baptism begins a worship service. We all feel the warmth of fellowship participating in the activities of a new member Sunday. Would you be surprised how often a simple act of kindness, treating someone like they are family, becomes a strong catalyst the Holy Spirit uses to draw someone into God's Word, and then into faith?

Dressing yourself in kindness is a wonderful way to prepare yourself to encounter anyone in your world on any given day, but especially family. Why not stop by for a visit at church some weekend soon? Spend some quality time with your spiritual family!

# FAITH...

EVANGELICAL  
LUTHERAN CHURCH  
24300 W. Grass Lake Road  
(at HWY 59) Antioch  
847-293-6101

& LUTHERAN  
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
(Pre-K through Grade 8)  
1275 Main Street, Antioch  
847-395-1660

**Worship Services** Saturday 5:30 PM  
Sunday 8:00 & 10:45 AM

**Sunday School & Youth Study** Sundays 9:30 AM

**Adult Studies** Sundays 9:30 AM & Wednesdays 7:00 PM

Visit us online...  
[www.faithantioch.org](http://www.faithantioch.org)  
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or on the radio!  
WFEL 99.9 FM  
Antioch

## Returning to "Normal" As Much As Possible

The headlines on the COVID front change almost daily. Not all that long ago it appeared we were cruising downhill straight out of this crisis. Many thought when Summer began that a return to "normal" life in the days after this Labor Day was all but a certainty. But new variants of the virus have certainly changed all of that.

At Faith we are always looking to return to as "normal" a pattern of activity as we most safely can in as many areas of ministry as we can. Activities for adults are beginning to appear in patterns much closer to normal while activities for children and youth remain a bigger challenge. We are hoping that we will continue to be given advice and recommendations rather than mandates by those who serve us in government. We wish to give everyone as much freedom to make their own decisions on as many of the concerns that face us all as we possibly can.

Please turn the page and read on for articles specific to our plans for a not so "normal" Fall season.

## Fall Worship

Beginning the weekend after Labor Day worship at Faith will return to Saturdays at 5:30 PM and Sunday mornings at 8:00 & 10:45 AM. The 8:00 AM service will also be streamed weekly through our website and over WFEL 99.9 FM. Digital worship folders will be available through the interface on [faithantioch.org](http://faithantioch.org) and the sermons will all be archived in their special section of the website as always.

In person worship will continue to be arranged so that anyone wishing to socially distance will have designated space to be comfortable. Everyone is welcome to wear masks and anyone may sit anywhere in the worship area. However, anyone sitting in the areas designated for social distancing are asked to always wear a mask in those areas for everyone's comfort.

We will continue to offer single use worship folders through a "no touch" distribution process with individuals "recycling" every folder after each service in the receptacle provided. We continue to prefer receiving offerings electronically, through the mail or delivered individually to the office but for anyone wishing to bring their offering to worship with them a large offering basket will always be provided at the center doors as you leave worship.

The continuous stream approach to distribution of the sacrament will continue into the foreseeable future. Worship service length will continue to be managed closely based on the current realities of the COVID crisis in our immediate regional area. The Faith worship team welcomes your questions and suggestions that may lead to everyone worshipping more comfortably.

## Moving to the New Hymnal

Through our planning over the last number of years Faith was able to place a substantial order for the new WELS hymnal and all its attendant resources. We have been informed that our shipment is currently scheduled to arrive on the church campus in mid-September. (*45 heavy boxes to unload!*)

Our intention is to begin using the new hymnal materials slowly but immediately as our whole worship team works its way to full use as the new Christian Church Year begins after Thanksgiving. ALL worship materials will continue to be printed out in full.



## Fall AIC Classes Begin Wednesday September 8

AIC classes are one way we offer everyone an opportunity to learn more about us. We study basic Christian teaching using the Bible as our chief "text book" exploring only the Scriptures to find answers about life, death and eternity. Current and even long time Faith members are most welcome and encouraged to join an AIC as a review of the basics!

All AIC classes this fall will be VIRTUAL and begin Wednesdays at 6:30 PM. Pastor Ungemach also schedules virtual one-on-one "make up" sessions when necessary.

Every AIC participant will receive all printed materials needed for the class (*always free and supplied by Faith prior to participation*). The platform we use for AIC classes is ZOOM so participant registration is necessary to be on the weekly invite list that is sent out late Wednesday afternoons. For any questions about AIC and/or to register to be included in the Fall AIC invites and activities please call or text Pastor Ungemach at 847-293-6101.



## Bible Studies & Sunday School

Sunday morning Adult Bible studies have already resumed at 9:30 AM each week. Now the Wednesday evening 7:00 PM adult study and the Thursday morning women's study will also resume with each of these two having a virtual option. Every adult Faith member entering junior year of high school and older are welcome to join these classes.

Sunday School for PK through

grade six will meet in the Christian Life Center weekly at 9:30 AM. Classes will be spaced differently and individual students will also need to be spaced from each other with each student and instructor also masked (Illinois mandate) but we are going to give it a go anyway!

Youth from grades 7-10 (*in other words: sophomores*) will have a new and different opportunity this year! They will meet weekly for a Bible study with Pastor Ungemach in the chapel entitled "Fitting In - My Relationships with God and Others." Illinois mandates also direct distancing and masking at this time for all class participants at this age level as well.

## "Public School" Catechism Classes Meet on Tuesdays

Did you know that while Faith has its own elementary school where our pastors teach Catechism classes during the school year we also have a Tuesday *after school* class for Public School and Home School kids? It's for students currently in grades 6-8. (We occasionally also have a high school freshman or two!)

Pastor Hermanson will lead these classes on our church campus on Tuesdays from 5:30 - 6:45 PM. Classes begin the week after Labor Day week on September 14. Looking for more info? Maybe about how this will all work this year? Call the Faith office at 847-395-1660 or contact Pastor Hermanson directly at 847-293-6578.

## Men's Monthly Breakfast Bible Study

For the better part of two decades now on the **second** Saturday each month at 8:00 AM (donut time!) the guys begin gathering at Faith Church and assisting with laying out an awesome breakfast buffet. By 8:30 AM a Bible study and discussion led by a Faith pastoral staff member delves into issues that men face in work and family life. Breakfast is free, but an offering is gathered. All offerings gathered at these breakfasts are contributed toward a mission project! Over the years more than \$20,000 has been contributed to mission and humanitarian projects in numerous corners of the world!

All men of any age are most welcome. Come hungry! Bring a hungry friend... or two!

**OLD Hymnal Give Away!**

In preparation for the arrival and use of the new hymnal this fall a display of hymnals being retired is set up in the church commons. Anyone is welcome to take as many of those red hymnals as they would like at any time!

**Faith Pre-Kindergarten Program Still Has Room!**

Many past years have seen waiting lists or capacity enrollment. But as Faith Lutheran Pre-Kindergarten begins its new school year there are still a handful of openings for new students. Faith offers two, three or five day programs each with full or half day options for children three and four years old. Please give the school office (847-395-1660) a call to find out more!

**Winter Clothing Distribution**

Once again this fall Faith is coordinating a **FREE** community winter clothing distribution. During the second half of October we will be accepting donations of winter inner and outer wear at our church campus on Grass Lake Road until the end of Sunday activities on October 31st.

The following Friday, November 5, from **NOON** until **8PM** and then Saturday, November 6 from **9AM** until **NOON** we will welcome everyone to come peruse and make use of anything they need. Everything remaining when the doors close Saturday noon will be donated to programs that offer free winter clothing to those in need in major population centers nearby.

Whether you are interested in donating your used outerwear, making an exchange or simply picking out something for yourself or as a gift for someone else we would be happy for your participation with this community activity on our church campus. And it's all free!



**Teach us to pray**

In Luke 11:1-13 (NIV), Jesus teaches about prayer.

*Directions: Add or subtract the letters indicated and unscramble the letters to form a new word, using hints from the passage. Then unscramble the circled letters to answer the question below.*

party - t = p r a y (v. 1)

lady + i = \_ \_ \_ \_ (v. 3)

drab + e = \_ \_ \_ \_ (v. 5)

rod + o = \_ \_ \_ \_ (v. 7)

bask - b = \_ \_ \_ \_ (v. 9)

keeps - p = \_ \_ \_ \_ (v. 9)

define - ee = \_ \_ \_ \_ (v. 9)

shift - t = \_ \_ \_ \_ (v. 11)

sneaky - y = \_ \_ \_ \_ (v. 11)

sift + g = \_ \_ \_ \_ (v. 13)



What will the Father give to those who ask of him?

\_ \_ \_ \_ \_ (v. 13)

Answer: pray, daily, bread, door, ask, seek, find, fish, snake, gifts; Holy Spirit

**Jesus Is Worth It!**

Following Jesus isn't always easy. Yet Jesus promised us a great reward: a front row seat to the Father that endures forever. Jesus also promised to be with us until the Last Day arrives. Right by your side. Close enough to hear your prayers. Near enough to help you out. So believe that your faith is worth it, even when Jesus costs you. Your Savior promised you in Matthew 28:20: **"Surely I will be with you always..."**

**Pastor Mike Novotny**  
of *Time of Grace*

**Listen to "Time of Grace"**

Monday at 9 am - Tuesday at 9 pm  
Thursday at 9 am - Saturday at 9 pm



THE VOICE OF FAITH FOR THE ANTIOCH AREA

# The Messenger

Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church  
1275 Main Street  
Antioch Illinois 60002

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Antioch Illinois 60002  
847-293-6101

### Lutheran Elementary School

*(Pre-k through Grade 8)*

1275 Main Street  
Antioch Illinois 60002  
847-395-1660

Find out more about us at...

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&

**WFEL 99.9 FM Antioch**

*broadcasting locally 24 hours a day*

*This is a non-profit publication serving the members of Faith and residents of the surrounding communities with information on activities of the church, school and the community.*



### Our Mission:

The mission of every Christian and of Faith congregation is to help make more and stronger disciples by sharing with everyone the good news of Jesus Christ.

## Highlighting Coming Events at FAITH of Antioch

Please note at which facility the activity will take place... our **Church Campus** on Grass Lake Road or our **Lutheran Elementary School Campus** on Main Street...

- ◆ September 8 Fall AIC classes begin at 6:30PM (*virtual only*)
- ◆ September 8 Wednesday Adult Study begins at 7 PM (*church & virtual*)
- ◆ September 9 Women's Weekly Bible study begins at 9:15 AM (*church*)
- ◆ September 11 MEN'S Bible Breakfast at 8:00 AM (*church*)
- ◆ September 11 SATURDAY Worship Services resume at 5:30 PM (*church*)
- ◆ September 12 Sunday School / Youth / Adult Studies begin 9:30 AM (*church*)
- ◆ September 14 Public School Catechism class begins at 5:30 PM (*church*)
- ◆ November 5-6 Winter Clothing Distribution weekend returns!

*We invite you to be with us for any of these occasions.*

*For questions look to our website [www.faithantioch.org](http://www.faithantioch.org) for more information or feel free to give Pastor Ungemach a call at 847-293-6101.*