



Faith Lutheran Church
 Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
 God's work. Our hands.

FAITH'S FOUNDATIONS

May 2025

FROM PASTOR CATIE

“The Word is near you, on your lips and in your heart.” - Romans 10:8

This verse is the summer theme at Fortune Lake this year. Romans reminds us that the Word of God is always close by. It is not only around us, but within us. And we are meant to share the good news. Here at Faith, we are excited to welcome Fortune Lake staff as we host a week of Day Camp! This summer we invited children who have completed grades K-6 to come to Faith July 6th -10th. During this week we will do all kinds of wonderful activities. With games, arts and crafts, and singing there is sure to be lots of fun! And through Bible study, worship, and conversation these kids are going to learn an incredible amount about the Word and love of God. But to make this amazing week happen we need your help! Volunteers will be needed to do things like check-in/out kids each day, serve snacks, assist in arts & crafts, and provide dinner for the camp counselors. If you are interested in helping, please talk to myself or the Board of Education. And last, but certainly not least, to make this happen we need kids to sign up. Invite your kids, grandkids, neighbors, and their friends to Day Camp! I am so excited to offer this opportunity to our community! It will be amazing to see how those who participate learn about Christ and grow in their faith. And that isn't just for the kids either, I look forward to seeing how volunteers grow in faith during this week as well! I hope you will join in the fun!

Peace,
 Pastor Catie

FROM THE PRESIDENT

“Working to spread the Gospel here and throughout the world.” Do you recognize this? We see this statement on the Sunday bulletin. It is our stated mission here at Faith Lutheran Church. The reason I bring this up is not to test you. In these times, the politics and the happenings in our country seems to be on peoples' minds and the topic of many conversations. I would be remiss if I were to say that it doesn't concern me. I have often tried to figure out what should be done, what actions we should take. It was at a bible study after church that I heard a very wise answer to these concerns and questions: we need to

keep to our mission and serve the people in our local area. Keep doing the things we do to serve those in need in our area. We help NATH, we donate to Caritas, backpacks are stuffed with food to help those who need it, quilts are made to be sent to those outside our area who need them, we offer the sacraments each Sunday to those who come through our doors, and we welcome all who come to worship with us. Keep doing what we are doing for those who are around us in need. And keep looking for any way to serve those we can. This includes each other too. The Daily Devotion a couple days after Easter was Revelations 12. It is said that unless you are or have suffered, you will have trouble understanding this book. But Chapter 12 is written to bring hope that goodness will eventually prevail and that a powerful God is present in the midst of pain. Goodness will eventually win over whatever chaos we see in our lives and our world today. Thanks to all the people who helped make the Puppet Show of Easter Sunday possible. It was such a wonderful addition to an already festive worship service. And we can never thank Rhonda Buss enough for providing music for all our services. We are so fortunate. We need to plan a day or two to accomplish the Hi-way Cleanup for the section of Hwy 45 that is ours. I am writing this on Earth Day and have seen other organizations in our area out taking care of the sections of road that they have volunteered to clean. Seeing others out there picking up a section of road has served as a gentle reminder to start making plans. So hopefully in early May we can get out there to get our section done to do our part in caring for God's creation. As always, if you have a concern or question about anything, please, bring it to the attention of a council member.

Sincerely,
 Robin Peterson

FROM THE BISHOP

“Jesus answered them, Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. 25Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life.”
 ~John 12: 24-25

Dear People of the Northern Great Lakes Synod, As I write this, we are in the midst of spring in the U.P. I daresay that even spring in northern Wisconsin cannot compare as the residents at the southern edge of our Synod will welcome tulips and daffodils weeks, weeks! before their northern siblings. Spring in the U.P. is characterized by heavy, wet, snow – frozen mud - dirty snowbanks – sap buckets hanging off of dead looking trees – and weather whiplash as temperatures vacillate between the arctic cold of January and the tease of sunshine warmth that has the power to thaw.

But just as Easter follows Good Friday, so also will spring eventually make a solid appearance (by summer ☺). The sleeping earth will awaken. And what had been dormant and quiet within the darkness of snow and frozen dirt will once again grow and be green in the longer light of summer days. I do love it that the light lingers longer. But let us not forget the value and blessing of darkness. In darkness, there is rest. When we finally get to plant seeds in warm soil, there is anticipation and hope for new life. It is in darkness that a seed gathers what it takes to grow. It is in darkness that its energy coalesces in preparation for change. Plant a seed in rested, thawed, and warm dirt....add water and Ta Da! In due time, the seed sends forth a shoot which grows exponentially - to become a potato plant or a tomato bush or a watermelon vine – something incredibly larger than the seed itself. It is miraculous even as it is ordinary. When we plant seeds in our gardens, we have an expected timetable. We generally know how long a seed will lie in dark earth before we can predict when we will see the first signs of growth. Knowing the length of time helps us be patient even as we are expectant. However, the germination of seeds of faith or the expectant Shining with the Light of Christ in the Northern Great Lakes Synod LIGHT Northern Page 2 Northern Light hope of when some effort of ministry will bear fruit is a complete unknown. There is no timetable to which we can refer to bolster our patience. We cannot predict the future. We cannot even know for certain whether the seeds that have been planted will grow. It may well be that given the uncertainty of these days – both in and out of the Church, that it feels like we are “in the dark”. But again, let us not forget the value and blessing of darkness. What if the darkness, or this time of expectant hope, need not be a time of anxiety or fear but rather a time of coalescing our energy in preparation for future change? What if we are receiving now, when we cannot see the future, all that we need for the challenges ahead? The value of darkness can be in the waiting, in the hopefulness, in the preparation, in the being watered so that we have what we need for future growth. As we focus this year on “Apollon watered”, we think of what seeds of faith and ministry need in order for growth and new life to happen, not only for what we contribute to nurture seeds, but also in what we receive for new life to grow in and through us. Jesus was planted in the darkness of a tomb for three days. While in that darkness, perhaps he rested, or perhaps God gave him what he needed to prepare him for transformation, or perhaps something coalesced in him so that he could burst forth from the tomb with light and life. Whatever his time in darkness looked like and felt like, it gives us hope that darkness and waiting, death and dormancy, are not the enemy. In the pattern of the Christian life, we lose our grip on what we love: familiarity, certainty, what we think we need - and instead open our hand to receive what is good from God – even if it is only, at least for now, the gathering energy in preparation for change, for

transformation, for the new life that will come... unexpectedly... from darkness.

Yours in Christ,
Bishop Katherine Finegan

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FACEBOOK

It's true! Faith Lutheran Church now has a Facebook page. "Like" us at <http://www.facebook.com/faith3lakes/> and watch the page for updates about what's happening in the life of our faith community.

QUILTING

Please join us every Wednesday at 12:30 pm in the lower level of the church. No experience necessary!

SUNDAY SCHOOL

This year we will gather on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month after worship. During the summer we will drop down to once a month gatherings on the 2nd Sunday. Invite you children, grandchildren, friends, and neighbors to join in the fun!

LIVE STREAMING

Did you know that when you're away, you can watch the entire service as it's delivered LIVE on Sunday morning?

You can! Simply go to our church's website (<https://www.faithlutheran-threelakes.org/>) and click "Click here to watch live streaming during worship (Sundays at 9:00 am)" right on the front page. Just put in a name and hit "Enter Live Service". Streaming will start, which usually happens around 8:55, 9:00 am, give or take a few minutes, so if nothing is happening yet when you start watching, just wait a few minutes. You can also watch a recording of many of our services on our website. Simply go to our church website and click "Click here to view recordings of worship" to watch any past services. It's that easy!

ONLINE GIVING

You can support our mission easier than ever with our donation platform! You can visit faith3lakes.churchtrac.com and contribute securely online.

When utilizing ChurchTrac to electronically donate to Faith Lutheran Three Lakes, please take the following into consideration:

Go to: faith3lakes.churchtrac.com

Go to: "On-Line Giving" click "Give Now"

Enter: "User Name and Password" OR "Create a New Account"

Complete Donation Details: (Prayerfully consider "Clicking" on the "Help Cover the Card Processing Fee")

Thank you for your continued support!

BIBLE STUDY

Bible Study is offered following Sunday church services EVERY Sunday! All are invited and welcome to attend!

No bible required! Please join us for some lively discussions!

Communion Assistant

We are creating a new way to serve in worship! In the past, the reader also served as the communion assistant. However, some folks have expressed interest in serving communion but are not interested in reading.

Moving forward, anyone who would like to be a communion assistant can let the office know! If no communion assistant is assigned, we ask that the reader continue to serve in this way as well.

WORSHIP IN THE WILD

Get your bike and come join us at 2pm on May 10th at the Clear Lake State Forest Campground (8288 Woodruff Rd Woodruff, WI 54568) to partake in friendly conversation, spiritual reflection, and delicious snacks! Questions-contact Matthew Johnson at 715.360.2747 or mjihodag@gmail.com

Food Pantry Drive

For the month of May, we will be collecting supplies for the food pantry. A list of needs will be provided.

Items can be dropped off at church.

BAPTISMS WE REMEMBER THIS MONTH

Christ is risen! He is risen indeed, Hallelujah! Easter is not all we have to celebrate. We also rejoice at the gift of Pentecost; The gift of the Holy Spirit. The spirit is the gift which binds us as people of God. The spirit calls us to faith, strengthens our faith, and renews our faith. Remembering our baptism is remembering the work of the holy spirits!

During the week ahead, remember the work of the Holy Spirit in your life. At the same time, remember others who have a baptismal anniversary this month.

8th Jacque Deitz and Marshall Rawoens

9th Hunter St. Louis and Linda Fowels

19th Peyton Erikson

24th Hannah Peterson

26th Kathy Gilbertson and Kari Volk

29th Kallie Volk

Monthly Attendance

Year: 2025

Month: March

of Services: 6

Average: 22

Average online: 32

Year: 2025

Month: April

of Services: 7

Average: 54

Average online: 39

IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

THOSE STRUGGLING WITH ILLNESS, PAIN, LOSS OF HEALTH IN MIND, BODY, AND SPIRIT:

Kyle Smith, Paul Kragh, Ollie DeMuth, Megan Schiller, Ann Woelfel, Duane and Colleen Bonack, Rick Gensler, Sr., Ruth Sammetinger, Beth Schomisch, Jim Stroschein, Kris Tenges, Myrna Stroschein, Heidi Lulloff, Olivia, Maggie Servant, Delores Rutherford, Rich Collins, Bob Buss, Eric Swanson, and Diane Lulloff.

ALL THOSE WHO ARE ANXIOUS AND WORRIED ABOUT MANY THINGS

OUR CHURCH MINISTRIES

Congregation Council

Board of Worship Life (BOWL)

Board of Outreach

Board of Trustees

Marywood Franciscan Spirituality Center

OUR PARTNERS IN THE GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST, INCLUDING

St. Theresa's Roman Catholic Church

Three Lakes Evangelical Free Church

Grace Lutheran Church

OUR SYNOD, THE NORTHERN GREAT LAKES SYNOD OF THE ELCA, AND ITS CONGREGATIONS. OUR COMPANION SYNOD, THE EASTERN AND COASTAL DIOCESE OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN TANZANIA, AND ITS CONGREGATIONS

Treasurer's Report

	Start of Fiscal	2024 - 2025	Beginning Bal	\$682.71
Month	Donations	Expenses	Monthly Net	Yr To Date
Sept	\$8,088.70	\$10,107.39	-\$2,018.69	-\$1,335.98
Oct	\$7,214.10	\$8,662.22	-\$1,448.12	-\$2,784.10
Nov	\$5,910.15	\$9,109.48	-\$3,199.33	-\$5,983.43
Dec	\$20,399.40	\$9,389.96	\$11,009.44	\$5,026.01
Jan	\$8,423.45	\$9,459.45	-\$1,036.00	\$3,990.01
Feb	\$7,194.46	\$9,529.85	-\$2,335.39	\$1,654.62
Mar	\$7,310.65	\$11,720.10	-\$4,409.45	-\$2,754.83

Stewardship Calander

May 2025

	<u>5/4/25</u>	<u>5/11/25</u>	<u>5/18/25</u>	<u>5/25/25</u>
<u>Reader</u>	Johnathon Coggins	Robin Peterson	Karen Meyer	Linda Swanson
<u>Communion Assistant</u>	Johnathon Coggins	Robin Peterson	Karen Meyer	Vickie Johnson
<u>Greeter</u>	Amy Davis & Debby Carlson	Amy Davis & Debby Carlson	Jan Harris	Tom and Miriam Bredesen
<u>Music</u>	Betty Roth	Rhonda Buss	Rhonda Buss	Rhonda Buss
<u>Video</u>	Gretchen Dobbins	Dillon Ford	Dillon Ford	Dillon Ford

May 2025

SUN.	MON.	TUES.	WED.	THURS.	FRI.	SAT.
				1	2	3
4 9:00 am Holy Communion Fellowship/ Bible Study	5	6	7 12:30 pm Quilting	8	9	10 Worship in the Wild 2:00 pm Clear Lake State Forest Campground
11 9:00 am Holy Communion Bible Study/ Sunday School	12	13 6:15 pm Board Meetings 7:00 pm Council Meeting	14 12:30 pm Quilting	15	16	17
18 9:00am Holy Communion Bible Study	19	20	21 12:30 pm Quilting	22	23	24
25 9:00 am Holy Communion Bible Study/ Sunday School	26	27	28 12:30 pm Quilting	29	30	31



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Faith Lutheran Church

P.O. Box 436

Three Lakes, WI 54562

WORKING TO SPREAD THE GOSPEL HERE AND THROUGHOUT THE WORLD!

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

A member of the Northern Great Lakes Synod
of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America

P.O. Box 436

6995 U.S. Highway 45 South

Three Lakes, WI 54562

Church Office: 715-546-2770

Office Hours:

Monday/Wednesday/Friday

2:30 pm – 5:30 pm

Pastor Catie's Office Hours:

Mondays at Mugs 9:00am – 12pm

Tuesday: 9:00am – 12pm

Wednesday: 9:00am – 12pm

Thursday: 9:00am – 12pm

WEEKLY WORSHIP

Sunday Morning – 9:00 am

VISIT US ON THE WEB

<https://www.faithlutheran-threelakes.org>

VISIT US ON FACEBOOK

<https://www.facebook.com/faith3lakes>

STAFF

Office Administrator: Connor Hanneman
office6995@gmail.com

Pastor: Reverend Catie Ford
pastorcatieford@gmail.com
Work Phone: 715-600-3980

Organist: Rhonda Buss
Custodian: Sara Palubicki

