

LETTER OF FAITH

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

NOVEMBER 2023

MINISTERS: ALL THE PEOPLE OF FAITH



Connected in Christ Partnerships around the Globe

As your pastor this fall, I have had the privilege of connecting with some of our partners in ministry from places all over the world.

Michael and Carmen are from Bethlehem and Jerusalem. They work with artists in Bethlehem who create beautiful carvings out of olivewood. The artists are Palestinian Christians, and rely on income from the carving to provide for their families. Michael and Carmen urge us to continue to pray for peace for all people. My conversations with them have reminded me about how complicated the relationship between Israel and Palestine is. The news we get through our media outlets is only a glimpse at the many stories that actually exist. (We'll have the olivewood out on Sunday, November 19, so you'll have a chance to take a look at it.)

Pastor Celiwe is from South Africa. She traveled with Southwest Minnesota along with other church leaders from the Evangelical Lutheran Church in South Africa, which is our companion or partner synod. Pastor Celiwe shared about the work that she is doing to revive a seminary. Buildings that had been abandoned are now being restored. Students are returning to the campus to be trained for church leadership. While in the United States, Pastor Celiwe also spent time at Luther Seminary, which will inspire her in her efforts at home. In my conversations with Pastor Celiwe, I was reminded that even when it seems like a story is over, that the Holy Spirit is often given space to work and bring new possibilities.

Mary and Rodney lead a mission called FARM Haiti. You may recall that they presented about this ministry earlier in the year in worship. They were back again this fall and shared more about the ministry. One of the ministries supported through FARM Haiti is a tree planting. One source reports that only 1% of Haiti's original primary forest remains, due to humans dependence on trees. They grow and distribute seedlings to allow for new tree growth. Mary and Rodney remind me of what it looks like to boldly live in faith, trusting that the impact we make on a few lives can have ripple effects to many.

On Sunday, November 5th, we will celebrate All Saint's Sunday. We remember that we are connected with Christians from all sorts of time and all sorts of places. In John, Chapter 17, Jesus prays, "My prayer is...that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me."

It's easy to go about our life, focusing only on what is right in front of us. Yet, Jesus connects us one to another. Jesus loves you, and Jesus loves folks all over world!

In Christ,
-Pastor Emmy

Faith Lutheran Church

108 West Eighth Street

Morris, MN 56267

320-589-2970

www.faithlutheranmorris.org

Pastor Emmy Swedlund

rev.emmy@gmail.com

(701) 552-2419

Office Manager Connie Tschetter

faithful@hometownsolutions.net

Youth Director of Fusion Ministry

Heather Black

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

Vicky Dossdall

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



Sundays at 9:00 am | In-Person & on Facebook Live

Available throughout the week at faithlutheranmorris.org

November 5 | All Saint's Sunday - Explore the good news found in Revelation, as we remember faithful ones who have gone before us.

November 12 | Stewardship Sunday – Celebrate how God is at work through the ministry of Faith Lutheran Church. Stick around for “Stewardship Sundaes” after worship!

November 19 | Vocation Sunday – Be inspired as we explore how God is at work in our daily lives. You'll even have a chance to have your hands blessed.

November 26 | Christ the King Sunday – Through song and scripture, we will journey through the church calendar, from Advent through Ordinary Time.



Wednesday, November 22

6:00 pm

Let's give thanks to God together!
Sunday School students will sing.
Pie & fellowship after the service

A gratitude challenge for November:

Gratitude ABCs...

Make a list each day. Starting on November 1, list some “A” words that you are grateful for. On November 2, list some “B” words. November 3, “C” words, and on and on. By the end of the month (even if you forget a day or two), you'll have a long, long list of thanksgiving!



Faith Lutheran's Annual

MEATBALL Supper

Wednesday, November 8

Serving from 4:30 to 7 p.m.

MEATBALLS & GRAVY
MASHED POTATOES
CORN • COLESLAW
LEFSE • PUMPKIN BAR

Adults: \$15

Children 10 & Under: \$6

Preschoolers: FREE

Faith Lutheran Church
108 W 8th Street • Morris

Dine In or
Take Out



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.

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



Do Days—Tuesday Mornings

Join them on Tuesdays at 9:30—bring a sack lunch. No experience necessary. Come when you can and help make quilts—you do not need to know how to sew.

**MISSION: STITCH!
Tuesday Afternoons**

Join the group for stitching— at 1:30. Bring your projects; come when you can; stay as long as you can. Every Tuesday. If you have questions, talk to Karen Uphoff. Thanks



Congregational Transitions

Baptism

October 15 Maeve, Alaric, and Leif Weeding
Parents — John and Casie Weeding

Funeral

September 30 Ardell Mildred Anderson Rohloff
October 9 David Eli Wentz

Wedding

October 28 Jena DeRung and Thomas Eickelberg

**Outreach Breakfast
Served for Mission Projects
Sunday, November 5th
Following the Worship Service**

Come for breakfast and fellowship and help support missions sponsored by the Outreach Ministry
Free will donation

Faith Lutheran Church	
2023 Budget for Mission	\$317,156.22
<u>September 2023</u>	
Year to Date Expense	\$222,084.58
Year to Date Income	<u>\$186,987.59</u>
Difference	—\$35,096.99

Please consider a one time or reoccurring gift to support our ministry.

- Donate in the offering plate on Sunday.
 - Drop off/mail to the church office
 - Give online at www.faithlutheranmorris.org
 - Stop in the church office to set up electronic withdrawals through Simply Giving/Vanco.
- Give Now



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).

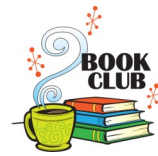
Gatherings for Widows and Widowers

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, November 14**. 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

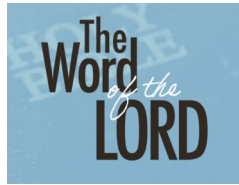
- November 27 "Britt-Marie Was Here" by Fredrik Backman
- December—No meeting
- January 29 "The Water Keeper" by Charles Martin
- February 26 "The Five Wishes of Mr. Murray McBride" by Joe Siple



ALL ARE WELCOME

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

November Daily Bible Verses



1. Isaiah 53:10	11. Psalm 55:6	21. Psalm 27:5
2. Psalm 139:3	12. Genesis 1:31	22. Deuteronomy 7:9
3. Colossians 2:10	13. Matthew 6:11	23. Isaiah 48:6
4. John 9:3	14. II Samuel 16:18	24. I John 1:9
5. Joshua 1:9	15. Ecclesiastes 3:2	25. Jonah 2:9
6. Acts 28:15	16. Ezekiel 11:19	26. Luke 10:20
7. Acts 10:9	17. II Samuel 23:2	27. John 14:27
8. 1 Timothy 4:15	18. I John 4:7	28. Psalm 84:2
9. Romans 2:4	19. Isaiah 64:8	29. Job 38:32
10. Philippians 3:13	20. Matthew 5:13	30. Psalm 31:24

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)



Element's Schedule: (6th-8th Grades)

Wed, November 1st: Element 6-7:30pm @Faith Church (note the change of location)

Wed, November 8th: No Element

Wed, November 15th: Element 6-7:30pm @First Lutheran Church

Wed, November 22nd: No Element due to Thanksgiving Weekend!

Wed, November 29th: Element 6-7:30pm @First Lutheran Church



Sr. High Fusion's Schedule: (9th-12th Grades)

Wed, November 1st: Sr. High Fusion 7-8:30pm location TBA (Check the website for more details)

Wed, November 8th: No Sr. High Fusion

Wed, November 15th: Sr. High Fusion 7-8:30pm @First Lutheran Church

Friday, November 17: Fusion Friday Breakfast 7:15-8am (Location TBA – see Website for more details)

Wed, November 22nd: No Sr. High Fusion due to Thanksgiving Weekend!

Wed, November 29th: Sr. High Fusion 7-8:30pm @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



Operation Christmas Child | Samaritan's Purse Packing Party

Saturday, November 18th at Faith Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall from 1:00-3:00pm

Plan to attend

Also—they are asking for help with the shipping charges; if you can help with this please bring a donation to the church office. Thank You

First Lutheran Church, Morris

Fall Dinner and Silent Auction

Wednesday, November 1st

Serving from 4:30-7:30pm (or until food runs out)

Menu:

Ham, Garlic Mashed Potatoes, Glazed Carrots, Rye Bread and Pumpkin Roll.

Packaged homemade lefse will be for sale (4 rounds for \$14)

Tickets: \$14.00 per meal

Cookie Factory

The Cookie Factory will be held **December 9** at Faith Lutheran.

Start thinking about what treats and goodies you could provide.

Watch the bulletin, website and Facebook page for more details as the date gets closer.



Fusion Student Ministry's Purpose

And How we are accomplishing that purpose:

Engage – There is a need for this ministry to the youth and families of this community. The four churches involved have a little over 150 kids to pull from. Our goal is to engage youth both inside and outside the church walls!

In September – October Element: 56 students; Sr. High: 25 students; Parent Small Group: 5-8; Social Media & Website: Great way to engage the community and communicate what we are up to; Leadership: 17 adult volunteers & pastors & Student leadership: 4 students; Element Parent Meeting: 75 Parents/caregivers (roughly)

Connect – Having a sense of connection to others is so important at all ages, but especially during the 6th-12th ages. We have a goal to help youth connect to other youth as well as to positive adults. We want to provide a safe environment for them to feel welcome, wanted and known. Love them where they are. Love is messy and the people we love are not perfect. Teenagers are certainly not perfect and in the messiness of life are looking for positive love and acceptance.

In small Group time and small group get together they are connected together, making friendships in a safe space and are connected to healthy adult leaders; Sr. High Lock-In & various fun activities helps to connect them through shared fun memories; & the Church without Walls pork chop lunch connected the youth and families to the church community!

Teach – Our goal is to teach youth to answer the question, “What do you believe about God and what does your life look like because of it?” This will be done through fun and creative teaching, experiences, connecting in small groups and letting them ask the hard questions.

We are teaching the Fruit of the Spirit Series in Element and Renew your Heart, Soul, Mind & Strength Series in Sr. High Fusion. The kids open their bibles, highlight in them, memorize bible verses and learn how to apply the truth of scripture to their daily life.

Send – Our goal is to send them out into the world with knowledge about God and how He relates to the world. Send them out to adventure and service. We want to make lifelong Christians who can love fiercely and respect others. Challenge them to live out their faith in all aspects of their life: at school, home, church, work and with friends and family.

We send our students and adults out into the world in so many ways. We sent out over 80 youth and adults on a prayer walk to pray for our community, churches, businesses & law enforcement (etc). We encourage our adult leadership to reach out to their students outside of Fusion. On Sat, Oct 14th a group of students and adults helped a family in Benson move into their home. And we are training future leaders: Piper Swanson, who is our Sr High Fusion Intern wants to be a youth pastor in the future and is leading in the Sr. High Fusion area! And students in student Leadership in Sr. High Fusion are stepping up to the plate to help lead and plan!

SCOUTS

—First and foremost, we would like to extend a huge thank you to Faith Lutheran Church for allowing our charter to transfer to our new home with you. We are very excited to share adventure, team building, and life skills and experiences with the congregation and hopefully families around the community as well. We look forward to building foundations for the future in our children today – that’s what scouting is all about. Did you know GIRLS AND BOYS can join?! We plan to meet the first (1st) and third (3rd) Sunday of each month in the fellowship hall at 3 p.m. Anyone and everyone is welcome to come for a meeting and see what we are all about. With colder weather imminent, getting out of the house and seeing other people may be just what the doctor ordered this winter season, and we would love to have you join us! The pack is also in need of a Committee Chairman – prayerfully consider contacting us for more information if you would like to know more about what this is about.

If you have questions or want more information, please feel free to reach out to cubmaster Mike Nordquist at 320-287-0259 or Secretary/Treasurer, Christine Ayala-Zierke at 320-815-5404 or email the pack at prairiefirepack467@gmail.com.



Snow Removal – we are in need of some help with snow removal around the church on the sidewalks (especially on the weekends) – if you are interested in volunteering for this; please talk to a council member or contact the church office for the details. We have a new snow blower. Thank You

No Council Report for October—the Church Council did not meet in October.



Pizza Ranch Community Impact Night

Fundraiser for the ELCA 2024 Youth Gathering

November 20 from 5:00-8:00 pm

Let someone else do the cooking, while supporting youth from our congregation going to the ELCA Youth Gathering in New Orleans in

the summer of 2024. Enjoy delicious food and leave a big tip. :)

Christmas Decorating at church on **Friday, December 1st at 8:30am**—if you are available, please plan to come and help—even for a short time.

Thank You

Question: “What is a duck’s favorite snack?”

Answer: “Quackers!!”

Ducks and *kids* that is! Did you know that elementary school children have snack breaks every day? For many reasons throughout the year, some children may not have crackers for snacks. We can help fill up those tummies so they can concentrate and learn.

Many generous businesses and organizations have pledged to collect and donate boxes of crackers to Morris Area Elementary School. Faith Lutheran has agreed to collect crackers during the month of November. Please consider purchasing a box of crackers to donate during our month. Look for the collection box in the Narthex. Thank you-“Quack, Quack!”

Vocation Sunday

Sunday, November 19th is Vocation Sunday. The Celebrate and Share Committee has again organized a panel of church members who will share how God touches them and works through them on the job. Come and support those willing to share their stories. Get ready to be inspired and lifted up by how God’s guidance is present in us and through us.

“Sundaes” on Stewardship Sunday

The Celebrate and Share Committee invites you to celebrate Stewardship Sunday by joining them for ice cream sundaes after the worship service on November 12th. Enjoy a sweet treat as we commit to another year of giving and keeping Faith Lutheran Church thriving.

Newsletter Deadline for the **December/January Newsletter** will be on November 15th. There will be one newsletter for December/January.

Thank You

Lutheran Campus Ministry – Garrett Colton, the Campus Community Coordinator for Lutheran Campus Ministries at UMM is working on resuming LCM’s weekly dollar dinners, and was looking to see if local congregation members would be interested in volunteering to prepare the dinner each week. The meals would start weekly on Nov. 7th, and each Tuesday after that until the end of the Fall semester, resuming when the Spring semester begins. The meals will be served from 5:30PM until 7PM at the Christus House (110 Columbia Ave, Morris MN). Volunteers are able to use the kitchen space in the house to prepare meals if necessary. LCM will also reimburse volunteers for the cost of food/ingredients if provided with receipts, should they wish to be compensated. Meal size should be able to feed around 20-30 people. Those interested in volunteering can contact Garrett at gdcolton99@gmail.com

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

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MORRIS, MN 56267

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Meatball Supper
Wednesday, November 8

Faith Lutheran Church 108 West 8th Street, Morris MN (320)589-2970 www.faithlutheranmorris.org



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