



FAITH LUTHERAN
CHURCH & SCHOOL

BEARING FRUIT
FOR JESUS.

FEBRUARY

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER 2026



*Faith's mission is to openly share
the saving grace of Jesus' love*



Faith Opens Doors

I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing.

~ John 15:5



From the Pastor's Desk

It may seem strange to talk about being fruitful in February. We've had quite the snowy winter, and it's not over yet! My parents are avid gardeners, however, and they start thinking through what seeds to purchase and how their garden layout will be this month. In February, my mom starts pepper and tomato plants from seed in her sun porch so that she can plant seedlings in May. In the area of Palestine where Jesus and the first disciples lived, the climate allowed for growing things year-round. When we think of our own lives of discipleship and stewardship, we are not just fruitful in the summer months, but in every season. God wants to grow us into being generous with what we have continuously, so that generosity is a way of life, not just a once-a-year donation.

In January, I was able to attend a pastors' conference where the ELCA Director of Stewardship gave an excellent presentation on generosity. He noted that there are at least 12 different kinds of stewardship, maybe more, that we can think about. Financial stewardship is just one area of our lives when we look at everything we have as a gift from God to be used as God wants. This month, let's think about how God wants us to be fruitful with our time, talents, bodies, creation, our church building and our church community, our calling, and our voice. What are the gifts that we want to share so that others can see how Jesus makes a difference in our lives? We don't have to wait until July or August – we can start enjoying and sharing the fruits of what God has given us now!

THE STEWARDSHIP CORNER

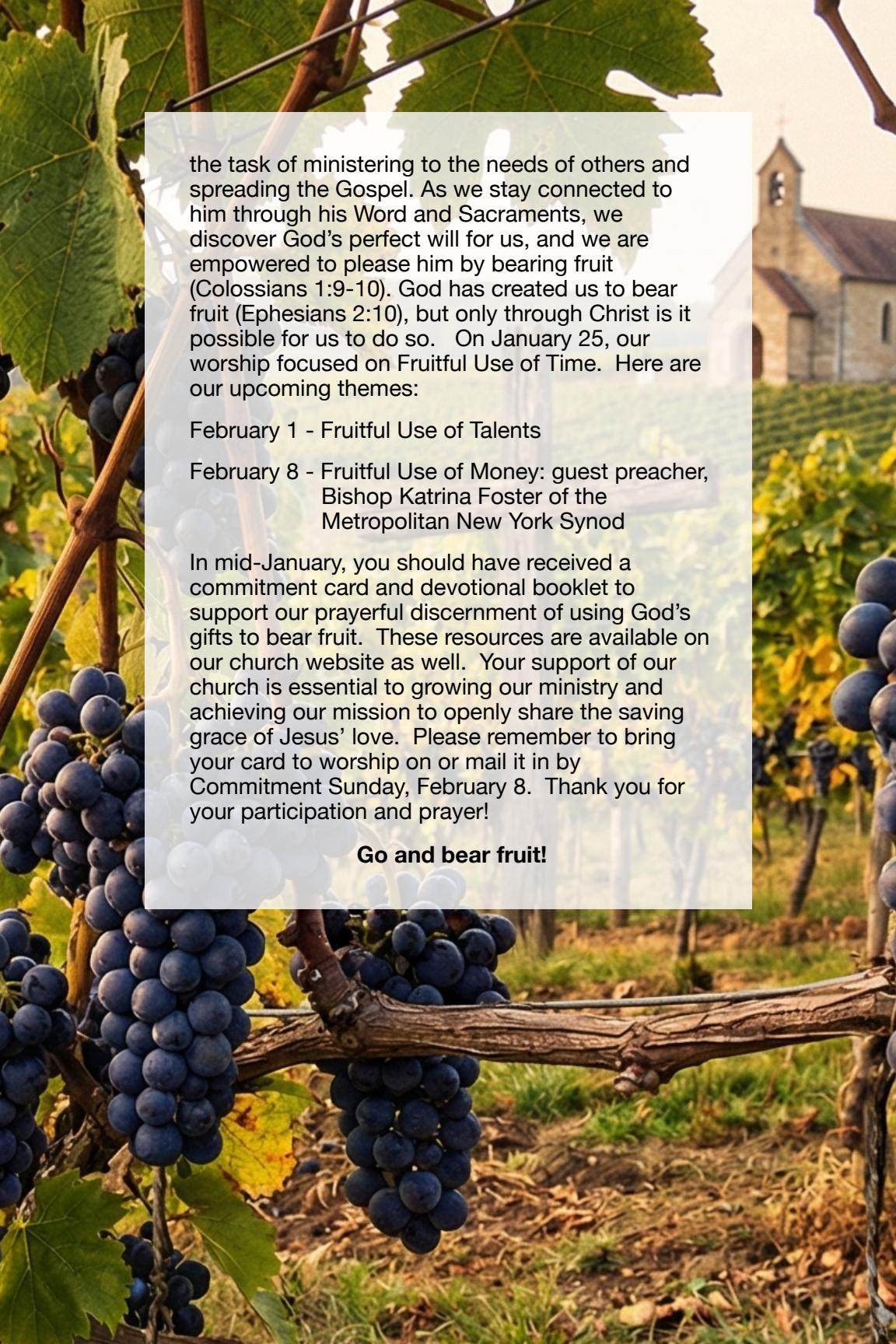
Bearing Fruit for Jesus

In the next couple of weeks, you will hear a lot about bearing fruit because our stewardship theme for this year is **Bearing Fruit for Jesus!: His Grace and Power at Work within You.**

Fruit trees are one of the many wonders of God's creation. To see the beauty of the tree and its fruit, to enjoy its taste, and to realize that it all came from a tiny seed is almost beyond our comprehension. An apple seed is planted in the ground, and, with water and sun as nourishment, miraculously a seedling surfaces that develops into a fruit tree. After a period of time, the apple tree fulfills its mission by bearing apples.

We, as Christians, are like that apple tree. We, too, have been fed and nourished by God so we can bear fruit. "You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit— fruit that will last" (John 15:16). Jesus tells us "I am the Vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing" (John 15:5). The life and power of any plant is found in its vine. The vine uses the branches to produce its fruit. The branch is simply a growth of the vine, produced by it and appointed to bear fruit. The branch exists only because the vine makes it possible.

Fruit characterizes the life of the Christian steward. When we stay firmly connected to Jesus, we are told that we "will bear much fruit. Christ has given us



the task of ministering to the needs of others and spreading the Gospel. As we stay connected to him through his Word and Sacraments, we discover God's perfect will for us, and we are empowered to please him by bearing fruit (Colossians 1:9-10). God has created us to bear fruit (Ephesians 2:10), but only through Christ is it possible for us to do so. On January 25, our worship focused on Fruitful Use of Time. Here are our upcoming themes:

February 1 - Fruitful Use of Talents

February 8 - Fruitful Use of Money: guest preacher, Bishop Katrina Foster of the Metropolitan New York Synod

In mid-January, you should have received a commitment card and devotional booklet to support our prayerful discernment of using God's gifts to bear fruit. These resources are available on our church website as well. Your support of our church is essential to growing our ministry and achieving our mission to openly share the saving grace of Jesus' love. Please remember to bring your card to worship on or mail it in by Commitment Sunday, February 8. Thank you for your participation and prayer!

Go and bear fruit!

Sunday School

As we move into February, our Sunday School curriculum continues to focus on Jesus's life, his interactions with people, the parables he told, and the miracles he performed. Explorations of stories like the Parable of the Vineyard and Jesus raising Lazarus, help our young learners to imagine Jesus as human and divine.

Looking forward to March, we are looking for interest in volunteering at LuHi's annual Meal Packing event on March 8. Participants of all ages are welcomed. \$70 per person helps cover the cost of ingredients, packaging, transportation of meals to various food banks in our area, and other administrative costs. Contact Jessica Raba at jessica.hinsch@gmail.com to get involved.

Here is our Faith Family Event Schedule for the rest of this school year:

Friday, February 13, 6:30-8PM -
Our Faith Family activity for February helps our young people share the love of Faith Lutheran Church with those in our community who are unable to engage with us in person, as we

create Valentine's Day cards to share with our shut-in members.

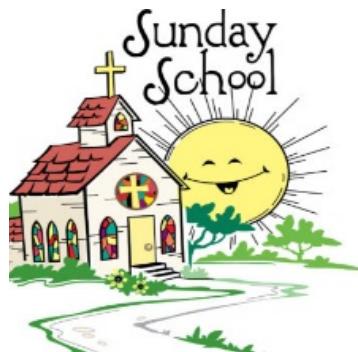
Please RSVP to pastor.rsheridan@gmail.com by February 11. Pizza provided!

Sunday, March 8 afternoon at LuHi Meal Packing service event (see above)

Sunday, April 5 after worship Easter Egg Hunt

Friday, May 1 6:30-8PM Karaoke Night

Saturday, June 13, Faith Family Cookout 3:30-5:30PM on the north side lawn



Nursery School

Happy February!

We are so excited to be starting this new year together at our nursery school. The children have

already been busy enjoying winter-themed projects, exploring new activities, and learning through play. From colorful art projects to hands-on sensory fun, our classrooms are full of creativity and curiosity.

It has also been wonderful welcoming new friends to our school. Seeing the children build friendships, share happy moments, and grow more confident each day has truly warmed our hearts during this winter season.

We are looking forward to many more happy times, learning experiences, and special memories in the months ahead.



Council Corner

- The theme of Faith's 75th Anniversary is "Building Together on the Lord's Foundation"
- Save the date: The 75th Anniversary Committee is planning a fundraising kickoff

dinner on 4/19; more details to follow

- Faith Lutheran will be an Internship Site to host June Daniel-Bradshaw as a full-time intern at Faith from mid June 2026 to June 2027
- Save the date for Faith's Second Camp Koinonia Retreat to take place on July 17-19; a letter with more information will go out in March
- Faith has received a Music Ministry Memorial Gift in memory of Bill & Hilde Wolter
- On 2/8th, Commitment Sunday Bishop Foster will be our guest speaker

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Like our Facebook Page, Faith Lutheran Church at <https://fb.com/faithlutheransyosset/>. Also check us out on our **website** at www.faithsyosset.org.

Our YouTube channel is <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCz51lc5Hy6URvNyVM-AEe0A>.

Our 10am worship services continue to be live-streamed to our Facebook page and YouTube channel.

Thursday Morning Bible Study

Our morning Bible study group meets two Thursdays a month at 10:30am downstairs in the music room or on Zoom. This month, we will be meeting on February 5 & 12, continuing to read through the book of Romans.

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86812884989?
pwd=ZC9PWHB1TjVIRkIramxGdVY4Y3BBQT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86812884989?pwd=ZC9PWHB1TjVIRkIramxGdVY4Y3BBQT09)

Meeting ID: 868 1288 4989

Passcode: 474102

+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kHvUdGR4j>



SCAN ME

Monday Evening Bible Study

Pastor Rebecca is also leading an evening study group on the book of Romans on Mondays from 8-9pm in the church library or on Zoom. We will meet on February 2, 9, & 23 this month:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84902024385?
pwd=ejXtfnQbxO5wv6nkH0p4kmG1aepfGC.1](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84902024385?pwd=ejXtfnQbxO5wv6nkH0p4kmG1aepfGC.1)

Meeting ID: 849 0202 4385
Passcode: 098078



Nursery Sunday School

We now offer pre-reader Sunday School for nursery-age children in addition to our school-age Sunday School during worship. Please speak with one of our ushers or Pastor Rebecca if you would like more information about these options.

February Worship:

Our February Sunday Worship begins with our Stewardship Theme of Bearing Fruit for Jesus, and then Ash Wednesday begins our Lenten Season.

- February 1: Fruitful Use of Talents
- February 8: Fruitful Use of Money (Guest Preacher Bishop Katrina Foster)
- February 15: Transfiguration of Our Lord
- February 18: Ash Wednesday, 7PM in the chapel
- February 22: First Sunday in Lent

Pause & Pray for Midweek Lent
 Every Wednesday night during Lent from 7:00-7:30PM, Pastor Rebecca will be leading a half-hour prayer session on Zoom. We will learn a different kind of prayer each week, and bring our prayer requests to God. If you prefer to

participate in-person, you can join Pastor Rebecca in the chapel.

- February 25: Visio Divina (praying with pictures)
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81582243513?pwd=Olk010UdJ0PQ5yh5zRHlaUr3uhmKnf.1>

Meeting ID: 815 8224 3513
 Passcode: 064168

Men's Breakfast

The next Faith Men's Breakfast will be on Saturday, February 7 at 8:00 AM at the On Parade Diner on Jericho Tpke in Woodbury. Please contact John Hinsch at j4bhinsch@hotmail.com for more information.

Designated Gift Priorities

Faith's Council has established a running list of designated gift priorities for our church. If you would like to give a special gift in memory or in honor of someone, or simply to support our church's ministries outside of your regular offering, the current list is below:

- Nursery School upgrades
- Outdoor nativity
- New office laptops and software upgrades

Lutheran Counseling Center Services

Faith is a member of Lutheran Counseling Center Services of Long Island. As a member of Faith, you may be eligible for sessions with a mental health therapist for \$35 per session. You are welcome to speak confidentially with Pastor Rebecca for more information, and check out their website at www.lccny.org.





- Fellowship Hall Lighting
- Faith Music Conservation and Ministry Fund
- Landscaping and Biblical Garden upkeep
- Fellowship Hall Floor

Please contact Linda Boccafola, secretary, or Pastor Rebecca for further questions.

Giving Electronically

You may register to give electronically on the front page of our website or mail in your offering. Please let us know if you need more offering envelopes. Find us on Zelle at faithsyossetbilling@gmail.com for a one-time electronic donation.

Please follow up with an email stating the intent of your gift (memorial, flowers, general offering), and we will respond with a confirmation of receipt by the next business day. Thank you for your ongoing support of Faith and its ministries! We have laminated cards to place in the offering plate during worship for those who give electronically!

New Life Food Pantry

Faith supports the New Life Food Pantry in Franklin Square (housed

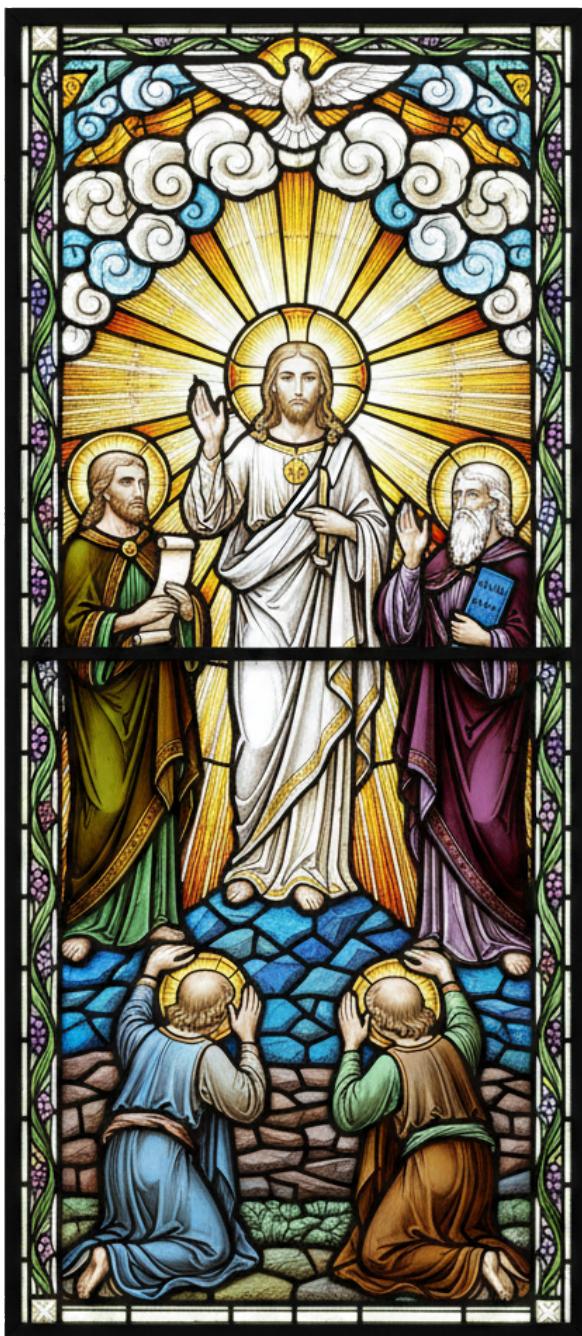
at Ascension Lutheran Church). You are welcome to bring in nonperishable food donations and grocery store gift cards on Sunday mornings or 9am to 3pm during the week.

Special Congregational Meeting Sunday, February 1, 2026 11AM

Faith Church Council has called a special congregational meeting for Sunday, February 1, 2026 at 11am to present to the congregation for approval a parsonage renovation plan, up to \$150,000, provided we raise \$65,000 up front before we proceed. All confirmed members who have communed and have a contribution of record since our last annual meeting are eligible to vote and encouraged to attend this meeting.

Save the Date! Congregational Retreat July 2026

We are once again planning a congregational retreat at Camp Koinonia July 17-19. Please mark your calendars! We will have additional information about how to register coming soon.





King of Kings movie night

Our Sunday school braved the cold for King of Kings movie night on January 24.



Prayer Concerns

Beth Speiser,
Eliana Melody (granddaughter of Pam Morritt Freitag),
Anthony & Lois Martillo,
Barbara Krampitz,
Arthur Millin (brother-in-law of Lydia Kaboolian),
Lauren, Tommy & their daughter Emerson Wondsel (friends of Pam Freitag),
Joseph Boccafola (son of Linda and Everett Boccafola),
Wayne Gruber (son of Evelyn Gruber),
Evelyn Gruber,
Julian Hyman (friend of the Kaboolian family),
Jennifer & Bob Male (dear friends of Lydia Kaboolian),
Lorraine Benson,
Marianna Berkowitz (friends of Margaret Schuffenhauer),
Fran,
Mary Alice and Beth (sisters of Lydia Kaboolian),
Harold Nahigian (Lydia Kaboolian's brother-in-law),
Elizabeth Ahlers (mother of Audrey Bullaro),
Joyce Schultz, Annabelle & Kara Martone (mother & daughter friends of the Rabas),
Lauren Ebbin (granddaughter of Debbie Ostermeier),
Susan MacDonald (friend of Patty Cadavid),
Stan Miller (dear friend of Tricia Shannon and Ron Geraci),
Heath Sangster (nephew-in-law of Lydia Kaboolian),
Lisa Psareas (daughter of Debbie Ostermeier),
Rory Nicoletti (grandnephew of Tricia Shannon and Ron Geraci),
Lisa Hinsch and Kathy Hinsch (sisters-in-law of John Hinsch),
Olivia Melia (friend of Linda Boccafola),
Malcom Prosser and Monty Chaikin (friends of Belle Douglas),
Andrew Boccafola-Fritz (Grandnephew of Linda & Everett Boccafola),
Randy Maertz (friend of John Hinsch),
Bonny Davidson,
the family and friends of Al Murphy (friend of Frank Schuffenhauer),
the family and friends of Mary Petersen, who entered into eternal rest on December 31, 2025,
Mona Gilbert (aunt of Rich Sheridan),
Marcie Walgren (cousin of Rich Sheridan)

FEBRUARY SERVICE SCHEDULE

	Feb 1	Feb 8	Feb 15	Feb 18	Feb 22
Acolytes	Eloise Raba	Michelle Chan	Erin Sheridan	Belle Douglas	Gabby Ho
Lectors	Belle Douglas	Michelle Chan	Linda Boccafola	Erin & Grace Sheridan	Lydia Kaboolian
Counters	Norma Burns Priscilla Ho	John Hinsch Jeanne Sofia	Norma Burns Evelyn Meyers	-	Priscilla Ho Norma Burns
Nursery	Priscilla Ho Gabby Ho	Jojo Chen Patrick Lin	Jojo Chen Izzy Raba	-	Priscilla Ho Gabby Ho
Sunday School Teachers	Jess Raba	Lulu Milicenco-Domathoti	Melanie & Craig Zeolla	-	Rich Sheridan
Fellowship Host	Stewardship Committee	Belle Douglas	Zeolla Family	-	Jeanne Sofia
Ushers	Carl Juul-Nielsen Richard Lin	Evelyn Meyers Belle Douglas	Ronald Geraci Joy Chen	Norma Burns Jeanne Sofia	Carl Juul-Nielsen Evelyn Meyers



Altar Guild for the Month of February:
Norma Burns





*If you have a birthday or anniversary that
we are missing, please notify the church
office at 516-921-3330 or
faithsyosset@gmail.com.*

Anniversaries:

Feb 14 - James & Amy Zanfardino
Chris & Daniella Fedorczak
Feb 23 - Erich & Brunhilde Erichsen

Birthdays:

Feb 08 - Linda Moore, Aidan Borra, Melanie Zeolla
Feb 10 - Matthew Kaboolian
Feb 11 - Pam Freitag, Arlene Hoffman
Feb 15 - Ty Borra
Feb 22 - Barbara Bentley-Nash,
Richard Lin, Vivian Fan
Feb 27 - Logan Karl Erichsen

February 2026 Agenda

Happenings at Faith

WEEK 1

Sun Feb 1, 2026

- 9:15am Adult Choir
- 10am Worship & Sunday School
- **11am Congregation Meeting**
- 1pm Trinity

Mon Feb 2, 26

- **Groundhog Day**
- **8:30am Anniversary Committee Meeting**
- 9am Nursery School
- 7pm Twin County Chorus
- 8pm Bible Study



Tue Feb 3, 26

- 9am Nursery School
- 7pm LI Harmonizers

Wed Feb 4, 26

- 9am Nursery School
- 7pm Boy Scouts

Thu Feb 5, 26

- 9am Nursery School
- 10:30am Bible Study
- 7pm Twin County Chorus

Fri Feb 6, 26

- 9am Nursery School

Sat Feb 7, 26

- Men's Breakfast

WEEK 2

Sun Feb 8, 26

- **Commitment Sunday**
- 9:15am Adult Choir
- 10am Worship & Sunday School
- 1pm Trinity



Mon Feb 9, 26

- 9am Nursery School
- 7pm Twin County Chorus
- 8pm Bible Study

Tue Feb 10, 26

- 9am Nursery School
- 7pm LI Harmonizers

Wed Feb 11, 26

- 9am Nursery School
- 7pm Boy Scouts

Thu Feb 12, 26

- 9am Nursery School
- 10:30am Bible Study
- 7pm Twin County Chorus

Fri Feb 13, 26

- 9am Nursery School
- 6:30pm Faith Family Night

Sat Feb 14, 26

- **Valentine's Day**



February 2026 Agenda

Happenings at Faith

(Continued)

WEEK 3

Sun Feb 15, 26

- **Transfiguration Sunday**
- 9:15am Adult Choir
- 10am Worship & Sunday School
- 1pm Trinity

Mon Feb 16, 26

- **Presidents' Day**
- No School



Tue Feb 17, 26

- **Luna New Year**
- No School
- 7pm LI Harmonizers



Wed Feb 18, 26

- **7pm Ash Wednesday Service**
- No School



Thu Feb 19, 26

- No School
- 7pm Twin County Chorus

Fri Feb 20, 26

- No School

Sat Feb 21, 26

WEEK 4

Sun Feb 22, 26

- 11:30am Church Council
- 10am Worship & Sunday School
- 1pm Trinity

Mon Feb 23, 26

- 9am Nursery School
- 8pm Bible Study

Tue Feb 24, 26

- 9am Nursery School
- 7pm LI Harmonizers

Wed Feb 25, 26

- 9am Nursery School
- 7pm Boy Scouts
- **7pm Pause & Pray**

Thu Feb 26, 26

- 9am Nursery School
- 7pm Twin County Chorus

Fri Feb 27, 26

- 9am Nursery School

Sat Feb 28, 26

Faith Lutheran Church & School

516-921-3330

<https://faithsyosset.org>

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CHURCH DIRECTORY

Faith Lutheran Church and School

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Facebook: [faithlutheransyosset](https://www.facebook.com/faithlutheransyosset)



PASTOR: Rebecca Sheridan

516-281-4418

pastor.rsheridan@gmail.com

CHURCH SECRETARY:

Linda Boccafola

MUSIC DIRECTOR:

Miloš Veljiković

CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL:

President: Richard Lin

Vice President: Doug Raba

Treasurer:

Lulu Milicenco-Domathoti

Secretary: Lydia Kaboolian

Financial Secretary:

Evelyn Meyers

Other Members

Betty Schmale

Craig Zeolla

Jeanne Sofia

Tricia Shannon

COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

Acolytes: Linda Boccafola

Altar Guild: Pam Freitag

Counters: Ruth Minkoff

Evangelism: Richard Lin

Fellowship: Jeanne Sofia

Finance:

Lulu Milicenco-Domathoti

Lectors & Prayer Chain:

Lydia Kaboolian

Property: Carl Juul-Nielsen &

Craig Zeolla

Stewardship: Evelyn Meyers

Sunday School: Jessica Raba

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