

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER

Volume 5, Issue 03 March, 2020 928-535-9575 2750 Mogollon Drive, Overgaard, AZ 85933

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES – 10:30 am Solid Bible-Based Preaching & Teaching

www.faithlutheranovergaard.org



A REAL COWBOY ALWAYS LISTENS TO HIS HORSE

What did you want to be when you grew up? When I was very young I played at a great many things. Later in life, in College when I studied Developmental Psychology, I learned that child's play is practice for adulthood. All that make-believe and pretending was preparation for the real thing!

Of course, there were many things that I pretended at that never came to pass; I'm sure, in no small part, because I really wasn't particularly gifted in many of those futures. While I did later become fairly competent at quick-draw and actually hitting targets with a revolver, I never could get the hang of roping. I probably wouldn't have made a real good cowboy. To be a real cowboy, you HAVE to be good with a lariat! Even more important, you have to have a horse. A cowboy really isn't a cowboy without a horse. And a SMART cowboy is one who LISTENS to his horse.

I had a horse when I was a boy, and he often knew a lot more about where we were going and what was around us than I did. I was, and still am, pretty attention deficit. That's a clinical and non-accusatory way of saying that I often don't pay attention to what's going on around me. Just ask any of my former teachers ... or my wife!

Had I been riding Rebel (my horse) rather than Dragonfly (my Harley) four years ago, I might not have made such a mess on the highway. Rebel would have seen the deer coming and steered us out of its way. A good cowboy listens to his horse, and a good cowboy talks to his horse.

While there wasn't the clinical diagnostic label "attention deficit" when I was a boy, it was understood that failure to pay attentions causes problems. Again, just ask any of my former teachers. I wasn't "mischievous", but I did talk too much, interrupt lessons, and cause distractions to the point that I was often "in trouble". When it seemed like no one else really "got me" or understood how confusing the world was to me or even wanted to listen to me, I could always go to Rebel and talk to him ...and he would listen. He would always listen.

Sometimes, today, people come to me and ask me what one needs in order to be a Christian Pastor. I will respond with something like, "First, you "need" the same thing any other Christian needs; you need God." Like a cowboy without a horse is not really a cowboy, a "Christian" without God can't be a Christian; it's impossible. Further, (because there are many claims of "God" or "gods" in the world) to be a Christian, you need "the only God" which Christ has revealed (hence, the name "Christian").

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MONTHLY MEETINGS & EVENTS



- Mar 06 – **Women's Bible Study 2:30**
- Mar 13 – **Women's Bible Study 2:30**
- Mar 16 – Elders Meeting 9:00am
- Women's Ministry 1:30pm
- Mar 19 - Overgaard Ministerium
- Mar 20 – **Women's Bible Study 2:30**
- Mar 22 – Potluck after Morning Service
- Mar 24 – Council Meeting
- Mar 27 – **Women's Bible Study 2:30**

Choir Practice Wednesdays - 4:00 PM



Women's Ministry

**Open to ALL women who attend
Faith Lutheran Church!**

- Purchase 6 Small Catechisms for Pastor
- Easter Breakfast before Service 8:30-10
- Discussed Officer Elections in April
Mary R & Lore – Co-Leaders
Mary U – Secretary
Bobbi - Treasurer
- Next meeting March 16, 2020



Birthdays

- Mar 7 **Teddi Jackson**
- Mar 22 **Viola Allen**
- Mar 27 **Mary Robles**

Anniversaries

None this month

CHURCH COUNCIL UPDATE



- Met February 25, 2020
- Trustee items up to date
- Easter Breakfast was discussed
- No votes as a quorum was lacked
- Next meeting February 24.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT FROM PASTOR

For those who are away, traveling, or cannot come to Service because of illness or quarantine;

The "Sermons" links have been re-established on the website "Worship" pages. It will now also include the Hymn of the Day and prayers, along with the Readings and Sermon.

<http://www.faithlutheranovergaard.org/worship.html>

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

SUNDAY SCHOOL



Sundays – 9 am

Sundays – 9 am: 1 Peter

*Sundays – 12:00 pm:
Youth Confirmation*

Thursdays - 9 am: 1 Samuel

*Fridays – 2:30pm:
Women's Bible Study*

*Sermons can be listened to on the
website.*

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Two important questions then must follow: 1) Who is the God Christ revealed? and 2) Where can one "find" this God?

To answer the first question; the God who Jesus reveals is the only, single God who has always existed and will ever exist. He is the creator of everything there is and He, in a special way, is Father to the Son (Jesus), and even so to all that has life; even as He sustains all life. He is also the Son (who we know as Christ Jesus), through whom He has spoken everything into existence, by whom all of our debt of sin has been paid and of whom the Father commands us to "Listen to Him (My Son)". He is also the Holy Spirit, who makes it possible for us to actually listen to AND HEAR the Father's WORD (again, Jesus, the Son), and through whom it is possible for us to be "born again" into new and imperishable Life by way of the faith in Christ that He creates in us through the Word of God. That's a mouthful to explain the unexplainable; that God is Three Persons in One God (for which we have coined the term "Trinity" [three in one]).

Where the above, very complicated and brain-exploding concept comes from is really not by some invention of a bunch of old geezers somewhere in the past, but has everything to do with the answer to the second question that one must ask about God; Where can one "find" this God?

The second important answer is that one can "find" THE God that Christ reveals in only one place; the Word of God ...what we call today, The Bible. The Bible is the one place where God has written down (by inspiration to human hands) all of the words that are necessary for us to "listen to" and "hear". Over a period of about 2000 years, He spoke and wrote down everything of importance for us (about ourselves, Him, and our relationship with Him), culminating in His

greatest WORD to and for us; His Son, Christ Jesus, our Savior and Lord. Nothing more need be written or spoken to or for us. The greatest WORD of God is "Yeshua" (Jesus – "Salvation that God gives").

So, then, like a cowboy can only really be a cowboy if he has a horse, a "Christian" can only really be a Christian if he or she has God. And, as a good cowboy always listens to his horse, a real Christian must always listen to God's Word, the Bible; even Christ. The Bible IS Christ, God's WORD to and for us. Sometimes it is a difficult Word to us, as it convicts us of things we rather enjoy, but that doesn't mean we ought try to rewrite it in our own words in order to appease our conflicting desires! That wouldn't really be listening.

Sadly, all people, even "Christians" find ways to either ignore this Word or rewrite it. We do it every time we disagree with it by choosing our own preferences over the clear guidance given. We ALL do. But for all the pain of our constant conviction by God's Word, He speaks even more tenderly by His Action in the Sacrifice of His own life to save us. Because God, in the Son, paid for your sin, it is forgiven. LISTEN to Him! He has good news for you.

And like the good cowboy who listens to his horse and thus his life is preserved, we, who would be called "Christian", listen to and HEAR God when He speaks to us in His Word. And more, like the cowboy whose horse will ALWAYS listen to him, we have One who will always listen to and hear us in this same God; Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. He ALWAYS listens.

"Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path." (Psalm 119:105)