

Faith Matters

Pastors' Page

AUGUST 2017



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**We are on the
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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.

It's a lot of fun watching my son, Luke, these days. As a soon-to-be high school freshman, a whole new world opened to him last May:

He got to come to Youth Group!

After watching his older brother and sister attend FLY Night and love it, Luke's time had finally arrived. And he couldn't have been more excited! Every week he exclaims how he can't wait until Wednesday, because that's the day for Youth Group softball and FLY Night. Just when I thought his excitement had peaked, it went to a whole new level.

He went on the Mission trip.

It's awesome to see him excited about faith, serving others, and making deep friendships with faithful kids. It's what you hope for your kid.

Now, we just hope it lasts.

We hope his excitement continues. We hope that his excitement for Jesus and Youth Group continues to deepen. Because we know how it can go. The excitement can fade. The new can become old. The fervor can become routine, and ho-hum. The commitment can become lackadaisical. The mission trip high is lost. The good news becomes old news.

How have you experienced this in your own life of faith?

I've experienced it and I've seen it happen: enthusiasm and hunger for the Gospel turns into lethargy and apathy. Church attendance wanes, as we slowly fall out of the habit. Our prayer life lags, our Bibles grow dusty. The good news becomes old news.

We see this at church, too. Our amazing staff and ministry teams develop excellent, relevant programs and events - - so excellent that no one shows up! It's as if people think, "That sounds great; someone should do that!"

Over the course of this month and the next you're going to hear about a lot of great opportunities for you and your family to grow in faith. Here's a little advice as you consider if you should engage in them:

Hear it as a personal invitation. That's right, we're talking to YOU. We're inviting YOU to engage in these opportunities. Don't automatically hear them as opportunities for someone else. We want YOU!

It doesn't have to be exciting. It's great when an event gets you really pumped up in your faith or leaves you with a spiritual high, but that's not normally the case- AND THAT'S OKAY! Hang around the Word, it might not be exciting, but it's always working on you!

Stretch yourself. Try something new! Join a Faith Group. Try a Digging Deeper class. Teach Sunday School. Join a Ministry Team. You never know, it might just be something that gets you excited about your faith!

The good news really is good news, whether we get excited about it or not! Come and hear it! Come and experience it!

See you in church!

Pastor Dave

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stump the pastor

Q: Why do the pastors wears robes at some services, but not others?

A: Robes, or vestments, are a sign of the office or position that pastors hold. Just as judges wear black robes or police officers wear uniforms, pastoral vestments indicate that the people wearing them are appointed by the church to lead its ministry.

There is a wide variety of vestments that pastors and other church leaders wear, with names like cassock, surplice, chasuble, alb, cope and others. In very formal liturgical churches, these different kinds of robes are worn only on certain occasions.

Some pastors wear some kind of vestment every time they lead worship or do an official pastoral act. Others wear them only on the most important occasions, but otherwise see them as too formal and off-putting. Still others reject vestments entirely, for a whole variety of reasons. The same range of opinions occurs among people in the pews. Some very much want their pastors to wear robes. Others find it stuffy and way too formal.

Faith's pastors value the tradition of vestments and their symbolism, but we also see them as *adiaphora*. That is a "church word" that means "things that are *not* essential." Wearing vestments can have great value when leading worship, but it is not necessary to do so. So, at the First Word service, where we use classic Lutheran liturgy, we wear vestments, but at our more casual services, we do not. That, however, in no way affects the office we hold or the service to Christ and His Church that we strive to offer.

Blessed with Partner in Mission, Needs Remain

Dr. Abdul Messiah, son of Pastor K.K. Alavi, has committed himself to prepare for long-term leadership of the mission we share with faithful witnesses to Muslims in Southern India. To that end, he is returning for a second year of studies at the Institute of Lutheran Theology in Brookings, SD. He will continue his work toward a Master of Divinity degree.

This is a very important and yet costly endeavor for Abdul, the mission, and for our partnership as the New Hope Mission Society. It is important that we acknowledge the generosity of those partnering with us at NHMS.

Dr. Christoph Wasserman in Germany through his mission agency has been a long term supporter of Pastor K.K. and our mission in India. His mission agency will provide \$4,000 for tuition, trips back and forth to India, as well as book money for Abdul's studies;

ILT is covering the remaining tuition expense, a significant amount, through a gift from a donor for international students; and

Dr. Jonathan Sorum and his wife are providing an apartment in their home;

Remaining expenses that we in NHMS are committing to provide: food expenses and yet to be determined transportation. These funds will need to be raised from above-and-beyond designated giving.

We may be looking for someone to offer a good condition used car as a loan or gift. Abdul will be going out several weekends to present the work of the mission and in the winter would be greatly helped in getting to his classes with a vehicle. A good bicycle may work for good weather months.

If you feel moved to help in any way, please contact Pastor Paul at paul,@faithlc.com.

Pastor Paul Knudson



Imagine Capital Campaign

Just five months remain in the *Imagine* capital campaign and Faith Lutheran has made tremendous progress on paying down the mortgage during the last two-and-a-half years that it has run. Even as this campaign winds down, giving to it has remained strong and we are reducing the mortgage principal by more than \$15,000 per month! **Thank you** for your faithful and generous support to provide much-used space for ministry. Watch for a new capital campaign to begin this fall. If Faith's members continue their pattern of generosity, there is a real possibility of paying the mortgage entirely by the 150th anniversary of Faith Lutheran in 2020!



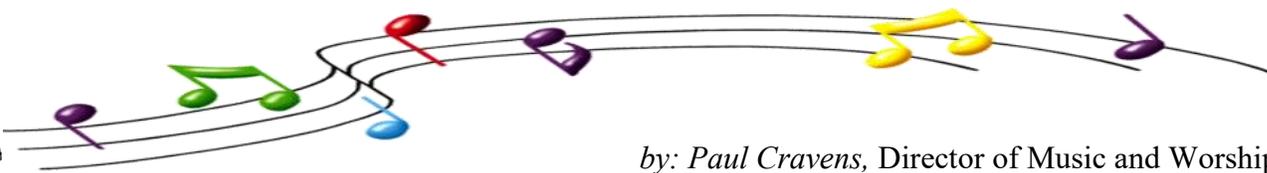
Christian Life Management

These articles have explained Biblical stewardship as a call to Christian Life Management (CLM). The idea of CLM highlights a vital distinction between stewardship and fundraising. Since both involve giving money, they can seem to be the same, but there is a key difference.

Fundraising focuses on a project, where a goal is set and gifts of whatever size are sought to meet it. Stewardship, though, starts with the giver and the blessings he or she has received from God. Giving as a stewardship practice, then, is not related to an external goal, but is a way to acknowledge and thank God as the giver of all we have by giving away a significant part of what we have first been given. Fundraising is giving to a need. Stewardship is our need to give.

This difference is why Christians would still be called to give generously even if the church had an endowment that covered all of its expenses. What drives stewardship is not the need of the church, but our need to worship God and keep our trust placed in Him, not our own assets.

So how has God blessed you in your life? How does your giving reflect His generosity to you?



by: Paul Cravens, Director of Music and Worship

Recently I had the opportunity to participate in the FLY mission trip as an adult leader. It was an incredible experience, filled with service, faith formation, community building, and worship. In the evenings, after a long work day, there would be a large group gathering with the YouthWorks staff, followed by individual church group time (which in our case is still a large group). Within that setting, we split into smaller groups to dive deeply into issues of faith and life. It has been a tradition at Faith to do a confession night within our small groups, as an opportunity for youth and adults alike to share their burdens and support each other in prayer and love. The information shared in this context is strictly confidential, but I submit mine now because I think it can be of value to the congregation.

After some reflection, I realized that I had, in effect, been going about my job with the wrong mentality from the beginning. I have poured myself into my duties without hesitation and often without consideration for a balanced social life. When I first moved back to Hutchinson, I let this job consume me, but that was alright because everything was for the kingdom of God! Or so I thought; the harder truth is that - even among church workers - career can become an idol. I set before myself tasks to complete, goals to achieve, song sets to construct. I was doing it the hard way, and I was stretching myself thin. But pure worship is not about checking off boxes, and it's much more than just a slot in our calendar at 8:00 or 10:10 on Sunday mornings. Truly, we should be filling ourselves with the Word throughout the week so that we cannot help but overflow in praise when we gather. We should be putting on the full armor of God every day and encouraging each other in the Spirit. How enthusiastic would our worship then be, and what a testament to the glorious hope we have in Christ!



Thank you so much to everyone who donated ice cream, water and the delicious pies for Music in the Park. They complemented the evening of music perfectly and the FLCW made \$323.07 to put towards mission and ministry at Faith.

Church Kitchen Cleaning After a busy summer, it is time to give the church kitchen a good cleaning. Please consider setting aside a little time on Tuesday, August 15 from 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. and come in to help clean and organize the kitchen.

Sunday School Extravaganza is coming up on Sunday, September 10 following the 10:10 services. So get ready to “WOW” our young people with your mouth-watering cakes, cookies and cupcakes to be used for the cake walk. Bring your goodies to the church on Sunday, August 10, between 8 - 9 a.m.

The Augustana District’s Women of the Word (WOW) 8th Annual Gathering will be held at Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church in Hubertus, WI on Saturday, September 16. The theme is “Endurance” based on Hebrews 12:1-2a. Registration must be sent in by September 1. You can find more information and the registration forms in the office. The FLCW is offering to pay for the \$20 registration fee for any member of Faith that wishes to attend. There is also the possibility of car pooling for those interested. Join us in staying at the Country Inn and Suites in Jackson, Wisconsin on Friday night. Come and be a part of this inspirational conference.

Garage Sale Shoppers:

When you are out looking for a bargain or a deal, could you consider keeping an eye out for gently used onesies, bath towels, washcloths and receiving blankets that can be used in Newborn and Hospice Kits, as well as gently used items like books, toys and clothes for the Operation Christmas Child boxes? Any donations that you find can be dropped off in the church office.

RECYCLING

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle. Once again, we have new containers for our recyclables. We will be sharing them with Peace Lutheran as McLeod County only has one set of the containers. This means that every week (or so) they should be picked up, emptied, and moved between Faith and Peace. If they are not here one week, know that they should be here the next week. So please, save your cardboard and paper, and recycle them here as we receive funds based on the weight of what we collect. All proceeds are used for missions.



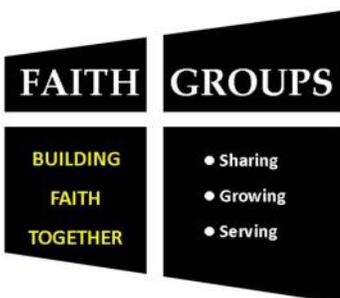
Fall Faith Groups begin Sunday, September 17

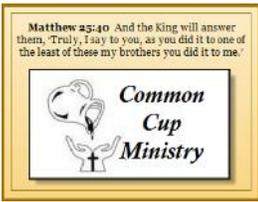
Books are being printed, video segments are being recorded. The theme will be:

“Here I Stand We Go!” *Building a Church for the Next 500 Years*

Groups will begin forming in mid-August. There will be a variety of days and times to choose from. If you are interested in leading a group (you get to pick the day, time and place), please contact Marsha at 320-587-2093.

Weekly themes will be based on Luther’s Seven Marks of the Church: The Word of God, Baptism, Communion, Office of the Keys, Ministers, Prayer/Praise/Thanksgiving and the Holy Possession of the Cross.





Common Cup Ministries

Hutchinson

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

Glencoe

1022 12th St E Ste 100
Glencoe, MN 55336
320-864-5511

Website: www.common-cup.org

Community Meal Sunday, Aug. 6

4-6 p.m.
It will be an
outdoor picnic at
Veteran's Park.
Come join us!

Fare for All Delivery Thursday, Aug. 24

4:00-5:30 p.m.
Check out the
monthly special
posted outside the
church office.



School Supply Distribution takes place **Wednesday, August 23, 5-8 p.m. and Thursday, August 24, 9 to 11 a.m.** at Crosspoint Church in Hutchinson and Helen Baker Elementary in Glencoe. Each member church has been asked to choose certain supplies to collect for the drive. Faith Lutheran has chosen to be in charge of collecting **High-lighters, 4 packs of Dry Erase Markers and 1" 3-Ring Binders**

with clear front pockets. Donations can be left in the Common Cup Corner.

Thank you for supporting this ministry. **Applications** for supplies are available in the Common Cup Corner and are **due by August 4.** The **Shoe Away Hunger** bus, which helps fund "Good in the Hood" feeding programs will be there on Wednesday, kids' shoes \$2, adult shoes \$5.

Diaper Distribution takes place the last Tuesday of each month from 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the CCM office. Donations are always welcome and can be left in either Common Cup Corner.

HungerFree McLeod's Backpack Program provides weekend food for students on the free/reduced program in McLeod County schools. This year it plans to serve approximately 250 children in grades K-4 each week. FLC is going to continue to collect the **fruit and applesauce cups** that are given to students each week. Please remember these children in need each week as you purchase your groceries. Donations can be left in the Common Cup Corner. Thank you for your ongoing support!

Provision of Personal Products or PoPP is a program providing personal care products to students in grades 5-12. Examples of needed items can be found in the Common Cup Corner.

Upcoming Thrivent Action Plan Opportunities

Thank you to those who are asking about and supporting the ministry of Faith through Thrivent Action Plans! Members of Thrivent can fill out a simple on-line application. Then Thrivent will send you a \$250 card to use as "Seed Money" for an event or activity. This money can be used for fundraising events, educational events and other church/community activities. Upcoming opportunities at Faith that could use sponsorship are listed below. Please note that it can take a couple of weeks for this to be processed through Thrivent, so you will want to apply early for these events.

Coming up in August, September and October: Mugs and Muffins, 9th Grade Confirmation Retreat, High School Free Lunch, Faith by the Fire, Confirmation Reception, Trick-or-Treat for the Foodshelf; Community Meals, Hunger Free Fruit, Faith Family Fun Activities including Faith Day at the Lake and Fall Extravaganza, and Men of Faith Events.



Come to Outdoor Worship!



Worship outdoors continues each Sunday through September 3 (weather permitting), at Library Square beginning at 10:10 a.m. Bring your chair or blanket, bring your kids or neighbors, and join in worship of our great God in the great outdoors. If inclement weather forces us to move back inside, the change will be announced on KDUZ radio and posted on our Facebook page (so like our page today!). The First Word service will continue in the sanctuary each Sunday at 8 a.m. Holy Communion will be administered at both services on the first and second Sunday of each month.

Mark your calendars now!

Faith Day at the Lake

Join us for an afternoon and evening of fun at **Piepenburg Park** on beautiful Belle Lake



Sunday, August 20th
3:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Potluck Picnic

Relaxing

Swimming

Fishing

Games

S'mores

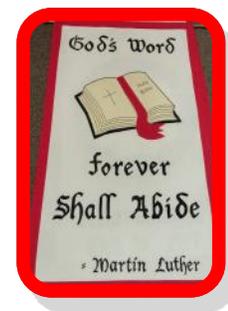
**Closing Worship
by the
Campfire**



Attention ~ Important Confirmation Change!

Due to the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation, Faith Lutheran Church has changed the date of the 2017 confirmation service from October 29 to **1:30 p.m. on Sunday, November 5.**

Please make note of this change and we apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.



Fall Extravaganza

Sunday, September 10 ~ 11:15 a.m. -1:00 p.m.

This annual event is a kick-off for the fall program year.

There will be a Sunday School registration table, food, games and something for everyone to participate in. Mark the date on your calendars now so that your family can be a part of this exciting annual event.





Thoughts and Prayers

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

- Lance Corporal Colin Bos (Marines, Fort 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 and 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 and Tom Felber)
- Lance Corporal Nathan Thunstrom (Marines, San Diego, CA - son of Andy & Shelly Hedin and grandson of Dennis & Barb Hedin)



Remember our Faith members in nursing homes & health care centers

Cedar Crest – Cosmos

Patricia Lambert

Cedar Crest – Silver Lake

Bernice Vorbeck

Cokato Manor

Patricia Paulson

Cottagewood (Buffalo)

Eleanor Lack

Dassel Lakeside

Doris Betker

Glencoe Nursing Home

Kathryn Wendlandt

Helen Sandlund

Harmony River

Alice Bell

Jeanette Fauskee

Dave & Betty Jensen

Joanne Olesen

Harvey Skorheim

Charlie & Harriet Thor

Arnie Milbrett

Prairie Senior Cottages

Pat Fimon

Prairie View (Hector)

Jerome Lindquist

Woodstone

Don Fitzgerald

Betty Garberich

Lucille Yukel

Faith Lutheran Church

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Paulus Pilgrim, Visitation	320-234-9753 (home)	paulusp@faithlc.com

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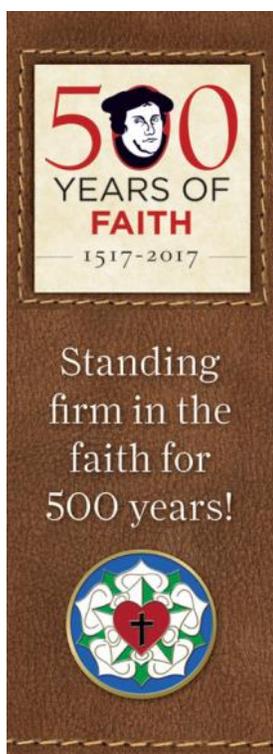
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OUR MISSION IS:
BUILDING FAITH

"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