



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

FAITH'S FOUNDATIONS

August 2026

FROM PASTOR CATIE

"Therefore, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony."

-Colossians 3:12-14

Today I find myself overflowing with thankfulness. Last month we held our second Day Camp for the families of Faith and Three Lakes. I am overwhelmed with joy as I reflect on the week.

I watched as these children built relationships with the other kids there. I listened as they grew in their faith and understanding of how to wear love (to be like Jesus in the world). I saw them come out of their shells as they became more comfortable singing, dancing, learning, and having fun in this space.

As I think about how their roots in Christ were strengthened during the week of Day Camp, I wonder how our roots are being strengthened during this season. There is growth happening all around us in fields, gardens, and people. There is growth occurring in our relationship with Christ and with one another.

This month may we take time to see all that we have to be thankful for. May we stop and appreciate all the growth that is happening around us. And may we too learn how to better wear love. Peace,

Pastor Catie

FROM THE PRESIDENT

[Nothing to report – per Amy Davis]

FROM THE BISHOP

Dear People of the Northern Great Lakes Synod,

Our theme of "God gives the growth" becomes visible in all its glory in these lovely summer days of greenness, blooming flowers, and growing gardens.

At our Synod Assembly of 2026, we met under that theme in a hybrid format, meeting in person by conference connected to each other through zoom, common worship, and shared reports. Every year we have done this, the technology and our ability to use it have improved. This year's assembly was largely glitch free, except for some connectivity and bandwidth issues at some of our sites.

Huge thanks to the many people needed to pull off what amounts to eight mini-assemblies. When we are in one place, the lion's share of the details is managed by the synod staff with help from the venue. With eight host sites, we needed volunteers for all of it. Recruiting volunteers and communicating with everyone regarding their roles and expectations remains the greatest challenge. The evaluations reflected the following responses:

1. Worship was appreciated. It worked well to move into Holy Communion at each host site during the Sharing of the Peace.
2. People enjoyed the videos: meeting the Presiding Bishop Yehiel Curry, learning more about LSS, the ELCA, the Youth Gathering, and more.
3. While the business portion is less than riveting by its very nature, we accomplished what was needed.
4. People both lamented not being in person with everyone and were appreciative of the shorter drive and one day schedule.
5. Problems with freezing, glitching, and hearing still happened in at least two of our conferences due to the lack of quality wifi/internet available in their context. This presents the challenge of equal access for the whole synod.
6. Some evaluations reflected frustration in what they experienced as a lack of instruction. Given that ample instruction was provided through copious emails, it may be that the voting member's personal email was not provided by the registrant but perhaps used the church's email instead. Always provide your personal email.
7. Things to know for the future:

A. The Pre-Assembly Report (PAR) is always posted on the Synod website under the "Synod Assembly" tab 30 days prior to assembly.

B. Sign up for E Notes.

C. If a voting member wishes to have a hard copy of the PAR, it is up to them to print it. Another option would be to download it to a laptop or tablet ahead of time.

Next year, Synod Assembly will be earlier. We will meet at Messiah Lutheran for opening worship on Thursday April 22, 2027, and then gather at Northern Michigan University in Marquette Friday and Saturday April 23 and 24. I encourage congregations to do the following:

1. Elect/identify your voting members at or by your Annual Meeting.

2. If the same voting members have been the ones to attend every year, let someone else have a turn. The best way for us to experience who we are as church together is to take a turn attending Synod Assembly.

3. After Synod Assembly, share your experience with the congregation during announcements the following Sunday and write a brief article for your congregation newsletter.

4. Congregations should plan to cover the registration fee and expense of their voting members in their 2027 budget.

5. Register on time.

The things that people most appreciate about Synod Assembly happen when we meet in person. The worship, the fellowship, the energy, the learning, and so much more.

I look forward to being with you and us together as a synod April 22 – 24, 2027. Plans are already in the works!

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!

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-threeelakes.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.

AUGUST SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE A new school year is right around the corner. This year we will be collecting supplies for the Three Lakes & Phelps School Districts. Items can be dropped off at church on Sunday morning and during regular office hours.

CHURCHTRAC PICTURES – thank you to Tom Bredesen and Sue Riebe for taking pictures of the congregation. Those pictures have been uploaded into ChurchTrac and we need you to log in and set your preferences in order for the pictures to be seen.

BAPTISMS WE REMEMBER THIS MONTH

As the summer sun continues to warm us and the rains bring life to the Northwoods, we enjoy the many gifts God has granted us.

The greatest of God's gifts is the gift of new life in Jesus Christ. In baptism, God joins us to the death of Christ so that we may look forward to our resurrection with him!

Take time to remember your baptism every day. Let us keep in prayer those members and friends of Faith who celebrate their baptismal birthday this month.

Aug 1 – Phyllis Frish & Karla Anderson
Aug 7 – Thomas Kliss
Aug 16 – Troy Schroeder
Aug 17 – Briley Dodge
Aug 27 – Taylor Madl

Also remember: Melissa Madl, Sue Harris, Mary Ellyn Williams, Michael Huml, Sonia Dione.

MONTHLY ATTENDANCE

Year: 2026	Year: 2026
Month: June	Month: July
# of Services: 4	# of Services: 4
Average: 40	Average: 38
Average online: 30	Average online: 32

IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

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

Heidi Lulloff, 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., 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

Updates from the Lutheran Office for Public Policy in Wisconsin

The Lutheran Office for Public Policy in Wisconsin (LOPPW) engages Lutherans in advocacy for policies that promote justice, peace, and care for creation. Here are some updates and opportunities:

Coffee, Connections, and Calls – Online Weekly Gathering Bring your morning coffee/tea and join LOPPW for a small weekly gathering of friends online. We aim to build community and share advocacy opportunities. At the end of each gathering, LOPPW shares one small action you can take with a sample script or a link to email your representatives. Join us Tuesdays from 8:30-9am this summer! Register at bit.ly/LOPPW-coffee.

Election-Year Civic Engagement Resources Visit LOPPW's Election 2026 webpage

(www.loppw.org/election) for resources to support nonpartisan civic engagement efforts this election year. We will also be offering online events. Visit the website for updates.

Click Smart Think Smart Training

Do you work in youth ministry or as a youth mentor or educator in other ways? LOPPW is partnering with the nonprofit Shout Out UK to offer free training to support youth education related to digital citizenship – including issues such as mis/disinformation, social media, and AI. We are offering a free two-hour online training as a pilot project on July 29, and we hope to offer more in the future. If you would like to join the pilot training and offer your feedback, please contact Kacy at kacy.kostiuk@elca.org.

Treasurer's Report

GENERAL FUND YEAR-TO-DATE REPORT*

*Numbers in (...) are negative

Month	Donations	Expenses	Net/Month
Sept	\$8,157.91	\$9,419.31	(\$1,261.40)
Oct	\$6,362.13	\$11,863.19	(\$5,501.06)
Nov	\$6,803.89	\$8,420.83	(\$1,616.94)
Dec	\$19,128.11	\$11,503.66	\$7,624.45
Jan	\$4,926.43	\$13,433.74	(\$8,507.31)
Feb	\$7,130.07	\$9,212.39	(\$2,082.32)
Mar	\$6,867.61	\$10,786.63	(\$3,919.02)
Apr	\$5,662.55	\$9,728.07	(\$4,065.52)
May	\$8,827.00	\$10,388.03	(\$1,561.03)
June	\$6,106.71	\$10,686.00	(\$4,579.29)
July			
August			
Fiscal YTD	\$79,972.41	\$105,441.85	(\$25,469.44)
Transfer from MM			\$20,000.00
Fiscal YTD			-\$5,469.44

Stewardship Calendar for August 2026

	8/2	8/9	8/16	8/23	8/30
<u>Reader</u>	Robin Peterson	Jan Harris	Linda Swanson	Tom Bredesen	Karen Meyer
<u>Communion Assistant</u>	Robin Peterson	Jan Harris	Vickie Johnson	Tom Bredesen	Karen Meyer
<u>Greeter</u>	Amy Davis & Debby Carlson	Jan Harris	Linda Fowles	Tom & Miriam Bredesen	Sue & Dave Riebe
<u>Acolyte</u>					

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

SUN.	MON.	TUES.	WED.	THURS.	FRI.	SAT.
			12:30 pm Quilting			1
2 9:00 am Worship Holy Communion	3	4	5 12:30 pm Quilting	6	7	8
9 9:00 am Worship Holy Communion	10	11 Council	12 12:30 pm Quilting	13	14	15
16 9:00am Worship Holy Communion Outdoor Worship in the lower parking lot	17	18	19 12:30 pm Quilting	20	21	22
23 9:00 am Worship Holy Communion	24	25	26 12:30 pm Quilting	27	28	29
30 9:00 am Worship Holy Communion	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 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