



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

FAITH'S FOUNDATIONS

November 2025

FROM PASTOR CATIE

“Give thanks in all circumstances, for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.”
 -1 Thessalonians 5:18

Thanksgiving comes around each year whether we are ready for it or not. As our lives and traditions change, the holiday remains. I have seen this in my family over the years. While the people around the table or the location may have changed, still we gather to give thanks and spend time with family and friends.

This year there is much to be thankful for at Faith. We have kicked off another financial year with our annual meeting where we reviewed the wonderful work we have done and planned and dreamed for the future. We have offered new opportunities for families in puppet shows and Day Camp.

We've given back to our community with fish fries, pie sales, collection drives, and other gifts. We celebrated members of all ages through a new member Sunday, a baptism, and confirmation Sunday.

As we prepare ourselves for the holiday season this year, may we remember to slow down and think about what we are thankful for. What at Faith are you thankful for? What in your personal life?

May we spread a little extra joy this time of year by getting together and sharing what we are thankful for with one another.

Peace,
 Pastor Catie

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hello Faith Lutheran,

I have received a suggestion from a few members in our congregation to give updates on the council meetings. On the second Tuesday of each month our council goes over past meeting minutes, old business and new business. I think the suggestion of providing an update

to our members who are not involved in council is one worth exploring.

Please understand that I will only be providing updates on the council meetings once the council has approved the minutes at the monthly meeting. This means that the updates will be one month behind in the newsletters. I am open to suggestions and look forward to receiving feedback.

Here is the overall report for the September 2025 council meeting.

Treasurer: Reports were submitted for the annual meeting, an audit was completed and suggestions will be reviewed in the near future.

BOWL: Fellowship will follow service on the first Sunday in October, Blessing of the quilts will be the same day.

Outreach: Fish fry scheduled for September 12th looking forward to a great event, Weekend backpack program is now up to 51 students participating.

Education: Sunday school sessions are going well – still looking for assistance and coverage (sign up on the bulletin board), September 28 brunch for confirmation students with families and prayer partners, October 28 is confirmation.

Trustees: Boilers will be getting serviced on October 7. Woodpecker strips have been successful – they have moved closer to the office and touch ups have been made on damaged spots, picnic tables were sealed, side door was painted and the brush by the sign was cleared.

Thank you in advance for any feedback.

Peace,
 Amy Davis

FROM THE BISHOP

Dear People of the Northern Great Lakes Synod,

As I make final preparations to leave on sabbatical, I feel it keenly that even if my desk will be clear, there is much in the world that remains messy. As people of faith, we are being challenged in new ways that we may feel ill-equipped to handle.

I see, and feel with increasing pressure, the world trying to divide us and tear us apart. I encourage you to make your community of faith, that is, the body of Christ which you help to animate, your priority. Political divisions are real, but the demonization of those who disagree with you has been brought to a new level. Do not lump people together and join the bandwagon that would

declare them to be “of the devil.” As we look at our world through the lens of the open tomb, we cannot look at another and not see someone for whom Jesus died. This includes MAGA, the immigrant, the liberal, the refugee, the transgender individual, those on the other side of the political aisle, your neighbor, and those who get their news from only one source. In times of disaster or civil unrest, you will need your neighbor and your community of faith to meet the challenges.

Remember the flooding in the Copper Country not so long ago? And how the larger community rallied to provide water and supplies to those impacted? Or the ice storm that knocked out power to so many for too long? With winter around the corner, you may well need the help of the neighbor you disagree with to plow your driveway. With troubles always around the corner, you may well need the pastor whose sermon and leadership you criticized to proclaim a word of hope and hold your hand in comfort. Now is not the time to be burning bridges, even as we, each of us, are called to work and advocate for justice.

Write your congressional representative and extend grace to your disagreeable neighbor. Carry signs in protest and forgive those you consider misinformed. Be generous in your giving to those organizations that are on the ground, feeding the hungry, advocating for the immigrant, welcoming the stranger. Try not to be quick to criticize, to judge, to respond in anger or indignation. These are emotionally provoking times which make people vulnerable to manipulation and impulsive actions. Keeping a level head allows for creative solutions and conversations that deepen understanding, even as common ground may still be elusive.

As I write this, common ground regarding immigration policies continues to elude all of us. By the time you read this, our own Pastor Rita Chirala and her son will have left her congregation, and the country, despite our best efforts. Even as immigrants seek to follow good law and order, the system is designed to fail them. And more than a few U.S. citizens have been swept up unlawfully. Even if our own Pastor Rita were to be able to fulfill all righteousness per a system that is stacked against her, I have no confidence, given a Supreme Court’s decision that allows for racial profiling, that she and her son would be safe, even if citizenship were secured.

I call out this gross injustice. It is indefensible that people of color should be afraid every day of being arrested on suspicion of being an illegal immigrant, that they should have to carry a copy of their passport to prove citizenship should the arresting agent even take the time to check. Or that immigrants who are striving to “follow the rules” and show up for their scheduled court date are summarily deported, and not necessarily to their country of origin.

I am grateful to our Canadian partners that a call has been secured for Pastor Rita so that she has a livelihood, and I continue to pray that the Canadian immigration lawyer will be able to secure the necessary visa in time. The work of providing comfort and support to Faith, Sault and to Pastor Rita’s colleagues and friends continues as they have suffered this abrupt separation even as it was necessary to keep Pastor Rita and her son safe.

I do not believe extending grace to people with whom we disagree means acquiescing to systems that are unjust. I pray for affection that transcends political division, for unified mission and purpose that binds us together in the face of all that tries to divide us, and for local community interdependence that is more reliable, generous, and available than government support.

I leave you, for now, with this blessing: The God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus. Amen

The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen

The God of all grace + bless you now and forever. Amen.

(ELW, Service of the Word, p. 221)

Yours in Christ,
Bishop Katherine Finegan

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OUT OF THE OFFICE – Pastor Catie will be out away Nov 17 – 26 to lead a conference and visit family.

THANKSGIVING - The office will be closed Nov 27th for Thanksgiving.

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 and consider signing up to teach a Sunday or two. 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.

BAPTISMS WE REMEMBER THIS MONTH

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

15th Stephen Gensler

16th Lee Klauk

26th Brielle Bisnette

28th Kayla Bisnette

Also remember: Brian Erikson and Jim Nykolayko

MONTHLY ATTENDANCE

Year: 2025
Month: September
of Services: 4
Average: 30
Average online: 18

Year: 2025
Month: October
of Services: 4
Average: 35
Average online: 16

IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

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

Verla Stange, 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

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 CONGREGATION

Treasurer's Report

Month/YTD	Donations	Expenses	Monthly Net	Fiscal Yr To Date
Sept	\$8,132.91	\$9,419.31	-\$1,286.40	-\$1,286.40
Oct			\$0.00	-\$1,286.40
Nov			\$0.00	-\$1,286.40
Dec			\$0.00	-\$1,286.40
Jan			\$0.00	-\$1,286.40
Feb			\$0.00	-\$1,286.40
Mar			\$0.00	-\$1,286.40
Apr			\$0.00	-\$1,286.40
May			\$0.00	-\$1,286.40
June			\$0.00	-\$1,286.40
July			\$0.00	-\$1,286.40
Aug			\$0.00	-\$1,286.40
Fiscal YTD TtIs	\$8,132.91	\$9,419.31	-\$1,286.40	

Stewardship Calander

November 2025

	<u>11/2</u>	<u>11/9</u>	<u>11/16</u>	<u>11/23</u>	<u>11/30</u>
<u>Reader</u>	Phoebe Pettingell	Jan Harris	Robin Peterson	Phoebe Pettingell	Karen Meyer
<u>Communion Assistant</u>	Phoebe Pettingell	Jan Harris	Robin Peterson	Vickie Johnson	Karen Meyer
<u>Greeter</u>	N/A	Jan Harris	Amy Davis & Debby Carlson	Chris & Jacque Deditz	Amy Davis & Debby Carlson
<u>Music</u>	Jane Crosson	Val Snedden	Rhonda Buss	Rhonda Buss	Rhonda Buss
<u>Video</u>	Gretchen Dobbins	Brad Bisnette	Gretchen Dobbins	Brad Bisnette	Gretchen Dobbins
<u>Pulpit Supply</u>	N/A	N/A	N/A	Nancy Heykes	N/A

November 2025

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



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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:

Mon/Thur 10:00 am – 1:00 pm

Tue/Wed 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm

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