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

FAITH'S FOUNDATIONS

November 2026

FROM ANN IN THE FRONT OFFICE

Thank you everyone for volunteering and helping out during my transition to remote work and the transition of finding a new Pastor. Good news- Pastor Paul and I have worked together before. Not guaranteeing a perfectly smooth transition, but I am ever hopeful of a positive one!

This newsletter isn't filled with the usual stuff. As we move forward – I expect this will change.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

[No update this month.]

FROM THE BISHOP

Dear Northern Great Lakes Synod,

From August 2 – October 3, four of our congregations experienced their final worship service. Tears were shed, histories were celebrated, thanks were given for years of grace and ministry shared. People gathered in sanctuary space that was cherished and sacred and I have no doubt the memories came flooding in: where the Christmas tree stood, how the wedding party was crammed into the chancel, how the Easter lilies were arranged, where the casket was placed to celebrate the life of a beloved, how the family, sponsors, and child encircled the font.

Our sanctuaries hold sacred memory that evokes an emotional response. We feel the grief again, we experience the love we felt as the water was poured, the hand held, the peace shared, the supportive feel of the bonds and presence of beloved community that embraced us in sorrow and rejoiced at our good news. Experiencing the end of a church's life is hard. Loosening the ties to a building that sheltered so many rites of faith and meaningful moments makes the end even harder.

But even in death, especially in death, we are Easter people. We have heard proclaimed again and again and again that the shape of the Christian life is one of dying and rising. Good Friday precedes Easter, it must come first. Easter is not Easter without Good Friday. Resurrection cannot come unless there is death and loss first.

This is true of our individual lives. This is true of anything that we experience as loss. And this is true of all that God is up to as the church as we know it becomes something new.

Of course, not every community of faith will end….at least not in our time and not all at the same time. But all will experience transformation or change of some kind in the coming years, if they have not already. We are discovering new ways of doing ministry, new ways of equipping the saints for ministry, breaking new ground for ministry partnerships, leadership, liturgy, music, and institutional structures of support. We are both privileged and burdened to live in this "season of becoming" as we see beloved ways of doing things end but the new is not quite here yet. It is a time of both uncertainty and opportunity.

Consider the Israelites and their wandering in the wilderness. They were transitioning from being a people enslaved to becoming a chosen people. The transformation took 40 years, or as some might calculate it, two generations. Reading Exodus, we can see that when their days were most uncertain, God was nearest – literally in the pillar of smoke and fire and in the tent of meeting. The Israelites were never more intimately connected to God nor as dependent on God as when they were in the wilderness, relying on God for guidance, for support, even for their daily food of manna and occasional quail.

It seems to me that we could think of our current season as a wilderness time. We are blessed to rely on the presence and guidance of God more completely. The Holy Spirit of Christ stands ready to be intimately connected to inspire our current efforts and offers the resilience we need to remain in this place of tension, uncertain outcomes, and grief over loss. Our faithful response may mean discernment towards closure, or the end of some ministry effort, or the loss of some cherished tradition, or some courageous step toward an unknown…but Easter will come. New life awaits. All in good time.

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!

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")

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.

OFFICE HELP NEEDED –We are looking for volunteers to assist with printing/folding bulletins; printing the Reader's Guide and placing in the appropriate mailbox; picking up mail; and once a month, printing and mailing the newsletter.

KEY INVENTORY IN PROCESS – We need to determine who has keys to the church. Please indicate on the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board if you have a key to the church.

BAPTISMS WE REMEMBER THIS MONTH
Nov 15 – Stephen Gensler
Nov 16 – Lee Klauk
Nov 26 – Brielle Bisnette
Nov 28 – Kayla Bisnette

Also remember: Brian Erikson and Jim Nykolayko

MONTHLY ATTENDANCE [no data available]

Year: 2026	Year: 2026
Month: September	Month: October
# of Services: 4	# of Services: 4
Average:	Average:
Average online:	Average online:

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

Lutheran Office for Public Policy in Wisconsin: Upcoming Events: The Lutheran Office for Public Policy in Wisconsin invites you to join us for these upcoming events:

Election season is an important time, but it is only one part of our greater responsibility to one another, our communities, and public life. As we transition out of election season and look ahead to what is next, we invite you to join us for two half-hour online events:

After the Election: Gathering & Exploring Our Way Forward Together
Thursday, November 19, 6:30-7pm

Please join us to gather, offer prayer, provide perspective, and transition to a new season together. Our featured guest will be Bishop Martin Halom from the Northwest Synod of Wisconsin.

Register: https://bit.ly/3UvNkq2

Preparing for the Work Ahead: Faithful Engagement Beyond Election Season
Tuesday, December 1, 6:30-7pm
How can we continue to engage as a community and participate in faithful civic engagement moving forward? Please join us as we look ahead to the upcoming Congressional and state legislative sessions.

Register: https://bit.ly/4BG3KNf
Advent Series

We invite you to join us for a weekly online series during Advent. Using ELCA World Hunger's Advent Devotional as a guide, we'll gather for reflection, conversation, guest speakers, and faithful action during the season of Advent. Guest speakers will speak about hunger ministries, advocacy, and community organizing.

An Advent Journey of Reflection & Action: "Filled with Good Things"
Wednesdays, 9-10am: Nov. 18, Dec. 2, Dec. 9, Dec. 16

Register: https://bit.ly/4ihetpK

Contact Kacy Kostiuk, Director of LOPPW, with any questions: kacy.kostiuk@elca.org.

Treasurer's Report

GENERAL FUND YEAR-TO-DATE REPORT*

Numbers in (…) are negative

Month	Donations	Expenses	Net/Month
Sept	$10,483.22	$11,445.62	($962.40)
Oct	$5,500.50	$10,367.27	($4,866.77)
Nov			$0.00
Dec			$0.00
Jan			$0.00
Feb			$0.00
Mar			$0.00
Apr			$0.00
May			$0.00
June			$0.00
July			$0.00
August			$0.00
Fiscal YTD	$15,983.72	$21,812.89	($5,829.17)

Stewardship Calendar for November 2026

	11/1	11/8	11/15	11/22	11/29
Reader	Linda Swanson	Robin Peterson	Jan Harris	Johnathon Coggins	Karen Meyer
Communion Assistant	Vickie Johnson	Robin Peterson	TBD	Jonnathon Coggins	Karen Meyer
Greeter	Amy Davis & Debby Carlson	Chris & Jacque Deditz	Jan Harris	Amy Davis & Debby Carlson	Chris & Jacque Deditz
Acolyte					

Music	Rhonda Buss	Rhonda Buss	Rhonda Buss	Rhonda Buss	Rhonda Buss

Livestream	Gretchen Dobbins	Brad Bisnette	Kristi Erikson	Gretchen Dobbins	Brad Bisnette

November 2026

SUN.	MON.	TUES.	WED.	THURS.	FRI.	SAT.
1 **9:00 am Worship Holy Communion**	**2**	**3**	**4** **12:30 pm Quilting**	**5**	**6**	**7**
8 **9:00 am Worship Holy Communion**	**9**	**10** **Council** **USMC Birthday**	**11** **12:30 pm Quilting** **Veteran's Day**	**12**	**13**	**14**
15 **9:00am Worship Holy Communion**	**16**	**17** **Women & Worship The Brew Station 6:00 pm**	**18** **12:30 pm Quilting** **Men's Bible Study The Brew Station 6:00 pm**	**19**	**20**	**21**
22 **9:00 am Worship Holy Communion**	**23**	**24**	**25** **12:30 pm Quilting**	**26** **Thanksgiving**	**27**	**28**
29	**30**					

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

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

Pastor Catie Office Hours Thru Oct 18:
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
(Ann works remotely – limited hours)

Interim Pastor: Reverend Paul Heykes
pastorcatieford@gmail.com
Work Phone: 715-600-3980

Organist: Rhonda Buss
Custodian: Sara Palubicki

Faith Lutheran Church
Est. 1987