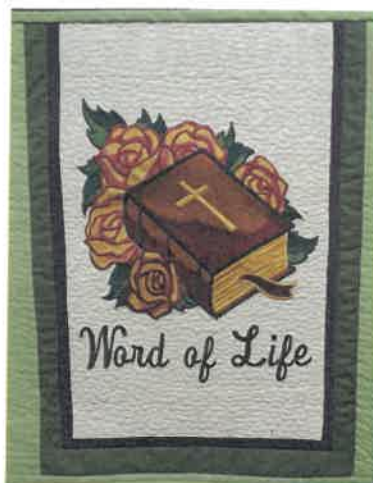


Faith Matters

June 2023

Pastors' Page



335 Main St. S.
Hutchinson, MN 55350
Phone: 320-587-2093
Email: office@faithlc.com

LIVE TV BROADCAST
SUNDAYS AT 8 A.M.
NUVERA & MEDIACOM
ON CH. 7

PRE-RECORDED BROADCASTS
SUNDAYS 10 A.M.
AND 5 P.M.
TUESDAYS 5 P.M.
THURSDAYS 10 P.M.
NUVERA CH. 10
MEDIACOM CH. 8

RADIO BROADCAST
SUNDAYS 8 A.M.
KDUZ 1260 AM
(PRE-RECORDED)

YOUTUBE SERVICE
RECORDINGS
POSTED SUNDAY
AFTERNOONS

In February, 2021, our church made the last payment on the mortgage loan for the building addition that opened in 2010. We paid that 25-year loan in just 10 years, saving many thousands of dollars in interest expense. Steady, generous, committed giving by the congregation made that possible. Thank you to all who faithfully contributed to that goal.

The current addition, however, was only half of the original building plan, which also included a new sanctuary and a larger fellowship/multi-purpose space. The plan was split into two phases because the total cost was more than the congregation could reasonably afford.

In the two years since the mortgage was paid, many people have asked when Phase II will be built. I am excited to announce that planning for Phase II has officially begun! The church council appointed these members of Faith to serve on a Phase II Building Committee (P2BC):

Shannon Brice
Kayleen Jensen
Austin Willhite

Isabelle Dressen
John Olsen

Mark Guggemos
Megan Piehl

Kurt Hjerpe
Chris Wilke

This group includes past and current employees of Faith, past church council members and officers, a wide range of ages, attendees of all three of our Sunday services and a wide variety of experience that will contribute to the process. It is a wonderful group that has really lively meetings! Pastor Dave and I also serve with the committee.

The P2BC has met with our architect, Brian Berg, to begin refining the original plans that were drawn for Phase II, and led a retreat with Faith's ministry teams and church council to begin gathering ideas and views about Phase II. The committee will work to keep the congregation informed about the plan as it develops and listen carefully for the responses of the family of Faith.

Of course, in order to complete Phase II, we will have to pay for it and planning for how to raise the needed funds has also begun. We know that the current economic conditions are not ideal, but here Faith's history is instructive and encouraging. When Phase I was built (shortly after the 2008 market crash), the economy was also less than ideal and the current sanctuary was built in 1938, when the Great Depression was no longer at its worst, but still far from over. Yet, in both cases, God provided abundantly for the ministry needs of our church and we trust that He will do so again.

Above all, we seek God's blessing on this long-anticipated project, we trust in His guidance through the planning process and we look to His steadfast providing to supply the resources required. Please watch for information about Phase II as it comes out, participate in the process whenever possible and pray

YouTube



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Pastor's Page continued from pg. 1

that this exciting ministry development will contribute, boldly, but wisely, to the ministry God has entrusted to us here at Faith Lutheran.

Grace and peace,
Pastor Scott Grorud



**Thank you to all who came
out for this year's *Messiah* concert!
See you next spring, May 5, 2023!**

Meet OUR INTERNS

And now there
are three!



JOSHUA
Maplewood
Minnesota



COURTNEY
Neenah
Wisconsin



TREVOR
Hutchinson
Minnesota

STUMP THE PASTOR

Q: The doctrine of the Trinity is not stated in the Bible, so why does the Christian Church consider it essential to the faith and not just one possible way of many to understand God's nature?

A: The doctrine of the Trinity was formulated by the Christian Church. It took nearly 350 years of careful thinking and robust argument to settle the questions surrounding Jesus and the nature of God. Some non-Christian sects use that history to deny that God is Triune and/or claim that the Church just invented the idea.

The truth is that the Trinity could be called a “defensive” doctrine. That is, the Church did not creatively formulate and then insist on the belief that God is Triune, but was “backed into it,” precisely because of what the Bible says about God.

In particular, the Church had to reconcile three essential truths that did not easily mesh:

1. The conviction it inherited from Judaism that there is only one God. No Christian doctrine of God could even hint at polytheism.
2. The witness of Jesus himself, who spoke about and prayed to his heavenly Father, promised to send the Holy Spirit after his ascension, and made bold claims such as “the Father and I are one” (John 10:30) and “If you know me, you will know my Father also; from now on you do know him and have seen him.” (John 14:7)
3. The unique event of Jesus’ resurrection, which validated everything he said and did. It meant that his speaking about God as Father, Son and Holy Spirit could not be dismissed as wrong or misguided. It also meant that no Christian doctrine of God could reduce Jesus to just one of the prophets or relegate him to a second-tier divine status.

Christian theologians wrestled mightily to hold those three truths together. Many possible solutions were devised, but in the end, nothing other than the belief that God is Triune—Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one God in three Persons, yet not three gods, but one God—could fully satisfy the whole Biblical witness. That is why Christians insist that belief in the Trinity is essential. No other formula or understanding of God can hold together the Bible’s entire witness to who God is.



Stewardship Matters

At the end of 2022, Faith Lutheran had to announce that, for the first time in 13 years, giving to the church fell short of expenses. It was not an unmanageable gap, but we were sorry to see the streak end.

How is it going so far in 2023? The good news is that the congregation has responded generously to support Faith Lutheran’s ministry. At the end of

April, giving to the General Fund was 4.5% higher than a year ago! The not-as-good news is that giving is still running behind expenses. That is partially due to a couple of high-cost items such as the church’s annual property insurance bill and a three-payroll month in March; we hope the balances will look better by the end of May (still two weeks away as this is written).

The concern, of course, is that we are heading into the summer months, when a host of nice-weather activities tends to diminish church attendance and offerings both. Please do not let Minnesota’s short summer distract you from hearing God’s Word and receiving the sacraments, and continue to give your offerings as the Lord has blessed you to do so, that we may faithfully pursue the mission and ministry of Faith Lutheran Church. Thank You!

A Mission Reflection from Pastor Paul



“The World is Going to Hell in a Hand Basket” so . . . ?

“We proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews, and foolishness to Gentiles, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God...For God’s foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God’s weakness is stronger than human strength.” (1 Corinthians 1:23-25)

Foolishness, weakness? Who today wishes to be seen as fools, as weak? Yet, in face of the turmoil of our mixed up, self-destructive, worldly wise and powerful, could it be that we in the Christian community would do well to echo these sentiments of the Apostle Paul? Could it be that our power is made perfect in the weakness of our Lord’s death on a cross?

Our mission partners who are most bold and effective in their witness are indeed focused on lifting up Christ crucified and him alone as this world’s Savior and Lord. Recently I was privileged to spend some extended time with one of those witnesses, Pastor Siimon Haamer from Estonia. This little Baltic country, which for some fifty years was occupied by the Soviet Union and had faith knocked out of most of Christ’s own in those years, is making a comeback, a faith comeback.

Pastor Haamer, a third generation pastoral leader, stepped out in faith to establish the Tartu Academy of Theology and Home of Hope. In this venture pastors are being trained and youth are being encountered with the seemingly foolish and powerless message of the Good News of Jesus Christ and him crucified. In this One, this land is experiencing peculiar power and wisdom once again. Thanks be to God! Thanks be to God that we here at Faith Lutheran Church have partners like this.

Questions?

Fellowship Against Cancer – FAcE Group



The FAcE group realizes the challenges related to cancer and together we go through several topics related to those recently diagnosed, in treatment, in recovery, or embracing the new normal. We will offer shared experiences, general tips and advice, and support. Through faith and love, we embrace this time together. We meet on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of each month at Faith Lutheran Church. A Zoom option is available to join virtually. You need not be a member of Faith Lutheran to participate.

If interested in this group, please contact Jeff Amundson or the Faith Lutheran Church office.

Jeff Amundson - Cell/Text: 320-766-3595 - E-mail jeffa@faithlc.com

Faith Lutheran Church phone: 320-587-2093

Worried?

Concerns?

Feeling Alone?

JUNE 2023

Music Department

Ringers of Faith handbells are due for some much-needed maintenance and repairs. The music department will be sponsoring three events, over the next year, to offset the sizable repair cost. The goal is to raise \$3,500 in that time.

History of the Bell Choir

Modern handbell choirs owe their start to groups of tower bell ringers who, for the peace of the village, couldn't frequently practice within the bell tower. Small bells, corresponding to the larger bell tower bells, were developed for ringers to practice in their homes. Faith Lutheran's handbell choir, Ringers of Faith, is celebrating 40 years of joyful ringing in worship and concert!

Bell Choir Fun Facts

- In 1690, the first handbell choir started in England.
- A single handbell can be played five different ways.
- There are only two American handbell companies, one of which is Schulmerich. Ringers of Faith use this brand.
- Faith has five octaves of handbells; that's 62 bells in total.
- Handbells can weigh anywhere from 7 oz. to 18 lbs.
- In the 40 years Ringers of Faith has been active, each bell has been rung approximately 72,000 times!

Pie A Pastor & Pie Social

Stay after worship or come to the park to have your chance at "pie-ing" your favorite FLC pastor and/or staff member! Tickets are \$1 each or 6 for \$5 and 12 for \$10. Tickets will be sold at the park before the event. A free will offering will also be taken during the pie social. Join us for some fun while supporting the Ringers of Faith!

Where: Library Square

When: June 11, 2023, 11:00 a.m.

Contact Austin for more information!



Thank You!

A heartfelt thank you to the men, women, and youth who donated items to the rummage sale, helped, shopped, and brought delicious food for the workers. The profit was \$8,730 and of that 30% goes back to the church. Nine organizations were contacted to pick out free items the last two hours. Two of our members took leftover books to Little Libraries around town. Clothing, linens, kitchen items and toys went to support disabled veterans. In November, at the women's annual meeting, there will be an opportunity for you to vote on how to disperse the rest of the funds. In 2022, donations went to New Hope Mission Society, McCloud Alliance for Domestic Abuse, FLC Hunger Appeal, Common Cup Ministries, Orphan Grain Train, Global Health Ministries, Harmony River and Woodstone beauty shops, Meghan's Place and for homeless backpacks.

We also support the quilting and prayer shawl ministries, as well as kitchen needs such as purchasing a new coffee maker and ice machine repairs.

It is exciting to help and support all of these ministries and causes through the FLC Rummage Sale.

We are also grateful to Thrivent for the grant that paid for advertising and food for this event.



Church Lawn Care and Maintenance

The weather has warmed and the grass is growing. There is a sign-up sheet outside the office door for people to volunteer to mow the lawn using the church rider.

Faith is also looking for someone to oversee other pieces of the lawn care such as aerating, fertilizing, spraying for weeds, etc. If you or someone you know would be interested in these tasks, please contact Pastor Scott at 320-587-2093 or scottg@faithlc.com.

Seniors Scene



There is no Seniors' Potluck announcement, of course, since we don't meet during the summer—June, July or August. But we want to say a special thank you to all who attended the 2022-2023 meetings, and especially to those who hosted them. Our steering committee did a splendid job of setting up the program year. Thank you also to you who brought delectable hot dishes, salads, breads, desserts and other specialties.

Next comes the 2023-2024 program year. We will need your suggestions for program topics that you would like to hear. We have some ideas and thank you if you made a suggestion, but we need more. It is always nice to have suggestions from you, as we could easily miss some of your interests. Suggestions can be given to Pastor Paulus. Thank you and God bless you for a good summer.

Summer Worship Schedule Has Resumed

The 8 a.m. First Word services will continue in the Sanctuary as always for those who prefer to worship indoors.

From Sunday, May 28, through September 10, Faith is once again combining the 10:10 a.m. services and holding them in Library Square. If the weather does not cooperate on an occasional Sunday, the service will be moved back to the sanctuary. You can check the Faith Facebook page or listen to the live 8 a.m. HCVN TV broadcast for changes due to the weather.

So, it is time to dust off your lawn chairs, shake out your picnic blanket and prepare for worship in God's great outdoors.



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)
Mason Rutledge (Navy, New Orleans, LA - son of Lenny Rutledge & Patti Rutledge)
Pat Scharn (Air Force Reserves, Africa - husband of Elizabeth and son of Allen and Nicki Scharn)
LT Brett Stadskev (Navy, Yokosuka, Japan - son-in-law of Judy and Tom Felber)
Trevor Wersal (MN National Guard, son of Roger and Laurie Wersal)



**Remember our Faith
members in nursing homes
and health care centers:**

Faith Lutheran Church INFORMATION & STAFF DIRECTORY

335 Main St. S. 320-587-2093 FaithLC.com

Pastors

Scott Grorud	320-587-0171 (home)	scottg@faithlc.com
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
Jeff Amundson, Pastoral Intern	320-587-2093 (office)	jeffa@faithlc.com
Staff		
Marsha Schmit, Director of Pastoral Care & Evangelism	marshas@faithlc.com	
Austin Willhite, Director of Music & Worship	austinw@faithlc.com	
Kristen Durst, Director of Youth & Family Ministry	kristenm@faithlc.com	
Laura Stowman, Director of Children & Family Ministry	lauras@faithlc.com	
Wendy Magruder, Administrative Assistant	wendym@faithlc.com	
Sara Wegner, Finance Coordinator	finco@faithlc.com	
Owen Weikle, Custodial Services Coordinator	320-587-2093	
Erika Smith, Nursery Attendant		

Cedar Crest - Silver Lake

Patricia Lambert
Lucille Wehking

Cokato Nursing Home

Clara Betker

GlenFields - Glencoe

Alvin Otto

Harmony River

Phyllis Lamp
Ellsworth Lorentzen
Fran Lundeen
Jean Pittman
Rose Wagner

New Haven - Maple Plain

Ardell Novotny

Oaks

Phyllis Blum

Pines

Elaine Blade
Milt Lueneburg

Woodstone

Dodie Fenske
Geraldine (Gerry) Grams
Barb Max
Cyndy Ollrich

Faith Lutheran Church
335 Main Street South
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



Meet our Summer Interns

The Summer Interns will be serving in the Children and Youth Ministries, with activities such as God Squad, Middle School Madness, Vacation Bible School, Mystery Bus, and FLY nights. Both interns graduated from Hutchinson High School and were members of Faith's youth group. We are so excited to welcome back these faithful and enthusiastic women this summer!



Sabrina Tracy

What have you done after high school?

This fall I will be a senior at Wheaton College in Illinois. I am studying Psychology, Theology, and Spanish.

What was your favorite memory from being at Faith Lutheran Church?

My favorite memory from Faith Lutheran Church is the fun youth group nights where we would play fun games and bond!

What excites you about this internship?

I am excited to come back to the community I was a part of in high school and pour into the youth!



Jasmyn Moore

What have you done after high school?

I am studying Social Work with a minor in Criminal Justice at Bemidji State University.

What was your favorite memory from being at Faith Lutheran Church?

It is so hard to pick one favorite memory at Faith! But, most likely it was all the memories made on FLY mission trips!

What excites you about this internship?

What excites me most about this internship is the opportunity to learn and make connections in a fun, faith-filled environment!

Children, Youth, and Family Ministry Dates



Planning your summer? Mark your calendars for our summer children's ministries!



Vacation Bible School

June 26—29 from 9 a.m.—noon
at Christ the King Lutheran Church
for Preschool through 4th grade students
Registration forms are on the website
and at church.

Bible Camp

Faith has 13 students attending Bible Camp this summer during the week of July 16—21 at Ingham Okoboji Lutheran Bible Camps.

Mystery Bus

July 24—26

For 5th through 7th grade students.
Currently full. Contact us if you would like to be added to the waiting list.

Day Camp

August 7—10 from 9 a.m.—2 p.m.
at Faith Lutheran Church
for Kindergarten through 5th grade students.
Registration information available on the church website.

Questions?

If you have questions about programs for children birth through 6th grade, please contact Laura Stowman, Director of Children and Family Ministry.

If you have questions about programs for 7th grade through young adult, please contact Kristen Durst, Director of Youth and Family Ministry.



God Squad

For 5th—7th grade students
on Wednesdays from 3:30 — 5 p.m.
June 14 through August 9.

Middle School Madness

For 5th—7th grade students at St. A's
on Thursdays from 10:30 a.m.—noon.
June 8 through July 27.

High School Tournaments of Tournaments

Wednesdays at Oak Heights
1:00—3:00 p.m. starting June 7
Rotating games each week;
teams are created at each individual church.

MISSION TRIP DETAILS

Spots still available.
July 7—15, 2023
\$550/participant
Logan County, WV

Reach out to Kristen if you have any questions or would like to participate!



Faith Lutheran Church Website:

Faithlc.com ~ Registration forms found under the Children & Youth / Children Tabs.

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 6:30 Men's Bible study 9:00 Today's Faith Encouragement 1:30 Communion at Woodstone (Faith) 10:00 HCVN worship broadcast	2 7:00 Women's Bible study 12:30 Bulletin Assembly	3
ing Prayer quilts ral Care meeting hip planning meeting chool Tournament of ents @ Oak Heights h Night	8 6:30 Men's Bible study 9:00 Today's Faith Encouragement 10:00 FACe Group Meeting 10:30 Middle School Madness 1:30 Communion at the Oaks (CtK) 2:00 Communion at the Pines 10:00 HCVN worship broadcast	9 7:00 Women's Bible study 12:30 Bulletin Assembly	10
ing Prayer ral Care meeting meeting l Reports due) chool Tournament of ents quad n Diner h Night	15 6:30 Men's Bible study 9:00 Today's Faith Encouragement 10:30 Middle School Madness 2:00 Bible Study at the Pines 10:00 HCVN worship broadcast	16 7:00 Women's Bible study 12:30 Bulletin Assembly July <i>Faith Matters</i> articles due	17
ing Prayer ral Care meeting meeting chool Tournament of ents quad h Night	22 6:30 Men's Bible study 9:00 Today's Faith Encouragement 10:00 FACe Group Meeting 10:30 Middle School Madness 10:00 HCVN worship broadcast	23 7:00 Women's Bible study 9:00 Women's Bible study with Pastor Dave 12:30 Bulletin Assembly	24
ing Prayer CtK ral Care meeting meeting chool Tournament of ents quad n Trip meeting h night	29 6:30 Men's Bible study 9:00 Today's Faith Encouragement 9:00 VBS at CtK 10:30 Middle School Madness 10:00 HCVN worship broadcast	30 7:00 Women's Bible study 12:30 Bulletin Assembly	