

MAY 2025



Official Newsletter of
Faith Lutheran Church, Marshfield, WI

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Repurposed, Renewed and Restored

FROM PASTOR HEATHER BROWN



**"Behold, I am making all things new!" Also he said,
"Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." Revelation 21:5**

Dear People of God,

The season of Easter is upon us! Thanks be to God that the resurrection glory of Christ is shining brightly in our world!

Think about how our Maundy Thursday worship service ended in complete and total darkness as we exited the sanctuary that evening. And then, how we dwelt in the shadows on Good Friday for our dimly lit Tenebrae service. On Easter Sunday morning, however, the light was rekindled as the sanctuary was alive with an abundance of fragrant Easter lilies! The alleluias returned and were repeated over and over again. The dust of Ash Wednesday was washed away with the flowing waters of new life.

During the season of Easter, we are showered with the light and life of renewal. At times, we can grow weary and feel like our lives are old, tired and worn out. We can feel like we belong in the throw away bin at a second-hand store. Sin is a very real presence in our lives and it weighs on us. But for those who trust in Jesus as their Lord and Savior, we know that sin has no power over us anymore. Jesus died on the cross and was resurrected to break the power of sin and death over our lives.

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Yes, we are human; we aren't perfect. But every day as we confess to God, we die to our sin and rise to new life in Jesus Christ. We are in the process of being renewed, whether we realize it or not.

Through Christ's love and grace, we become as good as new – better in fact – repurposed, renewed and restored to be bearers of the good news to others. By turning our faces toward the light of Christ we become his new creation.

Christ is Risen! Christ is Risen, Indeed! Alleluia!
Loved by God. Living for Others,
Pastor Heather

OUR SYMPATHIES TO DENNIS &
BONNIE RASMUSSEN & FAMILY ON
THE DEATH OF HIS SISTER, JEAN.

Yet, she counts her Blessings every day that Mia is still with us. My nephew, who is 21 years old, stops after work every day and spends a few hours with her. Then he spends his weekend helping. Yet, He counts his Blessings that he still has his sister. There is always some Blessing to be seen. When the doctors have said there is no hope. She will never talk again.... Yet, God has bigger plans. We count our Blessings! Mia is on so many different prayer lists, I believe the Power of Prayer really works. We believe God is Good, then we count our Blessings.

So, the next time you find yourself complaining about something bad that is going on in your life, change your thoughts to What are your Blessings?

Easter Blessing to you, Diane Herron

The President's Corner

FROM COUNCIL PRESIDENT
DIANE HERRON



Easter Blessings to you all!

So, as I am sitting here trying to figure out what to write, all these ideas are going on in my head. I will talk about the Council and what we are doing, no wait, we haven't had our meeting yet. The meeting is after when I have to have this article written. Yes, we have a packed full agenda (probably 3-4 hours' worth) Ha! Ha! No, I wouldn't do that to my team. 😊 I decided to talk about BLESSINGS. The Blessings we all have in our lives. My husband Dave and I recently came back from Ohio visiting our niece Mia, she is our niece who has been on our prayer list for a very long time. Seeing firsthand what my sister-in-law goes through every second of each day is incredible! The strength she has mentally and physically is unbelievable.



Pictured left to right: Malcolm (Mia's brother), Diane Herron, Mia, Amy (Mom). Mia recently completed her Masters of Electrical Engineering.



GLOW

Shining Bright: A GLOWing Year in Review

FROM CO-DIRECTORS
JUSTIN POLZIN & BRIANNE THOMPSON

It's hard to believe we've already reached the end of the year—time has truly flown by! What a joyful and exciting journey it's been. We've watched the kids grow, shared countless stories and laughter, and now we get to celebrate a brand-new confirmation class together.

The sparkle in the children's eyes and the joy in their smiles makes it feel like the year has only just begun. As we wrap things up, we want to extend our deepest thanks to our amazing students, supportive parents, and faithful congregation. This year's success wouldn't have been possible without every one of you.

To our devoted teachers who showed up every Sunday to guide, teach, and inspire—thank you. Your time, care, and commitment mean more than words can express. You've made a lasting impact on these young hearts, helping them grow in faith and confidence. They truly admire you, and the lessons you've shared will stay with them for years to come. As we shift into summer fun mode—be sure to read on for upcoming events—we're already looking ahead to another wonderful year together!

Adult Education Updates:

Our Adult Education group is wrapping up for the year, with plans to finish by the end of May. As we look ahead, we'd love to hear from you!

Whether you've been part of the group before or have never attended, your input matters. Have questions about what Adult Education is all about? Ideas for topics or formats you'd like to see? We want to shape this time into something meaningful, enriching, and worth coming back to week after week.

Reach out and let's talk—we're excited to dream, grow, and learn together!

Confirmation Updates:

Our 6th–8th grade students have wrapped up the year with dedication and heart. Every student met their attendance, sermon note, and service hour guidelines—and many went above and beyond, showing their bright spirits and genuine desire to do good in the world.

Our 8th graders are filled with excitement as they prepare for a Confirmation Sunday unlike any other. Their passion and faith will shine in a celebration you won't want to miss.

Join us in person on Sunday, May 4th, or tune in through one of the many viewing options available. It will be a joyful and meaningful day as we honor their journey and affirm their faith together.

GLOW CONTINUED...

APRIL Highlights

GLOW Education Updates:




Our students have wrapped up their memory work—and many have already completed it and are asking for more! Say what?! Kids eager to keep learning? These young learners are truly inspiring and remind us how exciting and meaningful it is to grow in faith together. They've also shown incredible dedication to their offering project. Their generosity has already surpassed our original goal, and we can't wait to celebrate with them as they donate their gifts to the Marshfield Area Pet Shelter (M.A.P.S.). Students are collecting donations and inviting the entire congregation to join in. Some of the most-needed items include:

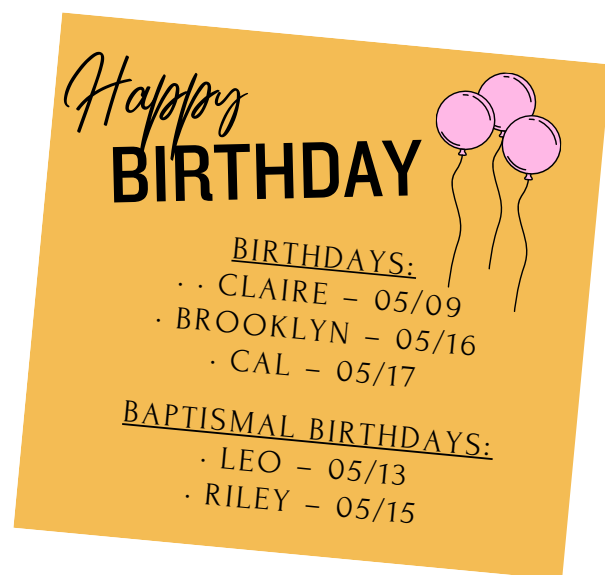
- For an updated list, visit:
www.marshfieldpetshester.org/items



Puppets of Faith is Online Wednesdays at 6 PM

Exciting news! Puppets of Faith is bringing their show to YouTube and Facebook! Tune in each week for a brand-new story featuring Mr. Goodman and Kenny. Each episode will explore Bible stories, daily life lessons, and so much more!

 Subscribe to our YouTube channel and follow our Facebook page so you don't miss an episode. We can't wait to share these fun and meaningful stories with you!  



GLOW

CONTINUED..

Looking Ahead: April Highlights

GLOW Education

- May 11th: Last Day of Classes! Enjoy Your Summer
- Be sure to continue watching for the many opportunities to connect throughout the summer

Confirmation Updates

- May 2nd: 6th – 9th Graders are invited to our very first Teens Night Out. This will be a fun filled evening that they will not want to miss
- May 4th: CONFIRMATION SUNDAY!

Summer Things to Watch For:

- June 18th – Summer GLOW Night
- June 23, 24, 25 – Vacation Bible School
- July 16th – Summer GLOW Night
- August 20th – Summer GLOW Night



All Aboard with FLY: May News & Highlights

FROM YOUTH DIRECTOR
KIM VRANA

Palms and Pancakes

Faith Lutheran Youth would like to extend a huge THANK YOU to everyone that joined us for Palms and Pancakes in support of our summer mission trip to New York City. It was great to see so many people come for a great brunch following an inspiring Palm Sunday worship service.



Thanks again to our extraordinary decorating crew of David & Mary Bjarnason, Jackie Allen, Max Morgan, Marian Olehafen, Bodie Fox, Mary Zahn, Judy Rhodes and Pam Johnson for their help.

Thank you to Dave Iversen and his Thrivent Action Grant, Rhonda Keding from Chips, Grassland Dairy and Weber's for their donations to our breakfast!



MISSION TRIP 2025 ALL ABOARD... July 18-26

Living Out Love, Service and Grace



Mission Trip 2025 to Manhattan, New York Announces Theme

On July 28, 17 youth and adult leaders will be hopping aboard a train for Manhattan in New York City. We will be staying at Advent Lutheran on 93rd and Broadway. We are again partnering with Service Learning Camps who will coordinate our daily service learning experiences. Our theme this year is "All Aboard. . . Living out Love, Service and Grace. We are also focusing on a contemplative prayer process called The Daily Replay. We are excited to be serving our brothers and sisters in Christ in the Big Apple. Most recently, we held our Mission Trip Retreat.



April Showers Bring May Flowers

The Annual FLY Plant Sale is coming soon. Mark your calendars and get ready to make your yard look beautiful. Hanging baskets and maybe a few geraniums and other gorgeous plants will be available on two Sundays in May (May 11 and 18) after worship.

Baccalaureate Service

Please join us on May 18 as we celebrate a special sending service for our High School Seniors as they journey forth..





Financial Updates

Finance Team Highlights

FROM INTERIM CHAIR ALICIA HEINRICH

- The Finance Team met on April 2 in the Upper Room, quickly approving February and March minutes before diving into a full agenda.
- We updated the Endowment Fund disbursement policy to allow 50% of the prior year's General Fund earnings to be used annually, with unused amounts rolling over.
- Available funds included:
 - \$853 – Maleug Fund
 - \$3,609 – Sabrowski Fund
 - \$2,448 – General Fund
- New Endowment Team officers: John Campbell (President), Sheveney Verhulst (Treasurer), and Kathy Tremelling (Secretary).
- Care Fund and Memorial Fund balances remained strong at \$6,649.97 and \$29,086.77, respectively. A note on the Music Ministry Fund: it supports special, non-budgeted items and is managed by Linda Nelson-Schreiber.
- Total church assets as of the meeting: \$281,855.06. Thank you to those who directed Thrivent Choice Dollars—\$2,075 has been received so far in 2025, supporting ministries like Piece Corps.

- Pam Johnson had the idea to create giving envelopes and numbers to confirmation students to encourage stewardship early.
- Contribution statements were scheduled to go out digitally by April 15, this included a letter from Pastor Heather and President Diane Herron. If you missed it, please get a copy at the church office.
- While March giving was below expectations, year-to-date finances remain stable thanks to reduced expenses and solid interest earnings. The Finance Team remains focused on faithful stewardship and transparency.
- Interested in joining? Talk with a Finance Team member or Pastor Heather!

Memorial and Other Funds Report

FROM TREASURER CINDY PRUST

For more details or any questions, please contact Cindy Prust. Here are the totals as of 3/31/25:

| | |
|-----------------------|-------------|
| Undesignated Memorial | \$10,899.14 |
| Flowers & Altar | \$4,137.57 |
| Piece Corp | \$1,938.54 |
| Music Ministry | \$4,254.23 |
| Churkey Ed. Fund | \$2,941.37 |
| God's Work, Our Hands | \$1,025.58 |
| Property Improvement | \$ 875.58 |
| Kitchen Remodel | \$2,634.76 |
| Faith In Action | \$ 398.00 |

Treasurer's Report

FROM TREASURER KENT MUELLER

General giving for March 2025 was \$20,406, compared to \$25,481 for 2024 and \$24,502 for 2023. The March general giving was \$10,422 less than the breakeven point for general giving. The breakeven point is the amount needed to have a balanced budget for the year. March expenses exceeded income by \$4,483. Year-to-date income exceeded expenses by \$3,269. Year-to-date total income is lower than budget by \$2,435, expenses are lower than budget by \$7,135, and interest earnings are higher than budget by \$508, resulting in net income that is \$5,209 higher than budgeted.

Care Fund Update

INTERIM CHAIR ALICIA HEINRICH



During the Month of April we had two requests, one from Wood County Public Health Nurse and Personal Development Center.

| | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Balance as of 3/31/2025 | \$6,550.69 |
| Contributions | \$ 1,615.27 |
| Distributions | \$ 160.00 |
| Ending Balance 4/30/2025 | <u>\$8,005.96</u> |

Facilities Management Team

CHAIR PAM JOHNSON

Highlights

The Facility Team continues to work hard to maintain and improve our church building and grounds. Here are the latest updates from our April 7th meeting:

Garage Clean-Up Day –

Saturday, May 17th at 9:00 AM

- Volunteers are needed! We'll be organizing and cleaning the church garage. Please join us if you're able — many hands make light work!

Lower Level Window Replacement

- We are currently gathering bids for the replacement of eight windows in the lower level. This will help with energy efficiency and maintaining the building's integrity.

Bathroom Fan Replacement (on roof)

- Plans are underway to replace the fan in the outside bathroom to improve ventilation and overall function.

Faucet Replacements

- Thanks to gifts to the Restoration Fund (Memorial and Other Funds), six faucets will be replaced throughout the building. A special thank you to Terry Prust, who has generously volunteered to complete this work in May

Insurance Renewal Update

- Good news — our insurance renewal was finalized with less than a 5% increase, helping us stay within budget for the coming year.

Thank you to everyone who continues to support the care and maintenance of our facilities. Your efforts and generosity help keep our church welcoming, safe, and beautiful for all!



FACILITIES CONTINUED...



FLC Kitchen Restoration Committee:

As an update on the ongoing restoration effort in our kitchen, I wanted to make you aware that FLC facilities team has suggested we coordinate the replacement of aging faucets throughout the church. We purchased two faucets from Menards at \$114.81 and \$149.00 for a total of \$263.81. These will replace the aging faucets on sinks #two and three in the main kitchen. These funds have been approved to be transferred from the kitchen restoration fund and moved into the memorial fund so that Kent can pay the credit card bill as this was the method of payment. This will be subtracted from the restoration fund for May 2025 (ending balance as of 10/05/2024-\$2989.36). The faucets we purchased will resemble the current faucet in the kitchenette in the Upper Room. Terry Prust has offered to donate his time and talents and will be installing the faucets while he is working on other plumbing projects within the church. - Judy Rhodes, Kitchen Co-Coordinator



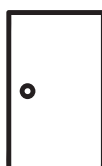
Parsonage Committee Update

The Parsonage Team has contacted three contractors for estimates and giving them until May 15th to provide details bids for the razing of the parsonage. Kent is contacting Habitat for Humanity for a list of items they take for donations. Kent and Renee will be taking inventory of the items in the parsonage. We will then itemize what needs to be removed and what needs to be done with them.

We decided not to pursue reconnecting electrical service from the church to the garage at this time. We felt it wasn't necessary at this time for the cost of approximately \$3,800.00. We may obtain a solar panel for electricity at a later date.

Thank you,
Parsonage Team

The following people have volunteered to be on the Parsonage Committee: Rich Tartar, Jeff Tisdell, Kent Mueller, Renee Stafford and Marty Yohn. They will keep us updated on how the process is coming along.



Minor note regarding the side entry door on the main building on the parking lot side: The code to access entry for the side door has been changed. If you have any questions or need access, please reach out to Pam Johnson. If you need special access to get into the building you may contact the Office Manager.

Mission Team Updates

Faith in Action Team

CHAIR TREVA TISDELL

May Outreach: May Baskets

We collaborated with Family & Education and asked the students to help us make paper flowers and baskets for our May Outreach and then members of our team delivered them to our church shut-ins to let them know we are thinking of them. Many thanks to the students and the Family & Education Directors.

Dairyfest Parade

The theme this year is "A Dairy Great Time", to go along with that theme, our float's theme will be A Dairy Great Time at Faith Lutheran.

Our team is at work planning and working on the float decorations, but we do need some help.

What we need:

- Kids to ride on the float
- Adults and youth 13 and older to walk and hand out goodies
- Saturday, May 31st
- Helpers to work on decorating the float (work nights TBD – we will put out an announcement)

If you can help us out, contact Justin Polzin by email at jpolzin84@gmail.com or call him at 715-305-1181.



FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH NIGHT AT THE RAFTERS

RAFTERS BASEBALL GAME

SATURDAY, JUNE 14TH

\$40 per ticket, Children 7 and under are FREE

Here is what is included with your ticket:

- Premium Elevated View along 3rd Baseline
- Unlimited Ballpark Buffet for 2 Hours after gates open
- Unlimited Beverages until the 7th Inning
- Bus Ride To and From the Game (if you want – you can drive yourself if you choose)

If interested in attending, sign up on the poster located in the Gathering Area. Please indicate if you want to ride the bus, seats are limited to the first 50 individuals that sign up. Deadline to sign up is May 17th. We will be collecting money for tickets on Sunday, May 11th before and after service, or sign up and pay by scanning the QR Code at the bottom. Talk to any Faith in Action Team Member if you have questions: Treva Tisdell, Ryann Rhodes, Michelle Rhodes, Justin Polzin, Jessica Polzin, Brianne Thompson, Pam Johnson, Eric Ratsch, Alayna Ratsch, Kathy Campbell, John Campbell, or Amber Corcoran.

This would make a great Father's Day gift/activity for Dad, Grandpa, Uncle or Brother!



Mission Team Updates

Communication Team

INTERIM CHAIR ALICIA
HEINRICH

The Communications Team gathered on April 2 with a packed agenda and plenty of ideas. We began with updates to our weather cancellation policy, including plans to incorporate pre-recorded or live messages from Pastor and the Praise Band in the event of a service closure.

We're reviewing procedures with other teams to ensure alignment. Volunteer appreciation is on our hearts with National Volunteer Week (April 27–May 4) coming up. Look for a special slide recognizing all who give their time and talents! Speaking of volunteers, the Puppet Ministry continues to expand, now officially syndicated through the Public Access Channel network. We also discussed the exciting improvements to our internet bandwidth and livestreaming. Thanks to some great troubleshooting, our streaming should now be more stable. We're also planning to create both a public and private Wi-Fi network for better security and speed.



Faith's mobile app is live and working on Android platforms again! Please take a moment to download it if you haven't yet—this will be an increasingly helpful tool for staying connected. On the outreach side, we brainstormed QR code ideas that would link to a "Plan a Visit" or welcome page on the website. We're working toward a more engaging website experience and continuing updates to our Education, Finance, and Youth pages. We also began rolling out our Gantt Chart for event planning and marketing, which helps ministries coordinate upcoming events and ensure proper promotion. Teams can request support with social media, slides, printed materials, and even light paid ads through our communications budget. Finally, we're pleased to share that our Capital Campaign card fundraiser has already raised \$280, with a goal of surpassing \$500 this year. Thank you to everyone who's supported this initiative—cards are still available on Sundays.

Stay tuned for more updates as we continue our work to connect, communicate, and celebrate all the amazing things happening at Faith!



Church Sign

Encouraging Messages



FRESH EXPRESSIONS UPDATE

Branching Out will be a series of three gatherings in outdoor park/recreational spaces occurring June - August of 2025. We would like Faith Lutheran members to invite individuals or families outside of FLC to share in a simple meal, brief table discussions using questions developed by Fresh Expressions, a song or two, and an activity inspired by God's creation (tree identification, short hike, scavenger hunt, etc.) We will keep it modest, short, fun and honest. Each gathering will have 15 to 40 total participants and will occur at supper time on a Wednesday evening. So, one less meal to cook, good conversation, and some fun for all. By the end of the summer, we would like to have a better understanding of ways in which we can best share the love of God in non-traditional ways. In other words, we will be better prepared to "branch out" into new forms of ministry.

An Outdoor Gathering for Connection & Renewal

 Wednesday, June 11, 2025

 5:00 PM – 6:30 PM

 Wildwood Station Pavilion, Marshfield, WI

Mark Your Calendars

July 19th at Hamus Park and August 13th at Wildwood Station

Worship & Music Team

CHAIR LINDA NELSON-SCHRIEBER

Special Thank You

With their final performance of the season on April 13th, we offer our deepest thanks to all the Choir Members and to Director Kathy Biederwolf for sharing your time, talent, and voices with us throughout the year.

Your music has lifted our spirits, enriched our worship, and brought beauty to every service. We are truly grateful for your dedication and look forward to hearing you again in the fall!

Upcoming Special Worship Services:



After two cancelations, presiding Bishop Martin Halom will be guest preaching on Memorial Weekend Sunday May 25th!

Celebrate the joy of Christ's birth in the heart of summer! Join us for a fun, festive service filled with carols, cheer, and a reminder that the light of Christ shines all year long. Wear your red and green and bring a friend!



BRANCHING OUT

AN OUTDOOR GATHERING FOR
CONNECTION & RENEWAL



WEDNESDAY, JUNE 11, 2025

5:00 PM – 6:30 PM

WILDWOOD STATION PAVILION, MARSHFIELD, WI

Enjoy a simple meal, good conversation, live music,
and a fun family-friendly nature activity.

**GOT QUESTIONS?
COMMENTS?
CONCERNS?
REACH OUT
TO YOUR CHURCH
COUNCIL MEMBERS!**

Email the group at
Council@FaithMarshfield.com



Special Notes
**FROM
COUNCIL**

**AUDIT COMMITTEE
MEMBERS NEEDED:**

We are seeking two members to join our Audit Committee for a 2–3 year term. The committee conducts two audits per year. If interested or for more information, please see Pastor Heather or Diane Herron at ddherron6@gmail.com.

**REMINDER: Facility Policy for
Member Use Section 4 A&B IV:**

- A. No dishes, glassware, silverware, or any other kitchen equipment will be loaned out.
- B. No other equipment is to be removed from the kitchen or church.

Council 2025-2026

| | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| President Diane Herron | ddherron6@gmail.com |
| Vice President Michelle Rhodes | micheller0714@gmail.com |
| Secretary Rich Tarter | richtarter@gmail.com |
| Treasurer (AP) Kent Mueller | treasurer@faithmarshfield.com |
| Financial Secretary (AR) Pam Johnson | majiella@gmail.com |
| Jeff Tisdell | jttizzy78@gmail.com |
| Renee Stafford | renee.stafford@hotmail.com |
| Don Streiff | streiffonclay@tds.net |
| Sally Rakovec | dsrakovec@gmail.com |
| Alivia Schiferl Youth Representative | |

PHISHING EMAILS AND TEXTS - BEWARE

Our members have been getting emails and text messages from the “Pastor” asking them to purchase gift cards. Please be aware that she would never ask anyone to do anything like this.

Please report or block via your email service provider like Gmail or Microsoft Outlook (all have a reporting system) any emails/texts like this. If you have been scammed any monetary value then you also must report it to the Internet Crime Complaint Center ([IC3.gov](https://www.ic3.gov)) or the Federal Trade Commission ([ReportFraud.ftc.gov](https://www.reportfraud.ftc.gov)).

It is the central hub for reporting cyber-enabled crime. It is run by the FBI, the lead federal agency for investigating crime.



207 S Cherry Ave.
Marshfield, WI 54449
www.faimmarshfield.com
office@faimmarshfield.com 715-387-3757

Office Hours: Tuesdays-Thursdays 8:30 AM-2:30 PM
Service Time: Sundays 9:00 AM



Faith Lutheran Staff Emails

Pastor Heather Brown
pastor@faimmarshfield.com

Justin Polzin & Brianne Thompson,
Directors of Education & Family Ministry
familied@faimmarshfield.com

Kim Vrana, Youth Director
youth@faimmarshfield.com

Cheryl Zimmerman, Communications
communications@faimmarshfield.com

Linda Nelson-Schreiber, Praise Band Director
music@faimmarshfield.com

Kent Mueller, Treasurer
treasurer@faimmarshfield.com

Alicia Heinrich, Office Manager
office@faimmarshfield.com

Justin Polzin, Custodian
custodian@faimmarshfield.com

PRAYER LIST

Please keep the following people in your prayers: (Names will remain on the prayer list for three weeks unless otherwise requested.)

Lois Krahm; Soo Owen; Sandy Fredrickson; Mike Voss; Arlene Norberg; Sue Vrana's mother, Shirley; Sue Vick's friends, Celia, David & Amanda; Dave & Diane Herron's niece, Mia; Tom & Darlene Krake; Diane Rand.

SERVICE TIME

IN-PERSON 9:00 AM

WAYS TO WATCH

Live-streaming on our APP, Facebook & YouTube.

Cable Access 989 Broadcast Times:

Sunday at 12 Noon

Monday at 11:30 AM

Friday at 11 AM

Always access on App, Facebook



& YouTube.

