

LETTER OF FAITH

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

JUNE 2023

MINISTERS: ALL THE PEOPLE OF FAITH

Look at the birds...

I've been noticing the birds. When the snow lined the highways, pheasants seemed to be everywhere. As the snow disappeared, the robins began to poke around the yard of the church just outside of my office windows. In our backyard, I've seen birds of all sorts moving about our trees and visiting our neighbors' bird feeders. When I take my dog on a walk in the morning, the songs of the birds fill the air, offering beautiful praises to our Lord. I recall seeing birds lined up on the telephone line, like the church choir offering a song.

I love what Jesus has to say about watching the birds... (Matthew 6:25-34)

²⁵ "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing? ²⁶ Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? ²⁷ And which of you by worrying can add a single hour to your span of life? ²⁸ And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, ²⁹ yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. ³⁰ But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith?

³¹ Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What will we eat?' or 'What will we drink?' or 'What will we wear?' ³² For it is the gentiles who seek all these things, and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. ³³ But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

³⁴ "So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today's trouble is enough for today.

Are you feeling worried? Overwhelmed? Apathetic? Head outside or to the window. Look and listen. See what you see. Hear what you hear. Let the song of the birds be your prayer.

Pastor Emmy

Faith Lutheran Church

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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 Kleinwolterink

Website Anne Mitteness

Custodians Ryan & Cassie Snyder

Faith Lutheran Mission Statement:

*"Faith Lutheran is a
community of believers
living out our faith in
daily life."*

Council Members:

Zach Arnold

Vicky Dosedall

Molly Fluegel

Brent Gausman

Chris Hopkins

Lynnae Lina—President

Tom Loew

Jenny Maras—Secretary

Eric Meichsner

Mike Nordquist—Vice President

Nancy Olson

Liz Spohr—Treasurer



Families of all sorts:

Join your church community on a Mystery Event on Monday, June 19th, beginning at 6:30 pm. We'll unveil what the Mystery event is in worship on Sunday, June 18th and post on our social media that day.

Hope you can join us.

Mark your calendar for other family fun events on July 24 and August 21.

Congregational Transitions

Baptism

May 7 Ellianna Romberger
 Parents - Kaitlin Romberger and Calvin Cheadle

Wedding

May 6 Haley Rohloff & Tyler Christianson
 (wedding Barrett, MN)

May 6 Nicole Tschetter & Austin Schmidgall
 (wedding Faith Lutheran Church)

July/August Newsletter - Plan ahead for the next Newsletter.

We will have one newsletter combined for July and August.



**Monroe Estenson
Happy 85th Birthday Celebration**

Sunday, June 25th 10:00am—noon
Brunch served during the Fellowship Hour following the Worship Service. All are welcome and invited to attend. No gifts please.
Come Celebrate with Monroe

Plan to attend the Outdoor Worship Services this summer -

Sunday, June 25

Sunday, July 30

The services will be outside by the church playground area.



Vacation Bible School 2023
at Faith Lutheran Church



July 17-20

8:45am-3:00pm

Luther Crest Bible Camp will be here again this year for VBS week.

VBS is for students who have completed K-6th Grade

Register at:

<https://luthercrest.org/elementary-camps/>

Or complete a registration form at church.

Come learn more about God's love with us!



Join Us For Do Days



The Do Days invite and welcome you to come and join them for quilting. During the summer they are not going to have a regular schedule.

Please watch the bulletin for summer updates.
Thank You

MISSION: STITCH!

The group has decided to take a break this summer—plan to join them in the fall.



Questions—talk to Anita Stoker or Karen Uphoff

Faith Lutheran Church

2023 Budget for Mission \$317,156.22

April 2023

Year to Date Expense \$104,072.10

Year to Date Income \$ 96,677.17

2023 Stevens County Food Distribution

June 13th

July 11th

August 15th Tuesdays

Location—Morris Area High School, 201 South Columbia Ave (Watch for signs), Morris

Registration starts at 3:00pm/ends at 6:00pm or when food is gone

Get Help They are making the 2023 food drops as safe as possible. **You will remain in your vehicle at all times.** There will be someone to direct parking with curbside food registration and delivery. Please respect the parking limitations and not crowd other vehicles. They will not be liable for any damages or accidents.

Donate If you would like to contribute funds to help make the Food Distribution possible, make checks payable to: Stevens County Food Shelf Food Drop Program, 701 Iowa Ave, Morris. You can also drop off checks at the Stevens County Food Shelf Attn: Food Drop Program

Volunteer Would you like to volunteer your time to the Food Drop Program?

Ways to Help: Packaging Food; Help with Distribution and Clean-up

They need volunteers on Mondays beginning at 1:00pm to bag the items and Tuesdays beginning at 2:15pm for the distribution of items. There will be more information at church if you have questions. Consider helping with this program—Thank You



Element & Fusion Ministry is supported through a partnership between Federated, First, Trinity, Faith, and St. John's/Kongsvinger. The congregations generously support this ministry; however, their support does not fully cover the expenses of this Youth Ministry venture.

If you'd wish to show appreciation for your student's experience in Element & Fusion this year, please consider a special financial gift to Fusion Ministry.

You can do so by "earmarking" a donation to Fusion Ministry and sending it to your church. Thanks for your commitment to raising your child to know the love of Jesus Christ!

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

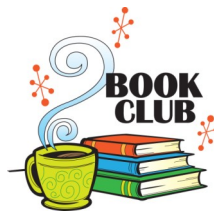
All are Welcome

June 26 "Redeeming Love" by Francine Rivers

July 31 "The Star and the Shamrock" by Jean Grainger

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

Happy Reading!



Stuffy Slumber Party on May 13th

Check out more pictures on the church Facebook page. Fun time had by all!!



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.

A load is ready to go to Central Lutheran

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

Throughout the week, Faith Lutheran Church shares a daily devotion through our local radio station. Radio Devotionals can be heard Monday through Friday on KMRS (1230 AM or 107.7 FM) at 1:05 p.m., KKOK (95.7 FM) at 2:35 p.m. and can be found on the YouTube link on the website. You can help support this ministry that stretches out into our community to share the good news of Jesus. Donations in support of this ongoing ministry are needed. Donate to support a day (\$18), a week (\$90), or a month (\$360).

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 **Tuesday, June 13**. 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!

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

Give Online



Radio Broadcast

Faith Lutheran sponsors the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America Worship eight times during the year—if you would like to sponsor a radio broadcast in honor or memory of someone, please call the church office. The cost is \$65.00 per time. **THANK YOU**

June Daily Bible Verses

1. Ephesians 5:1,2	11. 1 Peter 2:24	21. Proverbs 2:5,6
2. Psalm 66:1-4	12. Hebrews 13:5	22. Micah 7:19
3. Psalm 115:1	13. James 3:13	23. Psalm 57:2,3
4. 1 John 5:1	14. 1 Corinthians 2:9	24. John 20:30,31
5. Romans 13:8-10	15. Psalm 111:9,10	25. 1 Peter 1:7,8
6. John 20:29	16. 1 John 4:10	26. Ephesians 4:29
7. Ephesians 6:10,11	17. Romans 1:16,17	27. James 1:17
8. Psalm 27:1	18. Isaiah 61:10	28. Psalm 27:14
9. John 16:13	19. Ruth 1:16,17	29. 1 Peter 1:24,25
10. Deuteronomy 6:13-15	20. Romans 5:1,2	30. John 8:31,32

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 Council Highlights

May 14, 2023

Faith Lutheran Mission Statement "Faith Lutheran is a community of believers living out their faith in daily life."

Congregational Theme Verse For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God - not the result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.
Ephesians 2:8-10

Members Present: Pastor Emmy, Zach Arnold, Vicky Dossdall, Molly Fluegel, Brent Gausman, Chris Hopkins, Lynnae Lina, Tom Loew, Mike Nordquist, Liz Spohr, Connie Tschetter

Members Absent: Jenny Maras, Eric Meichsner, Nancy Olson

Call to Order: Lynnae Lina

Opening Prayer: Pastor Emmy

REPORTS

Pastor's Report: Written Report Shared. Will be working with the 8th grade Confirmation Students. Attending Continuing Education classes.

Connie's Report: Written Report Shared

Fusion Youth Report: Pastor Emmy shared 2023 Fusion Approved Budget and update on Fusion.

Ministry Reports:

Congregation Life - Benefit for Braxton Beyer family

Outreach—30 gifts delivered to Group Homes; looking at having an event for staff/residents of group homes; possibly planning a family event; Breakfast on Sunday, May 21 to support missionaries we help sponsor in Tanzania

Worship & Music— Easter recap; Organ moved—great for musicians, may get an overhead permanent microphone in that area; considering outdoor service(s) this summer; permanent microphone on lectern has been installed

Memorial & Endowment—No report

Property & Safety—They moved the organ as requested by the Worship & Music Ministry, cleaned up that area, looking into lighting for musicians; looking at cordless/wireless microphones for some areas

Education - Last day of Sunday School for the season is May 21st—the students will go to the park and have ice cream treats; committee is planning summer activities; VBS planning—July 17-20

Celebrate & Share—next Sunday will have tomato plants/flower plants/packets of seeds available—to Celebrate Faith Lutheran member generosity

Women of Faith - met with work group leaders; waiting for hook ups and installation of electric stove/oven

Secretary Report: MMSP

Treasurer's Report: MMSP

OLD BUSINESS

Facility Improvement Committee/Chairs— it was decided to move the old choir chairs into the Sunday School rooms for the students to use instead of folding chairs.

Organics, Recycling, Trash System—there will need to be some tweaking with this process—a learning time for everyone. Do not purchase any Styrofoam products or plastic food utensils. We need to make sure supplies are bought and available for use by church work groups.

Values—Continued discussion on Faith Lutheran Church Values as compiled at congregational meeting. The Church Council looked at the list of words that received the highest votes. Looked at if the council felt the value should be kept/combined with another value/get rid of the value—for a variety of reasons. More discussion will be held at next months meeting.

New Business

Thought/Question—Is it time for a new photo directory?

Stuffy Party last evening—great turn out/fun evening

MMSP to Adjourn the meeting

Adjournment & Lord's Prayer

Next Council Meeting: Sunday, June 11, 2023

*Respectfully Submitted,
Connie Tschetter*

Faith Lutheran Church, ELCA

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Our Vision

Faith Lutheran is a community of believers living out their faith in daily life.

Our Mission

Empowered by the Holy Spirit, Faith Lutheran Church is a community of believers striving to:

invite and welcome people to faith in Jesus Christ

nurture and equip people with a living faith in response to God's love

send disciples into our prairie communities and beyond in Christ's service

Congregation Theme Verse

"For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God – not the result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life." Ephesians 2:8-10