

LETTER OF FAITH

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

JULY/AUGUST 2023

MINISTERS: ALL THE PEOPLE OF FAITH

What's on your list...

In worship earlier this summer, **we made a list of the ministry that Jesus invites us into in this time and space.** The list you created is beautiful:

- Go to the sick.
- Love your neighbor.
- Forgive.
- Be kind.
- Be hospitable; bring good food.
- Be a good listener; Help with people's needs.
- Don't judge.
- Reach out to new people in the community and the church.
- Try to walk in someone else's shoes.
- Point people to Jesus.
- Stretch ourselves.

As a congregation, we can't be all things to all people. That's partially why I give thanks to God for a variety of churches in town! A variety of churches means that a diversity of people can find a community that connects for them. Together, we are the body of Christ. Better together, than any one of us is alone.

Over the last few months, **your congregation council has continued to fuss with narrowing down a list of values that are central to Faith Lutheran Church,** in this particular time and place. Areas of value that have risen to the top include being welcoming, having a sense of openness & respect, treasuring our children, serving & caring for our community, and appreciating music & prayer. We are still praying and pondering over that list, and we'll have more to share with you later this year. These values will help give clarity to our mission as a congregation.

Just like a church can't be all things to all people; neither can you as an individual. I might encourage you to **make a list of what makes you, you** –

- What do you love?
- What do you dislike?
- What are you good at?

Then, think about how you share the good news of Jesus and his love through you, being you. Remember, we are better together, than any one of us is alone.

With deepest gratitude for YOU!

-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

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 Dosdall

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

The next Family Fun Event is July 24th at 6:30pm and we will be going to the splash pad and having a BBQ at Pomme de Terre park. Water you doing on July 24th? Come out to Pomme de Terre Park for our next Family Fun event! We will be having a waterful time at the splash pad and will enjoy a BBQ meal together. Bring your swimsuit and towel to this event. It will be a splashing good time!



Families of all sorts—Mystery Event —**Monday, August 21st** beginning at **6:30pm** —We'll unveil what the Mystery event is in worship on Sunday, August 20th and post on our social media that day. Hope you can join us. Mark your calendar for the family fun event on **August 21**.

Congregational Transitions

Baptism

June 25 Cooper Marvin James Riley
Parents - Eric & Shanda

Plan to attend the Outdoor Worship Service -Sunday, July 30

The service will be outside by
the church playground area.



It's Christmas In July!!

The Celebrate and Share Committee invites you to "share" and "celebrate" with them as they bring a little holiday fun to the month of July. During this month you are invited to take an ornament off the Christmas tree in the Narthex and put the ornament and your monetary donation in an envelope to be dropped in the gift box next to the tree. The committee has chosen four Faith Lutheran projects to sponsor with the gift money. They include:

1. School Kits
2. Christmas Shoe Box Gifts
3. Health Kits
4. Ministry Gift Bags For Assisted Living and Nursing Home Residents

In the past, some of these projects asked for item donations. However, in order to follow guidelines and have greater purchasing power, monetary donations increase our ability to give. We hope to assemble some of these kits in September during our Church Without Walls Day.

Please join us on July 16th for "Christmas Cookie Coffee Fellowship" after the worship service. Don't be surprised if we sing a few Christmas Hymns and Christmas Carols during the month as well. Ho! Ho! Ho! It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas!

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!



Do Days



The Do Days group has decided to take a break this summer.

See you in the fall.

MISSION: STITCH!

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



Faith Lutheran Church

2023 Budget for Mission \$317,156.22

May 2023

Year to Date Expense \$126,546.82

Year to Date Income \$117,925.33

2023 Stevens County Food Distribution

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

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).

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

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



All are Welcome

- July 31 “The Star and the Shamrock” by Jean Grainger
- August 28 “Watch With Me” by Wendell Berry
- September 25 “The Paris Daughter” by Kristin Harmel
- October 30 “Murder on the Red River” by Marcie Rendon

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

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

Happy Reading!

- A big thank you to all our Faith families for your many birthday greetings and gifts honoring Monroe on his 85th birthday.
- Monetary gifts will be given to Faith daily radio devotions.

God’s blessings,

Monroe and Cheryl



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, July 11 and Tuesday, August 8**. 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

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**

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

Zion Lutheran, Morris is doing a **Peach Fundraiser**. Information and order forms are available at church or call Zion Lutheran at 320-589-2744



FUSION
youth

Ministry Celebration

Wednesday, August 16 from 6:30-7:30 pm
at Faith Lutheran Church

We want to THANK YOU for your support.

Enjoy a dessert. Hear about how Fusion
Ministry is making a difference students' lives.

Thrivent Grants Needed

The Celebrate and Share Committee is hoping to find a couple of congregation members who are willing to support Church Without Walls activities with their Thrivent Grant. The grants would help sponsor the Ministry Gift Bags for assisted living residents and the refreshments for workers and work groups participating in activities on that day. If you are willing to support us, please contact Deb McNally or the church office. Thank you for your kindness!

Save the Date!

"God's Work-Our Hands!"

Sunday, September 10th is Church Without Walls Sunday at Faith Lutheran. We will be joining ELCA churches across the nation as we live out our faith in our community. Mark your calendars, and be watching for more details on the many service activities you can choose from on that Sunday. If you have ideas for a project, please let us know.



**SR. HIGH MISSION TRIP
TO DENVER, CO**

**JULY 8th-15th
2023**




Thank you to all who supported us financially for the mission Trip! We have raised all that we have needed to raise!

The 20 of us leave on July 8th and return on the 15th. Please be in prayer for us as we go on this awesome adventure loving and serving the people of Denver, CO. Keep an eye on our Instagram and facebook pages for pics and updates on how the trip is going and how you can pray for our team along the way!

Thanks for being supportive of our Fusion Youth!

WEDNESDAY NIGHT ALIVE

WHAT is WNA:

WNA (Wednesday Night Alive) is time to gather together to hear stories from life that connect the messages of God's love for all people. All people are welcome – period. Come for the stories – shared by speakers who know and have experienced God's powerful love in the face of life's many challenges. Come hear the message of God's mercy, grace and forgiveness. Come for community, come for the food.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT ALIVE

Richard is the director of MN Youth Alive an organization works with students, youth leaders and churches to share Jesus with other students across MN. He has been speaking at WNA since 2014. He loves to speak in a teaching style that creates a practical application for the message.



RICHARD BAKER

JULY 5TH
LOCATION: OLD #1, SOUTHSIDE MORRIS, MN
MEAL STARTS AT 6PM
SPEAKER AT 7PM
MEAL IS FREE. ALL ARE WELCOME!

WEDNESDAY NIGHT ALIVE

Kelli works for MN Youth Alive in the area of student engagement. She is responsible for training and equipping students to share their faith at school. She is a fireball of a speaker and you will enjoy the enthusiasm she brings to the message.



KELLI PATRICK

JULY 12TH
LOCATION: OLD #1, SOUTHSIDE MORRIS, MN
MEAL STARTS AT 6PM
SPEAKER AT 7PM
MEAL IS FREE. ALL ARE WELCOME!

WEDNESDAY NIGHT ALIVE

Bobby directs a mission's organization called AIM. He has more than 240 students traveling the world this summer sharing their faith in cross-cultural settings. Bobby is a passionate storyteller who will bring understanding to the Word of God.



BOBBY LOUKINEN

JULY 19TH
LOCATION: OLD #1, SOUTHSIDE MORRIS, MN
MEAL STARTS AT 6PM
SPEAKER AT 7PM
MEAL IS FREE. ALL ARE WELCOME!

WEDNESDAY NIGHT ALIVE

Jessie is the lead youth pastor of a multi-site church in Woodbury. She is an excellent communicator of truth for students as well as adults. She has a humorous style that will keep you laughing until you cry...sometimes literally. Jessie has spoken at WNA in the past and we are privileged to have her back.

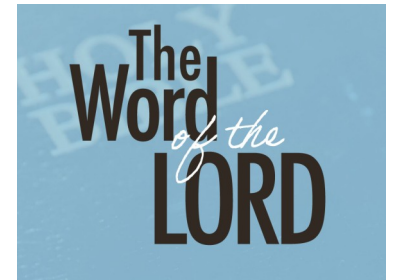


JESSIE NELSON GOLNICK

JULY 26TH
LOCATION: OLD #1, SOUTHSIDE MORRIS, MN
MEAL STARTS AT 6PM
SPEAKER AT 7PM
MEAL IS FREE. ALL ARE WELCOME!

July Daily Bible Verses

| | | |
|------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Luke 1:46,47 | 11. Hebrews 4:16 | 21. Isaiah 61:10 |
| 2. Isaiah 54:10 | 12. Psalm 95:6,7 | 22. Revelation 22:12 |
| 3. Habakkuk 3:18 | 13. I Peter 2:9,10 | 23. Psalm 27:1 |
| 4. II Corinthians 7:1 | 14. Joshua 1:9 | 24. Romans 5:1,2 |
| 5. Romans 1:16,17 | 15. Isaiah 54:17 | 25. Colossians 3:12,13 |
| 6. James 1:12 | 16. II Corinthians 6:2 | 26. Mark 11:25,26 |
| 7. Ruth 1:16,17 | 17. I Corinthians 15:47-49 | 27. John 20:29 |
| 8. Romans 12:12 | 18. Hosea 2:19,20 | 28. John 20:30,31 |
| 9. II Corinthians 13:4 | 19. Ephesians 6:10,11 | 29. I Peter 1:7,8 |
| 10. Ephesians 4:29-32 | 20. Psalm 25:4,5 | 30. I Peter 1:24,25 |
| | | 31. Revelation 1:4-6 |



August Daily Bible Verses

| | | |
|------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. II Timothy 1:12 | 11. Psalm 111:9 | 21. I Corinthians 2:9 |
| 2. Luke 22:31,32 | 12. Psalm 111:10 | 22. I Peter 2:24 |
| 3. I John 3:3 | 13. Hebrews 13:5 | 23. Ephesians 4:29 |
| 4. Proverbs 29:25 | 14. Ephesians 5:1,2 | 24. Ephesians 4:30-31 |
| 5. Psalm 91:1,2 | 15. John 16:13 | 25. James 1:2,3 |
| 6. I John 5:1 | 16. Matthew 8:16,17 | 26. I John 4:10,11 |
| 7. Proverbs 2:5,6 | 17. Micah 7:19 | 27. Psalm 27:14 |
| 8. I John 4:1,2 | 18. Joshua 1:9 | 28. John 8:31,32 |
| 9. Deuteronomy 6:13-15 | 19. Psalm 27:1 | 29. Psalm 57:2, 3 |
| 10. Luke 24:46-48 | 20. James 3:13 | 30. Psalm 115:1 |
| | | 31. James 1:17 |

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)

Organics for Composting, Recycle, and Trash

You may have noticed new containers at Faith Lutheran—please look at the labels on the containers to know where to dispose of your item.

We Can Make A Difference!



Stevens County Organics Recycling

Organics are hauled to the Glacial Ridge Compost Facility in Hoffman, MN (30 miles).

Any household or business in Stevens County can participate in organics recycling!

www.co.stevens.mn.us/organics

Organics at Faith Lutheran:

All food waste!

Napkins/paper towels, tea bags and sugar wrappers, paper bags



Stevens County Recycling

Recycling is hauled first to McLeod County (106 miles) and then to Dem-Con Waste & Recycling facilities in Shakopee, MN (+45 miles). www.dem-con.com

Recycling at Faith Lutheran:

Pop cans, bottles, bulletins, paper, cardboard



Stevens County Trash

Trash is hauled to either the Waste Management Landfill in Gwinner, ND (110 miles) or the Waste to Energy Facility in Alexandria, MN (45 miles). www.popedouglasrecycle.com

www.engebretsondisposal.com

Trash at Faith Lutheran:

Plastic wrappers, wax paper, disposable cutlery, muffin papers, straws

Faith Lutheran Church Council Highlights

June 11, 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, Lynnae Lina, Tom Loew, Eric Meichsner, Mike Nordquist, Nancy Olson, Connie Tschetter

Member Absent: Chris Hopkins, Jenny Maras, Liz Spohr

Call to Order: Lynnae Lina

Opening Prayer and Devotion : Pastor Emmy led a devotion with scripture from Mark 3:1-6. Discussion on stretch, witness, testimony.

REPORTS

Pastor's Report: Attended the SW MN Synod Assembly—the other delegates from Faith were Jana Koehler, Molly Fluegel and Jake Rooks. Pastor Emmy is now the supervising pastor for Fusion/Element.

Connie's Report: Written Report Shared

Fusion Youth Report: Pastor Emmy shared—Heather is working on wrap up for the year, contacting small group leader, working on the youth trip and curriculum for next year

Ministry Reports:

Congregation Life - no meeting—will be sending cards to shut ins

Outreach— Fundraising breakfast for missionaries; looking into other plans/ideas

Worship & Music— Outdoor worship services this summer; people are still watching on-line; looking at installing outlets for musicians

Memorial & Endowment—No meeting—they meet on an as needed basis

Property & Safety— Outlets will be installed for musicians; bat(s) are back

Education - Luther Crest Bible Camp will be leading Vacation Bible School; Family Fun Nights this summer are for all families—do not have to have kids

Celebrate & Share—Summer Food Drop; Christmas in July; Church Without Walls—September 10th

Women of Faith - looking at reorganizing service groups; do not use Styrofoam products; will be ordering paper products that are safe for recycling or organics

Idea from Church Council to email/give to groups who are having showers, Lenten suppers etc—about using organic/recycling materials or washing dishes when serving in the kitchen

Secretary Report: MMSP

Treasurer's Report: MMSP

OLD BUSINESS

Facility Improvement Committee/Chairs— no report—remind committees to do wish list

Organics, Recycling, Trash System— discussed during the Women of Faith report—work with educating members and groups who use the church

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. This meeting the council looked at Youth & Young Adults/Children/Education. More discussion will be held at next months meeting.

Adopt A Highway—could this be done with Church Without Walls—or we will need to set a time to do this project in the fall

NEW BUSINESS

Summer Meetings—plan to not have a meeting in July. If something comes up—the council will be notified if a meeting will be held

MMSP to Adjourn the meeting

Adjournment & Lord's Prayer

Next Council Meeting: Sunday, August 13, 2023

*Respectfully Submitted,
Connie Tschetter*

Faith Lutheran Church, ELCA

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PERMIT #130

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MORRIS, MN 56267

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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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