



# Faith Matters

## JULY 2018



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## Pastors' Page

“Don’t be afraid.”

The five Sundays in July feature some amazing stories of Jesus at work, doing his thing. Some of the stories are well known, others less so. Some are sad, others amazing. But the stories are bookended by a similar theme on the first and last Sunday: “Don’t be afraid.”

In fact, it’s a theme that can be seen in each story:

July 1, Mark 5:21-43: A desperate woman, suffering from a hemorrhage for twelve years, timidly touches Jesus’ garment and is healed. Later, Jesus comes to the house of a dead little girl. Undaunted, he commands, “Do not fear, only believe.” He marches in and brings the dead girl to life

July 8, Mark 6:1-13: Having returned to Nazareth to preach, Jesus is rejected by his hometown. They were afraid of his common origins. Jesus then sends the twelve out—no doubt an anxious and intimidating mission! Yet Jesus equips them and instructs them.

July 15, Mark 6:14-29: John the Baptist is beheaded. A shocking and evil act that surely caused fear and sadness in Jesus’ followers.

July 22, Mark 6:30-44: Jesus feeds 5,000 people. Imagine the fear the disciples felt when Jesus turned to them and said, “You give them something to eat”!

Finally, July 29, Mark 6:45-56: The disciples, out in a boat in the middle of the Sea of Galilee, cry out in fear as they see a figure approaching. But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, “Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid.”

What are you scared of? What is causing you anxiety? What keeps you up at night? What paralyzes you from taking action?

Have you been suffering or mourning? Do you fear death and its power?

Are you afraid to be a witness, sharing the gospel with others?

Are you horrified by the evil in the world?

Are you overwhelmed by the demands and tasks set before you?

Or are you scared of not knowing what lies out there, unable to recognize Jesus’ presence?

If that is you—if you are scared, anxious, or afraid - then open up your Bible to Mark 6. Read Jesus’ words. Behold how Jesus responds. And then don’t miss a Sunday! Come, hear, and be at peace!

“Take heart; It is I. Do not be afraid!”

See you in church,

Pastor Dave

**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: Are there any Bible passages that could be considered humorous?*

A: Actually, there are many, but they are easy to miss. Most of the humor is subtle, some of it gets lost in translation, and we miss some of it just because we take the Bible very seriously and so we do not expect to find any humor there.

The author Elton Trueblood tells of a time when his family was having devotions. He read Jesus' question, "Why do you see the speck in your neighbor's eye, but do not notice the log in your own eye?" and his young son burst out laughing. To him, the log was not a metaphor for hypocrisy. He pictured someone with a tree trunk sticking out of his face and found it hilarious.

Or think about Jesus' charge against the Pharisees in Matthew 23:24, "You strain out a gnat and swallow a camel." T.R. Glover wrote, "(Imagine) the series of sensations as the long, hairy neck slid down the throat of the Pharisee—all that amplitude of loose-hung anatomy—the hump—two humps—both of them slid down—and he never noticed; and the legs—all of them—with the whole outfit of knees and big padded feet." Jesus made a serious point, but he used a really funny image to do so.

Other funny passages include Genesis 3:12-13, where Adam and Eve try to pass the buck for their sin in ridiculous fashion. In Genesis 18, Abraham fell on his face laughing when God promised he would have a son at the age of 100—and we would, too, if God promised that to us. Boaz's startled response to Ruth's not-so-subtle nighttime visit in Ruth 3 is comical. In I Kings 18:27, Elijah mercilessly mocked the false god Baal as his prophets begged in vain for a response to their prayers. Most of the book of Jonah is over-the-top satire, like the spectacular response in Nineveh to the bare minimum witness by the most reluctant prophet in history.

To recognize that there is humor in the Bible does not treat it less seriously or undermine its authority as God's Word. It simply adds to the rich variety of literary forms that are used in it to communicate the astounding good news of God's mercy and love.

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## The Mission of Money

A phrase like "the mission of money" naturally suggests how money can support the work of God's kingdom, whether in a local church like Faith Lutheran or in mission efforts around the world. But Biblical stewardship reveals that the money we give away also serves a mission in our own lives.

The best and worst part of money is how powerful it is. Because it can do so much, people are always tempted to treat it as a god, trust in it and do most anything to get more of it. So, St. Paul warns in I Timothy 6, "the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil." Note that the problem isn't money itself, but the *love* of money. Money itself is simply a tool God gives us to provide for ourselves, help our neighbors and support God's work in the world. It only becomes a problem if we put our trust in our money rather than God who gives it to us.

That is why regular, intentional giving is so important. Giving money away reminds me that it is only an instrument God has given me to use. It is not the basis of my security, future or hope. As you give in proportion to how God has first blessed you, the money you give will not only work for mission, but it will work its mission in your life!



**Church offices  
will be closed on  
Wednesday, July 4.**



### **Ice Cream Social at Library Square**

The Congregational Life Team will be serving ice cream cones after the 10:10 service at Library Square on Sunday, July 15. Plan to stay after the service for a cone and some conversation!

In case of rain, it will be postponed to a later date.

### **Calling All Pie Bakers**

Get your favorite recipe dusted off and ready to bake for Music in the Park on Monday, July 2 at 6:30 p.m. FLC will be serving pie, ice cream, coffee and water. *Gravel Road* will provide the music that night. In case of rain, the event will move to Peace Lutheran Church, so rain or shine it will be a night to enjoy. Please bring pies to the church by 4 p.m. or to the park by 5:30. No cream pies please, as they do not do well in the heat.



### **Sunday Summer Schedule - Worship in the Park**

The First Word Service will continue weekly at 8 a.m. in the sanctuary. The 10:10 a.m. services will be at Library Square through September 2.

Grab a chair or blanket, bring a neighbor or a friend and meet at Library Square for weekly worship.

In case of inclement weather, the service will be moved back to the sanctuary. Please listen to the 8 a.m. broadcast announcements or watch the Faith Lutheran Church Facebook page to learn if the service will come indoors.

### **Outdoor Worship**

**Sundays at 10:10 a.m.**

**May 27 - September 2**





## An Act of Faith, An Act of Determination in the Face of Daunting Challenges

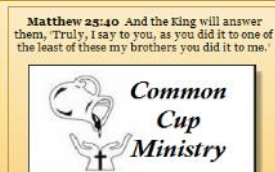
Can you imagine living in a country where seventy years ago you were surrounded by one million Lutheran Christians and now that number has been reduced to 30,000? Seventy years of atheistic communist persecution at the hands of the Soviet Union decimated your Church. Church structures were closed in mass, pastors were sent off to gulags with some never returning. Two generations were prohibited from worship and training in the faith.

That is the story of Estonia. Today it's one of the most secular, atheistic countries. It now has its freedom, but is left with a population that has lost its spiritual moorings. It could be seen as hopeless, beyond recovery.

In face of these daunting challenges, Lutheran leaders in Estonia are finding partners in America that are stepping up to help them prepare new generations of pastors and other church leaders. To that end they desperately need new seminary facilities to bring evangelical Christian denominations together in this training.

Amazingly, in under two months \$105,000 has been raised for a down payment to the builder. Another \$20,000 is still needed by the end of June. By God's grace this will happen, and the building will proceed.

We at Faith and in the Augustana District are discerning how we might partner with our brothers and sisters in Estonia in this act of faith and determination.



### Hutchinson

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

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

### Glencoe

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

### Community Meal

Sunday, **July 1**  
4-6 p.m. at Faith  
Lutheran Church

### The Summer Feeding Program

is free for children 18 & younger. It kicks off on **June 11** and runs through **August 17**. Food will be served **M-F at Park Elem. 11:30-12:30** and at the **Middle School from 11-12:30**.

Fundraiser for  
Common Cup  
Ministries: Satur-  
day, **August 18**,  
8-11 a.m. at the  
Aquatic Center!



**Fare for All Delivery**  
Thursday, **July 26** 3:00-5:00 p.m.  
**Check out the monthly special**  
**posted outside the office.**

Please donate your used, road-ready bikes to **Wheels of Mercy**, through CtK. This is a program to provide transportation to those in need.

**Laundry Love Ministry** takes place the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tues. of each month from 9 a.m. – 6:30 p.m. at the Maytag Laundromat.

**Diaper Distribution** takes place the last Tuesday of each month, **July 31**, from 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. at the CCM office. Donations are always welcome and can be left at Common Cup or at Faith in the Common Cup corners.

School Supply Distribution takes place **Wednesday, August 22, 3-6:30 p.m.** at Crosspoint Church in Hutch and Lincoln School in Glencoe. Please collect the following items and place them in either of the Common Cup Corners: **Highlighters, 4-packs of Dry Erase Markers, 1" 3-Ring Binders with clear front pocket, 3-Ring Pencil bags, Backpacks.** Applications to receive supplies are due by **August 16**.



# Thoughts and Prayers



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



Remember our Faith members in  
nursing homes & health care centers:

## Buffalo Lake Nursing Home

Joan Fitzloff

## Cedar Crest – Silver Lake

Patricia Lambert

Janice Rohrbach

Bernice Vorbeck

Lucille Wehking

## Dassel Lakeside

Doris Betker

## Harmony River

Margaret Alrick

Pearl Betker

Irene Christensen

Dave & Betty Jensen

Ruth Moen

Joanne Olesen

Charlie & Harriet Thor

## Oaks

Verla Biddle

Arlyce Drahos

Ellsworth & Delores Lorentzen

Barb Ryan

Charlie & Harriet Wixcey

## Pines

Margaret Grorud

Helen Hansen

Don Sennes

Doris Strand

## Prairie Senior Cottages

Pat Fimon

## Prairie View (Hector)

Jerome Lindquist

## Woodstone

Don Fitzgerald

Betty Garberich

Lucille Yukel

Corporal Colin Bos (Marines, Camp Pendleton, CA - son of Dawn Bos)

Sgt. Jason Gaulke (El Paso, TX - nephew of Alice Fransen)

Petty Officer 3<sup>rd</sup> Class Mason Rutledge (Navy, Norfolk, VA - son of Lenny & Patti Rutledge)

Pfc Anthony Settergren (MN National Guard, Kuwait - son of Richard and Jean Settergren)

Col. Rob Skaar (Minneapolis/St. Paul Air National Guard - son of Dave & Marian Skaar)

LT Brett Stadsklev (Navy, Norfolk, VA - son-in-law of Judy & Tom Felber)

Corporal Nathan Thunstrom (Marines, Camp Pendleton, CA - son of Andy & Shelly Hedin and grandson of Dennis & Barb Hedin)

PFC Ryan Wersal (Army, Fort Meade, MD - son of Roger & Laurie Wersal)

## Faith Lutheran Church

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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

