



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

FAITH'S FOUNDATIONS

August 2025

FROM PASTOR CATIE

"I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth; do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert."

-Isaiah 43:19

As Dillon and I take care of final preparations for our little one, I am thinking of all the new things that are to come. At the end of this month, I will transition to being at home and hopefully waiting for baby's arrival. At this time, you too may be asked to do new things!

You will welcome different folks into our worship space each week. You will prepare communion and set the altar. You will open the church building. You will visit the homebound. You will hold meetings and do God's work.

While some of this will indeed be new, some of it will be ministry as usual at Faith. I encourage you to take time this month to think about how you may be called to help at church in new ways during this time. Now is a great time to think about this because I will be around if you have any questions! I look forward to chatting with people this month about any questions you may have as we plan for continued ministry during my leave.

Peace,
 Pastor Catie

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Usually, I like to start each month with a thought from some daily devotion or a part of Pastor Catie's sermons that jumped out at me. And this month is really not that much different even though I wanted to jump right in on the needs of our church. When we hear the familiar story about Martha and Mary, we are often asked to decide who we are more like, Martha and Mary. I liked Pastor Catie's thoughts during her sermon, coming to the conclusion that sometimes we are like Martha and sometimes we are like Mary. We really need to have more Marthas in order to do all the things necessary to have our church run smoothly and effectively, with care taken so we may have time to also be Mary. Along with the story of Mary and Martha we read Psalm 15. Our character really matters. And Paul's letter to the Colossians reminds us that what we say and do matters. It matters because it impacts how people view us and so

can therefore impact their relationship with God. Taken together, the lessons for July 20th hopefully get us ready to look over all the many openings we have that need someone to fill in order to have our church run smoothly and effectively. Besides wanting to add to each of our Boards, not just replacing those that have terms that are up, we would like to have up to four people willing to teach Sunday School and at least four people that could count money on a rotational basis. These are just some of the many positions that would help run the church. It would be great if every one of us could find our niche where we could comfortably serve, but there may be a need for us to wear more than one hat and get out of our comfort zone until we gain confidence as time goes by. Sometime this month we need to get a list out of all the potential openings we have here at Faith.

Have you noticed the new welcome sign at the driveway entrance of the church? Thank you to Brad Bisnette for his work on this project. There is much more that can be done with this type of sign we have now to draw attention to our location. Stay tuned for ways you may be able to donate to add to this project.

Besides the regular work conducted by the Church Council, a small committee will be meeting to conduct an audit of our Church's finances, as per the Constitution. And late in the month a small committee will be meeting to set the budget for the upcoming fiscal year. We will of course be presenting this new budget to the congregation during our annual meeting, the date which has yet to be determined.

As always if you have any questions or concerns, please bring them to the attention of a member of the church council.

Sincerely,
 Robin Peterson

FROM THE ASSISTANT TO THE BISHOP

"For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another." Romans 12:4-5

Yesterday, I worshipped with the people gathered for the crowning worship of Holy Cross Lutheran Church in Baraga. I recognized the same feelings I have when I attend a funeral of a person I didn't know well. Through the beauty of the liturgy, words spoken, stories and food shared, I came to know them better, even at the ending. Locked in my mind is a grandpa holding a little child, carefully helping her receive the bread and grape juice, body and blood of Christ...the last time in that place, but perhaps the first time around God's expansive table of welcome. I shed tears, for my own loss of not knowing

Holy Cross better; for them, recognizing they hold the deep pain and deep gratitude together; and for the sheer beauty and wonder for how God is still working among us, in the midst of it all.

There is a children's story in Godly Play, that describes time. It invites children to see how stories have beginnings, middles and endings. The children's story goes on to imagine perhaps the timeline is not that finite, and maybe God's time is an infinite circle of beginnings and endings. Yes, in God's eternity there are still endings, but they become beginnings. And even the beginning of something is often so distant from our memory or awareness it seems old. The church year moves in a circle. The sabbath week moves in a circle. The timeline of our own lives and that of our congregations move in a circle, not a finite line.

Paul writes to the earliest Christian communities in the fullest, kinetic time of their life cycle. They were growing, squabbling, singing, worshipping, dining, and learning the way of Jesus together. We don't have the full story of their closing worship, but we do still feel the impact of those early congregations in our own time. Not being a modern scientist or physician, Paul had the brilliant insight to describe the church as a body, a gathering of individual parts, unique and interdependent, for health and vitality.

Congregational Vitality is the beginning, middle, ending and new beginnings of communities. It is a whole cycle that can't really be separated. Someone might be imagining a new beginning of ministry that seeks to faithfully respond to loving God and neighbor in their community. There may be a congregation in a stage of vibrant life recognizing this too will end, and this ministry will give way to a new expression that is still a faithful following of Jesus. Congregations slowing down from a vibrant, kinetic ministry may feel they are nearing the natural completion of this expression of their congregation. We might wonder: How will our neighbors miss this congregation when it ends? What parts of the body are being stretched to stress for the sake of the whole? What DNA in the congregational body is informing ministry, that isn't obvious on the surface? Are the individual parts healthy and growing in a life of faith? How can we move through times of vibrant life, while holding with grace the reality that a Good-Friday-ending and Easter-Sunday-beginning is always before us? These are faithful wonders! These are activating, curious, and faithful questions that draw us closer to one another and God, while also sending us out to encounter our neighbor.

In the grace and peace of Christ,
Rev. Sharolyn Swenson, Director of Evangelical Mission
and Assistant to the Bishop with the Northern Great
Lakes Synod of the ELCA

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.

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 Monday August 11th at 2 pm.

Out of Office

Pastor Catie will be out of office August 25th-31st. Pastor Andrea Fluegel will lead worship on the 31st. For pastoral emergencies please contact Pastor Grant Van Lishout at 715-614-4396.

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.

1st Phyllis Frish
1st Karla Anderson
7th Thomas Kliss
16th Troy Schroeder
16th Sue Harris
17th Briley Dodge
27th Taylor Madl

Also remember: Melissa Madl, Mary Ellyn Williams, Michael Huml, Sonia Dionne and Sue Harris

Monthly Attendance

Year: 2025	Year: 2025
Month: June	Month: July
# of Services: 5	# of Services: 4
Average: 36	Average: 36
Average online: 16	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	\$20,903.40	\$9,893.96	\$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	\$8,020.65	\$11,720.10	-\$3,699.45	-\$2,044.83
Apr	\$17,551.06	\$9,830.73	\$7,720.33	\$5,675.50
May	\$10,543.36	\$9,892.20	\$651.16	\$6,326.66
June	\$6,399.99	\$8,951.19	-\$2,551.20	\$3,775.46
Fiscal YTD Ttls	\$100,249.32	\$97,156.57	\$3,092.75	\$3,775.46

Stewardship Calander

August 2025

	<u>8/3/25</u>	<u>8/10/25</u>	<u>8/17/25</u>	<u>8/24/25</u>	<u>8/31/25</u>
<u>Reader</u>	Linda Swanson	Robin Peterson	Johnaton Coggins	Karen Meyer	Tom Bredesen
<u>Communion Assistant</u>	Vickie Johnson	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
<u>Greeter</u>	N/A	Amy Davis & Debby Carlson	Linda Fowles	N/A	Tom & Miriam Bredesen
<u>Music</u>	Jane Crosson	Jane Crosson	Rhonda Buss	Rhonda Buss	Jane Crosson
<u>Video</u>	Dillon Ford	Dillon Ford	Dillon Ford	Dillon Ford	Gretchen Dobbins & Brad Bisnette
<u>Presiding Minister</u>	Pastor Catie Ford	Pastor Catie Ford	Pastor Catie Ford	Pastor Catie Ford	Pastor Andrea Fluegel

August 2025

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



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



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: 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