

FLS Updates - April 17, 2020

So . . . here is what I know as of today:

No matter when we are all allowed to return to campus and be together again, I will be there!! I know in my head that the ability to make a choice is what got humankind into the problem we live in every day: the problem of sin. If God wouldn't have put that tree in the garden, Adam and Eve could not have made the bad choice that set all of creation on the path of destruction and death. But God also knew that without the ability to choose disobedience and death, humankind would never know real life, filled with love and caring. We would not be able to choose love if we had no ability to choose at all. I believe this is what it means to be created in God's image; we can choose to love no matter the circumstances we find ourselves in; just like God chooses to love us, regardless of our worthiness to be loved.

So, in my heart, I am thankful for the ability to choose to be here at Faith. I am thankful for the members of Faith choosing me to be a leader in this community. Most of all, I am thankful that we can all choose to share the love God shows us in the gift of His Son, dying on a cross to free us from the consequences of all the bad choices we make. I am thankful for each of you and the community we can be when we trust Him above everything else.

God's Peace!
Mr. Neumiller

Faith Lutheran School Coronavirus updates (Please note new items are in red font.)

- FLS office hours will be Monday – Friday; 9:00am to 1:00pm until further notice.
- The school auction scheduled for May 16, 2020 has been postponed until May 2021. Please contact the school office at flsoffice@faithcampus.org with any questions pertaining to auction details.
- If you purchased lunches in March after the 15th, please email the school office at flsoffice@faithcampus.org to let us know whether you would like a refund or would like to make a donation of that amount.
- Some of you may have placed an online order for spring pictures before school was closed. We contacted LifeTouch and they said, "All online orders for picture days that were canceled were issued refunds last month, in anticipation that this might happen." If you placed an order and did not receive a refund, please contact Patty Pio at patty.pio@lifetouch.com.
- The Shoe Drive fundraiser will continue as planned. Please drop shoes off in the designated bin outside the school office.
- The requirement for stewardship hours will be suspended for the second half of the school year.
- Families experiencing financial hardship during this unprecedented school closure due to loss of income, please contact Mr. Neumiller.
- Faith Child Care remains open for now and has room for drop-in services. Please contact the director, Julie Miller, if this is a need for your family.
 - Email: j.miller@faithcampus.org
 - Child Care phone #: 360-491-1118

Technology guideline reminders for online learning

Learning Platform Requirements:

Please remember to follow these guidelines when using Google Classroom, Facebook, Seesaw, and other tools:

- Don't ever share personal information about yourself or other people, such as personal email address, phone number, or physical address.
- Unless it's part of an assignment from your teacher, don't share other personal information, including where your parents work, what your other family members said about something, political opinions, etc.
- If you're not sure if it's OK to share something, you can always ask your teacher in a private message inside the learning platform or email. Of course, you can always ask your parents too!

Zoom Meeting Guidelines:

To set up our students for success on Zoom conferencing, please observe the following guidelines for students. Please review these with your child.

- Choose a quiet spot to reduce distractions for yourself and others
- Be physically present in appropriate workspace – camera should be on if you have one, you should locate yourself at a desk/table/on top of bed (not in bed under covers)
- Be mentally present – be fully engaged so not cooking or grooming yourself (eating a simple snack or drinking a beverage is okay)
- Be appropriately dressed (clothing on top and bottom required – family members also if they are in view of camera)

If you have any questions on these technology topics, please reach out to your child's teacher, the school office at flsoffice@faithcampus.org or Mr. Neumiller at c.neumiller@faithcampus.org.

Washington State Superintendent of Public Instruction - Coronavirus updates

- "School buildings are closed, but learning continues." – Chris Reykdal, Superintendent
"Especially during times of uncertainty, students need our support. They need grace, and structure, and routine. Even though the world may feel like it's upside down, our students need to know that we will move forward."
- The governor has closed school buildings to the end of this school year, but he may be open to the possibility of allowing some form of regulated gatherings for some end-of-year occasions. He has only spoken of this possibility in private settings with very close advisors.
- ***Very important information:***
 - The lessening of restrictions for the benefit of the economy will likely NOT include returning to school. Student to student proximity in classrooms is far more close or dense than almost any other work environment. The gains in slowing the spread of the coronavirus outbreak would be soon lost if social distancing were not extremely gradual. Returning students and teachers to classrooms would be the least gradual method of lessening quarantine restrictions. This fact has medical and governmental leaders even cautious about the return to classrooms in the fall.

General Coronavirus Resources

- [How Working Parents Can Support One Another - Harvard Business Review Article](#)
- [That Discomfort You're Feeling Is Grief - Harvard Business Review Article](#)

- [WA State Department of Health - Coronavirus webpage](#)
- [Centers for Disease Control - Coronavirus webpage](#)
- [CDC - Resources for Home webpage](#)