

LETTER OF FAITH

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

OCTOBER 2022

MINISTERS: ALL THE PEOPLE OF FAITH

Dear God's people of Faith Lutheran Church,

Fall is my favorite time of year. I love noticing the leaves change, eating chili, watching football, and adding pumpkins to my front stoop. Fall also often brings routine. After the fun of summer, I enjoy hunkering down a bit and stepping back into more regular patterns.

As the season turns, I am delighted to be stepping into this community as your pastor. My family and I have already loved exploring Morris and can't wait for more adventures in the area. My husband, Searle (pronounced like Earl - with an S at the beginning) has started work with the Upper Minnesota Valley Regional Development Commission. Our daughter Sigrid is enjoying PreK, dance, and meeting new friends. Our dog Freki has already made his presence known to the mailman and neighbors - bark, bark! As a native of Cottonwood, MN, I am so glad to be back in the state. The Sunday edition of the Star Tribune is already being delivered to our house!

Some years ago, I came across the quote: **“The trees are about to show us how lovely it is to let things go.”** This has become my prayer each fall. “Lord, help me to let go of that which needs letting go.” Sometimes this means letting go of a grudge. Sometimes this means letting go of a hope or dream to live more fully with joy in the present. This fall, I am letting go so that I might more fully embrace and step into life with you all.

I wonder if this could be a helpful prayer for us as a community this fall: **“Lord, help us to let go of that which needs letting go.”** This doesn’t mean we have to let go of cherished memories. This doesn’t mean we have to ignore your history. Perhaps, however, in the “letting go” we can more fully embrace the new possibilities that God places before us.

Are there anything you need to let go of to trust God more fully?

Are there any “we’ve always done it that ways” that are keeping Faith Lutheran Church from more fully living in the love of Jesus? Are there any expectations you have about your church community that God might help you let go of?

In this shift to a new season, we are shifting into a new chapter in the life of Faith Lutheran Church. My goal for this fall is to let go of any expectations I might carry as I come here and simply get to know you. I want to know what brings you delight and what troubles you. I want to know how Jesus has made a difference in your life. I want to know what kind of encouragement you need to more fully live out your faith in daily life.

Faith Lutheran Church

108 West Eighth Street

Morris, MN 56267

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Pastor Emmy Swedlund

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Office Manager Connie Tschetter

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Youth Director of Fusion Ministry

Heather Black

Pianist Rita Lambert

Director of Music John

Custodians Ryan & Cass

Website www.mitteness.com

Faith Lutheran Mission Statement:

“Faith Lutheran is a community of believers living out our faith in daily life.”

Remember to check the website for future happenings at Faith. If you know someone who does not have access to the website remember to share information with them.

If you have questions, please
call the church office at
589-2970.

Pastor Emmy's letter continued—

A few logistical things as we get to know one another: I will typically honor Friday as my day off. Exceptions of course, are made for funerals and the like. Whenever I am in the office, you are welcome to stop in and say hi. I cannot read your minds. If you'd like a pastoral visit, please call and we'll set up a time to meet. My cell is (701)552-2419. If I don't answer, please leave a message so that I know to call you back. Because scammers are out there, I want you to know that if you receive an email "from me" requesting a "favor" like buying gift cards, it's probably not me. If an email seems fishy, please think twice before you respond.

Jesus says, "For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it." (Matthew 16:35) May we live into this mystery of our faith together. May we "let go" and in so doing find life that really is life.

Grace and peace to you, dear ones.

Pastor Emmy Swedlund

Affirmation of Baptism

Confirmation Sunday

Sunday, October 30

Reception at 10:00am

Service at 11:00am

Lilia Asmus

Ava Breuer

Addison Cihak

Morgan Harstad

Ryla Koehler

Bryn Lonergan

Hunter Smith

Keagan Zahl



**Congratulations to our
Confirmation Students**

Thank You Pastor Emmy

Clergy Appreciation Month

October is Clergy Appreciation Month—Thank You to Pastor Emmy for being with us at Faith.

We appreciate you!



Congregational Transitions

Baptism

September 4

Huxley Alex Schmidt

Son of Nickolas & Carrie

Installation Service for Pastor Emmy

Sunday, October 16

Pastor Emmy's Installation as our pastor is Sunday, October 16 at 9:00 am. We'll welcome Pastor Stephen Cook from our Southwestern Minnesota Synod to share in the good news and offer a blessing as we mark the beginning of Pastor Emmy's ministry with you. We hope you'll be able to join us for this special day in the life of our congregation. Maybe there will even be a surprise or two!

Pastor Emmy wants to get to know you!

- Stop by Common Cup on Mondays in October from 11:00-12:30 am to visit.
- She'd also love to come to your home for a visit or meet somewhere for coffee or lunch. Give her a call or text at (701)552-2419 to make a plan.

Blessing of the Stuffed Animals

Calling kids of all ages...Bring a favorite stuffed animal to worship on Sunday, **October 9th** for a blessing of the stuffed animals. It'll be a day that we give thanks to God for the marvelous creation. Following in the tradition of St. Francis of Assisi who blessed the animals, we'll bless our stuffed animals. We'll also have a blessing available for you to bring home and bless your pets.



Fall Event/Luncheon

Fall Fling

Wednesday, October 19th

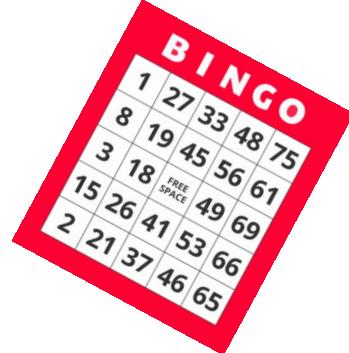
11:00am-1:00pm

The Congregational Life Ministry is planning a Fall Event. This event will include lunch, Bingo and a local speaker.

Everyone has had a great time at the previous luncheon events and the committee is looking forward to having this event again this year.

PLEASE join us—invite your friends and neighbors. You do not need to be a member of Faith Lutheran to attend this free event.

All are Welcome



Offering

Some church members have asked about offering and ways to give

- In the offering plates on Sunday
- Drop off/mail to the church
- On Line—check the church website and follow the link
- Simply Giving/Vanco—stop in the church office to sign up for this method

THANK YOU

Church Without Walls

God's Work—Our Hands

He put the whole world in our hands, and we made a difference! Thank you to everyone who participated in Church Without Walls Sunday. Whether you donated to Christmas in July to help purchase items for kits, baked, raked, pulled weeds, trimmed trees, assembled kits, sewed, crafted, painted, delivered items, served food, spruced up ball fields, or watched our littles—YOU made a difference. From our own church yard and walls to places around the world we have shared the love and spirit of our Lord. Many positive comments and notes of thanks from our community have been sent to the church office. Faith Lutheran is certainly getting a reputation of kindness. Way to go, church!!

The Celebrate and Share Committee

JOIN US FOR MISSION: STITCH!

TUESDAYS beginning at 1:30

Come when you can, stay as long as you feel like it. You do not need to be present for the whole time. This group is open to anyone. You do not have to be a member of Faith Lutheran – invite your friends, family, anyone who is interested in joining us.

Questions—talk to Anita Stoker

Join Us For Do Days

The Do Days invite and welcome you to come and join them for quilting—you do not need to know how to sew. Come for quilting and fellowship. Begins at 9:00am—Come when you can; stay as long as you can.

They will meet every Tuesday in the Fellowship Hall.

Items for the Restoration Center at Central Lutheran

They are always in need of men's clothing, socks, underwear and shoes. Also suitcases with wheels that work. Some of their clients are beginning to be able to move into apartments so they can use items such as bedding, towels, silverware, dishes, etc. Thank you for your generosity to this project.

REMINDER—with the cooler weather they could use winter items.

It truly is greatly appreciated.

If you are going to the cities and could take a load to Central Lutheran please let us know – Thank You

Come join us for a Book Club at Faith Lutheran Church on the last Monday of each month at 1:30

All are Welcome.

October 31 "The Song" by Chris Fabry

November 28 "The Sewing Girls Tale" by John Wood Sweet

December—No meeting

January 30 "The Measure" by Nikki Erlick

February 27 "Tapestry" by Beth Duke

Please bring book suggestions so we can plan a few months ahead.

Happy Reading!





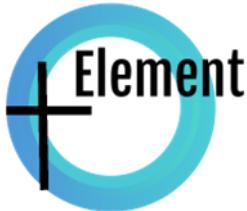
Sr. High Fusion Youth: Youth in 9th-12th Grade

-Sunday, October 2nd: Sr. High Fusion @6:30-8pm at First Lutheran Church
-Sunday, October 9th: Sr. High Fusion @6:30-8pm at First Lutheran Church
-Sunday, October 16th: Bake, Rake & Run! Sr. High will serve our community by doing a sneak rake attack!! 2-5pm. We will meet at First Lutheran to pack up the treats and write notes, then we will break you up into groups, get you the supplies

and head out and bless our community through service! Bring a rake and gloves if you have them.

-Sunday, October 23rd: No Sr. High Fusion (MEA weekend)

-Sunday, October 30th: Sr. High Fusion @6:30-8pm at First Lutheran Church – Halloween Party Food, movies, games, costume contest!



Element Schedule: Youth in 6th-8th Grade

-October 5th @6-7:30pm: Element at First Lutheran Church
-October 12th @6-7:30pm: Element at First Lutheran Church
-October 19th No Element (MEA weekend)
-October 26th @6-7:30pm: Element at First Lutheran Church

Please check out Fusion's updated website for more information. www.fusion-ministry.com

Join us on social media Facebook@fusion56267 and Instagram@fusion56267



The poster for the "BAKE, RAKE N RUN SERVICE PROJECT!" features a background photograph of fallen autumn leaves. Overlaid text includes: "BAKE, RAKE N RUN SERVICE PROJECT!", "SR. HIGH: 9TH-12TH GRADE", "SUNDAY, OCT 16TH 2-5PM!", "BRING A RAKE, LEAF BLOWER, GLOVES A BIG TARP...ETC.", "FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO SIGN UP", and the website "HTTPS://WWW.FUSION-MINISTRY.COM/EVENTS/BAKE-RAKE-N-RUN". In the bottom right corner, there is a small "FUSION youth" logo.

Gatherings for Widows and Widowers

Please join with others who have experienced the loss of their spouse, partner or significant other for a wonderful time of fellowship and conversation. *Gatherings* for Widows and Widowers will meet for lunch, 12:00 noon, at **Old #1 on Sunday, October 9**. Order and purchase your lunch, and enjoy the company of others.

For questions, please call Pedersen Funeral Home at 589-3220.

Listen to KMRS/KKOK for schedule changes!

Radio Broadcast—Daily Devotions Sponsorship

The daily devotion radio broadcasts (Monday—Friday) on KMRS and KKOK are \$90.00 per week—if you would like to help with this ministry please call the church office and let us know. Any amount is appreciated.

Celebrate World Food Day with Rick Steves

Join ELCA World Hunger for a celebration of World Food Day with Rick Steves and special guest Mark Jansen, CEO of Blue Diamond Almonds. This event will be streamed online, so you can celebrate with ELCA World Hunger wherever you are! Join the celebration Oct. 16 at 4 p.m. Registration is not required; simply visit the ELCA's Facebook or YouTube page to attend. The recording will also be available after the event is over.



October Daily Bible Verses

1. Deuteronomy 31:8	11. Exodus 15:2	21. Isaiah 30:18
2. I John 2:28,29	12. Revelation 22:12,13	22. Psalm 138:3
3. Psalm 34:22	13. Revelation 22:14	23. Hebrews 13:15
4. Romans 10:1	14. Jude 20,21	24. Romans 5:8
5. Acts 13:38,39	15. Romans 5:1	25. Isaiah 30:21
6. Matthew 8:13	16. I John 4:2,3	26. Psalm 86:15
7. Proverbs 17:27	17. Zechariah 13:9	27. Galatians 6:9,10
8. Hebrews 12:14	18. Romans 8:37-39	28. I John 4:9
9. John 15:11	19. John 15:5	29. Luke 11:13
10. Jeremiah 33:6	20. Matthew 5:7	30. Psalm 40:1
		31. Revelation 21:4

YOUR PRAYERS NEEDED

-Pray for our ongoing ministry as we join with our brothers and sisters in ministry from South Africa. Pray for the churches of the South Eastern Diocese of South Africa.

-Pray for Dr. Stephen and Jodi Swanson and their children who are serving in Tanzania.

Psalm 119:105

Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path. (NRSV)

Faith Lutheran Church, ELCA

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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Pianist

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Website

www.faithlutheranmorris.org (Worship Services can be viewed on the website)