



Pastors' Page

Ready? Set? STOP!

That’s what our 2020 Anniversary celebration felt like. After waiting for years to give Faith Lutheran a big anniversary bash, we had to put everything on hold while we waited out the pandemic. It turns out, we just wanted to make a little bit more history before we give the church a proper party! Now, it’s time!

Ready? Set? GO!!

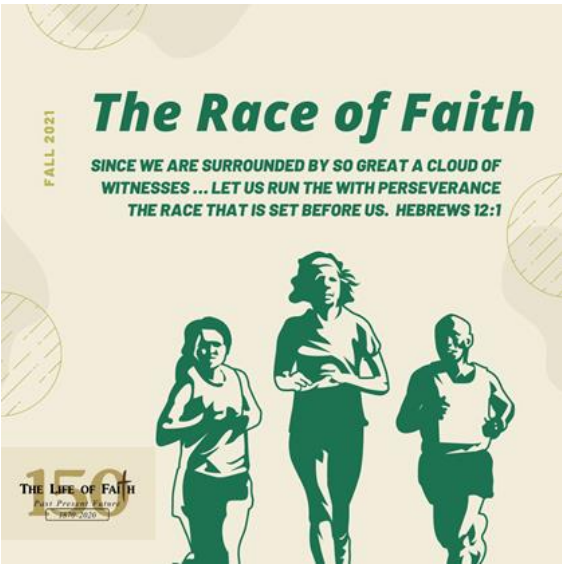
My brothers and sisters at Faith Lutheran Church, it’s time to party! It’s time to remember! It’s time to celebrate! It’s time to run *The Race of Faith* together!

Over the next couple of months, *The Race of Faith* will be the theme we focus on in our celebration. It’s based on that wonderful verse from Hebrews 12:1, “Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us.” We will be consider this theme alongside the vibrant texts from chapters nine and ten of the Gospel of Mark, and some key time periods from Faith’s history. We hope that this will provide us with a great way to look back and remember, and look ahead in excitement. God has been so good to this Faith family and we trust that his goodness will endure forever!

With that said, running is tiring. I’ve run into a lot of weary folks this last year. It feels like we’ve been running uphill, running in circles, or even running in place! The result? By now many of us are simply run down. Our Lord Jesus invites you to come to him, weary sinners. Find rest for your souls. Running is easier when we run together and when we run to Jesus.

So let’s run the race together! Let’s fix our eyes on Jesus! Let’s drink of the Living Water and celebrate God’s goodness!

See you in church!
Pastor Dave



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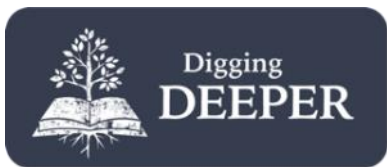


RADIO BROADCAST
SUNDAYS 8 A.M.
KDUZ 1260 AM

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

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“Faith Seeks Understanding”

Continuing Learning Opportunities for Adults

Digging Deeper

How We Got Here: The Story Behind and Beyond Faith Lutheran’s 150 Years

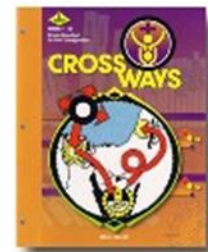
Pastor Scott originally presented this survey of Faith Lutheran’s heritage in early 2020 to introduce the year-long celebration of the church’s 150th Anniversary. Now that the Covid-19 pandemic has delayed that celebration for more than a year, he will present four of those seven sessions again on September 12, 19, October 3 and 10, in the Faith Center. Come to learn more about the story of our congregation as we prepare to celebrate a century and a half of God’s faithfulness.

The Ruthless Elimination of ~~Hurry~~: Unhurrying your life

Based on the book by John Mark Comer, Pastor Dave will lead this discussion on our hurried and busy lifestyles, and the restful, slow, unhurried life Jesus invites us into. This class is for all anxious, tired, frantic, time-crunched, sinners. We’ll meet in Library Square on September 12, and then in the Upstairs Conference Room for the rest of the sessions.

Crossways Bible Studies

A new year-one **Crossways** Bible study will begin in late September. *Crossways* is a “big picture” study of the entire Bible. It includes an overview of each book, placed in the framework of the Bible’s “big story.” It combines Bible reading, commentary and full-color illustrations to show how the whole Bible fits together. Want to know your Bible better? *Crossways* is for you!



Crossways classes meet for 20 weeks per year for three years.

Year 1—The **NEW** class will begin on **Sunday, September 26** at **6:00 p.m.** in the Faith Center.

Year 2 will resume on Monday, September 13 at 6:30 p.m.

Year 3 will resume on Thursday, September 9 at 6:30 p.m.

Crossways materials can be purchased or borrowed from the church. Contact Pastor Scott or the church office to sign up for the new class or to get more information.

Monday Morning Bible Study

Majoring in the Minors: The Fire and Anguish of the Minor Prophets

The shorter prophetic books called the Minor Prophets are not as well known as Isaiah or Jeremiah, but they are full of memorable verses, crackling tension, poignant events and beautiful promises. This survey of some key minor prophets will meet on Mondays from 10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. in the Faith Center, starting on September 13. Bring your Bible and a pen or pencil. No prior experience or expertise required!

Faith Group Night

Tuesday nights at Faith starting Tuesday, September 28

Introducing Faith Group Night! This is a great opportunity to plug into a Faith Group, get to know others in the congregation, and enjoy growth and community. Dinner will be served starting at 5:15 p.m. in the Faith Center until 6 p.m. Then, you can plug into a Faith Group small group to grow in faith and get to know others. Childcare and kids’ activities will be offered. Faith Groups will meet every Tuesday except for the third Tuesday of the month. Contact Pastor Dave or Marsha for more information.



It's a blast from the past!

Historical Service and Faith on Grove Worship

Sunday, September 19

We're bringing it back and *way* back, on September 19!

First, the way back: Sunday morning worship is going to have an historic flavor. Join us for worship that morning to experience a bit of what our earlier generations at Faith Lutheran experienced in worship. We'll use some liturgies from the old *Hymnal for Church and Home*, sing some old hymns, and enjoy some other old-fashioned twists.



Then, at 6:30 p.m. that evening, head over to the old Faith on Grove building for a reunion worship service, celebrating the profound impact that building and ministry had on the life of Faith. The night will feature special guests, familiar old songs, and our old beloved worship space.



Pay attention to the announcements for more details for both of these special services.



Special Congregational Meeting: 150 for the Next 150?

Pending church council approval at its August meeting, Faith Lutheran will call a *special congregational meeting* on **Sunday, September 26**, at **9:15 a.m.** The only item on the agenda will be to present a vision for the congregation to try to raise \$150,000 in special gifts in celebration of its 150th anniversary. Any funds raised will be used for programs to develop pastors and other church leaders for the next 150 years of ministry. All confirmed members of the church are urged to attend to learn more about this proposed anniversary gift to the wider church.

Congregational Photo: We plan to take a congregational photo at the beginning of the meeting. This will be taken outside (weather permitting) and will include the Sunday School children and teachers as well as everyone present for the meeting. See you there!

Anniversary Updates as Excitement Continues to Build!

- 1) Thank you to everyone who participated in the 150th Anniversary Edition pictorial directory. Watch for updates as to when they will be available for purchase.
- 2) **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.
- 3) **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. You can secure yours from the church office or between services Sunday, September 12 and 19.



***“How good, Lord, to be here. Fulfiller of the past and hope for things to be,
We hail your body glorified and our redemption see.” LBW #89***

Dear friends,

I am filled with gratitude to be celebrating one year of service at Faith this month! There are many ways that God has fulfilled me and the music department at Faith through the past 12 months. One example comes from Christmas Eve when the choir, bells, organ/piano, and congregation came together to sing “Silent Night”. This memory serves as the first large-scale fulfillment of my musical calling at Faith. As we approach our anniversary celebration, I invite you to think about how God has fulfilled your faith through the past 150 years. As I look ahead to this next year, I am excited about everything yet to be. Let us all put our hope in God that as he fulfills our past, he will do the same for our future. Perhaps my favorite part about Faith is the daily reminder that no matter what I do, everything is for the glory of God. The quote on my office wall, our staff weekly devotions, choir and bell rehearsals, Sunday morning hymns, and guitar playing: these are all examples of glorifying God in service to the church. Thank you for the support this past year and beyond. I can truly say; *“How good, Lord, to be here.”*

I am so very excited to resume our ensembles on Wednesday, September 1, with Ringers of Faith at 5 p.m. and Faith Singers at 6:30 p.m. If you are interested in participating in either of these ensembles, I would love for you to join us.

Forever, Soli Deo Gloria! Amen!
Austin



SENIORS’ SCENE

Can you believe this? We are planning our next Seniors’ Potluck gathering. It will actually be a real live potluck dinner! So get your recipes and favorite dishes out and bring them to **Seniors’ Potluck**, on **Thursday, September 30, at 12:00 p.m.**, in the **Faith Center**. This is what we’ve been waiting to hear and we’ve waited a long time, haven’t we?



I suppose we should prepare ourselves for the remote possibility that the Delta Virus might put a stop to our plans, but at this time we don’t think so. If you think you should bring and wear your mask, then please do so. Each of us should satisfy our personal feelings about that. But as for right now, SENIORS’ POTLUCK is ON, for September 30 so pass the word!

Furthermore, we have a program. It will be a good one that should stir some excitement for our congregational anniversary celebration in October. We have secured Brian Haines, director of the McLeod County Museum here in Hutchinson. Perhaps you read his interesting articles in the paper each week. We’ve asked Brian to tell us about Hutchinson churches, and, we hope, to dig up some of the special history of Faith Lutheran Church. He promised to do his best, so it should be a fine time to listen and learn.

So...”See you at Potluck,” **Seniors’ Potluck**, that is. On **Thursday, September 30, 2021, at 12:00 p.m.** Bring a friend, or friends.



Partners in Ethiopia Facing Life and Death Crisis:
A Call to Prayer, A Call for Responses
Report from Pastor Paul Knudson

Before we are called to act, we need to pray for both the nation of Ethiopia and our mission partners caught in the middle of the horror that goes with bloody conflict. Sometimes crises are manageable. Others call for prayers poured out upon the throne of God. Only through our Lord’s guidance will human responses of governments and Christians bring hope and, one day, healing.

The battle is between the present national government led by its Christian Prime Minister and the region of Tigray, whose residents had held power for over twenty years, years marked by major corruption. In seeking to regain that power, the former leaders have sought to cast the present government as a force that would, through genocide, destroy masses of people from Tigray. Our partners on the ground strongly disagree and support their government.

Presently, the forces from Tigray are striking out at their perceived enemies in an area where one of our

mission partners, the North Central Ethiopia Synod of EECMY, has many congregations. Seeking to flee bloodshed, people of this area, including pastors, are fleeing to the city of Dessie in desperation. Villages have been destroyed, rapes and killings of many are occurring.

Pastor Wagnew Andagre, president of the NCES, is seeking with others to reach out to their people with basic survival needs and spiritual encouragement. They are inviting us to respond, as our Lord leads. As you pray, pray for our Augustana District, its congregations, and leaders. Pray that we will discern how we may stand with our brothers and sisters in Christ in this hour of great need.



NEW START (Welcome Baskets/Bags)

A local mission project we support is the McLeod County United Community Action Partnership (UCAP) and HOMES. These Organizations support temporary housing and shelter to the homeless and temporary homeless during transition here in Hutchinson/McLeod County.

**NEW or *GENTLY* USED DONATIONS
NEEDED TO SUPPORT THIS MISSION**

- * CAN OPENERS for food shelf items
- * BACKPACKS OR SLING BACKPACKS
- * SMALL LAUNDRY TYPE BASKET
- * SUNSCREEN
- * TOOTHBRUSH / TOOTHPASTE
- * HAIRBRUSH
- * UMBRELLAS
- * PONCHO
- * SMALL DISH SOAP
- * SOCKS (ADULTS AND CHILDREN)
- * PLASTIC BOWL, CUP, PLASTIC SILVERWARE
(NO TYPE OF METAL)
- * UNDERWEAR NEW - MEN, WOMEN, CHILDREN
- * BABY WIPES OR PERSONAL WIPES
- * TRAVEL SIZE SHAMPOO AND BODY WASH
- * TOWELS - HAND TOWELS, DISH TOWELS, BATH
TOWEL, BEACH TOWELS RAZOR
- * HATS FOR COLDER MONTHS
- * MITTENS FOR COLDER MONTHS
- * OTHER ITEMS: HOTPLATE, ENVELOPES, NOTEBOOKS, POTHOLDERS, SELF HELP
BOOKS



Please keep this list handy when shopping or looking around your house for things you no longer use.

THANK YOU!

YOUR CHURCH IN THE WORLD MINISTRY TEAM



Stump the Pastor

Q: Why did Jesus tell us to “drink his blood” when the whole Bible (even the New Testament, e.g., in Acts 15:20) tells us not to consume blood?

A: This is a really astute question that has at least three different layers to it. The first is the food laws that God gave to Moses. They did prohibit eating blood, including meat from animals that were strangled or otherwise did not have blood drained from them. These food laws, however, were not concerned with nutrition or public health—although both were likely side benefits of them. They were practices that set Israel apart as God’s chosen people and a way for them to show devotion to God. That is why the apostle James retained that prohibition in Acts 15 as a way to help Jewish and Gentile Christians co-exist in the Church.

The second layer is that Jesus overturned the food laws *as requirements* (though not as good practices, as in Acts 15). In Mark 7, he completely reversed the central conviction of the food laws, that what we eat or touch makes us impure before God. Jesus told the crowd, “Listen to me, all of you, and understand: there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile.” Later, he explained to his disciples, “Whatever goes into a person from outside cannot defile, since it enters, not the heart, but the stomach, and goes out into the sewer.” Then Mark stated the consequence of that teaching. “(Thus, he declared all foods clean.)” Again, this is not a matter of nutrition or food safety, but what keeps us in right relationship with God. What we eat does not affect that, but rather our trust in Jesus.

That leads to the third layer of the question. In the Words of Institution, as well as John 6, Jesus was not literally speaking of drinking his blood, as if Christians are to be cannibals. He meant instead that his death on the cross—as his body was broken and his blood was shed—would bring forgiveness of our sins and save us from condemnation. Lutherans do confess that Jesus’ body and blood are “really present” in the bread and wine of the Lord’s Supper, simply because he said so: “This *is* my body; this *is* my blood.” But that is a promise of the saving benefits Christ gives us through the sacrament, not a claim that the bread and wine have actually turned into flesh and blood.

So, all three layers do fit together without contradicting one another. The food laws served a vital purpose in Israel and still do so today for the Jewish people. But for Christians, Jesus declared all foods clean, because food laws could not overcome our sin or cleanse our hearts before God. Only his death on the cross could do that, so he wrapped the benefits of his saving death in Holy Communion, making his body and blood really present in the bread and wine.



Consider Simply Giving Today

Since Faith Lutheran began offering the Simply Giving automated giving program, many members have chosen to participate. Several people have said how much they like the program for its convenience and appreciate that their offerings to Faith Lutheran continue even if they are unable to attend a worship service. To have your offerings transferred electronically to the church on a regular basis, go to the website at FaithLC.com/give-2/ or Mobile Users can access Simply Giving through the mobile App “GivePlus Mobile.”



Benefits for you include: The satisfaction of giving to God first, easier to fulfill stewardship commitments, easier to contribute when you are away, and more secure than bringing cash or checks to church.

Benefits for our church include: Cultivates consistent giving, more predictable cash flow for better planning, less work for office staff, and secure and easy cash maintenance.

Participants in this program will continue to receive offering envelopes, including envelopes for special offerings for a variety of needs. You may continue to participate in the offering during church by marking the envelopes as “Simply Giving” (SG) and placing them in the offering plates. You can also opt out of receiving envelopes to save on printing and postage by contacting the church office.

Note, watch our giving page as it is being updated this month.

Thank you to my Faith Family!

I sincerely wish to thank everyone for their prayers, thoughts, and support during my cancer fight. It truly made and makes a difference!! God acts in wondrous ways! I also want to extend a hearty thank you to all for welcoming me back into the intern position. It is great to be getting back into activities at Faith and I hope to continue to increase my involvement as I continue to recover and get stronger. Sometimes, we do not realize the impact we have on others around us, Patsy and I are blessed to have all of you in our lives. Thank you, my Faith family, for being there for me and my family.

God bless you all,

Jeff Amundson



Faith Lutheran Church Women (FLCW)



Save the Dates for Upcoming 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)

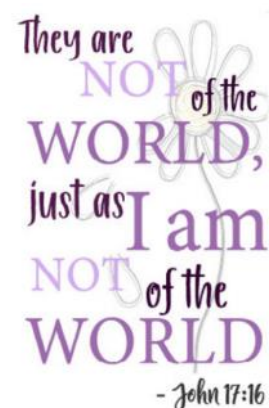
Augustana District Women of the Word Annual Gathering

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.





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 Stadsklev (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)



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TUESDAYS 5 P.M.



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

Faith Lutheran Church		
INFORMATION & STAFF DIRECTORY		
335 Main St. S. 320-587-2093 FaithLC.com		
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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		
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Austin Willhite, Director of Music & Worship	austinw@faithlc.com	
Kristen Matthews, Director of Youth & Family Ministry	kristenm@faithlc.com	
Laura Stowman, Director of Children & Family Ministry	lauras@faithlc.com	
Sara Wegner, Finance Coordinator	finco@faithlc.com	
Wendy Magruder, Administrative Assistant	wendym@faithlc.com	
Owen Weikle, Custodial Services Coordinator	320-587-2093	

Haven Homes - Maple Plain
Ardell Novotny

Cedar Crest – Silver Lake
Patricia Lambert
Lucille Wehking

Cokato Nursing Home
Clara Betker

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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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

**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.

