

# Faith Matters

Pastors' Page

NOVEMBER 2017



335 Main St. S  
Hutchinson, MN 55350

Phone: 320-587-2093

Email:  
office@faithlc.com



In November, Faith Lutheran will launch a new capital campaign, *Upon This Rock* to succeed the *Imagine* campaign that ends this year. We will:

- **build** on the generous gifts to past campaigns,
- **aim** to pay off the mortgage in three years, and
- **pull** together to reach that goal.

*Upon This Rock* is an exciting opportunity to make a huge difference in the life of our church. If the congregation responds as generously as it did to *The Legacy of Faith* campaign back in 2009, the new building will be paid for entirely by 2020, the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Faith Lutheran Church. That would mean that the original 25 year mortgage was completed in *just 10 years*, saving thousands upon thousands of dollars in interest expense. What a great anniversary gift that would be!

Finishing the mortgage so quickly will also facilitate the completion of Phase II of the building project—a new sanctuary and larger fellowship space. On one hand, it gives us some breathing room to discern the right time to proceed with it. On the other hand, even allowing for some breathing room, it opens up the possibility of beginning Phase II years before we had dared to dream that it could happen.

It may seem as if the *Imagine* campaign just started. (It certainly feels that way to us!) So why are we starting a new campaign so soon? It is standard practice for capital campaigns to run no longer than three years, because there is so much changeover in the church even in that short period of time. Many new people have joined. Others have, sadly, moved away. Some long-time members have entered the church triumphant. Others have seen their financial circumstances change significantly. It is really surprising how different the family of Faith is now than it was in 2014, when *Imagine* started.

So, to invite all the members and friends of Faith—long-time and recent—to support the cost of our beautiful facility as God has first blessed us, it is time to begin a new capital campaign and enter what we hope is the home stretch of the building project that began way back in 2005. Watch for much more information about *Upon This Rock*.

- *Plan* now to attend one of the many brief *informational gatherings* that will be held during the week of *November 12-19* (one of them will be sure to fit your schedule).
- *Pray* for God to inspire the whole congregation to respond to the campaign in faith and generosity.
- *Thank God* for continually blessing the life and ministry of our Faith family so richly!

Grace and peace,  
Pastor Scott

We are on the  
Web:  
Faithlc.com



RADIO BROADCAST  
SUNDAYS 8 A.M.  
KDUZ 1260 AM

TV BROADCAST  
CABLE CH. 10  
SUNDAYS 10 A.M.  
AND 5 P.M.  
TUESDAYS 5 P.M.  
THURSDAYS 10 P.M.

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# Stump the pastor

*Q: Why did the church start ordaining women as pastors when the Bible clearly says that women should keep silent in the churches?*

*A: Ordaining women to serve as pastors causes sharp disagreement among Christian churches. As this question notes, those who oppose the practice point especially to two texts,*

I Corinthians 14:34-35 and I Timothy 2:11-12, that clearly say women should not speak in church. For that reason, through most of church history, only men have been allowed to serve as priests or pastors. and that remains the conviction of many churches today.

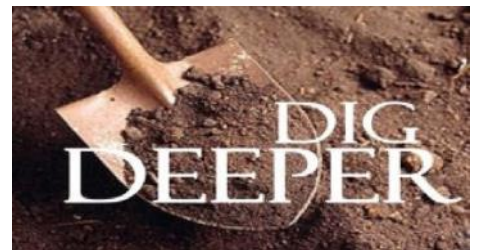
The Bible itself, however, includes many examples of God using women in ministry roles. Deborah served as a Judge in Israel. Huldah was a prophetess in Judah. The women who went to the tomb on Easter were commissioned as the first evangelists of Jesus' resurrection. Lydia helped found the church in Philippi and Priscilla was a co-worker of Paul's. Other examples could also be included.

Given the Bible's mixed witness on the subject, the question becomes a theological one. Following the Lutheran interpretive rule of letting the Bible interpret itself, passages like Galatians 3:28, "There is no longer Jew or Greek, slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus," suggest that the prohibitions against women pastors were driven more by culture than by the Gospel. That makes sense, because in the prevailing culture of New Testament times, women serving as pastors likely would have scandalized many people. That is no longer the case and the wider witness of the Bible theologically outweighs the prohibitions against it.

It is only fair to acknowledge, though, that this reasoning has not convinced even many of our fellow Lutherans. Just because the Bible's witness is mixed, the practice will remain controversial. The vital point here is that we believe there is a solid **Biblical** case for ordaining women. It is **not** a matter of just rejecting something we do not like anymore, but a **theological conclusion** based on the whole witness of Scripture.

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## Digging Deeper Opportunities



### **The Fire of Little Jim: What to Make of the Book of James**

*James* has often been seen as a misfit in the New Testament, as devoted to God's Law as the other books are to the Gospel. Martin Luther famously called it "a gospel of straw." The difference, though, is not as stark as it seems. James' fiery witness does not mark a return to the Law, but an embrace of the power of the Gospel. Come and be inspired by the fire of Little Jim.



### **"The Joy of Discovery: Keys to Bible Study"**

Join Pastor Dave and Andrea Wollan as they explain some keys to studying God's Word. They will discuss key methods of engaging the Word, and some valuable resources that can assist you. Come and discover the joy of seeing all that God has to tell you!



## **Imagine Capital Campaign**

As noted on the front page of this newsletter, a new capital campaign, *Upon This Rock*, will be conducted during November. Pledges and gifts made to it, however, will not officially begin until January 1, 2018.

Meanwhile, the current *Imagine* capital campaign runs until December 31, 2017, so the church has a great chance to finish it on a strong note. That would make gifts to the new campaign go even farther. If you have not yet completed your pledge to *Imagine* or if God has blessed you to make an extra gift to it in these last two months, any support given in these final days will be very valuable and much appreciated. If you have questions about your gifts to *Imagine*, contact Diane Pedersen at the church.

## **Christian Life Management**

Several years ago, a parent whose child had been invited by a friend to participate in the church's youth ministry came in to visit. The family had no prior experience with a church and happened to be quite wealthy. The parent ostensibly wanted to learn more about our ministry, but the theme that kept popping up instead was a fear that the church's only real interest was to get our hands on the family's money.

Needless to say, that was not our goal. We wanted them to meet Jesus and hear the good news of salvation. Ironically, though, that parent's fear reveals a key reason why regular, generous giving is so important. Giving away part of what God first gives us helps keep money in its place—as a good and powerful tool from God, but not a basis for our trust or what we value most in life. Knowing that God will provide everything we need, we are free to loosen our grip on our possessions and share them joyfully. Having faith in God detaches us from our possessions and helps us truly enjoy what we have, rather than hanging onto it in anxious fear. It is a wonderful effect of Christian Life Management.



**Fall Grounds Clean-Up Day**  
*Saturday, November 4*  
*beginning at 1 p.m.*

Faith is blessed to be located right on Main Street and we are blessed with a fair amount of beautiful green space.



It is important to be good stewards of those blessings and that green space is due to be prepped for winter. Many hands make light work, so come out and lend a hand for an hour or two trimming, weeding, etc.

See you there!

## SENIORS SCENE

We have a special **SENIORS' POTLUCK** meeting coming up in November (aren't they all special??). First of all, we meet early---**NOT** the last Thursday, but **November 9**. It's our tradition not to let our meeting get too close to Thanksgiving.

Consider yourself a **MISSIONARY**. No, you won't be asked to travel to India or Ethiopia, just to the Faith Center. There you can help with **Operation Christmas Child boxes**. OR, you can roll bandages for medical needs distributed by Global Health Ministries. Both are easy to do, but both are powerful ministries conveying the love of God in Christ Jesus. Last year we packed about 75 boxes (of 218 for the church as a whole) at our November Seniors Potluck packing meeting .

Please bring items to pack. You can pick up a brochure and/or a more complete list of possibilities from Linda Nyman's displays at both entrances. OR, you can bring a check for \$9.00 per box for shipping (I know, it's a lot of money. But have you mailed cookies to your grandchildren lately? Shipping costs money; and really it's no comparison to what the boxes accomplish for Christ Jesus).

Those bandages are strips of bed sheets rolled up with a hand roller invented by Dick Desens. Last year those "*holy rollers*" couldn't seem to stop the fun, rolling over 300 rolls of bandages and continuing until nearly 3:00 p.m.!

Please read the article elsewhere in this Faith Matters on Christmas boxes. Those boxes are unbelievable tools for opening up minds of young children to Jesus, our Savior. It's not so much the trinkets and hygiene items as it is teaching box recipients about "The Greatest Gift." They are told that Jesus Himself is that greatest gift. Last year alone, 1.6 million young people came to faith in Jesus Christ through this international program. We need to pray that their commitment sticks with them throughout their lives, and that their parents and relatives are led to faith in Jesus through their excitement and faith. Many have been!

So you see, it's not just cramming a shoe box full of stuff. It's a tool in the Holy Spirit's hands to open up minds and hearts to His saving truth and love. That makes you a missionary when you participate. Our St. Matthew's, Fernando, friends will partner with us again.

Please join us at **Seniors' Potluck** on **Thursday, November 9, at 12:00 noon** for potluck dinner. After dinner and devotions, we'll pack boxes and roll bandages. See you there!!



### Welcome Home Laura!

Laura Weikle, Faith Lutheran's new Director of Children and Family Ministries, is coming home! She has spent most of her life worshiping, serving, learning and teaching here at Faith. Laura graduated from Concordia College in Moorhead, MN with a degree in Religion with a concentration in Faith and Leadership. During the summers she worked with Green Lake Lutheran Ministries as a counselor and Assistant Program Director. After graduation, Laura worked as the Director of Youth and Education Ministries at Faith Lutheran Church in Spicer, MN.

Laura will begin her position here at Faith on Wednesday, October 25.



## Music Notes

by Paul Cravens, Director of Music and Worship

In most cases, the role of a church's music ministry is to support its congregation by facilitating their praise to God during corporate worship (which is to say, music ministries typically focus internally). Occasionally, however, the opportunity arises to aid another congregation in a music- or worship-oriented way.

Paul Otte (of Peace Lutheran) is a friend of the parish musicians at Castle Church in Wittenberg, Germany (of Martin Luther fame). They have started a hand bell choir that now boasts more ringers than bells! It's worth noting that church participation is typically low in this region, since in many ways it is still recovering from communist suppression behind the Iron Curtain. Paul took it upon himself to donate a bell to their cause, and he has since opened that initiative to other bell choirs in the area. I proposed this to Ringers of Faith, and they were excited to participate as well. With our contribution, and those of several other churches and individuals, Paul will present a total of seven new bells to Castle Church when he attends their Reformation festivities this year. What an exciting way to bless and support our German brothers and sisters in Christ and their fruitful ministry!

**OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD boxes**—do they accomplish anything? Do they actually bring Jesus into lives? While we may frown over the costs of shipping or the passing benefits of items we pack, reports on results from Samaritan's Purse and Franklin Graham are encouraging.



For example:

- Last year over 1.5 million boxes were sent to over 100 countries.
- Each box includes an invitation to "The Greatest Journey," a 12-session class introducing recipients to Jesus.
- 500,000 local believers are trained to teach "The Greatest Journey."
- 60% of the children receiving boxes and are invited to the class do attend.
- Nearly 50% of those who attend come to faith in Jesus.
- In 2016 that amounted to 1.6 million children.



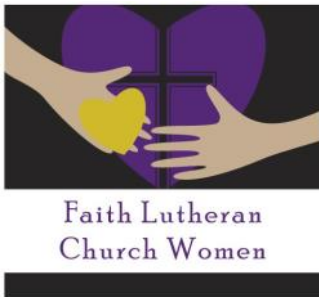
As you can see from these statistics, the Christmas boxes can be a great tool in the hands of the Holy Spirit to bring Jesus into their lives. Thank God!

PLEASE CHOOSE how you will help. **YOU** can purchase items listed in the brochures, plus an extended list you can pick up from the display at both church entrances. You can pack boxes, or bring the items to the church office. **YOU** can bring money for shipping--\$9.00 per box. **YOU** can check your Thrivent agent on how to secure a \$250 gift card on your policy to purchase items.

**YOU** can attend one of the packing sessions: **Wednesday, Nov. 1, 8:30 - 10:00 a.m.** or **Thursday, November 9,** at Seniors' Potluck meeting (join us for potluck dinner, or arrive to pack at 1:00 p.m.). Anyone of any age can participate at either or both sessions.

**The DEADLINE** to complete and return boxes this year is **Sun., Nov. 12.**





## From the FLCW

The FLCW Board will meet on Monday, November 13 at 4:30 p.m. in the office conference room. All women of Faith Lutheran Church are welcome!

The FLCW annual meeting will be on Sunday, November 19 at 11:30 a.m. Join us for a cup of cider, sweet treats and a Christmas Craft to take home. You can also be a part of helping decide how to disperse the funds that the FLCW raised this year.

Free Community Meal - the FLCW will be serving the meal on Sunday, December 3. Please talk to Bobbi Knudson at 587-2227 if you are able to help.

New this year ~ "Tis the Advent Season" Brunch ~ Saturday, December 9 from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. This new event will include individually decorated tables and hostesses. Watch for more details.

## **Welcome to Mugs & Muffins! Join us on Saturday, November 18, at 9:30 a.m. in the Faith Center.**

Special Guest Speaker: Rachel Kamrath will share her story with you.



## *Men of Faith. . .*

### **Brian Lauer's Faith Story**

**Wednesday, November 1, 2017 at 7 p.m.**

**All men welcome . . . .**

**FREE MEAL ~ Soup and Chili**



Brian Lauer. Minnesotan, Hutchinsonian, Husband, Father, Son, Brother, Friend, Child of God...and now seminarian.

Past congregational president at Faith Lutheran, and past Elder of the congregation at Peace Lutheran, Brian will present his "mile-post" review of the journey on which God is taking him: Earliest days growing up in a Catholic household; the recklessness and destructiveness of sin, and the despair of familial dysfunction; the emptiness of agnosticism, but then the power of love in re-awakening; the shattering impact of God's presence, and the emergence of acceptance and response. Brian's story is his own, and yet it may ring with familiarity to you at many points. For the journey of all of us, in bondage to sin and then reclaimed by Christ, is hardly the road less traveled, but rather the well worn path.

**"It's hardly the road less traveled, but rather the well worn path."**

## The “Holy Day” Season Begins

The word “holiday” is a contraction of “holy day.” It reflects a time when the calendar was dominated by church festivals and saints’ days. In our day, not all holidays are connected with holy events, but we are entering a run of church holidays that we call the “holy day” season:

- October 29 is Reformation Sunday and the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the start of the Reformation.
- November 5 is All Saints’ Day, a time to remember and give thanks for those who have died in faith and new saints received in baptism. This year, our annual confirmation service will also take place on this day.
- November 23 is Thanksgiving Day, which is actually a national holiday, but calls us to thank God for His many blessings. Faith Lutheran will hold **Thanksgiving services** on Wednesday, **Nov. 22 at 6:30 p.m.** and on Thursday, **November 23 at 10:00 a.m.**
- November 26 is Christ the King, the last Sunday of the church year, which rejoices that Christ has all authority in heaven and on earth, and will one day reappear in glory to bring God’s salvation to completion.
- November 29 is the first mid-week Advent Service at 6:30 p.m. Plan to come early for the annual Chili/Soup Cook-off, a tasty, warm dinner before the service.
- On December 3, Advent begins and, just three weeks later, we celebrate Christmas!

What a blessed time of the church year, with so many reasons to worship, give thanks and rejoice in the good news of the Gospel! Enter into the rhythm of this “holy day” season and into the wonder of God’s boundless grace. See you in church!

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### Confirmation Class ~ November 5, 2017

Deacon Carter  
Grayson Christie  
Jayce Drape  
Anna Fabel  
Ty Glaser  
Marlee Harlander  
Zachary Kuseske

Billy Marquardt  
Kourtney Mielke  
Ashley Nelson  
Kyle Oestreich  
Matthew Olberg  
Madison Seifert  
Ellie Suko

Anya Teubert  
Taylor Timm  
Marisa Uecker  
Trevor Wersal  
Logan Winn  
Luke Wollan  
Malena Zuehlke



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#### Sundays at Faith Lutheran Church:

**8:00 a.m. First Word  
(Traditional Service in the sanctuary)**

**9:00 a.m. Educational Hour  
Sunday School, Confirmation Class and  
Multiple Adult Education Opportunities**

**10:10 a.m. Sanctuary Service  
(Blended service in the sanctuary)**

**10:10 a.m. Foundation Service  
(Contemporary service in Foundation)**

#### For the youngest members of Faith

**Faith Seeds: A time during each service when children of all ages are invited to come forward for a lesson geared towards them. Parents and “big kids” are invited too!**

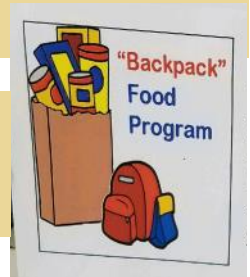
**Sprouts: After Faith Seeds, during the 10:10 services, children ages 3-6 can leave for a short hands-on lesson. They will return to their parents after the sermon.**

## November Hunger Appeal: Inviting Generosity to Meet Local, National, and International Needs

*Day to Day Needs and Huge Crises Beckon Us Once Again to Reach a Challenge Goal of \$10,000*

Our Lord blesses us with more than we need so that we can give joyously from our hearts to give help to those who have too little. Faith's Church in the World Ministry Team recommends the following for this year's Hunger Appeal:

40% for Common Cup Ministries. Meet nutrition needs of students from many families in our community through their weekend back pack food program. Other food needs in the community met through Common Cup will also benefit from our giving.



40% for International Hunger and Related Challenges Through Our Partners in India.

Work through New Hope Mission Society and the Bishara Center to provide food essentials for 35 families of prisoners for an extended period of time to bring hope to them instead of despair.

Funds were sent earlier to partners in northern India to meet food, hygiene, and other needs for 300 families devastated by flooding. Designated giving now can restore funds sent by FLC at the time of need.



20% for the Work of Samaritan's Purse to Respond to the Devastation of Hurricane Maria in Puerto Rico.

Samaritan's Purse, led by Franklin Graham is working on several fronts to restore hope amidst the destruction of this horrific hurricane. Food and other health needs will be the focus of funds given.



**Gifts can be given to the November Hunger Appeal through special offering envelopes in the pews, through your Thanksgiving Offering, Mission Sunday Envelopes, or you can drop off any gift marked for Hunger Relief.**



# Let's Fill the Boat! Thanksgiving Food Drive



During the month of November, the Congregational Life Ministry Team is asking everyone to participate in the Thanksgiving Food Drive. Look for the boat located in the southeast entrance (Door 2), and bring your items to share with others in our community. The Sunday School children will be invited to participate in a challenge to see which class can bring in the most food! All food collected will be brought to the Food Shelf in time for Thanksgiving. Thank you for helping to provide food for those in need in Hutchinson and the area.

## *Compline is changing nights!*

Beginning in November Compline will move to the *second* Sunday evening of each month.

If you have not attended a Compline Service, now is the time!

The contemplative nature of this service may not be ideal for small children.



We are sad to announce that McLeod County has cancelled the paper and cardboard recycling program in which Faith participated. We are no longer able to take these items to recycle.



Life Line Screening will be at Faith Lutheran Church on Friday, December 1, 2017.

Life Line Screenings go beyond regular checkups to look inside your arteries for signs of plaque build-up.

They offer five screenings: Artery Plaque Screening, Heart Rhythm Screening, Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm Screening, Peripheral Arterial Disease Screening and Osteoporosis Risk Assessment.

For more information or to register please call 866-229-0469 or go online to [www.lifelinescreening.com/communitycircle](http://www.lifelinescreening.com/communitycircle)

**Matthew 25:40** And the King will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers you did it to me.'



### Hutchinson

105 Second Avenue SW Suite #2  
Hutchinson, MN 55350  
320-587-2213

Website: [www.common-cup.org](http://www.common-cup.org)

### Glencoe

1022 12th St E Ste100  
Glencoe, MN 55336  
320-864-5511

**Community Meal @ FLC**  
Sunday, Nov. 5  
4 - 6 p.m.

### THANK YOU

to everyone who donated coats for the coat drive and for those who have been providing fruit and applesauce cups each week. Your generosity has been a huge blessing and is really appreciated!



Laundry Love Ministry takes place the 3rd Tuesday of each month from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. at the Maytag Laundromat located at 1025 Hwy 7. They serve over 35 families at a cost of over \$600 each month. Donations of laundry soap, dryer sheets, and quarters are always greatly appreciated.

Time to start planning your **Thanksgiving meal** so why not get it through Fare for All. For \$30 you will get your turkey and most of the fixings for a full meal, including a pie. November distribution takes place on **Thursday, November 16th**, at the CCM Office between **4:00 and 5:30 p.m.** Place your order by **Friday, November 10th** at the CCM office. Happy Thanksgiving!



**November** is DIAPER COLLECTION month here at Faith Lutheran. When you are out shopping this month, please remember those who struggle to provide for their family. Diaper distribution takes place on the **last Tuesday** of each month from 11:00 a.m. to 12:30p.m. Parents can receive one bag of diapers per child.



The fall fundraiser of Common Cup Ministries, **Coming Together in Song**, is on **Sunday, November 19, at 4 p.m.** at Christ the King Lutheran Church, 1040 S. Grade Rd. SW, Hutchinson. The concert is chock full of incredible local talent, ranging from Community Strings of Glencoe, to Victorian Carolers from Hutchinson High School, to Crow River Singers, and various ensembles and bands made up of people you see on the streets of Hutchinson, in your workplace, and even in your church pulpit! Of course, the mass choir is back, under the direction of Jim Nelson. This is a “don’t miss” concert, providing a taste of the abundant musical talent in our surrounding communities. A freewill offering will be taken in support of the many needed services that Common Cup provides within the communities of Hutchinson and Glencoe.

Help spread the word that **ANYONE** in your church, your workplace, or friends who wish to sing in the Mass Choir is invited. There will be **TWO MASS CHOIR** rehearsals; Nov. 12 at 4 p.m. and Nov. 18 at 4 p.m. **ALSO**, singers are welcome to join in practice sessions at Faith at 6:00 on Wednesday Nov. 1, 8, and 15. The mass numbers will be **OUTSTANDING** and it is **SO** much fun to participate. Direct questions to Paul Cravens at Faith 320-5287-2093.



# Thoughts and Prayers

Please remember all those who are serving our country through active duty:

- Lance Corporal Colin Bos (Marines, Camp Pendleton, CA - son of Dawn Bos)
- Sgt. Jason Gaulke (El Paso, TX - nephew of Alice Fransen)
- Andrew Hantge (Navy, Virginia Beach, VA - son of Marsha Schmit and Robert Hantge)
- Mason Rutledge (Navy, Norfolk, VA - son of Lenny & Patti Rutledge)
- Col. Rob Skaar (Duluth Air National Guard - son of Dave & Marian Skaar)
- LT Brett Stadsklev (Navy, Norfolk, VA - son-in-law of Judy & Tom Felber)
- Lance Corporal Nathan Thunstrom (Marines, San Diego, CA - son of Andy & Shelly Hedin and grandson of Dennis & Barb Hedin)
- PFC Ryan Wersal (Army, Fort Jackson, SC - son of Roger & Laurie Wersal)



Remember our Faith members in nursing homes & health care centers

### Cedar Crest – Silver Lake

- Patricia Lambert
- Bernice Vorbeck
- Lucille Wehking

### Cokato Manor

- Patricia Paulson

### Cottagewood (Buffalo)

- Eleanor Lack

### Dassel Lakeside

- Doris Betker

### Glencoe Nursing Home

- Helen Sandlund
- Kathryn Wendlandt

### Harmony River

- Alice Bell
- Pearl Betker
- Jeanette Fauskee
- Dave & Betty Jensen
- Joanne Olesen
- Harvey Skorheim
- Charlie & Harriet Thor

### Prairie Senior Cottages

- Pat Fimon

### Prairie View (Hector)

- Jerome Lindquist

### Woodstone

- Don Fitzgerald
- Betty Garberich
- Lucille Yukel

**Faith Lutheran Church**  
**INFORMATION & STAFF DIRECTORY**  
 335 Main St. S.    320-587-2093    FaithLC.com

Pastors		
Scott Grorud	320-587-0171 (home)	scottg@faithlc.com
Dave Wollan	320-583-2385 (cell)	davidw@faithlc.com
Paul Knudson	320-587-2227 (home)	paulk@faithlc.com
Paulus Pilgrim, Visitation	320-234-9753 (home)	paulusp@faithlc.com
Staff		
Marsha Schmit, Director of Pastoral Care & Evangelism	marshas@faithlc.com	
Gladys Nissen, Director of Youth & Family Ministry	gladysn@faithlc.com	
Laura Weikle, Director of Children & Family Ministry	lauraw@faithlc.com	
Paul Cravens, Director of Music and Worship	paulc@faithlc.com	
Wendy Magruder, Administrative Assistant	wendym@faithlc.com	
Diane Pedersen, Finance Coordinator	dianep@faithlc.com	
Keith Lange, Maintenance		
Jim Brodd, Custodial Services Coordinator	brodd@hutchtel.net	

Faith Lutheran Church  
335 Main Street South  
Hutchinson, Minnesota 55350

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OUR MISSION IS:

**BUILDING FAITH**

*"EQUIP THE SAINTS FOR THE WORK OF MINISTRY, FOR BUILDING UP THE BODY OF CHRIST"*

*EPHESIANS 4:12*

TO LIVE OUT THAT MISSION, GOD CALLS US TO:

FOLLOW JESUS

ANNOUNCE THE GOSPEL

INVITE ALL PEOPLE

TEACH CHRISTIAN TRUTH

HELP ALL WHO ARE IN NEED