

Faith Matters - October 2021

150

THE LIFE OF FAITH

Past Present Future

1870-2020

Pastors' Page

This fall, finally, Faith Lutheran has been able to celebrate its 150th anniversary, more than a year after our anniversary events were all suddenly cut off by pandemic restrictions. A wide variety of events and projects has been tied to the anniversary celebration. For me, it has been an inspiring experience, and I am so grateful to the staff and many church members who have worked hard to make it possible.

Now, in October, we look forward to the culmination of the celebration on October 17. The whole congregation will gather for *one* worship service at 10:10 a.m. at the fairgrounds. Because none of our worship spaces in the church are big enough to hold the entire congregation, this is a rare opportunity for the whole family of Faith to be all together. I hope that none of you misses out on this special opportunity.

The service will be followed by a meal that is free, although a ticket is required. If you have not procured yours yet, call or stop by the church immediately or sooner to get one! There will be a variety of displays and activities after the meal. Plus, a number of special guests will be present to celebrate this important occasion with us. It is a “can’t miss” occasion!

With all these events, projects and celebrations, plus the long, unexpected delay, I have been absorbed in the history of Faith Lutheran now for two solid years. (Of course, that is my happy place, because I am fascinated by history.) As I have re-lived the life of our church, the one overarching impression I have gained is that, while there is so much to admire in the faithfulness and dedication of the many members of Faith through the years, it is God’s faithfulness that shines through most brightly.

Growing from its humble beginning of six immigrant families to a throng of some 2,300 members today, God has been faithful to Faith. In moving from Danish to English, through five church denominations and multiple building projects, God has been faithful to Faith. Enduring two world wars and several smaller ones, the Great Depression, and enormous changes in society, God has been faithful to Faith. Through years of growing wealth, luxury and worldly distractions, God has been faithful to Faith. Amidst church conflicts and divisive issues, God has been faithful to Faith.

That, above all, is the promise that Faith Lutheran’s long history makes clear, and it is that promise that drives us hopefully and boldly into the next 150 years of the life of Faith Lutheran. For whatever the future may bring, the history of our church provides abundant evidence that “Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.” (Hebrews 13:8) Therefore, come what may, we can confidently sing that iconic Danish hymn:

Continued on page 3



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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.

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Décor Needed for Oct. 17 Anniversary Celebration

The anniversary decorating committee is looking for: clear bud vases and dry fall foliage (grasses, hydrangeas, sedum, etc., things that do not need water). Please bring all items to church by noon on Friday, October 15.



Last Minute Anniversary Updates!

All-congregation service and meal on Sunday, October 17



An all-congregation service and meal will be held 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 to allow for accurate meal planning.

Historical Pictures

Take some time and wander the building looking at pieces of the history of Faith Lutheran Church. You will find four poster boards with a collage of pictures in four different parts of the building. You can also find that pictures have been added to the time line running down the hall outside of the Faith Center. A history book of St. Morten's has been placed on a table under the cemetery map for you to look though as well. Take a walk through the building and enjoy a little bit of FLC history. You can also look for many of these items and more to appear at the Fairgrounds for the big celebration.

Anniversary Edition Painting of Faith Lutheran Church

For the anniversary of FLC, a painting was done of the east side of the building. It is available as a matted and unmatted print or as notecards. You can see a sample and pick up an order form at the church and at the Fairgrounds during the big celebration.

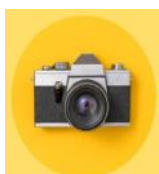
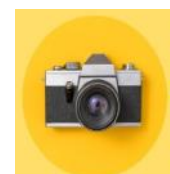


Photo Directory and Picture Update

Thank you to all of you (well over 300 households) who participated in the 150th Anniversary Edition of the photo directory! We are hoping to have the directory completed and available for pickup in time for the October 17 celebration.

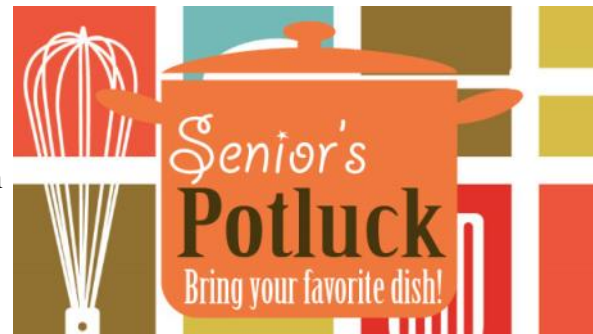


Because we had the directory done by an individual photographer this time, one person is responsible for all of the editing, book formatting, etc. on his own. If you have registered on his website to see your pictures and have not received a code yet, please be patient. After you register, Thomas will send you an e-mail with a link and code to see your pictures once he gets them uploaded. However, we are asking for your patience as he is focused on the directory first, then he will get to the individual pictures. For those of you without computer access, the church will assist you in getting your pictures once they are all done. Watch the bulletin announcements for how you can get help with this in the next few weeks.

THANK YOU!

SENIORS' SCENE

I had an interesting encounter recently. I did some business at one of our well-established companies here in Hutchinson. I bought some materials with the understanding that I could return any overage. So I returned some of the product for a refund. However, I didn't receive the refund amount for some months. I was working with a nice young man who was pleasant as we asked questions and eventually worked toward a decision on which items to buy to complete our project. Somehow, we got on the subject of churches, and as a result I asked which one he belonged to. His reply: Jehovah's Witnesses. That took me back a bit, as I thought of my own history with the JW's, as we referred to them. Most of them I've met up with are quite personable. But I know how much our theologies clash, simply based on their unusual views of Scripture and Christian teachings.



That led me to suggest to our steering committee that we could dedicate a program to taking a look at the Jehovah's Witnesses church—their Bible and their teachings. Perhaps we can understand how different they are from traditional Christian theology, and how to meet them in Christian love and witness. So often we feel at a loss as to how to relate to JW's.

So plan to attend our October **Seniors' Potluck** meeting on **Thursday, October 28**, in the **Faith Center**. We begin with our potluck dinner at **12:00 noon**. Later, Pastor Dave Wollan will help us understand Jehovah's Witnesses.

We are watching the Covid reports and updates. We'll let you know should we have to cancel, and, if you are uncomfortable coming to a group event like Seniors' Potluck, we respect your choice not to attend. Otherwise, SEE YOU AT SENIORS' POTLUCK.



Pastor's Page continued from pg. 1

*Built on the rock the Church shall stand, Even when steeples are falling;
Crumbled have spires in every land, Bells still are chiming and calling.
Calling the young and old to rest, Calling the souls of those distressed,
Longing for life everlasting.*

*Through all the passing years, O Lord, Grant that, when church bells are ringing,
Many may come to hear God's Word Where he this promise is bringing:
"I know my own, my own know me. You, not the world, my face shall see;
My peace I leave with you." Amen!*

Grace and peace,
Pastor Scott Grorud

Stewardship Matters

On September 26, a special congregational meeting approved the “150 for the next 150” proposal. This is an attempt to raise \$150,000 in special gifts to celebrate Faith Lutheran’s 150th anniversary. These funds would be dedicated to efforts to raise up and train new pastors and other leaders for the Church.



That project is appearing in this column because this future-oriented effort is also a matter of stewardship. That term usually describes how we manage what God has already entrusted to us for the Church’s ministry now, but it can equally apply to how we manage God’s gifts so that coming generations will still be able to hear the Gospel, receive the sacraments, and be equipped for life and witness.

As we look back during our anniversary celebrations with profound gratitude for all our forebears at Faith Lutheran Church whose faithfulness has made it possible for us to be blessed in this congregation, “150 for the next 150” is a great opportunity for us to return that blessing by paying it forward. We urge all members of Faith to support this effort as God has blessed you to do so. Look for more information and updates on this project between now and the end of the year.



App and Online Giving to Faith Lutheran Church

For those of you that prefer online giving, please note that the mobile app and the Simply Giving website pages will have a new look beginning September 30. The GivePlus mobile app will be retired and the new mobile app, Vanco Mobile, will be in place. The app can be downloaded from the Apple App store or Google Play store.

When you set up the new app, you will need to search for this church. The easiest search is to plug in Hutchinson, MN. Then you will see the Faith logo next to the church’s information. Once you log in with your current credentials, you will be able to see all of your historical information.

You will note that the Simply Giving Page linked to the FLC website has an updated look also.

If you have any questions about the App or Simply Giving online, please give the church office a call.



Greetings Friends!

Faith Singers and the adult bell choir, Ringers of Faith, have been in full swing this past month. But there is one group that is just getting started. You may remember them playing the chime tree in the Sanctuary or ringing along with Marc and Tara in Foundation. That’s right, it’s the Middle School Bells! I am excited to introduce this year’s group of awesome kids. There are 10 middle schoolers in the choir this year, some returning and some new. They are hard at work learning the fundamentals of playing bells and getting ready to share those skills with special music during worship. Look for them in worship later this fall and show them your appreciation. It is always important to cultivate young minds in the discipline of music making and I am thankful for theses kids and the opportunity to direct them!

Soli deo Gloria ring on!
Austin

A graphic showing several colorful musical notes (pink, blue, green, yellow, orange) on a white staff with a treble clef.



Stump the Pastor

Q: During Faith's anniversary, I have heard that the immigrants who started the congregation were Danish Pietists. What does that mean?

A: After Martin Luther died, two factors in particular combined to sap much of the warmth, life and energy out of Lutheran churches. One was that they were state churches, overseen by the government. Pastors and professors were employed by the state, not the churches they served, with the result that they were often distant from and not involved with the people in their parishes. The other factor was an obsession, first with precise theological formulations and later with rational philosophy, that made worship services feel more like academic discussions than the proclamation of the Gospel.

In the mid-1700's, a movement began to try to breathe warmth and life back into the Church. It started in Germany, but soon spread to Scandinavian countries like Denmark. This movement was called Pietism and it especially appealed to common people who felt as if their churches were not ministering to them effectively and wanted to grow spiritually. In Denmark, the Pietist movement was called the Inner Mission, because it was aimed at reviving faith and devotion within the hearts of Christians, drawing them into deeper trust in God and more faithful living.

The waves of Scandinavians and Germans who immigrated to America in the 19th century consisted mostly of common, poorer people, many of whom had been blessed by the Pietistic movements in Europe and continued that emphasis here. The six Danish families who founded Faith Lutheran Church were Inner Mission pietists. Although Pietism developed its own faults, especially a highly legalistic view of what Christians are permitted to do, pietists founded many faithful congregations in this country that have since grounded generations of Christians in devout faith and life. We owe a deep debt of gratitude for the Pietist fervor that drove the founding of Faith Lutheran and has continued to shape its life ever since.



Fellowship Against Cancer

The Faith Lutheran Church Pastoral Care team realizes the challenges related to cancer and had a cancer support group meeting during the recent Digging Deeper series. We went through several topics related to those recently diagnosed, in treatment, in recovery, or embracing the new normal. We offered shared experiences, general tips and advice, and support. Through faith and love, we embraced our time together. If you or someone you know would be interested in this group, please contact Jeff or the Pastoral Care Team.



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Pastor Paulus Pilgrim

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Marsha Schmit

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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)

Thank You!

Many thanks to everyone who baked pies and desserts and to those who helped to serve them for Music in the Park. People really seemed to enjoy the beautiful evening, wonderful music and tasty treats. ~ The FLCW





Opportunities to work with children

Laura needs one or two people to lead 4th-5th grade Sunday School.
 She also needs adults to assist with Release Time on Wednesday mornings from
 9-11 a.m. October 27 - March 30.

Please contact Laura for more information or to volunteer with these amazing ministries.

Operation Christmas Child

Can you believe that it is already time to start thinking about Operation Christmas Child?

You can participate in Operation Christmas Child in several ways:

- ⇒ Pick up a box from the church office and fill it with items listed in OCC brochures and separate lists, available in the church office and narthexes.
- ⇒ You can give money for shipping the boxes to countries all over the world. It costs approximately \$9 per box to ship. (Checks should be made out to Samaritan's Purse.)
- ⇒ If you have a Thrivent policy, you can apply for a \$250 grant to be used for buying box items or help with the shipping costs. You can talk to your Thrivent agent or apply online.



The 56er's will pack the shoe boxes on **Wednesday, November 10**, so all donated items must be brought to the church before that day.

If you are packing your own boxes, they must also be delivered to the church **by November 10**.



Sundays at Faith Lutheran Church

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

9:00 a.m. Sunday School and Confirmation Class

9:15 Multiple Digging Deeper adult education opportunities

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

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



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)



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



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.
THURSDAY 10 P.M.

Faith Lutheran Church

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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

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:
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.

