

February 2024



1326 East Cedar Street
Sequin, Texas

Phone: 830-379-7036

Email: office@faithsequin.org

www.faithequin.org

*Flowers in
February*



4th –Available

11th-Available

18th –Available

25th –Available



*“Words of
Faith”
in February*

4th –Stan
& Nancy Wieding

11th-Pat & Missy
Sagebiel

18th –Available

25th –Available

Watoto Children’s Choir Coming to Faith!

In September 2023, Watoto, a Christ-centered ministry in Uganda, East Africa, brings you the Watoto Children’s Choir performing songs from their brand-new album, “Better Days—There Is Hope.” The six-month tour, launching in the USA on the East Coast, presents the story of orphaned and abandoned African children who’ve received the love and care needed to help them rise above their circumstances, ready to make a difference in the world as they become Africa’s future leaders.

Like Africa, the production is vibrant and colorful, taking you on an emotional journey as the children sing, dance, and share their personal stories of restoration and hope. As people see their smiles and are embraced by their hugs, the children have the privilege of telling people, “No matter what you’re going through, Jesus is our hope and there are better days ahead. Look at what He has done in my life.” Other than going to Africa yourself, what better way to learn about all the good work Watoto is doing than through this heartwarming, musical performance.

The proceeds made from the album and tour will help Watoto continue to provide vulnerable children with an education, medical care, a safe place to call home, and most of all the love of a family. Over the past four decades, the challenges facing Africa have changed, but Watoto’s vision remains the same—Watoto is committed to celebrating Christ and caring for community.

Faith Lutheran Church,

I have hosted this event at the last church I served in Bulverde, TX. It was a night that was inspiring and filled with the Holy Spirit. It was a reminder of the importance of mission for our congregation. My prayer is that our congregation and community will support this ministry but will also be greatly blessed and inspired by this event.

I hope that you join us on **Thursday, February 22nd, at 7:00pm** for a night filled with testimonies, songs and African dance. And bring a friend!

In Christ,

-Pastor Andrew



February Birthdays

- 01 Donna Raetzsch
- 03 Thor Jensen
- 04 Codi Breckenridge
- 07 Madison Hilbert
- 07 Jessica Warren
- 08 Erin Bloch
- 08 Andrew Oehlke
- 08 Bradley Baker
- 12 Courtney Werner
- 12 Peter Tischoff
- 13 Kambree Flippin
- 13 Kathy Hamlett
- 14 Carolyn Zipp
- 14 Parker Maltony
- 17 Elizabeth Gudgell
- 17 Reece Kelm
- 18 Clara Fischer
- 18 Kassidy Beran
- 20 Amy Casey
- 22 Kyle Schlather
- 24 Teresa Borgfeld
- 24 Madelyn Mireault
- 26 Cathy Mauermann
- 26 Sadie Crawford
- 27 Melba Govett



February Anniversaries

- 07 Matt & Julie Sherwood

Via de Cristo Weekend Coming Soon!

What Is Via de Cristo? Via de Cristo is a Spanish phrase meaning “Way of Christ,” and is a nationwide combined effort of laypeople and clergy to renew the church. A Via de Cristo weekend is a 3- day retreat focusing on spiritual renewal of body, mind, and spirit. It is a ministry within the Lutheran Church whose intention is to renew and strengthen Christian faith. Those attending discover a new awareness of living in the overflowing abundance of God’s grace. Through the power of the Holy Spirit and God’s grace, this course of study inspires, challenges, and equips people to be effective servants within the body of Christ. All are encouraged to strengthen their partnerships with their pastors and church families to be more active servants in the work of God’s kingdom!

Did you go to Bible Camp as a child? Via de Cristo is like a Bible Camp for adults. You will make new friends and have your faith renewed and strengthened through study, worship, singing, good food, and great fellowship. The next weekend (for men and women) will be Thursday, March 21st, (starting about 6 p.m.) – Sunday, March 24th (ending about 3 p.m.) at Ebert Ranch Camp in Harper, TX. If you have ever been invited to attend but just haven’t been able to go, or if you feel you could use a few days of relaxation and renewal of body, mind & spirit, or if you just have questions about Via de Cristo, please speak to Stefan or Jamie Hilbert, Jody Alexander, Julia Glenewinkel, or Syndra Schulze (these people attended Via de Cristo this past year). You may also speak to Pastor Dan Cave or Ted or Doris Engelhardt. We can give you more information and an application. Please pick up a Via de Cristo Brochure in the Kiosk. Scholarships are available to help with the registration fee.

Christian Cupboard Item of the Month

The Christian Cupboard **item for February is SOUP**. This includes all varieties and brands. Please bring your donations to church through **February 29th** and place them in the basket in the narthex marked Christian Cupboard. The Cupboard also accepts monetary donations, which they use to purchase fresh produce, milk, eggs, bread, and frozen meats to distribute to needy families throughout the year. Donations can be mailed to the Christian Cupboard, 516 N. Camp, Seguin, TX 78156.

FOOD BANK DISTRIBUTION DATE SET

Our Social Concerns ministry team will host the next community food distribution day on **Saturday, March 2**. We need VOLUNTEERS to help make this run smoothly. There will be a sign-up sheet available in the Narthex during February. This is a family event, everyone can help! If you’re not careful, you might even have fun! Thank you in advance for your continued support and willingness to be a part of this wonderful ministry!

Kettle Campaign Update

A **BIG THANK YOU** goes out to all Faith bell ringers and contributors who participated in our local Seguin Salvation Army Kettle Campaign this past Christmas season. Faith had a good number of willing people taking a turn ringing bells **on December 18**. Thanks to all our people who made donations, also. Sincerely, Social Concerns Committee



Certificate of Appreciation

to

Faith Lutheran Church

For the time spent ringing the bells for the 2023 Kettle Campaign!!

The 2023 Kettle Campaign brought in just under \$40,000 during its 21 day run. Those moneys are now being used to meet the immediate emergency needs of our fellow Guadalupe County residents.

We truly could not do the campaign without the support of our amazing volunteers.

The 2023 Salvation Army Kettle Campaign Committee

**SANTA
SHERIFF**

Thank you all
for your
generous
donations to
the Santa
Sheriff
campaign.

**GUADALUPE COUNTY
SHERIFF'S OFFICE**



Paraments and the Seasons and Celebrations of the Church Year - Part 2

February begins with the Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany, which celebrates the day when the Wise Men visited baby Jesus in Bethlehem. It's a Christian celebration that honors this event and represents the revelation of Jesus Christ to the world. Green, symbolizing growth in Christ, is the liturgical color for the counted Sundays after both Epiphany and also Pentecost. Following Epiphany is the Sunday of the Transfiguration of our Lord. This feast is the commemoration of the occasion when Jesus took Peter, James and John up on a mountain. It was here that Moses and Elijah appeared and Jesus' appearance was radiantly transformed. White paraments adorn the altar, pulpit and lectern.

Ash Wednesday, this year on Feb. 14, is the beginning of Lent, the penitential forty-day season for the preparation for Easter. The liturgical color is purple, the color of penitence, and also it is used in remembrance of the royalty of the "King of the Jews," who suffered contempt and scorn to secure our salvation. On Palm Sunday the paraments are scarlet (red) to signify the passion of Christ and the blood He shed on the cross. The red paraments are also used on Maundy Thursday when the altar, pulpit, and lectern are stripped and left bare for Good Friday.

Easter paraments are white to signify purity and completeness. White represents Christ's triumph from the grave, reinforcing the message that our sins, once scarlet, are now "white as snow," which is cause for our rejoicing. Gold is also used and represents value and worth. White paraments continue for though the Seventh Sunday of Easter, this year on May 12.

WATOTO Coming to Faith!

**AT THE HEART OF THE WATOTO CHILDREN'S
CHOIR IS A MESSAGE OF GOD'S
UNFAILING LOVE**

It's what each of our kids has experienced in their own lives—He places abandoned and forgotten children in families full of love. When people see our children from Uganda, with their hearts healed and their dreams restored, they can't help but realize that this same God cares for them, too.

**OVER THE PAST 25 YEARS, WE'VE SENT OUT
MORE THAN 100 CHOIRS AROUND THE
WORLD**

During that time, our choirs have met Her Majesty the Queen, performed for the President of the United States and visited almost every major parliament in the world.

Yet, as remarkable as those moments have been, we cherish the times we've met ordinary people in their moment of pain and been able to see firsthand how Jesus heals.

**JOIN US THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 7:00 pm
IN THE LIFE ENRICHMENT CENTER! BRING A
FRIEND!**



YOU'RE INVITED

Join the **Watoto Children's Choir** as they sing, dance,
and share their stories of restoration & hope.



February 2024

Children's Church and Sunday School:

February 5-Jesus Teaches Us to Be Salt/
Light

February 12-Jesus Walks On Water

February 19-Zacchaeus Climbs A Tree to
see Jesus

February 26-Jesus Blesses The Children

We Play For God's Team

On February 4, we will have our Cereal Bowl. JAM kids will have voted on the top favorite cereals in January and finalize the big winner! We will also play fun games, food, and end with a devotion about the choices we make.



Save the Date

Come join us June 24-28 as we explore our God in VBS. You won't want to miss it!

We put our prayers on paper, had a snowball fight, and then prayed for each other. We are like snowflakes-



God Made Me Unique!
I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made;

Faith Lutheran Youth News!

2024 is off to a great start with FLY! Wednesday nights and Sunday mornings have been full of food, fun, and fellowship while diving into the Word. Ms. Laura has also kept busy supporting our kids at their extra-curricular activities! Come FLY with us!





At this time in the life of our nation and all that is happening throughout the world, it is most appropriate that we remember in our prayers those in the military and their families. Please remember in your daily prayers the following military personnel and their families:

Ann Sagebiel
 Stoney Portis
 Todd Wegner
 David Daniels
 Raul Davila III
 Tony Leal, Jr.
 Shannon Nance
 Brad Dillon
 Victor J. Rodriguez
 Amanda Sagebiel
 Cameron Koehler
 Michael McBride
 Jason Sagebiel
 Michael Fruehling
 Shelly Park
 Ricky Fryer
 Brian Branin
 Jason Hubbard
 Lance England
 Kevin Pfluger



Texas District

Mission Moment

by Pastor Bryce Formwalt
 Director of Mission Growth

How to Grow Your Church

In my role as Director of Mission Growth, a common question that church members and even some pastors ask me is “How do we grow our church?” I love this question because it tells me a few things about the person asking it. First, the very question itself communicates that the person asking recognizes that their church has a purpose to connect to more people and reveals a “holy discontent” with the present reality. Secondly, the question also informs me that the asker is genuinely interested and open to learning and implementing new ideas. Both having a heart to connect with more people and a teachable spirit are key components to ministry success and congregational revitalization.

The question also presents a bit of a challenge: Growing a bigger church should never be the mission of the church! Instead, church growth is a byproduct of a church engaging in and accomplishing its true mission and purpose. So, what is the true mission and purpose of the church? In my opinion, it can be summed up with “connecting people to Jesus.” Exactly what this looks like in each congregation and community can and should be very different: no two congregations are alike; nor are the contexts in which those congregations minister.

I truly believe that churches who prioritize connecting people to a life-giving relationship with Jesus will indeed grow. Yet growth, in and of itself, should not be the actual goal. What would happen if we stopped obsessing over worship attendance or confirmation class size or Sunday School participation and started prioritizing and praying for those in our community whom God is calling us to befriend with the purpose and intent of gently and lovingly connecting them with Jesus? How can churches prioritize this activity as their mission, encouraging and equipping one another for everyday mission work?

In the book *7 Habits of Healthy Churches*, Marcus Carlson notes that “Healthy churches are focused more on those outside the church than those inside the church.” I couldn’t agree more with Carlson’s assertion. To be clear, this does not mean that healthy churches do not care for one another within the church; healthy churches always love one another. What the author is pointing out is a reality I routinely observe: in the absence of a clear, outward-focused mission, congregations always default to pleasing their own members as their de facto purpose. Whenever a congregation focuses on member satisfaction, it becomes unhealthy and ultimately, inevitably declines.

God is calling the church to more. That more isn’t simply to worry about stopping decline and growing our congregation. The more God is calling the church to is a mission that extends beyond our church walls and prioritizes connecting people to Jesus.

Pastor Bryce Formwalt is the Director of Mission Growth for LCMC Texas District and Program Director of Harvest Workers, an online ministry training program (learn more at www.harvestworkers.net). Residing in Georgetown, Pastor Bryce is available to coach congregations on mission. Feel free to contact him with any questions or comments: 512-942-7776 ext. 2 or bryce@lcmctexas.org.

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OUR LOVE AND PRAYERS GO OUT TO



Please note: if someone you have placed on this list has been helped by our prayers, please notify the church office so the person's name can be removed. Thank you.

Judy Saunders
Kelton Lange
Brad Flippin
Birdie Kuempel
Dale Nauert
Sue Harwell

Nora Lavelett
Gladys Fruehling
Steve Foerster
Doris Rinn
Patti Jahns

Carolyn Sagebiel
Donald Jackson
Clara Fischer
Paul Quello
Debbie Lehmann

Nancy Rodgers, aunt of Gail Herbold
Chad Braun, son of Wally and Fran Braun
Liza Mossler, former DIL of Fred/Sue Blumberg
Shanna Manor, goddaughter of Sue Blumberg
Patsy Heckmann, grandmother of LeAnne White
Jenelle Oeltjendiers, mother of Jo Ann Bogisch
Chris Hilsberg, friend of the Kautzsch family
Carol Nagie Steer, friend of Mary Koehler
Dan Rioux, nephew of Ted & Doris Engelhardt
Amy Wheeler Lacy, friend of Doris Engelhardt
Gordon Johnson, friend of John Kuempel
Janine Moltz, friend of Jessica Westerholm
Elizabeth Walker, friend of Cecil/Syndra Schulze
Pam Neal, friend of Roxanne Heckmann
Misty Valdez, friend of Ted & Doris Engelhardt
Hunter Hewell, friend of Birdie Kuempel
Pastor Craig Sturm, cousin of Nicole Kuntschik
Janet Koenig, mother of Andrew Koenig
Charlie Lunday, friend of the Via De Cristo
community

Juan Soliz, friend of Pat Sagebiel
Bridget Klein, niece of Debbie and Cliff Lehmann
Leroy & Alice Braun, brother and SIL of Doris Engelhardt
Lindsey Taylor Knight, friend of Cathy Wensinger
Ric Landvatter, friend of Faith Lutheran
Ian Beck Family, grandson of Pat Bodine
Sophia Oliver, cousin of Lisa Owen
Barry Baker, brother of Brian Baker
Chris Wren, friend of Fred and Sue Blumberg
Blair Wolber, granddaughter of Janet Wolber
Mark, friend of Larry and Kristy Serold
London Blumberg, granddaughter of Fred/Sue
Blumberg
Pat Liberty, friend of Susan Foerster
Amy Sagebiel Bolin, daughter of Jim and Judy Sagebiel
and niece of Rose Mary Ermel
David Patrick, son-in-law of Bill & Kitty Keller
MLiss Harrington, daughter of Pat Bodine
Anne Wolfe, friend of Julia Glenewinkel
Bonnie Pesson, mother of Lisa Owen
Taylor Cannel, friend of Sue and Fred Blumberg

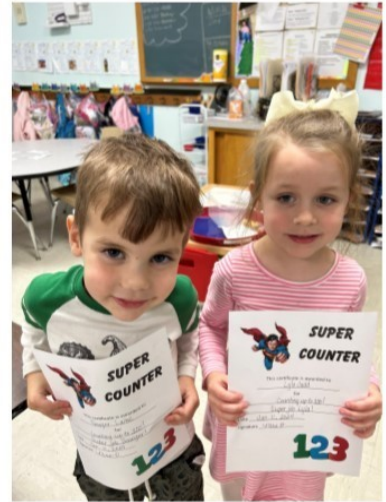
"Our prayers may be awkward. Our attempts may be feeble. But since the power of prayer is in the one who hears it and not in the one who says it, our prayers do make a difference."

- Max Lucado

PRESCHOOL NEWS



Emery Curnel shows her umbrella painting and Colson Vogel plays in the snow during Weather Week.



Sawyer and Lyla share their super powers by counting to 100!



Beckham, Lou, and Sonny help tell the story of the Three Wisemen during Chapel.



Owen Stewart and family create a beautiful storage unit for our nap-room.

Registration for the 2024-2025 school year is now open. To assure a place for your child, please call 830-379-7074.

WOMEN OF FAITH IN FEBRUARY

CHARITY CIRCLE—Monday, February 19th, 7:00 PM, (AC)

LOVE CIRCLE—Tuesday, February 20th, 9:30 AM, (AC)

HOPE CIRCLE—Thursday, February 15th, 2:00 PM, (AC)

New Council Members

Congratulations to the following new council members: Alan Bonds, James Eichenholz, Kathy Hamlet, Jamie Hilbert, and Karla Johnson.

CONGRATULATIONS TO

Joe and Toccoa Eledge on the birth of their baby boy, Joseph Bradley. Joseph was born on Friday, January 19, in New Braunfels. Joe is also welcomed by big sisters, Reagan and Rebekah!



PRAYERS REQUESTED

For the family of David Jakobeit, brother of Kathy Hamlet. David passed through death into eternal life on Friday, January 16, in San Antonio. Please keep Kathy and her family in your prayers in the days and weeks to come.



Prayers are also requested for the family of Bill Wensinger, brother of Cathy “Crash” Wensinger. Bill passed through death into eternal life on Monday, January 22 in Ohio. Please keep Cathy and her family in your prayers in the days and weeks to come.

The Best is **YET** to Come!

A new fellowship is available for Faith members over 50! **YET** meets for lunch and/or other social activities on the second and fourth Thursdays of every month. Join us at 11:30 at El Ranchito. Call or text Syndra Schulze at 830-305-3377 for more information!
Join in the fun!



“SOUPER Bowl of Caring” will be held on **Sunday, February 11**. Wear your favorite sport team’s jersey or color to worship and bring a can of **SOUP** for the Christian Cupboard!

Commitment Sunday, February 4, 2024

Worship Service 9:00 AM

Please bring Pledge Cards and Time and Talent Sheets with you to worship.

SERVING FAITH IN FEBRUARY 2024

	February 4	February 11	Feb. 14 12:00	Feb. 14 7:00	February 18	February 25
	Please call the church office or the head usher if you are scheduled to work and can not make it.					
COMMUNION	Fran Braun (B)		Gail Herbold	Doris Engelhardt	Jud Alexander (B)	
COMMUNION	Elaine Bennett (W)		Avis Herrick	Sharon Westerholm	Jody Alexander (W)	
COMMUNION	Gail Herbold (W)		Carolyn Zipp	Kim Koenig	Julia Glenewinkel (W)	
COMMUNION						
Aide at Altar	Carolyn Zipp				Matt Sherwood	
LOCK UP	Brad Bettis	Brian Baker				Candi Andrews
Security Team	Tim Bogish	Ted Engelhardt			Fred Shanafelt	Aaron Seidenberger
COUNT	Betty Moltz	Susan Foerster	Need	Need	Diane Terp	Jody Alexander
COUNT	Lisa Owen	Pat Sagebiel	Volunteers	Volunteers	David Moltz	Joanne Shanafelt
	Tim Bogisch	Jud Alexander			Mike Andrews	Ed Engelhardt
	Mike Burris	Mark Herbold	Need	Need	Brandon Westerholm	Missy Sagebiel
USHERS	Albert Menn	Cecil Schulze	Volunteers	Volunteers	Paul Kalkwarf	Pat Sagebiel
	John Taddy	Chase White			Robert Raetzsch	Ben Weise
	Gina Mannel				Ronnie Glenewinkel	
LAY READERS	Michelle Kuempel	Kim Kautzsch			Lisa Owen	Avis Herrick
Set Up	Carlee Goetz		Carlee Goetz	Carlee Goetz	Carlee Goetz	
Set Up	Susan Foerster		Susan Foerster	Susan Foerster	Susan Foerster	
Clean Up	BJ Chambers				BJ Chambers	
Clean Up	Kathy Taddy				Kathy Taddy	
AV Workers	Andrew Kuehne	Matthew Fransen			Chase White	Andrew Kuehne
(Screens/Sound)	Joseph Eledge	Tim Bogisch			Diane Gwyther	Betty Moltz
GREETERS	Jody Alexander	Mike Andrews			Dianne Chambers	Patti Jahns
	Emma Jean Becker	Candi Andrews			Avis Herrick	Kim Koenig

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR LENTEN SERVICES!

We are looking for **Tellers** (offering counters) and **Ushers** for our Wednesday Lenten services. Please call the church office if you would like to volunteer!

Faith Lutheran Church
1326 E Cedar Street
Seguin, Texas 78155

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT #3
SEGUIN, TEXAS 78155

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



February 2024

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL

- † Candi Andrews
- † Brian Baker
- † Brad Bettis
- † Alan Bonds
- † James Eichenholz
- † Kathy Hamlet
- † Mark Hazel
- † Jamie Hilbert
- † Karla Johnson
- † Brett Owen

Church Staff

Co-Pastors.....Interim Pastor Daniel Cave and Intern Pastor Andrew Cave
Youth Director.....Laura Beedy
Office Manager.....Angie Rohde
Music / Communications Director
.....Roxanne Heckmann
Children's Music Director.....LeAnne White
Accompanist.....Kate Oehlke
Children's Ministry Kim Kautzsch
Financial Asst.....Carol Baker

PRESCHOOL & EXTENDED CARE STAFF

Pre-K four-year-old class (5 days) -.....Paula Neuman/Sheri Scaief
Pre-K four-year-old class (5 days) -Jennifer Thompson/Morgan Bermea
Pre-K three-year-old class (5 days) -..... Laura Joiner/Dianna Merz
Pre-K three-year-old class (3 days) -Joy McKinnis/Donna Smith
Mother's Morning Out class—.....Kristen Haener/ Kim Kautzsch
Full time two-year-old class—...Janelle Ramirez Erlinda Pennypacker
Extended Care—.....Paula Neuman, Morgan Bermea, Dianna Merz, Amanda Fox
Director—Lisa Owen

What's Happening in February?

Sunday, February 4
Commitment Sunday

Sunday, February 11
SOUPer Bowl Sunday

Widow's Tea
(FLY Service Project)

Wednesday, February 14
Ash Wednesday
Services at 12 and 7 PM

Thursday, February 22
WATOTO Concert
7:00 PM