



Family of Faith

“Experiencing and sharing the love of Jesus”

Worshiping at:

**The Children's House - Montessori School
5363 N. Long Lake Rd. | Traverse City, MI | 49684
Sundays 10:00 am
with children's church during the service**

phone number: (231) 944-6582

Mailing address:

P.O. Box 7061

Traverse City, MI 49696

Web Site:

www.FamilyofFaithTC.org

In association with:

Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ (LCMC)

OUR STAFF

Pastor: Daniel LeCouteur

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Intern Pastor: Glenn Arlt

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Organist: Sally Eichberger

A banner for a retreat featuring a photograph of a wooden pier extending into a calm lake. The text is overlaid on the top left of the image.

Northern Michigan Captivating Retreat

April 12-15, 2012

We invite you to join us for this four day women's event,
as we explore the mysteries of our feminine soul.

Based on the book "Captivating" by John & Stasi Eldredge

For more information go to
northernmichigancaptivatingretreat.com

Good News! Via de Cristo

The Way of Christ

Via de Cristo Weekends

[Men's Spring Weekend #50](#)

April 12-15

[Women's Spring Weekend #50](#)

April 19-22

See Pastor Daniel or Sue LeCouteur for more information



An exasperated mother, whose son was always getting into mischief, finally asked him,
“How do you expect to get into heaven?”
The boy thought it over and said, “Well, I will run in and out and in and out and keep slamming the door until
St. Peter says, “For heavens sake, Dylan, come in or stay out!”

Bible Studies

Tuesdays @ 12:30 pm at the Pizza hut in front of Lowes. This group is studying the book of John as interpreted by Michael Card. Pizza and study materials are provided and every one is welcome. Please contact Denise Arlt for more information.

Tuesdays @ 5 pm is a men's bible study held at Mike Bartone's home. This group is studying Romans and all men are welcome. Please contact Pr. Glenn for more information.

Wednesday @ 6:00 pm at Elly Cosgrove's home, this group is studying the book of Matthew. Everyone is welcome, please contact Elly Cosgrove for more information.

New Bible Study Coming

Coming soon – Can we believe what we read in Genesis?
Ken Ham will lead us through a 12 week study of Genesis 1-11 while answering such questions as:

“Is Genesis Relevant Today?”

“Did God Create in Six Literal Days?”

“Why is There Suffering and Death?”

“Is There Really a God?”

Do Animals Evolve?”

And more!

Watch for details in further postings on this exciting video series - and consider inviting your friends too!

Pastor's Ponderings

Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh! In case you couldn't tell, that is the sound of me skiing. Of course, I won't try to mimic the huffing and puffing sounds that I also make, but with winter finally arriving in our area

I am once again reminded of how blessed I am to be here and to enjoy all this area has to offer. While still in the Detroit area I often found myself frustrated that the snow would not last long enough for me to get out for much skiing. Not to mention the fact that we have so much more natural beauty here.

Some of you might just roll your eyes, what with all the shoveling and the trickier road travel, but me? I am a four season guy and I always done my best to get the most out of each season – whether it is mushroom hunting in the spring (a really new experience), swimming, biking, hiking or golf in the summer, harvesting in the fall or skiing in the winter, I try to make the most out of what God throws at me.

Come to think of it, that's a pretty good philosophy for daily living. After all, in Genesis 1:31; “God saw all that he had made, and it was very good. And there was evening, and there was morning-- the sixth day. And in Psalm 100:4 we are told, “Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name.”

So please, let us celebrate all that God has given us, whether it means time next to a fireplace, swooshing across new fallen snow, or sitting on ice waiting for a fish to wander by.

Praise God for all He has done.

Blessings,
Pr. Daniel

From the Intern

Other than the Bible itself, I've just completed one of the most illuminating books in my Beyond the River Academy schoolwork. “Under the Influence - How Christianity Transformed Civilization,” written by a Lutheran Pastor Alvin Schmidt, is a book which I believe could be transformed into some Bible studies at some point in the future.

Briefly, I'll outline a very few things which were societal norms (as normal as any legal and moral activity now done in public today) prior to Christianity, just to give everyone a small taste of what life (more like 'existence') would be like had Christ never come, because this was what life was like prior to His coming.

Rampant: Infanticide, child abandonment, abortion, human sacrifices, suicide, no rights for women, polygamy, child brides, abandonment of elderly widows and orphans, no care for the sick, slavery (over half of Rome were slaves at one point), adultery, fornication, prostitution, homosexuality, pederasty (pedophilia), lesbianism, group sex, bestiality, constant warfare at the desire of a King or leader, and the total lack of human rights with life lived by all at the whim of the very few.

Thanks be to God, He sent His son, the Radical, Jesus Christ; God's Word Incarnate, to change the world one saved person at a time. Now 2000 years later, fully 2 billion living humans worship Christ as His followers - 1/3 of the world. Only 2/3 to go!

Glenn Arlt
Intern Pastor

Warm up your Heart

In the middle of February's long winter days is a holiday to warm up your heart. Some people await Valentines Day with excitement while others are only reminded that they feel alone. No matter how you view this holiday, I hope you feel the love which God expresses for you year round.

God's love is found printed in His Bible and found in the world He created for us.

In today's world it can be hard to see love through the loneliness and pains surrounding us.

It can be hard to feel warm during these cold and cloudy Michigan days.

But rest assured that there is a reason for this season. Without our snow, we would not have our spring!

Without our spring our area would not be able to produce the foods and lively nature we treasure.

We treasure what has been found, what we have worked hard to earn, what is of value...

"...we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit..." Romans 5:3-5

God's love is a treasure that can melt through all hearts, warm all hearts and mend all hearts.

Experience God's Love with friends and family at our Winter Warm-Up event.

Saturday, February 25th from 3:30-4:30 at Darrow Park (on Bay st, near Tom's West)

Bundle up and learn how to share God's Love with others.

"Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another." 1John4:11

Share his love by inviting others to join us for such events and by inviting them to church.

Share the greatest Valentines gift of all this this season...

"faith, hope and love, But the greatest of these is love." 1Corinthians 13:13

**Happy Valentines Day,
Love the Director of Youth and Family Services**

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

The annual Congregational Meeting is scheduled for the first Sunday in February, following worship.

February

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5 Worship, 10 am, @ Children's Center; Congregational/ Council Meeting	6	7 Community Bible Study, 12:30 pm @ Pizza Hut Men's Bible Study, 5:00 pm. @ Mike Bartone's home	8 Bible Study, 6:00 pm @ Elly Cosgrove's home.	9	10	11
12 Worship, 10 am, @ Children's Center;	13	14 Community Bible Study, 12:30 pm @ Pizza Hut Men's Bible Study, 5:00 pm. @ Mike Bartone's home	15 Bible Study, 6:00 pm @ Elly Cosgrove's home.	16	17	18
19 Worship, 10 am @ Children's Center	20	21 Community Bible Study, 12:30 pm @ Pizza Hut Men's Bible Study, 5:00 pm. @ Mike Bartone's home	22 Bible Study, 6:00 pm @ Elly Cosgrove's home.	23	24	25 Warm Up Your Heart, 3:30 @ Darrow Park
26 Worship, 10 am, @ Children's Center;	27	28 Community Bible Study, 12:30 pm @ Pizza Hut Men's Bible Study, 5:00 pm. @ Mike Bartone's home	29 Bible Study, 6:00 pm @ Elly Cosgrove's home.			

MISSION

“Experiencing and sharing the love of Jesus”

MISSION STATEMENT

In the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ we are a congregation where each person is honored and respected for their individual gifts and contributions. We commit to making disciples by serving our local community through the generous sharing of our resources, deeds and faith so that all God's children will come to know the meaning of living a life in Christ.

VISION STATEMENT

We will be a beacon of God's light for the entire Grand Traverse community. Attracting individuals from every walk of life through our diligent discipleship, through our abundant generosity, and through our faithful witness to the love of Christ.

Once gathered, the Family of Faith will be nurtured through an exciting, yet meaningful, worship experience, encouraged by dynamic Christian teaching, strengthened by the daily use of God's Holy Word. Equipped with the Love of Christ and the power of the Holy Spirit we will venture forth to become instruments of God's love to all we meet through our acts of sharing and by easing the pain and brokenness of all those who are in need.

STATEMENT OF VALUES

Family of Faith is Lutheran in theology, practicing the unconditional love and acceptance of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. We are in association with “Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ” which means that we are free in Christ, accountable to one another, rooted and grounded in the Scriptures and Lutheran Confessions, and that we are working to fulfill Christ's Great Commission to make disciples of all nations.

LCMC NEWSLETTER

Would you like to know what is going on in the LCMC? One way to keep in touch is to log onto their web site at .lcmc.net

While there you can go to the “Newsletter” page and download many issues of the newsletter. Can't log onto the internet? Just contact Pastor Daniel and he'll be glad to print off any issue for you.

GET CONNECTED

There is a new magazine for Evangelical Lutheran Christians, such as ourselves, called “Connections.” The annual subscription for this bi-monthly magazine is only \$20 and you can subscribe by going to: .bible-aliveministries.com/magazine.htm