



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

FAITH'S FOUNDATIONS

September 2025

FROM PASTOR CATIE

“Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.”
 -James 1:17

Dillon and I are very excited to share that Esther Penelope has arrived! This little one is certainly a gift from God, and we are incredibly thankful. We are adjusting to this new version of life and soaking up all of the baby snuggles! We appreciate all of your thoughts and prayers during this time.

Know that we continue to hold Faith in our prayers as well. I am excited for all the ministry that you will do during our leave. And to hear how God has been at work and providing gifts in this community when we return.

Peace,

Pastor Catie

FROM THE PRESIDENT

After reading Hebrews 11:29-12:2, which would become the second lesson for this past Sunday, I was inspired to go all the way down-state to participate in the special worship service held at North Coon Prairie Church in Newry, Wisconsin as they celebrated 150 years of faith and community. My great-grandparents helped start this church. Great-grandpa donated the land for the first parsonage to be built. My grandparent's farm was only a couple miles away. My grandpa, aunts and uncles, my dad, and many cousins went through Confirmation classes at North Coon Prairie Church. My parents took me there after my birth to be baptized. I was able to visit the graves of these ancestors in the cemetery surrounding the church. They are a part of the “great cloud of witnesses” that surround us as we read about in Hebrews. This trip back to North Coon Prairie Church helped me consider my lineage and the stories of courage that have passed down to me. Travelling from Norway to Wisconsin to start a new life whether by choice or force to eventually being able and willing to help start a church and continuing to praise God. In the booklet printed about the history of North Coon

Prairie Church I read about and saw pictures of the original church, my great-grandpa had helped build, that would eventually burn and the brick church that is still standing today. They have challenges today just as any church does. They are raising funds to replace the windows in their fellowship hall which also holds the Sunday School rooms. Here at Faith, we will be voting on and trying to raise funds to repair and resurface our parking lots. In any challenge that we face it is good to remember the cloud of witnesses that came before us. What did it take to endure all they had to and maintain their hope?

Have you noticed the flag at the entrance to our church? Through the work and dedication of Brad Bisnette we have a very attractive new flag. The trustees have also done some work to make everything more visible for people trying to find us. Now it has come to my attention that Marge and Perry Anderson have donated money to add another flag to the other side of our driveway. In the earlier discussions of adding a flag to replace the one so generously donated by Betty and Larry Roth, we were hoping to attract additional donations to add flags for the various seasons of the church year. That is if people are so inspired to do so.

During a conversation with Pastor Catie, it came out that I was ‘called’ to be the President of this congregation. And after thinking about it I guess I was. I had been thinking that it was just my turn, my time. I am hoping you will feel ‘called’ to serve in some capacity in the coming fiscal year. We have plenty of openings to fill during our upcoming elections during the Annual Meeting. And work that needs to be done by volunteers such as much needed Sunday School teachers and counters to help count the offering. Just to name a few. Many hands make for light work. Or at least lighter. So please consider how you can help.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns please bring them to the attention of one of the members of the Church Council. Thanks.

Sincerely,
 Robin Peterson

FROM THE BISHOP

Dear People of the Northern Great Lakes Synod, Before my sabbatical begins, I have a host of annual medical check-ups that I want to get out of the way before boarding a plane to the other side of the world. While the tests are all routine, they are always accompanied by the question, “How are you today? Any complaints?” And I have to think about it. How AM I? How aware am I of what my body might be trying to tell me? Sure, there are the usual complaints. When I sit for awhile, as in a long car ride, I feel stiff and I might groan a little as I get out of the car. On my morning walk, I might feel a point of pain

in a knee or hip, telling me to slow down or change my stride. If I'm tired already at 9 pm, I hear my body telling me to rest, even though I haven't watched the news yet. What does your body say to you? And when we apply this kind of communication to the body of Christ, what might that look like? I have at least one answer; it looks like the Churchwide Assembly. For one whole week at the end of July and into August, the body of Christ that is the voting members of all of our ELCA synods gathered in Phoenix, Arizona and we communicated. One body communicated with another, "I don't care if it's dry heat, it's still HOT!" and in turn, different parts of the body of Christ communicated to the whole a host of concerns and joys with calls for solidarity, accompaniment, and reconciliation. Paul writes in I Corinthians 12, "For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. ...If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it." While gathered in assembly, we listened to points of pain...from the newly elected bishop of the Lutheran church in Jordan and the Holy Land, from our Jewish siblings, from our Young Adults, from our Indigenous members. And the body responded by adopting a Memorial on Indian Boarding School Remembrance and wearing red to raise awareness of murdered and missing Indigenous women and girls. The body responded by adopting a Memorial that calls for the End of Occupation of Palestine. The body responded by moving the goal for young adult participation on Churchwide committees from 10% to 20%. The body celebrated the strides taken toward greater clarity as we adopted our newest Social Statement: Faith and Civic Life which will be featured among the offerings of our Winter Lifelong Faith Formation classes. We stood in solidarity with AMMPARO at a candlelit vigil and as one body, prayed for peace and welcome for so many fleeing violence and looking for a place of safety. And the body rejoiced at the election of our new presiding bishop, Rev. Yehiel Curry and a new Churchwide secretary, Rev. Cecee Mills. I have known Bishop Curry as a colleague in Region 5 for several years. He most recently also served as the Chair of the Conference of Bishops. Bishop Curry is financially astute, has gifts for leadership, is blessed with a pastor's heart, is a powerful preacher, and I have every hope and confidence that he will be a blessing to the body of Christ that is the ELCA. I encourage you to watch the interviews that have been posted on the NGLS and ELCA Facebook pages. Listening to the whole body takes intention. Responding to the needs of the body takes communication. There may well be actions taken at the churchwide assembly that for you, are too quick a pace or too slow for your stride. There may still be points of pain that you are experiencing that have not yet been addressed. For your own body, and for the body of Christ that is our ELCA Church, I believe we are all doing the best that we can, to work towards health and wholeness. I am so very glad

to be a part of the body of Christ that is the Northern Great Lakes Synod. I returned home from Phoenix all the more grateful for trees and grass, for dewy mornings and evening rain. And I am grateful for who we are in relationship with each other, whatever your pace, whatever the length of your stride, as we walk together in faith.

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.

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 is on maternity leave. For pastoral emergencies please contact Pastor Grant Van Lishout at 715-614-4396.

BAPTISMS WE REMEMBER THIS MONTH

Remember members and friends of Faith who celebrate baptismal anniversaries this month.

5th Sis Tenges

6th Pierson Rawoens

9th Jenna Erikson & Lily Medeiros Harris

15th Tom Bredesen

19th Connie Lyons

23rd Willow Schroeder

24th Doe Muench

26th Logan Erikson

27th Monte James

Also Remember: Corwin Schroeder

Monthly Attendance

Year: 2025

Month: July

of Services: 4

Average: 36

Average online: 25

Year: 2025

Month: August

of Services: 5

Average: 31

Average online: 15

IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

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

Marge Czernicki, 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

Month/YTD	Donations	Expenses	Monthly Net	Fiscal Yr To Date
			Beg Bal >>	682.71
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	\$8,236.62	\$8,951.19	-\$714.57	\$5,612.09
July	\$6,009.01	\$11,660.06	-\$5,651.05	-\$38.96
Aug	\$9,046.45	\$10,770.73	-\$1,724.28	-\$1,763.24
Fiscal YTD Ttls	\$117,141.41	\$119,587.36	-\$2,445.95	-\$1,763.24
				Includes Beg Bal

Stewardship Calander

September 2025

	<u>9/7</u>	<u>9/14</u>	<u>9/21</u>	<u>9/28</u>
<u>Reader</u>	Linda Swanson	Jan Harris	Phoebe Pettingel	Miriam Bredesen
<u>Communion Assistant</u>	Vickie Johnson	Jan Harris	Phoebe Pettingel	Miriam Bredesen
<u>Greeter</u>	Linda Fowles	Jan Harris	Amy Davis & Debby Carlson	Tom & Miriam Bredesen
<u>Music</u>	Rhonda Buss	Rhonda Buss	Rhonda Buss	Rhonda Buss
<u>Video</u>	Gretchen Dobbins	Brad Bisnette	Gretchen Dobbins	Brad Bisnette
<u>Presiding Minister</u>	Matthew Johnson	Pastor Paul Heykes	Bishop Katherine Finegan	Pastor Paul Heykes

September 2025

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



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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:

Tuesday/Wednesday

1:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Pastor Catie's Office Hours:

On maternity leave.

Contact Pastor Grant Van Lishout

At 715-614-3980 for pastoral emergencies.

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