



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

FAITH'S FOUNDATIONS

October 2025

FROM PASTOR CATIE

[This space vacant until Pastor Catie returns from maternity leave]

FROM THE (outgoing) PRESIDENT

Usually, I would comment on some past daily devotion or something that caught my eye in the past, but this month what has caught my eye is the upcoming lessons that will be read the Sunday of October 5th. When I first looked at the lessons, I thought they were just perfect for the times we are going through. The Old Testament lesson asks why we are surrounded by violence and made to look at evildoings. Then the Psalm reminds us to wait with patience and says to find safe pastures and don't be provoked or give into anger or rage. And then the New Testament lesson has us try to remember and keep the faith that our ancestors tried to hand down to us. Continue to do good wherever and whenever we can. Good stuff to listen to during the worship service, meditate on, and then put into practice in our lives.

At the Annual Meeting, there were some things I may have touched on but didn't go into detail. I remember back when I was still teaching, and the school district would ask what we thought were the top three assets we had as a district. I would always start with the beautiful facilities we had for students to attend and for teachers to teach in. Then I would mention the tremendous people, with their talents, that worked in the district. All the way from the bus drivers and custodians to the secretaries, paras, and the teachers. What great assets these people were. I feel the same about our church.

Only I don't think of the actual church building or parsonage as our number one asset. I think the people are the absolute best asset we have here at Faith. Starting with our wonderful Pastor we have called, the very talented office manager, our hard-working custodian, and all the members who carry on the work needed for our congregation.

We have a great Treasurer and Financial Secretaries. The people who have been working on Livestreaming and the Power Point for Services are greatly appreciated.

I know I can't do what they are doing. I am so thankful for the talented Organist we have and the special music that enriches our services. There are so many people that do the many things, great and small, that make Faith a special place for us and any visitors we may have on a given Sunday. So, as we transition to new people on Council and in some positions here at Faith, I can safely say that things are in pretty good shape. But of course, I say that knowing that there are many things that still need to be planned for and carried out. I think we are in good hands looking at the people in the Boards and on Council with Amy Davis leading the way.

Sincerely,
 Robin Peterson

FROM GUEST COLUMNIST

Thimbleberry Generosity A couple of Sundays ago I experienced yet another congregational potluck following worship that continues to confirm I have discovered a low-key treasure in our synod. Yes, this sounds cliché. It even may wreak of Lutheran potluck stereotypes. But there is something wondrous about generosity spread out on six-foot tables across the UP of Michigan and northern Wisconsin around 11:30am on a Sunday morning. Theological reflection becomes clearer when discussed with friends and colleagues. On this particular Sunday, I had the blessing to be worshipping with two congregations, kickingoff together their shared Summer Camp at the downtown pavilion of their town. As most folks were loading their empty Pyrex dishes back into the car and driving away, the pastors of the two congregations and I stood in a kind of huddle and reflecting on the morning. Off-handedly I mentioned my discovery of the most divine food labeled "freshly caught and smoked salmon". Now since moving here from Texas, I have delighted in trying new things. But this bite was the most delicious thing...among ridiculously delicious things. My colleagues both looked surprised at its mention... "What? Smoked salmon? Here? Today?" One lamenting they had missed it, but the lament gave way to story and wonder. The three of us stood in our huddle. The one missing the divine fish opportunity said, "These people are amazing. When we first moved here, and were out on a neighborhood walk, a neighbor came out to the curb to give us a freshly caught and frozen salmon." The other pastor had a similar exclamation, "During Ice fishing season one of our members leaned into my ear when he came up for communion, and said 'I left some walleye in the fridge in the kitchen'." And not to let their exuberance stand alone, I told them of just the week prior, members of a church in the Keweenaw showed me how to recognize thimbleberries, their favorite patch, and I left with a jar of Thimbleberry jam. Ridiculous generosity. To the giver, it likely feels like a tiny thing...just barely filling a thimble...but receivers know...it is overflowing abundance. Because it is

love...for a newcomer, for the hope of connection, for the delight of what God has given us in creation, for investing in our relationships together. It is not a transaction, but a celebration. It is easy to see God's abundant generosity in the wild gifts of land and water: salmon, whitefish, wild rice, berries, moss, ferns, agates, sunsets. We delight like children and share out of our celebratory exuberance, so others may experience it too. And if we widen our lens, we might see our whole economic community life is based on gathering God's gifts through the earth, the trees above the ground and the ore below, mixing in our own time and care, to give back to community and God. We are in a season of the Gospel of Luke in which Jesus paints the picture of a kingdom that is a place you could go to your friend's house in the middle of the night and receive bread, a master and servant preparing the meal for one another together, banqueting with all, finding the lost coin in the dirt floor...our hearts and treasure, bound-up together. The spiritual practice of generosity is something you already know. It delights and celebrates what God has done and is doing, and lets us be a part of its re-creation toward something new that looks like community, justice, and love. The offertory is not a song of transaction and receipt, but a song of joy for thimbleberries and smoked salmon and God's gifts shared in love and hope.

Shalom+ Pastor Sharolyn Swanson

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

Sunday school is based on availability of teachers. Please check the bulletin board for the most accurate schedule. 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.

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.

1st Tammy Schroeder

5th Patrick Zutavern

6th Jan Lenderhaus

8th Betty Roth

9th Joyce Hagland & Ty Larson

11th Dora James

13th Bailee Bauknecht

18th Katelyn Bredesen

23rd Maria Madl

28th Traeton Fogerty

Also Remember: Corwin Schroeder (*October's were listed for September – so September's will be listed for October.)

Monthly Attendance

Year: 2025	Year: 2025
Month: August	Month: September
# of Services: 5	# of Services: 4
Average: 31	Average: 30
Average online: 15	Average online: 18

IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

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

Trudy Klauk, Vickie Ganske, Becky Effa, Ken Moak, Karen Hren, Marge Czernicki, Ann Woelfel, Duane Bonack, Rick Gensler Sr., Ruth Sammetinger, Beth Schomisch, Jim Stroschein, Kris Tenges, Myrna Stroschein, Heidi Lulloff, Maggie Servant, Dianne Passehl, Nancy Hartman, 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

(Not available for this month's newsletter)

Stewardship Calander

September 2025

	<u>10/5</u>	<u>10/12</u>	<u>10/19</u>	<u>10/26</u>
<u>Reader</u>	Robin Peterson	Jan Harris	Karen Meyer	Phoebe Pettengell
<u>Communion Assistant</u>	Robin Peterson	Jan Harris	Karen Meyer	Phoebe Pettengell
<u>Greeter</u>	Jan Harris	Amy Davis & Debby Carlson	Chris & Jacque Deditz	Amy Davis & Debby Carlson
<u>Music</u>	Rhonda Buss	Rhonda Buss	Rhonda Buss	Rhonda Buss
<u>Video</u>	Brad Bisnette	Gretchen Dobbins	Brad Bisnette	Gretchen Dobbins
<u>Presiding Minister</u>	Pastor Andrea Fluegel	Pastor Sharolyn Swenson	Donna Ahlberg	Pastor Catie Returns!

October 2025

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

Tuesday/Wednesday

1:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Pastor Catie's Office Hours:

On maternity leave thru Oct 24

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