



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

FAITH'S FOUNDATIONS

June 2026

FROM PASTOR CATIE

As we move from Pentecost into the season after Pentecost, I find myself sitting with the image of flames. Fire is often used as a representation of the Holy Spirit. Nine times out of ten when I think about fires, I think of camp. Most evenings were wrapped up with campers and counselors gathered around the fire. Songs were sung, skits were presented, and relationships were built. One camp song that has always been special to me (and we had the joy of singing at our Light the Fire event!) goes like this:

*I stand to praise you, but I fall down on my knees
 My spirit is willing, but my flesh is so weak
 So light the fire in my soul,
 fan the flames make me whole
 Lord you know just where I've been
 so light the fire in my heart again
 I feel your arms around me
 as the power of your healing begins
 Your Spirit moves through me light
 a mighty rushing wind
 So light the fire in my soul,
 fan the flames make me whole
 Lord you know just where I've been
 so light the fire in my heart again*

As we sit in this season after Pentecost, also known as summer, what is sparking joy in your life? In what ways is that spark being cared for and turned into a flame? What fire is God re-lighting or lighting for the first time in your heart? Perhaps you are feelings called to participate in new ways. Or maybe you have a passion that you have yet to share with others. The Holy Spirit is on the move. I hope that this month you will feel the flames being fanned in your heart and soul. And that you feel the Holy Spirit's presence like a wind on a warm summer's day.

Peace,
 Pastor Catie

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hello Faith,

Just a quick note from me this month. Some issues regarding the finances of our church have been brought to our attention. The council has decided that we need to hold a special congregation meeting on June 14th to discuss these concerns and to offer some possible solutions. Please mark your calendars and stay for the brief meeting after worship.

Peace,
 Amy

FROM THE BISHOP

Now the green blade rises from the buried grain. Wheat that in dark earth many days has lain. Laid in the earth, like grain that sleeps unseen. Love is come again like wheat arising green.

Dear People of the Northern Great Lakes Synod,

At the end of this month, I look forward to preparing soil, turning and mulching it, and then creating orderly rows in which to plant bean seeds, in addition to sugar snaps, carrots, tomatoes, and more.

I continue to be astounded how such a small seed can break open and lose itself in the growth of a small tendril shoot that grows into a vine that grows leaves, eventually budding with flowers, and bearing the fruit of vegetables. It is amazing. I prepare the soil, plant the seed, water it, and one day, lo and behold, green shoots reach out of the soil. God gives the growth.

Also this month of May, we gather in assembly under the theme, "God gives the growth." In the previous two years, we have focused on "I planted," and "Apollos Watered." These first two themes invite our action, our participation. It is the task of the congregation and the person of faith to plant and water seeds of faith. And we are all blessed to recognize and give thanks for the seeds of faith that have been planted and watered by previous generations, the fruit of which we now enjoy.

The challenge of "God gives the growth" to anyone who is a doer, and I think most congregations have a core team of doers, is that God giving the growth is completely outside our action, our direction, our influence. We can totally participate in the first two actions. We can plant seeds of faith – offer welcome, prayers at meals and bedtime, devotions at home, baptism education, send kids to camp, engage people in God conversations.... We can nurture those seeds...Lifelong Faith Formation, Bible study, gathering for worship, being Christ in the community, trips for youth

and adults, listening to God, community, and each other. But what do we do about growth?

As a gardener, I can only wait and watch, hope and pray. Keep watering? Weeding? But I cannot reach into the earth, break open the seed with a dirty fingernail, and pull out the tender shoot of new growth. Growth is God's job, the miracle of creation packed into a little seed.

I would LOVE for us to have power over growth. Any person who loves their church would be happy to will into existence the growth of their beloved congregation.

But that is not in our power. I like to think that if we are faithful in the first two actions, then we will be blessed with growth. But the world has changed, and church has changed, some of our communities have changed, and congregations devoted to planting and nourishing may well find that their most faithful next step is to plant seeds for future generations, seeds for the next generation to nourish, and the generation after that to enjoy the growth.

The arc of the life of the Church began before us, will extend after us, and encompasses the global Church community, of which your community of faith is a part. Our role is to be faithful in the time we are given.

In that time, some congregations are awakening to the reality that the mission for which God created their congregation has been accomplished. Their most faithful next step is Northern Light to apply their assets to the work of Christ in ministries not their own, ministries that will plant and nourish seeds that will bear fruit for future generations that may or may not be in their community.

As we focus on "God gives the growth," hear both a word of promise and of grace. If your congregation is experiencing growth (and churches grow in a variety of ways) ...in numbers, in discipleship, in deepening understanding of our relationship to God and each other, in generosity, in awareness of community and energy for ministry efforts... then give thanks to God for it, for it is God's doing through the work of the Holy Spirit of Christ and to God be the glory.

And hold in prayer those congregations doing the hard work and faithful stewardship of ending well. Together, we celebrate their years of ministry. Together, we remember all that God has accomplished through them. And together we embrace them in their grief with the comfort and hope of new life, new growth, and the new beginnings that will come from their ending.

Our God is the God of new life, who brings Easter from Good Friday, green shoots from buried grain...death does not have the final word. New life will come in God's time and in surprising, unexpected ways.

Peace be with you.
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!

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!

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

Jun 7 – Trudy Klauk
Jun 5 – Lily Fowles
Jun 13 – Margaret Ledbetter
Jun 20 – Emma Slemiakowski
Jun 23 – Nathan Madl
Jun 28 – Val Otto & Bo Bisnette
Jun 29 – Kim Peterson
Jun 30 – Matt Wilkowski

Also remember – Tom Muench & Jan Harris

OUT OF THE OFFICE – Pastor Catie will be on vacation June 3-9. Matthew Johnson will lead a Service of the Word on June 7. *Pastor Kari Vadis will be on call for pastoral emergencies. 715-437-0770.*

WORSHIP IN THE WILD Jun 27 at 9:00 am. Tara Lila Ripco RD Trail 7550 Ripco Road, Eagle River, WI 54521. You're invited to come enjoy nature, conversation, and spiritual reflection as we hike a trail. Questions? Contact Matthew Johnson at 715.360.2747 or mjjhodag@gmail.com

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING – On Sunday, June 14 after worship there will be a congregational meeting. Please make every attempt to attend.

MONTHLY ATTENDANCE

Year: 2026	Year: 2026
Month: April	Month: May
# of Services: 5	# of Services: 5
Average: 38	Average: 35
Average online: 34	Average online: 35

IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

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

Heidi Luloff, Bob Ohm, Jim Fogerty, Brittany, PJ Kasmarek, Dale Raatz, Trudy Klauk, Vickie Ganske, Ken Moak, Karen Hren, Marge Czernicki, Ann Woelfel, Duane Bonack, Rick Gensler Sr., Ruth Sammetinger, Beth Schomisch, Dianne Passehl, and Jackie Sunn.

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
Board of Education
Faith Filled Backpack Program

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

LOPPW INFO Lutheran Office for Public Policy in Wisconsin: A Source for Civic Engagement Materials
The Lutheran Office for Public Policy in Wisconsin (LOPPW) is a ministry of the ELCA that engages Lutherans in nonpartisan advocacy for policies that promote peace, justice, and care for all of God's creation. Working in collaboration with ELCA World Hunger and the six ELCA synods with congregations in Wisconsin, LOPPW represents the coordinated public policy witness of the ELCA in Wisconsin and serves as a bridge of communication between congregations and lawmakers in Madison. In 2026, we have two upcoming elections – the primary election (Aug. 11 in Wisconsin) and the general election (Nov. 3). Election years are an opportunity for congregations and individuals to coordinate nonpartisan civic engagement activities. The ELCA teaches that civic engagement is both our calling as Christians and a responsibility for residents of the United States. LOPPW has an Elections 2026 webpage to share information and resources. We are planning two online events this year, will offer an opportunity for youth education leaders to attend a training, and will share resources that can be used by congregations, ministry teams, and individuals. Please visit our elections webpage to learn more: loppw.org/election/ You can also sign up for our mailing list to receive updates at: loppw.org/action/mailling-list/. Contact Kacy Kostiuik, Director, at kacy.kostiuk@elca.org or 608-940-1808 with any questions or if you would like to learn more.

Treasurer's Report

GENERAL FUND YEAR-TO-DATE REPORT*

*Numbers in (...) are negative

Month	Donations	Expenses	Net/Month
Mar	\$6,867.61	\$10,786.63	(\$3,919.02)
Apr	\$5,662.55	\$9,728.07	(\$4,065.52)
May			
June			
July			
August			
Fiscal YTD	\$65,038.70	\$84,367.82	(\$19,329.12)
Transfer from MM			\$20,000.00
Fiscal YTD			\$670.88

Stewardship Calendar for June 2026

	6/7	6/14	6/21	6/28
<u>Reader</u>	Robin Peterson	Jan Harris	Johnathon Coggins	Tom Bredesen
<u>Communion Assistant</u>	N/A	Jan Harris	Johnathon Coggins	Tom Bredesen
<u>Greeter</u>	Amy Davis & Debby Carlson	Jan Harris	Linda Fowles	Tom & Miriam Bredesen
<u>Acolyte</u>				

<u>Music</u>	Val Snedden	Val Snedden	Rhonda Buss	Rhonda Buss
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<u>Livestream</u>	Gretchen Dobbins	Brad Bisnette	Kristi Erickson	Gretchen Dobbins
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June 2026

SUN.	MON.	TUES.	WED.	THURS.	FRI.	SAT.
	1	2	3 12:30 pm Quilting <i>Pastor Catie is on vacation</i>	4 <i>Pastor Catie is on vacation</i>	5 <i>Pastor Catie is on vacation</i>	6 <i>Pastor Catie is on vacation</i>
7 9:00 am Worship <i>Pastor Catie is on vacation</i>	8 <i>Pastor Catie is on vacation</i>	9 <i>Pastor Catie is on vacation</i> Council 7:00 pm	10 12:30 pm Quilting	11	12	13
14 9:00 am Holy Communion CONGREGATIONAL MEETING	15	16	17 12:30 pm Quilting	18	19	20
21 9:00am Holy Communion	22	23	24 12:30 pm Quilting	25	26	27
28 9:00 am Holy Communion	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 Administrator hours:

Tue/Wed 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Pastor Catie office hours:

Mon 10:00 am – 1:00 pm (at Mugs*)

Tue/Wed 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Thu 10:00 am – 1:00 pm

*if Mugs is closed, an alternative coffee shop
will be utilized.

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