



Forward With Faith



Faith Lutheran Church, Cleveland, GA

Our Vision:

As disciples of Christ,
we are inspired and
empowered by the Holy Spirit,
we are witnesses of the Gospel of Grace,
and we act boldly to serve in our community and the world.

Invite!
Nurture!
Send!
Serve!

April 2026



From the PASTOR—

April 2026



As I write this reflection, we are two weeks from Easter and at the three-months mark since we started our faith journey walking together. Let me share some insights I have learned from our congregation. (1) The “teams” model for ministry you adopted and have kept during the call process when a regular pastor was absent, is great and has served well the basic needs of our congregation; this is one of the greatest assets. (2) Also, another asset, is that you all participate on leadership and in ways you are called and able to, this is shown in weekly worship. (3) Nevertheless, the greatest asset of all is your love for God and for one another, this is shown in your kindness and generosity caring for people in need in our community, and your commitment to the wellbeing and growing of our congregation.

As pastor of our congregation, I am trying to find, insert, and connect myself into the “pastor’s place” of the mosaic layout of our congregation. Of course, my baptismal promises and pastoral responsibilities guide me in this process. However, I am trying to be kind and gently to let you and assist you on doing what you like and are called to do by God and by our congregation.

Two areas of growth I have identified in the life of our congregation are, (1) clarification and improvement of our channels of communication. (2) Pray for, planning, and implementation of a children’s faith formation ministry...soon, right now within the next three months.

In the area of communication, a website team has been appointed by the pastor to relaunch our website as a tool for outreach ministry out of the wall of our church building. Communication with and within our members, congregation council, lay leaders, staff, and pastor needs to be clear, concise, respectful, and constructive.

A children’s faith formation ministry team will be appointed soon, please pray for it and God might be calling you be part of it, if so, just call the pastor and let him know. So far, I am enjoying every day and all we do walking together in faith and for the sake of the Kingdom of God. Though I am even more excited, because of God’s promises and your faithfulness, of the future of our congregation!

Pretty soon, at Easter, we will be greeting each other with these words of celebration: Christ is Risen! And we will answer, He is Risen, indeed, Alleluia! Let us practice and say it loud and clear!

In the love of Christ,
Pastor Alfredo M Oviedo

Worship
Every Sunday
at 10:30
Our call in connection is
717-908-1943
Participant 9988583#

Thurs. April 2 7:00 pm
Maundy Thursday worship service

Friday April 3
7:45pm Good Friday worship service

Sun April 5 10:30 am
Easter worship service

Tues. April 7 10:00 Bible Study

Sun April 12 10:30 worship service

Tues April 14 10:00 ladies craft
ministry

Wed. April 15th 10:00 leaving time??
Road Trip to Toccoa
to see the Falls and the Gathney
museum at Toccoa Falls College

Sun. April 19 10:30 worship Service

Tues. April 21 10:00 Bible Study

Sunday April 26 10:30 worship service

Tues. April 28 10:00 ladies crafts

Happy Birthday



April
1 Wayne Presnell
6 Dona Peterson*
28 Pam Finke



*friend of Faith

From the Council

From the 15 February Council meeting:

Financial Report:

1. Everyone received and reviewed the figures for Jan 2026.
2. Discussion of diversifying our investments
 - a. Several options were discussed
 - b. Whitney Hutchinson volunteered to research and make recommendations
3. Discussion of church payment methods
 - a. Sue Falls made a motion to investigate credit/debit card options for the church. Motion carried.

Report: Research from Bob Schmebling was heard to replace the computer on Penny's desk. Two options were considered. Whitney Hutchinson motioned to purchase the combination component model for \$1,700.00. Motion carried.

Old Business:

1. Purchase of a Portable Communion Kit and Pastoral Book for Pastor for visitations was confirmed.
2. The chair in Pastors office has been repaired.
3. Assistance Benevolence Fund study was tabled.

New Business:

New Council members, Chris Smith and Whitney Hutchinson, were welcomed.

2. All previous members are remaining on Council for 2026.
3. The Council officers for Feb 2026 thru Jan 2027 will be as follows:

President – Andy Meyer
Vice President – Pam Romesser
Secretary – Gary Latz
Treasurer – Sue Falls

4. A total of 7 Council members will be installed on Feb. 22, 2026.

5. Continuing Resolution category contacts were established as follows:

Stewardship – Chris Smith
Facilities – Gary Latz
Nuture – Pam Romesser
Outreach – Whitney Hutchinson
Inreach – Sue Falls

6. *Future Council agendas and past minutes will be emailed to Council members.

*Congregation minutes along with Agendas will be emailed to entire membership.

*The minutes of the Council meetings will be posted in the Newsletter. (They may be a month behind)

7. Pastor Alfredo would like to see important Faith Lutheran dates honored with fellowship celebrations.

Whitney Hutchinson motioned to adjourn the meeting.

Welcome New Members



Welcome to Leisa and Phil Howey to Faith Lutheran Church. We are truly grateful that you have chosen to become part of our Faith family! We praise the Lord for bringing you both to our humble congregation.

Holy Week services:

**Maundy Thursday April 2
7:00 pm**



**Good Friday April 3
7:45 pm**

**Easter Celebration April 5
10:30 am**



What's happening at Faith



CRAFT AND OUTREACH MINISTRY

Our Crafty ladies
meet on the Second & Fourth Tuesday
April 14th and 28th at 10:00 am
CHECK US OUT



BREAD FOR THE FOOD PANTRY

Amount we have
Given to the Food Pantry thru March 22
670 loaves of bread at \$1,017.13

We appreciate the individual donations designated by member for bread purchase for Food Pantry



Let's do Lunch
Wednesday April 15th
At Pings Grill
at 11:30pm
In Toccoa!

Celebrate
Tax Day!

Yes, we are heading to Toccoa on
Wednesday (not Tuesday) this month.
Thank you, Mary & Richard Gathney,
for the kind invitation.
We will have lunch at
Pings Grill at the golf course at 11:30,
then visit Toccoa Falls on the campus of

Golf cart
Available!

Toccoa Falls College (TFC)
where Naomi is a student.

Our final stop is
the Gathney Museum on the TFC campus.
We are inviting all to join us.
So far we have our usual women and
Pastor and two other men plus Richard
are joining us for the trip.
We will have transportation available at church
for those who wish to carpool.
Check the signup sheet in the fellowship Hall.



Women's
Bible Study

Women's Bible Study

We meet on the First & Third Tuesday
April at 7th and 21st at 10:00 am
Interested in a discussion based on scripture or
a morning devotion?
Come join us. Pastor Oviedo is with us



Family Promise Update



Our next week for meal delivery to the
Family Promise house is May 17—23.
We will have another week of meal deliveries
June 7—13, then a break until October.

The reverse raffle,
“Stars, Stripes, and Second Chances”,
is Thursday April 30, 2026
at the Meadows at Mossy Creek.
This is a big fund raising event.

Talk to Bill Inman about tickets for this event.

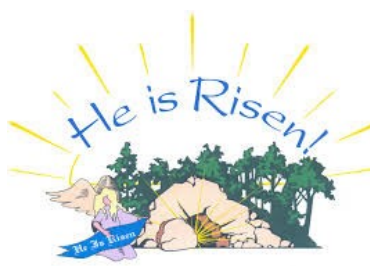




Bible Readings from the Lectionary for April 2026



	1st Reading	Psalm	2nd Reading	Gospel
April 2 (Maundy Thursday)	Exodus 12:1-4, (5-10)	Psalm 116:1-2,12-19	1 Corinthians 11:23-26	John 13:1-17, 31b-35
April 3 (Good Friday)	Isaiah 52:13-53:12	Psalm 22	Hebrews 10:16-25	John 18:1-19:42
April 5 (Easter)	Acts 10:34-43	Psalm 118:1-2,14-24	Colossians 3:1-4	Matthew 28:1-10
April 12	Acts 2:14a, 22-32	Psalm 16	1 Peter 1:3-9	John 20:19-31
April 19	Acts 2:14a, 36-41	Psalm 116:1-4,12-19	1 Peter 1:17-23	Luke 24:13-35
April 26	Acts 2:42-47	Psalm 23	1 Peter 2:19-25	John 10:1-10

April 2026



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2 Maundy Thursday Service at 7:00 pm 	3 Good Friday Service at 7:45 pm 	4
5 10:30 Service Easter Day Fellowship for all who wish after service	6	7 10:00 Bible Study	8	9	10	11
12 10:30 Service 2 Easter Faith Council meets	13	14 10:00 Crafts ministry ?	15 10:00 AM?? Road trip to Toccoa sign up in fellowship hall	16	17	18
19 10:30 Service 3 Easter	20	21 10:00 Bible Study	22	23	24	25
26 10:30 Service 4 Easter Congregation Meeting	27	28 10:00 Crafts ministry	29	30 Clarkesville Soup Kitchen 10:00am -1-pm	May 1	May 2

Worship Help April

Let me know if you need to change your date or check your list of those who serve to find a sub, and let me know. Marty

	April 5 Easter	April 12	April 19	April 26
Worship Asst.	Don Waara	Chris Smith	Janice Bridges	Whitney Hutchinson
Reader	Bill Inman	Arline McWhinney	Chris Smith	Pam Romesser
Usher	Lynn Graham Bill Inman	Jeff Anderson Suzi Anderson	Don Waara Marty Schmebling	Pam Finke Suzi Anderson
Altar Guild	Marty Schmebling Arline McWhinney	Pam Finke	Barb Moser Sue Falls	Lynn Graham Bill Inman
Communion Bread	Marty	Chris	Marty	Marty
Service Team	Team 1	Team 2	Team 3	Team 4

Thank
You

3.9.26

To the congregation at
Faith Lutheran Church

I sincerely apologize for any delay in sending this note. I wanted to express how deeply thankful I am for the consistent and generous support you all have given me. Without FLC, my continued study of Music Education would not have been possible. Your Financial support has completely changed my life. I am so grateful for all of you and appreciate your continuous love, prayer, and support.

With gratitude,

Naomi Hodges.

“Walk down memory lane,
items found in old newsletters”

20 years back in time

Easter was on April 16, 2006

From the April News Letter,

Team 1 will be hosting and organizing the Easter Breakfast this year.

A sign up sheet is in shepherd’s Hall for those who will be attending and what you would like to bring or help out with.

Contact persons: Mary Goebel & Janice Bridges

Kid’s don’t forget the Easter Egg Hunt.

Our Fellowship hall was what is now our



15 years back in time

April 9, 2011

Yes we were in a search for a Pastor at this time. Our search started in February and we called Pastor Tim Morgan to be our Pastor in July.

10 years back in time
Easter Morning at Faith 2016



Sat. April 9, 10:00 - until...
Bring a Lunch. Learn to create Pysanky
(Ukrainian decorated Ester Eggs) with
Beth Gooden

From the
newsletter

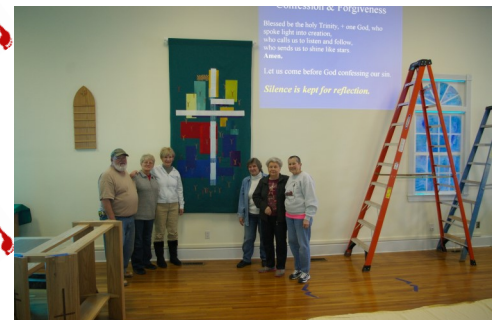


A beautiful
Celebration Service



Fun with the
Easter Egg Hunt

Our Lenten Season reached into April notice the windows up front by the Cross, We did not have our nice banners we have now.



Installation of Banners, no time frame right now on when this was completed. I need to search some more. This gives you an idea





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Faith Lutheran Church
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Cleveland, GA 30528



Faith Lutheran Church
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Mailing Address: P.O. Box 3381, Cleveland, GA 30528
Telephone, 706-865-3925
Pastor Alfredo Oviedo's Ph.# 828-290-4041
If no answer, please leave a message
email is alfredossjc@me.com

Mission of Faith:

To *invite* all people to celebrate God's blessings,
to *nurture* them with Christ's grace, love and fellowship,
and to *send* us all joyfully to *serve*.

Core Values:

Grace

Discipleship

Inclusivity

Grow in Prayer

Worship