

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER

Volume 4, Issue 10 October, 2019 928-535-9575 2750 Mogollon Drive, Overgaard, AZ 85933

www.faithlutheranovergaard.org

WORSHIP SERVICES – 10:30 am & 6:00 pm Sunday
Solid Bible-Based Preaching & Teaching

Heart's Desire



What does God want for you? What does he want to do for you? Why would he do ANYthing for you? These are very important questions when you consider God and how he works in your life. But first, you might want to consider some questions about yourself.

What is YOUR heart's desire? What do YOU want for you? What do you want more than anything in this life? A loving spouse? A good job? To be your own boss? To be other people's boss? To be able to travel? A motorcycle? A Car? A truck? A boat? A house? A house with a pool? A house with a pool AND a garage to keep your motorcycle, car, truck and boat in? Lots of money? Financial Security?

Perhaps you want power, or fame, or a perfect body and good looks, or to be the best at something you like to do; fishing, hunting, shooting, building, professional sports, painting masterpieces, playing music, climbing mountains, or riding horses. Maybe you want to own a horse ... or LOTS of horses! Or maybe you just want a cat or a dog who will love you ... even when nobody else will.

If these are things that you want, if there is something that is your very heart's desire and you don't have it, WHAT IS HOLDING YOU BACK? What keeps you from achieving your life goals; your "heart's desire"?

The last question is one that has inspired many books and generated millions of dollars in revenue for book companies, authors, self-help gurus, religious leaders and their churches. It sells because people believe that if they could identify and remove whatever is keeping them from achieving their heart's desire, that they could have it; have it all! They could have their heart's desire!

Has God veiled the secret to achieving your heart's desire? Don't worry. I know of some names of people who have figured out God's secret and will help you by revealing it to you ... for a price. These people will tell you to trust your heart, because it is true. After all, God gave you your heart and thus the desires you have HE put there.

They will tell you God created you for great things on this earth, therefore stop your negativity so that God can bless you with the fullness of your heart's desire. Have faith that he will bless you with the fullness of your hopes and desires ... AND HE WILL! They will tell you not to let your past mistakes define who you are; they are in the past; forget the past! They will tell you that God created you a good person, destined for good things. They will tell you that if you stay positive, keep your heart's desire in front of you, be your own person, commit to excellence, serve others, and stay passionate God will eventually pour his super-abundant grace on you and shower you with the "stuff" of your heart's desire. You see, they will say, it all depends upon YOU.

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Women's Ministry

Open to ALL women who attend Faith Lutheran Church!

- Silent auction did very well
- Two new canopies worked fine; 2 more needed
- Rummage sale May 29/30, 2020
- Discussed silent or Chinese auctions to coincide with chili cookoff.
- Next meeting October 21, 2019

Sunday Evening Services at 6:00 PM



IF YOU SHOP ON AMAZON, BY LOGGING INTO SMILE.AMAZON.COM 0.5% OF THE PURCHASE PRICE CAN BE DIRECTED TO FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH, OVERGAARD. ONCE ON SIMPLY CLICK "CHANGE CHARITY" BUTTON THEN SEARCH FOR "FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH OVERGAARD"



Birthdays

- | | |
|------------|---------------|
| October 7 | Steve Murray |
| October 13 | Bobbi Goode |
| October 17 | Jan McClurg |
| October 21 | Amber Strong |
| October 25 | Marilyn Young |
| October 30 | Mary Unger |

Anniversaries
None

CHURCH COUNCIL UPDATE



- Congregational giving has increased (Thank you!)
- Pastor thanked Women's Ministry for new printer
- Trustees were directed to call a professional to check the stove vent leak
- It was recommended that the organist remain a 1099 employee

MONTHLY MEETINGS & EVENTS



Oct 1 – Church Cleaning 9:00am
Oct 7-10 – **Pastor at Conference**
Oct 17 – Elders Bible Study 8am
Oct 21 – Elders Meeting 9:00am
Oct 21 – Women’s Ministry at 1:30pm
Oct 22 – Church Council at 9am
Oct 27 – Potluck after Morning Service



Practice Wednesdays - 4:30 PM

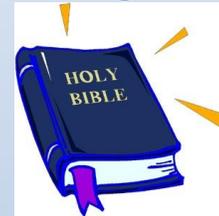
Pastor's Office Hours

Mondays - 10am - 4pm In the Office
Tuesdays - 10am - 12pm In the Office
Wednesdays - Visitation Day
Thursdays - 10am - 12 pm In the Office

Call for appointment -
928-535-9575 or 323-717-4390
revnwirtz@yahoo.com,
or just drop in, or call anytime

BIBLE STUDY

Sundays – 9 am
James
Tuesdays – 4:30pm
Youth Confirmation
Thursdays - 9 am
Judges



SUNDAY SCHOOL

Bible Lesson
for Kids



Sundays – 9 am

*Sermons and Bible Studies can
be listened to on the website.*

www.faithlutheranovergaard.org

That is what "they" say, but it really has nothing to do with what God himself has spoken in his Word to us, the Bible. First, God tells us that, in fact, it DOESN'T all depend upon us. The very nature of God's "grace" is that HE is the one who does everything for us and gives everything of ETERNAL value to us. It all really depends upon HIM ... because WE are completely unable to DO anything to secure what he wants to give to us.

Perhaps what keeps us from achieving our heart's desire is who we are. We can try to be as positive as we want, but we can never succeed in being positive enough to fundamentally change who we are. We are, in fact, defined not by our past "mistakes", but by our past, present, and future SINS. The reason we sin (rebel against God and hurt each other) is because we are more fundamentally defined by our conception. ("Surely I was sinful at birth, sinful from the time my mother conceived me." ~Psalm 51:5) We came into existence as sinners. We can't NOT sin, because it is as much a part of our physical DNA as it is a part of our spiritual DNA. We are broken children of our broken parents. Our first parents, Adam and Eve WERE created good, holy, and perfect. But since they sinned, they became sinners who could only give birth to more sinners. No amount of positive thinking, or helping others can ever change who we are. We are NOT "basically good". We, by our very nature, are fundamentally broken; evil, and as such we are all ultimately destined to an existence of eternal separation from God, the source of all life and all that is good.

As sinners then, the "desires of our hearts" are not to be trusted. ("The heart is deceitful above all things and beyond cure." ~Jeremiah 17:9; "For out of the heart come evil thoughts-murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false testimony, slander." ~Matthew 15:19)

Therefore if we are to hope in a "heart's desire", it should be a heart that is not corrupt and deceitful; riddled with sin. It should be a heart that is pure, true, and holy. What better "heart's desire" to hope in than in God's own heart. Unlike our sinful hearts, his does not pine away for the "things" of this world (which are here today and gone tomorrow). His heart doesn't desire to collect the temporal (and temporary) but to give the eternal. God's heart's desire is neither a secret, nor does he exact a price from you to know it. God's heart's desire is to change us from who we are into who he wants us to be; from broken, dying sinners, into his holy, perfect, living, and beloved children. While the price for such a change is steep (more than you or I could afford), he gives it to us freely. God's heart's desire is to forgive us all our sin, change us from sinners into saints, and so, change our destiny into one of eternal joy, giving us a new heart and new life.

This new heart is not like our OLD that desires a grace that gives only "stuff" and "things". We can rejoice in the new heart that he gives through his Word; a heart after his own which desires his true grace that gives us eternal life. This new heart no longer has a "faith" that God will give us all we desire on this earth, but rather a real faith IN Christ who gave up his very life to purchase the true and eternal freedom of his very heart's desire; me and you.

"Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me." Psalm 51:10