

Faith Matters - August 2021
150
THE LIFE OF FAITH
Past Present Future
 1870-2020
Pastors' Page



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During several recent visits with friends and family members, I was often asked when I plan to retire. It was a little unnerving, because I have hardly thought about that at all. I do not feel anywhere near ready to retire, though all the questions did make me wonder what other people see that I don't! At the same time, I know why they were asking. The calendar proves that, before too terribly long, I am going to have to consider the question more seriously.

Facing that reality naturally raises the question of who might take my place, not only here at Faith, but in the ministry generally. Worrisome studies have long reported a looming shortage of clergy. As my generation of LCMC pastors, one of the last to graduate from traditional seminaries, rides off into the sunset, will there be new ones to replace us? On one hand, I can confidently say yes, because God has always raised up pastors for the Church, but on the other hand, it is crucial for the Church to identify young people whom God may be calling into ministry and do all we can to guide, support and educate them.

To that end, staff and leaders of Faith Lutheran have been considering how we might use the celebration of our 150th anniversary as a launching pad into the next 150 years of Christian ministry. One vital move would be to provide initial funding for creative efforts to provide leaders for the Church in the next generation. How could we do that?

Early in 2020, we had planned to try to gather extra gifts to pay off our mortgage as the congregation's anniversary gift to itself. After the anniversary was derailed by the pandemic, the church received a generous bequest from Dave and Betty Jensen's estate that allowed us to satisfy the mortgage. There was no more need for those extra capital campaign gifts.

Now, the anniversary celebration is back on and, with the mortgage paid, we wondered about Faith still making that anniversary gift, but as a way to sustain the Church going forward. In gratitude for the past and vision for the future, could we raise **150 for the Next 150**—\$150,000 in special gifts to launch us into the next 150 years? If so, these funds could *possibly* be used to start an internship program in Hutchinson to mentor students through Faith's ministries as they consider a pastoral call, or to start a worshipping community in the Cities for alumni of Faith and others looking for a faithful church home there. Other dreams also abound.

We plan to hold a special congregational meeting this fall to ask the members of Faith to approve this *goal*. Approval would not commit the church to raising that amount, but would only authorize us to pursue that vision together.

Continued on page 2

**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.

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Faith Lutheran has taken on crazy, visionary projects before, such as founding the New Hope Mission Society or purchasing Faith on Grove. Could this opportunity to provide **150 for the Next 150** be the next crazy vision the Lord is putting before us? Please pray for the Holy Spirit to help us discern that. In the meantime, we would love to talk more about this with any of you.

Grace and peace,
Pastor Scott Grorud



Stump the Pastor

Note: The following column appeared once before in this space, but a Bible study group at Faith recently asked the question again. It seemed like a good reason to repeat it.

Q: At Faith Lutheran, why do the creeds say “holy Christian Church” instead of “holy catholic Church”?

A: In their original languages, the Apostles’ and Nicene creeds describe the Church as “catholic” (small c). It is a Greek word that means “universal” and declares that there is only one Christian Church on earth. As early as the 1400’s, however, “Christian” was commonly used and understood to mean the same as “catholic.”

After the Reformation, the Church of Rome more intentionally used “Catholic” (capital C) to distinguish itself as the true Church over against Lutherans and other Protestants. Over time, that use of Catholic began to function as a denominational title. It then made even more sense for Lutherans to use “Christian,” since we are part of the catholic Church, but clearly not the Catholic Church.

Only in 1978, when the *Lutheran Book of Worship* (green hymnal) was published, were the creeds switched back to using “catholic Church” instead. The reasons for the change were not all clear, but what did become crystal clear through the next 35 years of trying to clarify (small-c) catholic from (capital-C) Catholic is that it confused people to no end. Despite its original meaning, people easily assume that “catholic” (capitalized or not) refers to the Roman Catholic Church and are often baffled as to why Lutherans would confess their faith in “the holy catholic Church.”

So, to clarify our confession—to ourselves and especially to guests—we have reclaimed the word that Lutherans consistently used in all but the last generation, confessing our faith in “the holy Christian Church.” It has exactly the same meaning as (small-c) catholic, but we hope it communicates more clearly what the phrase actually denotes.

Stewardship Matters

At a retreat last month, members of Faith Lutheran’s staff were each asked to describe what their area of ministry would ideally look like five years from now. The passion, vision and hopes they expressed were exciting and inspiring. As we talked through the possibilities, one hope they expressed was that funds necessary to implement these ideas would be available.



That is one key reason why stewardship matters. Generous giving to the church allows Faith to step out boldly and pursue new ministries. Rest assured that the staff strives to manage church funds very responsibly, but knowing that resources are available to support this ministry—what is currently in place and what is still on the drawing board—gives the church the freedom to pursue the work of God’s kingdom in new and creative ways.



Anniversary Excitement is Building!

It may be a year late, but we are so excited to be able to celebrate the 150th Anniversary of Faith Lutheran Church!



Some events for you to put on your calendar:

- 1) **Let's create a new church directory!** First, please fill out the enclosed information update card and return it to the church by August 25. Next, register via Faith's website at Faithlc.com for a time between August 15-31 to have your picture taken at the church. The more who participate, the more helpful our "Anniversary Edition" will be. You can also register by stopping in the church office during the week. The church is working with an individual photographer, not a directory company so you will have the opportunity to purchase pictures if you wish, but there will be no pressure or sales pitch. Volunteers are also needed to direct and register people as they arrive for their photo shoot. You can register to help with this via the website also.
- 2) **Anniversary Apparel is on sale again!** The Faith Lutheran Apparel store will be open again for online orders by August 9. Orders placed by the end of August will be ready for pick up before the anniversary celebration. A couple of new items will be available this time. You can find the link to order on the website after August 9 or stop by the church office to place an order.
- 3) **Sunday, September 19** - Heritage Service in the morning and a Faith on Grove reunion service at the old Grove Street building in the evening.
- 4) **Saturday, October 16** - a dinner for all past and present staff. Volunteers are needed to help serve. Contact Joy May at joymay1017@gmail.com if you are able to help.
- 5) **Sunday, October 17** - an all-congregation service and meal at the fairgrounds with exciting activities for all ages. Meal tickets are free, but will be required in advance for a head count. Watch for updates on how to get your tickets this fall.



August Faith Family Fun: Faith Day at the Lake

Sunday August 1, 4-7 p.m. at Piepenburg Park

Outdoor family event for all ages! Bring your own lawn chair and picnic to Piepenburg and enjoy games, swimming, campfire, songs and s'mores.

Greeting Friends of Faith Lutheran!

Though summer is not yet over, we are quickly approaching fall and that means the start of our program year. I am excited to resume Faith Singers, Ringers of Faith, and Middle School Bells in full force! I have been working on an exciting fall program for each ensemble that highlights the strengths and compliments the anniversary celebration. Rehearsal for Faith Singers and Ringers of Faith will begin Wednesday, September 1st.

If you are a returning member, look for details at the end of August. If you are interested in what we do or want to join, please reach out! I am always accepting new members. Join us in the fun, fellowship, and devotion of making music at Faith! Many exciting things to look forward to. See you soon!

Soli deo Gloria,
Austin





It's Time for Outreach: Katie Weikle Goes to Greece with a Group of 18

Introduction: Katie Weikle, who grew up at Faith, is now a leader with Youth With A Mission (YWAM), preparing young adults for bearing witness to Jesus Christ in challenging situations. Below Katie describes a very special outreach time in Thessaloniki, Greece, by a team from Nuremberg, Germany, that headed out in mid-July. Half of the group were staff and half were those who have spent time in training for just this kind of witness. They will be working through Summer Nightlife Outreach. It's a ministry started by the YWAM base in Constanta, Romania. The vision is to see the young people in the party scene transformed through an encounter with Jesus.

What is Ahead for the Nuremberg Outreach Team?

"Millions of young people in Europe pass through holiday resorts every summer, looking to enjoy the sun, the beach and the party scenes of our coastal towns and cities. Away from home and their daily responsibilities, their normal boundaries are thrown out of the window and we often find them looking for a good time through excessive drinking, experimenting with drugs, and sex. The very things that were supposed to guarantee a good time often prove to be empty and even destructive.

What if we were right there? What if we could offer them something better? What if we sent teams into the party scenes of these holiday resorts, ready to love the people, ready to share the Gospel with them and ready to lead them into an encounter with Jesus?...Here we have seen young people experience Jesus' love, peace and healing power in the middle of the busy and crowded streets of the party scene."

Faith's benevolence includes modest support for Katie's leadership which put us on the scene of this Spirit-led witness.

**BACK TO
SCHOOL
SUPPLY
DRIVE**



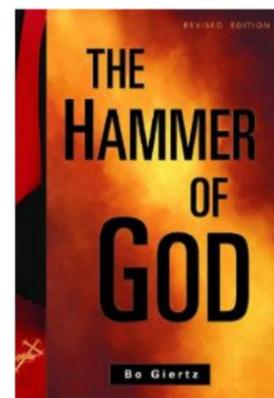
Back to School Supply Drive (Common Cup Ministry)

Last call for back-to-school supplies! The deadline to donate items is August 6. Please bring donations to the church office. Applications for families in need of supplies are also available in the Common Cup Corner right outside the church office. Thank you for supporting your neighbors through this program!

"Faith Seeks Understanding"
Continuing Learning Opportunities for Adults

Theo Thursday Book Study

Theo Thursday is an adult book study on Thursdays from 12 noon - 1 p.m. Beginning on August 5, this group will dig into *The Hammer of God* by Bo Giertz. Order a copy of the book online ahead of time so you will be ready for class to begin. If you would like to participate in this group during your work lunch hour, feel free to pack and bring your lunch to eat during class. Contact pastor Dave Wollan with questions or for more information.





Faith Lutheran Church Women (FLCW)

Calling all Pie Bakers! Music in the Park is resuming in August and the FLCW will be there serving pie and ice cream at the Monday, August 30 event. You can sign up in the church office to donate your favorite pie or to volunteer to help man the table. Plan to deliver all pies to the church by 5 p.m. on August 30 or bring them to the park before 6 p.m. You are also invited to come out and enjoy music by SouthGrade accompanied by a sweet treat.

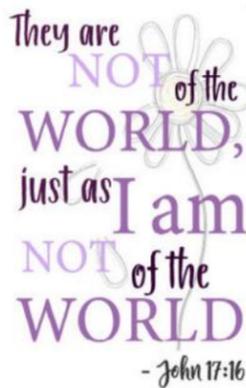
Thank you to every one who helped with and attended the Garden Tour and Luncheon. It was a huge success with a lot of positive feedback. This fundraiser made \$900 for kitchen needs and local charities.



Funeral Luncheon Notes: Our church membership is divided into ten groups to rotate serving at funerals (and other occasional events). Each group is assigned a calling coordinator. If you receive a call/message from one of these folks, PLEASE respond—even if the answer is no. It is important for them to have an answer, either way, to know how to proceed with reaching out to more people. Thank you for helping to serve when you are able.

Save the Dates for other 2021 Events

- ⇒ November 14: Annual FLCW Meeting in the Faith Center at 11:15 a.m.
- ⇒ December 11: Christmas Tea in the Faith Center (Time TBA)



Augustana District Women of the Word Annual Gathering

September 18, from 8:30 a.m.—3 p.m.

Hosted by Crossroads Lutheran in Dawson, MN

Faith Lutheran Church is an LCMC (Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ) Church and is also a very active part of the Augustana District (a district within the LCMC). The Augustana District has a women’s group that meets annually for fellowship, worship and to hear some great speakers. The line-up this year includes Bonnie Wasberg and Pastor Julie Smith speaking on **Women of the World-Word: What’s the Difference** and what it looks like to be **Sent into the World**.

Registration forms are available at the church or on the Augustana District Website at augustanadistrict.org and must be sent in before September 1.



Caregiver Support Group

Are you responsible for caring for a loved one at home or as the main contact for someone in a care facility? The Faith Lutheran Church Pastoral Care Team knows what a challenge it can be and how many things you may be negotiating or juggling to make sure your loved one has the best care possible. No one should have to navigate all of these things alone. That is why Pastor Paulus Pilgrim and Marsha Schmit started a monthly caregiver support group. This group meets on the last Thursday of each month from 4—5 p.m. and is open to members of Faith and non-members alike. For more information or to join this confidential group please contact Pr. Paulus or Marsha at 320-587-2093.



Laura's Children's Ministry Page

Please Remember in Prayer



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

Braiden Bjorge (Marines, Jacksonville, NC - grandson of Sandy Curtiss)

Mike Bjorge (Air Force - son-in-law of Sandy Curtis)

Petty Officer 3rd Class Mason Rutledge (Navy, New Orleans, LA

- son of Lenny Rutledge & Patti Rutledge)

LT Brett Stadskev (Navy, Corpus Christi, TX - son-in-law of

Judy & Tom Felber)

SPC Ryan Wersal (Army, Fort Meade, MD - son of Roger &

Laurie Wersal)

Trevor Wersal (MN National Guard,

son of Roger and Laurie Wersal)



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

Find us @
FaithLC.com



Facebook.com/
FaithLutheranHutchinson

RADIO BROADCAST
KDUZ 1260 AM
SUNDAYS 8 A.M.

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

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Bryant Homes - Maple Plain

Ardell Novotny

Cedar Crest - Silver Lake

Patricia Lambert

Bernice Vorbeck

Lucille Wehking

Cokato Nursing Home

Clara Betker

Glenfields - Glencoe

Mae Sondergaard

Harmony River

Margaret Alrick

LeRoy Barrick

Ruth Larson

Ellsworth & Delores Lorentzen

Fran Lundeen

Karol Nolte

Jean Pittman

Harriet Thor

Oaks

Marcella Brede

Beverly Kirchner

Prairie Senior Cottages

Harold (Swede) Sandgren

Woodstone

Dodie Fenske

Betty Garberich

Gerry Grams

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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:

- F**OLLOW JESUS
- A**NNOUNCE THE GOSPEL
- I**NVITE ALL PEOPLE
- T**EACH CHRISTIAN TRUTH
- H**ELP ALL WHO ARE IN NEED

**Newsletter via
USPS or E-mail?**

Would you like to receive your monthly Faith Matters newsletter via e-mail? It saves the church postage and printing costs, and you get to see it in color every month! You can request a change to e-mailed newsletters by sending an e-mail to office@faithlc.com requesting the change.

An icon of a yellow envelope with a white newspaper sticking out. The newspaper has the word "NEWS" written in bold red letters on its top section.