



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

FAITH'S FOUNDATIONS

July 2025

FROM PASTOR CATIE

Every summer I tell myself that things will slow down. That there will be time for rest. And every summer I find that time simply flies by. There is always something going on! This is true in our church community and in our individual lives.

Summer is full of seasonal activities, traveling, hosting, and festivities. It is easy for us to constantly be on the go and before we know it summer is gone. I mean we are already July!

While I hope you will continue to join us for all the fun we will be having at church through things like Day Camp, baking communion bread, outdoor worship, and many others. I also hope that you can find some time this summer to slow down and find rest-even if it's just for a moment.

I recently found a blessing that speaks to just this idea. Maybe it can be the moment of rest you need or a good reminder to find peace.

The Lives We Actually Have: 100 Blessings for Imperfect Days

by Kate Bowler and Jessica Richie

For a peaceful day or night

"Light the way, God.

Bring us to that place of rest.

Rest from the world outside,
 and the one inside.

Rest from our prickling fears
 and obsessive thoughts. Bring us peace, God,
 enough for this moment.

Enough to quiet the questions with no answers.

And, while you're at it,
 pencil us in for tomorrow, too."

Peace,
 Pastor Catie

FROM THE PRESIDENT

May we always find our safety and joy in the Lord. And may we recognize God's compassion and deliverance for us and live our lives to inspire others to turn to God's love. These thoughts come from the Psalms read the last two Sundays. It took me a while to understand and appreciate what the Psalms do for us and how they fit into our lives. We are reminded that our personal experiences of God's intervention and mercy are not just

for our benefit but should be shared with others. In this way we may strengthen and encourage the faith of others. I don't have to look very hard to see God's love coming through many of the people in our congregation here at Faith. It may be intentional or instinctive but I certainly hope it continues.

We are entering a very busy part of the year and hopefully you will find ways to help wherever help is needed. And with the approaching maternity leave of Pastor Catie there are many tasks that need to be taken over by others. The Church Council has approved eight weeks of maternity leave. Pastor Catie has graciously been making lists for each board to remind us of the many things that need attention. In many ways (not just the arrival of a wonderful blessing in the form of a baby) I think this will be very good

for all of us. We all need to pitch in and help. Be on the lookout for ways you can step up and help.

The Council continues the work of our congregation and has several big items that will be needing their attention in the coming months. We will approach some of you to serve on an audit committee, the furnace/boiler for the church may need some work, and some mundane issues such as trash pickup needs discussion. As you can see not all the work of the council is glamorous. But if you have any questions or concerns please approach a member of the Church Council.

Sincerely,
 Robin Peterson

FROM THE BISHOP

Dear People of the Northern Great Lakes Synod, Did you know that your Synod Council met in retreat at Fortune Lake Camp on June 6-7? I share with you my gratitude for these leaders whom you have raised up from your conferences. They commit to meeting at least quarterly to focus on the work that we do together as a synod.

At this retreat, we reviewed the structure, finances, purpose, and mission of the Northern Great Lakes Synod. Our time together included information about our Endowment Ministry, the evolution of ELCA Social Statements and Social Messages, the work of the Commission for a Renewed Lutheran Church, a tutorial on how to read the NGLS financial statements, review of a "Leaving a Legacy" resource and consideration of how each committee, task force, and team furthers the purpose of our NGLS mission – to equip the Saints for ministry. Included in this Northern Light are some papers for your own information:

- A Synod Map
- A chart of how each group relates to each other. Note that the "Synod Assembly" is the highest governing authority.

- A list and description of each committee currently active in our synod.

I invite you to consult the map and see what conference you are in and review the committee list and see if serving on any committee interests you. We owe a debt of gratitude to all those who invest themselves in synod-wide efforts as this is a different kind of work than congregational ministry. Serving on a synod committee, team, or task force requires a shift in perspective from a congregational view to a synod-wide lens, which also includes who we are in partnership with the greater ELCA church body. For this work, members of synod committees, at the very least, consider the following:

- Travel distance and cost. There is an effort to offer synod-wide events as centrally as possible, with the exception of Fortune Lake which is more than a four-hour drive for those at the eastern edge of our synod. Interestingly, it was noted on our Synod assembly evaluations that having the opening worship at Bethel in Ishpeming increased the driving distance by 30 minutes. However, it was not noted that this also decreased the driving distance for half of our synod assembly attendees coming from the south.
- We are a synod in two time zones. As we consider events and meetings, they cannot start too early for our CT attendees, nor end too late for our ET attendees. The synod office has two clocks in the conference room, so we are always mindful of our whole synod.
- We are a synod in two states. This was never more painfully obvious than during Covid, when governors were issuing executive orders that did not often agree with each other and pastors were grateful for the interpretive lens of the synod office. This also has a bearing on the efforts of LSS, who are more familiar with Wisconsin granting streams than the funding structures of Michigan. We are working on that.

While our distances feel like a barrier, know that our challenges are nothing like the Central States Synod or the Southwestern Synod that cover three or four states and the bishop has to regularly get on a plane to provide pulpit supply. So the good news is, it could be worse. At the Synod Council retreat, we identified a current challenge that we will intentionally strive to meet, and that is the challenge of Communications. How does one communicate with 18,000 Northern Great Lakes Synod Lutherans over so many square miles? Even this newsletter will only reach those who receive it or find it on our website. Our goals to meet the challenges of communication across the synod include:

- Stressing the responsibility of pastors and the role of congregational newsletter editors to lift up the work of the NGLS and the ELCA. Know that any article posted on our synod website can be reprinted in your paper or electronic newsletter.
- Encouraging more people to sign up for the E-Notes Newsletter, open it up when it comes, and read it.
- Create and distribute short videos that can be shared before worship, at council meetings, at annual congregational meetings, and at fall conference gatherings.
- Encouraging participation of congregations to invite and welcome a Mission Interpreter this Fall whose main job is to say, "Thank you." And along with this, to recruit Mission Interpreters who are provided a list of talking points celebrating each congregation's efforts and partnership.

As we strive to educate the whole synod community as to our work together and how it functions, I encourage you to do your part. Know that Synod leadership and all the members of every committee, team and task force is working to equip the Saints and Sinners of the NGLS for ministry. We seek to provide resources, connectedness, clarity, education, hope and inspiration as together we proclaim the love of God in Christ Jesus and are sent into the world to make a difference in His name.

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 summer we will gather on the second Sunday of each month for Sunday school. Invite your 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.

DAY CAMP

Join Faith Lutheran Church and staff from Fortune Lake Bible Camp for day camp. We will have bible study games, crafts, outdoor activities, and singing! Day camp will run July 7 – 10, 9am to 3pm. It is for children entering first through sixth grade. Invite your kids, grandkids, and neighbors. All are welcome. Registration information is coming soon.

Thank you/Welcome

A big thank you to Connor for his time in the office. We wish him the best as he transfers to Steven's Point. With this in mind, our new office administrator begins this month. Please welcome Ann Carlson to the office!

Communion Bread Baking

Want to learn how to make communion bread? Join Pastor Catie and learn all the tips and tricks to making this delicious bread. Sign up on the bulletin board for a baking session on Tuesday July 15th at 10 am or Monday August 11th at 2 pm.

Camp Pastor

Pastor Catie will be at Fortune Lake from July 20th- 25th. She will head to camp after worship on Sunday to assist them by being an on-sight Pastor for the week. Cell phone service/Wi-Fi are hard to find at camp, so the best way to reach her in case of a pastoral emergency is by calling the camp office at 906-214-2267.

Vacation

Pastor Catie will be on vacation July 27th-31st. Pastor Norm Peterson will lead worship on the 27th.

BAPTISMS WE REMEMBER THIS MONTH

We thank God for the beauty of the summer! We thank God for the beauty of life, and the gift of eternal life given to us through our savior. We thank God for our baptisms, and we pray for those who have baptismal anniversaries we celebrate this month.

3rd Aiden Ward

3rd Addalynn Kliss

5th Henry Anselmo

7th Kortnie Volk

14th Josie Fowles

16th Karlie Volk

28th Alexander Gensler

Also Remember: Pat Radtke, Bob Frish, Samantha Huml, and Greg Kliss

Monthly Attendance

Year: 2025

Month: May

of Services: 4

Average: 36

Average online: 16

Year: 2025

Month: June

of Services: 5

Average: 36

Average online: 25

IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

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

Ann Woelfel, Duane and Colleen Bonack, Rick Gensler, Sr., Ruth Sammetinger, Beth Schomisch, Jim Stroschein, Kris Tenges, Myrna Stroschein, Heidi Lulloff, Maggie Servant, Diane Passehl, Jackie Sunn, and Bill Rowden.

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
CONGREGATIO**

Treasurer's Report

	Start of Fiscal	Year 2024 - 2025	Beginning Bal	\$682.71
Month	Donations	Expenses	Monthly Net	Fiscal 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
Apr	\$17,421.06	\$7,720.33	\$9,700.73	\$6,945.90
May	\$10,543.07	\$9,858.25	\$684.82	\$7,630.72

Stewardship Calander

July 2025

	<u>7/6/25</u>	<u>7/13/25</u>	<u>7/20/25</u>	<u>7/27/25</u>
<u>Reader</u>	Karen Meyer	Jan Haris	Miriam Bredesen	Phoebe Pettingell
<u>Communion Assistant</u>	Karen Meyer	Jan Haris	Miriam Bredesen	Phoebe Pettingell
<u>Greeter</u>	Linda Fowles	Chris & Jacque Deidt	Tom and Miriam Bredesen	Amy Davis & Debby Carlson
<u>Music</u>	Rhonda Buss	Mark Ruff	Mark Ruff	Rhonda Buss
<u>Video</u>	Dillon Ford	Dillon Ford	Dillon Ford	Brad Bisnette

July 2025

SUN.	MON.	TUES.	WED.	THURS.	FRI.	SAT.
		1	2 12:30 pm Quilting	3	4	5
6 9:00 am Holy Communion Fellowship/ Bible Study	7 Day Camp 9:00 am – 3:00 pm	8 Day Camp 9:00 am – 3:00 pm Board Meetings 6:15 pm Council Meeting 7:00 pm	9 Day Camp 9:00 am – 3:00 pm	10 Day Camp 9:00 am – 3:00 pm	11	12
13 9:00 am Holy Communion Bible Study/ Sunday School	14	15 Communion Bread Baking 10:00 am	16 12:30 pm Quilting	17	18	19
20 9:00am Holy Communion Bible Study	21	22	23 12:30 pm Quilting	24	25	26
27 9:00 am Holy Communion Bible Study	28	29	30 12:30 pm Quilting	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

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/
Ann Carlson
office6995@gmail.com

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

Organist: Rhonda Buss
Custodian: Sara Palubicki



Faith Lutheran Church
Est. 1987