

## LETTER OF FAITH

# FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

APRIL 2024

MINISTERS: ALL THE PEOPLE OF FAITH



*During 2023, Faith Lutheran Church identified four core values to shape our ministry: Centered in Jesus, Creating a Joyful Noise, Caring & Sharing, and Wide, Open, Welcome. These values celebrate who we are as a community of faith. This month, we explore the value of "Creating a Joyful Noise."*

### Faith Lutheran Church Value: **Creating a Joyful Noise**

- + We gather weekly for vibrant worship to praise God together.
- + We love the noises that kids make; they bring us joy now and hope for the future.
- + We believe music is for everyone. Making music is more about having fun together than being perfect.

Dear Faith Lutheran Church,

This month, we get to celebrate the good news that Jesus Christ is Risen! The world says in the midst of life there is death, but God says in the midst of death there is life. Yahoo! Our sins are forgiven. Death will not get the final say. Life with God is ours, now and forever. Alleluias fill the air as we again celebrate this good news.

One of the best verses in the Bible is Psalm 98:4, "Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises." Our voices don't have to be beautiful. Our praises don't have to actually be music at all. Yahoo! Yippee! Yeehaw! Such noises can praise our God. The noise of bells ringing, kids laughing, coffee being poured, birds chirping – these, too, are joyful sounds of praise to our God.

Faith Lutheran Church is a community that knows how to make a joyful noise. Here are some of the joyful noises I've heard over the last few weeks: Sunday School children singing from the heart. Beautiful music accompanying our worship. A prayer being whispered. The buzz of conversation. The clink of coins into the "noisy offering" tins, collecting money for the Stevens County Food Shelf. The dishwasher running. Do-Do sewing machines humming and Mission Stitcher's needles clinking. Youth leading skits. A question being asked.

I hope as you come into the church building or worship from the comfort of your own home this month, that you will pay attention to the noises of Faith Lutheran Church. I also hope you'll pay attention for how you make a joyful noise as you live out your faith in your daily life. Jesus Christ is Risen. This is the good news in which we get to share and live! Yahoo! Yippee! Yeehaw!

-Pastor Emmy

Faith Lutheran Church

108 West Eighth Street

Morris, MN 56267

320-589-2970

[www.faithlutheranmorris.org](http://www.faithlutheranmorris.org)

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[faithful@hometownsolutions.net](mailto:faithful@hometownsolutions.net)

Youth Director of Fusion Ministry

Heather Black

[www.fusion-ministry.com](http://www.fusion-ministry.com)

Pianist Rita Lambert

Director of Music John Kleinwolterink

Website Anne Mitteness

Custodians Cassie & Ryan Snyder

### Faith Lutheran Mission Statement:

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

### Council Members:

Zach Arnold

Jason Breuer

Vicky Dossdall

Molly Fluegel

Brent Gausman

Chris Hopkins

Lynnae Lina—President

Jenny Maras

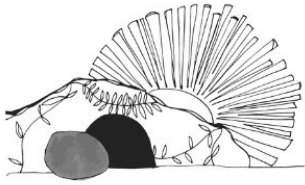
Eric Meichsner—Secretary

Mike Nordquist—Vice President

Nancy Olson

Amy Swanson—Treasurer

## Worship in April



### RISEN LIFE!

An Easter Series

Christ is Risen! And that changes everything... Worship at 9:00 am on Sunday mornings or from the comfort of your own home, as we celebrate the new life we have because of Jesus.

April 7 – Living in Peace

April 14 – Living in Community

April 21 – Living in Creation

April 28 – Living in Jesus

### Volunteer Opportunity:

The Red Cross has inquired about hosting a blood drive at Faith Lutheran in May and December. If you would be interested in putting together a team of people to facilitate the blood drive, please talk to Connie in the Church Office for more information. Responsibilities for the team would include recruit donors, find volunteer workers, and arrange for a snack.



**Tuesday, April 23**

**11:00am-1:00pm**

*All are welcome*

Come for Lunch and Bingo. Pastor Emmy will be the guest speaker.

Sponsored by Congregational Life Committee.

*No charge-Come enjoy the fellowship!*

## WELCOME

### *New Members*

### New Member Opportunity

If you are interested in deepening your commitment to the ministry of Faith Lutheran Church, you may consider joining as a member of our congregation. Members are asked to participate in one of the serving groups and contribute a regular financial offering to our ministry. Pick up a New Member Information Sheet & Form on the information counter. The form may be turned into the church office or put in the offering plate.

*Invite from First Lutheran Church, Morris, MN:*

## **Maker's Space for Kids** held at **First Lutheran Church** in the Fellowship Hall at 200 East 5th Street, Morris

Hosted by the First Lutheran Church Mission & Evangelism Committee, these Maker's Space for Kids sessions are an intergenerational activity to learn new skills.

Registration is FREE and open to all students in Grades 3 through 8. A light snack will be served.

Dates—Saturdays, April 6, May 4 and June 1 from 9:30am to 11:00am each day—come to one or come to all of these dates.

Schedule: 9:30 Worship/Devotional time | 9:45 to 10:45 Workshop session | 10:45 Snack | 11:00 Dismissal

Sessions (sessions are subject to change upon availability of volunteers)

April 6: Woobles Kits (crochet) | Jams, Jellies and Pies

May 4: Woobles Kits (crochet) | Jams, Jellies and Pies | Lefse

June 1: Wood working | Woobles Kits (crochet) | Jams, Jellies and Pies | Lefse | Painting

Registration Forms are available at Faith Lutheran or you can register on First Lutheran Church website. This link is at [www.flcmorris.org](http://www.flcmorris.org) under the Education tab.

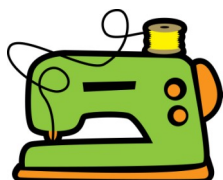
### **“Sew Many Pieces”**

**Quilt Show & Lunch: 11 a.m.—2 p.m.**

**Saturday, April 13, 2024**

**Faith Lutheran Church**

**108 West 8th Street, Morris, MN**



**Admission for quilt show: Food shelf donation**

**Admission for lunch: Free will offering (scaloped potatoes and ham, salads, pumpkin bars, lemonade and coffee)**

***On display will be quilts made by local quilters.***

Event is being sponsored by the Women of Faith.

**Students who plan to attend a Lutheran College** should contact Connie in the office to get the form that needs to be filled out. Many of the colleges match the church scholarship, but the intent needs to be sent to them quite early so we would like your application as soon as possible.

***Parents please notify your students so no one is left out who wants to apply.***

## Vacation Bible School 2024

Monday, July 22 — Thursday, July 25

8:00-noon each day

The Education Committee is planning for a GREAT VBS Scuba Week—mark your calendars.

Also—we need VBS Volunteers.

Leave your name in the church office if you are interested in helping with VBS.

Invite Your Friends !



Be a VBS Volunteer!

## Soup & A Group

It's back....Let's meet for Soup & A Group on Wednesday, April 10 at Noon.

Pastor Emmy will facilitate a "Resurrection" Bible Study.

Please sign on the Welcome Counter if you *might* attend or could bring lunch for the group.



**CREATED  
TO BE**

The ELCA Youth Gathering is July 16-20, 2024 in New Orleans. Thousands of youth from all over the country will gather for worship, service, learning, and fun. Thank you for your support of this life-changing trip.

Youth:

Piper Swanson

Bryn Lonergan

Addison Cihak

Morgan Harstad

Ryla Koehler

Jaedyn Marquart

Adults:

Amy Swanson

Jen Cihak

Pastor Emmy

### ENVELOPE FUNDRAISER

We kicked off an “envelope fundraiser” in March. Pick an envelope. Donate the amount listed (or more). Fill out your name & address card, and we’ll send you a postcard from New Orleans!



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, April 9**. Order and purchase your lunch, and enjoy the company of others.

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

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

April 29 "The Frozen River" by Ariel Lawhon

May 20 "Lessons in Chemistry" by Bonnie Garmus (date change because of Memorial Day holiday)

### **ALL ARE WELCOME**

If you are interested in joining the group, please come to Book Club. Maybe you have a book to suggest.



### Kayla (Evink) and Josh Kirchner Baby Shower

Please join us **Saturday, May 4** from **2:00-4:00p.m.** at **Faith Lutheran** for an open house baby shower in honor of Kayla. All are welcome and invited to attend.

They are registered at

[www.babylist.com/list/kayla-kirchner](http://www.babylist.com/list/kayla-kirchner)

### Morgan Benson and Tyler Reimers

Please join us **Saturday, April 6** from **10:00-11:30 a.m.** at **Faith Lutheran** for an open house bridal shower for Morgan Benson, bride to be of Tyler Reimers. All are welcome and invited to attend.

The couple is registered at Amazon, Crate & Barrel and Target.

### Katelyn Wehking and Riley Reimers

Please join us **Saturday, April 20** from **9:00-11:00 a.m.** at the **Morris Community Center** (the old Morris Senior Center) for an open house bridal shower for Katelyn Wehking, bride to be of Riley Reimers. All are welcome and invited to attend. The couple is registered at Amazon.

### Nicole Gillespie and Tyler Zaun

Please join us **Saturday, April 27** from **9:00-11:00a.m.** at **Faith Lutheran Church** for an open house bridal shower for Nicole Gillespie, bride to be of Tyler Zaun. All are welcome and invited to attend. The couple is registered at Target and Amazon.



## Element's Schedule: (6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Grades)

**April 3<sup>rd</sup>** - Element 6-7:30pm at First Lutheran Church

**April 10<sup>th</sup>** - Element 6-7:30pm at First Lutheran Church

**April 17<sup>th</sup>** - Element 6-7:30pm at First Lutheran Church

**April 24<sup>th</sup>** - Element 6-7:30pm at First Lutheran Church



## Sr. High Fusion's Schedule: (9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Grades)

**Wed, April 3<sup>rd</sup>**: Sr. High Fusion 7-8:30pm @First Lutheran Church

**Wed, April 10<sup>th</sup>** : Sr. High Fusion 6:30-8:30pm Progressive Dinner  
– More details to come!

**Wed, April 17<sup>th</sup>**: Sr. High Fusion 7-8:30pm @First Lutheran Church

**Wed, April 24<sup>th</sup>**: Sr. High Fusion 7-8:30pm @First Lutheran Church

**Friday, April 26<sup>th</sup>**: Fusion Friday Breakfast 7:15-8am (Check back for location)

Please check out Fusion's updated website for more information. [www.fusion-ministry.com](http://www.fusion-ministry.com)

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

# Thank You!



**Give Online**

**Yahoo! Yippee! Yeehaw!**

**Thanks for supporting God's work!**

**In March...Because of you...**

- Hungry bodies in Stevens Country could receive food through Food Pantry
- Young people received communion training and learned about the story of Holy Week
- People had a space to be listened to and prayed with
- Community organizations had a place to gather: TOPS, Scouts, 4-H, West Central Community Action Free Tax Preparation
- Beautiful music was shared
- Good news was shared in worship, online, and our radio ministries.
- Fusion Ministry hosted gatherings for our senior high students
- Lutheran Social Services provided concrete support for people around the state to have what they need for living
- Lutheran Campus Ministry provided free meals and fellowship for students

Your ongoing support of our general budget allows all of this and so much more to happen. Offerings of any size, given from the heart, really do make a difference. Thanks for including Faith Lutheran Church in your financial giving.

Give online anytime at [www.faithlutheranmorris.org](http://www.faithlutheranmorris.org).

## Faith Lutheran Church Council Highlights

March 10, 2024

### Faith Lutheran Mission Statement

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

### Congregation Values

We are: Centered in Jesus, Caring & Sharing,  
Creating a Joyful Noise, Wide Open Welcome

### Members Present:

Mike Nordquist, Chris Hopkins, Jenny Maras,  
Lynnae Lina, Zach Arnold, Connie Tschetter,  
Vicky Dosedall, Molly Fluegel, Pastor Emmy, Jason  
Breuer, Nancy Olson, Brent Gausman

### Members Absent:

Eric Meichsner, Amy Swanson

**Guest(s):** None

### Call to Order:

Lynnae Lina

### Opening Devotion:

Pastor Emmy - "What do you bring to the table?"

### REPORTS

#### Pastor's Report:

Written Report Shared

#### Office Manager's Report:

Written Report Shared

#### Ministry Reports:

*Congregation Life* (Jenny) - Care packages to recent graduates were sent. We have the "Spring Fling" event planned for Tuesday, April 23 from 11 am - 1 pm.

*Outreach* (Jason, Molly & Lynnae) - Designing a logo for the church was discussed. The committee discussed offering a challenge for the older youth in the church w/and recent graduates. They are also serving an upcoming Lenten meal and LCM event.

*Worship & Music* (Mike) - The "Living Last Supper" will happen this year, with volunteers needed. Maundy Thursday will be offered to Faith Lutheran, with a "jazz" Good Friday service where several local congregations are invited. Two Easter services will be held.

*Memorial/Endowment* (Eric) - No recent meeting.

*Education* (Vicky & Molly) - Ash Wednesday supper was good but we had lots of food leftover (only used 1/2 the hot dishes) and had a lot of salad left over too. They started planning VBS for July 22-25. It will be 8-12 and we will be running the program ourselves. The theme is SCUBA. Palm Sunday the kids will be singing (potentially with the choir). 2nd graders are doing resurrection eggs on the 17th with Britta.

*Celebrate & Share* (Amy & Chris) - March is food shelf month.

*Women of Faith* (Nancy) - They have a quilt show and luncheon planned for Saturday, April 13 called "Sew Many Pieces" with a donation to the food shelf as an entry to the event.

### Secretary Report - MMSP

### Treasurer's Report - MMSP

### OLD BUSINESS

#### Secretary Appointment

Eric Meichsner has agreed to serve as secretary.  
MMSP

### NEW BUSINESS

#### Other

There was discussion about the many pastoral vacancies in our area.

The Fusion board meeting minutes were shared and representatives will be at the April council meeting.

#### Next Meeting

April 14, 2024

#### Adjournment & Lord's Prayer

MMSP

*Respectfully Submitted,*

*Jenny Maras*



Faith Lutheran Church, ELCA  
108 West Eighth Street  
Morris, MN 56267

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

**Faith Lutheran Church 108 West 8<sup>th</sup> Street, Morris MN (320)589-2970 [www.faithlutheranmorris.org](http://www.faithlutheranmorris.org)**



### **Our Vision**

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

### **Our Values**

+ Centered in Jesus + Caring & Sharing + Creating a Joyful Noise + Wide Open Welcome

### **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